

# Business

## Pros, cons well-balanced in UNL residence hall life

By Jana Dahlman Bouma

Living in UNL residence halls balances out, according to several students who live there. For example, a loss of privacy balances with a terrific opportunity to meet other students.

Nancy Johnson, a 1984 graduate who spent three years in the UNL residence halls, said an advantage of dorm life was having her meals cooked for her. "And I didn't have to clean the bathroom," she said. Also, Johnson said, someone is usually around "who's going through the same thing you are."

The Rev. Jim Bauer of the University Lutheran Chapel, said living in residence halls also can leave students feeling overwhelmed by the halls' "mass of humanity." Sharing a room with someone with an opposite lifestyle can also overwhelm freshmen, Bauer said.

Still, UNL requires freshmen who don't live with a relative to live in on-campus housing.

Guriana Wittstruck, assistant director of University Housing, said the on-campus requirement means many freshmen are looking forward to residence-hall life for the first time. Although figures weren't available for the upcoming fall, Wittstruck said that of last year's nearly 5,300 hall residents, more than 2,500 were freshmen.

UNL requires freshmen to live on campus because residence hall life is a good transition from home to school, Wittstruck said. Research shows that students who live on campus do better and stay in school longer than those who live off campus, she said. Of the students who have left UNL during their first two years, she said, 75 percent lived off campus.

Each of the residence halls have their own special features, Wittstruck said. Selleck Hall is close to classrooms, while the Harper-Schramm-Smith complex is more modern. The Abel-Sandoz complex has a swimming pool. The East Campus Burr-Fedde complex is the smallest at UNL, and the Neihardt Residence Center offers the Modern

Language Floor and the International House.

Of these halls, Pound, Smith, Sandoz and Fedde halls are reserved only for female students. Harper and Cather halls are all-male. Both men and women live in Abel, Selleck, Schramm, Neihardt and Burr halls. The halls are separated by floor or wing.

Lori Hulke, a student assistant assigned to Fedde Hall, said that the biggest change most students face when they move into a residence hall is a lack of privacy.

"You're not just living with your  
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Brown Palace Cooperative, 1900 B St.

## Three co-op units university-approved

By Donna Sisson

University Housing policies state that all UNL freshmen who are not Lincoln residents must live in university-approved housing. That means freshman must either join the Greek system or live in the residence halls, right? Wrong.

Cooperative housing provides an out for freshmen not interested in becoming Greeks or dormies.

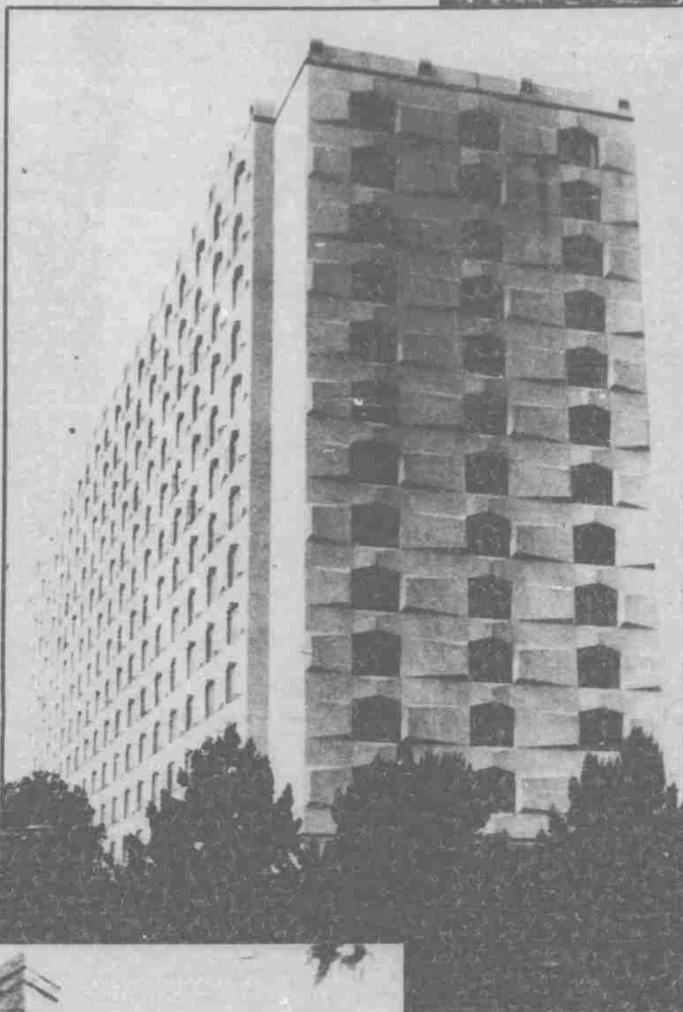
Lincoln has three cooperative housing units: Brown Palace Inc. at 1900 B St.; Cornhusker Co-op at 705 N. 23; and Love Memorial Cooperative for Women on East Campus.

Love Memorial Co-op, which is university affiliated, is an all female co-op. During the school year, it is only open to home economics students.

Cornhusker and Brown Palace co-ops are open to both men and women. University approval is maintained by following housing standards. The standards include forbidding liquor and overnight guests, said the summer manager of Cornhusker Co-op, Greg VanBeek. The Cornhusker rooms are designed like dormitory rooms and are generally double rooms, VanBeek said. Room occupancy depends on how much a person wants to pay for rent, he said.

The major advantage to living in a cooperative is that it is cheaper than the halls or Greek houses, VanBeek said. The co-op hires only a cook because the residents are in charge of running the place, he said.

Each person has one or two jobs to do each week. All residents are responsible for maintenance, which is the whole idea of co-operative living, VanBeek said. The co-op is also self-governed, he said.



David Trouba/Daily Nebraskan

Abel Hall

## Choice includes Greeks

By Patrick Sweeney

While all UNL freshman must live in university-approved housing, they have choices. Of the choices, some opt for Greek housing.

Jayne Wade Anderson, director of Greek Affairs and Cooperatives at UNL, said women generally live in residence halls their first year for two reasons. The sorority houses were built for fewer people. When they were built, it was UNL policy that all women live in residence halls their first year at UNL.

The freshman women have continued to live in the halls because they see it as an advantage, Anderson said. They view living in residence halls as a way to meet more people, she said.

Men, however, usually live in their Greek house for their first year at UNL.

Mike Sophir, the Inter-Fraternity Council rush chairman, said fraternities contact male freshman in three ways.

These include having an incoming freshman check the box on the UNL application, sending in the application that all male freshmen receive or having a fraternity member's recommendation.

The cost of living in a fraternity for a freshman is about \$250 more than the

cost of a residence hall, Anderson said. The next year's costs in the fraternity will be about the same as the costs in the residence halls, she said.

Residence hall rooms will cost \$1,925 for a two-person or three-person room, according to University Housing.

A triple room is a corner room that is big enough to accommodate comfortably three people.

Before moving into a two-person room in a residence hall, the university recommends that students find roommates if possible. This will minimize any surprises brought about by letting housing choose roommates at random. If students know who they want for a roommate, they must send in the two housing contracts together.

Unlike Greek houses, cooperatives require students to do upkeep work on the building and grounds in exchange for savings in room and board. Cooperatives usually cost less than both Greek houses and residence halls. Most cooperatives have only 180 to 200 spaces.

Freshman students should review all possible housing choices by visiting the places that appeal to them the most, Anderson said. They should talk to the residents and former residents about the quality of life in the building and then make an educated choice, she said.



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Kappa Delta sorority house, 405 University Terrace