

Daily Nebraskan

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Weather: Mostly sunny today however expect hot and humid conditions to persist. Southerly winds 5-15 mph with a high of 94 (34C). Partly cloudy tonight with a 20 percent chance of thunderstorms. Expect a low of 70 (21C). Outlook for the remainder of the week calls for hot and humid conditions with highs in the lower to middle 90s (32C), lows around 70 (21C).
Barb Branda/The Nebraskan

Youths leave streets; stay on 'track'...Page 7

Roots-rock revived by Midwest rocker...Page 5



Earl and Marie Riffey polka dance at the 24th annual Wilber Czech Festival. The Riffeys traveled from Grovertown, Ind., for the festival that attracted people nationwide. For more on the festival, turn to page 6.

Freshmen advised to explore options

By Deb Pederson
Senior Reporter

UNL freshmen know what to expect from college — it's just in acting on those expectations that some have problems, UNL officials said.

Assistant Director of Admissions and Advising, Alan Cerveny and the Director of the UNL Counseling Center, Vernon Williams, both said UNL freshmen were realistic about college in contrast to a recent survey of Pennsylvania State University freshmen.

The survey said that freshmen had highly unrealistic expectations about their grades, choice of major, study skills and study hours.

In grade expectations, UNL students indicate how they think they will do on their admissions application. Using that indicator, UNL freshmen seem to be right on target in assessing their academic performance, Cerveny said.

The record shows the first semester is the roughest, Cerveny said. But the students usually adjust and fulfill their expectations throughout the rest of their undergraduate career, he said.

Williams said grade performance wasn't always a matter of ability, but a matter of translating what to do on an everyday basis to fulfill the expectations.

For example, students may not be used to studying daily for a few hours, Williams said. Or changes in their personal lives could disrupt their academic performance. Also, some students are distracted from their studies by their social life, he said.

But while most students may not be

as efficient as they could, they still get the job done, Williams said.

The Pennsylvania State University survey reported that only 13 percent of the freshmen knew a great deal about their major and only 14 percent had participated in a number of related activities.

This result is not surprising because students sometimes feel they have to declare a major, even when they are undecided, when they enter college, Williams said. Society attaches a stigma to being undecided, he said. For example, one of the first questions a freshman is asked is their choice of major, he said.

Both Cerveny and Williams said students shouldn't have to decide a major early in their college career.

Cerveny said the university is "a great place to explore" options.

Sometimes it's better to go undecided and take electives that apply to general requirements and then declare a major, Cerveny said. Most studies show that about half of incoming college students are undecided as to their major, he said. And it's not uncommon for students to change majors three to five times during their academic careers, he said.

Williams said the average person changes careers at least three and sometimes up to ten times in a lifetime. So it is unrealistic for a student to stick with one major throughout the entire college career, he said.

The worst situation is when an undecided student declares a major and doesn't explore other areas, Williams said.

Take a class 'on the tube'

By Kip Fry
Staff Reporter

Nebraska Educational Television has proof that television can be educational. All you have to do is watch Channel 12 and you can see NETV's alternative to the regular fare of a classroom setting.

NETV is once again offering a number of telecourses which will allow people in other parts of the state or those with class conflicts the chance to take a course via the air waves.

However, to call it a telecourse, is actually a misnomer, according to the director of UNL Academic Telecommunications.

"It is actually mixed media," said Linda Degrand. "It's just that some of the instruction is via the television."

The process to take such a course may sound complicated, but it is not as bad as it sounds, Degrand said. The actual courses are broadcast at set

times. These are produced at places outside of Lincoln, and are led by people not affiliated with UNL.

After being shown on television, the student can contact a UNL faculty member who is in charge of giving assignments and giving and grading tests.

"He is actually a resource person, because he works on a tutorial basis," Degrand said.

David Rapkin is one of these people. He is responsible for the telecourse on "War."

"There's not much opportunity to meet with the students," Rapkin said, "so I like to give them an introductory phone call before the class starts. So students do have access to me. At the same time, there are a lot of students on campus who never ask questions or talk to the teacher, so it may not be all that different."

Rapkin will hold office hours one night a week when the students can

reach him by calling an 800 number.

Degrand said 60 percent of those people across the country who take similar courses already have undergraduate hours to their credit and they just want to get back into the academic arena. Because they are being broadcast, the course can be taken from anywhere in the state, so it offers an alternative to driving to a distant campus.

It was mostly home-bound people who used to register for the courses, Degrand said, but now there are a larger proportion of people getting involved.

It may be a little tricky to take and give exams, he said but they are taken and given nonetheless. The student in out-state Nebraska must report to an approved proctor in his general local who has received the test in the mail. After it is taken, the exam is sent back to Lincoln to be graded by the instructor.

One of the advantages with the pro-

gram over regular classes is that students can take the test whenever they are ready. This way they can move at their own pace.

"Congress: We the People" offers an inside view of the U.S. Congress. It will be a three credit hour course and will be taught by William Avery, associate professor of political science.

"Business of Management," taught by Kenneth Anderson for three credit hours, will emphasize essential skills of management.

In "The Mechanical Universe" an understanding of classical mechanics will be covered through computer animation and other techniques. It will be taught by Edward G. Schmidt and will be for four credit hours.

An institutional analysis of war as a mechanism to settle disputes among nations will be studied in "War", Rapkin's three credit hour course.

Two credit hours can be earned in "The New Literacy," a class taught by David Davies. The course is an introduction to computers and computer applications. The course is similar to the old course called "Making It Count," the two courses are the same except a section on microprocessors.

The courses are \$46.60 per credit hour, and the materials are extra. For those who choose to take a course for no credit, it is \$20 per credit hour.

For more information, call the UNL Division of Continuing Studies at 472-3587.

Women in management balance career, family

By Cynthia Hutchinson
Staff Reporter

Women in management face problems in balancing career and family, overcoming "office politics" and climbing the corporate ladder, according to six women panelists who discussed "Current Issues Pertinent to Women in Management" at a conference last week at the Nebraska Center for Continuing Education, 33rd and Holdrege streets.

The panel discussion, held Friday, concluded the two-day Women in Management Conference, Aug. 1-2, sponsored by the UNL Department of Conferences and Institutes and Susan Scott Associates, management training consultants. The conference was designed

to help women develop management and advancement skills.

Panel member Linda Tuttle, vice president of BLN Investment Corporation, said the panel agreed that balancing a career and family has to be a "very personal decision." A woman has to decide how to spend her time, she said, but for a woman in a management position such a balance can be difficult. "There are exchanges you make," she said.

Some women find they have to lower their "standards of perfection" in order to get everything done, she said.

But she said she did not detect among the other panel members, women executives and administrators, that standards were lower with respect to raising children.

Marcia Phelps Glynn, director of the Human Resources Division at American Charter Federal Savings and Loan Association, said, "what happens is that you spend less time with your children but the time you do spend with them is 'quality time.'"

She said three key issues for a woman balancing a career and family are having a positive self-image, knowing strengths and talents and effectively managing time and stress. She called time-management the "overriding factor" for a single, working parent.

Another current issue discussed by the panel in the 45-minute talk centered on "office politics" or the informal power structure found in organizations.

This structure consists of informal

decisions made by men when they go out for a drink or go bowling after work, Tuttle said, and it's difficult for women managers to break into this "network."

But she said that women should not become "embroiled" in office politics in a way that affects their main goal, "to do the best job they possibly can," she said.

The panel discussed ways to overcome the men's network, Tuttle said. The solutions focused on females working together, going out with the guys if it feels "natural and appropriate" or going one-on-one with male managers.

Phelps said she never really had

a problem with breaking into the informal power structure of her organization. She finds common grounds with men in her work environment and from there builds a personal relationship.

Panel members also discussed advancement or "moving up the ladder." The discussion indicated that many of the women in the audience and on the panel had not expected to advance as far as they had.

Phelps said the financial industry where she works is "conservative" and "there's a very clear level where there are no women." She said such a level was not "calculated" it's just that women do not have the experience yet to fill those positions.

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