

Students can borrow recreation, athletic equipment

By Marella Synovec

The UNL Recreation Dept. offers sporting equipment and a variety of programs, ranging from tennis and belly dancing lessons to canoe trips, for students, faculty and staff during the summer sessions.

The UNL Recreation Dept., 1740 Vine Street, is designed to serve students and their recreational interests, according to Daniel Stellar, director. The recreation dept. is supported by student fees and by equipment rental fees.

Scheduled activities this summer include: canoe trips to the Calamus and Dismal Rivers in Nebraska, a climbing seminar on East Campus followed by a climbing trip to South Dakota; a backpacking trip to Wyoming's Teton Mountains; a Rocky Mountain trek and a "Summer Time is Fun Time" program June 17.

In addition, the recreation dept. has scheduled informal tennis, swimming, social dancing, belly dancing and Scuba classes.

Most of the 70 per cent to 80 per cent of the students who participate in recreation programs during the regular academic year are those involved in the department's intramural program, Stellar said. However, because of the smaller enrollment and the limited time many summer school students spend on campus there is no intramural

program during summer sessions, he said.

"We have tried to have an intramural program before in the summer, but it fell flat on its face," Stellar said.

The service provided most by the department during the summer is equipment rental, Stellar said. Basketballs, softball equipment and tug-of-war ropes can be checked out by students who have a valid student I.D. Rental fees for other equipment range from fifty cents each 24 hours for golf clubs and golf bags to 18 dollars per week for canoes. Summer school students can also purchase hunting and fishing licenses from the department without paying the 25 cent fee charged off-campus.

The recreation dept. increases its supply of sporting equipment as students show a growing interest in a particular sport, Stellar said. Equipment is paid for by student fees and rental fees.

Students failing to return equipment or damaging equipment is not a common problem, he said, but he cited an instance where someone had melted a tent by trying to cook in it.

"Stolen or damaged equipment hurts students by limiting what we have to offer them because it takes time to repair or replace materials," Stellar said.

Students who feel there is something missing in UNL's recreation programs are welcome to suggest new ones, Stellar said.

"A girl came to the office once and said she went to a school where belly dancing was offered. So we arranged a belly dancing class and about 25 people took it the first time it was offered," Stellar said. He added that the best way to meet different interests is to find out what they are. One way of finding out is listening to students' suggestions.

A policy effective this summer will regulate use of tennis courts, he said. Because tennis is increasing in popularity and more students will be using the courts, players will be allowed one hour per court.

Tennis courts at Cather-Pound and Harper-Schramm-Smith residence complexes on City Campus and north of the Dental College on East Campus will be open this summer. Supervisors will be on the courts from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m., the prime hours for using the courts, Stellar said.

Students may use the Men's Physical Education Bldg. and the weight room at the Coliseum during the first session and other Coliseum equipment during the second session. Abel Hall's pool also open during all summer sessions.

Building hours are 2 p.m. to 5:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, for the Men's Physical Education Bldg. and the Coliseum and 3 p.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, for the weight room.

Landscaped lot will replace empty corner

The empty lot at 14th and R streets is the site of a proposed landscaped parking lot for Union Insurance Company, 14th and Q streets.

Union Insurance plans to use the lot to increase off-street parking for its employees, according to Dean Fletcher, executive vice president for the company.

Fletcher said the parking lot would be landscaped and that as many trees as possible located on or near the lot would be saved. Union Insurance also has a 30-car landscaped lot at 13th and Q Streets.

The architect's rendering of the finished lot has not been completed, Fletcher said, and Union Insurance plans to consult with Dale Gibbs, UNL architecture professor, about the project.

Although the university is concerned with land use along R Street, the landscaped lot would be an acceptable way to use the space, said Ray Coffey, assistant UNL business manager.

Union Insurance purchased the lot in March, 1976, from the Nebraska Book Company. Fletcher said plans for the parking lot were discussed because "the house that was there looked bad" and because the company agrees with the university's concern about the appearance of the area. The house was torn down two weeks ago. The area between Q and R streets bordering the UNL campus is a transition zone between the downtown and campus areas, said Ron Wright, UNL business manager.

Record summer enrollment expected

This year's UNL summer enrollment may exceed last year's total of 14,472, a record high, according to William Sesow, assistant director of summer sessions.

During the three-week pre-session which ended Friday, 1,862 students were enrolled compared with 1,763 in 1975. Figures for the eight-week session, a small program combining the pre-session with the first five week session, are 481 this year compared with 471 in 1975.

"According to figures available from pre-session and pre-registrations for the five-week sessions, we anticipate similar to slightly higher enrollment figures this year," Sesow said.

Exact figures for total enrollment are not available because students are still registering for sessions, he said. General registration is July 9 for the second five-week session.

UNL offered its first summer session in 1892. Students could earn six hours of credit in a six-week session. Since then the summer sessions calendar has been revised several times and students have attended summer classes of varied combinations and lengths. Sessions lasting nine, four, three and two weeks were offered in 1930.

The present calendar pattern of the three-week, two five-week and eight-week options was started in 1973.

Enrollments generally increased from 1892 through 1971, with the exceptions of the depression years, World War II years and the 1960's. In 1972, enrollments declined for the first time in 10 years.

"Summer sessions administrators maintain a philosophy that any student should be able to work toward a degree during the summer," Sesow said. "Summer sessions play an integral part in the continuing academic year."

Planning summer sessions is a year-round process which

includes reviewing budget requests from deans and department chairmen, selecting courses, reviewing data, hiring faculty and printing and circulating an information bulletin, Sesow said.

He said it is important to make the bulletins available as early as possible. Getting the bulletin out late could result in a slump in enrollment, he said.

Approximately 1400 courses are offered during the summer in a comprehensive program designed to meet student demands, Sesow said. Courses are selected on the basis of requests received, availability of faculty to teach specific courses and a course's past performance.

"We try to project what student interests will be, consider new programs and changes in departmental requirements and plan courses students want to take," Sesow said.

Taking courses during a shortened time period has some advantages, Sesow said. Some instructors feel they do a better job in the summer, that there is more flexibility to test new ideas and to conduct workshops and field work, he said.

Students' jobs don't generally interfere as much with classes during the summer and student-teacher contact is better, Sesow said.

Three hours' credit can be earned during the pre-session and students may take six hours during each five-week session for a maximum of 15 hours.

About 65 per cent of summer school students are also students during the regular academic year, he said. The summer student population also includes graduate students, full-time educators returning to take additional courses and businessmen who audit courses rather than register for credit, Sesow said.

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