

Popularity of new Coke fizzes out

By Kip Fry
Staff Reporter

It may not be news anymore, but the New Coke just didn't live up to its producers' expectations when it was recently introduced in markets across the nation. According to the manager of the UNL Vending Department, vending machines on the city and east campuses indicate that the university isn't much different in its taste for the New Coke.

"New Coke just did not sell as well as the old Coke," Gene Meerkatz said, "but it depended partially on the location of the machines.

The dilemma Meerkatz said he has to solve now is what machines to put

the Classic Coke in, and where to put the New Coke. It might even be that they won't even supply the New Coke, he said.

"It's getting pretty hairy," Meerkatz said.

At the moment, Diet Coke is the most heavily purchased drink from UNL's vending machines, he said, with Pepsi right behind. The sugar free and diet drinks generally tend to attract the larger markets, he said.

Another problem Meerkatz said is the arrival of Cherry Coke which was first stocked in UNL machines last week.

"We don't know if we have enough room for it in our machines, or if we will have product appeal," Meerkatz said.

"Right now, we are just easing it into selected locations."

Meerkatz said he won't know how successful Cherry Coke will be until after the fall semester begins Aug. 26.

Though pop purchases lately have been down it is not a significant decline, Meerkatz is unable to explain this drop, but said prices remain steady.

Meerkatz said he does not know how much money students spend on sodas in UNL vending machines. He said there is too many other nearby locations such as the Nebraska Union and local gas stations where pop is also available for there to be fair analysis on the amount of money actually spent on soft drinks.

News Briefs

Airplane carrying 524 people crashes in the Japan Alps

KITA-AKAMURA, Japan (AP-Reuter) — A Japan Air Lines jumbo jet with 524 passengers aboard crashed Monday in the rugged mountains of central Japan after reporting it had a broken door and would try for an emergency landing at a U.S. air base.

Rescue crews struggled up a mountainside toward the crash site at about 5,000 feet, but first reports gave no indication of survivors in what could be the worst single-plane accident ever.

The JAL plane crashed at about 6:54 p.m. (5:54 a.m. EDT), on the north side of Mount Ogura, a 6,929-foot peak about 50 miles from Yokota and 70 miles northwest of Tokyo.

A Japan Air Self-Defense Force helicopter reported spotting the burning wreckage on a mountainside. The site is in a remote area in a range known as the Japan Alps, accessible only on foot.

Geoffrey Tudor, a Japan Air Lines spokesman, said JAL flight 123 left Tokyo's Haneda Airport bound for Alaska, carrying 509 passengers, including 12 infants, and a crew of 15.

If there are no survivors, the crash would be the worst-ever involving one airplane. The worst previous crash of a single jetliner cost the lives of 346 people when a Turkish DC-10 crashed near Paris in 1974. That plane also reported problems with a rear door.

Rebels head for key Ugandan town

KAMPALA, Uganda (Reuter) — The National Resistance Army, the strongest of Uganda's three rebel groups, is marching toward Masaka, the country's third largest town, witnesses said Monday.

The report that the NRA was advancing comes just two weeks after dissident military leaders overthrew President Milton Obote on July 27, sparking looting and chaos in many areas.

The new government led by Gen. Tito Okello was hoping to meet NRA chiefs for peace talks in neighboring Tanzania Tuesday. But the rebels had said they would not attend unless Okello agreed to the guerrillas' pre-conditions.

Travelers reaching Kampala from the west said they saw columns of NRA fighters advancing toward Masaka, 80 miles southwest of the capital on a key road to the Zairean and Rwandan borders.

The travelers said that in the past few days the NRA fighters had seized full control of Port Portal, Kabale and Mbarara, three of four main towns in Western Uganda.

Nebraska farmers to get draught aid

RUSHVILLE, Neb. (AP) — The U.S. Department of Agriculture on Monday approved loan money for farmers and ranchers in six western Nebraska counties affected by drought, Rep. Virginia Smith, R-Neb., said.

Farmers and ranchers will be eligible for the low-interest loans in Box Butte, Dawes, Garden, Morrill, Sheridan and Sioux counties, Mrs. Smith said.

"Ranchers couldn't wait another two weeks for paperwork," Mrs. Smith said. "They need help for their herds right away."

Israel plans to release 100 Lebanese

TEL AVIV, Israel (Reuter) — Another 100 of the Lebanese detainees whose release was demanded by the TWA hijackers in June are to be freed Tuesday.

After Tuesday's release, about 250 detainees from Lebanon will remain in Atlit prison, a military spokesman said.

The prisoners were among 1,200 suspected guerrillas transferred to Atlit in northern Israel in April after the Israeli army closed its Ansar detention camp in south Lebanon.

Union Carbide gas leak investigated

INSTITUTE, W. Va. (Reuter) — Investigators Monday probed complaints that residents received inadequate warnings about the Union Carbide toxic gas leak that hospitalized 129 people with extreme nausea, eye and breathing difficulties.

Company officials said no methyl isocyanate gas (MIC) was released in the accident Sunday.

A MIC release last December in Bhopal, India, killed 2,500 people and made hundreds more seriously ill.

The release of the toxic gas, mainly aldicarb oxime, here lasted for about 15 minutes. About 500 gallons of the gas drifted over the small industrial town located about nine miles from the state's populous capital, Charleston.

Investigators were checking complaints that residents were not given adequate warning after the release was discovered by plant workers.

Carbide officials said the alarm, a series of warning whistles, was set off as soon as the leak was discovered, and fire officials in Institute began their own warnings shortly afterwards.

Residents, however, said they smelled the gas and became ill well before the warning sirens were sounded.

FDIC to decrease assets acquired

OMAHA, Neb. (AP) — The Federal Deposit Insurance Corp., which now holds more than \$150 million worth of mortgages and loans from failed Nebraska and Iowa banks, has a new policy designed to hold down the number of assets it acquires from failed banks.

Bank failures in the FDIC's Kansas City, Mo., district, which includes Nebraska, Iowa, Minnesota, North and South Dakota, Kansas and Missouri, have added nearly \$500 million to the FDIC's store of bank assets.

The FDIC usually collects about 75 cents on every dollar of assets it collects from failed banks, said Alan Whitney, FDIC spokesman in Washington, D.C.

At that rate, the FDIC's Kansas City office would collect about \$375 million of its assets and declare a loss on the remaining \$125 million. Deputy district Director Mitchell L. Glassman said it may take the FDIC three to five years to dispose of its current bank assets, even if no more banks fail.

The growth in FDIC ownership of loans, securities, real estate and other bank assets is one reason why the FDIC has adopted the new policy which requires the banks that buy failed banks to take more assets of the failed banks, Glassman said.

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Police Report

The following incidents were reported to UNL police between 11:14 a.m. Thursday and 10:20 p.m. Sunday.

Thursday

11:14 a.m. — Property damage accident reported on East Campus Mall.

3:05 p.m. — Wallet reported stolen from Kiesselbach Hall on East Campus.

6:33 p.m. — Misdemeanor assault reported at the weight room in the Coliseum.

Friday

11:13 a.m. — Property damage accident reported at 11th and T streets.

3:30 p.m. — Property damage accident reported at 14th and R streets.

4:28 p.m. — Fire reported at 14th and Avery streets.

Saturday

1:37 a.m. — Fire alarm reported sounding at 1235 N. 16th St.

8:19 a.m. — Fire alarm reported sounding at the University Health Center.

8:48 p.m. — Burglary reported at 209 Burnett Hall.

Sunday

4:41 p.m. — Hit-and-run accident reported in Parking Area 15 behind Temple Building.

3 Comedies On Stage This Week at Nebraska Repertory Theatre

CHARLEY'S AUNT

by Brandon Thomas

August 13



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August 14&15



University of Nebraska-Lincoln

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