

# Merit scholarship debated

By Marjie Lundstrom

When Mom packed you up and shipped you off to UNL, you probably weren't sure why you were bound for college.

And unless you were a football player, lured to the university by the sounds of "Hail Varsity" and a four-year scholarship, it probably wasn't because you earned a full ride.

UNL officials are trying to change that, according to Al Papik, UNL admissions director.

Papik said administrators currently are debating whether to join the National Merit Scholarship Corporation, a national organization that identifies outstanding high school scholars in the United States and provides them with college scholarships.

Joining the corporation would enable UNL to better compete with other institutions, he said. Too many outstanding students are leaving UNL, he said, referring to the school as a "brain-drain."

"It's not because we (UNL) lack a good academic program, but we fail to have a scholarship program that is competitive with other schools," Papik said. "In fact, the academic profile of the student body is actually pretty good."

## We did it again!

The *Daily Nebraskan* incorrectly reported the theme of the Nebraska Union's advertising campaign, which is being managed by five members of an advertising class.

"The Nebraska Unions, where people and things happen," is the advertising theme, according to Mariechen Stuart. This slogan will accompany all Union ads throughout the semester.

Papik said 82 percent of this year's freshmen graduated in the top half of their high school class.

Despite this level, the Regents Scholarship program currently is UNL's only all-university program, he said. However, it does not reach out-of-state students and is based on only one type of exam, the American College Test (ACT), he said.

"There are many scholars that may not score well with that one type of formula," he said.

On the other hand, National Merit scholars are selected on the basis of two exams, he said. Finalists scoring highest on these tests then are eligible for three types of scholastic awards from the Merit Corporation, he said.

These awards are:

- \$1,000 merit scholarships, usually distributed geographically across the United States.

- four-year corporate-sponsored scholarships, awarded by various industries and corporations.

- college-sponsored scholarships, awarded by each individual institution belonging to the National Merit Scholarship Corporation

Papik said it is the third scholarship area that UNL must finance. To belong to the Merit Corporation, UNL must raise money yearly for these scholarships and pay a \$200 yearly membership fee.

Scholarship funds must come from private donations, he said, possibly from UNL alumni or corporations.

Papik said UNL administrators probably will make a decision within the next few days, adding that discussion has been positive.

# Union Bakery sales rise, initial investment pays off

The bakery business is rising, at least in the Nebraska Union, says Bob Richeson, Union food services manager.

Gross daily nicome has increased from a Dec. 1, 1976 opening day of \$135 to an average this semester of \$250 a day, he said. The best day so far was Valentine's Day, he said, grossing \$629.

"It has been by far better this year than any time last year," Richeson said, attributing success to being open at the beginning of the semester.

"Students tend to make their habits the first three or four weeks of the school year and the Bakery is becoming a habit, he said.

He said the Bakery had "been a dream for quite a while . . . two or three years," but became a reality last year when a full-time baking staff was hired.


The initial investment was about \$4,000, from daily operations money, he said.

In addition to over-the-counter sales, a fourth of its business comes from special orders, from birthday cakes to dozens of donuts and cookies.

Goods produced in the Bakery's ovens in the basement of the Union also are served in the Harvest Room, Crib and Nebraska East Union, Richeson said.

Since the goods go to many places, it is difficult to determine a profit, he said. Richeson said he hopes to have profit figures compiled within 60 days.

"The Bakery has taken off," he said. "It's all been positive reaction." A give-away birthday celebration also is being planned, he said.

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