

P.O. Pears wants drunken drivers sidelined

By Richard Cooper
Daily Nebraskan Staff Writer

P.O. Pears, a popular night spot for university students, has started a program to help keep drunken drivers off the road.

The "I'm Driving Club" allows people who go out to the bar with friends and who are driving to enjoy the social life — without alcohol.

"All the person has to do is ask for a manager at the door and he will get a card saying that they are in the club," Ben Brett, manager of P.O. Pears said.

Brett said the idea came from the corporation that owns Pears,

along with other bar companies around the United States.

"It's more of an on-going feel of the bars of the United States to keep drunken drivers off the road," Brett said.

Other nightclubs in the area are starting to become more aware of people who leave too drunk to drive. By the suggestion of the Lincoln License Beverage Association, posters have been put up in bars to help discourage people from drinking and driving.

Bob Eastwood, Stooges' manager, said his staff will help anyone get home who has had too much to drink.

Ron Dade, an employee of the

Lincoln Council on Alcoholism and Drugs said he thinks drunken driving is more of a youth problem. According to Dade, 49.8 percent of the people arrested for DWI were in the 19 to 25 age group.

The Lincoln Police Department also has started a training program for employee's of local nightclubs on how to deal with people who have had too much to drink.

Capt. Jim Baird said the workshops, which last four to five hours, teach employees about liquor regulations and the effects of alcohol.

Baird said the number of people arrested in Lincoln for DWI is down 26 percent.

Wire Report

National and international news from the Reuter News Report

Shuttle launch threatened by computer problem

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. — The twice-delayed maiden voyage of the space shuttle Discovery was threatened Tuesday by a "timing problem" in one of the space plane's vital on-board computers. The problem could be major enough to delay the flight, Jesse Moore, the new chief of the shuttle program, said of the computer problem at a press conference prior to today's scheduled 8:35 a.m. EDT launch. Experts worked into the night writing a "patch" for the computer program but space agency spokesmen said it would take hours to determine if they resolved the problem. The launch may depend on solving the problem, Glynn Lunney, shuttle manager at the Johnson Space Center in Houston, told the press conference. The main events controller regulates the in-flight separation of the orbiter's external tank and two giant booster rockets. Lunney said the apparent computer timing problem was discovered Tuesday by a programmer who actually was working on plans for an upcoming shuttle flight.

The first shuttle launch in April 1981 was delayed at the last minute by what was later described as a timing problem with one of the main computers aboard the orbiter Columbia. A last-minute computer failure June 25 also halted the first attempt to launch Discovery, the third orbiter in the U.S. fleet, just nine minutes before lift-off. A second launch attempt the next day was also aborted when one of Discovery's three main engines malfunctioned just seconds before blast-off. Officials said Tuesday they did not expect a repeat of that problem, which was described as "transient contamination" of hydraulic fluid in an engine valve.

Demos unveil registration drive

WASHINGTON — The Democrats Tuesday announced a \$27 million drive designed to stir the biggest voter turnout in U.S. presidential election history as their strategy to defeat Reagan in November.

"We need to have a turnout of 100 million voters or more for us to be successful on the Democratic side," Democratic Chairman Charles Manatt said. According to the U.S. census, 86.5 million people voted in the presidential election of 1980, which Reagan won by 8.4 million votes over former President Jimmy Carter. While demographic experts are predicting that a 20-year decline in eligible voter participation may well end this year, a rise of 14 million — or about 16 percent — over 1980 would be a startling turnaround.

Democrats received strong campaign support Tuesday from former Republican Presidential hopeful John Anderson in Urbana, Ill. Anderson announced he would head a committee of political independents for Democratic challenger Walter Mondale and said a vote for Ronald Reagan this year is a vote to "continue a policy of fear and loathing." Anderson, who won seven percent of the vote when he ran for president as an independent in 1980, appeared with Mondale at a rally at the University of Illinois attended by an estimated 10,000 people. Anderson and Mondale both sharply criticized Reagan for failing to negotiate an arms control treaty with the Soviet Union. The former Republican congressman from Illinois, who became an independent after failing to win his party's 1980 nomination, called ending the risk of nuclear war the "transcendent issue" of the 1984 campaign.

President Reagan may bar signs

WASHINGTON — The White House reserves the right to remove placards carried by supporters or protestors at political rallies addressed by President Reagan during his reelection campaign, White House spokesman Larry Speakes said Tuesday. Placard removal does not abridge freedom of speech guaranteed by the U.S. Constitution, he said. Besides the White House rule, the secret service bars all signs attached to sticks because the sticks can be used as weapons or thrown at the president, Speakes said. The secret service rule is inflexible but the White House will make its own decisions on a case-by-case basis, he said. Speakes did not explain the criteria to be used by the White House on that case-by-case basis, other than to say that time was a factor in a security check in Cincinnati last week, when there was not enough time to test signs by magnetometers for weapons.

South African crowds protest

LENASIA, South Africa — South African police fired tear gas and 150 rubber bullets Tuesday at crowds protesting political reforms that exclude blacks after three shots were fired at police from a car in this Indian township. Police reported unrest in about a dozen townships across South Africa as Indians in small numbers voted for members of a controversial racially segregated parliament. The shots climaxed a day which saw at least 80 injuries and 20 arrests in the worst violence in two weeks of nationwide protests over the controversial elections.

A police spokesman said the three shots were fired from a moving car in Lenasia, near Johannesburg, after violent clashes for most of the day between police and opponents of a new constitution which comes into effect next month. A radio report said turnout at most polling stations was light as Indians voted for the first time under the new constitution, which provides for separate chambers in parliament for whites, mixed race or colored people and Indians but excludes the 73 percent black majority.

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