

# Daily Nebraskan

COVERING THE UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA SINCE 1901 VOL. 95 NO. 142

**FRIDAY**

**WEATHER:**

**Today** - Cloudy with a 30 percent chance of rain. South wind 15 to 25 mph.  
**Tonight** - Partly cloudy, low in the upper 20's



April 12, 1996



Matt Miller/DN

Doorman Dave Maschino checks an ID outside Iguana's Wednesday night. Jody Luth, co-owner of Iguana's, said the downtown bar had confiscated about 1,600 IDs in the last four years.

## Speed limit bill finally passes, begins June 1

By Ted Taylor  
Senior Reporter

Sen. Ernie Chambers' speed limit bill finally crossed the finish line Thursday as lawmakers passed one of the most closely followed bills of the session.



Riding the coattails of a 34-15 vote, LB901e will raise the speed limit on Nebraska's interstates and expressways to 75 mph and to 60 mph on the state's rural two-lane highways.

That 60 mph speed limit could rise to 65, however, if Department of Motor Vehicles tests indicate the road is suitable for the higher speed.

Transportation Committee Chairman Sen. Doug Kristensen of Minden said raising the speed limit wasn't the most satisfying part of the bill.

"It's the fact that we had the ability to set them," he said. "The federal government doesn't tell how fast a state can drive. We can set that ourselves."

Since President Clinton signed a bill that ended the national 55 and 65 mph speed limits in January, Kristensen said every state in the union had addressed the issue.

If the bill is signed by Gov. Ben Nelson, the interstate and expressway speeds will rise on June 1. Speed limit fines also will increase on that date.

The new fines for exceeding the speed limit by 6-10 mph would be \$25; 11-15, \$75; 16-20, \$125. Exceeding the speed limit by 21 mph or more will draw a \$200 fine.

The higher speed limit on the rural two-lane highways will not go into effect until Sept. 18 to give the DMV time for road improvements and sign changes.

Kristensen said he hoped the fines and the higher speed itself would deter motorists from creating another "fudge factor."

He also hoped the State Patrol would help in the effort of eliminating a possible fudge factor. "My hope is that the State Patrol will vigorously control the new speed limit," he said.

## 7-year-old pilot killed in crash after takeoff

From The Associated Press

CHEYENNE, Wyo. — A 7-year-old girl trying to become the youngest person to fly cross-country was killed Thursday when her small plane nose-dived to the ground "like a dart" soon after takeoff in driving rain and snow.

Her father and her flight instructor also died. Jessica Dubroff, who used a red booster seat and extenders so her legs could reach the control pedals, spoke to her mother by telephone even as she revved the engine on the runway.

Lisa Blair Hathaway said she heard no word of problems as the three began to take off and ended the communication.

"I beg people to let children fly if they want to fly," a teary-eyed Hathaway said before flying from Boston to Wyoming to claim her daughter's body. She had flown ahead to Massachusetts to await the arrival of Jessica and her ex-husband.

"Clearly I would want all my children to die in a state of joy. I mean, what more could I ask for?" Hathaway said. "I would prefer it was not at age 7, but, God, she went with her joy and her passion, and her life was in her hands."

Jessica, her father, Lloyd Dubroff, and flight instructor Joe Reid began their journey Wednesday.

See CRASH on 2

## Identity problems

*Fakes are easy to make, hard to keep*

By Chad Lorenz  
Senior Reporter

For "William," it is a simple matter of economics.

For bar owners, they are nuisances — or worse.

For police, they are a crime.

Fake identifications, considered by many to be a rite of passage in college, are relatively easy to get a hold of at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln — for a price.

But with a recently completed program with the Lincoln Police department, fake IDs are leaving the hands of minors as quickly as they are obtained.

Bars, which face fines or the removal of a liquor license if they serve minors, report they are catching minors more often.

But the problem persists. Two downtown bars — the Hurricane and Montigo Bay — lost their liquor licenses last year for several license violations, many of them for serving minors.

And for the few who make them, the only trick is not getting caught.

William (his middle name) has been making fakes since he was a sophomore in college. Now a year after graduation, he never has had a close call with the police.

He's made about \$3,000, and his process is quick, easy and portable.

William said he got into the business when he saw a friend making fakes, and he realized how easy it was. He took a normal Nebraska driver's license and enlarged it on a copy machine, he said.

Turning the photocopy into a transparency, William then could project it on an overhead.

William traced the overhead image onto a poster board, making a life-size ID proportional to the size of a person's head, he said.

Polaroid photographs of customers standing in front of the ID board finished the product. He would then cut out pictures and laminate them, making a nearly perfect replica of a real Nebraska driver's license.

"Mainly I just used the skills I learned in college," he said.

## Risky Business

Offenses associated with using a fake ID carry the following maximum penalties:

- Misrepresenting age
- Minor in possession
- Providing false information

All class III misdemeanors Penalty - \$500 fine, 3 months in jail or both.

### Creating altered ID

Class I misdemeanor Penalty - \$1000 fine, 1 year in jail or both.

Source: Lincoln Police Department

Aaron Steckelberg/DN

To avoid getting caught, William said he made the IDs only twice a year, usually for friends.

"If they (others who make fakes) do it on a repetitive basis, they're going to get caught."

William said his portable workshop — the ID board, a camera and a laminator — was never used or kept at home. That way police could not have evidence to arrest him.

He takes the materials to his customer's residence to do the job and is out in a half hour, he said.

As an extra precaution, he makes customers sign a form promising not to use the ID for purchasing alcohol.

"I use it as a scare tactic so they know that I'm not responsible."

When William started making fakes, he was worried about getting caught, he said. He's gotten less worried since, which is bad,

because it makes him careless, he said.

William admits one flaw with his fake IDs — they don't work in Lincoln or Omaha, he said.

The type is different than the authentic Nebraska driver's license, so most of his sales come from spring breakers.

"Out-of-state they work as good as a real one," he said.

### Checked at the door

A frustrated young man stands with his hands on his waist outside Yia Yia's Pizza on a Saturday night.

A doorman, perched on a stool in front of him, looks down at the man's license, shakes

See FAKES on 6