

# Free U. enrollment drops

by Dennis Onnen

Nebraska Free University (NFU) is a program which enables UNL students to take special courses that interest them for \$1. However, figures seem to indicate that students for some reason aren't very interested in NFU anymore.

Bob Jones, NFU Chairperson, said that only about 50 students were involved in the program this semester. First semester there were about 250 enrolled, while last year's co-chairperson, Chris Harper, reported 400-450 enrolled last spring.

NFU receives its money from ASUN. However, approximately \$1,350 less was spent on the program, this year.

This year \$953.27 was spent out of an allocated \$1,300. Jones reported that almost all of the money went toward advertisement of the programs. Of approximately \$2,300 spent last year, most went to advertising, but some money also went to development of courses and salaries, Harper said. For example, money was spent on films, books, and speakers, he said. NFU also raised \$600 for the Lincoln Free School.

Jones said the budget cuts may have hurt enrollment, but the major reason for the drop was "not enough people working." Two people helped him with the program, he said. According to Jones, the highest number of workers that helped was seven to nine.

Harper disagreed. He also worked with two individuals but he said three or four persons could handle the work "if they can view it as a job." The three workers last year split \$300 for salaries, he said.

Even if workers are paid, Harper still questions the feasibility of the program. "They should eliminate it. It has outlived its usefulness," he said. The time spent on the program could be better spent in educational reform programs in the University, he said.

ASUN President Ann Henry said she has not decided how much she will allocate to NFU next year. The ASUN executives have picked Dave Howlett as next year's chairman and Henry said that a few senators have said they would like to work on the program.

Jones said course instructors are volunteers and come from throughout Lincoln. He said a greater number of workers are needed to recruit more instructors. "We need more courses to get a greater number of student," he said.

The number of courses also has declined. Harper said there were about 40 courses last spring. Jones said there were about 35 first semester this year and about 25 second semester. Some courses eventually become University credit courses, such as a science fiction and fantasy course, Jones said. Last year 12 NFU courses were offered for University Credit, Harper said.

Some of the more interesting courses offered this year were wine-tasting, occult arts and simple Volkswagen repair, Jones said.

## Honor societies name members

Mortar Board, UNL women's senior honor society, and the Innocents Society, UNL Men's senior honor society, today named new members to the organizations.

Mortar Board named 24 new members, who include Cathy Cabbage, Deborah Danberg, Margaret Emmons, Michele Gagne, Patricia Heiser, Marta Hernandez, Patricia Humlicek, Lynne Marcum, Bonnie Navratil, Cyndi Orr, Kathleen Paseka, Ann Pedersen, Laura Renard, Jodene Schwindt, Jeanine Station, Rosemary Torres, Cheryl Westcott, Kathleen Wingender and Paula Wood.

New Mortar Board officers, also new members are Erna Colglazier, president, Judy Zaiman, vice president, Sonia Schone, secretary, Carol Enebach, treasurer, and Vickie Horton, historian.

The Innocents Society named 14 new members. All juniors, they include Randy Beam, Douglas Blomgren, Scott Cooper, Behrooz Emam, William Freudenburg, Scott Greenwood, Derrick Johnson, John Lawless, Dennis Martin, Joseph McCarty, David

Pankonin, John Theisen, Jerre Tritsch and Martin Winkler.

The present members of Innocents decided not to name new officers from the newly-elected members. The new Innocents will elect officers next year.

Mortar Board also named three honorary members of the organization. They include Dorcas Cavett, assistant professor of elementary education, Gwendolyn Newkirk, chairman and professor, Department of Education and Family Resources and Maxine Trauernicht, associate professor of speech and dramatic art.

Innocents named seven honorary members. They include Allen Bennett, director of the Nebraska Union, Ted Beck Jr., associate professor of English, Richard Fleming, associate professor of adult and continuing education, Melvin George, dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, James Kendrick, professor of agricultural economics, Paul Olson, foundation professor of English and Jim Patten, associate professor of journalism.

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