

# Study Proves Contentions . . . Roommates Can, Do Influence The Ups and Downs of Grades

By DAN LOOKER  
Senior Staff Writer

A traditional scapegoat for the University student who feels he is not doing as well as he should is his roommate.

Though a roommate's annoyances have often been exaggerated, college roommates apparently do affect each other's academic performance, according to a study recently conducted by Robert A. Pierce at the University of Rochester.

Pierce, an instructor in psychiatry at the University School of Medicine and clinical psychologist in the Student Health Service, conducted a study of two groups of students and their roommates.

### STUDENTS AGREE

University students tend to agree with the results of the Rochester study, although no such study has been made here, according to Dr. Harry Cannon, Director of the University of Nebraska Counseling Service. The first group Pierce studied was the students of a first semester class in Introductory Psychology. He found that they tended to achieve a level similar to their roommates.

The survey showed that freshmen, "who are usually arbitrarily assigned to each other, have a similar level of achievement to that of their roommates."

A Nebraska freshman living in Abel Hall agreed with the findings. "We study about the same amount of time," he said, "although my roommate can sit at his desk a little longer than I can."

### PICKED ROOMIE

Both are getting about the same grades and both are taking science-orientated subjects. The freshman said he picked his roommate, who was from the same town and that they are able to encourage each other when things looked rough.

Another Abel Hall fresh-

man was less satisfied. His roommate is impairing his studying, he explained.

"I haven't seen him study yet," he said, "and if he would then I would study more." He felt that his roommate, who had been assigned, definitely does affect his grades which have been "worse than I expected."

Dr. Pierce's study of the spring semester class revealed somewhat different results. Roommates tended to either "overachieve" or "underachieve" together rather than showing "convergence" (the brighter student underachieved and the less bright student excelled) or "divergence" (the bright student excelled and the

other one underachieved).

### UPSIE DOWNSIE

One University coed, a senior living in Smith Hall, has an unusual history of "excelling" and "underachieving" with several roommates.

Her freshman year her roommate didn't study much, and she didn't either. "My grades were bad and, second semester, my roommate flunked out."

She began her sophomore year with a new roommate who was "a brain who never had to study. We both played cards all the time. I learned how to play bridge, poker, anything—you name it."

"Second semester my roommate bit the dust," she continued, "when she started taking humanities courses. She was a zoology major."

Even though her "brainless" roommate also did not study and flunked out, she said her own grades were better in her sophomore year. "I learned how to take tests," she explained.

### APARTMENT

The next year she lived in an apartment where, even though she had three roommates, she felt the study atmosphere was better. Her grades improved, although her roommates did not do so well.

She was the only student with a car and her first class on Monday, Wednesday and Friday was at 11:30. Two of her roommates, who had 7:30 and 8:30 classes, flunked out second semester.

She is now living in Smith Hall and feels that she is "doing o.k. this year, too." Dr. Pierce's study also found that more students mutually "overachieved" with their roommates rather than underachieving.

One student living in a fraternity agreed with the findings of the study. "I do believe that if you're rooming with somebody who is very smart, it helps you," he said.

Another coed in a sorority seems to have found the solution to roommates. "I study in the furnace room," she explained, "that's how much my roommate affects me."



COOPERATION, CONDERATION AND MUTUAL RESPECT . . . are prime factors in maintaining a workable relationship between roommates, as Lyle Welsh (foreground) and Ralph Bishop discover.

## Graduate Seminar Planned For Undergrad Students

Mortar Boards and AWS will co-sponsor an undergraduate seminar on graduate school opportunities on Nov. 7, according to Susie Phelps, co-chairman of the Seminar Committee.

"Your Future in Graduate School" will cover the humanities, fine arts, social sciences, and education. The format of the program features speakers and small group discussions led by present University graduate students.

Tentative speakers are Doris Seward, dean of women at the University of Kentucky; Dr. Frank Olson, dean of the Nebraska Graduate School; and Mr. Frank Halgren, University of Nebraska placement director.

"The seminar will provide students with the advantages and liabilities of attending graduate school besides general information such as scholarship opportunities," Miss Phelps said.

### Winters To Speak On ASUN Ballot

Young Republicans will hear Dr. Robert Winters speak about the Vietnam ballot sponsored by ASUN Thursday at 8 p.m. in the Nebraska Union.

Winters is a member of the University political science department.

## Foreign Student T.A.C.

Each Thursday afternoon most of the University's foreign students attend a World Wide Luncheon sponsored by the Lincoln YWCA, according to Barb Ramsey, public relations chairman for the YWCA.

"The purpose of these luncheons is to allow the students and members of the Lincoln community to get

to know the foreign students better," Miss Ramsey said. She said that about 50 persons take advantage of the opportunity to get acquainted with the foreign students by attending the luncheon.

Foreign students often give talks about their country and its customs, she noted.

All students who expect to receive bachelors degrees, advanced degrees, two-year or six-year certificates at the close of the first semester must apply for same by Nov. 1, 1967, if they have not yet done so.

Make application at the Registrar's Office, Room 208, Window 2, Administration Building, between the hours of 8 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, or 8 a.m. to 12 noon on Saturday.

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## Campus Calendar

THURSDAY

(All activities in Nebraska Union unless otherwise indicated.)

- CAREER - SCHOLARS - 7 a.m.
- BAPTIST STUDENT UNION - 8 a.m.
- INTER-VARSITY - 8 a.m., 12 a.m.
- UMHE 8 11:30 a.m.
- GEOLOGY LAB ASSISTANTS - 12:30 p.m.
- PACEMENT OFFICE LUNCHEON - 12:30 p.m.
- FOOD HANDLERS INSTITUTE - 2:30 p.m.
- AWES COURT - 3:30 p.m.
- HYDE PARK - 3:30 p.m.
- UNION TRIPS & TOURS COMMITTEE - 3:45 p.m.
- PEOPLE TO PEOPLE - NIA - 4:30 p.m.
- YWCA CABINET - 4:30 p.m.
- UNION PUBLIC RELATIONS COMMITTEE - 4:30 p.m.
- UNION MUSIC COMMITTEE - 4:30 p.m.
- ASUN - STILLMAN EXCHANGE PROGRAM - 4:30 p.m.
- BUILDERS CALENDAR & DIRECTORY - 4:30 p.m.
- PI LAMBDA THETA - 4:30 p.m.
- KOSMET CLUB - 6 p.m.
- PHI MU ALPHA SINFONIA - 6 p.m.
- AUF INTERVIEWS - 6:15 p.m.
- AUF EXEC - 6:30 p.m.
- CHRISTIAN SCIENCE ORGANIZATION - 6:30 p.m.
- PEOPLE TO PEOPLE - WORKERS ORIENTATION - 7 p.m.
- AUF BOARD - 7 p.m.
- UNIVERSITY DAMES - 7:30 p.m.
- SIGMA ALPHA ETA - 7:30 p.m.
- XI PSI PHI - 7:30 p.m.
- MATH COUNSELORS - 7:30 p.m.
- YOUNG REPUBLICANS - 8 p.m.
- QUIZ BOWL - 8 p.m.
- ASUN - EDUCATION COMMITTEE - 8:30 p.m.

## Reed: YD Top Contender For National President

By ANDY CORRIGAN  
Junior Staff Writer

If Alan Reed has his way next November the National Young Democrats will have a new president—and he'll be it.

Reed, a University associate professor in the political science department, is a top contender for the Y.D. office. The moment of truth will come November 15 when the convention convenes in Hollywood, Florida.

Reed said it is now a two man race. The other candidate is Spencer Oliver of Bowie, Md. Reed qualified this statement saying that the race could develop into a five-man clash.

### DISCREPANCY

As president of Y.D., Reed hopes to gain some freedom from the Democratic National Committee. He said that there was a general discrepancy between the younger and older members of the party.

"The younger party members are more active and concerned besides having a better education. We also have a great deal of practical experience working with civil

rights and the poverty program," he emphasized.

As for a third political party developing in America Reed said he doesn't think it will happen. He feels that the New Left will eventually be absorbed into the present political parties.

### FLEXIBLE PARTY

"I think the Democratic Party is flexible enough to include the elements of the New Left within its bounds," he said.

The most important issue to be considered by the convention delegates is the Vietnam policy, according to Reed. Oliver agrees with the present administration policy while Reed favors de-escalation of the war.

Stating his position on Vietnam, Reed said he was opposed to the administration policy of war escalation but not to expect anything better from the Republican nominee. If elected president of Y.D. he would try to influence administration policy within the Democratic Party.

### VIETNAM POLICY

Reed feels that U.S. policy in Vietnam is channeling all

of the government's interests away from the domestic problems. He added that Americans are more concerned with problems of racism, crime, education, and poverty within the U.S. and they want action now.

Reed urged a change in policy from attacking the Viet Cong to attacking the roots of the strife, poverty, ignorance, and anti-colonialism.

He wants the U.S. to expand its energies on constructing a meaningful government in South Vietnam instead of supporting an unpopular one, adding that this will be the only lasting solution.

### MILITARY REDUCTION

During this time he urges a reduction in U.S. military efforts to the tactical level required to protect U.S. servicemen.

Turning to other areas of U.S. involvement, Reed commented on the U.S. position in Latin America. He says the U.S. should promote economic and social development and should support the progressive political elements.

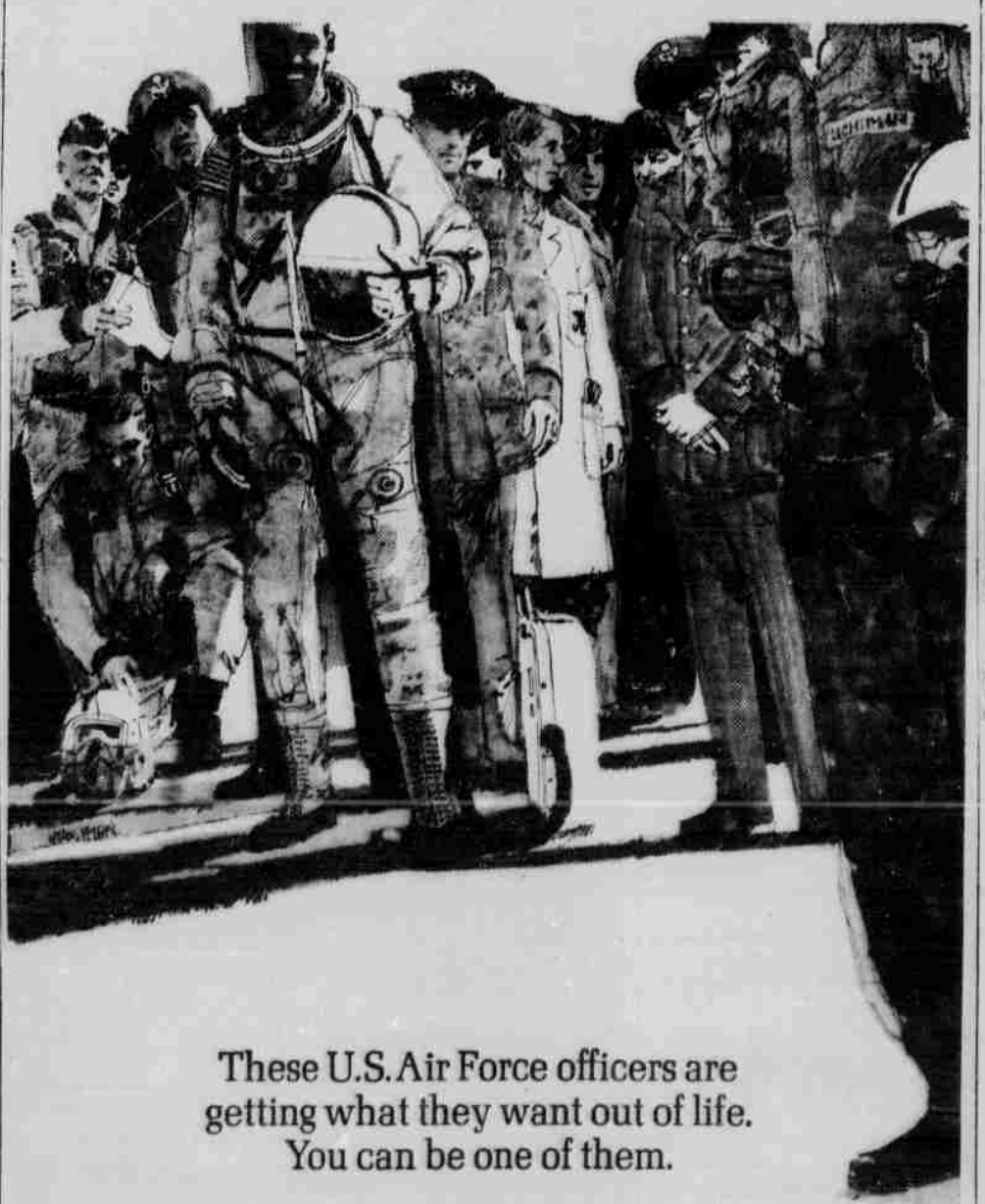
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