

SUMMER Daily NEBRASKAN

THURSDAY
AUGUST 18, 1988
VOL. 87
NO. 165
UNIVERSITY OF
NEBRASKA-
LINCOLN

This Week:
Boycott blues. —Page 3
Channel chat. —Page 4
Still in Hollywood. —Page 6

UNL police confiscate stolen goods

By Victoria Ayotte
Staff Reporter

University of Nebraska-Lincoln investigators seized more than \$100,000 in goods stolen over the last two years from UNL's Polar Ice Coring Office, an investigator said.

John Litwak, a drill systems manager in the ice coring office, allegedly misdirected shipments of materials meant for drilling locations in Greenland and Antarctica and sent them to

two Lincoln addresses, Investigator Ed Mentzer of the UNL Police said.

Mentzer said Litwak has not been contacted yet, but is expected to be arrested when he returns to Lincoln today.

"We're hoping he doesn't become aware of it until he's arrived in the community," Mentzer said.

UNL Police discovered the thefts two weeks ago, Mentzer said. A break in the case came last week when a caterpillar engine was advertised in

the Lincoln Journal-Star classified ads.

The engine was sold to a farmer and police tracked down the engine, which matched the serial number of the missing equipment.

The engine was traced to a garage at 1659 S. 2nd St., rented by Litwak. Litwak apparently falsified purchase orders to get the equipment, most of which was found in the garage, Mentzer said.

Mentzer said UNL police realized

the stolen equipment was federal equipment, so decided to contact the FBI and get a federal search warrant to seize the equipment.

Lincoln FBI senior resident Jack Larson said the warrants were served Thursday and Friday at the rental garage and Litwak's residence, 1718 S.W. 23rd St.

The 23-page list of stolen goods has not been totalled, Mentzer said, but it's probably around \$100,000.

"I think we're going to recover at least 90 percent," Mentzer said.

Larson said the list will be released at the end of this week.

The list includes engines, drills, lathes and other specialized shop equipment, he said.

The evidence will be turned over to the U.S. Attorney next week, for him to decide if there's enough evidence to be presented to a grand jury, Larson said.

Business director must repay cash

By Curt Wagner
Senior Editor

A recent audit conducted by the University of Texas at Austin shows a University of Nebraska-Lincoln employee owes UT nearly \$3,000 in erroneous sick pay he received while working at UNL.

Jim Main, UNL director of business services and a former employee of UT's physical plant, came under investigation in July for allegedly accepting paychecks he was ineligible for.

On Aug. 17, UT's internal auditing department released the results of the audit to the Daily Texan, Texan reporter Greg Perliski said. The audit showed that Main owes \$2,956.27 for 178 hours of erroneous sick leave. Main received this money while working at UNL from Dec. 1-4, 1987 and Jan. 11-Feb. 4, 1988.

The total amount includes \$31.54 for long distance telephone calls and a \$208.20 teacher retirement overpayment. Main's total gross income for the period was \$3,000 and his net income was \$2,716.53.

The audit gave no official university stance and made no accusations of wrong-doing, Perliski said.

Main said he received a letter from UT asking him to repay the money, but he has no



See MAIN on 2

UNL to honor Columbian president Saturday

By Larry Peirce
Staff Reporter

The University of Nebraska-Lincoln will make history Saturday during its summer commencement exercises.

UNL will honor a foreign head of state for the first time in its history, and will put KUON-TV's satellite capability to international use for the first time.



Barco

Virgilio Barco, president of the Republic of Colombia, will be given

an honorary Doctor of Laws degree through a satellite connection between the Bob Devaney Sports Center and Bogota, Colombia.

Robert Kleis, executive dean for international affairs, said Barco's degree is for his support of the Nebraska Mission in Colombia from 1966 to 1973.

Kleis said Barco helped by "cutting through bureaucracy and trying to strengthen education in Colombia."

The mission, which was administered by the International Programs Division at UNL, aimed at improving agricultural education on three campuses of Colombia's National University and aiding the Colombian

Institute of Agriculture. Money for the mission came from private and government sources.

Kleis, who was in charge of the UNL Department of Agricultural Engineering at the time of the mission, said honoring Barco "probably should have happened earlier."

He said Barco's election to the presidency in 1986 brought him back into public light.

Kleis and Nebraska regents James Moylan and John Payne will present the degree to Barco in Bogota.

Jack McBride, general manager of KUON-TV, said the satellite connection will employ one WESTAR and two Intelsat satellites, and four earth stations to provide pictures and sound

to both locations. Besides Lincoln and Bogota, earth stations in Houston, Texas, and Andover, Maine, will be used.

A telephone line between broadcast engineers in Lincoln and Bogota will allow the television signal to be fine-tuned.

"It's a complicated process," he said, "if you put it on paper in a diagram it looks interesting."

McBride said leasing the satellites will cost \$9,325, with \$5,000 coming from UNL. The balance, he said, will come from a satellite feasibility study project of UNL and the Educational Television Commission.

He said KUON-TV regularly uses WESTAR satellites, which are

owned by Western Union. KUON-TV has been a contributor in several satellite teleconferences, and originates more television programs by satellite to the Public Broadcasting System than most people realize, McBride said.

"By satellite we transmit 20 to 30 hours of programs per week to PBS, from Hawaii to Alaska to the Virgin Islands," he said.

"This will be the longest distance we have transmitted."

John Peters, assistant to Chancellor Martin Massengale, said the transmission will showcase the university's technological capabilities. KUON-TV is the University Educational Television Station.