Tournament tops off orientation week

Police warn citizens of impersonators, fraud, suspicious phone calls By Lauri Hopple

The Animal Control section of the Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department and the Lincoln Police Department are warning citizens to beware of people impersonating Animal Control officers.

In the past two months, there have been four reports of impersonations — by phone as well as in person, said Jim Weverka, animal control supervisor.

Most of the imposters claimed to be conducting a survey for the Humane Society.

In some cases, police suspect that homes were being cased for potential burglaries, Severka said. No burglaries have been reported to the police as a result of the impersonations, however.

Information Officer Lt. Al Maxey of the Lincoln police said there has been one report of an illegal fine collection. An Animal Control officer imposter allegedly collected \$25 from a Lincoln woman after telling the woman that her dog was barking too loudly. There are no suspects in the case or in any of the other reported impersonations, he said.

Weverka said Animal Control officers are not responsible for collecting fines and that citizens should be suspicious of anyone trying to collect money from them. Actual fines would be collected through the court system after a ticket has been issued, he said. The only time an officer would collect any money would be for fees for such services as picking up dead animals or clearing out wildlife.

Weverka said Animal Control officers can be recognized by their brown uniforms with department identification patches and badges.

Animal Control personnel who contact Lincoln citizens by the phone will just ask the person whether he still has a pet and remind the owner that the pet must be licensed.

Lincoln Police Lt. William Satterthwaite advises citizens who get any suspicious sounding phone calls to hang up or ask the caller for his name and phone number and then call the number back. Satterthwaite said people should keep the information to help the police track down the caller if the call is fraudulent.

Maxey said one Lincoln citizen reported an attempted credit-card fraud this month also. The caller posed as a sweepstake's announcer and asked for the credit-card number so that the winner could collect the prize. Once such a number is given, the caller can use it to make long-distance phone calls.

Attempted robberies through fraud such as these happen only periodically in Lincoln, Maxey said.
"We have yet to have a big problem with it..." he said.

Corrections

In Monday's Daily Nebraskan, the second paragraph of the page-one story concerning a march in Lincoln should have read: Demonstrators concerned about jobs, peace and freedom assembled outside the Malone Community Center at 20th and U streets. They marched through Lincoln's downtown area to a noon rally at the State Capitol.

Due to a technical error, the paragraph did not make sense as published.

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About 50 foreign students from around the world braved 100-degree temperatures Friday to participate in the International Students' Games Tournament on the Mabel Lee Hall Athletic Field.

The games wrapped up a week of orientation for international students studying at UNL this semester. The program was sponsored by International Educational Services, Nebraska Union 345.

Sack races, three-legged relays and other contests provided a day of fun for new students.

Saeed Bahramzad, a senior industrial engineering major from Iran and orientation assistant, said he was glad to see so many graduate students at the tournament. He said 40 percent of the foreign students at UNL are graduate students this year.

Olaf Keese, a junior finance major, said he enjoyed the time he shared with the other students, despite the heat.

Keese is studying here on a one-year Fulbright Scholarship from West Germany.

"There are people from so many different nations here," he said. "If we could talk to each other like this (in the real world), I think it would be great."

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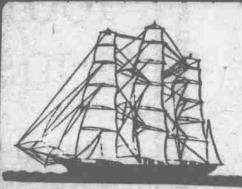
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