

## Speaker: Inflation may hurt equity plan's progress

By Doreen Charles

Advances in affirmative action have been made within the last decade, but problems with inflation and the economy may affect further progress, according to vice president of equal opportunity planning for Control Data Corporation.

William E. English, former president of the Minneapolis Urban League, spoke at the opening ceremony of Affirmative Action Week, sponsored by the State Affirmative Action Office at the Nebraska Union.

"In 10 years, social values have changed," English said, noting changes in disability compensation policies to include pregnant women and people with physical disabilities.

The hiring of less qualified people still exists, English said.

"The increase of women and minorities in the work force has not decreased productivity. We should be able

to hire without regard to race and sex and to give equal pay without regard to race and sex," he said.

"We have not achieved this goal. Men are still being paid more than women, and black college graduates are paid the same as white high school graduates."

Managerial positions for blacks and women have increased, but the current economic crises may present a problem in finding jobs for the unemployed, English said.

"Most hiring of minorities is done by small- and medium-sized businesses. If we're looking for large gains from large businesses, it's not likely to happen," he said.

He said companies such as IBM and Prudential have been charged with noncompliance to affirmative action.

"Society, through public policy, must address the right of every person to hold a job."

Modern technology must be used to provide jobs, he said, suggesting the re-establishment of small farms and

the use of urban agriculture as methods of increasing food production and creating employment.

"Constructing convenient, less noisy rapid transit systems would provide jobs and also reduce dependent on foreign oil," he said.

The rising rate of inflation and the inability of institutions of higher learning to instill ideals of justice and equality are dilemmas which society must face in the 1980s, English said.

"There is no question. Our educational institutions have failed and are continuing to fail to educate our young," he said, adding that the cost of education has increased to the point where parents wonder if they will be able to send their children to school.

English said he believes the current dilemmas are solvable.

"We must have the ability to put aside petty differences," he said. "The question is whether our ability to achieve these aims will live up to our rhetoric."

## Women find near equality in ROTC

By Patty Pryor

Women are succeeding with little difficulty in the ROTC program here at UNL, according to people both directing and participating in the program.

Very few differences exist between men and women concerning involvement in ROTC, said Maj. Ned Chriscimagna, assistant professor of Aerospace Studies in the Air Force division.

Many of the same benefits attract both men and women to the program, he said. One of the best attractions is the scholarship offer, he said, which is based solely on ability. It covers tuition, books and fees, and provides an additional \$100 a month.

Chriscimagna said the opportunity for overseas travel is another major benefit, and that women are now being sent to remote locations.

In addition to tuition assistance, the Army division of the ROTC offers the Simultaneous Membership Program, said Maj. Alfred Harris, assistant professor of Military Science.

### Two income sources

This program allows dual membership in both ROTC and some branch of reserve duty, and results in two sources of income, one from each area of service.

Reasons for joining ROTC reflect some of these opportunities, but some women have additional reasons for becoming involved in the program.

Previous exposure to military life leads some women to consider ROTC.

Rosa Reich, a sophomore physics major from West Point, said that she grew to "love the people in military life," while her father was in the Air Force for 20 years.

"It really develops into a community," she said.

Pam Leeper, a business graduate student in Army ROTC, originally joined the program after looking unsuccessfully for an accounting job. She said that ROTC helps in "developing close relationships" and she has become "a better quality person" in the program, since it takes more discipline.

### Similar training

Within the program itself, there is very little variation in actual training routines, Harris said.

Even though women are prohibited from combat duty by Congress, both sexes undergo the same training, he said.

Slight differences do exist in specific physical requirements, professors in both divisions said, but these are due to basic differences in physical characteristics.

Women contribute to ROTC, because the more qualified people there are in the program, the better it will be, Harris said.

"The requirements of an officer are the same for either sex," Chriscimagna said.

Shannon Day, a junior mathematics major from Lincoln, said that including women in the program provides "a more balanced" outlook. Men work with women in day-to-day life, she said, so there is no reason for the exclusion of women in the military.

Leeper said that the Army provides opportunities to push one past accepted limits, opportunities that are not ordinarily available to women in day-to-day life.

"You make yourself do things you otherwise wouldn't," she said.

At UNL, sexual harassment of the women in the military is not prevalent, according to both professors and participants in ROTC.

The national situation concerning this type of harassment may be misleading, said Karen McAfee, a sophomore life sciences major from Fullerton.

"The media plays up the bad instances between men and women," she said. "You never hear about how well they work together."

Darren Shrader, a Lincoln sophomore math major, said she also found few cases of harassment.

"Women in the military are easily stereotyped," she said and this misrepresentation can sometimes increase problems between the sexes.

All five women agree that the sharing of a common goal and the respect that is accorded each individual within the program are important factors in the lack of harassment.

Chriscimagna and Harris said they do not foresee draft including women in the near future. However, both said that other than combat zones, no other military job is closed to women.

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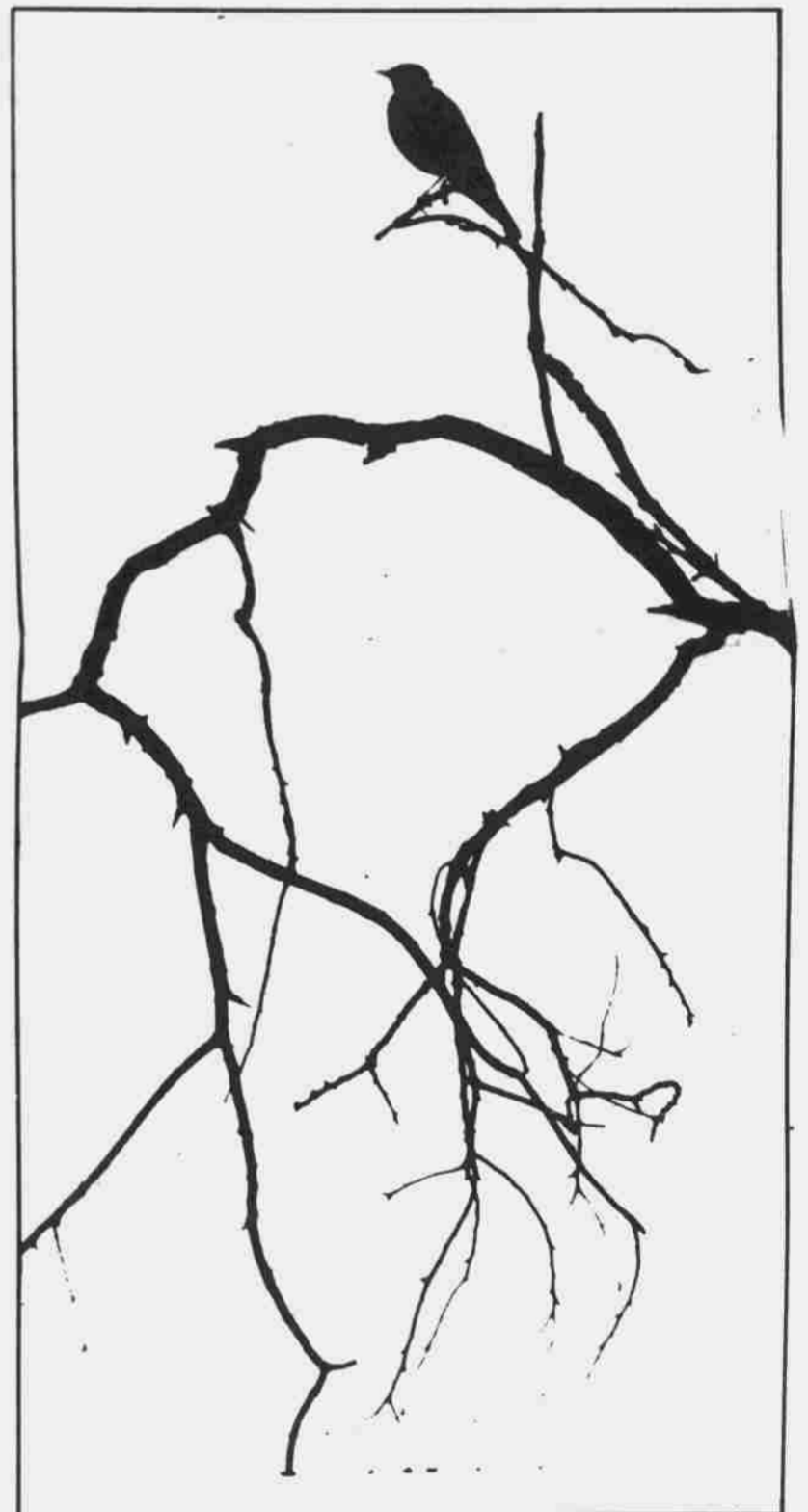


Photo by Jon Natvig

Although the leaves have fallen from many Lincoln trees, birds still remain. Perhaps this bird is enjoying the warm Indian Summer sun before leaving Nebraska for warmer southern states.

## Landlord-tenant group formed to better relations

An attempt to alleviate the gap between landlords and tenants is the purpose of the landlord-tenant coalition, said a Lincoln Action staff member.

Florine Martin said the group will try to promote better relationships between landlords and tenants as well as examining their legal rights.

She said some landlords have gotten by with unlawful activity, some tenants have damaged apartments because they don't care.

Martin said the coalition is a small, solid group. She said a large group isn't wanted, and that the group consists of 10 to 12 landlords and tenants from Lincoln.

Of the members, one or two are landlords and the rest are tenants, Martin said.

Martin said the coalition is in the process of organizing meetings and educational forums, and that they are "not sure right now" what they will do.

Meetings are held in various places around Lincoln on

the third Monday of each month. Educational forums meet about once a week, Martin added.

At these forums, an attorney from Legal Services speaks on the Nebraska Landlord-Tenant Act and follows the presentation with discussions, she said.

Martin said the forums will continue until Dec. 3. The next forum is scheduled for Oct. 13 in Newman Church, 2273 S. St. at 7 p.m. and is open to the community, she said.

Following the forum, visitors may sign a list to become a part of the meetings, Martin said.

It's a "community effort all the way," she said.

Martin said the vast number of problems the forum and meetings address are continual.

Some problems involve eviction laws, returning of deposit money and moving notices, she said.

When a tenant is served an eviction notice, they have three days to leave, Martin said. If the tenant hasn't left

by the fourth day, the landlord may file a complaint in county court.

County court then sets a time for the tenant to leave. If the tenant refuses to leave past that time, the sheriff forces the tenant to vacate, she said.

The entire process may take up to 30 days, Martin said. People believe the three-day notice is "the way it should happen," but it isn't, she said.

Returning of deposit money can create problems also, Martin said. A tenant's deposit must be returned 14 days after moving out, she said.

It is the landlord's responsibility to make an itemized list of the damages and subtract that amount from the deposit money to cover the expenses, Martin said.

A copy of the list, with reasons for each item listed, is given to the former tenant along with the remaining money, she said.

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