Millions file taxes by telephone

BY AMY KELLER
Staff Reporter

Christy Talbot refuses to send the IRS her taxes.

The full-time Gallup employee will file her taxes over the phone instead of mailing them.

TeleFile is an alternative to traditional mail-in tax returns. This is the second year the telephone tax-filing service has been available in Lincoln.

With 3 million users nationwide and 30,000 users in Nebraska, the phone-filing method is quickly gaining popularity, said Bruce Morrison, electronic filing coordinator for the Internal Revenue Service in Omaha.

Farrol Shada of Lincoln did taxes by phone the past two years for her son, Matt Shada, a senior physical education major at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

"It's a convenient way to do taxes, and it may save us federal funds and cut the amount of work for the IRS in the long run," she said.

> *"They can do it seven days a week, 24 hours a day, right from their home."*
>
> BRUCE MORRISON
> electronic filing coordinator

When using TeleFile, tax refunds are guaranteed to be sent within three weeks of filing the taxes, Morrison said.

The quick return isn't the only advantage, he said. TeleFile is paperless and quick, and there's no income tax return to fill in, Morrison said.

The three steps to use the system include: filling out the tax record in the TeleFile booklet, collecting W-2 forms from employers of the past year and calling the toll-free TeleFile number.

To use TeleFile, taxpayers must have no dependents and have a taxable interest income of $400 or less.

The IRS pre-selects people who meet the conditions and automatically mails all eligible taxpayers a packet about TeleFile.

"They can do it seven days a week, 24 hours a day, right from their home," Morrison said.

Goodbye, tax forms. Hello, TeleFile!

This year, millions will file their tax returns by *phone* — using TeleFile, a free service from the IRS. The call is easy and refunds are fast. Check your mail for a TeleFile booklet.

Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service
http://www.irs.ustreas.gov

TeleFile
It's free. It's fast. It works.

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The Daily Nebraskan is now accepting applications for senior positions for the fall semester. Any major field and class standing is eligible, as long as you are carrying at least six credit hours and have a 2.0 GPA or higher.

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- ✓ Assistant Web Editor
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- ✓ Senior Photographer
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We are looking for a team of page designers to design and paginate its news, sports, A&E and opinion pages. Designers should know QuarkXPress and be able to show solid design skills and familiarity with newspaper layout. Designers do not need to be journalism majors.

Pick up an application, job description and sign up for an interview at the Daily Nebraskan, 34 Nebraska Union. Applications are due March 21. Interviews will begin March 31. And don't forget, applications for current staff positions are always accepted.

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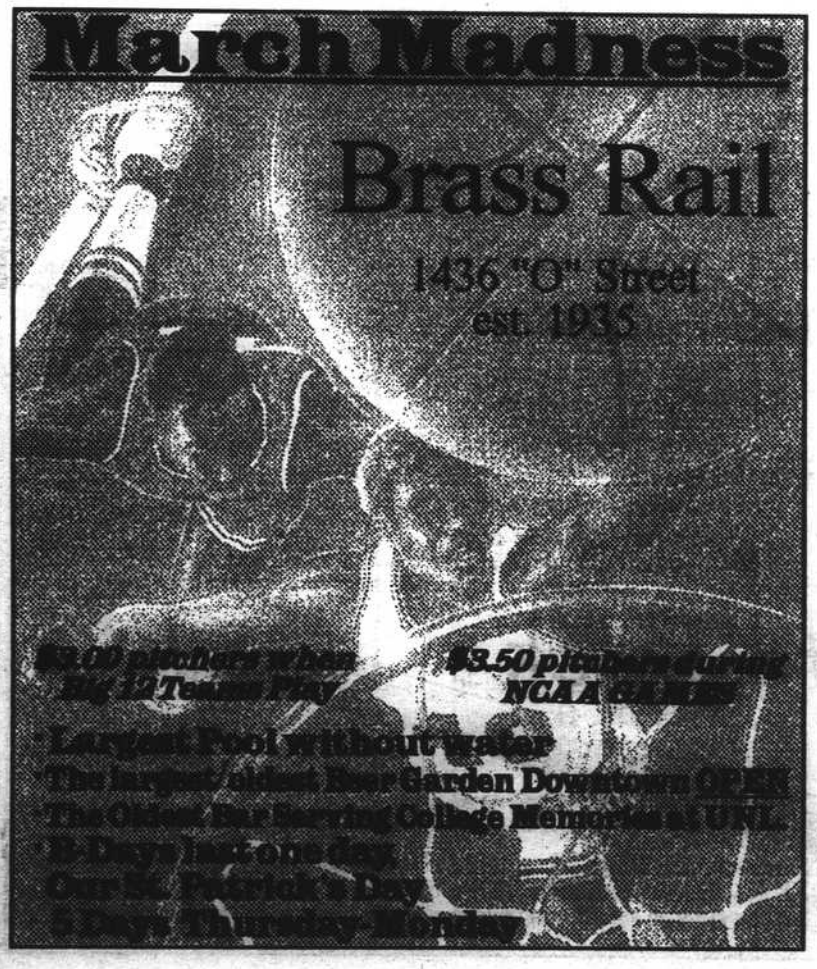
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