

# Cost of maintaining bowling alleys soars

BY PAT MASTERS

In the last four years bowling fans have paid nearly 25 percent more at the alleys, but the cost of maintaining those alleys has more than doubled that amount according to one bowling alley manager.

Stan Tyrell, the manager of Briarpark Lanes, said for him to make a legitimate profit he should charge \$1.60 per game. The cost of bowling at Briarpark Lanes is \$1.25 but on weekdays before 6 p.m. sanctioned junior league bowlers can bowl for \$1.00 and senior citizens can bowl for 90 cents. Shoe rental is 50 cents, about the average in Lincoln.

Tyrell said once league bowling has started in the fall he can't raise the price of their bowling for the next 35 weeks. The rules of the league have already been adopted and they have a set price for bowling.

He said prices in different businesses can change daily, but he must stay with his league price for it's duration.

The prices for lane maintenance have increased about 60 percent the last four years, according to Tyrell, but the most drastic increases have been in utility costs. He said Briarpark Lanes consumed less kilowatts of electricity this April compared to April of last year, but the electricity bill was \$200 higher.

A complete set of bowling pins cost \$3,800 two years ago, but this year Briarpark Lanes paid \$4,300, "and we got a discount," Tyrell said.

The manager of Hollywood Bowl, Jim Dill said bowling centers in the midwest haven't been responsive enough to the economy in raising their prices.

Dill said 14 years ago lane maintenance for the year cost about \$70. A single resurfacing job today costs \$240.

Increases in resurfacing, pin prices, taxes and payrolls have put increasing burdens on lane owners.

"Everything is so expensive that you have to raise prices or be gone," Dill said.

Bowling prices at Hollywood Bowl are \$1.25 and \$1.00 for junior league bowlers and senior citizens. On weekdays from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. and all day Friday, Saturday and Sunday two games can be bowled for the price of one.

Sun Valley Lanes offered the lowest prices. On weekends and holidays the cost is 1.05. Senior citizens, groups of 10 or more, junior league bowlers and anyone under 12 can bowl for 80 cents before 6:30 p.m. on weekdays. For all others the cost is 90 cents a game until 6:30 p.m. Families get the best rate. On Sundays from noon until 3 p.m. families can rent a lane for \$4.00 an hour.



Photo by Kris Knudsen

Chief Justice Norman Krivosha will sponsor a symposium on crime June 24 and 25 at the Nebraska Center for Continuing Education. He has invited decision makers from the three branches of government and representatives from the public. Krivosha's objective is to get a team response to crime, an understanding that everyone needs to be involved in all facets of the justice process.

# Engineering Center studies Missouri flow using model

BY MARK KRIEGER

The river pitches and swirls, meandering its way through sandbars and around dikes, finally reaching its end.

The "end" is a recirculating pipe and the "river" is a working model of the Missouri river that is set up in the Nebraska Engineering Center for a study of sandbar deposits near water intakes along the river during low water flow periods.

The study, headed by Prof. Ralph Marlette of the University of Nebraska Civil Engineering Department, is financed by the Omaha Public Power District through the engineering firm of Gibbs-Hill Inc.

The use of the scaled-to-size model is designed to test ways in which the possible problem of the river moving away from the cooling intakes of OPPD's nuclear plants during the winter low water flow periods can be eliminated, Marlette said.

Marlette said that the water shortages upstream in recent years have caused the Army Corps of Engineers to hold more water back in its reservoirs, thus causing the low flow levels downstream.

During the low flow periods the river has channeled away

from the Nebraska side causing sandbars to build up near the intakes, Marlette said.

The model is 6 feet wide and nearly 100 feet long with one foot in the model equalling 100 feet in the river. It uses finely ground walnut shells for the sand that will "build like the silt does in the river," Gene Matson, technical advisor for the project said.

The shell fragments average .25 millimeters in size and are half the weight of sand, allowing them to go into suspension easier at the scale velocity of the flowing water in the model.

Merlette said they are currently adding extensions to the model dikes in an attempt to push the river channel towards the Nebraska side. The actual dike extensions would cost close to \$100,000 each if tested in the river. The model research project is costing OPPD only \$26,000.

### Model is time saving

Marlette said they are running four or five tests a week that run 20 to 22 hours each, testing various levels of flow and various arrangements of dike extensions to find the most successful pattern.

In the scale of the project those 20 hours equal 20 days in the river, thus data of long periods of time in the river are covered in short periods of time in the study.

The project was constructed in early April and testing should be completed by mid-summer in time for OPPD to act on any findings the study might reveal before next winter.

Merlette said that OPPD is not the only party interested in the results. The city of Omaha gets 70 percent of its water from the river in the same manner as the power plants.



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