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Parking problems outlined

By Jim Rasmussen

The biggest parking problem at UNL occurs when people without parking permits park their cars in spaces reserved for permit holders, UNL police Lt. John Burke said Tuesday. Burke is the parking administrator for the UNL Police Department.

"Not everybody buys a permit, and these people get a ticket because they are displacing permit holders," he said.

Part of the reason permit holders can't always find a parking space is due to this problem, Burke said.

The second biggest problem, Burke said, is that many people fail to read the UNL parking and traffic regulations. A regulations booklet is issued with each permit, and the booklets are available at the UNL Police Department, 1335 N. 17th St.

Burke said if people took the time to read the 17-page booklet, fewer violations would occur.

"There have been thousands of students who have gone through this university without ever getting a

ticket, and it's because they knew the regulations," Burke said.

Another problem, Burke said, is that people fail to pay parking fines promptly. He said a person who receives a ticket has 10 business days to appeal the ticket. If a person does not wish to appeal, he must pay the ticket within 20 business days. After that, the person's car can be towed, Burke said.

"People should contact our office if they have any questions about their ticket," Burke said.

Problems also arise when students can't find a parking place in the lots. Burke said that the UNL police sell more permits than there are spaces in the student lots. However, he said not all cars will be parked in the lots at one time, and that people can usually find a place to park if they look hard enough. He said the Area 23 lot west of Harper-Schramm-Smith often has empty spaces. Area 23 is a green commuter lot.

Sherryl Chamberlain, office supervisor at UNLPD, said 4,000 green commuter permits have been sold

so far this year, and that more will be sold if anyone needs them.

Ray Coffey, secretary of the Parking Advisory Committee and UNL business manager, said there are about 3,300 spaces in those lots. He said that studies have shown a 30 to 35 percent turnover rate in the lots.

"We're still under 30 percent with 4,000 permits sold," Coffey said. "And, I don't think too many more people will be buying permits."

Chamberlain estimated that UNL has sold about 10 percent more permits than there are spaces for the blue dormitory lots. She said UNL police officers check the lots, and if there is consistent number of empty spaces, more permits are sold.

She said the empty spaces can be attributed to the fact that some students drop out of school and leave campus.

She said that there were more permits sold to faculty than there are faculty parking spaces.

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Staff photo by Craig Anderson

Lights of Star City

The lights of Lincoln as viewed from Capital Beach.

German appreciates U.S. diversity

By James A. Fussell

Third of a three-part series

He bakes his own bread, grinds his own coffee and teaches his nine-month-old daughter Elizabeth to speak some Tibetan, Portuguese, German and Swedish. He lives in a diverse neighborhood where it is not uncommon to see a black, a white, a chicano, an oriental and a Baltic German all on the same block. He is Peter Reinkordt — the Baltic German.

The 40-year-old Reinkordt came to America with his mother in 1956 from his birthplace in Schwabach, Germany.

Reinkordt, sporting a gnarled-brown beard and medium length brown hair, said he appreciates America's cultural diversity because it allows him to be who he is without pretense.

A former UNL German instructor, he now spends some time farming near Denton, which he said, gives him great satisfaction. His wife Jane teaches German at Lincoln Southeast High School.

His parents' ancestry goes back 700 years in Germany. They are naturalized Germans but they were born in Estonia, a small Baltic country that borders the Soviet Union.

In 1941 his father moved the family to Germany to escape the imminent war zone that was created when Russians clashed with Germans on Estonian soil.

He said he clearly remembers the story his father told him about the Russian Bolshevik atrocities. When the Bolsheviks marched in, they rounded up many of the Estonian men, took them to a basement and killed them.

Reinkordt's father hid behind a woodpile by the side of the house and escaped detection. Later, after

the Bolsheviks were driven out by the Germans, his father went down into the basement and stood ankle-deep in human blood.

Reinkordt said he believes there is much irony in wars. His father was forced to fight for the Czar's army against Germany in World War I and his brother, Bruno, fought and died for Hitler's Germany against the Russians in World War II.

Furthermore, after he and his mother came to America to get away from the ravages of war, he was almost war bound. It took a student deferment and some fancy maneuverings with the Selective Service boards to exclude him from military service.

"I thought it was ironic because my parents left Germany because they just had had enough of it and didn't want to lose another son to war... then I damn near went to Nam," he said.

Having lived in Germany, America and Switzerland, Reinkordt said he has experienced cultural diversity as well as his share of international adversity.

One time in Germany, when he didn't appreciate the finer points of cultural diversity, Reinkordt said he was severely beaten in kindergarten by some other children. It happened that he was seen as a snob because he spoke standard German instead of the local dialect.

He and his mother left Germany in 1956 and settled in Omaha. His father had made the plans to come to America, but died two months before the departure.

An aunt had arranged for Immanuel Lutheran Hospital to be their sponsor. The hospital arranged for his mother to take a nurse's aide position in Omaha.

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ASUN passes support of Arts and Sciences list

By Jann Nyfleler

Support of a proposed College of Arts and Sciences Dean's List was passed by the Association of Students of the University of Nebraska Wednesday evening.

All full-time Arts and Sciences students who receive a 3.5 GPA will be eligible under ASUN's plan. The proposal will now be forwarded to the faculty senate committee.

Deb Chappelle, executive director of the Nebraska State Student Association, addressed senators during the meeting, which took place in the Government Room in the basement of Harper Residence Hall. NSSA membership currently totals approximately 42,000 students from Wayne and Peru State Colleges, UNO and UNL. Chappelle said that NSSA is a student advocacy group. Its goal is to "... make the best educational system in Nebraska the best it can be." The association is funded by a 50-cent mandatory refundable fee per student per semester.

Nine students were nominated to represent UNL on NSSA during the meeting.

At the beginning of the meeting, ASUN President Matt Wallace handed a roll of toilet paper around the room and instructed senators to take from one to 10 pieces of tissue. Wallace announced that in furthering human development goals, each person was to tell as many things about him or herself as the number of pieces of tissue he or she took.

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