

'Breezing Through' On Way Out

By Marilyn Coffey 1959
and Doug McCartney
A series of recent changes are making it harder for the NU student to breeze through college, according to the dean of Junior Division and several staff members of the College of Arts and Sciences.

But apparently the changes have not been affected with an eye towards toughening courses. They have come about with tighter screening, positive grade demands and intensive efforts to impart knowledge on the part of the faculty.

No Policy
"While there is no organized policy of making work

more difficult, I think that without question the standard of academic achievement has been raised," according to Lee Chatfield, Dean of the Junior Division. Reasons for this change are many and complex, according to the dean.

Over the last two years, the general quality of the freshman class has been higher, judging by their positions in their high school class.

Fewer University freshmen ranked in the bottom quarter of their high school class this year than in 1956.

The administration has been screening more tightly than it was five to eight

years ago, Dean Chatfield said.

High Demands
Since most instructors tend to be influenced by the quality of their classes, the higher caliber student usually causes higher standards for the class, he said.

This may partially account for the increased difficulty of courses.

Since the University is a state school, it does not screen students "at the door."

Instead, freshmen who fail to make an accumulative average of 3.5 by the end of their first year are dropped. They may enter the University again only if

they fall into one of these groups—1) those who complete two years of service and desire to re-enter, 2) those who accumulate a B average at another school, 3) those who make sufficiently high grades through the University's extension

courses to warrant another try.

College Trends
A policy of higher academic standards is reflected, also, in some of the University's colleges and schools.

In the college of Arts and Sciences, a new ruling that it will take a grade of 4 or better to count toward the major will go into effect. A 4 average overall is needed to graduate from the college.

Walter N. Wright, assistant dean of Arts and Sciences, said the ruling will effect only a small number of students, and is not retroactive.

He said efforts are being made to "standardize" sections of the same course. Grade runs are made known to newcomers on the faculty, so they will be able to judge the standings of the classes they teach, Wright continued.

Also, checks are made into classes issuing more than the usual number of 7's, 8's, and 9's, to see if the standards need raising.

Wright said weak high school students were discouraged by entrance requirements and counseling from coming to college right away until "they've had a chance to settle down."

Referring to the quality of Nebraska's students, Dean Wright believes the University is getting fewer of the kind that are "not diligent".

Stiffer Yet
Individual departments within the College of Arts and Sciences have even stiffer requirements.

Chairman of History Dept. James Olsen stated, "We don't have to stiffen ours. We have always tried to maintain a stringent attitude."

He cited one of the major weaknesses in history students as the inability to use English.

In an effort to equalize courses for Freshmen and upper-classmen, the department last year prohibited students from taking history with English A.

History I Limited
Olsen said next year History I will be limited to freshmen to provide a situation where Freshmen will not be in competition with upperclassmen.

William Hall, director of the School of Journalism, also a department in Arts and Sciences, began reorganizing the school in the fall of 1956. He said journalism requirements were much more strict than those of A&S majors, needing two majors and an automatic minor in English.

"We train our students so they can compete on even terms anywhere in the country," he stated. He said all courses were graded on two factors, ability and application.

Counsel is provided to give every student the best possible academic background, he added.

Professionals
One of the factors considered by Dr. Hall important in evaluating the J-school, is that all the instructors are professional men and impart professional attitudes to their students.

"Our courses are tough," he concluded, "but the outstanding students will give the extra effort."

Teacher's college is also becoming more demanding.

Thoupe
N. F. Thorpe, Assoc. Prof. of Sec. Education and Principal of University High School reflected, "Yes, there's been a tendency to toughen up. Averages for juniors reflect a general toughening up in this department."

Thorpe said a program of study is being carried on in the Teachers College, with an examination of objectives. He said majors have to have an average of 5, a qualification adopted three years ago. They also must pass a written communications test in their junior year.

A better caliber of students are being taught, he believes, because of the more selective admission. In teacher's College, each instructor decides how to grade, Thorpe stated. This is academic freedom he said. He also thought few graded on curves.

Arbitrary
"Anyone who recognizes what a normal curve is knows they can't grade on a curve," he continued, "Our grading is based on arbitrary standards as set up by the individual."

Thorpe said while grading is flexible, the range in different sections of the same course shouldn't vary more than three points.

He also thought that instructors were demanding more of their students. "They are having to put more into it (the courses) to get the same grade."

'Tactic' On KUON-TV

Half-Hour Show
To Explain Cancer

Show business and medicine will combine forces to explain cancer and its control on KUON-TV.

"Tactic," a new series of six half-hour programs will begin Feb. 27 at 9 p.m. The show will try to dispel some of the false notions and attitudes about cancer.

"Show biz" personalities in the series include Stephen Bostow, creator of the "Mr. Mago" animated cartoons; Alfred Hitchcock; Jim Backus; Hy Zaret and Lou Singer, composers and lyricists of "Little Songs on Big Subjects."

Dr. Charles Cameron, author of "The Truth About Cancer," will act as medical panel.

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Playwright Contest Offers \$300 Prize

University Theatre, Masquers Sponsor Nationwide Competition

Queen Presentation Scheduled at Game

Auction Death Causes Change; Six Vie for Activities Honor

The AUF Activities Queen will be presented in a new surrounding this year — the basketball game Monday night.

The six sophomore finalists, Barb Barker, Sue Carkoski, Skip Harris, Kay Hirschbach, Linda Rohwedder and Mary Lou Valencia, were picked last November by the AUF Board.

The Queen was to be presented at the AUF Auction in November or December, but this year the Auction was discontinued.

The finalists were picked from candidates nominated by University activities.

Miss Barker, the Builders candidate, is in Business Administration. She is a Builders chairman, Cornhusker section editor and a member of Alpha Phi.

Miss Carkoski is a member of Coed Counselors Board, a Union chairman, an AUF chairman, a Masquers worker and member of Kappa Alpha Theta. She is in Teachers College and is the candidate from Coed Counselors.

Miss Rohwedder is the Cornhusker section editor, a Red Cross assistant chairman, a member of Coed Counselors, Alpha Lambda Delta and Kappa Kappa Gamma.

Miss Hirschbach, Teachers College, is a cheerleader, a Union chairman and a member of the WAA Board and Kappa Alpha Theta. She is the Union candidate.

Miss Harris is a Cornhusker section editor, member of University Singers, the AWS Board and is rush chairman of Pi Beta Phi. She is in Teachers College and is the candidate from AWS.

Miss Valencia, the WAA candidate, is a member of the AWS Board, the WAA Board, Newman Club, Aquaquettes and the Residence Halls for Women. She is in Arts and Sciences.

WAA Picks Intramural Delegates

Fifteen new representatives have been chosen for the 1959-1960 Women's Intramural program by the Women's Athletic Association board.

They are Carole Woodling, Alpha Chi Omega; Deanna Donnell, Alpha Omicron Pi; Diane Erickson, Alpha Phi; Janet Anderson, Alpha Xi Delta; Sue Schieder, Chi Omega; Barbara Fenwick, Delta Delta Delta.

Gail Parker, Delta Gamma; Kay Hirschbach, Kappa Alpha Theta; Roberta Rock, Kappa Delta; Juli Bowers, Kappa Kappa Gamma; Clara Lou Ostidiek, Newman Club; Anne Witthoff, Pi Beta Phi; Gloria Tietjen, Sigma Kappa; Dorothy Dusek, Terrace Hall; and Cathleen Corkle, Zeta Tau Alpha.

These girls, representing organized groups participating in intramural sport, organize teams and encourage individual and team participation.

Kappa Alpha Psi: Negro Fraternity May Get Charter

Kappa Alpha Psi, Negro fraternity, may pledge enough members this year to enable the fraternity to obtain a charter and a house next year, according to Hirschel Turner.

Turner, basketball player and one of four Kappa Alpha Psi active members, explained that the fraternity has been in existence on this campus, although not officially, since before 1930.

Not Enough
"We've never had enough actives to get a charter," Turner added.

Turner, Al Maxey, Lee Rolands and Michael Adams are active members. The group has taken five new pledges on the University campus and several on Wesleyan.

University pledges are Clay White, Al Long, Richard Keir, Joe Dixon and Al Kercheval.

Not Strong
"Up until now the few members have just met in each others rooms now and then. It's never been as strong here as it has at other Universities."

Kappa Alpha Psi is a national fraternity with more than 200 chapters, Turner said. It started at Bloomington, Indiana in 1911, he said.

The chapter at Kansas University is strong and so is the one in Omaha. At Kansas Will Chamberlain, Bob Boozer and Bill Bridges are members," Turner commented.

Pledging
"We've been pledging since about four weeks after school

started and we feel that next year or possibly the year after, we'll have the 14 or 15 active members necessary for a house and charter."

The pledges are called members of a scroller club and wear pins in the shape of a scroll, Turner said.

"They'll be activated in June if they make their required 4 average," Turner added.

Arts Society Selects Karl Shapiro

Karl Shapiro, University English professor and poet, has been selected for membership in the National Institute of Arts and Letters.

The institute, which is the nation's top honor society of the arts, limits its membership to 250 Americans.

Shapiro, a professor here since 1956, is a Pulitzer Prize winner and editor of the University literary magazine, Prairie Schooner.

Thursday Meeting For Ag Ec Club

The Agriculture Economic Club will meet at 7:30 p.m. Thursday in Room 116 in the Dairy Industry Building.

John Bucy will speak on the TVA program. An election of officers will follow.



Matzke

Matzke To Talk To PBKs

Former Senator Slated Feb. 19

Stanley Matzke will speak on Nebraska's "Watered Economy" at a Phi Beta Kappa meeting at the Union Feb. 19.

Matzke has had a varied career which includes a law practice in Seward, newspaper work, farming, politics and government. He is a former state senator and a 1924 University law graduate. He practiced law at Seward for 23 years and was county attorney for eight.

Matzke served as Nebraska State Insurance Commissioner in 1945-46, and was farm editor of the Nebraska State Journal from 1946-1953.

Matzke has long been an advocate of soil and water conservation, taking part in early day conservation legislation and formation of soil conservation districts.

He was an early advocate of flood control by on-the-land conservation and upstream watershed development, and was first secretary of the Salt-Wahoo Watershed Association. For his work in soil conservation he was awarded the Soil Conservation Society of America Award in 1952.

Physical Anthropologist Schedules 2-Day Talks

Discussions to Center on Pre-Dental, Pre-Medical Topics, Human Evolution

Dr. Bertram Kraus, noted physical anthropologist, will speak Thursday and Friday at the University.

Dr. Kraus is from the department of orthodontics at the University of Washington School of Dentistry in Seattle, Wash.

Sponsors
He is being sponsored by the University Research Council, the graduate departments of pedodontics and orthodontics and the department of anthropology.

Dr. Kraus received his Ph.D. from the University of Chicago, was a Guggenheim Fellow in 1951, and a Fellow of the American Cancer Society in 1954-55.

He is also an authority on the growth and health of American Indian children. He has done field research among various groups of American Indians and in Japan.

Pre-Dental
Highlighting the program will be the discussion on "The Role of Physical Anthropology in Pre-Dental and Pre-Medical Education" which will be directed especially toward pre-dental and pre-medical students.

Other talks scheduled for Thursday are:

Landmarks in Human Evolution, 8:30 to 10 a.m., Room 301 Andrews Hall; Evolution of the Cranio-facial Complex, 10:30-11:45 a.m., Room 301, Andrews Hall; Seminar with professional anthropologists Group, 4-5 p.m., Room B-16 Burnett Hall.

Square Dance To Meet Friday

The All-University Square Dance Club will meet Friday at 8 p.m. in the College Activities building on Ag Campus.

Admission is 25 cents for members and 35 cents for non-members.

—Nebraskan Survey—

Fraternity Hell Weeks Shorter on Time, Hazing

By John Hoerner
There is very little "hell" left in hell weeks, according to a recent survey of 16 university fraternities.

Of the 16 fraternities polled, one, Phi Gamma Delta, has never held hell week and two, Kappa Sigma and Sigma Alpha Epsilon, have abolished hell week from their pledge training programs.

Early Start
Five fraternities have held their hell weeks in the first two weeks of the semester since study loads are usually lighter at the beginning of the school term.

Eleven of the 16 fraternities polled said that their hell week had been shortened the past three years. Five had shortened them this year for the first time.

Three fraternities, Phi Delta Theta, Phi Kappa Psi and Alpha Tau Omega, have a civic service project as part of their hell week. This year the Phi Deltas did extensive redecorating at the Salvation Army Headquarters.

One hell week chairman, Jim Cadwallader, expressed the views of many when he said "I don't see why they have to call it hell week anyway. A pre-initiation period

have not had their hell weeks yet, but are planning community project, officers said.

Alpha Tau Omega is nationally known for backing the "help week rather than hell week program."

All fraternities polled had what they termed "modernized hell weeks." The hazing and painful and degrading experiences often associated with hell week have been almost entirely eliminated.

One fraternity, in a five-day program of cleaning up the house and learning chapter history, etc., reported that two hours were set aside for traditional hell week games.

National Setup
The longest hell week was reported by Sigma Chi. This program is set up by the national fraternity and consists largely of instruction about the fraternity.

One hell week chairman, Jim Cadwallader, expressed the views of many when he said "I don't see why they have to call it hell week anyway. A pre-initiation period

would be a much more accurate terminology and would eliminate a lot of incorrect impressions which are gained from the name "hell week."

One fraternity used the hell week time for getting better acquainted with alums. Pledges were required to obtain the signature of a certain number of campus and local alums on a plaque and present them at the chapter house.

Time Saved
The main activity reported was cleaning and repairing of fraternity houses.

"Really," one hell week chairman said, "we save the pledges time by throwing all this work into one week, thus leaving them free for other activities the rest of the year."

"Every house has to have a good cleaning and repair work done sometime in the year and it might as well be the pledges who do it," the chairman said.

"When your mother does her spring cleaning, you don't feel sorry for her and call it hell week!"

Centennial Posts To NU Students

Two University Students and a University faculty member have been appointed chairmen for the Western Day celebration May 9, according to Arnett Folsom, Western Day chairman.

Western Day will be the final event in the Lincoln centennial celebration.

Robert Volk, president of the Block and Bridge Club, was named chairman of the Quarter-Horse Show. Co-chairmen of the Rodeo are Ted Klug, president of the University Rodeo Association, and Richard Warren, assistant professor of animal husbandry.

Bridge Tourney Deadline Near

The deadline for entering the Inter-collegiate Bridge Tournament is Feb. 19.

All organized houses and dorms may enter as many partners as they wish. Entrants should apply in the Union Activities Office.