

Development of native American assets is urged

By Mary Louise Knapp

Native American women are tired of being looked upon as a "problem" and want to contribute to the work force, said several native American women Tuesday.

In the last session of "Women In Perspective - The Year of The Career," a seven-part seminar sponsored by the Women's Re-

source Center, the University Program Council and the Student YWCA, the women conducted a panel discussion on the issue in the Nebraska Union.

Jana Ashley, a legislative analyst for the Nebraska Indian Commission, said educating native American youth about careers and opportunities is a desirable goal.

"Youth are our number

one human resource," Ashley said. Ashley said organizations such as the newly-formed Nebraska Native American Students Congress, which educates high school and college students about job opportunities, help to use the resource of native American youth.

Ashley said many of the problems faced by native American youths stem from being from broken homes,

living on reservations or in foster homes and living away from their tribes.

Native Americans have in some cases become so assimilated into the culture of the United States that they have lost sight of their own heritage, said Valerie Shaugrue, a native American UNL student who moderated the discussion.

"When my father went to school, he was punished for speaking his native tongue," she said. "Now, they have eradicated it (the language) so effectively that they are teaching it in the schools again."

Alice Roach, executive

director of the Nebraska Indian Center, said native American women are family-oriented, but are also usually strongly encouraged to pursue a career.

Roach said the stereotype of the "lazy Indian" is far from true. Her parents worked all of their lives, she said.

"I'll probably work myself into the grave, too," she said.

Native American women face the same problems as other women do, but their difficulties are intensified because they belong to a minority group, she said.

"Women fail at careers

because they don't always set goals, as men do, but they find themselves in a position," she said.

Roach said women often do not realize that work in church and social activities, like job experience, prepares them for positions in management.

Janice Bigbee, another panelist who is studying the economic situation of native Americans, said professional people, who can help manage life on reservations, are needed.

"We need to develop our own resources," she said.

Bigbee said native Americans who do educate themselves and move away from the reservations are often looked upon with suspicion by members of their tribes.

"We have traditionalists and progressives (in the tribes)," she said.

"I am a sell out, according to some," she added.

"We need to learn the rules of the game in the dominant society and then play it for our benefit," she said.

Bigbee said that in the long run, she supports the native Americans who believe in the traditional, tribal way of life.

Professor is selected to fill Larsen's spot

UNL Chancellor Martin Massengale announced Monday he will recommend to the NU Board of Regents the appointment of Gerhard G. Meisels as interim dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, effective Dec. 21.

Meisels, professor and chairman in the department of chemistry, succeeds Max D. Larsen, who announced earlier this fall that he planned to resign at the end of this semester.

A nationwide search is underway for a permanent successor to Larsen, who has headed the college since 1976.

Larsen will return to a teaching position in the Department of Mathematics and Statistics, where he has held a faculty appointment since 1966.

Meisels' appointment was announced Monday afternoon at a meeting of arts and science college faculty in Westbrook Music Building.

He has been a member of the UNL faculty and chairman of chemistry since 1975.

Editorial positions for spring semester are now open.

Applications are being taken for the following positions:

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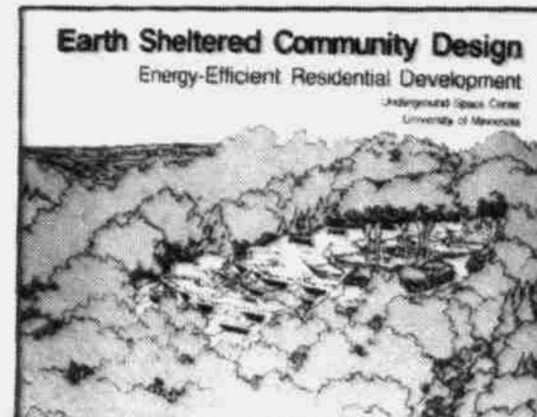
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short stuff

The Undergraduate Psychology Organization will meet tonight at 7 in Burnett Hall. Room will be posted outside Burnett 209. The topic will be "Hypnosis in Therapy and for Relaxation."

The Rodeo Club will meet tonight at 7 in the East Union. Room will be posted. Pictures will be taken.

The Christian Science Organization will meet Thursday at 6 p.m. in the Nebraska Union. Room will be posted.