

Rain's effect at UN-L only minor—Schrader

BY JOANNE YOUNG

Recent flooding and heavy rains in the Lincoln area haven't affected the University of Nebraska-Lincoln campus substantially, according to UN-L officials.

A few trees and shrubs are drowning in standing water, said Bud Dasenbrock, grounds department director at UN-L.

Harley Schrader, UN-L's physical plant director, said rain and water have caused minor problems.

"Anytime you have rain of that intensity," Schrader said, "you will have problems like water blowing in under doors and windows leaking."

Water came in under the floor at Nebraska Hall recently after rain filled a trench dug to repair a water line, he said, "but it didn't hurt very much."

Dasenbrock said the university lost about 24 trees last year because of the wet spring and summer, but so far this year fewer trees have died.

"Willows, dogwoods and cottonwoods can be flooded," he said. "Pines and oaks need well-drained soil."

Many soils on campus have a high clay content, making drainage poor, he said.

"We also have underground clay pans, which can be a problem," Dasenbrock said. "The water perches on the clay pan and moves toward buildings."

Dasenbrock said many parts of the campus need additional storm sewers, especially east campus.

"For five years we have been asking (for money for storm sewers)," he said, "but as long as the legislature is conservative and funds are tight, we're going to have the problem."

Schrader said the university still has some money for repairs left from a bill passed five or six years ago. The money was

designated to take care of deferred maintenance on state buildings.

The money has been used, Schrader said, to replace roofs and repair leaking walls and structural problems; to get the buildings back in "par" condition.

"The money helped tremendously," he said, "but there is still a lot of work that needs to be done."

Dasenbrock said his department doesn't have enough money for inspections and preventive maintenance.

As for the rain, Dasenbrock said, he expects no serious problem with flooding or water damage on campus.

"We'll just take care of them (problems) as they come," he said.

Quake jolts wide area in Southern California

SAN DIEGO (AP) — A moderate earthquake jolted a wide area of Southern California early Wednesday, awakening residents, collapsing a roof in San Diego and setting off burglar alarms, authorities said.

The 1:09 a.m. PDT quake, which geologists said registered about 4.5 on the Richter scale of ground motion, was felt in Riverside, San Diego, Imperial and Orange counties, authorities said. There were no immediate reports of injuries.

"It felt like an elephant was walking down the hallway," said Doug Smith, a reporter for radio station KOGO in San Diego.

The quake's epicenter was 10 miles west of San Diego in the Pacific Ocean, said Dennis Meredith at the California Institute of Technology. It was felt as far away as Santa Ana, 110 miles to the north, police said.



Photo by F. C. Palm

Animal Control issued three citations for cruelty to animals to the owner of these animals after Sunday rains flooded the area, which had no drainage.

2nd half softball season starts with 3 days of rain

BY BILL CONRADT

Softball and rain do not mix.

Lincoln's softball leagues have once again been hit by a rainy spring and summer. Vern Hass, program coordinator of athletics with the Lincoln City Parks and Recreation Department said that two weeks or about 400 to 500 games were rained out in the first half of the city rec. season. According to Hass, the men's, women's and girl's softball leagues have made up all but 18 games. The second half of the season, which started Monday, has already had its first three days rained out.

Making up those rainout games has worked out rather well this year, Hass said, because the city has tried to keep Sawyer-Snell, an unlighted ball field, open for makeups. Two games are made up each night on each of the two fields, Hass said. The teams have been fairly cooperative, he said, since everyone agrees there is little

anyone can do about the rain.

Makeup games for the second half of the season are scheduled for July 25 through the 29. Hass said the tournaments are scheduled to begin the week of Aug. 1.

The city rec coed leagues, which play on Sundays, have also had their problems with rainouts. Hass said coed team coaches should receive a schedule this week for makeup games set for July 9 and 10.

The University of Nebraska-Lincoln coed softball leagues, which started June 13, have already had half of their games rained out. Rick Sedgwick, coordinator of intramurals at UN-L said that all 19 teams will be given a win for each rained out game. Sedgwick said there isn't enough time to make up games before the end of summer school. UN-L rents their fields to a church league on Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays, preventing any games on those days.

The season ending tournaments for the coed leagues are scheduled to begin Aug. 1.

PHONE RATES

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help keep local service rates low for small users.

While UN-L is protected from basic rate increases, Ms. Michalecki said, not all items are covered in the stabilization contract. That could mean higher phone bills for the university, she said.

One such item is an access charge that soon will be implemented across the nation. To make up for lost long-distance tolls, local phone companies will assess a fee for access to the long distance lines, she said. That fee has not yet been determined, she said, and the phone company has not indicated how it will be applied to big users like UN-L.

"We're hoping they don't see fit to charge us on a per-line basis," she said. "We're hoping they charge us by some sort of industry standard, since we are such a large user."

To offset the access charge and other rate increases, Ms. Michalecki said her office is looking into cost-saving measures.

"The rate stabilization contract buys us some time while we do this," she said.

One of the measures being studied, she said, is the possibility of UN-L purchasing its own telephone system. Currently, she said, UN-L leases its system from the phone company and pays charges on a per-line basis.

Tom Stark, president of Descom, a telephone equipment company, said low equipment prices and high leasing fees are causing many large users to buy their own systems.

Telephone systems are becoming more cost effective, he said, because of increased competition in the market. Deregulation brought many private companies into a market once reserved for Ma Bell, he said.

If UN-L were to purchase a system, he said, it would continue to pay for outside lines, but the savings from not having to lease equipment would quickly pay for investment.

"Normally, you can cost-justify telephone systems in no more than five years," he said. "Many businesses are finding they (telephone systems) are paying for themselves in as few as three years."

Thompson agreed that purchasing a system often leads to lower phone costs.

"If I were running a large company, that would be something I certainly would look into," he said. "I might find out that it wouldn't be cost effective, but I would look into it."

Stark, however, cautioned customers against purchasing a system before fully investigating the equipment and the company that sells it. The growing market, he said, has brought companies into the business that aren't familiar with telephones.

"It scares me that we're getting people into the business who don't know anything about telephones," he said.

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