

Peddle on down to pick up bike license registration

By Janet Lliteras

Attention bicycle peddlers: now you can register your bicycle at campus police headquarters instead of going to a fire station.

Earlier this year the City Council revised the ordinance dealing with bicycle registration authorizing assigned representatives to license bicycles.

A lifetime license can be purchased for \$1 from fire stations, bike dealers, and UNL campus police. Before the revision, licenses could be purchased for 50 cents every other year only at fire stations.

"It was difficult getting bicycles registered," Asst. Police Chief Dean Leitner said.

Maureen Knott, campus police officer with the Crime Prevention Bureau, said students can register bicycles at campus police headquarters between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m.

or officers can go directly to residence halls and register bicycles if a group of students request them to come.

Bicycle registration is for the students' protection and convenience, Knott said.

According to Lincoln police statistics, 1,243 bicycles were stolen and 258 recovered by the end of July.

The estimated monetary loss in 1976 was \$98,192. Of that amount, \$43,137 was recovered. For the first seven months this year, \$61,640 in bicycles were stolen, and \$21,799 recovered.

By registering each bicycle, thefts could be reduced and more lost or stolen bicycles could be recovered, Knott said.

"It (registration) is the only way to trace stolen bicycles," she said.

A bicycle that is lost or stolen and later found by police is stored for about 30 days in a city garage. Bicycles not claimed after that time are auctioned off to the highest bidder.

Last year 305 bicycles were sold for \$6,156.41. As of July 31, 251 bicycles were sold for \$2,956.91.

"We had to sell them because we were unable to determine who the owners were," Leitner said. Anyone whose bicycle has been stolen can come to police headquarters and look through the bikes, he said. If the person can prove ownership, the bicycle is his for the \$1 license fee.

Leitner encouraged every bicycle owner to license his or her bicycle and to observe the bicycle safety rules. Copies of the rules, and bike routes can be obtained from the police station.

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