

Learning to stop a thief

Store employees train to nab shoplifters

By Lynne Bomberger
Staff Reporter

While shoppers get ready for the holiday season, Lincoln merchants are preparing for the rush by learning how to prevent shoplifting.

Shoplifting takes place throughout the year. But from November until the holidays the crime is on the increase, said Lt. Erv Portis of the Lincoln Police Department.

Shoplifting presentations, sponsored by the Crime Prevention Unit of the Lincoln Police Department, are also on the rise as the holiday season approaches, Portis said.

The presentations teach employees how to detect a possible shoplifter, shoplifting laws, the laws' limitations and appropriate action when shoplifting occurs, Portis said. The presentations take about an hour and are requested by the stores.

To detect a possible shoplifter, Portis said store owners and employees can:

- check if an individual's dress is appropriate for the season.
- watch the length of time spent in the store.
- look for large bags that may have been carried in.
- see if the person spends more

time watching the employees than looking at merchandise.

Laws governing shoplifting say that before a person can be stopped for shoplifting the "individual must carry the item out the door with obvious intent of not paying for it," Portis said.

Cathe McBride, marketing director for the Atrium, said that because of education, she has noticed no increase in shoplifting the last eight years.

"There is so much training in looking out for shoplifting," she said.

Once the suspect has left the store, an employee may stop the individual, ask him or her to return to the store and call the police, Portis said. Employees are not to get into physical confrontations when asking suspects to return to the store, he said.

The workshops, which have been going on for about 10 years, have helped slow down crime through awareness, Portis said.

"We have found that the shoplifting problem has curtailed," he said.

Although the presentations have built awareness in employers, the number of shopliftings in Lincoln have remained static for the last two years, Portis said.

"Every segment of the community" is involved in shoplifting,

Portis said. Age, sex and race don't matter, he said.

"Some do it habitually, and some do it for the first time," he said.

Large retail stores seem to have a bigger shoplifting problem, Portis said, primarily because they can afford better security, which leads to more shoplifters being caught.

The most common type of shoplifting is a Class II misdemeanor. This includes items that cost up to \$100. A Class II misdemeanor is punishable by a maximum of six months imprisonment or \$1,000 fine.

A Class I misdemeanor involves merchandise costing from \$100 to \$300 and is punished by one year's imprisonment or a \$1,000 fine.

Shoplifted items that cost \$300 to \$1,000 are a Class IV felony. The sentence for a Class IV felony is a maximum of five years' imprisonment or a \$10,000 fine.

If the stolen item costs more than \$1,000, the felony class and punishment change.

An individual's previous convictions also determine the class and charge, Portis said. After the first conviction the charges are more serious.

"So if you're caught once, don't do it again," he said.

Former DN photo chief dies

From Staff Reports

A University of Nebraska-Lincoln alumnus and former Daily Nebraskan photography chief died Wednesday night in San Francisco.

Mark D. Billingsley, a freelance photographer in San Francisco, was injured in a fall Nov. 3 while working

for Colossal Studios.

Billingsley had been in a coma after the accident until his death.

Billingsley graduated from UNL in 1981 with a degree in journalism. While in school, he worked as a photographer and photography chief at the Daily Nebraskan and did freelance work for The Associated

Press.

From 1981 to 1983, Billingsley worked as a photographer for the Hastings Tribune. In 1983, he left the Hastings Tribune to work as a freelance photographer in San Francisco.

Billingsley's parents live in Laramie, Wyo. His brother, Bret, lives in St. Paul, Minn.

Exterminators fight multiplying roaches

By Pattie Greene
Staff Reporter

The roach problem in the Harper-Schramm-Smith residence halls' food service is not over yet, the University of Nebraska-Lincoln's housing director said.

Housing director Doug Zatechka said roaches produce a new generation every 30 days.

"Environmental rules say we cannot use a spray harsh enough to kill the eggs in a food environment," Zatechka said, "so we spray every time we think there will be a new generation."

Exterminators will continue to spray all year, Zatechka said. They are spraying more frequently, once every two weeks, he said.

Students have not been asked to clean up after themselves because students feel it's "our job to clean up in the cafeteria," he said.

Indoor practice field to be dedicated

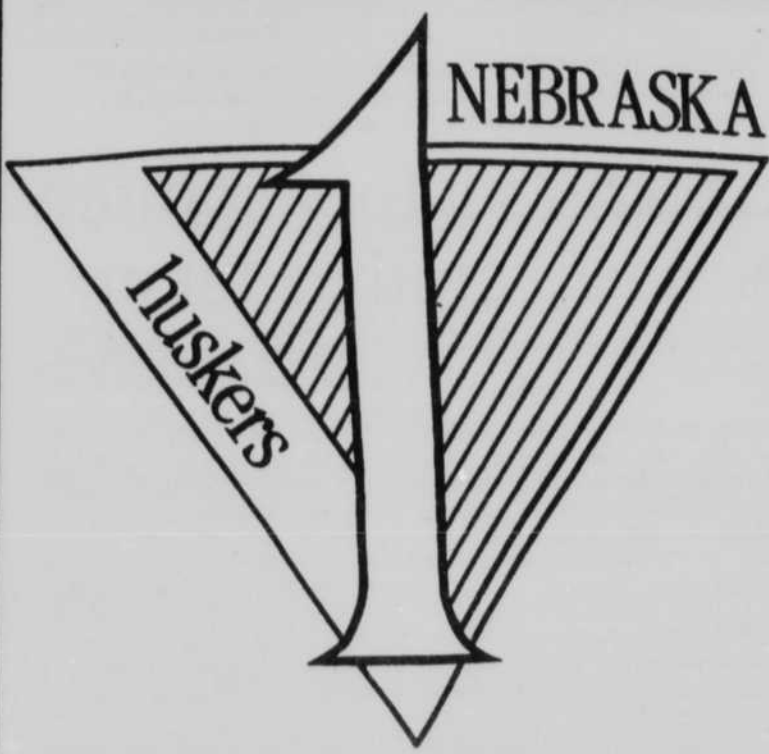
From Staff Reports

An open house for the new indoor practice field on the University of Nebraska-Lincoln campus will be at 12:30 p.m. Saturday before the Nebraska-Oklahoma football game.

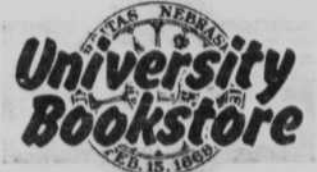
A formal dedication ceremony

will begin at 1:15 p.m. and will include speeches by Gov. Kay Orr, university officials and University of Nebraska Foundation officials.

The NU Board of Regents will vote Friday to name the center Cook Pavilion and the George B. Cook Field.



NEBRASKA Support the Nebraska Cornhuskers this weekend! This sweatshirt is available in red, blue, gray and white for \$23.95. Made by Gear. Available NOW at the University Bookstore.



GO HUSKERS!

Lower Level Nebraska Union Garden Level East Union

Home of The BIG Slice



Friday Breakfast Special - Two donuts and coffee for 99¢.

Friday Lunch Special - Meatball Hoagie, chips and a small drink for \$2.65.

SPECIAL

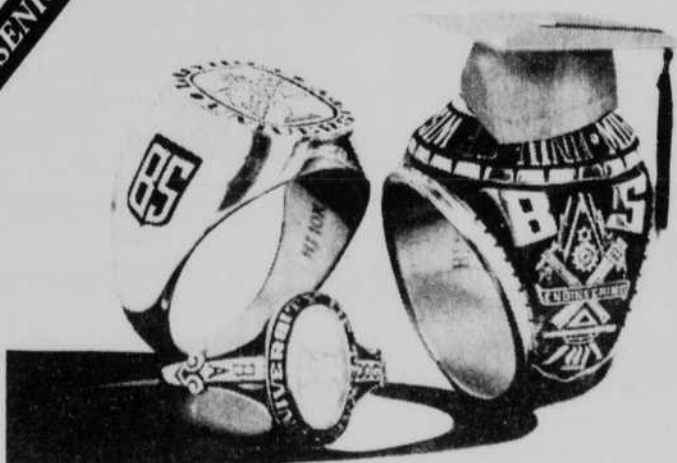
One large pizza with two toppings and four cans of Pepsi for **\$11.95** with this coupon. Not valid with any other offer.

We accept pizza competitors' coupons.
1227 R Street 435-6931

Free delivery after 4 p.m. with a minimum \$6 order.



SENIORS

Save \$20 to \$30



Order now and wear your ring at graduation

Your Herff Jones representative will be on campus this Thurs. and Fri. Nov. 19th and 20th at the University Bookstore (City Campus) from 8:30 am-5 pm. This special sale price is good through Fri., Dec. 18, 1987.

Lower Level Nebraska Union
Garden Level East Union

Game Day SPECIALS

Score big with Long John Silver's®

You can't miss with our savory seafood and tender chicken meals. Try Long John Silver's before or after the game for a tasty treat. Eat in or carry out; Long John Silver's will make this season the most delicious ever.

Come into our 27th Street Shoppe and get your Student Discount Card.

LONG JOHN SILVER'S

SEAFOOD SHOPPE

Sounds good to me!®

915 N. 27th Street
Lincoln, Nebraska