

Residence halls overlooked in homecoming festivities

Homecoming Week, an all-university event now taking place, hasn't seemed to make that much of a dent in one university community.

Melba Petrie, Residence Hall Association vice president, said she believes residence hall representation is low during homecoming week because life in the halls emphasizes a different aspect of college life.

"Students in the dorms are fairly career-oriented," she said. "They may enjoy a football game or a portion of homecoming activities, but they don't want to be involved in the planning."

This year, of the nine male and nine female candidates for UNL homecoming king and queen, three females are not affiliated with sororities and no male candidates live in residence halls.

Unlike fraternity and sorority members, who center on community service, the residence halls students do their own personal activities, she said.

"Both have benefits and disadvantages," Petrie said. "Greeks are people who really get a lot out of community spirit, and they are not apathetic. On the other hand, they miss the chance to develop independence, which we have in residence halls."

Participation not emphasized

Petrie said that there are probably some residence hall members who want to be involved in homecoming, but aren't because there is no great push for it in the residence halls.

Patrick Edwards, Schramm Hall president, said that the residence halls are involved in homecoming, although the circumstances don't show it.

"There isn't any apathy on the part of the students," Edwards said. "The people involved in homecoming are just a minority. Before the homecoming finalists were picked, there were a lot of dorm people involved."

Edwards said he felt that residence hall participation in the planning could be increased by adding more publicity in the halls.

Edwards also said he felt that more clarity is needed about the event. "Fraternities and Sororities have dominated it for so long, some people feel like maybe it's a Greek event," he said.

Hall involvement increasing

Petrie said she did not know how to get residence halls more involved in homecoming, but did point out that there had been a trend lately toward increasing their involvement.

Each complex works on different displays and projects, however, the groups are smaller. Displays also aren't as visible because for the most part the halls are on the edge of campus, Petrie said.

Connie Eberspacher, a homecoming committee member, and homecoming queen candidate, said one of the committee's biggest goals is to get residence hall members more involved in the event.

"I think there should be one representative for every residence hall," she said. "We sent out Homecoming applications to every dorm floor, and two applications for co-ed floors, to encourage involvement."

Eberspacher said the committee would like to hear comments on Homecoming activities from students so that they could make the event better next year.

Cincinnati doctor honored for his heart-lung invention

By Lavrie Moses

Dr. Leland Clark, Jr. of the Children's Hospital Research Foundation in Cincinnati received the ISCO Award in Biochemical Instrumentation Friday at a ceremony in Hamilton Hall. Clark was at UNL to deliver the ISCO Award lecture on his research.

"I feel especially proud to receive this award because I have a love affair with chemistry and biochemical instrumentation," Clark said.

The ISCO award is given to those who contribute to biochemical instrumentation. It has been awarded since 1976 by the department of Chemistry and the Instrument Specialties Company of Lincoln (ISCO), Sheldon Schuster, associate professor of chemistry at UNL, said.

Of Clark's inventions, the heart-lung machine is the most well known.

"I worked on the heart-lung machine simply to find out if it could pump a lot of blood. It pumps a gallon a minute. I also wanted to see if it could pump oxygen and keep an animal alive if its heart was stopped," Clark said. "It acted as a catalyst and other inventions came about from this."

Scared to death

"Surgeons and cardiologists read about it and came to me. In a way I was dragged into an operating room. I was scared to death. One, because they were trying my

machine on a human for the first time, and two because I was in an operating room," he said. "The only other time I was in an operating room was in the third grade for appendicitis."

"Most inventions come out of a need for something. One thing for example is the oxygen electrode. This electrode measures the amount of oxygen in blood. Environmentalists use it to measure oxygen in streams," Clark said.

Currently Clark is working on a glucose analyzer which measures the amount of sugar in the blood. This will aid diabetics by releasing insulin when needed, he said.

Artificial blood

Clark also is attempting to develop artificial blood.

"It's made of chlorofluorocarbons which carries oxygen very well. It's almost better than regular blood because it carries more oxygen to the tissues than real blood and is storable and stable at room temperature," Clark said. "I don't think (artificial) blood can replace real blood, but should only be used as a substitute to help until a person's real blood can come back up."

Clark said his main job is research, but he is spending roughly half his time trying to get funds to do his research.

"The most important thing of all for the future of the country is to encourage and protect the freedom of research and funding," Clark said.



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