



The American egret, an occasional spring visitor to Nebraska, may someday cease his visits altogether because of Nebraska's shrinking wildlife habitats.

Photo by Ted Kirk

Wildlife habitat losing ground

Analysis by Dick Piersol

Take a sojourn into rural Nebraska and you may notice a change in its landscape. Huge piles of brush on barren land stand waiting to be burned. Where there were once endless rows of hedges and shelter belts, now there is dirt, ready to be prepared for planting.

There is no denying that new agricultural technology and methods, growing urbanization, in short—progress, is not only vital but inevitable in Nebraska. Its advantages are academic; its consequences often overlooked.

One consequence is a striking reduction in available habitat for wildlife of all types. Songbirds, game animals, predators, all are subject to the demands of human population.

The state Game and Parks Commission, a seven-member board appointed by the governor, has recognized a need for preserving wildlife habitat and promoting its maintenance. Following a conference on wildlife habitat conducted in February 1975 and attended by wildlife managers, farmers and interested environmentalists, the commission has fostered legislation currently before the Nebraska Legislature designed to save what wildlife habitat it can.

Fee increases not small

The proposed legislation increases fees paid by hunters, fishermen and trappers for the rights to pursue their quarry. The increases are not small. The most drastic fee increase is to require all hunters and trappers, 16-years-old or more, resident or not, to purchase a habitat stamp for \$7.50, in addition to a hunting or trapping license. That stamp would replace the \$1 upland game bird stamp to permit hunting of birds such as quail and pheasant.

The money raised from habitat stamp sales and all game fees increases would be placed in the State Game Fund, which receives no state tax money, to buy, lease, develop and otherwise enhance wildlife habitat areas.

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Concerned students will petition for traffic signal

By Virginia Broady

Students worried about what they call the danger in crossing the intersection of 10th and S streets to get to the 501 Bldg. will start a petition drive next week asking the Lincoln City Council to budget funds for installation of a traffic light there this fall.

Barb Berry, a junior business administration major from Omaha and a member of the Campus Police Advisory Board (CPAB), said that the petition is a result of an accident Oct. 14, 1975 in which a UNL student was hit while crossing 10th st.

Berry said she had checked the possibility of getting a traffic light at the crossing and found it had a "low priority."

Jan McKinney, the student who was hit at the crossing, said the accident would not have happened had there been a traffic light there.

The accident occurred while she was going to her 8:30 a.m. class, she said. Several cars had stopped for pedestri-

ans "except the car in the last lane," which apparently had not seen her, she said.

McKinney, a freshman civil engineering major from Lincoln, added that she thought a traffic light was badly needed at the crossing.

"Cars will slow down and won't come to a complete stop," she said. "If there is room to get across between two students they will cross, even if the student is still walking. It gets a little hairy sometimes."

Her injuries, which were considered "not too serious," included a broken pelvis, a deep cut on her head and one on her heel, scrapes and bruises. McKinney said she was hospitalized for 20 days and had to withdraw from school for the semester.

Campus Police support signal

Berry said Campus Police are supportive of getting a traffic light at 10th and S streets.

Berry said student organizations will be contacted and urged to write the City Council.

The ASUN Senate passed a resolution on Feb. 11 requesting that the issue be included on the NU Board of Regents' March agenda. The resolution requests that the board ask the City Council to consider financing the light even if it is low priority.

Dick Mickleson, a Lincoln city engineer, said the traffic signal priority lists are based upon the amount of traffic at the intersection, the number of traffic accidents, the location and the traffic signals near the intersection and the kind of traffic being regulated, such as UNL or grade school pedestrians. He added that a traffic light at 10th and S streets is not on their current priority list.

However, any request for a traffic light is considered by the City Engineering Officer, he said.

John Duve, parking and traffic coordinator said that Campus Police would like to have a traffic light at the intersection, but added there probably is a greater need for traffic lights around grade schools.

He said most of the accidents which occur on campus could be prevented by greater safety awareness.

Hubble: Too late for flu inoculation

Once again the flu bug has bit the UNL campus, and it's too late to be vaccinated against it, according to Dr. Kenneth Hubble, director of the University Health Center (UHC).

Hubble said Tuesday that flu vaccinations were recommended in mid-November "in order for the body to have six to eight weeks to build up an immunity to the flu virus." But flu shots now will not prevent students from contracting the virus, he said.

The flu virus circulating in Lincoln is of a common variety, Hubble said. Symptoms include fever, headache and body ache, chills and some abdominal disorders, such as vomiting. Complications of the virus can result in secondary infections, he said, causing respiratory and severe abdominal problems.

Hubble said most students reporting to UHC have secondary respiratory problems, such as congestion and sore throat, and a few have bronchial problems.

The acute symptoms (aching, chills, etc.) usually last 72 hours, followed by two to three days of weakness, he said.

Hubble recommended bedrest, liquids to combat dehydration, and aspirin to control fever for relief from most flu symptoms. However, in some cases doctors at UHC are prescribing decongestants and antacids for specific complications, he said.

Three people were hospitalized two to three days at UHC for flu, Hubble said.

Deb Holland, a Smith Residence Hall health aide, said residence hall and Greek house health aides have



Photo by Terry Ganssorn

Although the University Health Center still is seeing flu-ridden students, the number of cases is declining, according to nurses.

been informed of flu symptoms in their health aide classes. Holland, a sophomore in Teachers College from Deshler, said health aides have decongestants, antacid tablets and sore throat lozenges for flu sufferers.

Health center nurses said they were unable to estimate the number of students who have been coming in

with flu symptoms, but that the number seems to be "letting up now."

"Actually, we've been too busy with them (patients) to count them," said Dr. Ralph Ewert, one of the walk-in doctors who has been helping flu patients.