

David's depression drove him to death

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Menolascino says about one-third of the people with schizoid personalities learn to live with the symptoms: marked shyness, coolness, social awkwardness. Another third may become schizophrenic: a chronic mental disorder causing bizarre behavior and distortion of reality. David didn't fit neatly into either category. He was an introverted person who had periodic bouts — psychotic breaks, they're called — of disorientation and depression. Everybody experiences some depression. But David's depressions were deeper and more traumatic because of the chemical imbalance. If a person can make it through these episodes of extreme depression, they will be okay for awhile, Menolascino says. But it's common for such people to turn on themselves during times of stress and depression.

David had attempted suicide before, during such psychotic breaks, his psychiatrist said. He had four breaks, all of them late in his life. The illness

commonly grows worse as the victim reaches adolescence, the psychiatrist says, with the pressures of school, jobs and dating. David was aware of the problem, even before Georgetown doctors gave him the medical explanation. He had been seeing Menolascino for 18 months.

But between those terrifying bouts with depression, there was another David Myers.

He graduated in the top 1 percent of his high school class. He was accepted to Princeton, where he majored in philosophy. He had traveled in 50 different countries in five different continents. He was fluent in Spanish and wanted to spend a semester studying in Madrid. He loved literature and philosophy. Kurt Vonnegut and Plato were his favorites. David had decided that, someday, he wanted to be an investment analyst and dutifully read the Wall Street Journal. He ran three miles a day and played tennis. He loved going to the movies. His favorites were "Animal House," "Risky

Business" and "Ferris Bueller's Day Off." On weekends, he hung out in New York City comedy clubs. His favorite was a place called "Catch a Rising Star."

Before David left for Princeton to begin his junior year, he seemed fine. His father says David was enthusiastic about starting school again, about getting back to philosophy and playing some tennis.

Menolascino says he isn't sure what triggered David's fourth psychotic break. A combination, probably, of a new apartment, new classes. There is no cure for David's illness. He was being treated with anti-depressant drugs and therapy. But because of the nature of David's personality, Menolascino says, he was always at risk.

On Sept. 16, the day David suffered his final break, he went to an afternoon class and then to a computer store. He left the store at 4:15 p.m. and went home. When his roommate came home at 4:37 p.m., he found David

bleeding heavily from self-inflicted stab wounds to the chest, stomach and left wrist. He lived 10 more hours.

* * *

The minister is making his closing remarks now, urging those in the congregation to learn from David's life and death.

"We need to confront mental ill-

ness openly... honestly... to realize that it's a medical illness, just like cancer or diabetes or anything else... and it can be treated. If anyone feels something might be wrong, seek out professional help...

"And so we say to you, David, child of light, beloved, 'We love you, and we wish you eternal happiness.'"

Slowly, quietly, the funeral home begins to empty.

Women in Education Administration: ranks grow in male-dominated field

By Joeth Zucco
Staff Reporter

A national trend toward women working in education administration, traditionally a male-oriented field, is growing, said Marilyn Grady, assistant professor of education administration at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

Grady said female students are coming to UNL for master's, specialists and doctorate degrees in education administration.

Although many women attend UNL for education administration, they have few role models in the state, Grady said. There is only one female superintendent of a public school district in Nebraska, she said.

Grady's department, the department of education administration in Teachers College, and several other departments on campus are sponsoring the Women in Education Administration Conference Sunday through Tuesday at the Nebraska Center for Continuing Education.

Grady said the objective of the conference is to get "women together who could be role models for our students and show that there's hope."

Speakers at the event will include Anne Flowers, University of Georgia; Suzanne S. Brown, Pennsylvania State University; June E. Gabler, Fort Dodge Community

School District in Fort Dodge, Iowa; and Alice M. Dittman, the Cornhusker Bank of Lincoln.

Dittman is the only major speaker who works outside of education. She said she thinks there should be more women in responsible positions within the university.

"The seminars that are hard hitting and demanding expand the possibility of that happening," Dittman said.

Grady said besides the main speakers, men and women in education administration have been invited so that there is something for everyone.

A survey of 477 people in the area was conducted in December 1986 to determine what kinds of topics would be of interest, Grady said. The responses included managerial conflicts, and managing and motivating personnel.

Besides the UNL department of education administration, Grady said, several organizations and offices on campus have contributed to the conference to help lower the price for those attending to \$40.

"The money to pay for it strikes me as being real important," Grady said. "The people we want to come are people who are interested and who need role models, and those are who usually don't have money. The contributors made it an accessible activity."

U.S. lacks pool of talent, speaker says

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the U.S. share of the international market, he said.

Japanese industries emphasize quality by applying new technology to industrial processes, Inman said. The Japanese have five-to-one more engineers in factories than the United States.

The United States' pool of talent is

declining, but it still leads in technological development, Inman said. The United States should make use of its technology-creating base, which is the largest in the world, by offering sizable grants to graduate students in science and engineering, he said. He also cited tax credits as incentives for industries investing in research.

Inman warned that leadership in

these areas will come from state and local governments instead of the federal government. It will take full cooperation of educators, industries, and state and local governments, he said. If the United States does not act quickly, he said, future generations will suffer the consequences of a poor-quality education and a lower standard of living.

Police department policy questioned

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needs to be flexible, allowing for officers' illnesses and emergency calls.

The officers who met with the ombudsman said Cauble allegedly used the dispatch room on at least one occasion for a personal argument and asked the dispatcher to leave the room while calls were coming in. The officers said they believed personal dis-

putes between Cauble and a female employee carried over into the work place.

In a response dated June 23, which was later submitted to the ombudsman, Cauble said, "There has never and will never be a domestic (dispute) involving me at the department because I have no relationship that would bring this about."

Cauble wrote that the incident

involved a worker who was performing below standard and argued the points Cauble was making.

Ombudsman Lux recommended that the dispatch room be used only for dispatch, and communications and administrative discussion with employees that may become heated be conducted exclusively in the privacy of other offices.



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