

Little Bohemia earns a spot on the National Register of Historic Places. Midlands, Page 3A



With nation's top three recruits, future looks bright for the Husker volleyball team. Sports

Omaha World-Herald

MONDAY, JULY 27, 2020 • SUNRISE EDITION • REAL. FAIR. ACCURATE.

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AFFIRMATIVE ACTION BAN

Repeal effort leaders still seek to put it before voters

Soonest initiative could get on ballot is 2022; it's too late this year to introduce issue in Legislature

By Christopher Burbach
WORLD-HERALD STAFF WRITER

Leaders of an effort to repeal Nebraska's ban on affirmative action will keep pushing to remove it from the state constitution, even though they were unable to put the issue before voters this fall.

Omaha City Councilman Ben Gray and Douglas County Board member Chris Rodgers had launched a hurried effort to get a repeal of the ban onto the November ballot. They were hoping that an urgency to address racism would help reverse Nebraskans' overwhelming vote — 58% to 42% — to adopt the measure, Initiative 424, in 2008.

The City Council and County Board both passed resolutions in mid-July asking the Nebraska Legislature to put an initiative on the November ballot to repeal the amendment. But it was too late, even if legislation could have cleared a steep uphill climb during a pandemic-shortened session. The language needed to have been submitted by July 2, Nebraska Secretary of State Bob Evnen said.

Now the soonest that the issue could be put before voters would be November 2022, the next general election in Nebraska. Rodgers said it may be better to wait even

See Affirmative action: Page 2

WEEKEND PROTESTS

Police say delay in releasing protesters was computer error

By Kevin Cole, Jessica Wade and Nancy Gaarder
WORLD-HERALD STAFF WRITERS

Computer problems at the Douglas County Jail early Sunday led to a lengthy delay in releasing protesters arrested after a Saturday night demonstration in midtown.

Adding to the confusion was the inability of family and friends to reach some of those who had been jailed.

Several people called The World-Herald on Sunday to say they didn't understand why it was taking so long to have their friends and family members released from the jail at 710 S. 17th St.

Regan Johnson said her fiancé, Riley Wilson, 31, had been in custody for more than 14 hours. About 10:45 p.m. Sunday, a county spokeswoman said that the remaining protesters would be out of

See Protesters: Page 2

Week into Lincoln mask mandate, most complying

Despite shutdown of two bars and Railyard commons, the vast majority is 'focused on doing the right thing'

By Will Bauer
WORLD-HERALD BUREAU

LINCOLN — The owner of Tavern on the Square and the Other Room in Lincoln's Haymarket estimates that 85% to 90% of the patrons entering his bars willingly wear masks when indoors.

Before that, both of the downtown locations recommended masks indoors but did not require them.

"We take this very, very seriously, and more than anything, I want the health of my employees," Taylor said.

Most Lincoln residents are abiding by the city's new directed health measure and wearing masks, says the head of the Lincoln-Lancaster County Health

See Masks: Page 4

CORONAVIRUS CASES

	Infections	Deaths
Nebraska	24,618	316
Iowa	42,259	828
U.S.	4,233,825	146,934

*As of 10 p.m. Sunday

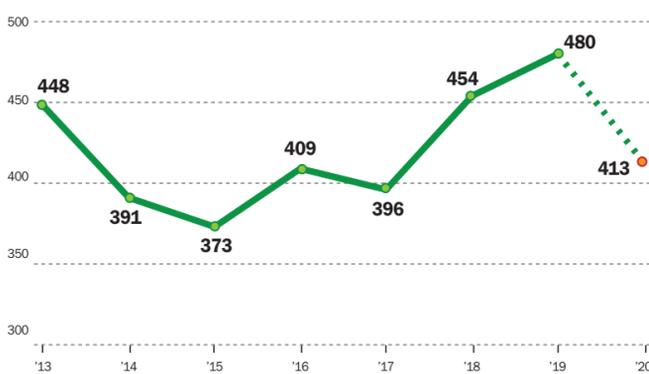
MORE COVID-19 INSIDE

Soul food restaurant serves food for the soul, and other stories of kindness amid coronavirus. Page 6A

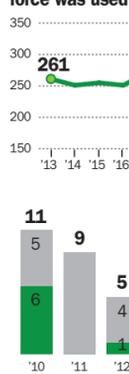
OMAHA POLICE DEPARTMENT USE OF FORCE

Through June 26, 2020

All force types used by OPD, not including firearms



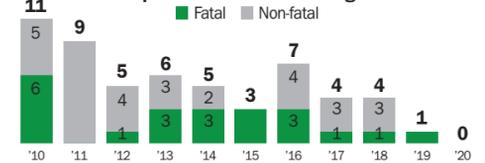
All instances in which force was used



Total number of officers who used force



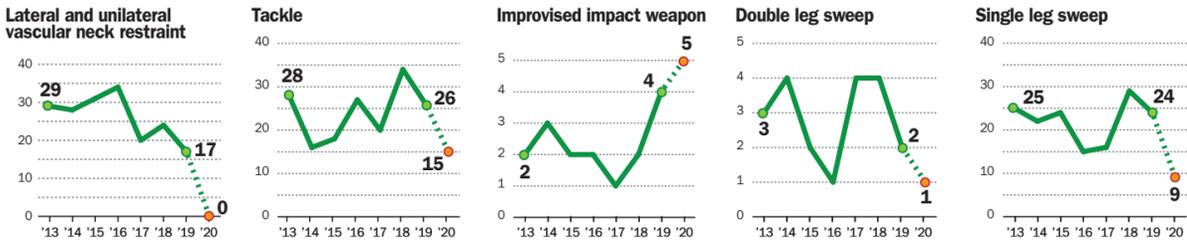
Opd officer-involved shootings



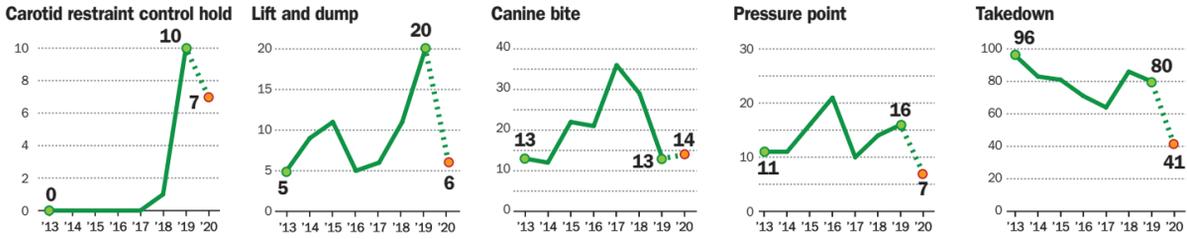
USE OF FORCE BY TYPE Per incident, per officer. Counts do not measure severity.



- CHEMICAL AGENT: Includes tear gas and Oleoresin Capsicum ("pepper spray"), which irritates mucous membranes in eyes, nose, mouth and lungs.
- PEPPER BALL: Number of times an officer uses a pepper ball gun in one situation, not counting the number of projectiles used or rounds fired.
- EMPTY HAND TECHNIQUES: Includes brachial stun, elbow strike, hand strike, hand strikes-vital areas, knee strike and leg strike



- LATERAL AND UNILATERAL VASCULAR NECK RESTRAINT: Officers wrap an arm around the neck, which could put pressure on the trachea as well as the carotid arteries. This type of neck restraint is not authorized anymore and OPD has moved to the carotid restraint.
- IMPROVISED IMPACT WEAPON: An object used to strike a person, not including a baton. For example, a flashlight.



- CAROTID RESTRAINT CONTROL HOLD: Pressure is applied on the sides of the neck, avoiding the trachea, but often causing the person to pass out.
- LIFT AND DUMP: A type of takedown with an officer grasping the person around the waist.

SOURCE: Omaha Police Department

THE WORLD-HERALD

TRAINING, DE-ESCALATION WERE KEY AMID UNREST

By Alia Conley
WORLD-HERALD STAFF WRITER

It's no surprise that Omaha police officers' use of tear gas and pepper balls has dramatically increased this year in light of their response to the massive protests in May and June.

Officers used pepper ball guns 157 times in the first half of 2020 — more than the previous seven years combined. They deployed chemical agents, which include tear gas and pepper spray, 37 times this year — already more than the full-year totals for any of the past seven years.

Yet a closer look at the Omaha Police Department's recorded instances

Tear gas deployment is up by Omaha police, but use-of-force incidents are rare, study shows

es of force shows that officers rarely use force. Such incidents occur fewer than two times per 10,000 resident contacts with police.

Omaha Police Chief Todd Schmaderer said ongoing training and de-escalation techniques should help decrease use-of-force incidents among

officers.

The department reviews officers' use of force, the type of force they used and whether the officer properly applied it.

"I'm comfortable with our use of force in the city and I'm comfortable that we analyze and vet those appropriately," Schmaderer said in an interview with The World-Herald. "Our overall desire for an agency is to minimize the use of force as much as possible."

The total instances of force increased 28% from 2015 to 2019 — an additional 107 times. Schmaderer

See Police: Page 4

Weather

High: 87 Low: 65
Clouds and sun Details: 6A

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