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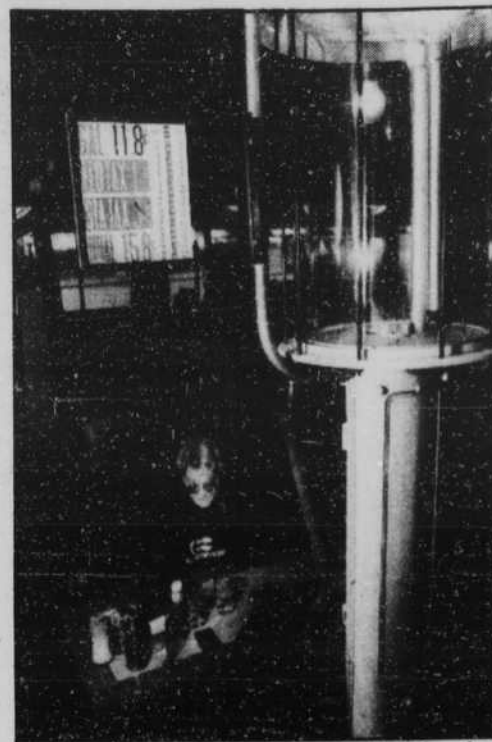
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William Lauer/Daily Nebraskan

Janet Gifford of Dallas stopped for gas and food at Shoemaker's Truck Stop and Restaurant on her way to Grand Island. But she paid more for her diesel than the 15.8 cents a gallon this antique pump indicates.

### A SHOT ON FRIDAY KEEPS THE BOREDOM AWAY!

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Inside . . .

## The Truck Stop

By C.J. Schepers  
Staff Reporter

It's a place where motorists can order eggs just the way they like them, fill up their gas tanks and pick up a box of Pampers Plus for Junior.

Or grab a Coke, a packet of beer nuts and maybe a butterscotch pudding cup.

It's a place that has it all, even Fruit of the Loom underwear.

This place is a truck stop. Shoemaker's Truck Stop and Restaurant.

Located on the fringes of Lincoln at 4800 West O St., Shoemaker's seems an oasis for truckers and other weary motorists.

"It all came about, of course, when the interstate was built," says owner Harley Shoemaker.

Shoemaker says he bought the business from Skelly Oil back in 1967.

And a good business it is.

Amid the sounds of the ring-a-ding-ding video machine, the chitter-chatter of customers, the sha-la-la of the radio and the clatter of dishes, gurgles the coziest sound of all: the continuous ching-chang of the cash register with its ticker-tape receipt running on and on.

"\$27.79," chimes a woman behind the counter.

"Thanks," replies a gravelly voice.

Doors strain to open against rushes of pushy air. Pairs of feet shuffle in and out.

A 40ish man in two-toned grey leather cowboy boots slips a quarter into the pay phone, "Hello, Donna. Yeah, we're at Shoemaker's. Why don't ya come on down and eat breakfast?"

Across the aisle, a woman clad in smooth, bluish coveralls tries her hand at the Bear Claw. Lowering its icy, steel fingers above fluffy, stuffed animals, the claw clenches for a prize -- but misses.

Pulling some change from her pocket, she tries again.

At the same time, a woman in a

See **SHOEMAKERS** on 11