

# Award-winning proposal could help UNL students facing financial pressures from the ag crisis

By Kip Fry  
Staff Reporter

UNL students whose parents are having financial difficulties on their family farms could be helped if a plan that won the \$1,000 Harry and Helen Simon Memorial Award is adopted.

Andy Jacobitz and Jeff Dillow won the award for their idea that would provide counseling for those students facing financial pressures.

"It won't solve the farm crisis," said Jacobitz, a junior agriculture major.

"But it could solve some of the resulting frustrations (from financial hardships)."

Through such counseling, students should be able to develop a more positive attitude to help them deal with pressures back home and to find alternatives to the problems, the two wrote in their proposal.

Jacobitz and Dillow, a junior biology major, said they got the idea for the program from friends in similar situations.

Students in the program initially would be counseled and trained by professional counselors, psychologists and career-development personnel. They would then do volunteer work in their home communities, which thus would benefit from their efforts.

Jacobitz said the idea "grew out of what other groups on campus were doing, and we said, 'we've got to expand on this some.'"

He said they will need to study the idea more before anything is started. However, there is quite a bit of interest in the plan he said.

"Getting the award is a neat thing to say about public service," Jacobitz said, "because people tend to think students are apathetic."

The Simon award, funded by Robert and Walter Simon in memory of their parents, was first presented last year. Robert Simon is chairman of the board of directors of Ben Simon's Clothing Store, a position his father also held.

"During his lifetime, Harry Simon

was very involved in volunteer work for the good of the community, and he thought everyone should do something to give back to the community," said Ed Hirsch, executive vice president of the NU Foundation.

The criteria of the proposal include community need, feasibility and quality of planning and presentation, said Millie Katz, coordinator of the Internship and Cooperative Education Office and facilitator of the Simon Award Committee. The award also must benefit a Nebraska community by helping them deal with critical problems which are not currently being dealt with.

Other proposals for the award included a scoliosis screening program for high-school juniors and seniors; a bed-and-breakfast program to unite city and rural people; development of a brochure outlining scholarships available to UNL students; recruiting volunteers for a national literacy hotline; and a counseling program for local women with limited resources.

*Following Debby through the trees and killing the grass*

GEOMETRY from Page 1

Here is the tree where Debra Winger screamed naughty words at Jeff Daniels in "Terms of Endearment," then chased him through the campus.

Deb and Jeff probably created a lot of bisecting rays, congruent alternate exterior angles and complementary angles on that chase!

On a recent afternoon, a woman dressed in shades, shorts and a Greek T-shirt was doing auxiliary lines through the 30-60-90 triangle.

The woman said she was just trying to save some time but wasn't really late for class. She refused to give her name.

"You're ashamed, aren't you? You don't want your friends to read in the paper about how you killed innocent grass blades, do you?" She quickly walked away.

Finding people cutting through grass is getting difficult, because the grounds department works hard to make real paths where paths are created by foot paths and puts up temporary fences to encourage people to use the sidewalks.

Bud Dasenbrock, grounds director said only a few pedestrians use the grass more than sidewalks.

"I don't think they're being irresponsible," Dasenbrock said. "They're not being rebellious. But there's a free spirit in college that says 'we like to go where we want to go.'"

The sidewalks should be widened, he said. In fact, original campus plans called for wide malls that would lead people into campus naturally. But widening must wait because most of the department's budget goes to repairing walks and putting in new paths where students are creating them anyway.

Generally the grounds department doesn't mind if people use the grass.

"We want people to use it just like their home lawns, for sitting and studying or for class."

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