

# Ag survey finds surprising results

By Gene Gentry

The difference between rural and urban students in the College of Agriculture was the topic discussed at this semester's first Chowder East meeting Thursday at the East Union.

About 40 City and East campus faculty attended a presentation given by Richard Waldren, associate professor of agronomy.

Waldren said a survey and a questionnaire was distributed to students in a number of 100- to 400-level classes in the agriculture college. About 717 of the 1,783 enrolled in the college last year answered the questionnaire. The survey included questions about the advantages and/or disadvantages that rural and urban students might have in their respective fields.

"The idea for such a survey arose from concern with the ability of urban students to cope with the problems in the field of agriculture," Waldren said. "We felt they might have a decided advantage not coming from a farm."

Responses from the survey were analyzed, com-

paring students that lived on a farm or ranch (rural) with those that did not (urban) and also comparing students on the basis of farm experience.

Waldren said one of the primary questions on the questionnaire asked students whether they needed a more agriculturally related background for an agriculture class in which they had been enrolled. Waldren said the results surprised him.

"There was no real difference between the urban and rural students' response to that question," he said. Urban students felt they didn't have any more trouble than the rural students."

Of the students surveyed, 68.3 percent lived on a farm or ranch when not in school. Of the remaining 31.7 percent who did not live on a farm or ranch, 12.3 percent had no farm experience, 6.3 percent had 1 to 2 years of experience, 3.9 percent had 3 to 5 years of experience, and 9.2 percent had more than years of farm experience.

Waldren said that even though some students may never have lived on a farm, the usually are familiar with one or two crops or one or two pieces of farm machinery.

He said there were no significant differences between groups in the certainty of career goals or in the number of times they changed career goals before graduation.

"Rural students were more likely to have production agriculture as a career goal," he said. "Students with little or no farm experience were more likely to enter sales, research or a government agency. Student with no farm experience were more likely to major in horticulture or natural resources."

Waldren stressed the importance of rural and urban student interaction in class.

"I wouldn't put rural students in one class and urban students in another," he said. "This survey shows us that urban students are on the same level with rural students in terms of progression."

Waldren said it is important to deal with the rurally based students who come into class abiding only by the "ag-rules" taught to them on the farm.

"We've got to show them that there are other ways of doing things," he said.



Staff photo by Craig Androsen

## Fore!

Actor David Doyle follows through on a shot during Friday's "Celebrity Swing for Youth" Golf Classic at the Lincoln Country Club. The golf classic was organized to increase public awareness about a new program to help high school students who may have drug or alcohol problems. Doyle was joined on the links by several other entertainment and sports personalities.

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## Delta Sigma Phi organizing new chapter

By Terry L. Hyland

A reorganization effort to recruit new members for the Delta Sigma Phi fraternity at UNL is under way after the previous chapter of the fraternity voted to disband at the start of the fall semester.

Erik Johannesen, expansion director of the fraternity's national office in Indianapolis, said the previous members decided to disband because they had financial problems and were not meeting the objectives of the fraternity.

He said the members had not been ejected from the fraternity but that they would not be allowed to participate in the organization's undergraduate activities.

Johannesen said the low grade point average of the fraternity, an ineffective pledge education program, and the unwillingness of the fraternity to cooperate with local alumni were all problems that led to the chapter's termination.

Recruitment efforts on the UNL campus have been "excellent," Johannesen said. About 40 to 50 men have visited his booth in the Nebraska Union, he said, and have shown interest in joining the new chapter.

He said a core group, which will organize the new chapter, will be selected from among the recruits. Assistants from the national office will help with the organization.

Renovation of the fraternity house also will be a part of the reorganization plan. Johannesen said that the house needs painting and interior improvements, and that several windows must be replaced.

The house will be used for social gatherings and meetings this semester but will not be used as living quarters until the spring semester.

Former Delta Sigma Phi President Kelly Vandemheen, of South Sioux City, said that the fraternity had poor pledge recruitment this summer and that the 20 members voted to disband for the good of the fraternity.

## Police...

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- 12:08 p.m. — Narcotics use reported in Abel Hall. No persons contacted or arrested by police.
  - 12:45 p.m. — Property damage reported at 12th and Vine streets.
  - 1:20 p.m. — Assault reported at Memorial Stadium; it stemmed from an argument about seating assignments.
  - 2:46 p.m. — Two persons reported arrested for theft by deception at Memorial Stadium. The two impersonated concessions workers and tricked one worker into giving them popcorn. An officer standing nearby intercepted them.
  - 3:06 p.m. — Checkbook reported lost or stolen at Memorial Stadium.
  - 5:14 p.m. — Billfold reported lost or stolen at Memorial Stadium.
  - 6:01 p.m. — Disturbance reported in Abel fire lane. Persons reportedly were consuming alcoholic beverages in their cars.
  - 9:53 p.m. — Person reported arrested and jailed for driving while intoxicated at 9th and Q streets.

10:55 p.m. — Person reported arrested for disturbance of the peace at Parking Area 2 near 10th and Avery streets. The person was intoxicated.

**Sunday, Sept. 25**  
 12:05 a.m. — Loud stereo reported at 1245 N. 16th St.

12:52 a.m. — Person reported arrested and jailed for driving while intoxicated near 19th and T streets.

3:31 a.m. — Person reported in violation of visiting hours at Nelhardt Hall.

4 a.m. — Attempted burglary reported at UNL Crew Boathouse. No entry gained.

4:15 a.m. — Vandalism reported in Parking Area 3. A stop sign was torn out and left.

9 a.m. — Steam leak reported at 10th and T streets.

11:31 a.m. — Juveniles reported throwing rocks at cattle in the judging pavilion on East Campus. Police contacted and warned the youths.