

# Daily Nebraskan

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## Record numbers register to vote

By Gah Y. Huey  
Daily Nebraskan Senior Reporter

UNL students registering to vote during a statewide drive this year have broken all past registration records, two drive organizers on campus said.

About 1,520 students already have registered — well over the 1,200 record, said Laura Hein, chairwoman of the UNL Government Liaison Committee. The drive began Monday in the Nebraska Union and ends today in the East Union.

The drive, designated "Student Vote '84," is co-sponsored by the Nebraska State Student Association and the Nebraska Coalition of Independent College Students. The joint effort is an attempt to "gain forces with students throughout the state to vote," said Deb Chapelle, executive director for NASA.

Education is a top priority this election, Chapelle said, and students must take an active part in the democratic process.

"Now, more than ever, they are needed to show up, get to the bal-

lot box and let their voices be heard," she said.

Chapelle and Hein agreed that students are becoming more aware of the issues that affect them.

The issues students care about are hitting closer to home, Chapelle said.

The Student Vote '84 drive is designed so students can help students, Chapelle said.

There are about 93,000 students in the state, she said, and many would not vote if the services were not there.

Chapelle said she was excited to see a lot of 18- to 19-year-olds register. Traditionally voters in the 18- to 24-year-old category have lagged behind the rest of the nation.

The effort to increase election awareness will not stop at voter registration, Hein said.

The committee is tentatively planning a "Get Out and Vote" campaign.

The committee also plans to print flyers, provide absentee ballots and inform students on voting, she said.

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Joel Sartore/Daily Nebraskan

### Let's make a deal

Craig Heckman holds up a wild hand of "Uno" during a "Card-A-Thon" Thursday in front of the Nebraska Union. Brian Wolford (center) and Kris Thomas also participated in the event, sponsored by Alpha Delta Pi and Farmhouse. Members from both houses take turns playing cards for two hours each. Proceeds from the 72-hour event will be donated to the Ronald McDonald House.

## Economics enter European's decision to cohabit

By Mona Z. Koppelman  
Daily Nebraskan Senior Reporter

Editor's note: This article is the second of a two-part series.

"Come live with me and be my love," wrote Shakespeare, and more and more couples seem to be following his 17th century advice.

The U.S. Census Bureau reports unmarried households in 1983 tripled the 1970 figure. Western European statistics show even high percentages of cohabitating couples.

Some aspects of cohabitation are new to society, but the practice has been around for centuries. While the term referred to common-law marriages just 20 years ago, cohabitation now indicates a couple is not married at all.

Werner Leinfellner, UNL philosophy professor, said the American cohabitation boom began 15 years ago.

"It came with the hippies and after the Vietnam war," Leinfellner said. "In Europe, it started much earlier."

Leinfellner, who studied and taught in Austria, said Europeans have different views about marriage, sexual

relationships and the role of women — both within a relationship and within society itself.

"Europe did not have the Puritan and Victorian influence of the last century experienced here," he said.

Leinfellner said European couples decide to live together for three major reasons:

- Economic situation. Couples wait until they can fully support themselves and a possible family before marrying.
- University life. European students do not put four- or five-year goals on their college education. This delays their entry in the work force.
- Learning experience. Many European couples want to learn from their mistakes before they get married.

"The idea (of cohabitation) there is not tolerated as a type of marriage," Leinfellner said. "It is tolerated as a way to find a good partner — as a trial marriage."

In Europe and America, young people make up a growing percentage of cohabitating couples. The 1983 census report shows six of 10 unmarried households were under 35.

Abolishing curfews in women's residence halls, coed residence halls and the increasing number of college students living in apartments were reasons cited by

sociologists for the rise in the number of student couples cohabitating.

New York sociologist Eleanor D. Macklin examined studies of American college students. She found that 25 percent had cohabitated, and 50 percent would — if there was a strong, affectionate and monogamous relationship between the couple.

Macklin listed three categories for cohabitation agreements:

- Casual or temporary involvement
- Preparation or testing for marriage
- Substitute or alternative for marriage

Leinfellner teaches in his ethics of marriage class that casual cohabitation can develop as a result of our "underground sex life."

Studies have indicated 50 percent of our sexual lives takes place in fantasy. In Europe, Leinfellner said, people have three socially accepted outlets for fantasy: flirtation, complement and open social contact or communication.

In America, outlets are traditionally limited. We often think we should only fantasize about our partners, Leinfellner said.

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## Political interns get first-hand look at Nebraska's campaign process

By John Meissner  
Daily Nebraskan Senior Reporter

Greg Park's equanimity belies his age. His ambition defies contemporary convention. Yet both qualities seem to be characteristic of Park's not-so-ordinary upbringing.

Park is a student intern in Sen. J. James Exon's reelection campaign. He and his supervisor, Kathleen Neary, coordinate all of the UNL campus activities.

Park is a freshman. Neary, also an intern, is one year older.

"I've been in politics since I was 10 years old," Park said. "My mother was a state senator and I worked at the grass roots level when Sen. Exon ran six years ago."

Seeing the internship as an opportunity to contribute this time around, Park applied for a position through UNL Experiential Education director Millie Katz. His age prompted concerns about experience.

"When I applied, people said I didn't need to bother, they only took sophomores, juniors or seniors," he said. "I had to convince them I wasn't a total neophyte."

Park inherited the task of "getting Exon's name

before the public" — primarily the football-hungry sector.

On game days, his team distributes Exon leaflets, trash bags and stickers. Park approaches something so seemingly mundane like a true politician: by responding to a decree that lapel stickers couldn't be distributed north of O Street (because of the clean-up problem), by marching his troops one block south and by questioning why the Tassels organization didn't complain about competition from Hoch balloons last Saturday.

Neary, meanwhile, leads the Young Democrats for Exon campaign, manning booths and taking student polls. She began the internship in May, "first, because of the candidate, and second, for a first-hand look at how the political process works."

"My family, well, my father, had a political background," she said. "He saw I had an interest and encouraged me."

The pre-law student didn't shy away from stumping for her candidate or taking a jibe at his opponent's campaign.

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