

# Identi-Kits make police artist's job almost obsolete

By Laura Castleberry

A young woman has just had her purse snatched by a young man. She got a quick glimpse of him and she calls the police to report the crime. They ask her for a description.

All she remembers is the man's long hair, slightly pointed chin and big nose.

Nevertheless, Lt. Hal Maxey of the Lincoln Police Department may be able to help her. Maxey is the closest thing LPD has to a police artist.

According to Maxey, hand-drawn sketches of suspects are becoming obsolete, being replaced by new national police equipment called Identi-Kits.

The Identi-Kit is a composite file of separate drawings that contain different facial features such as hair, lips, chins, eyebrows, glasses and wrinkles.

"The composite kit has pretty much taken the place of a police artist," Maxey said. "The larger cities may have a hired artist to fill in certain features, but the kits have made police art almost obsolete."

When a victim or witness reports a crime, Maxey said, the police officer will ask if the suspect can be identified or described. The next step is the composite file.

Maxey said the kit most often is used in robbery,

molestations and shoplifting.

After a composite is made (an average composite takes about an hour to complete), police can check the mugshot book, he said.

Any officer can use the Identi-Kit, Maxey said, but he does most of the work because of his art background. Maxey said most composites are accurate and help lo-

cate suspects. In some cases, the composites are nearly identical to the suspect.


The kit is used at least twice a week in Lincoln and is essential in most sex crimes, he said.

Identi-Kits are rented to police departments on a national basis so all departments have the same composite identification numbers.



Photo by Bob Pearson

Lincoln police Lt. Hal Maxey, an LPD artist, says his creative job is becoming obsolete with the addition of Identi-Kits, a standardized method of developing suspects' likenesses.



**Bill Evans**  
with  
**Philly Joe Jones**

Thurs Mar 16 - 8 p.m. O'Donnell Auditorium  
Nebraska Wesleyan Campus Tickets available  
at *Diri Cheap*, *Brandels Ticket Outlets*, Lincoln  
and Omaha and at the door the night of the  
concert. For information call 477-6061 Lincoln  
or 399-6640 Omaha

The Lincoln *Jazz* Society

Supported by the Nebraska Arts Council

## Consumer guidelines

People are not always fair. People grow up hearing that but they often forget it during business transactions.

It is important to remember that when signing any agreement, it is, in most cases, legally binding and cannot be broken, unless both parties agree.

There are however, exceptions to most rules. One exception is a new ruling from the Federal Trade Commission concerning sales of \$25 or more. This rule allows persons three business days to cancel a contract signed in a door-to-door sales transaction.

The salesperson must give the customer a cancellation form clearly explaining this right and how to exercise it.

Upon cancellation, the salesperson must refund all money or trade-in merchandise taken at the time of a sale. The customer must return all merchandise.

Tips to avoid contract hassles include reading and understanding the contract, making sure all agreements are in writing and making sure all guarantees are clear.

Any problems with transactions should be reported to the Cornhusker Better Business Bureau or NUPIRG (Nebraska University Public Interest Research Group).

This information was taken from a publication of the Cornhusker Better Business Bureau, and is sponsored by NUPIRG.

## puzzle crossword

### ACROSS

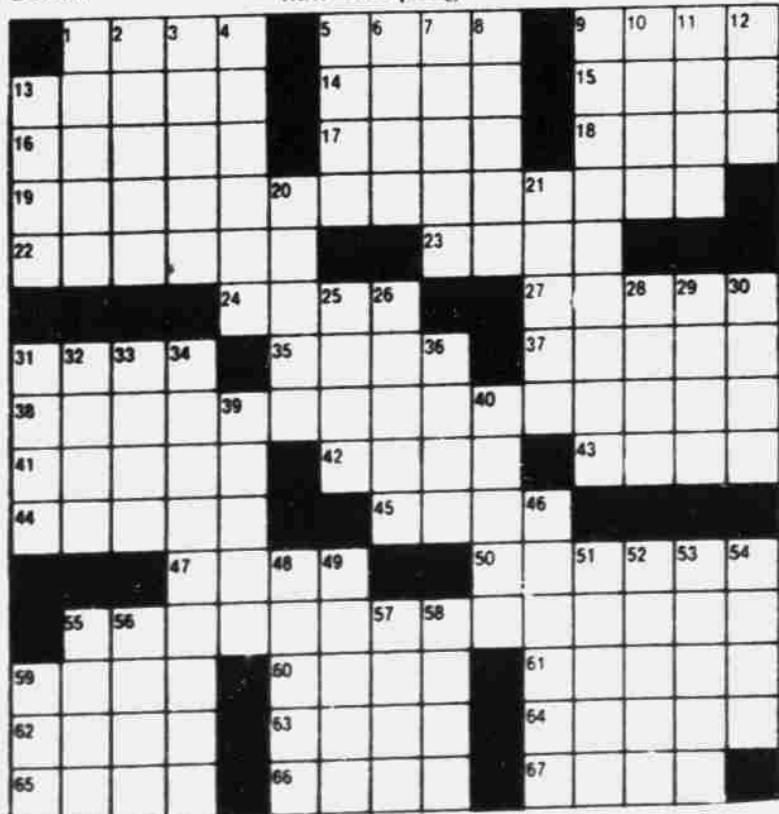
- 1 Audacious
- 5 Ironically extravagant
- 9 Cutting tool
- 13 Shipworm or boll weevil
- 14 Plant with fleshy leaves
- 15 Bird with a weird cry
- 16 Capital of Guam
- 17 Loch's relative
- 18 Set right
- 19 Useless search
- 22 — Antilles
- 23 Spare
- 24 Old oath
- 27 Inhalant
- 31 Salmagundi
- 35 Comstock ingress
- 37 Yellow pigment
- 38 Houseleeks
- 41 Prime minister who resigned after Cornwallis's surrender
- 42 O'Casey or O'Kelly
- 43 Sultanate of Babe Ruth
- 44 Burdens: Lat.
- 45 Main veins of leaves
- 47 Pay up
- 50 Novelist Welty
- 55 Pl'y — with (squander)
- 59 Rajah's spouse
- 60 Parisian's "Help!"
- 61 Rub out
- 62 Track figures
- 63 Small recess
- 64 Dark brown shade
- 65 TV studio device

### DOWN

- 1 Apparition
- 2 Certain tests
- 3 Imparts
- 4 Sugarcoated nut
- 5 Roman consul
- 6 Word of regret
- 7 Mushroom
- 8 The "d" in l.s.d.
- 9 Franklin's annual compilations
- 10 Suffices
- 11 Kind of defense, in sports
- 12 Tackle's neighbor
- 13 Bellow

- 20 Church fixture
- 21 "Cry —!" and let slip the dogs of war": Shak.
- 25 Increases
- 26 Las Vegas patron
- 28 Hot-weather word
- 29 Trieste wine measure
- 30 Musical sign
- 31 "Decidedly not!"
- 32 Biographer Edell
- 33 Dictator's phrase
- 34 Fate of one sent to Coventry
- 36 Bangkok man
- 39 "... and — of hair": Kipling

- 40 "— We Cry," book by Ilka Chase
- 46 Most certain
- 48 Ethiopian lake, source of the Blue Nile
- 49 De Valera
- 51 Venturesome one
- 52 Giraffelike animal
- 53 Violinist's need
- 54 In Neptune's realm
- 55 Pedestal part
- 56 Loosen
- 57 When both hands are up
- 58 Flood fighter's barrier
- 59 What footpads do



# Opinions on Northeast Radial to be offered soon by UNL

By Randy Essex

UNL soon may offer an opinion to the Lincoln Public Works Department stating that NU would like to see the proposed Northeast Radial built as far east of city campus as possible.

A proposal suggesting that the radial run east of 16th and 17th streets will be considered by the NU Board of Regents Saturday. If the regents approve the proposal, it will be forwarded to the public works office according to Ray Coffey, UNL business manager.

Charles Fellingham, ASUN first vice president, said the ASUN senate would vote Wednesday concerning ASUN legislation recommending the Northeast Radial run no farther north than Q street and no farther west than 21st Street.

If passed, the recommendation will be forwarded to the regents and to the public works office.

Nine alternative routes have been proposed for the radial, which would be designed to accommodate further traffic from northeast Lincoln to the downtown area, said Bob Snow of the Public Works Department. The traffic now takes 16th Street.

Snow said that his office is collecting citizens' comments concerning where the roadway should run.

"Traffic on 16th and 17th streets is high speed at present," Coffey said, adding "I think the proposal to move through traffic off of those streets is consistent with the 1968 campus plan."

Snow said traffic now is slowed by con-

flict with UNL pedestrians.

"We want to accommodate traffic needs for the next 20 years," Snow said, "and 16th and 17th streets probably could not hold all of that traffic much longer."

The nine alternatives are the result of a study begun last July. The alternatives were presented at a citizens' information meeting last week, leading to the citizens' comment period until April 7, Snow said.

The least expensive alternative offers no change while the next least expensive would route traffic south on 17th Street.

"This alternative is particularly bad," Coffey said. He explained that 1,500 students live on the east side of 17th Street. There are 1,500 parking places and many recreational facilities on the east side of 17th Street also, he said.

"The potential disruption this alternative offers to the university is great," charged Coffey noting "the proposal sent to the regents suggests that the radial be built as far to the east as possible."

The cost of road construction, relocating businesses and other expenses is not known at this time for eight of the alternatives, Snow said.

"Of course, it wouldn't cost us anything if we don't change existing routes," he said.

Snow said that at least 70 percent of the money needed for any changes would come from the federal government.

The number of alternatives will be reduced by a guidance group after citizens' comments are gathered, and a final alternative eventually will be sent to the City Council, Snow said.