

'Organized mob' enrolls

As 650 students filed through the Nebraska Union Ballroom Wednesday morning, a girl in charge of keeping students from entering the exit ventured a definition of general registration.

"It's a pain," she said.

About one-fifth of this semester's student body were in lines Wednesday through Friday to sign-up for the spring semester.

There were time card lines, cashier lines, checking station lines, class card lines and, of course, the formidable ballroom entrance lines. But complaints about long lines this year were minimal as every 100 students usually made it into the ballroom during the half-hour allotted on their time cards, according to Lou Ellen Krohn, a ballroom entrance guard and UNL student.

"Usually they got in then or earlier if we were ahead," she said.

She added that the whole thing seemed to run well when people knew what they wanted.

A few operational changes were made this year to make the system run easier. Streamlined procedures were not readily apparent, however, partly because they alowed things a little rather than speeding them up. The replacement of cash registers with computerized cashier equipment necessitated keying in social security numbers and various payment codes. An old fashioned cash register was used periodically to speed the line.

The changeover might enable students to receive their tuition statements earlier, according to Gary Fouraker, director of student accounts.

"Now that we capture all computer information on these cassettes we get it sooner," he said.

The only other changes in the basic "get-your-time-card-wait-in-line" procedure were small adjustments in the positioning of class card trays to help traffic flow.

Officials reported that registrations went smoothly, and students commented that the operation was relatively hassle free "as these things go."

"It's the most organized mob scene I've ever witnessed," said one registrant.

Nearly 16,500 students scheduled second semester classes during preregistration, about 1,000 more than last year, according to Gerald Bowker, dean of admissions.

Bowker said enrollment is expected to be considerably higher than the 20,196 enrollment during second semester of the 1974-75 academic year.







Story by Bryant Brooks Photographs by Kevin Higley