

Skipping rope, not classes, is latest on-campus craze

By Elizabeth Barrett

The rhythmic tapping reverberates through the walls of UNL residence halls and Greek houses. A breathless student puffs and pants his way to 100, and the exercise is done.

The jump roping craze has swept UNL like the panty raids of the 60s, but this time it is the sports store owners who are reaping the benefits instead of lingerie departments.

Roxie Lindekugel, a senior physical education major, said she began jump roping "because I wanted to do something to keep physically fit in the winter without having to go outside."

She said that an aerobics book she read motivated her to begin a self-paced jump roping program.

Lindekugel, who jumps for 20 minutes a day, said the main emphasis of jump roping is stimulation of the cardio-vascular system.

According to two of three Lincoln sport stores, jump rope sales recently have increased.

Jeff Jenkins, a part-time employee at

Lawlor's 1118 O St., said the store was completely stocked with jump ropes three weeks ago.

"Now we're down to only a few," he said. "This is probably because everybody is turning to physical fitness."

Jenkins said jump roping is good exercise.

"Some people think it's as good or better than jogging," he said.

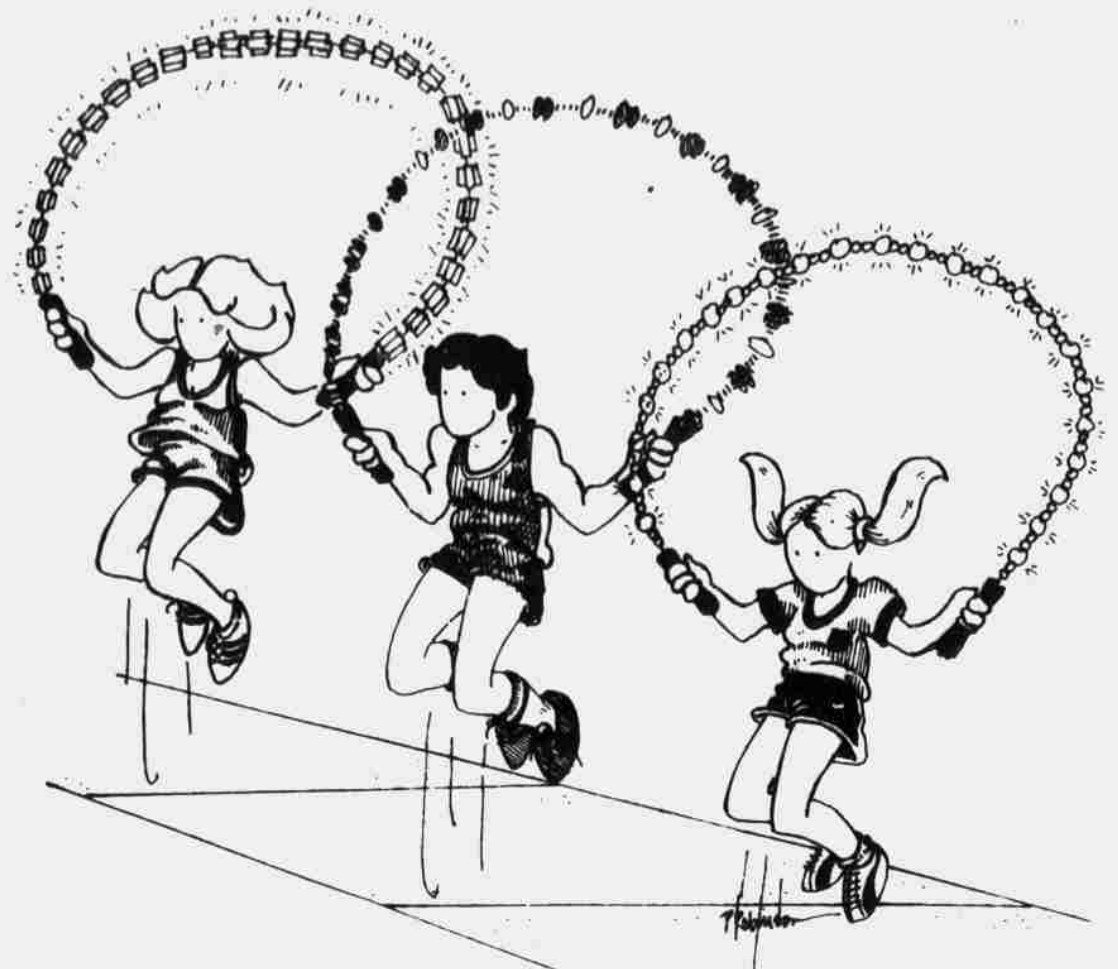
He said he expects the store to continue selling a lot of jump ropes.

Kep Harding of Kep Harding's Sport Shop, 1332 P St., said jump rope sales have increased over the last year.

"This could be due to the fact that the media has recently put much emphasis on the physical fitness aspect of jump roping," he said.

However, Gary Paulsen, an employee at Gerry's Sport Shop, 1324 P St., said he has not noticed any major sales increase of jump ropes.

Jump rope prices range from \$2.50 for a plastic rope to \$9.50 for a leather rope, weighted with ball bearings in the wooden handles which swivel as the rope twirls. Cotton ropes with wooden handles range from \$3.98 to \$7.50.



Laws of supply, demand evident in apartment market

By Kate Gaul

When winter temperatures plunge, apartment availability in Lincoln drives.

Howard Maddux of the County-City Planning Department, said the apartment vacancy rate is 2.5 percent during the winter—but 12 percent during the summer.

"The demand is close to the supply (for apartments)," he said. "Students don't have the variety of selection available in the summer."

Bob Michals of Nebraska Real Estate Corporation agreed apartment availability is tight. He described vacancy periods of his firm's 3,000 units as short.

Although students can find apartments, Michals said, finding an apartment that a student would want to rent is another thing.

Greg Johnson, ASUN president, agreed that "its tough to find a liveable apartment, and not just a one-room apartment."

He said when he looked for an apartment there were "plenty open but the quality was lacking."

During winter "it's a seller's market. There are more people looking for apartments than are available. The landlord has the upper hand," Johnson said.

Johnson said he thought most college towns had more

apartments available than Lincoln does.

Mark Williams, an UNL graduate student studying political science graduated from the University of Iowa at Iowa City.

Williams said that Iowa students had more control over landlords because of a state law which rigidly defined the contract between tenant and landlord.

The law provides the landlord must put the damage deposit in a separate holding bank account and if any of the deposit is withheld for repairs, the landlord has to give a written list of the reasons.

Besides the city Tenant/Landlord Commission, the University of Iowa has a tenant/landlord board which aids students with landlord woes and furnished a list of available apartments and a who's who referral list of good and bad landlords.

Johnson said that ASUN had "explored the possibility of a referral service" to help students find apartments and learn about landlords.

Johnson said that he felt it was a needed service because "over one-half of the student population lives off campus."

The UNL Housing Administration once furnished a list of available apartments, but discontinued it when it was not being used.

Johnson attributed its failure to a lack of publicity about the service. He said he was unaware of its existence at the time.

Williams, since coming to Lincoln in late October, has moved twice, he said.

In November, he said it took "about two weeks" of "calling nightly" to find an apartment.

Williams said that he was hampered because he owned a dog and both he and his roommate wanted an apartment close to campus.

Williams said he called about 35 apartment listings in January and looked at eight or ten before finding a place.

In the price range affordable to him that would accept pets, the apartments "were pits", he said.

Williams said that about 80 percent of the apartments he called would not take pets, but none were reluctant to rent to students.

Genelle Moore, a sophomore physical education major, said that when she looked for an apartment in the first half of August, she found that quite a few were available.

"The prices varied from cheap to expensive. But some landlords asked if I was a student and then wanted a two-year lease," she said.

Mrs. W. J. Maser, whose husband requested permits from the city county last Monday to build apartment complexes, said they were reluctant to rent to students because of the "transitory" nature of students.

Mrs. Maser said that extra costs often were incurred from advertising and cleaning and repainting because of the high turnover rates among students.

ASUN agenda

The ASUN Senate will meet tonight at 6:30 in room 202-202A of the Nebraska Union. The agenda is:

- I. Call To Order
- II. Approval of Minutes
- III. Executive Reports
Greg Johnson
Ken Christoffersen

- Charles Fellingham
- IV. Open Forum
- V. Committee Reports
- VI. Old Business
- VII. New Business
- Resolution 37 - Northeast Radial Report on LB954 and LB958 - NU Budget.

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