daily nebraskan

wednesday, december 15, 1976

Vehicles tested for noise

By Mike Patten

Vehicles traveling city streets are being monitored for excessive noise by the Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Dept. and the Lincoln Police Dept. (LPD).

The two departments tested more than 3.000 vehicles for excessive noise violations and 15 violations cards have been issued.

The noise checks are done with a sound level meter, which measures the noise level in decibels.

The checks are conducted on city streets by a health official and a policeman. Richard McElvain, noise pollution control specialist with the Health Dept. environmental health division, said the meter must be placed 50 feet from the roadside when measuring the sound.

Violaters are asked only to fill out a noise correction card and to return it to the Health Dept. Only one of the 15 cards issued has been returned, records show.

McElvain said the number of violations has been greater, but the policemen assigned to the tests haven't been present all the time to stop the cars. Health Dept. figures

man was present for 17 and a half hours. Only three violations were recorded in November, but McElvain said that figure could be deceiving. He said the Health Dept. is allowed to test only on good days, and with a food piosoning case earlier in the month, only one day was left for testing.

The Health Dept. is allowed to test only on days when there are no adverse weather conditions, McElvain said. The theory behind this is that different driving conditions dictate different noise levels, he explained.

A city ordinance passed in 1971 requires that the sound level of cars traveling less than 35 m.p.h. cannot exceed 82 decibels.

The level of normal human conversation is 55-60 decibels. The rate of a garbage disposal is about 80 decibels. Ear damage is possible when the sound reaches 85 decibels.

The allowable noise level for motorcycles and trucks is slightly higher. The Police Dept. has not been issuing tickets for the violations, but McElvain said he

demeanor and carries a fine of up to \$500, or 10 days in jail or both.



a.m.-U.A.A.D. 11:45 Nebraska Union luncheon, 202A-202

12:30 p.m.-Engineering Mechanics luncheon, Union 243.

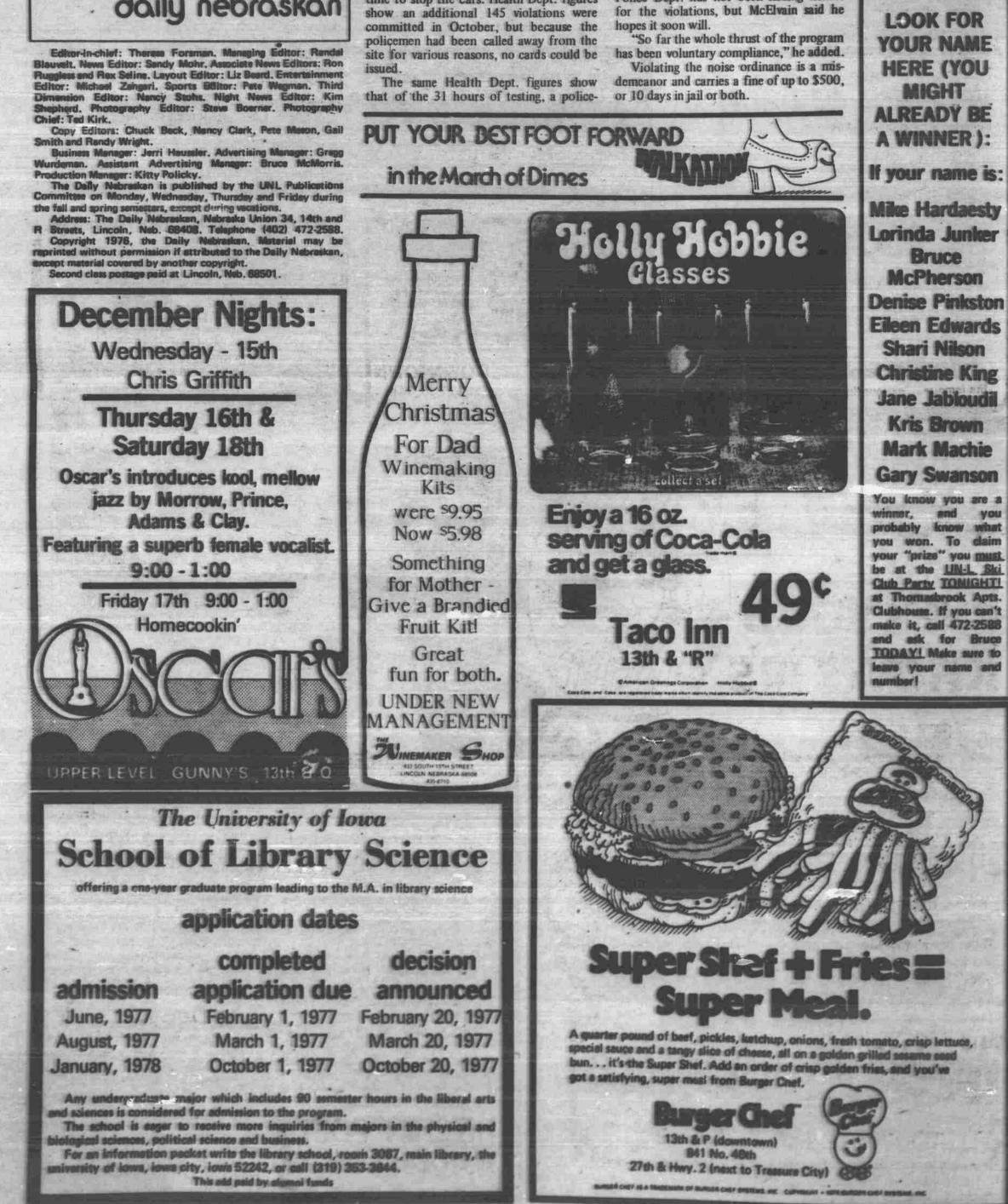
2:30 p.m.-Committee on Admissions & Advising, Union 203

3:30 p.m.-CSO New Student Orientation, Union 216.

p.m.-Greek Affairs, officer installation, Union 202-203.

7:30 p.m.-Fees Allocation Board, Union 243. 7:30 p.m.-Math Coun-

selors, Union 225 B.C.



daily nebraskan

short stuff

A representative from

the Veterans Administration

(VA) regional office will be

in Union 338 from 11 a.m.

to noon today to answer.

questions about VA bene-

The UNL Go club will

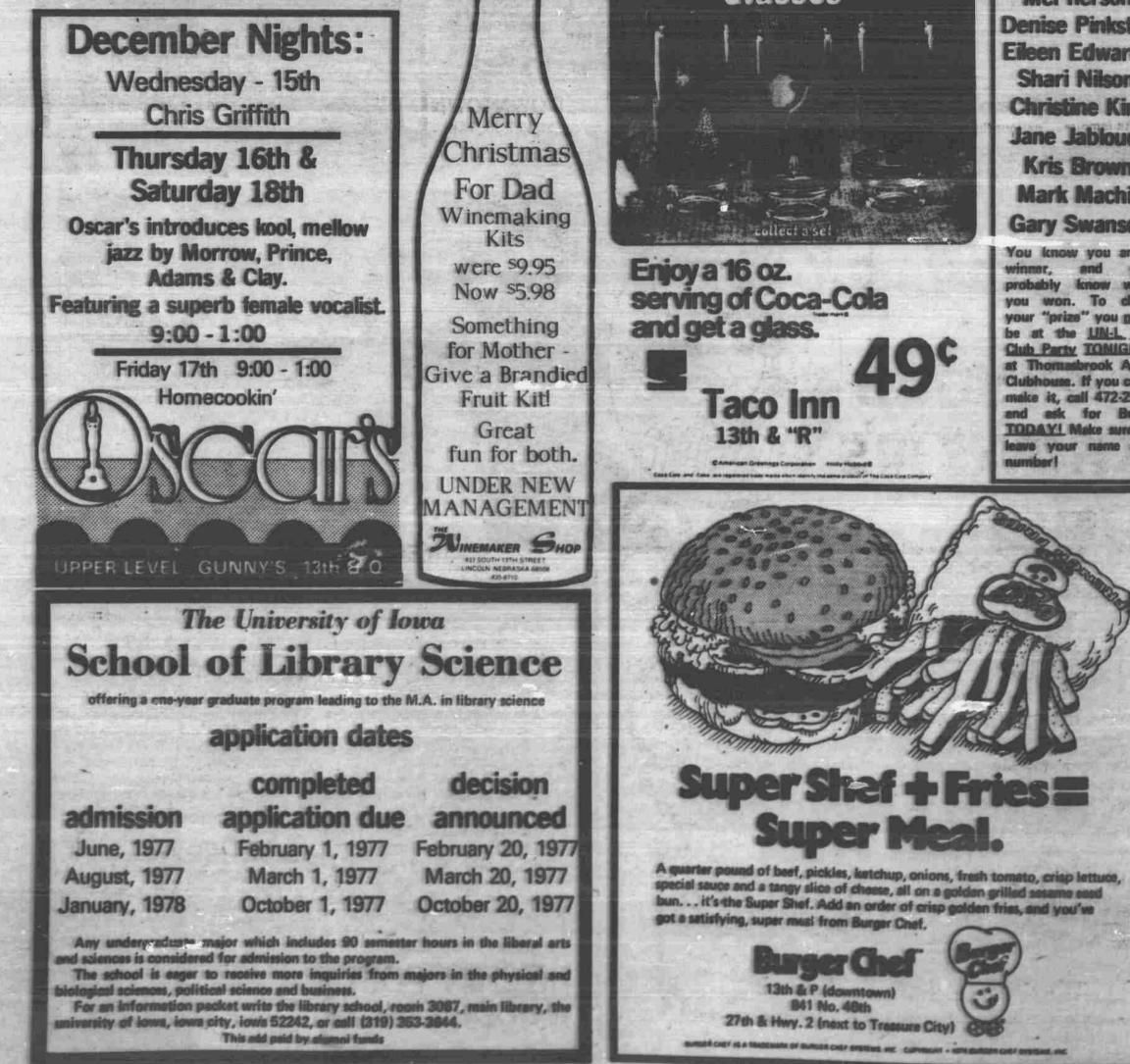
Alpha Tau Alpha will

meet at 7:30 p.m. today at

1.20

meet at 8 p.m. today in

the Union 215A.



information. Agricultural Hall 311. * * * *

page 2

The Lincoln - Lancaster

County Geneology Society

will meet at 7 p.m. today at

the Essterday Center, 62nd

Applications are now available for new student

orientation student hosts in

Room 200, Nebraska Union, ASUN office or in

any college dean's office. Applications are due Dec.

23. See orientation office

staff, Union 200, for more

and Adams streets.

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