

# Drivers...

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Participants included Jim Joyce, Patti Kirk, Linda Ulrich, Jeff Elliott and Frank Partsch. Each was assigned a "buddy" to ride with and record participants' test results.

Joyce, a reporter for *The Lincoln Star*, started the afternoon with a reaction time of .45 seconds on the reaction meter and a course running time of five minutes and 40 seconds with no complications.

Thirty-five minutes and two 1½ ounce 80 proof drinks later, Joyce's time on the reaction meter had improved to .41 seconds and his course running time had decreased to five minutes and 32 seconds differences in driving performance.

Another hour and ten minutes later, after two more drinks, Joyce's blood alcohol content had reached .08 of 1 percent, his reaction meter time had decreased to .52 seconds and he ran the course in four minutes and 29 seconds.

After six drinks Joyce's blood alcohol content had reached .115 of 1 percent, over the point considered legal intoxication, his course speed had quickened to four minutes and 14 seconds and the only driving performance problem was his failure to signal for two turns. "Jim seemed to have problems remembering the course. Had he had to run the course faster I don't think he would have made it," said Mike Goff, Joyce's "buddy", after riding the last test with Joyce.

According to Goff, the maximum speed which the course could be run at was around 20 m.p.h. so the test was not a good indication of the driver's ability had they been in actual city driving circumstances.

Patti Kirk, of the Department of Motor Vehicles, ran what she considered "a tough course" in three minutes and 40 seconds and received a reaction meter time of .45 seconds when sober. After two drinks, her blood alcohol content reached .075, her reaction meter time had lapsed to .40, and she ran the course in three minutes and 40 seconds knocking over one pylon.

After her blood alcohol content reached .116, her reaction meter time increased to .51 and her time through the course increased to four minutes and 20 seconds. She also knocked over the imaginary

garage wall, five pylons, and ran a stop sign.

Before drinking, Linda Ulrich, a reporter with *The Lincoln Journal*, had a reaction meter time of .57 seconds and a course time of three minutes and 10 seconds during which time she hit the garage and improperly parallel parked.

After four drinks, Ulrich's blood content had reached .115 of 1 percent, reaction meter time had decreased to .53 seconds, and she ran the course in five minutes and 55 seconds and hit the curb while parallel parking but missed the garage wall.

"I gained more self-confidence as I learned the

course." Frank Partsch, an *Omaha World-Herald* reporter, reached a .101 of 1 percent blood alcohol content after six drinks. His reaction time quickened on the reaction meter from .46 seconds when sober, to .42 seconds when legally intoxicated.

His original "dry" run took four minutes and 15 seconds and he only knocked over 3 pylons. On his last test drive he increased his speed to three minutes and 25 seconds on the course on his last run he knocked over a pylon while backing.

"I hit the cat as I was pulling into the garage," Partsch said after hitting a pylon.



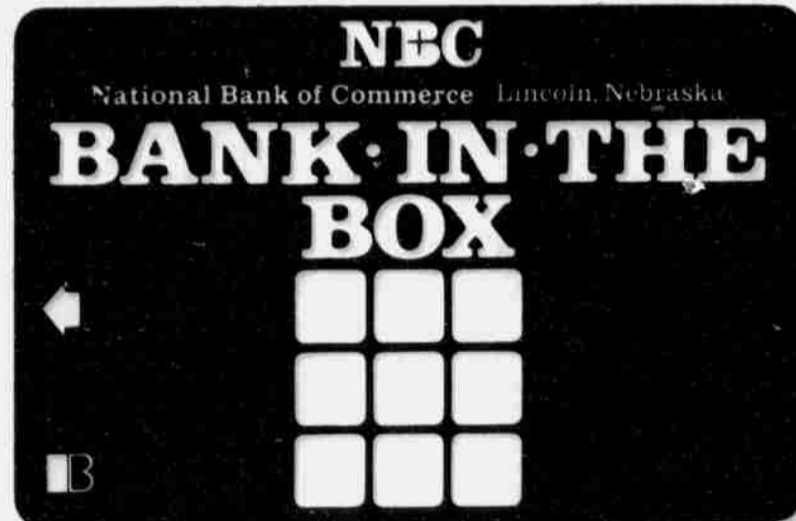
Photo by Kent Morgan Olsen

Patti Kirk of the Nebraska Department of Motor Vehicles takes a breath test before driving to determine how much alcohol is in her blood during a drinking driving demonstration at Lincoln East High School. After two scotches and a lite beer, the percentage of alcohol in her blood was .076.



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Get cash, make deposits or payments with our 24-hour Bank-In-The-Box machine.

## short stuff

Any soccer players interested in trying out for the UNL Soccer Team should meet at the field behind Mabel Lee Hall today at 4:30 p.m.

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Students wishing to apply for internships fall semester with Lincoln human service organizations, government agencies, galleries, musicians, and businesses should contact the Experiential Education Office, Oldfather 1218, the first week of classes (phone 472-1452). For general information about experiential education, students can stop by Nebraska Union 225G. Hours will be posted on the door.

# NBC Campus Money Center

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