

Zech's plunge still a mystery

By Bryant Brooks

David Zech looked up at Abel Hall and counted the stories to the level from which he plunged on Aug. 26, 1975.

"1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10 . . . Geez."

Zech was hospitalized for about three months after the 10-story drop on to a wooden bench on the west side of Abel. He has recovered significantly from the resulting broken pelvis, wrists and ribs, and head injuries and now majors in electrical technology at Southeast Community College.

It still is not known whether Zech jumped, was pushed or simply fell through the window of his room. He is not very concerned with finding out.

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"I'm pretty sure I wasn't pushed," he said.

He said he has not ruled out the possibility of a jump, however.

"It's possible," he said, adding that he had been experiencing "personal problems" at the time. "But it's kind of doubtful."

Zech, 19, from Douglas, said his mind is a blank from the time of the accident until he regained consciousness about one month later in Lincoln General Hospital. The fall occurred on Zech's second day at the Lincoln

campus. He recalls nothing about either day except his roommate.

"I remember he was going to be an architect and what he looked like, but that's all."

Zech said his rapid recovery surprised many people. He walked again after two and one-half months.

"The doctors said I wouldn't walk for at least a year and a half, then they thought it might be six months," he said. "I told them I could walk and they were sort of skeptical at first, but I knew I could do it."

Zech said he gauges his recovery in terms of how well he plays basketball which he played in high school.

"Dribbling is still a chore for me. Shooting jump shots is pretty hard too," he said, but added that he shoots a pretty good set shot.

"I'm in a lot better shape than anyone expected me to be a year ago at this time."



Photo by Bryant Brooks

David Zech said he could remember nothing about his ten-story fall from Abel Hall more than a year ago.

Activities Mart today, Tuesday

Students needing information about campus organizations can obtain it at the Activities Mart today and Tuesday in the Nebraska Union Main Lounge.

Twenty-three student organizations will be manning information booths. The mart will last from 9:30 a.m., to 4:30 p.m.

Activities Mart, sponsored by UNL Builders, is where most student organizations recruit members, according to Clay Statmore, Builders president.

About 20 per cent of those who sign up come to organization meetings, he added.

WOMENSPEAK PRESENTS

Herstory in Nebraska" (toward reconstructing the His/story of the American Bicentennial)

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Neola Walker, Winnebago Tribal Council and Laura Whitewing, United Indians of Nebraska.

WOMENSPEAK is a weekly talk-in series featuring issues relevant to women and to today's world. The meetings are every TUESDAY NOON in the NEBRASKA UNION (room posted) and the program is open to the public at no charge. Sponsored by the STUDENT Y.

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