

# Union management pleased with Bakery business

By Mary Jo Pitzl

The Bakery is turning out some goodies for the Nebraska Union management staff in addition to its daily supply of cookies and doughnuts.

"I'm pleased with the way the Bakery has taken off," Bob Richeson, assistant director in charge of Union food services, said. Besides over-the-counter daily sales, the Bakery has been handling an increasing amount of speciality orders, Richeson said.

Volume has been steady since the Bakery opened in the Union Dec. 1, 1976. Richeson estimated the shop averages \$175 daily in sales.

In the 33 business days since the Bakery opened, customer counts have averaged from 480 to 550 daily, according to Larry Emmons, assistant director of the Union in charge of operations.

Business at the Bakery has come close to meeting the expectations of the Union staff. "In terms of gross dollars, we expect it (the Bakery) to grow. In terms of percentage, we're about on the mark," Union Director Allen Bennett said.

At the rate of current business, the Bakery could pay for itself within two years, according to Bennett. He estimated cost of the shop, located in a heavily-trafficked area of the Union main lounge, at less than \$6,000. Income from the Bakery flows back into the Union operating budget.

Four part-time employees were hired in addition to the four full-time employees handling Union bakery business when the shop opened.

Richeson explained that as the Bakery staff learns to forecast the needs of clientele, business will increase. Some items sell better than others, and his staff still is experimenting in this area, he said. He added that there is "very minimal waste" in day-to-day operations.

The main problem plaguing the Bakery is stocking enough merchandise, Richeson said. Besides providing pastries for counter sales, Bakery kitchens also stock the Crib and Harvest Room, handle speciality orders and supply a bulk of the bakery items for the Nebraska East Union food service units. This problem will be resolved by increased production, Richeson said.

It is difficult to tell if the Bakery has attracted new business to the Union, Richeson said. The Bakery is one of the selling points the Union is emphasizing in its \$20,699 advertising campaign, which began Nov. 7, 1976, but "they (the customers) are still trying to feel us out," he said.



## Student tax dollars support schools

Some UNL students say they are tired of supporting Lincoln public schools.

Most fraternities and sororities are paying a local property tax which is supporting Lincoln public schools, said Chris Hayes, Theta Xi fraternity president.

Hayes said fraternities and sororities pay \$400,000 in property tax. He said \$200,000 of this supports Lincoln public schools.

"I can't see why we should support Lincoln public schools when our permanent home is outside of Lincoln," Hayes said.

Hayes said he thinks the tax could be reduced so the houses do not have to pay the part of the tax that goes for school support.

Bellwood Sen. Loran Schmit is drawing up a legislative bill to reduce the property tax on Greek houses, Hayes said.

Schmit said he has asked to have the bill drafted and the bill must have 30 votes to be introduced.

Several campuses in the country have been successful in similar efforts to reduce property tax, Hayes said.

He said the Theta Xi house pays about \$3,000 a year in property tax. This is not fair, he said, since university-owned housing units on campus do not pay the tax.

Jayne Anderson, coordinator of fraternities, sororities and cooperatives, said all but four of the fraternities and sororities own their land and buildings. Each house has a corporation that handles the finances of the house, she said.

Hayes said he talked to other fraternities about supporting the bill and he looks for backing from students and alumni.

"A lot of fraternities were surprised; they didn't even know they paid the tax," Hayes said.

Hayes also said the ASUN Government Liaison Committee might lobby for the bill.

Greg Johnson, liaison committee member, said the Greek system would have to get an ASUN-approved resolution to direct the committee to lobby for the bill because the bill would be representing only one segment of UNL students.

## Positions Available on Nebraska Union Advisory Board

The administrative head (Director) of the Nebraska Unions at UNL shall be advised by a Union Board composed of students, faculty and staff on matters of operation and program activity.

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