



Photo by Ted Kirk

Dicie Johnson of Mountain View, Ark., a singer and mandolinist in the Jimmy Driftwood and the Rackensackers Ozark music band, strolls through the Lincoln Foundations Garden at 14th and N streets.

UNL room rate increase shouldn't cut occupancy level

By Betsie Ammons

A \$35 increase in double room rates for UNL residence halls should not reduce hall occupancy next year, said Ken Swerdlow, housing assistant director.

Occupancy is expected to be "at least the same, or slightly above" this year's total, he said. Last fall, every space was assigned, but Swerdlow said only Richard Armstrong, housing director, could release occupancy statistics. Armstrong was unavailable for comment.

Many factors will contribute to this fall's occupancy rate, Swerdlow said. Apartment rentals in Lincoln are increasing, he said, and fewer apartments are available because employees of recently built industrial plants in Lincoln also are hunting for apartments.

Swerdlow also said residence halls offer students a guaranteed annual price, and there is no possibility of mid-year rent increases.

The \$35 increase is "minimal," Swerdlow said, adding that rates are rising less than three per cent, and that in-

crease is less than one half of the anticipated cost of living increase.

Deadline for room preference contracts was April 16, he said, and 1,700 persons signed up by that time. Contracts will be accepted until the beginning of fall semester or until residence halls are full, he said.

Swerdlow said students who submitted contracts by April 16 will be assigned to the room they requested.

Housing office officials plan for 136 single rooms in residence halls. He said they are not accepting any more contracts for single rooms, since all were filled by deadline.

However, Swerdlow said, a waiting list exists for single rooms, and some students may be able to get them in the fall.

Swerdlow recommended that students who wish to terminate their housing contracts do so before Aug. 1. Charge for terminated contracts before that date is \$15, but any terminations after that cost \$125, he said.

'Unenthusiastic' tuition hike planned

By Ann Owens

Students can expect about a \$2 a credit hour hike in resident tuition and a \$6 a credit hour increase in non-resident tuition next year, according to NU President D.B. Varner.

"We obviously are not enthusiastic about increasing tuition," he said, "because it always creates an added burden to the students and parents."

But Varner said that he believes there should be a relationship between state funds and tuition funds and "support has grown much larger on the state-funded side than on the tuition-funded side during the past three or four years."

Currently, resident students pay \$18 a credit hour while nonresidents are charged \$48.25 a credit hour.

The Nebraska Legislature assumed, in making its university appropriations, that \$1.8 million would be raised by tuition next year, Varner said.

"When we made our presentation to the Appropriations Committee we told them we believe this university has to have better funding if it is to achieve its objectives of continued improvements," Varner said, "and that we believe if the Legislature would participate in helping us get there, that it would be appropriate to adjust our tuition upward."

Varner said NU campuses began discussing the tuition increase this week. William Erskine, NU executive vice-president for administration, is working with campus business officers, Varner said, and Steven Sample, NU executive vice-president for academic affairs, is working with campus academic officers to discuss the tuition increase impact.

"I've asked them to study other possible questions on this matter," Varner said, "such as a possible differential between undergraduate and graduate or professional tuition."

Varner also said he will seek reactions and advice from student leaders.

Varner said he hoped the size of the increase is finalized within a month so he can make a recommendation to the NU Board of Regents at its May meeting.

bernstein on words | Those two-faced headlines are like a foot in the mouth

By Theodore M. Bernstein

Two-faced head. Word order can be a cause of disorder. That is evidenced by a headline sent this way by Josh Heller and Chayim Stern of Melrose Park, Pa. The headline read: "Barnmaid Kills Holdupman With Toy Gun." Killing someone with a toy gun sounds like strange news indeed. But of course that wasn't the story. The bandit had the toy gun and the barnmaid fired a .38-caliber revolver. So the head should have said, "Holdupman With Toy Gun Killed by Barnmaid."

Awful word. The adjective awful in proper use means

causing awe or fear or being impressive. But, as Thomas Reichstine of Willow Grove, Pa., points out, the word often is used as if it were an adverb. In a sense that is completely different from what the speaker or writer really has in mind. Such uses produce phrases like "awful pretty," "awful cute," "awful good," "awful talented." Phrases of that kind are, strictly speaking, self-contradictory, but, still worse, they are colloquial and substandard. What the user means and should say is very, highly or extremely.

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