



Bart Schroeder, a UNL sophomore who is studying Chinese, uses one of the computers in the Union computer lab.

Tanna Kinnaman/DN

Students' e-mail free

By Erin Schulte
Staff Reporter

With the cost of stamps rising higher and higher and mail creeping through the clogged university postal system, students this year may be wishing they could avoid "snail mail" to friends and family.

This year, the university will be offering free electronic mail accounts to all students, a service that had previously cost students \$10 per semester.

Electronic mail, or e-mail, is basically typing a letter or message on your computer terminal, which is then sent through a modem, which works much like a telephone line; to another e-mail account anywhere in the world.

The university has installed a newer, larger system this year to replace the overloaded Herbie e-mail system that has been used for the last few years.

"We've saturated (the system) we have now," Guy Jones, director of technical services for the computer resource center, said. "The new system should continue to grow for about 18 months."

When the system is full, it will again need to be expanded or a new computer will need to be purchased, Jones said.

Digital Alpha 2100 may sound less user-friendly than Herbie, but will provide students with a larger, faster computer and software system to run their e-mail accounts.

And although the system won't cost students a dime, it set the university

back \$150,000 plus networking and on-line costs, Jones said.

JoAnn Lietzel, the vice chancellor and interim chancellor, contributed the money in a lump sum to the computer resource center to purchase the new system.

The Digital Alpha 2100 is being installed the week of June 2, and will be tested by the end of the month, although student e-mail accounts will not be on the new system until this fall.

The actual program that the computer runs will be the equivalent of the Herbie system.

Although it may look a little different on the screen, differences are being corrected by taking Herbie software and installing it on the Digital Alpha computer.

Bookstores in Lincoln give bookworms a treat

By Greg Schick
Staff Reporter

If you like to read books, then Lincoln's the place for you, and you are not alone.

For its size, Lincoln is a virtual haven for books, boasting over two dozen new and used bookstores, many carrying tens of thousands of titles as well as other items and services.

Barnes & Noble, 5150 O street, is Lincoln's newest bookstore. They offer over 100,000 titles of new books in a huge variety of categories.

Barnes & Noble also boasts a large children's section and newsstand, as well as an in-store coffee shop and music section that specializes in compact discs.

Padded chairs and tables are also provided for customers to encourage them to sit and read books they might potentially buy.

Barnes & Noble is also the parent company of another Lincoln bookstore, B Dalton, located at 6100 O street, Gateway Mall.

Bookseller Sue Steenson said besides the over 25,000 titles, B Dalton offers convenience.

"Just being in a mall is our unique feature," said Steenson.

Besides also offering calendars, books on audio tape and magazines, Steenson said B Dalton has a large section of computer books.

The bookstore with the most locations in Lincoln is Lee Booksellers. Their largest location is at the Edgewood Center, 56th street and Highway 2, while the other two locations are at the East Park Plaza, 66th street and O street, and at the Piedmont Shops, Cotner street and A street.

Lee Booksellers may be best known for their large magazine rack with over 1500 magazines.

Bookseller Kevin Oliver said customer service was Lee Booksellers best advantage.

"Our ability to get practically any book in three to five days, when it takes most stores a couple weeks" is

the key to Lee Booksellers success, said Oliver.

The three separate locations gives them the ability to combine Edgewood's 100,000 titles with East Park's 75,000 titles and so on to find specific in-stock books for customers.

The East Park location also boasts The Coinery which is "probably Lincoln's best coin shop," said Oliver.

Many people prefer to buy used books instead of new, due to the rising cost of new books, said Helen Bratt, owner and operator of The Paperback Exchange, 2714 North 48th street.

Bratt said her store carries "mostly used books but we carry also some brand new best sellers."

Like many used book stores, The Paperback Exchange buys and trades for store credit for used books. Books cost half of cover price, but only one-fifth of cover with credit.

"We recycle," said Bratt of the circulation of books through her store. "It's a two-fold system to people."

Bryan Peterson, owner of A Novel Idea, 118 North 14th street, said they keep over 30,000 titles on the two floors of his store.

"We have an independent, non-corporate feeling and people tend to like a friendly atmosphere," said Peterson.

Peterson said they carry a full range of books as well as a selection of used comics and role-playing games.

Ed Bates, owner of Page One, 206 North 13th street, said his bookstore of over 30,000 titles specializes in literature books.

Bates said he buys literature books at 25 per cent of cover price and sells them at 30 per cent, keeping more in stock than other bookstores.

Bates and Peterson said like Bratt, they get all of their books from the general public, customers who want to sell or trade their old books.

So whether your interests lie in new or used books, Lincoln definitely has a variety of bookstores for everyone's needs.

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Cat on a Hot Tin Roof by Tennessee Williams
directed by Constance McCord
June 14-24 -- Howell Theatre

The Mystery of Edwin Drood
a musical by Rupert Holmes
directed by Carl Beck
July 6-16 -- Howell Theatre

I Hate Hamlet by Paul Rudnick
directed by Kent Paul
July 20-30 -- Carson Theatre

New Theatre Festival
June 17 & 18; July 16 & 17
Wagon Train Project
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Have fun Earn credit

UNL music ensembles are open to all university students, regardless of academic major. You can find registration info. for all music groups on page 67 of the First Semester '95-'96 Schedule of Classes. For more information on the groups below, please call 472-2503.

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