

Chancellor, wife have 'balancing relationship'

By Mark Hoffman

Marilyn Zumberge could be called the woman behind a successful man, but not exactly.

Rather than one being ahead and the other behind, "with our relationship it is a balancing relationship," she said.

"He is the dominate personality of the two. I am not an aggressive person. I am a homemaker. I enjoy it," said

Mrs. Zumberge, wife of UNL Chancellor James Zumberge.

As the UNL chancellor's wife, she said, "I have never sought a distinct identity."

Before coming to UNL as chancellor, Zumberge was a professor at the University of Michigan, president of Grand Valley State Colleges at Allendale, Mich., and the dean of earth sciences at the

University of Arizona (Tucson).

Moving from one place to another has meant different homes and friends.

"In the final analysis, it is the people" who make a certain place a good home, she said. "I think Lincoln is one of the nicest towns I have lived in."

In her role as chancellor's wife, she has not had speaking engagements thrust at her, nor is she required to participate in UNL women's groups.

But she does, she said.

She had just returned from an annual Tasters' Luncheon for wives of Teacher's College professors. She participates in faculty wives' affairs, such as bridge groups and golf lessons.

"It is an interesting way to meet people involved in the same endeavor—improving education—as my husband," Mrs. Zumberge said.

Her name has not made her a Lincoln celebrity, she said.

There is "no doubt about it that people recognize my name," she said, but added, "I can't say I get any better service anywhere, nor do I expect it."

She said the demands on her since her husband became chancellor are no different than they were in the years before moving to Lincoln.

Then she had four children occupying her time. They are John, 26, JoEllen, 23, James, 21, and Mark, 19.

John is working for his Ph.D. in chemistry at the University of Arizona. JoEllen is working for a degree in English at Arizona State. James will graduate from the University of Michigan this year and

plans to take a teaching fellowship at Cal Tech. Mark is attending the University of Michigan. John and James both plan to marry in May.

For one wedding gift she is making a rug. One of her hobbies is needlework. She had one of her rugs hanging on the living room wall. About two-and-a-half by four feet, it looks like a small shag rug. She said it was a Swedish "rya" knot.

Another of Mrs. Zumberge's hobbies is reading.

"My real love is autobiographies," she said. Her favorite reading topic is English history and her favorite book is *Mary, Queen of Scots*.

English history was one subject required during her college days. She got a degree in psychology, but realized she could not get a job unless she went on to school, she said.

She had two children growing up then and "never considered graduate school."

She said she did not need a job to get her out of the house.

"Because the children are gone, I go out a lot in the days," Mrs. Zumberge said. "I like to stay home at night."

Because her husband is gone two or three times a week, "when we get an evening at home, we treasure it," she said.

She also enjoys cooking, "but for more than two people," she said.

It is a balanced situation—her husband, an administrator, who invites people to dinner and a woman who enjoys cooking for them.



Mrs. James Zumberge

calendar

Thursday

- 3 p.m.—Psychology Dept. Reception for Clay Gerkin, Mary Krider, and Dr. Hiskey-Union
- 3 p.m.—Free University "Unified Family"-Union
- 4:30 p.m.—Free University "Feminist Writing"-Union
- 5 p.m.—Council of American Indian Students-Union
- 5:30 p.m.—Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia-Union
- 6:30 p.m.—Block and Bridle Banquet-Union
- 7 p.m.—Council on Student Life-Union
- 7 p.m.—Parking Appeals Board-Union
- 7:30 p.m.—math counselors-Union
- 9 p.m.—ASUN Legislative Liaison Committee-Union



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