

Social life in the Big Eight played according to differ

By Randy Essex

Books and booze.

Most Big Eight schools believe that both have a place on the college campus. The University of Nebraska is an exception.

Of the Big Eight Schools, only Nebraska, Oklahoma State and Missouri prohibit possession of alcohol on campus. The other five schools allow various kinds of intoxicating beverages under a wide range of restrictions.

Colorado, Oklahoma, Kansas and Kansas State universities allow 3.2 beer on campus in accord with their respective state laws. Iowa State University allows all alcohol, in accord with the Iowa legal drinking age of 19.

Nebraska is the only other state with a Big Eight college campus and a legal drinking age of 19. The age in Missouri is 21, and all of the other states allow 18-year-olds to drink cereal malt beverages (3.2 beer), and 21-year-olds to gain full drinking privileges.

Iowa State has the most liberal alcohol policy in the conference, but several restrictions are enforced by the university in an attempt to control behavior.

"WE TRY TO stay out of the parental mode," said Jim Krafft, Iowa State's alcohol education programmer.

"Our overall idea is that most students are adults, and we should treat them that way, letting them make their own decisions," Krafft said.

Liquor is sold on-sale at a bar in the university's student union, and at a bar in the continuing education center. He said the student union has a "mobile" liquor license, allowing it to set up wine gardens before some theatrical productions.

Most of the drinking on the Ames campus occurs in residence halls, Krafft said, where "what students do in their own rooms is their own business."

The university has established a detailed list of guidelines for parties to be held in residence halls, Krafft explained. The people who are having the party must submit a guest list, agree to be responsible for damages and take

responsibility for checking ages of those at the party.

KRAFFT SAID there have been "a couple" instances where the rules were violated and probation was given as a punishment.

In addition, he said, non-alcoholic beverages are encouraged by officials, so students who are not 19 will not feel excluded. Krafft added that the university hopes those who do not want to drink will not be excluded from parties.

Krafft said since his office has been established, he has had several visitors asking for party ideas and activities not dependent on alcohol.

Krafft admitted there is a good deal of alcohol abuse on the campus but he does not believe more rules would improve the situation.

Iowa changed its drinking age from 18 to 19 two years ago, creating a class of minors on campus. But Krafft said even with the age consideration, rules probably would not change behavior.

"The best situation you can have is to establish a good, continuing alcohol education program," he said.

At the University of Colorado, where 3.2 beer is sold to 18-year-olds in the student union, and is allowed in dorm rooms and at certain planned student functions, Bill Olson echoed Krafft's concern for education.

BILL SCHAFER, who works with CU's coordinator for student conduct and policies, said the school believes students should be expected to follow state laws, "but the school shouldn't enforce past that point."

Olson, a half-time employee of the university, said an established education program allows problem drinkers to become more aware they might need help, and help others in their decisions involving when and how much to drink.

Olson said that through publicity in the campus newspaper and on campus television, people with questions about and problems with alcohol are more likely to seek help.

Having help available on-campus encourages students to refer their friends or themselves, Olson said. He said the

\$7,500 spent each year on his salary and education program "is well worth the money."

"People want this. I have so many requests to give programs that I can't keep up," he said.

Olson said booze may soon be part of the academic life since health education — drugs and alcohol — probably will be part of a regular college program.

"THE YEARS of peak alcohol usage occur during college age," Olson said. "Ninety percent of our college student drink but only about two-thirds of them will continue to drink after college."

The University of Kansas also allows 3.2 beer in residence hall rooms and certain student functions. The Kansas student union sells 3.2 beer on-sale.

Alcohol education also is important at Kansas, according to Ann Eversole, the director of student organizations and activities. A staff member is developing "a fairly comprehensive" education program, she said. However, she noted, no one office is in charge of alcohol education at KU.

Eversole said she thinks KU's policy works, even though there are occasional disruptions related to drinking.

"Since we have residence halls on campus, I don't think allowing alcohol on campus is inconsistent with academic objectives," Eversole said.

Kansas State University allows 3.2 beer in dormitories, and recently gave approval for beer at some student functions, Chet Peters, vice president for student affairs, said.

HOWEVER, KANSAS STATE officials have decided that 3.2 beer will not be sold in the student union.

He said the university has a \$30,000 annual grant for alcohol education. The money is used for weekly advertisements in the campus newspaper, seminars, workshops and literature.

The University of Oklahoma also allows 3.2 beer on campus, and there is a license for 3.2 beer held by the stu-

Women challenge macho drinking status

By Betsie Ammons

Drinking on college campuses conveys a picture of a macho fraternity man, (or a man from a residence hall, cooperative, off-campus, take your pick) dead drunk, being led home by an understanding, long-suffering date.

Not exactly, says Jane Baack, assistant to the UNL dean of students. Baack contends that nowadays the couple is more likely to lead each other home in inebriated bliss.

In her position as counselor and university rule-enforcer, Baack said she has noticed an increase in drinking by women at UNL. But, she said, men still drink more

than women on this campus.

Reasons behind the apparent increase in drinking by UNL women range from high school habits to the all-important desire for acceptance.

Baack said she believes that freshmen entering the university are more adept in the social drinking than were their predecessors.

Along with that, she said it is more acceptable for high school women to consume alcohol with the crowd.

"IF YOU really care about that person, talk to them."

Baack said research shows that as more women enter high level business positions, a rise in heart disease, mental illness and other stress-related difficulties follows. She said it will be interesting to see if an increase in alcoholism goes along with this trend.

A desire for acceptance by men in the business world, or at college, may also explain why more are drinking, Baack said,



Men still have mixed feelings about their dates and booze.

"GALS AND GUYS are drinking together," Baack said, at the bars and at parties. She added that a negative stereotype surrounding the kind of women who frequent bars is a thing of the past.

Also, she said, there has been a slight increase in the number of alcohol-related disciplinary actions involving UNL women.

However, she said the women are not as overt as their male counterparts.

"Women are not the ones at bonfires throwing glass," she said.

Baack said a men's double standard about women and alcohol, that it is okay to drink but not get drunk, may be disappearing. But, she said, men still have mixed feelings about their dates and booze.

"Some men have been telling me they notice increased drinking by women at bars," she said, adding that men may not like to see women drink.

She said men do not know how to handle this increase but that she counsels persons who know someone they think is a heavy drinker to talk it over.

and men have told her it appears that many women just want to be one of the guys.

Baack said it is her opinion that drinking is no more prevalent in sororities than in residence halls and vice versa.

Also, in her opinion, alcohol should be legalized on campus, if only for the opportunities it would provide for alcohol education. She estimated that only 5 percent to 10 percent of the students at UNL do not drink.

Women face many of the same problems as men if they are heavy drinkers, Baack said.

They often ask 'was it worth it' after getting inebriated, she said, and don't understand why they did. Also, she said, it is difficult for people when they feel they are not in control of their actions.

This may be harder for women, she said, because when a woman gets drunk she is expected to be more in control than a male, especially in sexual situations.

Women also face sanctioning from their friends after they get drunk, she said.