

the players. I want you all who may be old enough to remember this, Senator Robinson and I have to talk about Abraham Lincoln and people such as that when we want to go way back to things that some of you may not remember, but Ray Charles is a popular rhythm and blues singer, as he is called in today's parlance, and he sang a song and part of it said, your love gives me such a thrill, but your love won't pay my bills, I need money. That's the players. The acclamation is great. The euphoria that everybody in the state feels is great. They feel wonderful that they have given Nebraskans a life. Without having won this game, Nebraskans would have nothing to talk about, nothing to enjoy and no reason for being. But since these players, by winning that game in Florida, defined the State of Nebraska, made the name of the State of Nebraska known around the country, because of the truth of what I've just said they have got to be given some acknowledgement in this resolution because it is the first legislative act relative to them before us. But, before the session is over, we have to consider giving them something of substance in the same way that we're given something of substance every time we get our paycheck and our expense check, and I plan to make that possible. And for some of the senators who are new or may not be aware of things that I have done on this issue in the past, already I've gotten the Legislature to agree to passing a law that requires insurance for all people who participate in athletics at any of these universities. It is the only state in the country that has done that. There is a provision only found in Nebraska law and is not even required under NCAA rules that if an athlete is injured, that contract, as I call it, you all call it a scholarship or grant in aid, cannot be taken as a result of that injury. When I brought the bill there were people from the university who said it's not necessary because Nebraska would never do it. Even after passage of the bill, the scholarships of two female gymnasts were taken by the coach because they were injured and I had to intervene to get their scholarships returned. The university didn't return them. The university fought against returning them. In fact, I had to involve the Attorney General who, at that time, was Robert Spire. That's what I had to do, legislation to make sure that Pell grant money given to these players is not taken by the university, to prohibit the university from putting a player in the position of saying if you need financial aid and Nebraska has already reached its complement of players allowed to be there on scholarship, you either must choose to accept that aid and not play football for Nebraska or play football and not accept the aid. This is what