

# Illegal aliens slip past officials

GRAND ISLAND (AP)—Lack of money and not enough workers limit what federal immigration officials can do to battle the stream of suspected illegal immigrants passing through Nebraska.

In the last month, Immigration and Naturalization Service workers decided not to respond to more than 90 percent of the law enforcement stops of illegal immigrants in central Nebraska, The Grand Island Independent reported. In 27 cases in which INS did not respond, the drivers and 284 suspected illegal immigrants were released.

Jerry Heinauer, INS district director in Omaha, told The Independent that he needed more workers to respond when suspected illegal immigrants were stopped and more money so they could be deported.

"We need to have the resources that

enable us to do our job," said Heinauer, who oversees activities in Nebraska and Iowa. "We would like to have the money and the people so that, when the Nebraska State Patrol makes a stop, we're able to respond."

The INS in Nebraska and Iowa have:

- arrested 463 illegal immigrants in 1994, of which 276 had criminal records,

- arrested 704 illegal immigrants in 1995, of which 372 had criminal records,

- removed 187 illegal immigrants from work sites in 1994 and 332 in 1995.

"You can see the increase that we've experienced," Heinauer said.

The district Heinauer supervises covers a linear distance of 750 miles from east to west. That's approximately 25 percent of the distance across the United States.

He's pleased the Nebraska State Patrol last month adopted a form to report suspected smuggled illegal immigrants.

"The State Patrol collecting that intelligence is very helpful to us," Heinauer said. "We'll have a better sense of illegal immigrants that are being smuggled through Nebraska."

Information from five stops the State Patrol made in March enabled INS officials in Chicago to arrest the illegal immigrants and return them to Mexico, Heinauer said.

INS has smuggling units in Denver and Chicago. The possibility of getting a unit or more anti-smuggling agents closer to Nebraska is being studied.

"They're in the process of reviewing smuggling in the central region," Heinauer said.

# Priest ignores bishop's threat

From The Associated Press

The Rev. John McCaslin, an Omaha priest, has been arrested at least a dozen times for protesting U.S. nuclear-weapons policy, and he has spent time in jail.

McCaslin said he wasn't impressed when Bishop Fabian Bruskewitz of Lincoln threatened to excommunicate him if he ever again exercised his priestly duties in the Lincoln Diocese.

"I wrote him a letter," McCaslin said last week. "I said he was a new bishop and that bishops make mistakes... I said he should put this behind him and get on with his life. I didn't hear back."

His reference was to Bruskewitz's threat last month to excommunicate members of his flock who do not sever ties with 12 groups, including Planned Parenthood, Catholics for a Free Choice and Call to Action. The deadline is May 15.

McCaslin raised Bruskewitz's ire by celebrating Mass at an organizational meeting of Call to Action-Nebraska at Mahoney State Park, which

*"I wrote him a letter. I said he was a new bishop and that bishops make mistakes... I said he should put this behind him and get on with his life. I didn't hear back."*

**JOHN MCCASLIN**  
Omaha Catholic priest

is in the Lincoln Diocese.

The group is an affiliate of Call to Action, a Chicago-based organization of about 15,000 members that supports the ordination of women and married Catholic men, the lifting of the celibacy requirement for priests and more lay participation in the selection of bishops.

The Lincoln diocesan chancellor,

Timothy Thorburn, wrote to McCaslin in February on Bruskewitz's behalf. He forbade McCaslin from celebrating Mass, hearing confessions or preaching in the diocese "in perpetuity."

"This communication is also a canonical warning," Thorburn wrote. "Any violation of this prohibition will be punished with a decree of excommunication."

McCaslin, who is pastor of Immaculate Conception and St. Joseph Catholic churches in Omaha, said he had been a member of Call to Action for a long time and had no plans to quit.

McCaslin offered a suggestion for Lincoln Catholics who are upset about Bruskewitz's excommunication edict. "Join the Archdiocese of Omaha."

"We're not being excommunicated in Omaha," he said.

Randy Moody, a Lincoln lobbyist who is an outspoken pro-choice abortion advocate and a local and national board member of Planned Parenthood, said his conscience would be his guide.

# Campus walk sheds light on UNL safety

By Melanie Brandert

Senior Editor

*"We have done this a number of years, so we have been able to eliminate more problems each year."*

**JAY SCHLUCKEBIER**

assistant director of Landscape Services

As a quiet stillness lingered throughout the university grounds early Saturday morning, a group of people walked along its dark, deserted paths and streets to survey safety at UNL.

The Campus Safety Walk, which takes place in the fall and spring, allows university officials, faculty and students to determine what kinds of problems the campus has with lighting along pathways and to suggest solutions.

About 20 people, including Parking Advisory Committee members, students, ASUN representatives and university officials, attended the two-hour walk.

Viann Schroeder, acting assistant to the Vice Chancellor for Business and Finance, said the walks allowed people to see how different the campuses looked at different times of the year.

"In the fall, you see different things," she said. "Trees have more foliage."

Participants traveled on a university shuttle bus to inspect parking lots and other remote areas on City Campus and East Campus, then walked through the core areas of both.

One of the main safety concerns raised on City Campus was a stretch of sidewalk around the tennis courts next to the Area 1/2/20 lot near Cather and Pound residence halls.

John Wiechmann, an ASUN senator, said that although an emergency blue phone had been placed where the sidewalk began, there was no way students walking toward the residence halls could find help if they were being followed.

Another member of the senate agreed.

"There's nothing to head to that way until you get to the dorms,"

Amy Rager said. "You can't get in the dorms. The doors are locked."

"It's scary because you can't always get someone to walk with you."

Participants also commented on how dim the lights looked on various emergency blue phones on both campuses.

Jay Schluckebier, assistant director of Landscape Services, said UNL's Telecommunication Center was in charge of the phones.

Poor lighting also was identified at the north section of the mall on East Campus and a pathway south-east of the Beadle Center leading to apartment complexes east of City Campus.

Other problems that surfaced were burned-out light bulbs and shrubs that needed to be cut.

Schluckebier said Sunday that problems found during the spring walk were pretty minor.

"We have done this a number of years, so we have been able to eliminate more problems each year," he said.

Schluckebier said it would take two to three weeks to replace light bulbs, but other problems, such as finding funding for parking lot lighting, would require more time.

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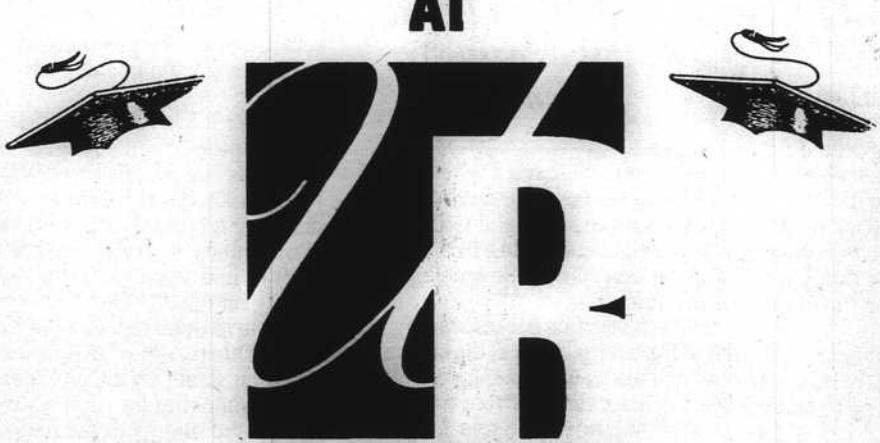
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