

College pets: Should they stay or should they go?

By Justin Fisher
Staff Reporter

Coming to college often means having to say goodbye to beloved family members. Mom, Dad, Sis ... and Fido.

Many students miss the loyalty and companionship of pets, but keeping them can be difficult, especially for students who live on campus.

The residence halls, many greek houses and apartments have rules limiting the kind of pets students may have. The rules are intended to prevent problems sometimes associated with pets — ranging from diseases, sanitation problems and allergies to the risk that pets might escape or distract others, said Jeff Jahn, a student assistant in Neihardt Residence Center.

In the halls, residents are allowed to have only pets that must be in an aquarium to survive, Jahn said.

Most residents willingly follow this policy, Jahn said. However, there have been a few problems.

Jahn has encountered a tarantula, a cat and a dog.

When a pet is discovered in the halls, the owner is given a couple of days to find

a new home for the pet, he said.

People who live in greek houses and apartments said pet rules varied where they lived.

Sophomore Julie Bremer had mixed feelings about having to leave her St. Bernard at home. Her sorority would allow her to have fish, but not a dog.

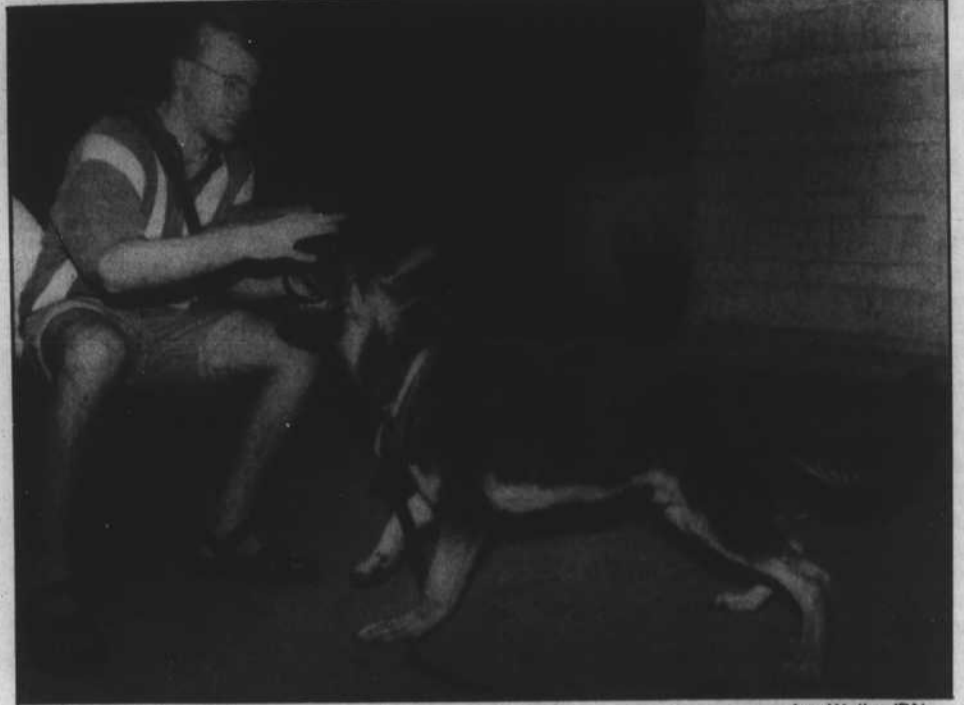
"You wish you could (have a dog), but you wouldn't have time to take care of him, and he wouldn't like not being taken out much," Bremer said.

Some students have tried to keep more exotic pets. Brendon Krick kept his 6-foot Bermese Python in Theta Chi Fraternity for four months.

Junior Steve Lovci, a member of Theta Chi, said that at first some fraternity members were scared, but the snake seemed to get along with everybody.

In fact, he said, most members seemed to like the snake because it was a "babe getter."

Eventually, the cost of feeding the python rabbits and other rodents became more than Crick's student budget could handle. Crick sold the snake in June to a fifth-grade teacher who uses it as a classroom pet.



Jon Waller/DN

Junior Ryan Earleywine plays with his 6-month-old German Shepherd.

Personalized plates make comeback

From Staff Reports

The number of people who have bought personalized license plates has increased by 60 percent since a \$45 price decrease last year, said Veronica Lueders, administrative assistant to the Department of Motor Vehicles director.

In 1992, drivers throughout Nebraska bought 15,473 personalized license plates. In 1993 that number increased to 21,015.

The price of purchasing a personalized license plate decreased in July 1993 from \$75 to \$30. The Department of Motor Vehicles lowered the price to get more people to buy per-

sonalized plates, and therefore increase revenue, Lueders said.

The renewal fee on personalized plates dropped from \$35 to \$30.

One can obtain a personalized license plate by filling out an application, which can be picked up at any county treasurer's office or driver testing location. People put their top five choices on the application.

People can choose up to seven characters. Those can include only letters or numbers. Plates can't resemble government plates or be obscene, said Cindy Incontro, staff assistant for the Nebraska titles and registrations office.

If a person's choices are not available, \$2.50 is refunded for each month left on the year's registration, or \$30 for the year.

Lueders said plates can be purchased for individual use or for a gift. A recent applicant demonstrated the enthusiasm the plates have generated, Lueders said.

"His initial application contained 28 ranking selection choices," he said.

Some of the most popular requests include one's first or last name, something relating to sports and anything related to the Nebraska Cornhuskers, Lueders said.

POLICE REPORT

Beginning midnight Wednesday

8:41 a.m. — Area 20 lot at 14th Street and Avery Avenue, broken window, \$150 damage.

10:44 a.m. — Rec Center, wallet taken, \$255 loss.

11:54 a.m. — Cather-Pound-Neihardt tennis courts, alcohol/consumption.

12:42 p.m. — Nebraska Union, bookbag

taken, \$256 loss.

2:25 p.m. — 635 N. 16th St., bike tires taken, \$100 loss.

3:54 p.m. — Area 10 lot at Sandoz Residence Hall, accident, \$300 damage.

5:02 p.m. — 15th and U streets, miscellaneous.

7:41 p.m. — 415 N. 16th St., injury/sickness, person transported to Lincoln General Hospital.

10:17 p.m. — Headquarters, follow-up on trespassing, cleared by arrest.

10:17 p.m. — Headquarters, follow-up on miscellaneous, cleared by arrest.

10:55 p.m. — Seaton Hall, belated report of injury/sickness.

Beginning midnight Thursday

3:56 a.m. — Hamilton hall, accidental alarm trip.

Rank

Continued from Page 1

ing a more sophisticated system, he said.

The only public universities ranked above UNL in the tiers are the universities of Michigan, California-Berkeley and Virginia.

Only universities ranked in the top half of the 200 universities were compared in Monday's ratings.

"It's the academic equivalent to being ranked No. 1 in football."

GRAHAM SPANIER

UNL chancellor

"The kinds of things that we have been perceived as doing well and have moved us up in the rankings we want to continue," Spanier said. "We can't compete with Harvard when they're spending \$25,000 per student ... and yet here we are not very far behind with \$2,000 in-state tuition."

But even with the high ratings, Spanier said UNL should not be viewed as a university without need. If anything, he said, it should indicate the university is growing and deserves more support.

"My hope would be that the people of the state and the Legislature look at this type of survey and take pride in it," he said. "That is a very positive comment on the value received ... at this university."

"I don't think people make decisions about allocating funds to a university on surveys like this. But if they wanted to, that would be fine."

University Rankings

B	E	S	T	V	A	L	U	E	S
1.	University of Texas at Austin	\$9,507							
2.	Texas A&M University at College Station	\$9,293							
3.	Georgia Institute of Technology	\$11,371							
4.	University of Florida	\$11,270							
5.	University of Georgia	\$9,750							
6.	Univ. of North Carolina at Chapel Hill	\$13,206							
7.	University of Tennessee at Knoxville	\$9,248							
8.	SUNY at Binghamton	\$11,508							
9.	University of Washington	\$12,417							
10.	University of Iowa	\$11,736							
11.	University of Wisconsin at Madison	\$13,386							
12.	Rice University (TX)	\$16,040							
13.	Rutgers State U. at New Brunswick (NJ)	\$13,161							
14.	Univ. of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign	\$13,054							
15.	University of Nebraska - Lincoln	\$9,100							
16.	SUNY at Buffalo	\$11,705							
17.	University of Kansas	\$10,766							
18.	Iowa State University	\$10,936							
19.	Florida State University	\$10,740							
20.	University of Virginia	\$16,760							
21.	Univ. of Minnesota at Twin Cities	\$13,107							
22.	SUNY at Stony Brook	\$11,557							
23.	SUNY at Albany	\$11,200							
24.	Univ. of California at Berkeley	\$17,894							
25.	Univ. of California at Los Angeles	\$17,163							

MOST EFFICIENT SCHOOLS

Institutions that ranked highest in relation to what they spent per student

1. University of Texas at Austin
2. University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
3. SUNY at Binghamton
4. College of William and Mary (VA)
5. University of Georgia
6. Texas A&M University at College Station
7. Florida State University
8. Pennsylvania State University
9. University of Nebraska - Lincoln
10. Miami University (OH)

Source: U.S. News & World Report



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