

Record store sales boom despite increased prices

by Dennis Onnen

Sales at the ASUN Record Store this semester are "fantastic" despite a price increase from \$3.50 to \$3.66 per album, according to Terry Braye, manager. He cited the usual post-Christmas boom as one reason for the sales increase.

Braye also said he thought the new inventory system at the store has helped sales. Employees now can tell if a record is in stock when a customer asks for it.

Last year, the price of albums was \$3.68. Then, at the beginning of the first semester, a sale of the top 20 albums for \$3.50 was successful. It was decided to keep the albums at that price, but sales went down. The price went up at the beginning of this semester since the \$3.50 price "would have killed our place," Braye said.

He explained that the records cost the store \$3.10 each, and handling is

about 10 cents each. When the price was \$3.50, the remaining 30 cents per record sold was not enough to pay for expenses and salaries, even at the minimum wage.

"On a regular basis, we're still the cheapest store overall," he said.

So far, only three albums have been sold to students with Associated Student Koop (ASK) cards, he said. The store offers a five per cent discount to cardholders.

There may be a problem in the future if very many students use ASK cards at the store, Braye said, since the store then would have the same problems as when the price was \$3.50. He is discussing possible solutions to the problem with ASUN executives.

Three times since last fall, there also has been a sale of albums for \$1.98. College Suppliers Inc. supply the store with 1000 records, including show tunes, classical music, and other



Terry Braye and Ann Chaloupka . . . are happy about sales at the ASUN Record Store.

records usually not in stock, Braye said. The store keeps 25 per cent for each sale and sends the records not

sold back to the company.

The store was begun two years ago and currently has five employees.

Schmit bill would help in patrol's drug fight

Stressing the "people who are destroying our kids with hard-core drugs are going free," Sen. Loran Schmit of Bellwood Monday saw the first in a series of his bills to beef up the Nebraska State Patrol's (NSP) drug investigation program receive first-round approval in the Legislature.

Schmit says much of his concern over drug abuse centers around the fact he is the father of 10 children—three of whom attend UNL.

Much of the discussion on LB14 concerned whether requesting funds to hire legal counsel for the NSP should go through the Appropriations Committee. Schmit told fellow senators he doubted the governor with his "hold the line on spending" attitude, would approve funds for added agency personnel.

The bill, given 34-1 general file approval, would add three attorneys to the NSP staff to assist county attorneys in drug and other criminal case preparation.

Sen. Herb Nore of Genoa asked if the requested legal counsel would prevent the dismissal of drug cases on technicalities. "They (drug offenders) walk out of the courtroom laughing and they're back in again and again," he said.

"The other bills are going to cost a whale of a lot more money," Schmit said in response to questions concerning the bill's costs. "We are either going to face up to it or hide our face in the sand."

"This is a dirty business and it has to be dealt with in a dirty way," Scottsbluff Sen. Terry Carpenter said. "We know the drug problem does exist—and it's really deep."

Carpenter added if the problem is to be solved, then there is a need for more money, attorneys and undercover men. "The

bill doesn't mean anything until you appropriate the money."

Sidney Sen. Robert Clark, who was the only senator to vote against the bill, said if the NSP needed three additional people "they should ask for three people and justify them" before the Appropriations Committee.

"The Budget Committee will know nothing of this problem," Carpenter countered. "If we (Judiciary Committee) don't know then nobody in state government knows about the drug problem."

Schmit has introduced other bills concerning the NSP to increase the number of drug investigators and to provide for the purchase of a helicopter to assist in drug control.

Another of Schmit's bills which he says needs amending would call for mandatory life sentences for persons convicted of selling narcotics.

Schmit said he thinks the state has a "good program" dealing with possession of marijuana. "I don't want a kid caught smoking marijuana spending his life in prison," he said.

Through his proposed bills, Schmit said he hopes to "hit the man that sells drugs for a profit. Murder doesn't destroy as many lives as a pusher of hard core drugs."

Prior to drafting his drug-related bills, Schmit said he met with the head of the patrol, Col. James Kruger, to find what was needed to "stamp out hard narcotics."

Schmit admits he is responsible for getting the bill package passed. If enacted, the responsibility for stopping the hard-drug traffic is Kruger's, the senator said.

Schmit said if the drug traffic isn't curtailed, he hopes to see the patrol chief back "riding a motorcycle and giving tickets."

Vasectomies increase as men accept burden

by Steve Arvanette

Amid continued controversy over abortions and female birth control methods, a growing number of men have decided the responsibility for slowing the population explosion and ending unwanted family pregnancies should rest on their shoulders.

Permanent male sterilization, through a relatively easy operation known as a vasectomy, has been performed on approximately three million American men according to the Voluntary Sterilization Association. Sharp increases in the number of men

requesting the operation have occurred in recent years until 1972 when the level appeared to stabilize at over one-half million annually.

Not to be confused with castration, a vasectomy is performed by cutting a short section out of the two sperm-carrying tubes in the scrotum and tying the ends. A man's body continues to produce sperm but none is released during sex.

Greg Farstrup, counselor at Lincoln's Family Planning Center (FPC), said that almost the same amount of fluid is released during intercourse after the operation as was before.

"Men are just about as concerned with their sexual responsibility as women," Farstrup said. "I think we should give them more opportunity to be responsible."

FPC appears to be giving men an opportunity by counseling those interested in a vasectomy and performing the operation for low income individuals.

The center offers a full range of family planning, Farstrup said. Services include problem pregnancy, female and male birth control and fertility counseling.

Since October 1971, the center has performed 34 vasectomies, averaging two a month. The operation, which takes from 15 to 30 minutes, can be done at the center under local anesthetic, he explained.

Should men not qualify for the operation under the center's financial guidelines, Farstrup refers them to local physicians who charge \$75 to \$150.

Before scheduling a vasectomy for a man, Farstrup said, he wants the individual to realize the operation should be considered permanent. Other considerations include possible divorce by the couple or death of the wife or children at a later date.

Farstrup said he thinks it is also a "good idea to include the woman" in the counseling.

"I discuss with them that there is no physical change in the man's sex drive," he said. After the operation a couple's sexual life is often enhanced because there is no worry over an unplanned child, he added.

Most men requesting a vasectomy are between 25 and 35 years old, according to Farstrup. Dr. Richard Hammer said the University Health Center receives requests for information on vasectomy from some unmarried, students.

"This age group isn't as interested as those who have had two or three children," Hammer said.

The center does counsel interested men, he added. However, they are referred to FPC if they decide to have the operation.

"The ability to have kids is important to some men's masculinity," Farstrup said. "If I think he is uncertain, I'd urge him to reconsider any decision to have the operation."

Most men who decide on a vasectomy generally have a secure family and marriage, according to the FPC counselor. They aren't as concerned now with losing their masculinity through the operation as in earlier years, he said.

"There's no reason to force people to have children because they can't arrange to use a method of birth control," Farstrup said. "Vasectomy is one method for people who don't want more children."

The right of a man to have no children is just as important as the right to have five or six, he said.

Although no laws exist regulating vasectomies in Nebraska, 18 is considered the minimum age at which the operation can be performed.

