

WEATHER: Sunny and a little warmer Tuesday. High in the upper 70s. South wind 8 to 15 mph. Fair Tuesday night with the low in the lower to mid-50s. Mostly sunny Wednesday with the high in the mid-80s.

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Row by row

Steve Knobel spends his Monday afternoon picking up trash row by row that was left from the Nebraska Red-White game last Saturday.

Andrea Hoy/Daily Nebraskan

65 speed limit a reality

Signs still going up; new limit legal along most of interstate

By Michael Hooper
Senior Reporter

By the time the Nebraska Department of Roads began putting up the 65 mph signs on the interstate this morning, the new limit had been in effect for several hours.

Monday, Gov. Kay Orr signed into law a legislative measure with an emergency clause to raise the speed limit to 65 mph on most of Nebraska's interstate highways as of 12:01 a.m. today. About 42 miles of the interstate in Lancaster, Douglas and Dakota counties remains 55 mph.

Orr said the new 65 mph signs will be all put up in a day or two.

All of the interstate in Douglas and Dakota counties will remain 55 mph, and Interstate 180 coming into Lincoln also will remain 55.

Nebraska senators voted 43-3 to approve the new speed limit Monday morning. Only Sens. Ernie Chambers of Omaha, Loran Schmit of Bellwood and Don Wesely of Lincoln voted against raising the speed limit.

Chambers moved to return the speed-limit bill, LB430, to second-round debate to attach an amendment that would have put a 10 mph cushion on the areas of the interstate that will remain 55 mph. His motion to return the bill to select file was defeated 21-25. Had his motion succeeded, it would have delayed the passage of the bill a few days.

Chamber's 10 mph cushion on areas of the interstate that will remain 55 mph would have prevented the assessment of points on the driving records of people exceeding 55 mph by less than

10 mph and limit fines to \$10. Before Orr signed the new speed-limit law, there was a 10 mph cushion on all of Nebraska's interstate system.

"I don't feel that a system people have grown accustomed to" should be changed, Chambers said. He said there should be a lesser penalty for exceeding 55 mph than for exceeding 65 mph.

"Penalties should be proportional to the degree of the offense," Chambers said.

Chambers had tried last week to retain an amendment to LB430 that would have established a 5 mph cushion on all of the interstate system. But after Orr threatened to veto the bill with that amendment, senators voted 32-9 to attach a different amendment to the

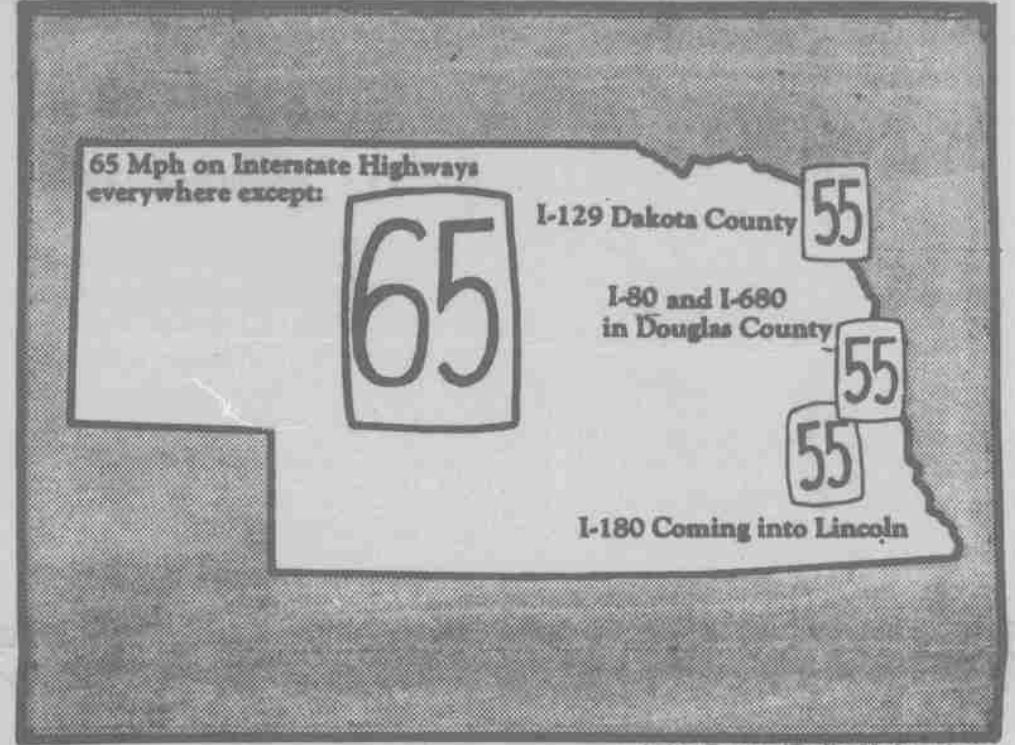
bill and eliminated Chamber's 5 mph cushion.

On Monday, some senators said they were wasting time debating the need for a 10 mph cushion on areas of the interstate that will remain 55 mph.

"Here we are again. Same song, different verse," said Elroy Hefner of Colridge.

Sen. Howard Lamb of Anselmo encouraged senators to vote against the 10 mph cushion because the State Department of Roads and Orr were against it. He said Orr would veto the bill if it contained the 10 mph cushion.

In support of the cushion, Sen. Tim Hall of Omaha said it would allow people to drive 65 mph if they were willing to pay the \$10 fine.



John Bruce/Daily Nebraskan

ATO video calls for a new look at hazing

By Libby York, Kim Beavers and Shelly Hurlbert
Staff Reporters

Inspiration Week, Help Week, Hell Week. All three terms describe the week of initiation and orientation when fraternity "pledges" are transformed into "actives." Along with the traditional terms, are the traditional hazing and horror stories.

Hazing is broadly defined in the UNL Interfraternity Council Constitution as "any action taken or situation created, intentionally, whether on or off fraternity premises, to produce mental or physical discomfort, embarrassment, harassment or ridicule."

When asked about hazing, most fraternity members will answer: "We don't haze." But one fraternity has chosen to take a closer look at hazing.

The national chapter of Alpha Tau Omega spent \$5,000 to produce an educational video, "Hazing on Trial."

The 40-minute video includes a speech to a university audience, relating a fictional account

of a pledge's hazing experience. The film also dramatizes parts of the speech. Audience members are asked to imagine themselves as the man's pledge father (a fraternity member assigned to help prepare a pledge for active membership) who must answer his questions about hazing practices, which include intense work, verbal abuse, forced labor and drinking. The tape concludes as the fictional fraternity president is charged with manslaughter after a drunken pledge, who is forced to do push-ups, chokes to death on his own vomit.

David Westol, national vice president of Theta Chi fraternity, produced the tape, which features volunteers from the University of Illinois ATO chapter.

The videotape, which costs \$30, has gained popularity in the year it has been distributed, according to a recent national ATO newsletter.

UNL's ATO chapter president Tom Olsen said his fraternity group first watched the tape a year ago.

Olsen said they'd already modified their practices from past decades when hazing was more common in many major fraternities, but the pro-

gram made the members look at practices that might not be so commonly thought of as hazing — practices that, on the surface, might seem harmless.

"We took a good look at the program and changed things that even the public could construe as hazing," Olsen said.

Like many other UNL houses, ATO's "help week" activities mostly include group painting and repairing sessions, pledge education and other activities, Olsen said.

Jayne Wade Anderson, director of greek affairs, said that no reported hazing occurs at UNL. Because of strong student and alumni support, UNL is "light-years ahead of other campuses," she said.

Some Greeks, however, are not so quick to agree.

One fraternity member, who wished to remain anonymous, said that "line-ups," still occur sometimes. Pledges are assembled in a line, frequently clad only in their underwear, while the active members swear at them and sometimes hit or spit on them, the fraternity member said.

A pledge from another UNL fraternity, who also requested anonymity, said some pledges must read certain texts as quickly as possible while holding a burning match in their hands.

But the individuals quickly added that hazing is not as common as it once was.

"Hazing is largely a function of individuals rather than organizations," one person said.

Jonathan Brant, director of the National Interfraternity Conference, said his organization, like ATO, works to combat the hazing problem through education. Guest speakers, written materials and alumni leadership are used to convince individual chapters to abandon hazing.

Brant also emphasized that hazing is not solely a fraternity problem. Any organization that subscribes to a membership process — such as a sports club, a high school clique or a military corps — can produce hazing.

Although combatting hazing is a continual struggle because of transient fraternity membership, Brant stressed that a "responsible adult leadership is trying to address the problem" and that a "sincere interest" exists among many fraternities to eliminate hazing practices.

Over the body, over the years — the mini

By Lee Rood
Staff Reporter

Probably no article of clothing worn over the years has caused more controversy than the miniskirt.

In the 1960s, America's female youth wore the mini not only because it was popular, but because it was a way of rebelling against the establishment.

Today, the mini is no longer viewed as an anti-establishment symbol. It is an accepted fashion trend donned by women all over the country.

And while some people may still disapprove of the mini, one thing is for sure: It's back.

Tracey Poyer, a sociology student



John Bruce/Daily Nebraskan

studying ideal forms of female beauty and fashion, said several reasons people have used can explain the mini's

return. Poyer said she has found through her research that there are cycles of fashion, and "boredom" causes a shift in society's idea of attractiveness. Some people, Poyer said, think today's fashions reveal more of the body because Americans are in better shape.

"We just aren't the chubby Americans we used to be," she said.

Kathy Paswaters, manager of The Limited in the Atrium agrees that the mini is worn today because it flatters the female body.

"If you've got the legs, they are really flattering," she said.

Paswaters said there also has been a shift from the mostly male-dominated

trends in past years to a revival of the 1960s look and the focus on the body.

"I think the switch is mostly because the look used to be so oversized and big, now we are wearing clothes that are more revealing," she said.

Becky Edwards, junior sportswear buyer for Ben Simons, said she thinks the mini is becoming popular again because today's young women like the "retro" look of the '60s.

Edwards said the change in the weather is another reason women want shorter skirts. Nancy Lindsley-Griffin, assistant professor of geology at UNL who grew up in the '60s, said the mini fit her lifestyle then.

"I wore it because I was in southern

California at the time, and it was damned comfortable," she said.

Lindsley-Griffin said that while she liked wearing them in college in the '60s, she is "not going to bite this time."

"I think it's a plot by the designers to separate you from your hard-earned money," she said. "They're hoping that women will be stupid enough to go out and buy a whole new wardrobe."

Still, others disagree with the sexual implications of the miniskirt.

"I think it's a male device to exploit women's anatomies," said Ted Muenster, an undeclared junior. "But that doesn't make them any more or less appealing."