

Bus lines picking up Saturday tab

Free bus rides have been offered by the Lincoln Transportation System every Saturday in August. The rides are intended to help relieve parking and traffic pressures and give the public an opportunity to try the service.

Riders can board any city bus for free between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. on Aug. 25. Route and schedule information is available from the LTS Infor-

mation Center at 474-1561.

Transit system officials said the free-fare period offers Lincoln residents the opportunity to discover or re-discover the service offered by the city-owned system.

Cheerleaders from Pius X, Lincoln East and Lincoln Northeast act as greeters and meet passengers at major stops in the center city area.



Photo by Tom Gessner

Lincoln Police department officers are busy at work when UNL students return to school.

Lincoln Police officer J. Haynes, gives a ticket to an unidentified bicyclist for riding on public sidewalks. Officer Haynes said to the bicyclist when handing him the citation, "You'll have your day in court." The bicyclist apparently plans to protest the citation.

Higher prices, shortages burst UNL energy budget

By Bob Lannin

A utility budget deficit and possible building closings could result from energy shortages at UNL.

Harley Schrader, director of the UNL Physical Plant, said a deficit as high as \$1 million could result during the 1979-80 fiscal year, depending on the severity of the winter and fuel costs. There has been no increase in fuel budget allocations, he said.

Schrader said about \$4.2 million has been requested for energy conservation to renovate old buildings which "are not built with energy conservation in mind."

If the conservation request is approved there would be "substantial savings" in energy usage, Schrader said.

SCHRADER ESTIMATED that money invested in energy conservation would be paid back in energy saved in five to seven years.

Schrader said buildings include the East Campus Activities and the tractor test lab buildings could be closed. Schrader said closing other buildings that are seldom used also is being discussed.

Robert Lovitt, assistant vice chancellor for business and finance, said closing the Coliseum's swimming pool is being discussed since the pool is not used for classes. The pool needs extensive renovation and renovation costs, coupled with ongoing costs, could close the pool, he said.

Lovitt also said shutting down Broyhill foundation is being considered because of its energy use and cleaning costs.

He said he opposes closing the foundation because it is an "integral part of the campus" and too important to be shut down.

THE MEN'S P.E. building, which was closed July 15, will reopen this fall, Lovitt said.

Lovitt said lights in vending machines campus-wide have been shut off and lighting in parking areas has been reduced to conserve energy.

"We're searching to do as many small things as we can," Lovitt said, adding that these small cuts add to save money.

Lovitt said the university has used energy conservation measures since 1974.

Lovitt also said the administration is considering concentrating summer classes in fewer buildings and not cooling other buildings. Many universities are going to

four-day a week classes during summer, but he felt that this was not practical at UNL.

In the past five years, energy use at UNL has increased by less than 9 percent, Lovitt said, while costs have more than doubled.

"**THIS SPEAKS** well for what has been done in five years," Lovitt said. "We've done the easy things," Lovitt concluded. "Now it's down to the little things that, we hope, will add up."

Other university departments are being affected by the energy shortage, such as the Agricultural Experiment Station, according to R.W. Kleis, associate director of the station.

Kleis said programs involving biological research, such as greenhouse operations and other controlled environment situations, have been hurt most by the energy crunch.

Projects involving transportation and field work with machinery have been hurt because of rising fuel costs, Kleis added.

NO PROJECTS have been cut yet, Kleis said, but various program budgets have been tightened to reflect the rising costs of fuel.

The energy crunch has had two effects on the auto pool division, according to Joe Pospichal, director of support services.

The first effect, Pospichal said, is the auto pool now is receiving a percentage of last year's allocation instead of their full allocation. The second effect, Pospichal said, is that gas is now "costing a fortune."

Auto pool has been receiving about 70 percent of last year's allocation, he said.

TO HANDLE the limited allocation, Pospichal said the auto pool was limiting each vehicle to ten gallons of gas every other day.

Pospichal said fuel prices have risen more than 30 cents a gallon since 1976, describing the auto pool's present job as "managing a limited supply of gas."

Schrader asked that students be diligent about their energy use, shutting off lights and appliances when they are unnecessary.

Students can be "an essential part" in beginning energy savings on campus, Schrader said, adding that students should be concerned when they see energy waste on campus.

People are going to have to change their way of living, Schrader said, and "a unified effort" will be needed for energy conservation.

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