

# Trio puts new spin on service

**FAT TIRE** from page 1  
 ages have to be related to school, he said, such as taking a paper to Kinko's to be copied.  
 "We won't deliver pizzas or things like that for students," Van Ooyen said.  
 The riders can carry only 25-pound deliveries, but they are buying a bike trailer so they can deliver packages up to 75 pounds or multiple packages. Fat Tire also insures packages up to \$2,500.  
 Van Ooyen said Lincoln hasn't

caught on to the idea of bike messengers yet, but he said this fall they will be sending out portfolios, proposals and advertising to larger companies to try to attract a larger clientele.  
 Fat Tire delivers about one package a day, but the riders hope to deliver 20-30 a day and make a living off their business someday.  
 "We have a lot of bike riders asking if we are hiring, but right now we don't have enough business to hire anyone else," Van Ooyen said. "We hope to get to the point where we have a large number of bikers delivering for us."

Among the three owners they have five bikes. Van Ooyen said navigating through traffic is the most difficult part of their job, but it gives him great satisfaction when he gets a package delivered.  
 "Some people are completely blown away that we ride our bikes all the way across town," Van Ooyen said.  
 Van Ooyen, 25, Korb, 22, and Henk, 26, take turns operating the business out of their homes. They can be reached at 890-1370. Fat Tire's hours are 7 a.m. to 5 p.m., but Van Ooyen said they will deliver later at night if they have the phone with them and someone calls.  
 "Everyone puts in as much time as possible in the business," Van Ooyen said. "The cellular phone allows us to have a mobile location."  
 Even though the three decided to open their own business, none of them is a business major at UNL. Van Ooyen was an art major, Korb is a political science major, and Henk majored in English and speech communications

# Community officers help secure campus

By **TED TAYLOR**  
*Assignment Reporter*

They don't carry weapons, and they can't even arrest you. They aren't even police officers, exactly.  
 But UNL police Chief Ken Cauble wants to make one thing clear about some important people at his department: rent-a-cops they are not.  
 "They're the closest thing to a police officer you can get without being commissioned," he said of the nine community service officers at the UNL Police Department.  
 From security at Nebraska football games to patrolling university parking lots to animal control, CSOs take care of the security role on campus, Cauble said.  
 "Ninety percent of the security on campus is done by these officers," he said. "Without them we'd have real problems."

Their primary job is working security at athletic events, residence halls, greek houses and academic buildings, Cauble said, and they do it 24 hours a day.

And becoming a CSO is no easy task. Cauble said candidates must complete the same entrance procedures that commissioned officers must complete, including a thorough 15-page background check and polygraph test.

The only difference between the CSOs and the 23 commissioned officers at the department is an intense 12-week training course on law, tactics of arrest, defensive and pursuit driving and a more advanced weapon course, UNL Police Sgt. John Lustrea said.

"We're actually using them as our hiring pool for commissioned officers," Lustrea said.

Currently, Cauble and the department is in the process of hiring five new CSOs to replace a group that recently moved on to other departments as commissioned officers or were promoted within the UNL Police Department.

The new officers will not cost the

department anything, Cauble said, because funding for the CSO program is paid for by the groups they provide security for, such as the UNL Athletic Department, Parking Services and University Housing.

Cauble is hoping to bring the number of CSOs to 15 or 16, but said more could be used.

"I really think we could probably adequately use 20," he said. "The problem is that we don't charge student groups for our services."

He said that throughout the year special events around campus require the help of CSOs — help that is provided for free. It's a concept other Big 12 university police departments can't comprehend.

"The other 11 schools are shocked to hear what we don't charge to do and what we do and don't charge for," Cauble said.

"These officers are very important," Lustrea said. "They project the presence of the police department in areas where we need to know what's going on. They give us more eyes and ears on campus."



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