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Kappa Sigmas learn cold facts

By Lori McGinnis

Kappa Sigma fraternity members realized the chilling facts of living without heat for a week. The heat was turned off Friday, Feb. 1 at midnight and turned on one week later to bring attention to the high cost of heating oil, said Brad Smith, a fraternity member who coordinated the week.

Faculty departures to increase—survey

New UNL faculty will depart at an increased rate of 240 to 360 percent, a report by UNL Associate Professor John Creswell predicts. The report defines this as a morale problem.

"Internal university priorities must be set on higher salaries, better fringe benefits and better research facilities if we are to keep the new faculty," said Creswell, an associate professor in the Dept. of Educational Administration.

The report "Talent Drain on the UNL Campus," which was published in December 1979, was prompted by disillusionment among new faculty interviewed, Creswell said.

Creswell's research specialty is college issues and problems.

More than half of those surveyed said they believed UNL was a "fairly good place to work", yet 61.8 percent have given serious thought to seeking employment opportunities elsewhere.

If conditions do not improve for faculty at UNL in the next three years, 61.4 percent said they would seek employment elsewhere, according to the report.

In the report he said new faculty have found a gap between what they expected from UNL and what they have found.

Creswell said in the report that many of the faculty came from prestigious universities and expected to find the resources to prove themselves at UNL.

The study surveys 64 percent of the assistant, associate and full professors who were hired in 1977, 1978 and 1979.

The report noted that faculty who are planning to leave are mostly those without tenure and with just a few years of teaching experience.

Creswell said the new faculty at UNL are talented, judging by the "number of applied service projects in the state, federal grants and nationally recognized reports in recent years."

Smith estimated about \$1,000 was raised through donations by fraternity members and little sisters.

Each house member was required to raise \$16.80 for Lincoln Information service for the Elderly. But some raised more than \$40 and a little sister raised more than \$70, he said.

LIFE will use the money for no-interest loans to elderly people who can't afford heating costs, Smith said.

Fraternity members braved temperatures as low as 37 degrees by wearing coats and sweaters.

"The worst part about it was getting up in the morning. You didn't want to get out of bed," Smith said.

The heat may have been turned off, but the hot water heater remained on to keep the water pipes from freezing, he said.

House members showered one after the other because it heated the bathroom, Smith said.

Temperature readings were taken throughout the week, he said. The lowest reading was 37 degrees in some study rooms and the highest reading was between 50 and 52 degrees in the living room with the fireplace.

Smith said all house members, including those who don't live in the house, had to stay in the house during the week.

"The main purpose was to bring attention to the fact that many people can't afford the rising cost of fuel," Smith said. "Whether voluntary or involuntary, people have to suffer through this."

Smith estimated they saved between \$200 to \$250 in heating oil. Once the heat was turned back on, it took 24 hours to get the house to its normal 60 degree temperature, he said.

Smith said the fraternity members learned to be thrifty during freeze week. They tightened the windows, used the front door only and took shorter showers.

The men also kept drapes open along the south side of the house to let the sun help heat the rooms.

The freeze week came about after Smith and other house members decided to use a current issue in their community service project. They chose energy because of the gasoline shortage and the crisis in Iran.

"We do not need Iran's oil," Smith said.

Smith said he believes more people will be forced to go without heat in the future because of the rising cost. He said he hopes the fraternity will have another freeze week.

"Everybody was a little uncomfortable, but it was worth it," he said.

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