

## Police Report

The following incidents were reported to the UNL Police Department between 2 a.m. and 11 p.m. Tuesday:

2:52 a.m. — Officers assisted the Lincoln Police Department with a report of a suspicious vehicle on North 10th Street near campus.

7:45 a.m. — Car-pedestrian accident reported at 14th and Vine streets. Person taken to the hospital with minor injuries.

10:57 a.m. — Personal items reported taken from backpack outside the University Bookstore in the Nebraska Union. Estimated loss is \$9.

1:43 p.m. — Backpack reported stolen from outside the University Bookstore. Estimated loss is \$73.

3:02 p.m. — Parking permit reported lost or stolen from an off-campus location.

8:26 p.m. — Fire alarm reported sounding at the Barkley Center on East Campus.

10:58 p.m. — Security alarm reported sounding at Hamilton Hall. A custodian reportedly tripped the alarm accidentally.

## Alcohol's effects on fetus subject of this week

By Deb Pederson

Because the effects of alcohol are a major issue, especially when a fetus is involved, Congress designated Jan. 15 through 21 as Fetal Alcohol Syndrome Awareness Week, said a Lincoln public information director.

Linda Lewis, of the Lincoln Council on Alcoholism and Drugs said that FAS is the third leading cause of mental retardation, behind Down's Syndrome and Spinabifida. Of these, only FAS is totally preventable, she said.

Although research has not shown how much alcohol must be consumed to cause damage, it has shown a correlation between drinking and defects, Lewis said.

Alcohol may affect women more easily than it does men because of physical differences, she said.

"Men have a high water content allowing alcohol to leave the body quickly," Lewis said. "Women have a higher percent of body fat, which absorbs alcohol."

Lewis listed alcohol-related defects: mental retardation, a shorter and skinnier body, central nervous system damage, slowing of physical and mental development, and deformed facial features.

Interaction of some foods and drugs with alcohol also can cause FAS. Valium, diet pills, oral contraceptives and some cough syrups or antihistamines taken with alcohol increase the effects and the odds of having FAS, Lewis said. Some cold medicines are made with alcohol and also may cause FAS, she said.

## Daily Nebraskan

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