

Law & Order

Police break up fight at Studio 14 involving about 300 people

A bar-room brawl Sunday morning resulted in seven citations.

Lincoln Police Chief Tom Casady said around 1 a.m., a fight broke out at Studio 14, 1415 O St. Casady said when officers arrived, a number of fights were going on involving about 300 people.

Thirty officers in all – some from outside police forces – were called to the scene to break up the fight.

Casady said he didn't know how many people were taken to Cornhusker Place Detox, but he did say there were no injuries.

Officer Katherine Finnell said there were seven citations issued: five for disturbing the peace, one for failure to disperse and one for refusal to comply.

Casady said broken bottles littered the ground after the fist-fights were over.

Domestic disturbance ends with arrest, citation

An all-day domestic disturbance led police to arrest one man.

Lancaster County Sheriff Terry Wagner said Santos Sanchez, 28, was arrested after his wife tried to call 911 early Saturday morning.

Wagner said Sanchez was keeping his wife from leaving beginning at 9 a.m. Friday morning through the early morning hours Saturday.

A silent 911 call – the result of the telephone being ripped off the wall – alerted officers to the disturbance, Wagner said.

Wagner said the woman was punched in her head and had swelling to the side of her face and bruised legs.

Wagner said the couple's children, ages 3, 5 and 6, witnessed the assault. Sanchez was cited with child abuse and neglect.

Two freshmen issued MIPs in Schramm Hall

Two UNL freshman carrying mirrors emblazoned with brand-name beer logos through Schramm Hall were issued MIPs early Friday morning.

A community service officer saw the two students who, according to a friend, stole the mirrors, while walking through the halls at about 2 a.m.

Officers found Joshua McNeal, 18, and Ryan Bowden, 19, both freshmen, in their room in Schramm Hall, UNL Assistant Police Chief Mylo Bushing said.

Bushing said the officer also saw the students in possession of 12-ounce beer cans a quarter full of Keystone beer.

Bushing said both students were intoxicated.

UNL freshman cited for drug paraphernalia in Abel Hall

After an officer smelled burning marijuana from a room in Abel Hall, one student was issued a citation for possession of drug paraphernalia.

When the officer went into the room of UNL freshman Joshua Brink, 19, he said he found a concoction of dryer sheets with marijuana residue and rolling papers, Bushing said.

Brink was issued a citation for possession of drug paraphernalia, Bushing said.

Student caught in Schramm Hall restroom gets MIP

A student pouring alcohol into a toilet in the men's lobby restroom of Schramm Hall led to one MIP.

Bushing said a residence assistant reported to a community service officer that a male was pouring beer in the toilet around 3:00 a.m. Friday.

The CSO found sophomore Ben Suga, 19, in the bathroom with an open backpack next to him containing five full, cold bottles of beer and two full 12-ounce bottles of Wheat Amber Ale. Compiled by Jill Conner

Health center to be reviewed

BY LINDSEY BAKER

This week, the University Health Center goes under the microscope.

Once in every five or six years, a team comprised of both internal and external experts review student affairs departments, said James Griesen, vice chancellor for student affairs.

Now it's the Health Center's turn.

Griesen said he decided to go ahead with the Health Center review as a way to establish goals for a new Health Center director.

"I thought it would be very helpful for a new director coming in," he said. "It's a good process."

The health center is now being headed by Interim Director Jim Yankech. Griesen said he expected to announce a permanent director in the next few weeks.

The review team – which consists of three external university health center directors, two University of Nebraska-Lincoln students, a UNL faculty member and a UNL student affairs director – was chosen by Assistant Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs Stan Campbell.

Campbell said he asked the health center and other organizations for external expert recommendations.

"I tried to find people that, if possible, have been through the review process before," Campbell said.

He said he chose team members who worked closely with the health center and had knowledge of on campus procedures. The team will conclude its on-site study of the health center today.

James Yankech, associate

director of business operations for the health center, said the team would talk to health center employees, student organizations and the student affairs offices as part of its visit.

"They'll ask questions and have discussions to evaluate the health center," he said.

The team met with student groups yesterday at a special luncheon.

Griesen said the health center staff prepared a self-study report including information on the center's goals, budget and space for the review.

He said after the team completed its review, they would submit a formal, written report to him

in about a month. The results, he said, would be used to develop new goals for improvement of the health center.

"We gain a lot out of this," Griesen said. He said he is always surprised at the number of suggestions review teams make after a department study.

"Over the years, we've learned to really appreciate the insights and the recommendations they show after they visit," he said.

Campbell said he found the reviews to be helpful as well.

"It does give a lot of feedback, especially when we bring in people that are experts in the field," he said. "Having a fresh perspective is really important."

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Legislature agrees on more funds

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hundreds, not thousands, of dollars.

Despite the school's blossoming programs, Smith said the state of Nebraska needed a higher quality institution, and increased tuition would help the school improve.

"We are a good university, but not as good as the people of Nebraska want, need and deserve," he said.

To give Nebraskans the caliber of university they want, Smith said the Legislature needed to address one last area that it skipped in its first budget: capital construction, a plan that totes a \$12 million price tag.

Several buildings across all of the state's campuses, including the Sheldon Memorial Art Gallery, are in dire need of repair, he said.

In particular, he said, construction crews need to renovate the former engineering building on the UNO campus so the College of Public Affairs and Community Service can use the facility.

B.J. Reed, dean of the college, said his college deserved the facility.

He said the criminal justice and public administration programs ranked above similar programs at Yale, Princeton and Rutgers.

Tragically, he said the faculty who anchor these famous programs get stuck in slipshod offices strewn across the campus.

"Nationally recognized faculty are located in converted bathrooms, basements, kitchens and closets," he said.

Chancellor candidate has diverse goals for UNL

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major, said he was pleased with Hogan and what he had to say.

"As much as I've heard of (Interim) Chancellor (Harvey) Perlman and the good work he's done, the opportunity to have Mr. Hogan (as chancellor) is unprecedented," he said.

Pflueger said he didn't want to see continually rising tuition rates for future UNL students.

Hogan said sometimes, the university couldn't depend solely on the Legislature for funding.

But by increasing outside investments, tuition rates wouldn't soar as a way to fund the university's budget.

Pflueger said he was disappointed few students attended the Hogan's reception.

"I can understand when people don't vote in student government elections, but this is the chancellor we're talking about,"

he said.

George Wolf, associate professor of English, said he hoped if Hogan was chosen, he'd work to implement domestic partner benefits for faculty and staff.

The University of Minnesota Board of Regents approved domestic partner benefits for faculty and staff members, but Hogan said the issue has stalled in the Minnesota Legislature.

While at Minnesota, Hogan voted in support of the benefits.

When Wolf asked Hogan about domestic partner benefits, Hogan only said, "These are very, very difficult issues."

Hogan and UNL Interim Chancellor Perlman are vying to take the seat vacated by former Chancellor James Moeser who left to become chancellor at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

Perlman's interview and reception are scheduled for today at 4:30 p.m. in Morrill Hall.

UNL student survives wreck

BY JILL CONNER

A University of Nebraska-Lincoln sophomore is in serious condition after a car accident on Interstate 80 heading east Friday evening.

Lt. Erhart from the Sarpy County Sheriff's Office said Monica Obermeyer, 19, a dietetics major, was passing a car and when she went back into the right lane, she lost control of her 1999 Ford Escort.

Obermeyer struck a guard rail, went into the ditch and hit a tree, he said.

Obermeyer's mother, Jackie, said her daughter survived because of some unusual circumstances.

"She had so many things in her favor, its just amazing," she said.

Jackie Obermeyer said the first person to arrive on the scene was an emergency room physician from Immanuel Hospital in Omaha.

No one's sure who made the original 911 call, but paramedics and a Lifelight helicopter arrived

on the scene at about the same time, Jackie Obermeyer said.

The Lifelight also was the last for the evening because of a fog settling over the Interstate.

The paramedics from the helicopter inserted a tube into Monica's lungs, which were filling up with blood, Jackie Obermeyer said.

Monica was then Lifelighted to the Nebraska Health System University Hospital in Omaha, Jackie Obermeyer said.

Although Obermeyer was originally in critical condition, a spokeswoman for the University Hospital said she was now in serious condition.

Obermeyer suffered from two fractured lungs, a fractured pelvis and broken ribs, said her father, Daryl Obermeyer.

"She looks a whole lot better, but she's still really sick – but everything's fixable," he said.

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