

Off campus Baptists, Jews work for students

By Becky Brite

Of the eight campus ministries listed in the UNL Campus Ministry Directory, only six are housed in actual campus centers.

The Baptist Student Fellowship and the Hillel Foundation (for Jewish students) both are coordinated by clergy from Lincoln.

The Rev. Tom Kramer, associate pastor of First Baptist Church and director of the Baptist Student Fellowship, said he believed his church is "fortunate to have students involved."

First Baptist makes no special arrangements for its student members, he said, but encourages them to participate in the congregation's functions and study groups.

"We hope they (students) will feel as if they are going to their home church," he said.

Worship is emphasized, he said, and University students also may join in Sunday morning and evening groups which include unmarried career persons.

Kramer also meets once a week with students on campus, and he said campus students have organized Bible study groups in past semesters.

He has had some trouble contacting Baptist students on campus, he said. Students are asked to fill out religious preference cards at the beginning of each semester, and Kramer visits those who indicate Baptist backgrounds. But he said many students don't return the cards.

Kramer said he thinks human spiritual needs "have been repressed for many years, and the seams have suddenly burst."

"Suddenly there is openness to religious areas and freedom to talk about religious interest," he said. "In some cases, it almost amounts to a new evangelism."

"But human originated spiritualism will not fulfill religious needs," he cautioned. "That fulfillment must be sought in God, through Jesus Christ."

Rabbi Robert Kaiser of the South Street Temple-Congregation B'Nai Jeshurun (Reform Judaism) receives a small stipend from the Hillel Foundation to coordinate ministry to Jewish students at UNL.

Kaiser meets quarterly with about 25 students. He is also available for counseling and arranging social activities. On the High Holy Days he is responsible for insuring that Jewish students have "a place to go."

There probably is not as much religious activity among Jewish students as among students of other faiths, he said.

"Judaism is not a catechistic (doctrine-based) faith," he said. "Religion is not separate from our cultural and social backgrounds—it is part of them."

Kaiser said the lack of a campus center and a full-time director limits ministry to Jewish students at UNL. He is working now to get funding for a house

or apartment where students can "feel at home with themselves."

"There is a need for quiet, contemplative places on this campus," he added.

Kaiser and his colleague, Rabbi Mark Bisman of Tifereth Isreal Synagogue (Conservative Judaism) both are relatively new to Lincoln, he said. Because of this, he said, he was not sure he could comment accurately on whether interest in religion is increasing at UNL.

He said he has noticed an increasing conflict between "personal interests and interests in causes." He related it to the drug culture and to "the experiences of the late '60s."

"(In those years) education was a highly saleable experience," he said. "It was called a separate culture and it developed mythic expressions like 'generation gap.'"

There was then a tendency, both on the parts of students and the "establishment," to consider universities as different from the "real world," he said.

"Now students are beginning to examine mottoes such as 'generation gap' and 'establishment,'" he said. "They are discovering that the anxieties of our time transcend classes and ages."

"Instead of looking for differences, they are searching for the experiences that bind a society together."



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Mon. April 22

EAST CAMPUS UNION

8pm DOORS OPEN AT 7pm

(Near 35th & Holdredge)

Sponsored by Union Black Activities

Tickets

\$3 UN-L Student

\$4 NON-Student

short stuff

Students interested in applying next fall for the Fulbright-Hays Scholarships should attend a meeting at 2:30 p.m. today in Stout Hall 311.

The UNL Extension Division will offer English 498F, "Native American Literature of the Southwest," from May 15 to June 7. The course will include a field trip to Arizona and New Mexico.

In addition to readings, the course will offer a study of geography, personal contacts with Native Americans, visits to schools and museums and attendance at accessible ceremonials and rituals.

Cost is \$200, including tuition. For further information contact Allen Yates, Joe DeFlyer or Russell Semm in the English Dept., Andrews Hall.

Cornstock IV FREE

12:30-6:30 P.M.

B. W. Stevenson's Show
4:30 - 6:30 p.m.

Blackberry Winter
3:00 - 4:30 p.m.

Froggie Beaver
1:30 - 3:00 p.m.

Flippers
12:30 - 1:30 p.m.

Friday April 26
EAST CAMPUS MALL



Sheldon Art Gallery
12th & R Sts.

THIS WEEK AT SHELDON

Phillip Strick's

Ulysses

from the novel by James Joyce

starring Barbara Jefford, Milo O'Shea,
& Maurice Roebes

Screenings on April 24 at 3, 7 & 9:30pm

Peter Brook's

THE PERSECUTION AND
ASSASSINATION OF JEAN-PAUL
MARAT AS PERFORMED BY THE
INMATES OF THE ASYLUM OF
CHARENTON UNDER THE
DIRECTION OF THE
MARQUIS DE SADE

based on a play by Peter Weiss

starring Patrick Magee, Glenda Jackson
& Ivan Richardson

Screenings on April 25 at 7 & 9 pm
Admission \$1.25