

# Expensive bicycle lock worth the cost

By Catherine Blalock  
Staff Reporter

Have you or someone you know had your bicycle stolen? Well, you're not alone.

Bicycle theft is one of the highest crimes on the University of Nebraska-Lincoln campus, one official said.

Since the spring semester ended on May 10, 19 bicycles have been stolen, Sgt. Bill Manning of the UNL police department said. Approximately 180 to 200 were stolen during the 1994 to 1995 school term.

The most common problem, Sgt. Manning said, is that students tend to spend \$300 to \$500 on a bicycle and then buy a cheap lock to protect it.

"If they go out and spend \$40 to protect a \$400 bike, they're protecting their investment," he said.

Some of the suggestions Manning has for students is to register their bicycle (which cost \$1) and is good in all of Lincoln. Students should also know their serial number and buy better locks.

A large number of bicycles are stolen during the day. Students will go inside for one class and come out and find that their bike is gone.

An inexpensive lock only takes five seconds to break, a good lock will take between five to ten minutes to break.

If someone is caught stealing a bicycle worth over \$300, it's a felony, otherwise it's only considered a misdemeanor.

Ridgely Evers, the President of

Bolt Security Systems, thinks he has found a solution to all these thefts.

Last Sept., Evers introduced the Bolt lock at a Bicycle Industry Trade show and began marketing them in May. He declined comment on how

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**Set. BILL MANNING**

UNL Police Department

many had been sold or how much of a profit has been made.

However, he did say they are selling very well.

Bolt has many advantages to other locks on the market, Evers said. It weighs less than two pounds, it attaches to the bike frame and the key can be stored in the lock or carried separately.

If someone does try to break the lock, it will break the frame of the bicycle.

Evers said bike thefts usually are a result of people not locking them.

The bolt is sold for \$24.95 to \$42.95. A one year warranty can be purchased in addition to the lock, which will cover frame damage up

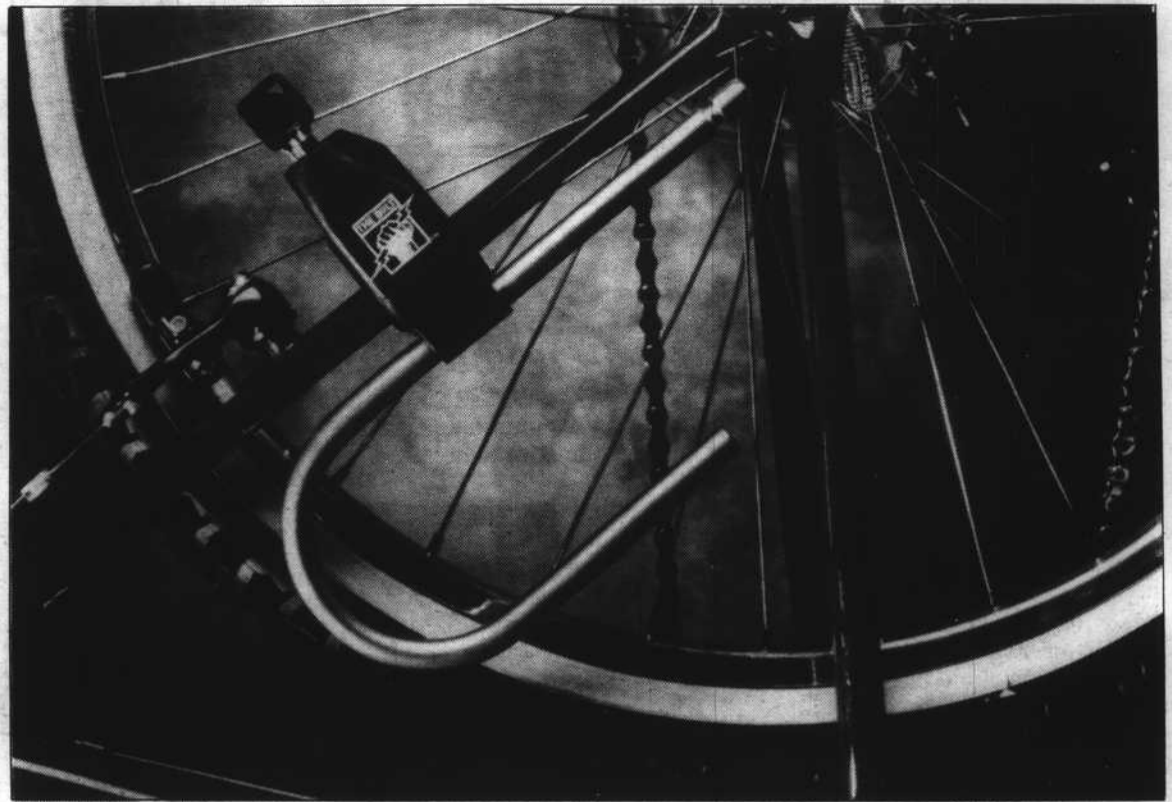


Photo courtesy of Bolt Security Systems

The new Bolt locks give students another option when considering the safety of their bikes.

to \$1000.

Evers is not marketing the Bolt at any one age group, but says he expects it do well very on college campuses.

Rich Rodenburg, owner of Bike Pedalers located on 1353 S. 33rd St., just started selling the Bolt locks a couple of months ago.

"We still sell more of the U-

locks. But I think (the Bolt lock) is a real neat lock," he said.

Bike Pedalers is selling two different types of the Bolt lock: the I-bolt and J-bolt.

The I-Bolt sells for \$32.95 and the bar goes through the wheel rather than attaching to the frame, making the bike unrideable.

The J-Bolt sells for \$39.95 and

attaches to the frame.

Other Lincoln bicycles shops carrying the Bolt locks include Cycle Works and Wheel'n and Deal'n.

People of all ages are buying locks for their bikes. Many come in after they have learned the hard way that an inexpensive lock is not enough.

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