

Daily Nebraskan

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University of Nebraska-Lincoln

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Weather: Partly cloudy and warmer today with a high of 52 (11C). Slight chance of showers late tonight with a low of 32 (0C). Mostly cloudy and cooler on Wednesday with possible rain showers and a high of 41 (5C).

Bob Brubecker/Daily Nebraskan

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Study tours to Paris, Berlin, London

Travels abroad earn summer credit

By Pat Miklos
Staff Reporter

Editor's note: This is the second article in a five-part series exploring ways students can spend the summer. Other articles will be on working and traveling in the United States and abroad, as well as a look at some locally based internship programs. Because most of these programs have early deadlines, it's important for students to start applying now — besides, it's almost summer.

Summer brings visions of lazy, hazy, hot days — and no school.

But UNL officials say summer is the ideal time for studying, at home and abroad.

Consider a few options: You could stick close to home and take a course or two at UNL. Or, if you're the more adventurous type, you could get out of the country and spend the summer earning class credit abroad.

Opportunities to study French in France, eco-

nomics in Switzerland and city planning in Paris, Berlin and Moscow — all for college credit — exist through UNL.

Students have two options for international summer study programs: summer tours or actually living in another country and going to school there.

The Overseas Opportunities Center, Nebraska Union 345, is headquarters for both programs. Clrista Joy, coordinator of the tour programs, said the 1985 summer tours consist of small groups of students under the direction of a professor. Students study areas pertinent to their future career.

Specific tours abroad offered this summer include:

• "Comparative Study of Planning in Major World Cities," May 13 to June 6, featuring stops in Paris, Berlin, London, Moscow and Leningrad.

• A vocational education seminar in Denmark, the Netherlands and Germany, June 9 to July 1, presented by the Teachers College.

• "The Gardens, Birds and Natural Areas of Southern England," May 19 to June 4. (Non-

credit)

The OOC also plans a tour of New York City for people interested in fashion. It is sponsored by the College of Home Economics, June 2 to 9.

Students on the tours lodge in budget hotels and their itinerary allows some free time for exploring in addition to the activities scheduled by the professor, Joy said. The program gives students both "a feel for the country and invaluable field experience," she said.

One drawback to earning credit abroad through the summer programs: cost. For example, the OOC's 25-day comparative study tour costs about \$2,300 plus tuition, Joy said.

Students who have initiative can organize their own overseas study programs.

Rod Merta of the OOC said many students use the center's library to select an overseas school. Merta and his staff then help them get applications and course catalogs for these schools on microfiche. Students have to do their own leg work, he said, but the rewards are worth it.

"By going overseas you gain skills you can apply later, from school and from living in a

different culture," Merta said.

"The two major worries students have before going abroad are cost and course transferability," he said. But, he said, many U.S. grants and loans can be applied to overseas universities. Also, the OOC can advise travel-bound students on how to reduce transportation costs.

UNL has agreements and programs with some overseas universities, thus eliminating problems with credit transfers in some cases. UNL also belongs to groups of U.S. universities that have programs overseas.

If UNL does not actually have a program at a specific overseas college, chances are it belongs to a group that does, Merta said.

Studying abroad is the best way to see Europe, Merta said.

For students not up to worldwide travel, UNL offers its own programs all summer. Herb Small, UNL assistant director of summer sessions, identified several advantages to attending summer school — anywhere.

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Election officials say low turnout follows state, national trend

By Gene Gentrup
Senior Reporter

Voter turnout for this year's ASUN elections is expected to be low again, but one ASUN official said the low voter-turnout is part of a nationwide trend.

Marlene Beyke, ASUN's director of development, said it "wouldn't be fair" to call low student government election voter turnout a student apathy problem, because statewide and national issues get similar treatment on election day.

Last year 11.8 percent of all registered UNL students voted in the ASUN election. This was down from 15.3 percent in 1983.

Last year, Beyke said, only three polling places were used instead of seven which were previously used, because less money was available. She said about \$2,200 is used for the entire election day process.

Beyke said the fact that there were four fewer polling booths last year than in 1983 should not have affected voter turnout.

Booths were set up in the Nebraska and East unions and in Nebraska Hall, the same format to be used Wednesday.

"If students are truly educated voters, they'll make the effort to vote," Beyke said.

Polling places are decided by the UNL electoral commission, which consists of four students, including commission director Dave Spencer. Two faculty members also serve on the commission.

The Aim II ad hoc committee was formed by Oltmans and current ASUN president Mark Scudder to push for a high voter turnout in Wednesday's election, Oltmans said.

"We're trying to shoot down the argument that... 'I don't know what's on the ballot,'" Oltmans said. "This should not be a reason for not voting." Beyke said students need to be aware of what ASUN can do.

"Without student input, there would not be student representation on a lot of activities and the administration would run the campus," she said.

Beyke said organizations like the university Judicial Board, Union Board, Publications Board, the Committee for Fees Allocations and other campus committees and boards would no longer have the student voice.

She said students need to be educated on ASUN. "Until you see the other side you don't have the entire picture," she said.

School prayer bill evokes debate

By Brad Gifford
Senior Reporter

Opponents of a bill that would require Nebraska schools to begin each day with a moment of silence told the Legislature's Judiciary Committee on Monday that students already have the individual right to silent prayer, so there is no need for a law allowing such.

But Judy Zabel of Western said her son, who attends a small, rural school, was denied that right.

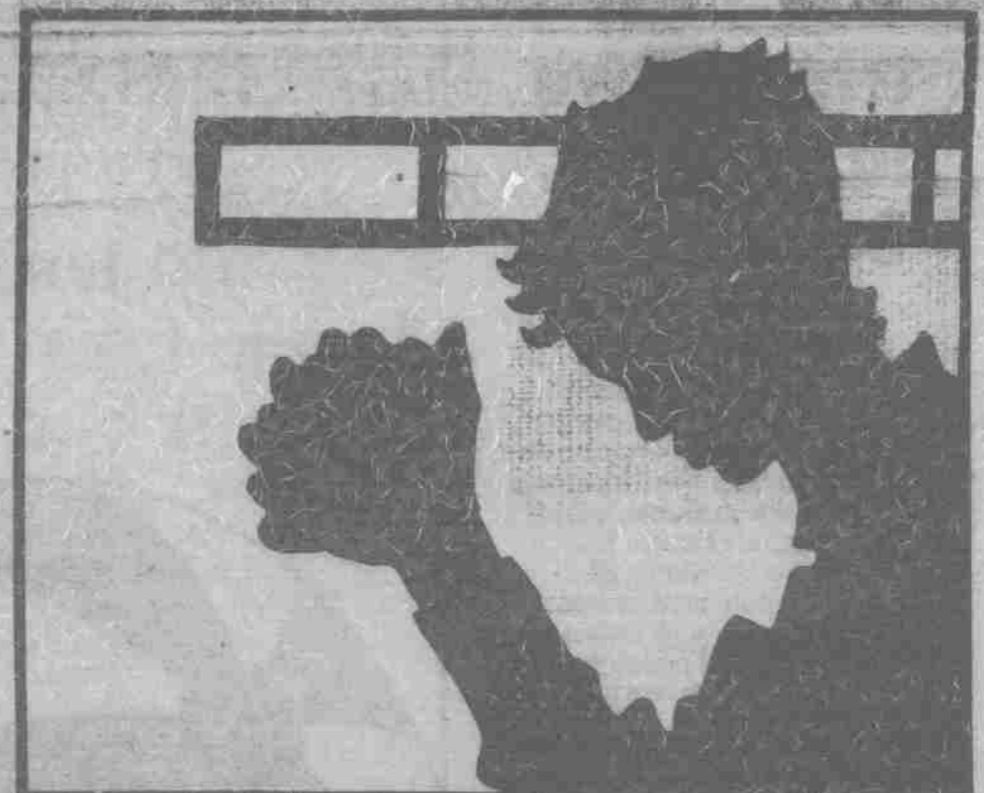
She said a teacher scolded her son, Matt, after he bowed his head before eating lunch. Zabel said her family always thanks God for the food before them. She said the teacher told Matt, who was in kindergarten, that prayer was a "no-no" in school.

Therefore, Nebraska needs LB173 to protect every student's rights, she said.

Sen. Arlene Nelson of Woodridge said the bill would not invoke mandatory school prayer, but would merely allow students to pray silently without interruption.

"A student of any religious persuasion, or a student of no religious persuasion, can use this time as he or she wants," Nelson said.

Bill Lingren-Finlaw, a United Methodist minister, predicted the law could lead to a denominational bias. He said he has "mashed-in several silent prayers" but that Jesus said people should not pray in



Ron Albertson/Daily Nebraskan

public. He said he also opposes the bill because it contradicts the First Amendment.

The Supreme Court is expected to rule on the constitutionality of school prayer soon. Sen. John DeCamp of Neligh, sponsor of the bill, said Nebraska could avoid legal hassles that the high court decision might cause by passing the measure.

The bill calls for a "period of silence not to exceed one minute" to be used for "meditation or voluntary prayer."

"The period of silence shall in no way mandate a belief or disbelief in

a higher being," the bill's last sentence states.

Sen. Ernest Chambers of Omaha said if teachers told students the silent period was for prayer, they would be violating the law. If teachers offer no direction, students will not know what they are supposed to do in those 60 seconds, he said.

Justin King, representing the Nebraska Association of School Boards, said his organization is neutral on the bill but against mandatory school prayer, which he said could be a result of LB173.

Gorbachev vows to pursue detente

The Renter News Report

MOSCOW — Mikhail Gorbachev, a symbol of the Kremlin's "new breed," took control of the Soviet Union with lightning speed Monday after the death Sunday of President Konstantin Chernenko — and vowed to pursue detente with the West and economic reform at home.

"We are not looking for superiority over the United States," he said, as he became Communist Party chief and at 54, the youngest leader since Joseph Stalin. Chernenko, who died late Sunday, at 73, was the oldest chief in Soviet

history. An official medical report said he died of heart failure brought on by emphysema — an illness which dogged him from the day he took office in February 1984.

A short time later, Soviet television showed the new leader leading the Politburo at Chernenko's lying in state in the Hall of Columns in Red Square. Chernenko, hailed by Gorbachev for his "great and glorious" achievements, will be buried in Red Square on Wednesday.

Diplomats see the promotion of the reform-minded Gorbachev, a protégé of former leader Yuri Andropov, as starting a new phase in Soviet history after a

decade of elderly and ailing leaders.

They predict — as Gorbachev declared in his acceptance — little drift in Soviet foreign policy, but forecast striking change on the domestic front and a shakeup of the entrenched bureaucracy.

In Washington, President Reagan, who was awakened with the news at 4 a.m. Monday said he had sent his condolences to the Kremlin and offered to continue efforts to improve relations between the superpowers.

Of Gorbachev, Reagan said: "I am anxious to meet him. Very much so."

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Where to go to vote

Polls for Wednesday's ASUN election will be open from 8 a.m. until 8 p.m. at three locations on campus.

Marlene Beyke, ASUN director of development, said there will be voting booths at the Nebraska and East unions and in Nebraska Hall on City Campus.

Beyke said students wishing to vote must bring their current student I.D. card. Those students who have submitted their student I.D. with their football ticket application also will be eligible to vote but to do so, they must vote at the ASUN office, Nebraska Union 115.

Curt Oltmans, ASUN first vice president, said one study showed that last year not one college or university in the United States had more than 20 percent voter turnout for student body elections.