

POLICE REPORT

Beginning midnight Thursday

7:25 a.m. — Windshield on car broken, Abel fire lane.
 7:54 a.m. — Check stolen, Love Library.
 11:08 a.m. — Belated report of male student assaulted by three other males, Harper-Schramm-Smith parking lot.
 11:48 a.m. — Stolen backpack, Abel food service, \$150.
 2:56 p.m. — Bike stolen, Cather Hall, \$210.
 3:23 p.m. — Injury/sickness, party refused treatment, Oldfather Hall.
 6:04 p.m. — Fire alarm pulled, Walter Scott Engineering Center.
 10:43 p.m. — Injury/sickness, student transported to Saint Elizabeth Community Health Center, University Health Center.

Beginning midnight Friday

1:16 p.m. — Purse and coat stolen, parking lot 6, \$180.
 1:41 p.m. — Stolen stereo equipment and broken window, parking lot 6, \$540.
 2:55 p.m. — Two-vehicle accident, parking lot south of College

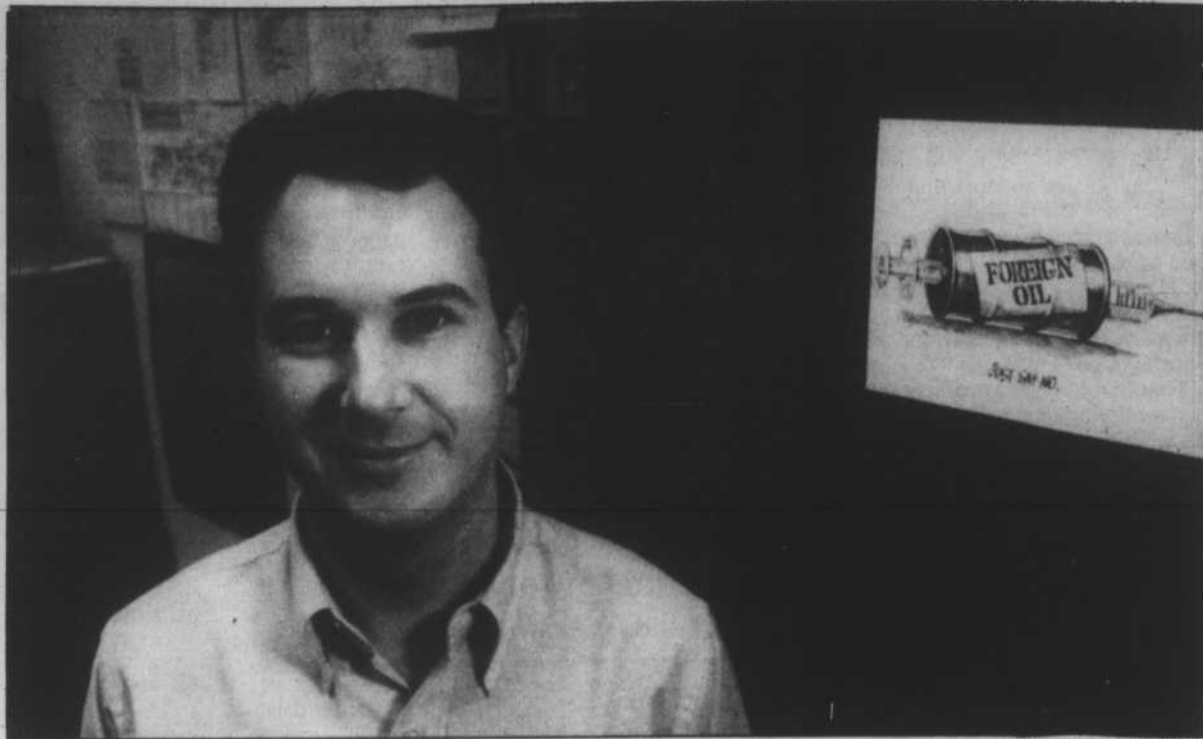
of Law, \$800.
 2:47 p.m. — Items stolen from car, Cather-Pound parking lot, \$180.
 4:17 p.m. — Items stolen from car, Beadle Center parking lot, \$227.
 5:21 p.m. — Auto accident, alley south of Westbrook Music Building, \$200.
 6:08 p.m. — Person transported to detox, Nebraska Union.

Beginning midnight Saturday

12:25 a.m. — Fire alarm pulled, one arrested, Neihardt Hall.
 12:35 a.m. — Assault, one arrested, Neihardt Hall.
 1:30 a.m. — Person driving while intoxicated, 16th and W streets.
 10:04 p.m. — Items stolen from car, \$510.
 10:42 p.m. — Vehicle window broken, 19th and Vine streets, \$150.

Beginning midnight Sunday

2:22 a.m. — Fire box glass broken, Cather Hall, \$15.
 10:46 a.m. — Stereo stolen from car, parking lot at 20th and Vine streets, \$330.



Michelle Paulman/DN

Tyrrell Conway, assistant professor of biology at UNL, recently received a grant for ethanol research. He said increased ethanol production would benefit the economy and the environment.

Alternatives UNL, Ohio State to begin ethanol research

By Michelle Leary
Senior Reporter

A UNL biology professor said he hopes "to create a metabolic pathway that does not already exist in nature."

To do this, Tyrrell Conway, an assistant professor of biology, said he would research the area of ethanol production.

Through a grant, he will attempt to construct a genetically engineered bacterium that will enable him to capture waste carbon dioxide and convert it into ethanol.

Conway and F. Robert Tabita from the department of microbiology at Ohio State University were awarded a \$76,000 grant from the Midwest Plant Biotechnology Consortium, an organization that supports research with potential application.

The one-year grant is entitled "Bioconversion of Carbon Dioxide, Major Byproduct of Fermentation, to Ethanol."

Ethanol, which is a cleaner-burning fuel than petroleum, is used

in the production of gasohol, which is a motor fuel mixture with about 90 percent unleaded gasoline and 10 percent ethyl alcohol.

Currently, ethanol production plants and industries, which create ethanol from corn starch conversion, use the waste carbon dioxide for beverage carbonation, he said.

"There's not a lot of value in carbon dioxide for that purpose. Ethanol production is a billion-dollar industry," Conway said. "And if we could capture the waste carbon dioxide and convert it into ethanol, we could increase production by 33 percent."

"Ethanol is an excellent alternative fuel," Conway said. "We have to look to the day when petroleum will be limited."

An increase in ethanol production also would benefit Nebraska's economy because it would lead to an increase in the number of farmers needed to harvest corn, which is a large cash crop for the state, Conway said.

Ethanol is made from corn, which is grown in the United States,

while petroleum is often imported from foreign countries, he said.

"Petroleum must be pulled from the ground, creating a net increase of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere," Conway said. "It is a one-way flow of carbon dioxide because the plants use the carbon dioxide from petroleum, but they do not turn it back into petroleum."

"Ethanol has several benefits," he said. "It has no effect on the greenhouse effect, and there's no net loss of carbon dioxide to the atmosphere."

Conway said he hoped to begin his research within the next few months.

"It's an exciting project that I think will lead to improvements in the process of ethanol production," he said.

The University of Nebraska-Lincoln and Ohio State University will each contribute \$36,500 to the project, and private industries will donate an additional \$3,000 to match the funds of Midwest Plant Biotechnology Consortium.

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