

Campus takes aim at cigs

ASHTRAY from page 1

"close proximity" - 10 feet - of campus facilities.

To help enforce this, some campus ashtrays were moved further away from the buildings, Baird said.

And after the change, Baird said he noticed a bigger mess within a couple of days.

"Obviously, the ashtrays weren't there, but people weren't going to change their smoking habits," he said.

Baird said areas near the College of Business Administration building, the area between Oldfather Hall and Bessey Hall and the south side of Nebraska Hall have been the most polluted with cigarette butts.

"It increases our labor, and it costs more to do the maintenance," he said.

Some people have thrown cigarettes in trash cans that are

right outside the buildings.

But Baird cautioned not to do that unless someone is positive his or her cigarette is out.

A lit cigarette caused a fire in a trash can near Bessey hall, Baird said.

Marissa Gill, a junior philosophy major, said she hasn't noticed an unusually high number of cigarette butts.

But Gill, a nonsmoker, said people who smoke outside buildings don't bother her.

"They're still going to be in the way regardless of where the ashtrays are," Gill said.

"It doesn't matter - people will still light up right outside the buildings."

Emily Haarberg, a junior news-editorial major, said after ashtrays were moved further away from Avery Hall, she and a group of others placed a coffee can near the door to use as a makeshift ashtray.

But much to Haarberg's cha-

"Obviously, the ashtrays weren't there, but people weren't going to change their smoking habits."

Kirby Baird
Landscape Services City Campus supervisor

grin, the coffee can was removed shortly after they placed it there.

"We're trying to keep it clean, and they take (the coffee can) away," she said.

"I just think it's stupid."

Haarberg said the university needed to find a happy medium between those who light up and those who don't.

"Right now, it's pointless," Haarberg said. "It's just making a mess."

Project helps in research

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for," Cress said. "I get to keep them longer; they become more familiar with the work."

Magnuson's work in the research has been valuable, Cress said. In analyzing the tapes, Magnuson is able to gather new data and develop new play strategies.

Cress said she encouraged more undergraduates to become involved in the program.

"I have found that undergraduates make excellent observations. They bring a new perspective to the project."



Sharon Kolbet/DN
Megan Magnuson, a senior speech-language pathology and audiology major at UNL, stands in front of her laboratory holding the toys used in her research project. Magnuson has been working under UNL Special Education Professor Cynthia Cress to study children who are at risk for being nonspeaking.

Senators debate smoking

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Nebraska Medical Association and Lancaster County Medical Society cited numerous statistics about the effects of second-hand smoke and what it does to restaurant employees as well as non-smokers.

"As many as 53,000 nonsmokers die annually from second-hand smoke," Noble said, as he went on to list several other facts.

"Owners of restaurants can be held liable if employees develop lung cancer caused by second-hand smoke," he said.

Ventilation systems can't handle the smoke from cigarettes either, Noble said.

"I see it as a victory of life over death when patients stop smoking," he said.

But public health concerns are already addressed by the Clean Air Act, the Nebraska Beverage Association's Jim Moylan said.

The existing act allows for smoking only in areas that are designated as such.

And plus, Moylan said, the ban would be bad for businesses, as proven in California, which banned smoking in restaurants and bars three years ago.

Moylan cited statistics from a study done in California that showed business in the smoke-free restaurants was going down, and customers were upset.

But Thompson, the anti-smoking bill's sponsor, said Moylan's statistics didn't reflect the current state of California restaurants and bars.

Thompson said Moylan's information was taken from a phone survey taken two or three months after the ban was put in place.

After three years of getting used to the smoking ban, Thompson said, California businesses now indicate they're unaffected.

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