

# Dating services satisfy customers

## Businesses lose to marriage

By Shawn Schudies  
Staff Reporter

Few businesses lose satisfied customers, but for New Beginnings it's just part of the dating game.

Charlene Johns, owner of New Beginnings, 13937 Gold Circle, Omaha, said members of her dating service naturally leave when they start seeing just one person or get married. During the past eight years, New Beginnings has been responsible for 1,005 weddings, she said.

**'We're the only service that loses clients because they're happy.'**  
—Johns

"We're the only service that loses clients because they're happy," Johns said.

Other dating services have also been responsible for several marriages.

Roger Yant, owner of the Blue Moon Dating Service, 2225 Lake St., said 32 people who met through the Blue Moon have been married.

Dave Osborn, owner of Perfect Strangers Singles Group, 102 N. 48th St., Omaha, said the group has brought 40 couples together who eventually got married.

However, Osborn said, the number of marriages may be higher because not all couples tell the dating service about their marriage.

Yant said people usually feel awkward when they first come in. Some people say it makes them feel like they're desperate, he said.

People who do use the dating service are usually professionals with little time to meet people and who don't care for the people they meet in singles bars, he said.

When people decide to join the service, Yant said, they fill out a form that asks what type of person they want to meet and what they want from a relationship. A photo is then taken for the person's file.

Blue Moon also makes sure the person isn't married or doesn't have other problems, he said.

Once Blue Moon has informa-



John Bruce/Daily Nebraskan

tion about the member, Yant said, the member can search through the files to find a person they find interesting.

When a member decides they want to meet someone, the service contacts the other person and asks if they want to meet, he said.

If both people want to meet, then Blue Moon arranges a meeting, Yant said. The service never gives out a member's last name or phone number, he said.

Johns said her members pick out who they want to meet in a similar way, but she uses video tapes, forms and photos.

Johns said she has about 800 members and most of their ages

range from 24 to 40. Johns said some university students do join but university staff members are more likely to join.

Osborn said he also has a file system for members to use. A monthly newspaper can also be used. But non-members can attend the group's dances and other functions, such as volleyball games and bowling.

Owners of all three services said members could be dropped if they stand up another member or if another member complains about their behavior. But the owners said this rarely happens. Osborn said he usually has to drop only two or three members a year.

# New telescope to be dedicated at UNL May 5

The Charles B. Minnich telescope at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln department of physics and astronomy, will be dedicated May 5.

Astronomical objects not ordinarily visible in daylight hours can be seen through the new telescope.

Minnich, a UNL electrical engineering alumnus who now lives in Florida, donated \$10,000 to build the telescope and the six-inch refractor lens for the telescope. His grandfather, Charles S. Minnich, a country doctor in Palmer and amateur astronomer, made the lens in the early 1900s.

The new telescope is located in the Astronomy Resource Center in Ferguson Hall. It will be used primarily as a teaching aid and also will be available for public viewing.

Don Taylor, associate professor of physics and astronomy, designed the telescope which utilizes the Minnich six-inch lens.

The dedication will begin at 3:30 p.m. in Brace Hall 211. The dedication ceremony will move to Ferguson 203, where the Minnich Astronomical Computing Center will be dedicated, followed by a ribbon cutting for the telescope in Ferguson 216A.

Afterwards, the public will be invited to view sunspots and other astronomical objects through the lens.

# Alumni club wins award

The Bay Area Alumni Club has been named the 1987-88 Alumni Club of the Year by the University of Nebraska-Lincoln Alumni Association.

The Bay Area club, a UNL alumni club operating out of San Francisco, will be presented the award during a Half Century Club reunion awards

# Hastings College honors retired UNL professor

By Victoria Ayotte  
Senior Reporter

Robert Johnston, retired professor of biochemistry at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, said getting an award from Hastings College has special meaning because he is receiving the award with his brother.

Johnston and brother John Johnston, a professor of biochemistry, obstetrics and gynecology at Southwest Medical School at the University of Texas in Dallas, will receive the Hastings College Alumni Association Award for Outstanding Alumni at a luncheon Saturday in Hastings.

Johnston said he was surprised to receive the award.

"I was more surprised that I was included than that he (brother John) was to receive it," he said. "I think that's a very special consideration (awarding both brothers) the college has done. That opportunity doesn't come along very often."

Both Johnstons are Hastings alumni with "strong Nebraska ties," he said.

Johnston said he found out about the award six weeks ago and immediately called his brother, who was also very excited.

"I think it's a great honor to be honored by your colleagues and your classmates," Johnston said. "There were many worthy alumni."

Nebraska football coach Tom Osborne received the award previously, Johnston said.

Johnston said he has taught at UNL for 34 years. He currently does research at UNL.

Johnston said he has known two Nobel prize winners and in 1948 made the first observation that adenosine triphosphate is involved in peptide bonds.

Johnston has also taught "a number of outstanding students who have gone on to very prominent positions."

"I guess I have made a pretty good record," he said.

banquet at the Wick Alumni Center, 1520 R St., Saturday.

In the past year, the Bay Area club has sponsored a half-dozen activities, including several with record-setting attendance.

The club also attended the San Jose State National Invitation Softball Tournament won by the Cornhusker women's softball team and a Nebraska-Arizona State football party.

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