

Neukirch has seen it all

# Barber spends 30 years at UNL

By Doug Isakson  
Staff Reporter

In the fall of 1959, when the University of Nebraska-Lincoln opened a barber shop in the basement of the Nebraska Union, Elmer Neukirch became its first barber.

In some ways, the University Barber Shop hasn't changed much since. The same mirrors and the same barber chairs are still there. And after 30 years, so is Neukirch.

But some things have changed, Neukirch said.

In his 30 years as the manager of the University Barber Shop, Neukirch has seen the price of a haircut go from about \$1.75 to \$7. He has seen the shop go from a five-chair operation to just one.

And he's seen hairstyles go in every direction.

"When we first came here," he said of the 1959 hairstyles, "it was all flat tops, crew cuts and ivy leagues."

He said the long hairstyles of the 1960s hit the UNL campus in 1969. Today, the styles are more difficult to categorize.

After serving in the Merchant Marine in 1944 and 1945, Neukirch attended barber school, worked two years as an apprentice, and then opened his own shop in Tecumseh.

Five years later, he moved to Lincoln, where he worked in the Drive-In Barber Shop, which was located where the federal building now stands.

"I moved to Lincoln with the intention of going to college," Neukirch said. "But I went to work in the shop and established a clientele, and in the process of my family increasing, I couldn't afford to go to college."

He stayed there for five years and finally came to the University Barber Shop.

Neukirch said the shop was opened when ROTC training was mandatory for all male UNL students. When the shop first opened, he said, the 2,000 students enrolled in the program all needed frequent haircuts.

At the time, there were five chairs in operation. One of Neukirch's assistants was Frank Kuhn, who now is assistant director of the union. Kuhn said that during the peak years, the shop had 25 customers a day, six days a week until the ROTC requirement was dropped in 1964.

Neukirch said business has gotten slower since then, not only because the ROTC program was dropped, but also because of the shop's location.

"Let's put it this way," he said. "We're getting along, but with our location, we're pretty isolated."

Neukirch also said students do not have the spending money they did five years ago.

After cutting hair for more than 30 years, Neukirch said he still has no idea what the next trend in hairstyles will be.

"There'll be long hair and short hair," he said, "and everybody is going to do their own thing, you know what I mean?"

**PARKING** from Page 1  
Area 1, southeast of Pound.

Another 39 reserved stalls for students from Sandoz Hall who have purchased reserved parking will be located in the graveled first row of Area 2, east of Sandoz, he said.

Burke said students from Cather, Pound, Neihardt and Sandoz with reserved parking will have individual reserved stalls.

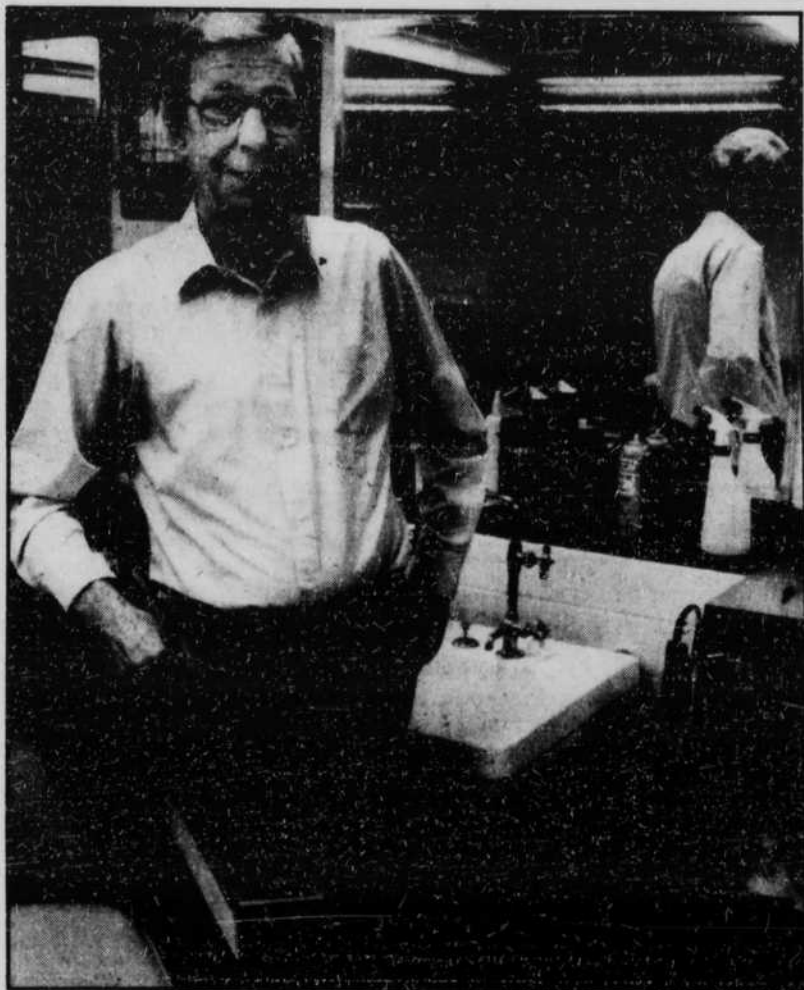
Signs identifying permit numbers will be placed in front of each reserved stall in both lots.

Those students then will be issued permit numbers for their cars matching the permit numbers located on the sign in front of their reserved stalls, he said.

Burke said the reserved stalls will have 24-hour enforcement.

It will probably take about three weeks to get all the signs installed, he said.

Burke said that if students who purchased reserved parking are not satisfied with the location of their reserved parking stalls, they should notify UNL police immediately to get a refund.



David Hansen/Daily Nebraskan  
**The Shingle Barber**

### Student Health and Accident Insurance

Mid West National Life Insurance Company in Irving, Texas provides UNL students and dependents with medical coverage designed specifically for them. **All undergraduate and graduate students who have paid their University Health Center fees are eligible for coverage under this plan.** Their dependents are eligible for coverage although they must use community medical resources.

The insurance policy will pay 80% of the first \$2,500 of reasonable and customary expenses after a deductible has been met, and 100% of the expenses above \$2,500 up to a lifetime maximum of \$50,000.

For treatment received at UNL Health Center, the deductible is waived and covered expenses are paid at 100%. Refer to your insurance brochure for additional benefits and covered expenses.

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The Computing Resource Center is offering free micro-computer seminars to UNL faculty, staff, and students. The seminars will feature an introduction to Microsoft Word on the Macintosh.

No reservations. Macintosh sections are limited to 15.

Macintosh seminars will be held in Henzlik microcomputer lab.

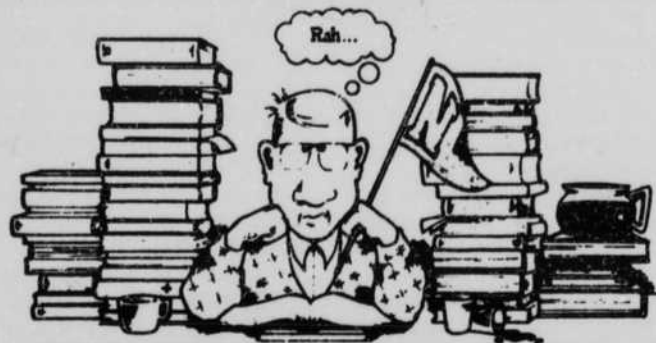
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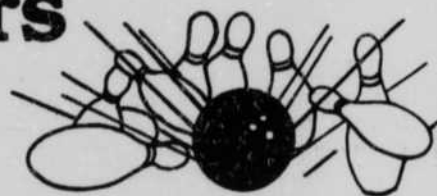
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Wed., Sept. 20, 7:30 p.m.  
Thur., Sept. 21, 6:00 p.m.  
Thur., Sept. 21, 8:00 p.m.  
Fri., Sept. 22, 5:30 p.m.  
Sun., Sept. 24, 2:00 p.m.

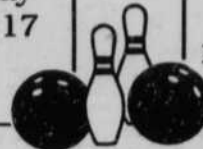
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