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Keepin' an eye on each other

Four men and two women take time out from first-week studying for some "extra-curricular" activities in the basement of the Nebraska Union.

Ladies Nights gone; bars offer alternatives

By Mona Koppelman
Daily Nebraskan Senior Reporter

Skirts night, unisex bikini night, wet T-shirt contests... a rose by any other name could smell as sweet as Ladies Nights to bar owners who know that such specials bring in big crowds and big bucks.

At least three local bars have dropped their discount price format for women after receiving warnings from the Nebraska Equal Opportunity Commission and the Lincoln Human Rights Commission that such practices were against state and local laws.

But Stooges, 826 P St., still classifies Friday night as "Ladies Night," though everyone drinks at a discount. P.O. Pears, 322 S. Ninth St., is having "Person's Nights," and the Royal Grove Nite Club, 340 W. Cornhusker Highway, is having "Skirts and Trousers Nights."

Jean O'Hara, executive director of the Nebraska Commission on the Status of Women, said the changes may not be addressing

the most important issue: stereotypes.

"Bikinis and skirts are worn by women and trousers are worn by men," O'Hara said. "The issue is how to treat people equally in society successfully, and eliminating these old stereotypes."

O'Hara said she was not very familiar with the recent Lincoln cases, but thinks the issue of discrimination may not be settled with equal drink prices.

"Historically, there were many laws that were perceived as good and corrective laws that still discriminated," O'Hara said. "There were labor laws that didn't allow women to work after certain hours. But, of course, those were overtime hours where they could have made more money."

Tom Jelsma, Royal Grove owner, said he discontinued Ladies Night four weeks ago. He said men used to line up at the door, and "now people don't come out as much."

He said he replaced the free drinks special with Skirt and Trousers Night to get people to

dress up. Nobody in jeans or corduroys gets free drinks. Jelsma wasn't happy with the compromise, however.

The Equal Opportunity Commission also found on Aug. 10 that Ladies Nights violated the Civil Rights Act of 1969, which states: "All persons within this state shall be entitled to full and equal enjoyment of any place of public accommodation... without discrimination or segregation on the grounds of race, color, sex, religion, national origin or ancestry."

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Extended benefits to include women

By Julie A. Jordan
Daily Nebraskan Staff Editor

In an attempt to recognize the increase of women in the nation's work force, Congress recently passed the Retirement Equity Act, HR4280.

The act amends the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974. At that time women comprised 39 percent of the nation's work force. Today women make up more than 50 percent of the national working population and 45 percent of Nebraska's work force.

The act is "one more step in establishing marriage as a partnership," said Jean O'Hara, executive director of the Nebraska Commission on the Status of Women.

O'Hara said the legislation closes a lot of loopholes that affect women. The bill is designed specifically to deal with the problems many women encounter as they face retirement without adequate provisions. The act, which affects only private businesses, includes five main provisions:

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Residence halls overflow, says UNL housing official

By Gah Y. Huey
Daily Nebraskan Senior Reporter

Although the number of UNL students in residence halls has exceeded capacity, rooms eventually should be available, Doug Zatechka, director of housing said Monday.

UNL has the largest number of students living in residence halls since the 1982-83 school year, Zatechka said. As of Aug. 15, more than 100 reservations above the official 5,160 capacity were recorded.

About 5,269 students have turned in contracts and more requests are expected after the first residents move in, he said. The halls officially were opened to students at 1 p.m. Tuesday.

The number of hall residents still is not definite. Some students have not

claimed their rooms yet, and about 25 students have called the housing office to say they will move in at a later date, Zatechka said.

To make an accurate count, hall officials will determine which residents have checked in. Students who have signed contracts to live in a hall but have not checked in must contact the housing office by 6 p.m. Monday, Zatechka said.

Zatechka said students who do not have rooms will live in a "triple room" with two other residents. The entire housing complex has about 276 triple rooms — almost all of which are occupied by three students. About half of those triple rooms are temporary triples, Zatechka said.

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