

Minorities' alcohol problems emphasized in summer class

Minority group problems with alcoholism will receive special emphasis at the second summer session of the Nebraska School for Alcohol Studies (NSAS) to be held August 11-16 at Nebraska Western College in Scottsbluff.

NSAS is a week-long school on alcoholism sponsored jointly by the State Division on Alcoholism and the Nebraska Psychiatric Institute.

"The emphasis on minorities was almost accidental," according to Gail Wheeler, co-director of NSAS. "Several of our study sections, speakers, presentations and entertainment seemed to independently develop along those lines."

The guest speaker will be Rita Sarnz, a Chicano who is currently a consultant for the National Institute on Alcohol

Abuse and Alcoholism minority and poverty programs in Los Angeles.

About 20 minority teen-agers who will attend NSAS met July 23 for a culture awareness program. Indian, Black and Chicano teen-agers explained their cultures, heritages and lifestyles to each other in preparation for the school. The minority students were recruited and led by Andy Malekoff, a VISTA volunteer at Platte Valley Community Action Center in Grand Island and Darryl Eure of the South Omaha Alcoholism Counseling Program.

The Mexican-American Cultural Dance Group from Scottsbluff will entertain school participants after the Thursday evening banquet.

A new Halfway House

section will offer special programs on Indians and Blacks, headed by Tom Dowell of the Intertribal Alcoholism Program in Miami, Oklahoma, and Vernetta Reams, director of Wise Council House in Kansas City, Missouri.

NSAS is the first alcohol school to offer a section on halfway houses. Halfway houses provide intermediary living environments which help ease recovering alcoholics from treatment centers into work and community life.

Ralph Fox will direct the section. Fox founded Houses of Hope in Lincoln, the first halfway houses in Nebraska. He is also a regional chairman for the Association of Halfway House Alcoholism Programs of America and has been active in alcoholism programs in Lincoln and throughout the state.

"All staff members for this section presently direct halfway houses, so they are well qualified to offer sound information and special insights into the problems involved in operating halfway houses," Mrs. Wheeler said.

Harvey Swager, the fourth staff member, is director of the 98-bed NU Way House, Inc., of Minneapolis and will assist with a program on administration. The section will also cover accreditation, funding, communication, professionalism, use of community resources, internal programs and special programs such as halfway houses for women.

One hour of college credit may be earned at each session through the University of Nebraska-Lincoln Psychology Department.

"NSAS is open to anyone interested in alcoholism," Mrs. Wheeler said. "But the majority of the students are usually professionals in the alcoholism field, counselors, ministers, teachers, nurses and relatives of alcoholics."

Applications for the school will be accepted until August 5. Those interested should write to the Nebraska School for Alcohol Studies, University of Nebraska Extension Division, 511 Nebraska Hall, Lincoln, Nebraska 68508 or call Gary Schoenrock at (402-472-2171).



Arnolphe, played by Roger Johnson, (left) quarrels with Horace, played by George Hansen, in a rehearsal of "School for Wives."

'School for wives' debuts at UN-L

A modern adaptation by Miles Malleon of Moliere's play, "The School for Wives", will be staged by the University of Nebraska-Lincoln Repertory Theatre.

The comedy opens Friday, Aug. 2, at 8 p.m. in Howell Theatre, 12th and R Sts., and will alternate in performance with three other plays: "Little Mary Sunshine," "Cohan is a Grand Old Name," and "The Birthday Party."

The play's director, Hal Floyd, said that although "The School for Wives" is a classical comedy that was first performed in 1662, Malleon's adaptation is very contemporary.

"The play will be presented in a lightly stylized manner," Floyd said. "I have especially tried to emphasize those aspects of the play that will appeal to a present-day audience."

The play is about a middle-aged man who has never married because he is obsessed with a horrible fear of being deceived by a wife. To solve this problem he has had his intended bride posted in a convent from childhood. Shortly before the wedding, he brings her to Paris, continuing her isolation from society by

keeping her in a town house guarded by two servants. His master plan has been to keep her innocent in body and blank of mind so that she cannot possibly deceive him after they are married. However, her innocence is his downfall when a handsome young man enters the picture.

"The audience knows very early in the play that Arnolphe (the older man) is not going to succeed in his plans," Floyd said. "The humor of the play is in watching his plans fail and in seeing how he outsmarts himself."

"The School for Wives" is the play that the Nebraska Repertory Theatre will present this summer, September 3-7, as it tours communities in the state for the fourth consecutive year.

Floyd said that the theatre group will be playing in Crete, Broken Bow, and Kearney, and that his department is still in the process of selecting the other towns.

Tickets for Nebraska Repertory Theatre productions and a schedule of this summer's performances may be obtained at the Theatre Box Office; 106 Temple Bldg.; 12th & R Streets; Lincoln (68508), or by telephoning (402) 472-2073.

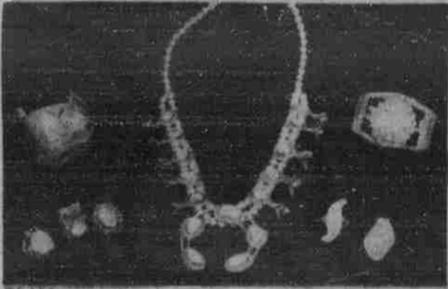
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