

Fumes force evacuation

By Michelle Starr
Staff writer

A putrid smell wafted through the Nebraska Game and Parks building Thursday morning, prompting a building-wide evacuation.

"It smelled a little like tar and a little like dog poop," said Barbara Voeltz, librarian at the Game and Parks building at 2200 N. 33rd St.

About 20 people were evacuated at 10:51 a.m., said Bruce Sellon, acting deputy chief of the Lincoln Fire Department.

The fumes from plastic that was incinerated with other waste material were probably picked up by the fresh-air intake of the building and sent throughout the building, Sellon said.

Though incineration is a regular practice, the mistake that caused the fumes is unknown, said Jim Douglas, division administrator for wildlife.

It is possible that a minute amount

of two laboratory chemicals, chlorophorm and phenol, and cellular remains from previous DNA extraction methods, could have been on the plastic, said Richard Bischof, a research technician.

Residue may have been in the fumes, but there was no way of detecting it, Bischof said.

In large quantities these chemicals could be smelled, but the burning plastic smell was so strong that it drowned out any sign of chemical smell, Bischof said.

No one was hospitalized during the evacuation, and Sellon said if there were chemicals on the plastic, the amount was probably not high enough to cause physical risk.

However, he suggested if symptoms such as headache, nausea, dizziness or eye irritation occurred, a physician should be contacted to be safe.

Marge Seufferer, an administrative secretary in the building, said she was in

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Barbara Voeltz
Game and Parks librarian

the second-floor stairwell and smelled the burning fumes immediately.

"It made me sick more so than gave me a headache, but I was getting a headache," Seufferer said. "But I'm real sensitive. Paint even bothers me."

Firemen checked the building, but there was no way to monitor the fumes or the content in the air, Sellon said.

The all-clear was called at 11:50 a.m., and employees were allowed to re-enter the building.

LAW AND ORDER

Student admits marijuana use, cited for paraphernalia

A University of Nebraska-Lincoln freshman admitted to causing the marijuana smell on Abel Residence Hall's 11th floor, said University Police Sgt. Mylo Bushing.

University police were sent to the hall at 1:25 a.m. to investigate a suspicious smell reported by a community service officer.

A glass water pipe was found inside one of the residence hall rooms with burnt residue inside of it.

Scott Taylor admitted to officers that he brought the water pipe into the room and was cited for drug paraphernalia Thursday morning, Bushing said.

Woman pleads innocent in death of 2-year-old

A Lincoln woman pleaded innocent Wednesday to manslaughter in the death of her daughter.

On Thursday, Sandra Roberts, 22, was arraigned before the Lancaster County District Court.

Roberts was accused of negli-

gence after her daughter suffered second- and third-degree burns while taking a bath Sept. 22.

The 2-year-old child died Nov. 10. Roberts said she left the child in the bathtub for 10 minutes while she watched television.

She said she returned when she heard the child screaming.

Doctors said the burns were caused by scalding water.

The case will be heard in district court, but a specific date had not been determined.

Compiled by staff writer Michelle Starr

Dean announces resignation

FOSTER from page 1

One of those programs is the plant science initiative, which teamed the college with the Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources.

Sallie Mackenzie, the professor hired to coordinate the program, said Foster played a crucial role in the program's creation.

"It is my sense that it is one of the first times two schools have come together in this way," Mackenzie said. "It's by the virtue of his facilitating and interaction that this has come about."

Foster was also responsible for reorganizing the geosciences program. In order to save a fledgling department, Foster made a controversial decision to split up the department and reorganize it, said Norman Smith, chairman of the department.

"There was a time the whole department could have disappeared," Smith said. "He made a bold move to

forestall that."

Dane Kennedy, chairman of the history department, said Foster would be missed by the college.

"He's a dynamic leader with a clear sense of what to do," Kennedy said. "I didn't always agree with him - but on a personal level, I'm sad to see him go."

University of New Mexico president William Gordon said Foster would help the school face the challenges of increasing graduate enrollments and "reinvigorating and enriching" the school's undergraduate programs.

"We are fortunate to have someone who brings such an exceptional record of success," Gordon said in a statement.

Before Foster came to UNL, he was the dean of the graduate college at Arizona State University. He earned his bachelor's, master's and doctoral degrees in anthropology.

Edwards said he would name an

interim dean and announce a selection committee to replace Foster soon.

Foster is the third dean to leave or retire this year. Searches are currently underway for a dean for the College of Architecture and for the College of Human Resources and Family Sciences.

Retired professor dies of cancer at age 74

SHEFFIELD from page 1

Sheffield when he was secretary of the Nebraska Water Conference Council.

"He was very well known in the field of irrigation in Nebraska," Stork said. "He was one of the experts. People would ask him irrigation questions all the time. He had a wealth of knowledge."

Kuzelka said he served on the Nebraska Water Conference Council and was the chairman of the annual water conference.

The state conference is a larger legacy than the tours, Kuzelka said, because it is in its 29th year.

Sheffield was committed to improving Nebraska's agriculture and understood the economic value of water for irrigation, Kuzelka said.

According to files from the Institute of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources, Sheffield received

a bachelor's degree in agronomy from the University of Nebraska in 1950.

He went on to receive a masters in agricultural economics in 1964 and a doctorate in 1971.

In 1978, he was the Lincoln Chamber of Commerce Agriculture Committee vice chairman.

Ten years later, he was named Irrigation Association Man of the Year. Sheffield was married to Doris Sheffield and had two daughters and a son.

Kuzelka said Sheffield was an optimistic, upbeat person who enjoyed telling and hearing stories.

"He was interested in the perpetuation of knowledge through stories," Kuzelka said. "The amount I learned from him was immense."

"He wasn't the sole person (helping water irrigation), but he was certainly the leading force. He set the standards that still look upon us today."

Man gets guilty verdict for murder of three-year-old

OGALLALA (AP) - A Scottsbluff man found guilty Thursday of killing and dismembering his girlfriend's 3-year-old son could face the death penalty.

The case brought tears to jurors' eyes as prosecutors described how parts of Adam Gomez's body were found in a freezer, in a dog food bag and dog bowl at the home of Raymond Mata Jr., 26.

A jaw bone also was recovered from the sewer near Mata's house. Bone fragments from the boy were

recovered from the stomach of Mata's dog, but no testimony was entered that Mata actually fed the boy to the dog.

The boy's skull, recovered in 34 pieces, had bite marks on it.

"Whatever he did was bizarre enough you don't try to figure it out or you'll hurt your head," said Scottsbluff County Attorney Ben Shaver.

Mata was convicted of first-degree murder, felony murder and kidnapping for the March killing of Gomez. He faces the death penalty or life in prison.

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Congratulations Adam Anderson

Adam Anderson is a graduating senior in Agricultural Systems Management and has chosen a career at Arhcer Daniels Midland Company in grain terminal operations management.

ADM is one of the largest grain and food processing companies in the world. Based in Decatur, Illinois, ADM is continually expanding throughout the United States as well as in China, Europe, Mexico, and South America.

Adam found out about ADM's career opportunities from career services on campus and scheduled an interview with ADM. After completing a two-stage interview process, Adam was offered a position as a grain terminal operations management trainee. In January, he will begin a 12-month hands-on training program that will expose him to all aspects of ADM and grain terminal operations management.


ADM is looking forward to having Jason join our team.



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