

Students should plan move a month ahead

By Jennifer O'Clka
Staff Reporter

Lincoln movers and truck renters agree that the most important thing for seniors to remember is to plan ahead when moving.

Scott Turner, a sales and service representative for U-Haul of Lincoln, said graduates should begin making moving plans at least a month ahead of time.

Turner said students should learn to pack a little at a time, rather than waiting until the last minute. Many times students forget how much "stuff" they've accumulated over the years and underestimate what they will need for moving.

Turner said business peaks during graduation time and in the fall when students return to college.

Although U-Haul rents trailers, pickups and large diesel trucks, most

students use trailers rather than large trucks, because they don't have many items to move, Turner said.

He said U-Haul trailers range from \$100 to \$300 for a one-way trip. Pickups and trucks rent for more, and can range from \$300-\$1,500 for a one-way trip, depending on where the student is moving, Turner said.

Kim Morey, rental manager for Ryder Truck Rental of Lincoln, said students should call at least two weeks in advance to reserve the size of truck they need and to make sure it is available on their moving date.

Morey said students especially should make sure their boxes packed with books are small enough to carry and not packed so tightly that the bottom falls out.

Ryder Truck Rental gives out free movers' guides, Morey said. Tips in

See MOVING on 6

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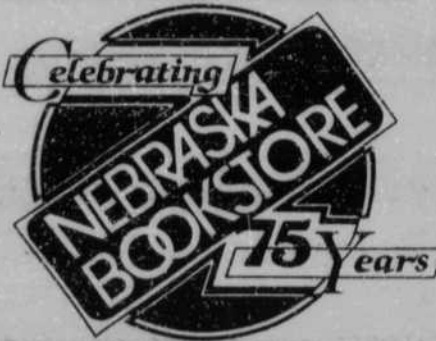
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Tom Gallagher/Daily Nebraskan

Pen and pencil sets, picture frames top list of popular graduation gifts

By Sara Bauder
Staff Reporter

Traditional items such as pen and pencil sets are among the most popular gifts for graduates, said representatives of several Lincoln gift shops.

Bambi Carnicle, manager of Things Remembered in Gateway Mall, 6100 O St., said engraved picture frames are one of the most popular gifts. The frames usually are brass or silver-plated and sell for \$28 to \$30 with engraving, she said.

Carnicle said pen and pencil sets, with brand names such as Cross, Schaefer and Parker, are traditional and always popular graduation gifts. Like frames, pens can be engraved, she said.

Engraved clocks are not as popular, but Carnicle said she sells a few of those also.

Carnicle also said "graduation bears" have been a popular gift. A graduation bear is a 7-inch stuffed bear wearing a graduation cap, Carnicle said. The bear comes in a

blue paper bag labeled "Class of '90" and has a little diploma that can be filled in with the graduate's name and date. The bear costs \$5.

A popular item for female graduates is the engraved trinket box, Carnicle said. The boxes are silver-plated, brass, crystal or ceramic, and sometimes are lined with velvet.

Gwen Plummer, general merchandise buyer for the University Bookstore, 14th and R St., said graduation gifts are not a major piece of the bookstore's business, but the store does sell some attaché cases, ranging in price from \$60 to \$100, and some pen and pencil sets, which are about \$25 to \$30.

Graduation cards are a "huge" seller for the bookstore, Plummer said.

Melody Aude, supervisor of the Big Red department at the Nebraska Bookstore, 1300 Q St., said one of the most popular graduation gifts in the department is the beer stein. The steins have the seal of the University of Nebraska and are glass, pewter or ceramic. Prices

range from about \$12 to \$23, Aude said.

Parents have been buying class rings for their graduates, Aude said. She said the rings, which cost between \$300 and \$500, arrive eight weeks after full payment. Most rings are ordered with garnet or ruby stones to represent Cornhusker red, Aude said.

Marsha Misle, general manager of Park Place Pontiac Cadillac GMC, Inc., 5020 O St., said it is very common for parents to buy their children a first car after graduation.

Misle said the most popular choices of cars at her dealership are Pontiac Grand Ams and Grand Prixes. Red and white are the colors of choice, and the cars range in price from \$10,000 to \$30,000.

"They all want something sporty," Misle said. "Most have been driving their grandma's boat around."

Although most parents don't buy the cars until after graduation, Misle said many choose them now and order them later.

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