

# Police update ticket system

## Officer says car towing may increase

By Matthew Waite  
Staff Reporter

A tow truck may weigh heavily in the future of many Lincoln motorists, thanks to the Lincoln Police Department's new automated ticket writing computers.

"If you haven't been paying your tickets you are more than likely to find your vehicle towed," said Captain Jim Peschong of the Lincoln Police Department.

An 18-year veteran of the force, Peschong said the department had wanted to automate their ticket-writing procedures for some time.

"The technology has been there for years," Peschong said. "It's a matter of dollars."

Start-up cost of the program was \$58,000. The city of Lincoln provided half of the money; the school district provided the other half.

The city receives \$1.75 from each ticket and the school district gets the rest of the revenue. Peschong said the school district was entitled to all of the revenue but decided to share some of it with



Officer Dave Haumont writes a parking ticket on the new Ticketrak machines.

the city.

To use the new automated system, the public service officer enters the ticket into a hand-held computer immediately tells the officer if the car is in violation.

er's memory. At the end of the day, the information is downloaded into the public service computer.

Under the old system, Peschong said officers would have to remember the automobile in order for it to be towed on the spot.

With the new system, the com-

puter tells the officer if the car is in violation immediately.

"The (old) system was not a very effective system when you would have to remember the car in your head," Peschong said. "Now they'll enter in the number, and when they enter in the ticket (the computer) will tell them that the car is to be towed."

Officers are writing nearly 250 tickets per day. The Public Service Bureau has a tow list with more than 2,000 automobiles.

# McAuliffe memoir takes press to new heights

By Nell Feldman  
Staff Reporter

In an attempt to reach the broad spectrum of general readership, the University of Nebraska Press has decided to broaden its horizons this year.

Next month, the press will publish the memoir, "A Journal for Christa," on Christa McAuliffe, the Massachusetts teacher and astronaut who died when the space shuttle Challenger blew up on Jan. 28, 1986.

This type of general interest book was once unheard of among university presses, but NU Press Editor Dan Ross, who reviewed and worked with the manuscript, said general interest books were infiltrating the once exclusive scholarly market.

"Through the means of this book, we are demonstrating that we are a national press," Ross said.

Many chain bookstores across the country will be stocking the 191-page memoir, which will be officially released Sept. 7, 1993, he said.

The memoir is told through the eyes of Grace Corrigan, McAuliffe's mother. It takes the reader on a journey through McAuliffe's life and concludes by discussing the many tributes that have been dedicated to the educator.

Corrigan initially approached several New York City presses in hopes of reaching all corners of the country. However, these publishers wanted to alter the manuscript significantly to suit their particular audiences, something Corrigan did not want.

Corrigan opted instead to contact the NU Press, a somewhat smaller but still reputable publishing house that accepts about 70 manuscripts a year.

"We liked the idea of treating the manuscript like a historical memoir," Ross said.

With an initial order of 12,000, Ross said he was curious to see how "A Journal for Christa" sold in bookstores.

"Our target audience with this book is very broad," he said, "and we really do not know what to expect from it."

In addition to bookstores, libraries constitute a large portion of the press' sales, and Ross said he thought many public and university libraries would purchase the hardback book, which sells for \$22.50.

Ross said he hopes Corrigan's message will catch on as she makes her rounds in an effort to "perpetuate Christa McAuliffe's commitment to American education" and to promote her book.

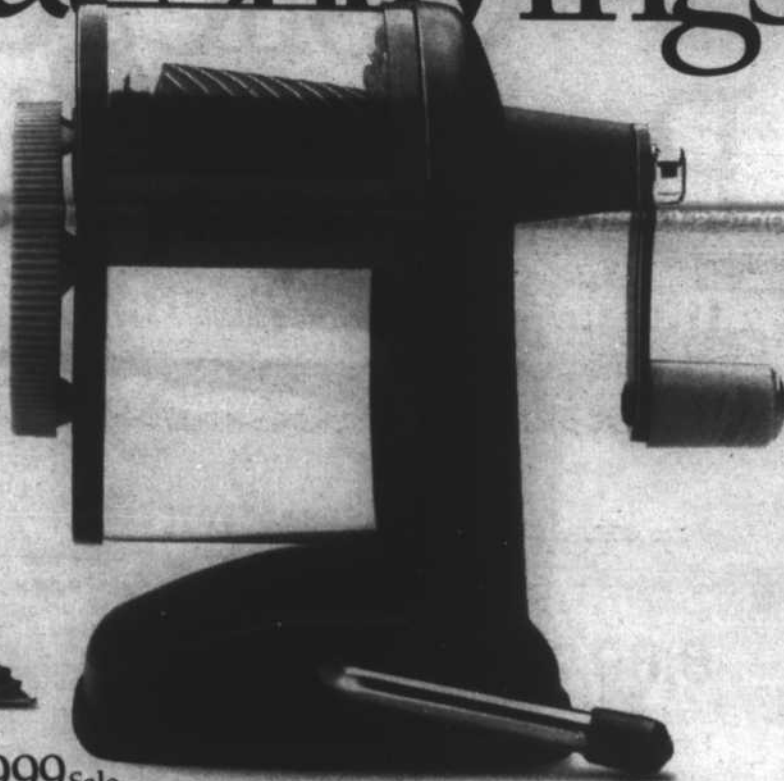
"Free publicity, especially public appearances by the author, is a big help in reaching general readers," said Ross.

While Ross said he is not counting on seeing a review in "The New York Times Book Review," he is confident the work will be reviewed by a handful of notable sources.

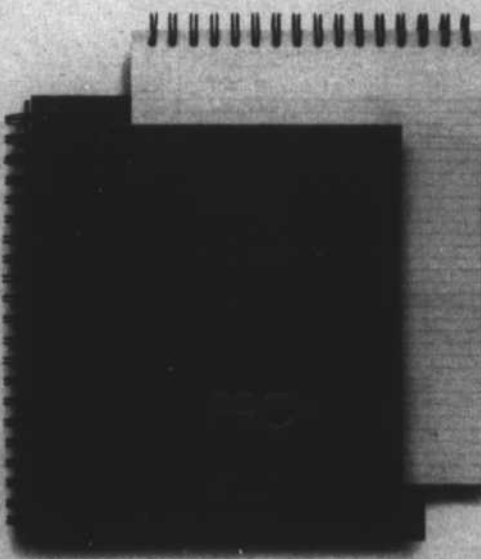
Library sources, such as "Booklist" and "Library Journal," are always the first to review newly published works, but their reviews usually lack the detail and analysis associated with general sources. Once the book has been assessed in the library sources, Ross said he hoped some of the more generic publications would review it.

"The more publications that review the book," Ross said, "the better it is for getting our name out to the public. And that, of course, is our goal."

# Great Shavings.



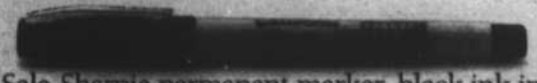
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## POLICE REPORT

Beginning midnight Sunday

- 2:29 a.m. — Theft from automobile, 25 cents, one arrest.
- 7:27 a.m. — Tire jack stolen from automobile, \$88.
- 7:57 a.m. — Fire in Nebraska Hall, \$20.
- 8:02 a.m. — Assault, R Street between 19th and 20th streets.
- 8:08 a.m. — Theft from Nebraska Union, \$50 loss.
- 8:23 a.m. — Bike stolen, Andrews

- Hall, \$275.
- 11:22 a.m. — Checkbook lost, Nebraska Hall.
- 11:44 a.m. — Fire in car, Harper-Schramm-Smith parking lot, \$5000.
- 12:19 p.m. — Hit and run, 1425 R St., \$500.
- 4:04 p.m. — Two-car accident, Selleck Hall dock, \$750.
- 9:27 p.m. — Bike parts stolen, Manter Hall, \$50.
- 9:28 p.m. — Bike parts stolen, Burnett Hall, \$125.