

Library caters to handicapped Nebraskans

By Jay Mulligan

About 24,000 Nebraskans cannot read because of physical handicaps. Lincoln offers a way for them to enjoy information in printed materials: The Nebraska Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped, a division of the Nebraska Library Commission.

The program offers recorded books, magazines and reference material to physically handicapped Nebraskans, said David Oertli, director of the commission.

The program began in 1952 when the Library of Congress began recording books so that people who were unable to read books could listen to them, Oertli said. The NLBPH gets most of its materials from the Library of Congress, including recorded books, magazines, tape players and record players.

Only about 4,000 Nebraskans use the program, Oertli said. He blamed a lack of public awareness and the

library's staff size, which, he said, limits the program's effectiveness.

"We depend on volunteers to do most of the work," he said.

Work isn't the right word to describe the volunteer's duties, Oertli said. Jobs range from studio recording to working with the Outreach Program. In this program, volunteers work individually with first-time library users. From then on, the library sends materials to its members. Volunteers range from UNL special education majors to senior citizens to people who are visually handicapped, Oertli said.

Mary Ann Yrkoski, a library volunteer and a junior in the UNL Teachers College, said she monitored books at the library. This involved listening to a recorded book while following the written text to make sure no errors were made while recording the book, Yrkoski said.

Yrkoski also checked finished tapes to make sure they were not damaged.

Kathy Morris is a volunteer for the library and a special education major.

She said the most rewarding part of her job was that it gave her an opportunity to work side by side with visually handicapped volunteers.

"The work really gave me a better understanding of what it would be like to be blind," Morris said. "I think that I am more understanding to their needs now that I have worked on a one-to-one basis."

Oertli said blind people do much of the volunteer work and much of the administrative work. Steve Speicher, a member of the library's advisory committee and a Lincoln lawyer, is blind.

"It is hard for people to realize just how important the library is to its users," Speicher said. "Try to imagine going to school without Love Library."

A 1971 graduate of DePaul University in Indiana, Speicher said he uses the library regularly.

Jane Chestnut, also blind, first used the library as a first-grader, about 20 years ago. Chestnut, with the help of materials she got from the library, graduated from the Nebraska School

for the Visually Handicapped. After graduation, Chestnut attended one year of business school, at which she used materials from a similar library in New York.

"The library here in Lincoln does a much better job of organizing the materials than the New York library," Chestnut said.

Chestnut now volunteers at the library.

"I was looking for a volunteer job that would give me practical work experience," she said.

When she learned the Lincoln library needed volunteers, she said, she decided "it would be the perfect place to work."

"We always need volunteers," James Terry, volunteer recruitment director said. "Governor Kerrey is doing public service announcements to encourage more users. It is up to us to provide the volunteer work."

For more information, call the Nebraska Library Commission at 471-2045.

ASUN looks at night towing

By Milli King

ASUN decided Wednesday to reconsider the night towing resolution, which was voted down at last week's meeting. The bill opposes night towing of vehicles with outstanding tickets. The Senate voted 20-1 to reconsider with two abstentions.

Night towing of vehicles with outstanding tickets places students in danger, the resolution said.

The Faculty Senate executives passed a resolution opposing this practice and the UNL administration has voiced opposition, the resolution said.

More than 2,000 students have signed petitions asking for night towing to be discontinued, it read.

The resolution was tabled, on the basis of clarification and the need for new information, by a vote of 18-5.

Night-time towing places students

in jeopardy, agreed Troy Lair, head of the Student Watch Program at UNL.

Measures such as the Student Watch group have been taken to ensure and improve safety at the university, Lair said.

"Improving safety on this campus includes eliminating night towing," he said.

Student safety must be given priority over collecting revenue, he said.

The possibility of withholding registrations and transcripts from students with outstanding violations as an alternative to night towing was discussed.

Senators were urged to talk with constituents about the issue of night towing.

In other business, Pete Paulak, a criminal justice senator, was elected as the new sergeant of arms.

U.S. Marine base surrounded

KHALDE, Lebanon (Reuter) — Moslem militias now control all three landward sides of the U.S. Marine base at Beirut airport after seizing a sweep of territory from the Lebanese Army Tuesday.

The only way out for the Marines is the sea, 600 feet to the west. Even there, gunmen manned checkpoints today on the coastal highway dividing the base from the Marines' landing-point on the beach.

Shi'ite Moslem militias have held the slums to the north and east of the Marine base since September.

In a decisive victory (Tuesday) Druse militias drove the Lebanese Army off a mountain ridge above Beirut and pushed forward to seize the area immediately south of the Marines. Gunmen now hold a former army post in a telecommunications station next to the U.S. base.

A U.S. Marines spokesman declined to comment on how the militia advance might affect the marines. U.S. forces have been using the full weight of their artillery, including the 16-inch guns of the battleship New Jersey, to support the Lebanese Army against the Druse and Shi'ite Moslem militias.

WE MAKE STUDENT LOANS!

14 DAYS NORMAL PROCESSING TIME
FREE PARKING NORTH OF BANK
6 BLOCKS SOUTH
OF THE STUDENT UNION!



City Bank & Trust Company of Lincoln
14th and M Streets Phone: 477-4481
Lincoln, Nebraska 68508 Member F.D.I.C.

HOME OF THE NEBRASKA JIGGER



COMMEMORATING THE 1981-82-83 UNDEFEATED BIG 8 CHAMPIONS-NEBRASKA CORNHUSKERS
UNIQUE GIFTS-SOUVENIR-DRINKS etc.
GLASS OF MANY USES 14 1/2 OZ. CAPACITY
\$1.49 EACH 6 PACKS \$7.99

MILLERS
REGULAR OR LIGHT 16 GAL. KEG
\$30.25 SAVE \$9.74
PLUS \$50.00 DEPOSIT ON TAP-TUB-KEG, YOU WILL GET THE \$50.00 BACK WHEN RETURNED.
NO RENTAL OR HIDDEN CHARGES

N street drive-in
19th & 'N' St. 477-6077
OPEN 7 AM to 1 AM