

Students return to UNL parking problems

By Catherine Blalock
Staff Reporter

It's a back-to-school nightmare that resurfaces every year, and one UNL student knows it all too well.

Tony Oliva, a senior business major, has faced the daily, dreaded parking hunt since he first arrived on the University of Nebraska-Lincoln campus in 1991. After four years, one would think the nightmare would be over.

But when Oliva returned to his car earlier this week, a small, white envelope adorned his windshield ... courtesy of UNL Parking Services. Inside, Oliva found a \$25 ticket for parking in an unauthorized area.

Doug Wagner, parking control supervisor, said parking enforcers issued more than 49 tickets Wednesday morning. Lincoln Land Towing records show 30 cars were towed from university lots Wednesday. Seventy cars have been towed from the campus this week.

The parking crackdown isn't popular among drivers, but it is necessary, said Tad McDowell,

parking services manager.

"We don't have to give warnings," McDowell said. "We do have to get the reserve lots cleaned out and the drives cleaned out."

McDowell said an increased residence hall population meant more cars on campus. Annual permits also had exceeded expectations. But the department enforcement policy hasn't changed, he said.

Officials answering complaints in the parking office said Wednesday afternoon that the lines were long, and the phones were ringing off the hook.

For Oliva, it was a story of mistaken identification. He parked in a lot marked with a green sign, matching the color of his Area 20 permit. But Oliva had found UNL's only Area 21 lot, south of the Beadle Center.

"I called to see if I could switch my permit from a 20 to 21 because the lot's always empty," Oliva said. "She told me to come down and appeal it."

Permits went on sale in May, and sales will continue until each lot reaches its maximum.

Sales for Area 20 student spaces were shut down this week after 4,600 permits were handed out. That number represents a 100-permit cut from the number sold last year.

But the number of permits sold doesn't match the number of stalls available — that's where the frustration begins.

"When you sell parking, you always sell more than you have," McDowell said. "The trick is to what degree you oversell them."

Lots are oversold because not all students, faculty and staff are on campus at the same time, he said. Commuter lots are the only ones with a limit on overselling, he said.

But take heart, there are options.

Commuter students with Area 20 permits can find parking relief in remote lots or in red Area 10 (faculty and staff parking) lots after 3 p.m.

Wagner said parking enforcers mostly were issuing warnings. But if someone complains about an illegally parked car, it probably will be ticketed or towed, he said.

More than 30 students lined up outside the

Parking Services building Wednesday to appeal tickets or to try for remaining permits.

Anger and frustration spread among those welcomed back to classes with parking fines as they waited in the late afternoon heat.

Others just picking up permits approached the issue with less animosity.

"I think it's fair," said Tammy Broer, a junior advertising major. "Everything's set in stone. I get my share of tickets. You learn just to deal with it."

Students wanting to purchase permits for reserved or Area 20 lots can put their names on a waiting list, McDowell said.


In the meantime, he said, the crackdown will continue.

"This business isn't as cut and dried as everyone might think," he said. "I have to make 50 decisions per day on who to tow, who not to tow."

"We feel we've given all kinds of warnings."

Associate News Editor Brian Sharp contributed to this story.

University of Nebraska-Lincoln



Aug. '95 - Aug. '96

Just A Reminder

Bus passes are again being offered to all UNL students, faculty and staff at no additional cost. To receive your pass, simply present your University identification card at the Student Unions.

Free program offers options for success

By John Fulwider
Staff Reporter

A free resource is available on campus for students wanting to succeed in their classes but worried they might fail.

The Supplemental Instruction program started last year under the direction of the Division of General Studies. The program offers assistance to students in six "difficult" courses.

Tom Meyers, a former SI supervisor, said the program helps students get better grades, learn better study and thinking skills and meet other students in an intellectual environment.

The program began in fall 1994. Meyers' study of SI's effectiveness showed an across-the-board improvement, he said. SI students improved by half a letter grade, he said, and SI students in history improved by as much as 1 1/2 letter grades.

The study sessions are offered in one section each of Chemistry 109, History 100, Sociology 101, Biology 101 and Political Science 100. Two sections of Psychology 181 are being offered.

Courses were chosen because of their high dropout and failure rates.

Last year, he said, as many as 36 students attended each session. Meyers said 556 individual students attended at least one session.

Meyers said he expected more students to take advantage of the SI program this year because it had become more well-known.

The program is not a tutoring class, Meyers said. Instead, it is a peer-facilitated study group. Each group is led by an undergraduate student who recently (usually the previous semester) succeeded in that course.

That creates an environment where the leader is not seen as the answer man, Meyers said. The leader instead is a resource to help SI students find the answer themselves, he said.

Cathie Wellman, a sophomore political science and history major, is a returning SI leader. Wellman said participants in the program got more than just higher grade point averages.

"We showed them that it's not just memorizing a fact," she said. "It's about tying knowledge from different areas together to see how it fits into the bigger picture."

Wellman said SI helped students in their personal lives, too.

"When a freshman comes into a class that's bigger than their town and doesn't know anybody in there, they can be in big trouble," she said.

"They really gained socially," she said of SI participants. Not only did they make friends, they also made valuable study partners, she said.

The typical SI session begins with friendly, informal chitchat to loosen everyone up, Meyers said. There is the occasional mock quiz so students can practice test-taking skills.

The leader might then suggest an area to work on, he said, or students could identify an area they need help in and ask questions. Everything is focused on the needs of the students, Meyers said.

Contrary to a previous Daily Nebraskan report, the SI program is not a restart of the Academic Success Center's SI program, he said. The ASC also had a supplemental instruction program, but they are not related, Meyers said.

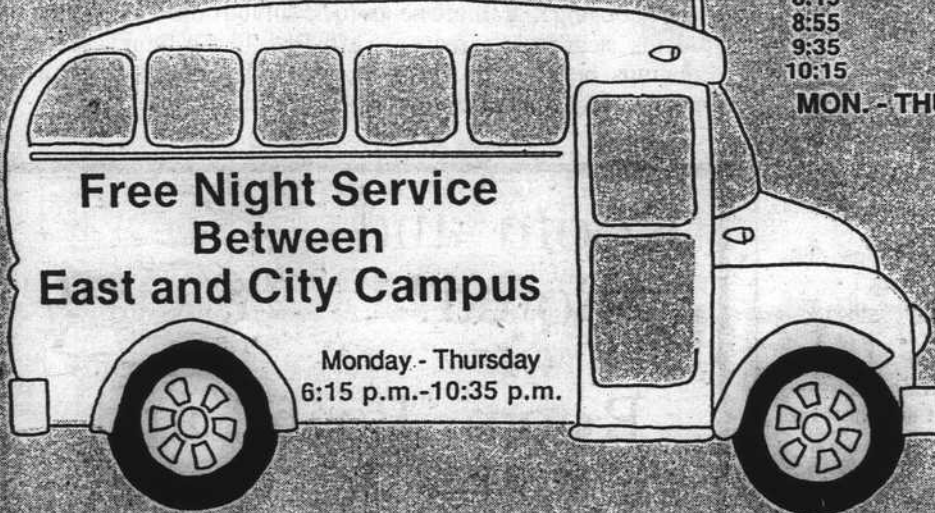
Meyers said there was no comparison between the current SI program and the ASC's offerings. SI focused its services on particular courses, while ASC taught study skills as a separate area of study.

To get involved in SI, students must be enrolled in one of the course sections that offer the program. They can then attend any SI session without signing up or making a reservation.

"Really, all you've got to do is just show up," Meyers said.

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Bridging the space between emotion and intellect, Sponge's debut, *Rotting Pinata*, reflects the band's tightly coiled intensity. Geography has its place, and the fact that Sponge hails from Detroit plays no small roll in its outlook. Every song on *Rotting Pinata* spins a musical web of emotion around the listener.



Recorded at his Strump Boat Studio in Key West, Florida, *Barometer Soup* finds Jimmy Buffett in a mellow mood — in the vein of island notions and his well-crafted short stories. The multi-platinum recording artist and best-selling author travels through bad habits, songs, jewels, Mexico and memories in a release sure to be stamped with approval by the legions of Parrot Heads.

93 Days of SUMMER

93/93

The soundtrack features a new version of "Blue Moon" performed by The Mavericks and produced by Mick Lowe. The album also includes classic songs from that period — including "Somebody to Love" by Jefferson Airplane, "Purple Haze" by Jimmy Hendrix and "I Can See For Miles" by The Who — plus a powerful score by James Horner featuring vocals by Annie Lennox.

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