Crime dips when cold weather hits

Frigid winter weather may not be ideal for many Nebraskans, but there are some unseen benefits.

With dropping temperatures comes a slight dip in outdoor crime.

Sgt. Ann Heermann said the Lincoln Police department had less activity this January and early in February

than in other months.

The weekend of Jan. 27 and 28, with a low temperature of 4 degrees, police logged 43 calls for larcenies from autos, 16 vandalisms to autos and 33 other vandalisms, Heermann said.

The weekend of Feb. 3 and 4, when the low temperature was -22 degrees, police tended to less than half as many calls: 10 larcenies from autos, 14 vandalisms to autos and 18 other vandalisms.

Both weekends, however, saw 12 burglaries, she said.

Sometimes it's just totally random," Heermann said.

Police records showed the amount of calls on the coldest and warmest days of the past five weeks had some correlation with the temperature.

Police saw some increase in auto theft and larcenies from autos, but no difference in robberies.

Indoor crime, however, didn't share the same trend.

Karen Eckerly, a community edu-cator at Lincoln Rape and Spouse Abuse Crisis Center, said domestic violence increased in January — but not because of the cold weather.

The months after the holidays usually bring more strain to relationships,

"People are on their best behavior during Christmas and Thanksgiving," Eckerly said.

The weather and the time of the year are only variables in the whole formula for domestic violence, she

"They compound the violence; they don't cause it," Eckerly said. "That's not what the violence is all about."

When families get into arguments, the cold stops them from getting away from each other to release tension, she

Instead, tension builds into potentially violent anger, she said. A verbal argument can turn into a physical fight because the two are closed in together.

The cold weather doesn't compound problems as much if families talk them through and concentrate on stopping their anger, Eckerly said.

"Each person must realize what the triggers are that set them off."



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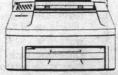
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Jobs find students New search service hits web

By Karl Anderson Staff Reporter

Decisive Quest, a new job search service, is helping college students and potential employers find each other - over the Internet.

the service allows students to post their resumes on the World Wide Web. Companies across the country then can match students with possible jobs or internships.

Students can download the Decisive Quest software from http:/ www.decisivequest.com. The software prepares resumes for students

based on provided information. The resume is then sent to Decisive Quest Inc., where participating companies can match their needs with students' qualifications.

"There is never any fee to the student," Donnelli said, "and com-panies pay a small fee only if they actually make a hire."

Students can update resumes at

"The bottom line is that Decisive Quest has created a vehicle for college students where Developed by Rick Donnelli, College Students where president of Decisive Quest Inc., the jobs seek them out."

RICK DONNELLI

Decisive Quest Inc. president

any time by downloading their existing files and making the necessary changes.

Everything about Decisive Quest is confidential. No information is given to a company unless the student gives approval, and the service discloses the name and loca-

tion of the company.
"The bottom line," Donnelli said, "is that Decisive Quest has created a vehicle for college students where the jobs seek them out.

Tires get another turn

By Karl Anderson

Staff Reporter

An ever-growing interest in recycling - along with a city ordinance banning used tires from the landfillhas led to a new method of resurfacing Lincoln's roads.

The city of Lincoln, Jebro Company of Sioux City, Iowa, and Dobson Construction Company of Lincoln have developed a resurfacing agent that uses old tires.

The mixture consists of about 5 percent crumb rubber, which is derived from recycled tires, said Gene Hanlon, Lincoln recycling coordina-

The asphalt is being used experimentally on 84th Street between A Street and Hazelwood Avenue and on

parts of Cotner Boulevard and 56th

Roy Sneddon, a University of Nebraska-Lincoln engineering professor, said the civil engineering department had developed a plan to determine the effectiveness of the new asphalt.

The department will monitor rut depth, cracking and how the asphalt reacts to increased temperatures.

And so far, so good.

The new asphalt has performed "as good or better as the previous mix," neddon said - although more weathering cycles and traffic are needed to determine whether the asphalt will be used in the future.

"It's too early to tell, and there are too many variables to make a conclusion," Sneddon said.