

Ogallala—pleasure spot or drug users' poison?

By Rebecca Brite

Ogallala, Neb., population 5,000; Keith County seat.

To most residents of eastern Nebraska, Ogallala means Lake McConaughy: camping, water skiing and scuba diving.

But to many counterculture members from California to the East Coast, Ogallala has come to be synonymous with poison. Keith County has the fourth highest number of drug and narcotics arrests of any county in the state. It is surpassed only by Douglas, Lancaster and Sarpy counties.

County law enforcement officials are proud of their efficiency, which they attribute to their location—Ogallala is about 25 miles east of the Colorado border on Interstate 30—and to strong cooperation among state, county and city law agencies.

A few people, however, have begun to suspect that this efficiency also is due, in part, to what may be less than legal search procedures by one state patrolman stationed in the area.

A classified advertisement in last

week's Daily Nebraskan requested confidential information from "anyone who's been busted or has had a vehicle stopped and searched in the Ogallala, Neb. area."

Persons with information were asked to call Peter Lund, collect, at either of two Colorado numbers.

Lund is a private investigator working with a lawyer on behalf of a client in the Denver-Boulder area.

"I've received about 20 responses to date," Lund said. "This particular patrolman in Ogallala appears to have a distinct method of operation."

"He concentrates on stopping campers and vans on the Interstate. He will ask for the drivers license and car registration. While he's checking these, he will ask the occupants of the car about drugs."

At this point, Lund said, the patrolman supposedly will see evidence, such as a marijuana seed on the floor of the car, and will search the vehicle or intimidate the occupants.

"If he finds nothing," he said, "he will issue a warning ticket or what he calls a 'fix-it' ticket, claiming the auto registration needs replacing, for

example."

A Lincoln attorney basically agreed with the Lund's account of the searches. Dennis Burchard currently is defending four clients arrested on drug related charges in the Ogallala area.

"We've been hearing about this guy (patrolman) for a long time," Burchard said. "He'll stop everyone who looks like a hippie, especially if they're driving a van."

"He'll pull a car over on some

flimsy excuse," he said. "If he finds drugs, he may manage to spill some on the floor, then claim it was there all along and that it prompted the search."

Burchard said that if the reports about the patrolman are true, he has probably gone unchallenged because "everyone has something to hide."

"The people he stops who are clean are so intimidated, See "Ogallala", page 2

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Hal Smith objected to a bylaw revision which would exclude him from CSL.

CSL bylaws revision debated

By Mark Hoffman

If revised bylaws passed Thursday by the Council on Student Life (CSL) were in effect today, two current CSL members would lose their seats.

Both council members, Richard Armstrong, UNL Housing Office director and Hal Smith, director of Student Development Programs are members of the UNL Student Affairs Office staff.

The change comes under CSL's membership provision. The existing bylaws provide for two professional staff members from the Student Affairs office to be CSL members, according to CSL Chairman Don Shaneyfelt.

CSL changed the provision to read, "Two professional staff members other than faculty not under the direct supervision of the vice chancellor of student affairs (shall be CSL members) appointed by the chancellor."

Armstrong and Smith are under the vice chancellor's direct supervision and thus are ineligible for council membership, should the bylaws be accepted.

According to Smith, the provision would make seven UNL employees ineligible as CSL's professional staff members—the directors of the Housing Office, Student Development Programs, Academic Affairs, the Nebraska Union, Minority Affairs Office, the University Health Center and the dean of

administration for student affairs.

Ely Meyerson, CSL member and UNL dean of administration for student affairs, would remain eligible because he was appointed as the vice chancellor's designee.

John Goebel, CSL member and associate professor of accounting, was on the CSL committee that drafted the bylaws revision.

He defended the revision by arguing that there shouldn't be so much membership concentration from the Student Affairs Office on the council because CSL has so much to do with what ultimately happens with that office.

Shaneyfelt said that since so much of CSL's activity dealing with the Student Affairs office, "if they (members) are from that office, there is a potential conflict of interest."

Armstrong argued that the professional staff members who would be excluded from consideration as CSL members are the persons who could provide valuable expertise and knowledge for the council.

While noting that these administrators could be invited to CSL meetings for information, he said that their expertise would be used more often if they were members.

Smith objected to the revision, saying it limited the chancellor's selection of professional staff members to CSL.

Archives preserve 105 years of Nebraskana

By Annete Sims

A letter dated June 3, 1895, from Prof. Woodrow Wilson of Princeton University respectfully declining an offer to the chancellorship of the University of Nebraska is one of many documents in the University of Nebraska Archives.

The archives, located on the fourth floor of Love Library, were organized in 1968. Joseph G. Svoboda, University archivist, spent two months designing an index and filing system for the documents, letter, films, tapes and photos accumulated since the University was chartered Feb. 15, 1869.

The materials formerly had been kept in disorganized storage in the library basement.

Minutes of student organizations, private correspondence and University publications are the bulk of the documents.

Among student records from the past are the minutes of the Palladian Literary Society, the first student organization at the University.

There are issues of the *Hesperian Student*, predecessor to the student newspaper the *Daily Nebraskan*. Volume one, October 1871, features a poem, "Love in Death" by J.C. Duke and articles on such topics as "Brain Work," "Authorship" and "Hints to Young Students."

"With Fire and Sword, a publication issued in 1930 by the Gadflies, a secret student organization, exposed what it called corruption in the NU administration. It also opposed the *Daily Nebraskan*, *Cornhusker*,

Athletic Board, Innocents Society, Student Council, Kosmet Klub, and the Inter Fraternity Council.

University publications on the shelves include the *Sombrero*, predecessor to the *Cornhusker*, and the *Prairie Schooner*, a literary magazine published by the English Dept.

One of Mari Sandoz's earliest stories "The Vine," appears in the first issue of the *Schooner* in 1927. It was written under the pseudonym "Mary Macumber."

Sandoz donated her personal library to NU. It includes correspondence and research notes.

The papers of Charles E. Bessey, former botany professor and director of an experiment station, also are in the archives.

The archives contain letters of faculty members, including Gen. John J. Pershing's letter of application for a teaching position.

Almost all publications that originate in the University in periodical form, including course description catalogs dating back to when the school was founded, are also in the archives.

One contribution of particular interest to Svoboda is interviews of Nebraska old timers about the history of agriculture in the state, he said.

The interviews are now being done by George S. Round, UNL professor of agricultural communication.

Svoboda said talking with researchers and helping students with projects are the most enjoyable aspects of his job.

He said he spends 50% of his time traveling, contacting people about contributing materials to the archives.

"The archives depend on the cooperation of all University

departments, students and alumni," he said. He encourages student organizations to contribute documents they no longer need.

Alumni also can play a key role in maintaining the archives by sending in reminiscences of their University years, such as notebooks, diaries and other materials, including pamphlets, circulars and programs.

It's difficult to collect recent records because people do not save them, Svoboda said.

"They assume documents have to be old to be historic," he said. "But what is contemporary today becomes historic tomorrow."



Archivist Joseph Svoboda has filed records about the University dating to 1869.