

Route may be shortened

Western Nebraska air service threatened

By Adeana Leftin
Staff Reporter

UNL students who use Essential Air Service to travel to and from school will have to find another mode of transportation if a route is cut from the program, Rep. Virginia Smith said.

The U.S. Department of Transportation is considering shortening the route originating in North Platte-Scottsbluff which goes to Lincoln and Omaha. The route would end in Grand Island.

If the service is cut, western Nebraska will be isolated, Smith said. Smith, a Republican, represents District 3, which is made up of western Nebraska.

A flight to Scottsbluff from Lincoln is \$132 each way or \$264 round trip. Flights run Monday through Thursday and must be ordered seven days in advance.

EAS operates nationwide to provide government-subsidized air transportation for people living in rural areas to urban areas. It has been in operation for 10 years and has been extended for another 10 years.

"Although EAS has been extended,

it doesn't mean that it will be available to all the cities who want it," Smith said.

EAS is only required to operate to one hub airport. The current route originating in North Platte-Scottsbluff has service both to Lincoln and Omaha airports and to Denver. The route to Denver would remain intact.

"Service to Denver runs without subsidies and has five to six times more riders," said Bill Bingham, chief of the service compensation division at the Office of Aviation Analysis in Washington.

Smith argued that EAS serves special needs for western Nebraskans. "There won't be a service to the universities, the state government, or the state offices. They need a connection to Lincoln," Smith said.

"I'm sure the degree (of isolation) will be taken into consideration," Bingham said.

U.S. Sens. Bob Kerrey and Jim Exon argued Nebraska's case before DOT officials Thursday.

Exon, D-Neb., called the flights important to Nebraska's development efforts. As author of the EAS law, Exon said he intended to keep pressure on DOT to continue the flights.

Kerrey, D-Neb., agreed. The east-west air service helps keep the state together, Kerrey said. Continuation of the route is essential to economic equality, he said.

Assistant Secretary of Transportation Jeffrey Shane said the service usually is not canceled if more than 10 people use it.

According to DOT figures, fewer than seven passengers per day board flights that originate in Scottsbluff and North Platte and land in Lincoln or Omaha. The Lincoln Municipal Airport, however, reports that nine people a day use the flight.

Smith said she would remind DOT that EAS serves not only the cities but also the surrounding rural areas.

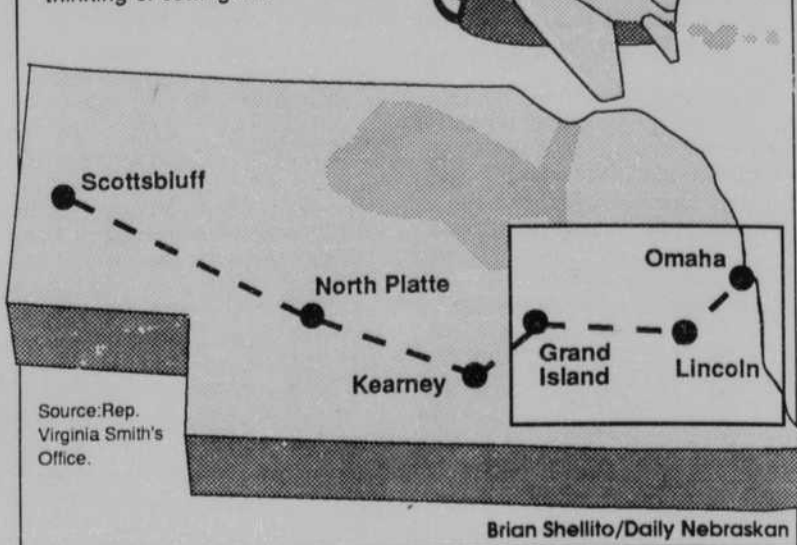
Bingham said that although the program is being re-examined, no changes may be made to the route. DOT enters into agreements with air carriers usually for a two-year period and reviews the programs when the agreements come to term.

The contract with GP Express has just come to term and is being examined.

The main purpose of the review is to compare the added cost to the

Essential air service route in Nebraska

Part of air service that congress is thinking of cutting off.



benefits provided by the flight, Bingham said. "We review whether the service

utilized is worth the money federal taxpayers are paying for it," Bingham said.

Japan

Continued from Page 3

atmosphere American students find much earlier, Rapkin said.

During his teaching, Rapkin found Japanese students more literate than American students. Fewer Japanese students, however, stand out as exceptionally bright, he said.

Japanese students, Rapkin said, are reluctant to assert their views. In Japan, it is considered rude to speak out in class, which makes discussion courses tough, he said.

The grading system at Tsukuba University also makes college less stressful. An A is 80-100, a B is 70-79, a C is 60-69, and anything below

59 is a D. This avoids the stigma of F for failure, Rapkin said.

The university does not place D's on students' records. If Japanese students have a class that is too demanding or they fall behind, they simply quit going to the class. Because D's don't appear on the students' record, there is no penalty, Rapkin said.

Aside from his position at Tsukuba University, Rapkin taught international relations and international political economy part time at the International University of Japan.

He also was involved in a research project with a Japanese forum studying international relations, wrote for Japanese journals and magazines, and published an English work concerning Japan's world role and prospects

for Japanese world leadership.

In Rapkin's research, he saw firsthand the threat to the American economy that Japan's growing industry and technology poses.

"The fact that Japan is a threat is only because of our own failure to take care of American business," he said. "Japan is surpassing the U.S. in many areas of technology and industrial production. It's America's fault for not moving faster."

Rapkin found that Japan has many cultural as well as economic differences, but he said he was pleased with his reception in Japan and adjusted fairly easily to the changes.

Rapkin said, for example, that sneezing in public is bad form and blowing your nose draws stares and disdain. Yet men commonly spit in public and sometimes urinate in public, Rapkin said.

Rapkin has been at UNL since 1977 and served as chairman of the political science department from 1985 to 1988. He resumed his position upon his return from Japan.

"I accomplished a lot in terms of research, publishing work about Japan's world role, and establishing some very good professional relationships with Japanese scholars," Rapkin said.

Rapkin does not teach a Japanese political science course but is finding ways to incorporate the knowledge he gained from his experiences in Japan into his classes.

His experiences in Japan proved to be valuable for himself and his profession, he said.

"It's valuable and necessary to leave the protection of the heartland to observe other nations and their cultures," he said.

Trading

Continued from Page 1

The next part of Lee's agenda was to talk to Sen. Dianna Schimek of Lincoln.

"First of all, I'm honored to have the governor in my office, because she's never been here before," Schimek joked.

Since she had been state Democratic Party chairwoman, Schimek said, she thought she was a good contrast to Orr, a Republican.

The next leg of Lee's capital visit took him to Nebraska State Treasurer Frank Marsh's office.

Marsh told Lee that part of his job was to know exactly how much money Nebraska had at any time. On Monday, Nebraska had \$270,050,436.78 in the state's general fund and \$40,037,042.74 in its cash reserves, he said.

Lee said that he thought the Student Foundation's goals had been accomplished, but he said there were things he would have changed.

"I probably would have had her (Orr) dress as a regular student so we weren't so conspicuous," Lee said.

LINCOLN'S ONLY FULL TIME COMEDY CLUB!

FUNNY BONE

AMERICA'S No.1 COMEDY NITE CLUB

From Atlanta
TRIP WINFIELD
Winner of the "Great Southeast Laugh-off"
Finalist in "Funny Man in the South".

Also: **TED LYDE** from Chicago
RICK ZAP from Omaha

Showtimes:
Tues., Wed., Thur.,
Sun. 8:30;
Fri. & Sat. 7:30 & 9:30
808 "P" Street

For Reservations
438-BONE

Tuesday nights
\$2 college night.

PERM SALE!

\$10⁰⁰ Off

Perm, Haircut, Style
Sept. 14-30

Call Today For Your Appointment!

HAIR EXPRESS
Gunny Complex
245 N. 13th St.
475-5550

Micro Madness

Free Microcomputer Classes

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

No Reservations Required

Macintosh seminars in the Burr-Fedde microcomputer lab
Thursday, September 20 3:00 - 4:00 & 4:00 - 5:00 p.m.

Macintosh seminars in the Niehardt microcomputer lab
Wed., September 19 2:30 - 3:30 & 3:30 - 4:30 p.m.

Macintosh seminars in the Schramm microcomputer lab
Tuesday, September 18 2:30 - 3:30 & 3:30 - 4:30 p.m.
Monday, September 24 2:30 - 3:30 & 3:30 - 4:30 p.m.

UNL CULTURE CENTER Presents

HARMONY VI

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 1990
2:00-5:00 p.m.
333 NORTH 14TH STREET
472-5500

HARMONY
Let's walk in Harmony
Hand in Hand
Helping each other reach the promised land

Let's stick together as one
Because together we will overcome
Many obstacles hindering our progression

To become one Nation,
Sharing a common interest
in Love, Honesty, and Happiness.

Janice Farmer

*FUN
*FOOD
*DISPLAYS
*ACTIVITIES
*GUEST SPEAKER &
ARTIST—TOM SHEPHERD