



At UNL, University of Iowa

Housing situations 'opposite'

By Greg Wees

Housing directors at the University of Iowa and UNL are confronting residence hall situations exactly the opposite of each other.

The University of Iowa faces a student housing shortage so critical that 100 students were offered rooms to rent in a nearby state tuberculosis hospital.

Ted Rehder, University of Iowa housing director, said as many double rooms as possible were converted into triple occupancy rooms to ease the shortage.

Other measures taken, Rehder said, include assigning three or four students to live in a floor lounge converted into living quarters, with the addition of chests, beds and desks. The university's housing capacity increased to 5,252 after these and other measures went into effect.

89 per cent occupancy

In contrast, figures released last Friday by the UNL Housing Office show that campus residence halls are 89 per cent occupied.

That means 4,512 UNL students are living in dormitories with a total capacity of 5,138, according to Housing Director Richard Armstrong.

The occupancy rate for this year is down by five per cent from 1973, Armstrong said.

The reason for the decline, he said, was the increase in single room contracts from 246 in 1973 to 365 in

1974. When single room contracts are signed, available occupancy space is reduced by one-half.

UNL is "trailing the response of other institutions", most of which do not have adequate space to meet student housing needs, Armstrong said.

"It's a phenomena that's hard to explain," he said.

More content

However, he observed that UNL students living in residence halls "seem to be more content" since the relaxation of residence hall rules governing the open door policy and visitation rules.

Last year, rules required that doors be open during coed visits, and only 12 hours of visitation was allowed each day, if floor sponsors could be found.

University of Iowa officials say several reasons exist for the current housing squeeze there.

William Stanhouse, vice president for administrative services at the University of Iowa, said many students there are beginning to realize that residence halls are "the best buy in town" and the cheapest way to cope with inflation.

Stanhouse said the downtown Iowa City urban renewal project has eliminated many of the older, cheaper apartments where students had lived. New high-rise apartments being built near the campus are usually more expensive than the old ones and university housing, he said.

See Housing, pg. 7

Union Board

Function is unclear

By Lori Clepper

When the Campus Bylaws Committee released the proposed UNL bylaws this year, the function and operation of the Nebraska Union Board was mostly overlooked.

The Union Board consists of 13 members—the director of the Union, three faculty members and nine students.

The board writes the Union Governing Code, which advises UNL officials on business and administrative affairs, sets up programs and projects for the Union and deals with Union problems.

Until last year, said board President Mike McGann, the Union's budget was reviewed by a Union Board committee. Now the board has not only lost money for student programs, but has lost the power to distribute money to groups formerly under its control, he said.

"The problem is understanding the role of the Union Board in relation to the rest of the campus," said Ken Bader, vice chancellor of students affairs.

"The Union Board is not a policy-making group, it is a recommending group. Whatever it decides (about the bylaws) still has to go to the regents and perhaps even to the Legislature for final approval."

"Not to have the board," said Union Director Al Bennett at Wednesday's Union Board meeting, "is to remove from the staff of the Union the best possible information."

Bennett told student and faculty volunteers at the meeting that the decision was left up to him, he would keep the board as it was.

"It has been a long-standing commitment of the Union to have a volunteer group of students to advise," Bennett said. "I would hate to see that put out of existence."

McGann said the board hasn't been hurt by the action.

"As far as I'm concerned, I'll work as hard on the board and try to get the same things done as last year. It's just that now, we're really not officially recognized," he said.

Bader said the bylaws were made less specific than last year because the authority and powers of the Union Board, as well as other groups on campus, was understood.

"The Union Board is a necessary part of the UNL campus," said McGann. "We need to be recognized and have our duties and powers clearly understood."

Activist to speak at Union

By John Kalkowski

Dick Gregory, well-known black entertainer and social activist, announced at an antiwar rally April 24, 1971, that he would "consume only liquids until the war in Vietnam has ended."

Gregory continued his fast after the Vietnam ceasefire and gave notice that he would continue to fast until all hostilities in Southeast Asia were over.

As the first speaker on the Nebraska Union Talks and Topics program, Gregory will speak at 7 p.m. Sunday in the Nebraska Union.

Born in St. Louis

He was born in the black ghetto of St. Louis, Mo. He came out of the ghetto to become one of the nation's top comedians at a time when black comedians received bookings only in black clubs and theaters, according to Talks and Topics spokesmen.

In 1961, Gregory was called as a last-minute replacement at the Chicago Playboy club, where he was an immediate sensation. He began to appear on network television and in many of the top clubs around the nation.

"There is a great social revolution going on in America," said Gregory. "The wonderful thing about this revolution is that it is not black against white. It is simply right against wrong."

Moral pollution a problem

Gregory added that the number one problem in America is not air or water pollution but moral pollution.

The same moral pollution that keeps the smoke in the air also keeps the Indian on the reservation," according to Gregory.

In 1967, Gregory ran as a write-in candidate for mayor of Chicago. The following year he was a write-in candidate for President of the United States.

After losing the election, Gregory's supporters inaugurated him President of the United States in Exile.

In 1970, Gregory began a 71-day fast to dramatize the drug problem in America. He protested the "government practice of punishing the victims, the drug users, rather than the real criminals, the pushers and the smugglers."

"I will never be able to understand how a nine-year-old kid always seems to be able to find the heroin man and the FBI can't," he said.



Entertainer Dick Gregory will speak at the Nebraska Union Sunday.