

# UNL Health Center provides more variety —Iowans

By Mary Louise Knapp

UNL students are willing to pay more for the variety of care and services provided by the University Health Center, according to health center officials.

Twelve representatives of the health center visited the Iowa State University health center Nov. 9 and 10.

Roy Miller, of the Student Health Advisory Board, said, "We wanted to see another health center and find out how it operates, what kind of costs, budgeting, and services it has. . . since the health center is trying to hold down on expenses, we wanted to see if we could eliminate or cut down on services that aren't being used that often."

Miller said that the Iowa State health center has fewer services than UNL although the Iowa State center receives three-fourths of its funds from the Legislature. The University Health Center is supported solely by student fees.

Students at Iowa State pay a voluntary health fee of \$7.50 per year. About 45 percent of the students pay the

fee. The Iowa State Health center doesn't have a hospital facility. Students are sent to the public hospital, which is near the health center.

At UNL, there is a 24-hour hospital facility. A physician on duty at all times, and between five and 20 people visit on an average night.

Miller emphasized that although it is costly to maintain the hospital, and few people visit it, it is needed.

"Each health center operates differently," he said. "Iowa State is a smaller university, and basically, they have a skeleton operation. They don't have dental services, as we do, or a dermatology clinic, and their allergy clinic is used only for shots."

Iowa State's health center is primarily an outpatient clinic and they do not bring in outside physicians for consultation.

"People expect more from a medical clinic that they do from other businesses," Miller said. "It's hard to give them what they want, and what people want from a health center can't always be equated in terms of dollars.

Only 400 people used the dermatology clinic last year, but what it did for that small number of people psychologically was very good."

Miller said that the Iowa State health center seems to have good rapport with the Legislature and "have no trouble getting funds. The University Health Center received money from the Legislature for utility bills until the funds were cut this year. The health center must also increase the wages of its staff by 7 percent this year.

The University Health Center has a budget of \$1.6 million. Iowa State's budget is about \$900,000.

Stephen Blom, administrator of the University Health Center, said, "We do not want to cut services. We want to provide the most complete and best care we can. We feel the students need the services we provide.

"We increased the cost of some of our services, such as dermatology, and the students were willing to pay them.

"The University Health Center provides some of the best care in the Big 8 and since the health center is funded totally by the students, I feel the students are entitled to all our services and that they should not be cut."

# Coliseum, Men's PE closings would hobble intramurals

By Kathy Stokebrand

The Coliseum swimming pool and Men's Physical Education building may be closed as recreational space in an effort to save university funds.

According to James O'Hanlon, director of Health, Physical Education and Recreation, Vice Chancellor of Business and Finance Ron Wright requested an impact statement concerning the possible closings.

The impact statement, prepared by Stan Campbell of the Department of Recreation, said the effect of closing the Coliseum pool would be the elimination of the mid-day open swimming hours; the transferring of intramural innertube water basketball and water polo to Mabel Lee Hall, and the subsequent cutback in evening open swimming hours at the pool.

It cited possible greater use of the Abel-Sandoz pool to meet the demands for open recreational swimming.

The closing of the Coliseum pool, the report said, would have no effect on the Recreation Department income because students in recreation programs are not charged a user fee. The impact of the budget on lifeguards and intramural officials would be small. The savings would result from fewer maintenance and renovation costs for the pool.

THE MEN'S Physical Education building, the impact statement said, is not a model recreational building, but serves the purpose. The effect of closing the building would be the possible elimination of men's intramural

basketball and the \$7,825 collected in entry fees.

Also, the men's basketball schedule would have to be adjusted to have the games extended beyond the present 11 p.m. closing hour. It might be possible but not advisable, the statement said, to continue play until 1 a.m. and to play from noon until midnight on Sundays to make up for the 20 intramural hours lost by closing the Men's Physical Education building.

The Men's Physical Education building is also the only recreational building on campus that is open for student use before 5 p.m.

Included in the statement was material for a dissertation by Gale Wiedow, a former UNL intramural coordinator. In his dissertation Wiedow found that, in relation to other Big Eight institutions, UNL does an inadequate job of providing indoor space for recreational activity.

WIEDOW SAID UNL ranks seventh in the Big Eight in availability of overall indoor recreational facilities per student.

UNL ranks sixth in the availability of indoor basketball courts and seventh in the availability of indoor swimming pools among Big Eight Conference institutions.

Campbell said, "We should be concentrating on providing more recreational space for UNL students, not closing any of the existing meager facilities."

The seasons for several sports could be lengthened, Campbell said, but the basketball season already goes until March 15, 1980, and by then a lot of the initial interest is lost.

Campbell said he hoped a decision would be made as soon as possible concerning the possible closings so adjustments could be made in the recreational programs.

THERE IS THE possibility of a new student recreation center for the UNL campus, Campbell said. A recreation center was proposed, he said, because the intramural programs are expanding every year and each time they expand the facilities are strained.

According to a referendum last spring, 73 percent of the responding students said there was a need for increased recreational facilities, Campbell said. Nearly half of the schools in the Big Eight have a recreational center for students or are in the process of getting one, he said.

Campbell said the Recreation Department was rather disappointed by the lack of response to the Daily Nebraskan article about a new student recreation center. On Dec. 14 possible models for a new center will be on display in the Nebraska Union. Campbell invited all UNL students to view the models and give input on the idea.

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