

# Parking bind continues: too many cars, too few spaces

## Students given alternatives in UNL's parking fiasco

By DeDra Janssen  
Staff Reporter

While parking problems continue at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, one administrator said they could be alleviated if students explored other options.

Mike Cacak, parking administrator, said his goal is to inform students of their parking alternatives.

"We can't create more spaces just like that, but we can communicate better to the staff and students what their parking options are," Cacak said.

According to Ray Coffey, UNL's business manager, during the 1991-92 school year, about 5,100 commuter parking spaces were sold while only 3,435 spaces were available.

A recent study conducted by Walker Parking Consultants of Minneapolis said there was a shortage of 2,000 parking spaces. One Walker official said the Temple lot would be an ideal site for a future parking garage.

The Walker study also reported that only 50 percent of students use commuter/remote lots.

"The best deal for incoming freshmen is remote parking," Cacak said.

Remote parking, which is as close as two to three blocks from the center of campus, costs \$17 for annual permits and guarantees that there are always spaces available, Cacak said.

He said that remote lots are or will be lit very well and have bus shelters and emergency phones.

Remote lots, which are only available on city campus, provide a free bus ride to campus in heated and air conditioned shuttle buses. Buses

run continuously between 7 a.m. and 10 p.m. with the interval between buses averaging 12 minutes, but there is no set schedule because trains sometimes delay the buses, Cacak said.

"It sometimes takes less time than trying to find a closer spot," he said. "You can get right out of your car and get on a bus that will take you closer to campus than any student will."

Remote permits are alternatives to commuter or resident parking permits.

"These (commuter/resident permits) are sometimes called hunting permits, because you have to look for and find a parking spot, Cacak said."

Both the commuter lots, for students living off campus, and resident permits for students on campus cost \$54 a year.

Reserved parking spaces are also available for commuters and residents. These permits guarantee students a parking space and cost \$155 for annual permits, but is only available on city campus.

Students who have not yet purchased permits, may do so over the counter at the University Parking Services Office, 1335 N. 17 St., from 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. on July 20 through August 14.

Permit sales also will be conducted at the Bob Devaney Sports Center between 8 a.m. and 6 p.m. on August 20 and 21 and from 8 a.m. and 8 p.m. August 24 and 25.

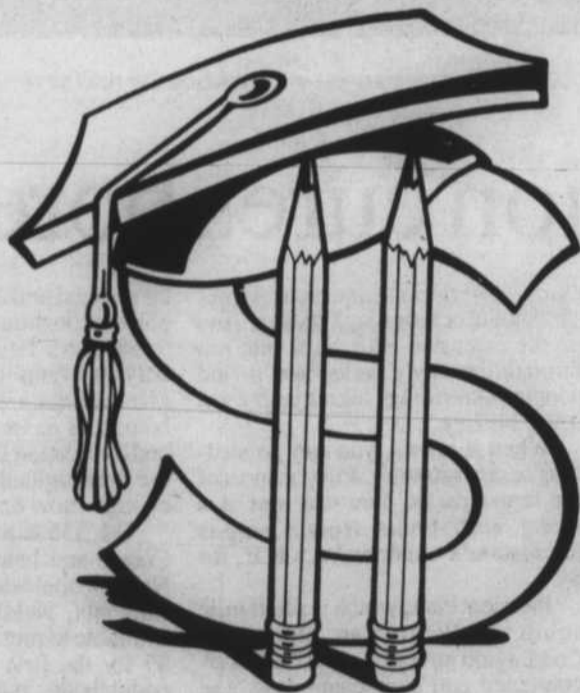
This year's permit costs have been increased by a \$2 to \$5 supplemental fee to fund a variety of parking safety improvements, including lighting and emergency telephones.

New students can receive information about parking and pick up parking applications in the Nebraska Union Ballroom during all New Student Enrollment sessions.



James McHarg/DN

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