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Weather: Another perfect day with partly cloudy skies and a high of 71 (22C). Cloudy and warm tonight with a low of 40 (4C). Partly cloudy and cooler Thursday with a slight chance of showers and a high of 64 (18C).

Bob Brubacher/Daily Nebraskan

Summer '85 job grab bag...Page 11

A miracle on 11th Street...Page 12

Good Grades:

Will they get you a job?

By Ann Lowe
Staff Reporter

Editor's note: This is the third article in a series aimed at helping students preparing to enter the job market. Other stories will be on alternatives to the nine-to-five work world and a feature on the perennial/professional student.

It's getting toward semester's end — time for a last attempt to pull out of an academic nosedive. It's hard, you say, with a part-time job and campus activities eating up your study time. Still, you think you should try for better grades. After all, you'll be job hunting soon.

Relax, says Gerry Phaneuf, director of UNL's Career Planning and Placement Center. Good grades can sometimes help you in the job market, Phaneuf said, but average grades won't hurt. In fact, your activities and work experience probably will count more than your grades when you look for a job.

"Ninety percent of the companies that interview here won't care about GPA — unless it's really bad," Phaneuf said.

Employers used to consider grades heavily in their decisions to hire, Phaneuf said. In the last seven to 10 years, however, they have begun to look harder at the "total package" of work experience, campus activities and personality, he said.

Continued on Page 7

Kerrey says proposals would enhance education

By Gene Gentrup
Senior Reporter

Funding for a state scholarship program and a governor-appointed NU Board of Regents are two key measures now before the Legislature that would enhance the quality of Nebraska post-secondary education, Gov. Bob Kerrey said Tuesday.

Kerrey, speaking at the Nebraska State Student Association's ninth Legislative assembly in the Nebraska Union, said LB190 would increase some of the competition between Nebraska's higher educational institutions.

LB190 would set aside \$3.3 million from \$10 million in revenue from a proposed Nebraska future fund. Kerrey said money for the future fund would be generated by an increase in the state's cigarette tax, assuming the federal government drops its 8-cent cigarette tax next fall as scheduled.

"The bill would create a more healthy environment under which our institutions will have to compete and will have to perform in order to receive this money," Kerrey said.

He said the \$3 million is a fraction of the \$220 million that will be spent on the state's higher education institu-

tions. But that money's significance will be "far-reaching," Kerrey said.

Kerrey said that if people are going to elect the Board of Regents, the voters need to know what is required of a regent and how those requirements have changed.

"The types of skills we need on the Board of Regents are very difficult to select through an elected process," Kerrey said. "The skills required today, are skills that require people to understand the personnel process — how do you select good people? How do you put a pay plan into effect? How do you allocate resources so as to have money for salaries — which I argue, are first-dollar expenditures? How do you make technological decisions? We've got to confront technology today and get that technology incorporated into our educational system."

Kerrey said many people who have those skills do not run for election.

"It's come to a point in time where we're going to have to select not only what we're going to be, but where we're going to put our first-dollar investment," he said, "and I think it's going to be very difficult to make those kind of decisions when we're electing that board."



Mark Davis/Daily Nebraskan

Greeks on a stick?

Missy Johnson, a member of Pi Beta Phi sorority, climbs to the top of a perch in front of the Phi Gamma Delta fraternity house, 1425 R St., Tuesday. The Pi Betas and the Pi Phis are taking turns sitting on the pole for a total of 100 hours this week to raise money for the Valley Hope Alcoholism Counseling and Referral Center, 3410 O St. They hope to raise \$2,500 through donations and pledges.

East Union cafeteria reputedly better

By Jonathan Taylor
Staff Reporter

Regular residence hall cafeteria food it's not, and it's served in a cafeteria that doesn't look like one.

The Nebraska East Union cafeteria has dark wooden tables and gray cushioned chairs, much like those in restaurants. And the food served there is good enough to attract hordes of hungry students — from both campuses.

East Campus' reputation for fine cuisine dates back to the opening of the East Union in 1977, said Daryl Swanson, Nebraska and East unions director. Swanson attributed part of the initial enthusiasm for the cafeteria to the fact that the building was badly needed on East Campus.

People flocked to use it because it was the "new thing to do," he said.

But Dan Young, food service manager during the cafeteria's heyday, said the building wasn't the only reason for the cafeteria's success.

"The newness was wonderful, but the newness doesn't create quality food," he said.

Young, who became food service director at Lincoln's Bryan Memorial Hospital last June, said that initially he and his staff "didn't want to be considered an institutional food service."

To avoid that label, Young, who got some of his food service experience as a U.S. Army dietitian, tried to come up with good, consistent recipes and prepare the food carefully. There are no secret sauces — Young said it took more than a year to develop the menu now in use. Other than that, he said, he knew of no differences between the east cafeteria and other UNL food services.

However, Marijo Johnston, who is the current Nebraska East Union food service manager, said the east cafeteria can't rely on a captive audience like other food services do.

"We have to draw in the cash customer," Johnston said.

Only about half of the 1,800 daily east cafeteria patrons are residence hall students, Johnston said. So east cafeteria staff members try to make sure "civilian customers" who don't have to eat at a university cafeteria keep coming back. But because all university food services receive supplies from UNL's central food store, few major changes can be made in the items on the menu, Johnston said.

Thus, subtle differences are responsible for the east cafeteria's culinary reputation, she said.

Having cash customers who may take their business elsewhere allows more freedom to experiment with garnishes, Johnston said.

Another difference: the enormous dessert selection. Johnston, who was assistant food service manager for about three years, said City Campus desserts are prepared at Abel Hall food service, then catered to the other residence hall cafeterias. On East Campus, however, the cafeteria makes its own desserts.

Johnston, who also is a dietitian, said her staff's educational background and experience with college food services may be another reason for East Campus' high food quality. Johnston and her staff can identify with students' tastes because they too, ate college food and know the wants and needs of hungry college students.

The initial immense popularity of the east cafeteria is partly responsible for a 65-cent surcharge for "transfer students" — those from City Campus.

Continued on Page 6