



## UNL given reprieve on fire safety compliance

By Charles Wieser

The State Fire Marshal has granted UNL an 18-month extension in its effort to comply with fire safety regulations, according to Harley Schrader, director of UNL's Physical Plant.

Fire safety violations involving 46 UNL buildings were not corrected by the Dec. 1 deadline.

Some of the needed improvements include construction of a fire escape on Piper Hall, installation of fire alarm systems in Love Library and Teachers College Bldg., stairwell enclosure in the Temple Bldg. and the rewiring of the electrical system in Stout Hall.

State Fire Marshal Joe Pluta said the extension was granted because UNL has been in "50 per cent compliance" in working to improve fire safety.

He said the extension also was granted because of budgeting factors and the time factor involved in major construction of such things as fire escapes.

In reference to the Temple Bldg., Pluta wrote in a report Nov. 29, 1972, "I would recommend that you discontinue the use of this building."

Since the report, Schrader said, the university has made "many fire improvements" in Temple.

"Three exits have been added from the basement leading directly outside and we removed two to three truck loads of junk that was considered highly flammable material from Temple's hallways," he said.

"We think the building is many times more fire safe than when the original inspection was made," Schrader said.

Pluta, who has served 32 years in the fire service, said violation penalties include \$5-\$100 fines for each day noncompliance continues.

Schrader listed fire safety priorities set by the State Fire Marshal as being adequate exits from buildings, fire alarm systems and stairwell enclosure.

He said UNL has been working in conjunction with the State Fire Marshal to meet these priorities.

"As long as reasonable progress is made, the university will be allowed time extensions," Schrader said.

After the 18-month extension, Pluta said, charges may be filed against UNL if compliance is not 100

per cent or a further extension may be granted.

Pluta, who has served 32 years in the fire service said violation penalties include \$5-\$100 fines for each day noncompliance continues.

"We anticipate and have high hopes that compliance will be completed (following the 18-month extension)," he said.

But Pluta acknowledged the difficulties facing UNL in receiving the necessary funds to eliminate fire safety problems.

"My experience has been that you can't get blood out of a turnip. If you don't have the money, then you can't get anything done," Pluta said.

Schrader said \$350,000 was allocated last year for UNL special maintenance.

"We had to use the money to correct handicaps, improve fire safety and for deferred maintenance (roof repairs and hallway painting)," he said.

Schrader said UNL officials must set priorities when deciding what improvements buildings need most.



Poster art

## Posters to solicit student comment

For College of Arts and Sciences majors who feel they are "getting screwed," help is on the way, according to posters publicizing the availability of the Arts and Sciences Advisory Board.

The posters, which will be put up by Tuesday, invite arts and sciences students to send in their problems, questions and comments about the college for the board to review. If the board decides a change could improve the college, it will advise Melvin George, college dean, of its decision.

In past years the board has asked for change on the basis of what they felt was needed. Now it would like to know the feelings of everyone in the college. "This year we're trying to be more of a service organization," said Scott Cooper, chairperson of the board.

## Students question Nixon's energy conservation steps

By Mark Hoffman

UNL students apparently doubt the seriousness of the energy crisis and the effectiveness of President Richard Nixon's energy conservation proposals, according to man-on-the-street interviews conducted Thursday by the *Daily Nebraskan*.

Nixon has called for reducing speed limits to 50 m.p.h. on the nation's highways, reducing building temperatures to the 65-68 degree range and conserving electrical energy.

Linda Engel, 21, said of Nixon's conservation proposals, "I think they would really be effective if people would follow them."

She expressed concern that requesting people to go 50 m.p.h. might be asking too much. During a recent trip on Interstate 80, "traffic really got balled up" as cars going 60-65 m.p.h. were crowded by cars traveling faster, she said.

Barry Oelschlaeger, 19, said the measures advocated by Nixon would not be effective because "people will say 'the hell with it'" to lower speed limits and other measures.

"Americans don't do anything until they get hit in the face by it (the energy shortage)," he said about voluntary measures to combat the shortage. He said stronger measures should be taken by Nixon.

Monte Wendell, 21, said he thought gas rationing should be ordered.

"People won't quit driving until they are forced to," he said. He could ride a bus instead of driving to campus from his off-campus residence, he said, but wouldn't unless a tax was placed on gas or gas rationing was implemented.

"I don't know how serious the energy shortage is. If it is that serious, president Nixon

should be taking stronger measures," he said.

The seriousness of the energy shortage also was a question to other students.

H. Yamamoto, 30, said "I am not sure of the degree of the energy shortage, but if I believe what I read and hear, yes—it is serious."

Elizabeth Boilesen, 23, called the energy shortage "a fabrication to divert people's attention from Watergate."

While she said she believes gas should be rationed if the energy shortage is so serious, she said President Nixon would not implement tough measures that might hurt his popularity.

"He is trying to be nice. That is why he's not being so tough," she said.

Energy-conservation consciousness has caused her and her husband to walk more than a mile to classes every day, regardless of weather, she said.

Tom Paulson, 21, said his personal energy-conservation measures included bicycling two to three miles to class instead of driving.

He added that he and his roommate talked to other UNL students in their apartment complex about starting a car pool when the weather gets bad.

The car pool has not materialized yet, he said, because other students cited "inconvenience...they wouldn't be able to go home when they wanted."

Other students said the energy crisis has made them more aware of shutting off unnecessary lights and reducing the temperature in their living units.

Steve Boerner, 19, saw the energy shortage in slightly different perspective. When asked what he planned to do to conserve energy, he replied, "sleep more."