

Daily Nebraskan

VOL. 96

COVERING THE UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA-LINCOLN SINCE 1901

NO. 29

Friday
October 4, 1996



Stolen goods retrieved in two police arrests

By CHAD LORENZ
Senior Reporter

University of Nebraska-Lincoln police made two arrests Thursday in connection with at least six on- and off-campus thefts, including the theft of a student's car from campus last Friday.

In addition to the 1986 Buick Regal, police recovered three bicycles, a cellular phone and 43 pieces of car-stereo equipment, Sgt. Bill Manning said.

Police started on the case late Wednesday night when Community Service Officers spotted the car, which was stolen a week ago from a remote parking lot at 17th and Holdrege streets, Manning said.

Police found the car parked at a house and assigned two officers to watch it overnight, Manning said. Officers discovered the plates on the car were stolen from a different vehicle.

At 1:45 p.m. Thursday, officers saw a man get into the car and drive away, Manning said.

They later pulled over and arrested 19-year-old Brian Green for possession of stolen property. Green is not enrolled at UNL.

An interview with Green led officers to suspect a juvenile was also involved, Manning said. Green was taken to Lancaster County jail.

Officers went to the juvenile's house, and his mother gave them permission to search it, Manning said.

At the house, officers found bicycles and stereo equipment, Manning said.

More property was found at other locations, Cpl. Carl Eastman said, but he declined to say exactly where.

The juvenile was also arrested for possession of stolen property and sent to the Lincoln Juvenile Attention Center, Eastman said.

UNL officers were busy Thursday night logging the property and matching it with larceny reports from UNL and Lincoln police departments, Eastman said.

The recovery could clear at least five larceny cases as well as the auto theft, he said.

Book targets abuse victims

By KIMBERLY SWARTZ
Staff Reporter

Susan Koppelman is a survivor of domestic abuse.

She knows firsthand that abusive relationships are a dead end.

She is using her experience to help battered women escape violent relationships through her book, "Women in the Trees: U.S. Women's Short Stories of Battering and Resistance, 1839-1994."

Koppelman shared her experiences and those of 30 other women who have survived domestic abuse in a speech at the Nebraska Union Wednesday afternoon.

"My collections make available women's experiences, history, metaphors, and visions of reality as they have been recorded and portrayed in our short stories from 1826 to the present," Koppelman said.

Koppelman said women never deserved to be battered and violence was never their fault.

"Victims are not responsible for the choices criminals make," she said.

Domestic violence is not a problem confined to any particular class, race, ethnic group or lifestyle, Koppelman said, but occurs in all sectors of society.

Although domestic violence is a universal problem, it isn't always evident because abuse is emotional as well as physical, she said.

"Just because you don't see abuse doesn't

mean it isn't there," she said. "People don't wash their dirty linen in public."

In the second part of the speech, Barbara Harman, author of the book's final chapter, read her short story "Happy Ending."

She combined her experiences of physical and emotional abuse throughout her life.

"Women in abusive relationships have all the responsibility and none of the control," Harman said.

She gave advice for people who have a friend in an abusive relationship.

"The most important thing you can do is believe her and support her," Harman said. "She needs to realize that she can survive."

Currently 20 percent of women undergraduates in a coed university have been battered, Koppelman said.

"Many parents are so naive when they send their daughter off to college. They think they are sending her to a safe place," she said.

Christina Brantner, associate professor of modern languages and interim director of Women's Studies, said UNL's ability to be forthright about safety was a good step toward a safer campus.

"The next step is offering proper awareness to deal with safety issues," she said.

Koppelman also encouraged men to read her book so they can see that there is no justification for battering a woman.

The author's speech was co-sponsored by the Women's Studies Program and the Rape/Spouse Abuse Crisis Center.

Common sense stops crimes

This is the last in a five-part series about crime on the University of Nebraska-Lincoln campus.

By MATTHEW WATKINS
Special Projects Reporter

Sgt. Bill Manning would love to see a campus without crime, but it isn't going to happen.

It won't happen without eliminating several large campus departments and using that money to hire police officers, Manning said.

Even if he had more than 100 officers on duty at all times crimes would occur, he said, and the campus shouldn't become a police state.

With the crime rate at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln on a three-year slide — and a fourth expected this year — officers are starting to predict an end to good times.

"It reaches a point where you can only get so good," Manning said. "You lose once in

awhile. There are things out there that we can't help."

Those crimes, he said, are known as crimes of opportunity — thefts that didn't require much effort on the part of the thief.

"(University police) can't take away all of the opportunities," he said. "You do the best possible."

Officers say they do what they can in stopping thefts, but as is the case in stopping many crimes, students, faculty and staff need to help.

Sgt. Mylo Bushing said common sense would prevent many crimes, especially thefts.

Locking residence hall rooms, locking car doors and taking loose items — including removable car stereos — out of cars are a few things people can do to prevent theft, Bushing said.

Please see CRIME on 6

MATT MILLER/DN
BILL MONCE, a senior secondary-education major, rolls the ball during practice at the Nebraska East Union Thursday afternoon. Monce is the team's No. 3 bowler.

UNL bowling teams aim at striking out stereotypes

By JOSH FUNK
Staff Reporter

The only two Nebraska athletic teams that have not dropped from the top five since 1990 are ready to reach for another national championship.

They're guaranteed a bowl game, but it's a whole different ballgame — a bowling ball game.

The UNL men's and women's bowling teams will begin their season with a tournament Oct. 18 in Denver.

The men's team is looking to repeat as national champions while the women try to bring home a championship of their own.

Yet back on campus, bowlers risk obscurity and fight the bowler stereotype — middle aged, overweight and beer-drinking.

Rob Renko, a senior criminal justice major and team member, wants to change that image.

"I am an athletic guy who works out regularly and enjoys other sports," Renko said. "But when people learn that I am a bowler, they don't believe it."

UNL has a strong bowling program, which attracts the top bowlers from across the nation, Coach Bill Straub said. However, the program lacks recognition in Nebraska.

Every year, about 75 bowlers send in video tapes and resumes to apply for the team. Fifteen of them are invited to try-out with current team members for one of the 24 spots on the team.

Straub, a former professional bowler and coach, has coached the Nebraska teams since 1983.

"We've never been out of the top five with the men or women," he said, "and I don't think that will change this year."

Bowling is now a club sport at UNL, but that could change in the future. The women's team is scheduled to be brought under the control of the Nebraska Athletic Department.

"At this point the women are being brought in to help balance the gender gap in sports, and hopefully the men's team will be included later," Straub said.

The move to the Athletic Department could help build recognition and respect for the teams as well as ease budget concerns and improve travel conditions, he said.

"The change would allow us to just be players, not fundraisers," senior elementary education major Brenda Edwards said. "We should be able to hire another full-time coach. How many other sports have one coach for both the men's and women's team?"