

Davidson Stresses 'Discovery' Learning

By Julie Morris
Junior Staff Writer

"In this course we have no textbooks, we have no lab manuals, we have no lectures."

Dr. John Davidson introduced his Botany 1 course to his classes this semester with the above statement. Laughing greeted the instructor's words, but the students later discovered that Davidson was serious and that he was giving them an accurate description of the course.

Davidson, whose students affectionately call him "Doc," teaches botany with the idea that "one can learn by experience" and that "the plant is right."

There is no required text for the course and lab manuals are virtually banished from the laboratory. Emphasis in the course is placed on student experiences and discoveries in the lab.

Davidson never gives oral lectures in the meetings of his introductory botany classes. Class time is used instead for the presentation of lab reports made by the students themselves.

Reports are subject to comments, criticisms and questions from the class and heated discussions are frequent. Davidson said, however, "You don't learn from the reports, you learn in the lab, the work is not done in here (in the lecture hall)."

Davidson started teaching his beginning botany course under the present format a little over 10 years ago when he said he realized that "the average student didn't care about the plants, but first the proof, then the text, then the plants."

Davidson noted that in most college courses students learn

facts and "parrot" these facts back on cue. He questioned whether the student actually learned anything or would recall the facts 10 or 20 years later.

He asked, "What's the point of taking something that's going to last a semester or a year?"

In lab, students are presented a problem, such as to discover everything they can about the seed, and they work at their own pace using any methods, equipment or materials desired. Lab instructors give no preliminary information to the students, but may agree or disagree with student statements with the added proviso, "Prove it to me."

Students are often frustrated when the instructor replies to a question, "I don't know, what do you think?"

In making such replies, the lab instructors follow Davidson's statement, "I don't see any point in telling people things about plants that they can find out for themselves."

Terms are used in the course only as "handles" and are given to structures only after the students have found the structures. No attempt is made to commit elaborate definitions to memory.

Davidson asks his students not to use a textbook when they first start the course. He

maintains, "They (textbooks) make nice dogmatic statements that aren't always true."

A textbook Davidson declares, only presents the interpretation of the author. He says "the plant has the answers."

"Since we don't use textbooks, I obviously can't send my students to the library to study," Davidson said. Instead students have the opportunity for independent study in an open laboratory in Bessy Hall where materials being used in the course are kept out for student use.

This semester Davidson has approximately 141 students in beginning botany courses. He stressed that the success of his course depends on "the reaction of the students." Davidson said the whole program is designed for the student.

Students don't take hour exams, but have achievement tests that are used as personal progress reports. Davidson said a student's grade is not determined by any set method, but upon the instructor's evaluation of how much botany he has learned.

Davidson said he'd like to see other courses taught by his method, but that instructors usually take the view, "I work for you, but it won't for me."

He said of his method, "This could be carried to a point of a student grading himself." Explaining this statement, Davidson said it was the student who made the final evaluation about what he had actually learned in the course.

Builders Contest Sprouts 'SEED'

By Bruce Giles
Junior Staff Writer

From a little SEED, a great University will grow.

Or at least that is what is hoped by the "Student Endowments for Educational Development," a special committee of Builders, now called "SEED."

This was the name submitted by Travis Hiner and picked by judges in a name-the-builders-committee contest. The one little word won Hiner a date with Candy May, 1965 Homecoming Queen, to the Kosmet Klub show.

Jon Kerkhoff, committee chairman, said that there were about 60 entries in the contest.

The original entry submitted

Kentucky Defeats Moot Court Team

The University moot court team was defeated Saturday by a team from the University of Kentucky in regional moot court competition at Lexington, Ky.

The Kentucky team won the right to participate in national moot court competition in New York City in mid-December.

The Nebraska team, consisting of Donald Bart, Stephen Joynt and Vernon Duncan earlier defeated St. Louis University in semifinals. The team is coached by Professor John Bradwohl.

It was announced that Lincoln would host the regional moot court competition next year.

Other competitors at the University of Kentucky included Kansas, North Dakota, South Dakota and Missouri.

by Hiner was "SEE," or Student's Endowment for Education. The judges, using this name came up with SEED.

Judges included Dr. Robert Narveson, professor of English; Joyce Ayres, president of Ayres and Associates Advertising Company; Albert Book, assistant professor of journalism; Buzz Madson, vice president of Innocents; Shirley Voss, president of Mortar Board, and Kerkhoff.

One student, obviously with football on his mind, turned in the name "Big Ned" or "Builders of Important Gifts for Nebraska Education." Another was thinking of the many corps currently in vogue, named the committee "The Student Builders for Nebraska Strategy Corps."

U.N.C.L.E. was the name submitted by another student. It stood for "University of Nebraska Contributors for Lasting Excellence."

Still another student, obviously with "FUND" in mind, named the committee "Foundation for Undergraduates Not Departed" or "Foundation for Undergraduates Needing a Degree."

Two other entries, stressing the money idea, named the committee "The Student Foundation" and "Dollars for Scholars Society."

Another student named the committee BASIS or "Builders for Annual Student Interest and Support."

Yet another student — a male at that — and quite possibly with the date with Candy May on his mind — named the committee "SHE" or "Students for Higher Education."

Abel Constitution . . . Eight Presidents Show Approval

By Steve Jordon
Junior Staff Writer

Out of nine Abel Hall floor presidents interviewed only one showed strong disapproval of the constitution for the dorm's central government, Abel Residence Association (ARA), which will be voted on today.

Seven of the nine floor presidents were in favor of the constitution as a whole. Some expressed a "pass and amend" sentiment and one was undecided.

Dan Miller, fourth floor president and a member of the amendment committee of the constitutional convention that drew up the plan, showed disapproval with parts of the bill.

Miller said that the new constitution gives the dorm's central government too much power and control over the budget.

On the other hand, Roger Doerr, a student assistant and chairman of the constitutional convention, explained that a strong central government is needed in the dorm and that it is necessary for the central government to have control over the dorm's budget.

"I can't see the advantage of having a strong central government like RAM's," Miller said. "The government is not really representative. It will take a lot of effort to make sure everybody knows what's going to happen."

Miller said he agreed with about 75 per cent of the proposed constitution, but that "the other 25 per cent controls the whole thing."

"The parts I'm against can not be easily changed," Miller said.

Budget Provisions

The budget section of the document provides that "all funds allocated to (ARA) by the Division of Student Affairs shall be organized into budget form by the Cabinet subject to the approval of the Executive Council and the Hall Residence Directors."

Miller was one of the proponents of an amendment which would give the floor governments 70 per cent of the money allotted the dorm, with 30 per cent going to the central government.

"There can be more and better functions on the hall level," Miller said. "Each hall could decide on its own when would be the best time for a social event, and they wouldn't cost as much."

The ARA, under Miller's proposal, can be given money through a vote of the Executive Council, made up of 12 house presidents and nine elected officers.

Roger Doerr pointed out that under the proposed budget section, 70 per cent of the money could go to the different floors if the budget committee and the Executive Committee want it to.

"The will of the majority will win out," Doerr said. "Most of the delegates to the convention felt that a 70-30 restriction is impractical."

Doerr said that situations could arise, under Miller's amendment, wherein both a floor that has spent all its money and a floor that is sav-

ing to have a function later would be asked to contribute to a dorm-wide function.

'Some Errors'

"There are errors in the constitution," Doerr noted. "If Sandoz (Marie Sandoz Hall, the neighboring women's dorm now nearing completion) comes in, parts will have to be changed."

"But it's ridiculous to penalize the whole dorm by not having a central government," he said.

Daniel Murray, eleventh floor president, said, that "every day we don't have a central government, we are hurting ourselves."

"We can't do anything as a whole," Murray said. "There are some minor things I don't agree with, but these can be changed by amendments or by-laws."

Voting will take place from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. at tables near the entrance to the dining hall. Hall governments have been holding special meetings to acquaint residents with the constitution.

University Lacks Funds For FM

By Wayne Kreuscheer
Senior Staff Writer

G. Ross, vice chancellor and dean of student affairs, said Tuesday that the University is not in a position to finance a campus FM radio station, but he indicated that some other way of financing the station might be worked out by the students.

Ross, who was meeting with Sen. Gary Larsen and several members of Student Action for Government Affection (SAGE), said the biggest problem students will have in trying to start an educational FM station on campus will be finding funds to support it.

Ross sympathizes with the students who want to start the campus station, but "it is clear that the University isn't presently in a position or has the funds to finance it."

He explained that the only place the University could eventually get such funds

would be from the legislature or the students. Ross noted that the University isn't too successful in getting money from the legislature for new programs.

He said that presently the University would need all future money and student fees for old programs.

Upon questioning from Larsen, who is chairman of the ASUN cultural affairs committee which has been working on the FM project, and Dick Sherman, a member of SAGE, Ross agreed that students might be able to find some other way to support the proposed project.

Discuss Support

The students discussed with Ross other means of financial support such as the Nebraska Foundation. Ross pointed out that for the Nebraska Foundation to finance the project the students would probably have to find their own donor to contribute money specifically for a campus FM educational station.

and the policies the students would use in regulation of such a station.

"I personally feel that if you can solve the financial problems—in terms of students trying to start a new program, it will be looked on with great favor," he said.

Notes Problems

Ross noted that the proposed FM station brings up other questions such as where the mechanics of the station would fit into the present framework of the University and if the station would be in competition with private enterprise.

He said that if such a station is licensed as a University educational station then it must be placed somewhere in the school's structure. He said that first the University would have to consider connecting such a project with academic departments and then possibly they could consider some type of new structure for the station.

Ross encouraged the students to submit to him another, more complete report on exactly how much the station would cost over a five-year period, how the students think they can get these funds

Ross said that the question had already been raised about such a station competing with private enterprise. He said that Herbert Burton of KFMQ had discussed the proposed FM station with him.

Marilyn Hoegemeyer To Watch Launching

Marilyn Hoegemeyer, editor of the Daily Nebraskan, has been invited to be present at the launching of the Gemini 7 spacecraft Dec. 4 as a guest of Life magazine.

Miss Hoegemeyer is one of 20 college newspaper editors chosen to attend the launch. The students will tour Cape Kennedy and Merritt Island and be given a pre-launch briefing. All expenses for the trip will be paid by Life magazine.

Miss Hoegemeyer said she expects "to be there three or four days." She said, "I'm excited about going and I'm anxious to find out who the other student editors are."

Need Approval

If the University would seek an FM license, if University funds were used in some way or if the station's operation would involve a new curriculum program, the Board of Regents would have to rule on the station, he said.

Larsen indicated after the meeting that both his committee and SAGE would compile a detailed report on the proposed project for Ross. He said that they would also talk to KFMQ and the Nebraska Foundation.

Larsen explained that people interested in the station should contact him or SAGE so that some type of organization to continue working on the project can be arranged.

Red 'Fever' Grips Cornhusker Fans

By Ruth Hagdeorn
Junior Staff Writer

With a thunder of feet, a cloud of dust, and a hearty "Go Big Red," Husker fans throng to the support of their team. And support it they do, not only through game attendance, but also through their colorful attire.

Lincoln merchants report that they have sold at least 12,000 red Nebraska hats since September. The opponent who zealously yelled, "I'd rather be dead than red on the head" undoubtedly did not realize the multitude of fans to whom he was referring.

Support Team

Fans are urged by the Lincoln stores to support the Husker team by wearing red clothing. These stores all sell red-shirts, sweaters, suits, coats, scarves, and hats for the women; blazers, shirts, sweaters, hats, socks, ties, and parkas for the men with the University football games in mind.

And it sells! Gold's department store ordered much red, and on finding themselves short, got all it could from Brandeis in Omaha. A spokesman said, "We try to have enough red in the store since it sells so well during game time—the mass of red in the stadium makes such a big impression."

Senior Debaters Fall In Oklahoma

A University senior debate team, participating in a tournament at Central State College in Edmond, Okla., was defeated in the quarter-finals by Southwest Missouri State.

In preliminaries, the team, consisting of Alan Larson and Terry Hall, won five and lost one.

A team consisting of John Drodow and Bryon Lee won three and lost three at the tournament, which drew 52 colleges from all over the United States.

A group of junior debaters, meanwhile, were participating in a tournament at Vermillion, S.D. at the University of South Dakota. Vernon Jewett and Andis Kaulins were undefeated in tournament play. Joyce McMain and Bernice Myers won one and lost three.

Union To Play Host To Married Students

Married students will be provided free babysitting from 2 to 5:30 p.m. Sunday by the Union Hospitality Committee. All recreational facilities of the Union will be free to the students, and "Charade," starring Cary Grant and Audrey Hepburn, will be shown.

Comments made by most store personnel contacted agreed with that of Carl Halter of Ben Simons who said, "Well, it's quite simple. We just bought lots of red (for both men and women) and sold lots of red."

Support does not seem to stop at clothing. Many stores stock such things as Nebraska pennants, troll dolls, and megaphones so that a "true fan" can also wave such items enthusiastically in the air.

Most of the Lincoln clothing stores plan to restock red items with the Orange Bowl and the Christmas holidays in mind. Additional Nebraska hats will also be made available for those fans traveling to Miami.

Dog Patch To Feature Go-Go Girls

Go-go girls are coming to Dog Patch for the 1964 Sadie Hawkins dance at the East Union this Friday.

Illustrating the theme "Sadie's Discotheque," the go-go girls will dance in cages set on bales of straw.

"We're tying the night club in with Sadie Hawkins," Curt Broom, recreation chairman, said.

Ratters will add to the barn-like atmosphere. Kick-me's straight from the Al Capp cartoon strip will scatter among the benches made from bales of hay.

Two combos, The Mods and The Spiders, will provide music from 8:30 until 12 p.m. Girls take the initiative in real Dog Patch style. "It's a girl drag guy type of dance," Georgia Stevens, committee chairman, said.

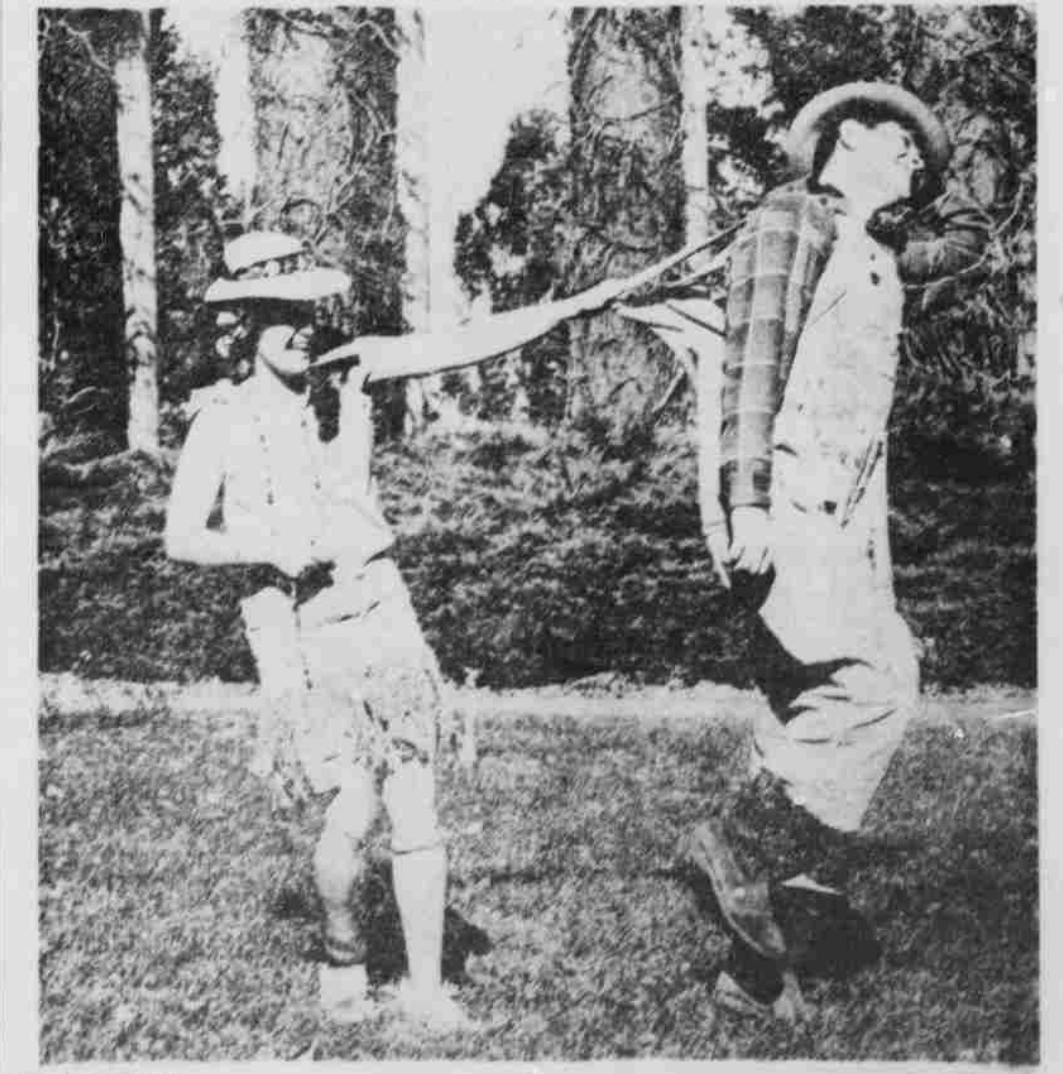
Admission is \$1 for individuals and \$1.50 for couples.

Miss Sadie Hawkins and Lil Abner are chosen by popular election at the dance. All candidates appear in full costume. Several of the girls will illustrate their talents through a skit to be presented during the dance.

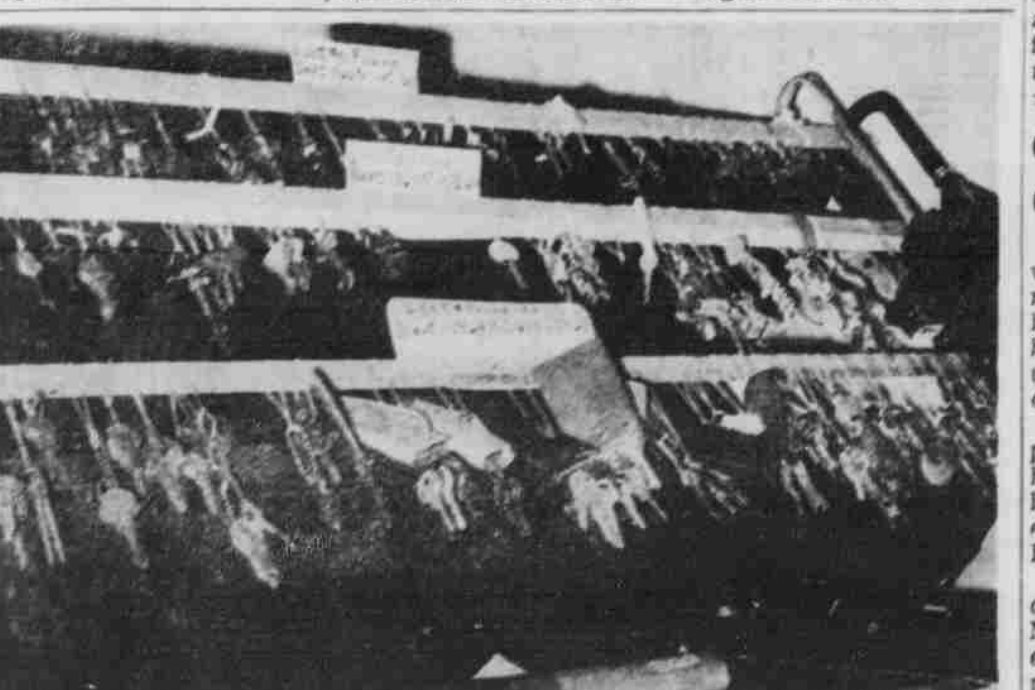
The candidates must especially possess traditional Dog Patch abilities such as hog calling, former candidates said.

Students attending the dance are encouraged to dress in Dog Patch style. "It's a lot of fun to wear hillbilly clothes," Broom said, "and some always do."

An added attraction, (but don't tell the Administration,) will be the refreshments coming from a "still" in one corner of the dance floor.



IN TRUE SADIE HAWKINS STYLE . . . Georgia Stevens tags Ken Weichel for a date to the Sadie Hawkins dance.



PICK A KEY. ANY KEY . . . at the Lost and Found department in Nebraska Hall. Keys are just one item that comes into the department. Lost clothing, bill-folds, jewelry, books, umbrellas, hair rollers and cosmetic bags all find their way to Lost and Found. Students can claim lost items from 8 to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday by describing the article lost.