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## Exotic aromas Spice Food Fest

# World foods, cultures celebrated

By Donna Sisson

A touch of international excitement surrounded the East Union Thursday. The scene was the UNL World Food Festival, a celebration designed to increase awareness of international food.

Six food displays from five world regions were set up. Each food sample was exchanged for a ticket, which could be purchased at the door for 25 cents.

It was a chance to try food samples without a commitment to a massive \$20 meal, said Ed Kaczmarek, a junior geology major.

The Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources committee picked the regions and the recipes were taken from an international cookbook, said Mario Johnston, who organized the food preparations through the East Campus Food Service. Johnston is the East Union assistant food manager.

Sloppy Joes on rolls were chosen to represent North America. Another selection was Tandoori chicken wingettes from Southeast Asia, made from the drumstick part of the chicken wing and flavored with a combination of mustard and curry.

Other food samples included sliced oranges in syrup from the Middle East, egg rolls from the Far East, tortillas con queso from Latin America and a variety of hot teas and coffee from England and Africa.

Johnston said the sample with the most cultural interest was the couscous with vegetables from North Africa. Couscous is a bland dish, resembling cornmeal mush but without the gritty texture, she said.

Eleven exhibits were shown by various departments and clubs. The agronomy club, which deals with soil and crop productions, presented the progress it has made in its Morocco dryland farming project. All exhibitors gave a 3 to 5 minute presentation of how their groups relate to international food.

The most colorful display was done by the Japan-

ese agricultural students. Their display consisted of paper origami dolls, playing cards with flowers instead of traditional American suits and Japanese writing.

The Agricultural Economic Undergraduate Club displayed various facts about Nebraska. Nebraska is the sixth largest food producer in the United States, the exhibit said, and is first in popcorn production. The club gave free popcorn as part of their display.

In the entertainment portion of the festival, the United States was represented by a barbershop quartet that sang and then explained to the audience how the four-part harmonies are put together.

Filipino women demonstrated their traditional folk dancing with an improvisational dance imitating the movement of ducks as they call the attention of their mates. They also did a bamboo pole dance that resembled Chinese jump rope.

Dancers from Japan did a hat dance and a tense martial arts routine. Next was a foot-stomping dance from Latin America, then harmonic songs presented by Korean singers.

Following the entertainment, Vernon Larson, director of International Agriculture Programming at Kansas State University, addressed the audience. He discussed the world food situation, its progress and steps that can be taken to further improve the situation.

A quiz contest featuring questions about the displays and the festival followed the speech. Alpha Zeta, the agriculture honorary, challenged three faculty members. The Alpha Zeta team won and took home a cake and ribbons.

More entertainment by singers and dancers ended the event. The festival attracted a crowd of about 150 people, some from several of the countries represented in the festival.

"We've been planning the festival since last fall and we're excited with the way it turned out," said Lynette Wagner, one of the event's organizers.

## Studies: teacher shortage imminent

By George Phillips

A student teacher from UNL quit to work on an assembly line. The former student teacher's yearly salary equalled the average pay for 13-year veteran teachers at the state's eight top-paying school districts.

John O'Hanlon, dean of UNL's Teachers College, said this is "a pretty good sign of what we value."

If values do not change, O'Hanlon said, teacher shortage predictions may become reality. The American Association of Colleges for Teacher Education predicts a 20 percent teacher shortage within five years. A Texas Christian University study predicted a similar shortage.

According to the TCU study, two-thirds of the nation's college-bound students are not interested in teaching careers. Low salaries and poor advancement opportunities keep them from teaching, the study showed.

Another reason students shy away from teaching careers is the low availability of teaching jobs.

O'Hanlon said this has caused enrollment in the UNL Teachers College to decline. Undergraduate enrollment here peaked in the early 1960s at 4,200 and is currently 2,300, he said.

The foremost concern of parents of college-bound students is the job prospect. In the areas of education where jobs are abundant enrollment has increased. Enrollment has declined O'Hanlon said, where job prospects are dim.

Another reason for decreased UNL enrollment is that teachers do not encourage their students to become teachers as often as they did in the past, O'Hanlon said.

O'Hanlon said he expects enrollment to decrease to 2,000 before it turns around. He said the university's ability to provide the number of teachers needed for the next five to 10 years concerns him.

While the number of graduated teachers is declining, elementary school enrollment is predicted to increase, O'Hanlon said. Increased births, and larger kindergarten and first grade classes show the need for more elementary teachers, O'Hanlon said.

Some states already have shortages of certified teachers, O'Hanlon said. He said Texas is an example; Houston has an agreement to hire almost every teacher that UNL sends to it.

To attract more people to teaching careers, O'Hanlon said, schools should improve pay, advancement opportunities, working conditions and job status.

## RHA revises bylaws

The Residence Hall Association Thursday night passed one revision to its bylaws, but defeated two others.

The approved revision switches the responsibility of presiding over meetings from the vice president to the president.

Among the defeated revisions was one that would have eliminated salaries for RHA executives. Currently the RHA president, vice president, secretary, treasurer and executive assistant are paid a salary.

The other defeated revision would have required all representatives to serve on a committee. Proponents argued that attendance might increase if representatives served on committee. However, RHA members opposed argued that if representatives do not attend meetings, they probably would not be active on committees. Another concern was that the requirement could not be enforced.

Shelley Wolfe, RHA secretary, talked about RHA Week. The Foodfest on March 7, Ash Wednesday, is an opportunity for residents to donate to a local charity the money used to prepare one dinner. Students sign a form distributed by RHA agreeing to have their Validine cards turned off for one meal. The money saved will be donated to the Lincoln Council on Alcoholism and Drugs.

The preliminary rounds of the Trivia Bowl will be March 1 and 2. The Trivia Bowl is a contest between four-person teams trying to answer trivia questions. The top prize is \$100. Applications still are being accepted. The semi-final and final rounds will be open to the public.