

## Group suggests freshman program ideas

A student survey, the University Five Year Plan and the pilot project Freshman Seminar Program (FSP) may be the basis for a new program for UNL freshmen.

The program, yet to be formulated, could be implemented by next spring, according to Chris Harper, one of several students who submitted a report on freshmen orientation for the UNL Academic Planning Committee (APC).

The report, according to another committee member, Michele Coyle, calls for three changes in freshmen students' schedules: an emphasis on a "more coherent approach to education," a change in the advising system and a greater emphasis on personal and cultural development.

She said the committee has asked that another committee be established to plan a program to fit their recommendations to the APC.

Part of the information to be used in making the recommendations will be gathered from this year's freshmen, John Robinson, associate dean of the College of Arts and Sciences said.

Robinson said a survey will be taken to obtain "a comprehensive picture as to how freshmen viewed their first year."

"We are going to use the information to formulate policies of the college on such things as whether to have large or small classes," he said.

"It will also be used to make curriculum decisions.

Information for the freshman year proposal will also be

gathered from results of surveys taken from freshmen participants in last semester's FSP. The program was discontinued after the first semester and is now being evaluated, according to Bill Lock, chairman of the Teachers College Advisory Board and a former seminar co-ordinator.

Lock said the seminars were intended to "give freshmen a different perspective on the University."

He said the goals of the program were three-fold: to help the freshmen in their personal and cultural development, to provide informal advising by upperclassmen and to make freshmen aware of the educational opportunities at the University.

Lock said his impressions of the seminar were "basically favorable."

He said the informal advising and educational and extracurricular orientation received the most positive responses on the FSP survey.

Harper said he believes "the freshman Seminar Program drew attention to the fact that there is a need for information on educational programs at the University."

He said the Center for Educational Change is putting out an "alternative campus handbook" intended to fill this need. The handbook, which will be distributed to all incoming freshmen, will discuss the integrated student program, the American studies program, pass/fail privileges and other educational opportunities available to students, Harper said.

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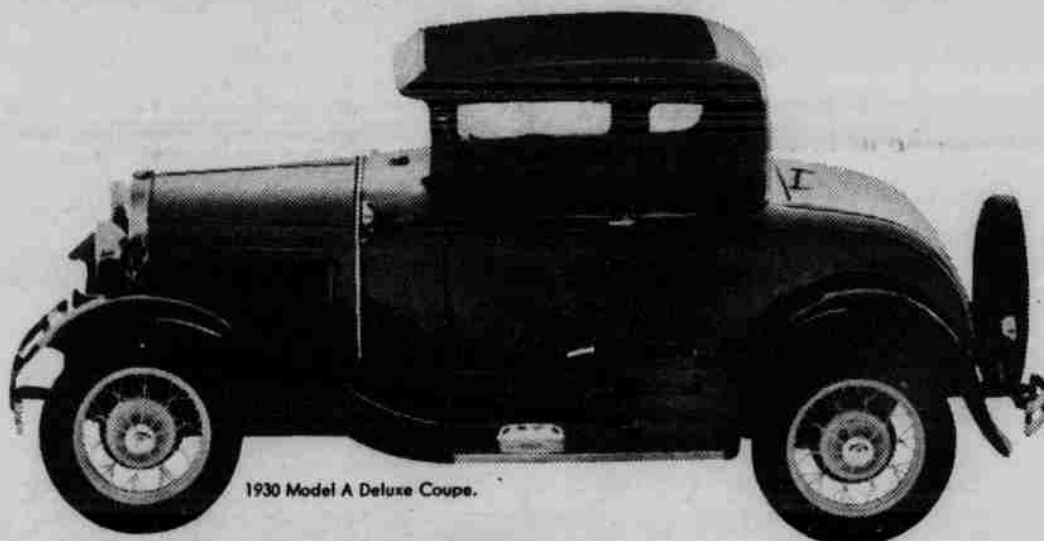
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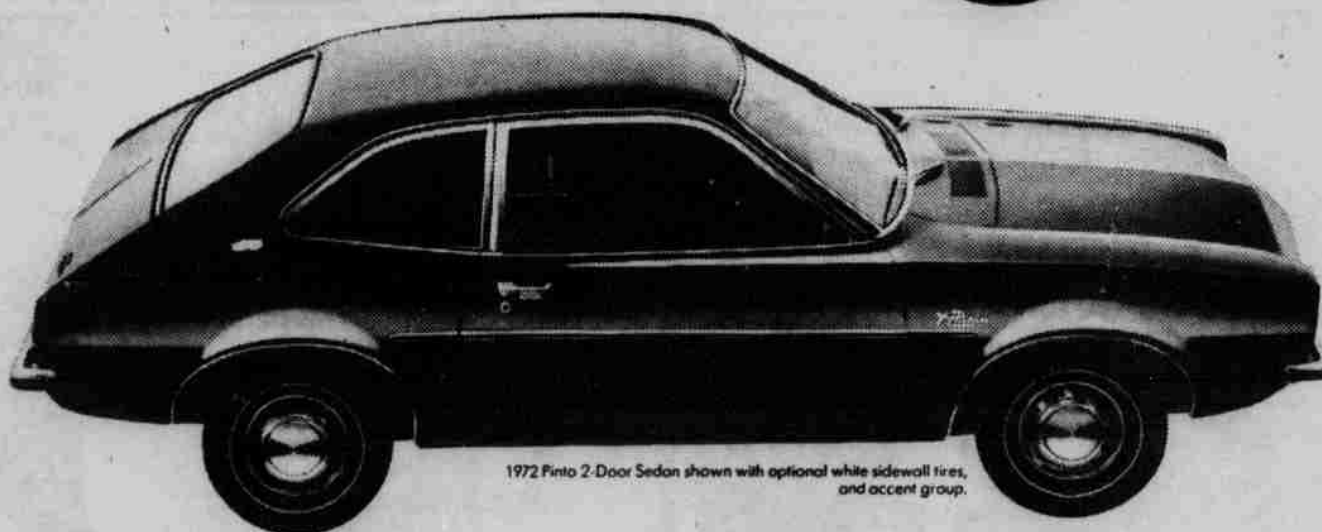
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