

Daily Nebraskan

Thursday

WEATHER

Thursday, sunny with a high in low 30s, S winds 10-20 mph. Thursday night, low 15-20 mph. Friday, partly cloudy, high in low 40s. Sunday through Monday, no precipitation, highs in 30s and 40s.

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University of Nebraska-Lincoln

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Students stage sit-in to support COLAGE

By Lisa Twiestmeyer
Staff Reporter

About 20 students staged a sit-in at the ASUN office Wednesday to protest the denial of funding for the Committee Offering Lesbian and Gay Events.

Calling themselves Concerned Students for COLAGE, the students entered the student government office at 12:45 p.m. and asked to speak

to ASUN President Jeff Petersen, who was out of the office.

The students sat in the office until 5:30 p.m. talking to six ASUN senators, Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs James Griesen and eventually, Petersen.

Group member Nell Eckersley said she was happy with the outcome of the sit-in. Eckersley said she was pleased to hear Griesen's viewpoint on funding, and support for COLAGE

from Arts and Science's Sens. Brian Svoboda and Julie Jorgensen.

Protestors agreed that while they probably didn't change anybody's minds on the issue, they did have an effect.

"We definitely made an impact," said Joe Bowman, a sophomore in arts and sciences. "We just didn't succeed. This has been like arguing against apartheid in South Africa -- we were doomed. But we're not going

to be put in jail for our views."

Throughout the afternoon, the students told senators that financing COLAGE should not be a decision based on personal opinions or whether or not senators think homosexuality is morally right.

Students said COLAGE should be given money because it represents a minority group -- just as groups representing blacks, Hispanics and American Indians do. COLAGE needs

money to educate students about homosexuality, they said, because homophobia is a problem at UNL.

Jorgensen explained that the decision to fund COLAGE is now out of ASUN's hands. COLAGE can appeal the decision to Griesen, she said.

Several members of the group expressed anger at a statement made by Sen. Steve Thomlison during dis-

See COLAGE on 6

Early Warning! group demonstrates by Union

By Larry Peirce
Senior Reporter

About 20 people braved a stiff north wind Wednesday to attend a noontime Early Warning! demonstration by Broyhill fountain.

Robert Hitchcock, visiting assistant professor of anthropology, spoke briefly to the crowd about different kinds of prejudice. Hitchcock said he has worked several years in southern Africa to improve situations for minority groups, women and refugees.

He said prejudice awareness is an important issue, especially right now, because February is Black History Month and the Model United Nations is discussing apartheid.

Prejudice occurs not only against races, he said, but against indigenous people, women and gays.

"When you add it all up, it's most of the world that we're dealing with," Hitchcock said.

Hitchcock said the election of David Duke, a former Ku Klux Klan leader, to the Louisiana Legislature, shows that prejudice still exists in the United States.

The issue is not Duke, but what he represents, Hitchcock said.

"What he represents is a strong feeling of racism, which is one kind of prejudice," he said.

Under apartheid, he said, 74 percent of South Africa's population owns only 13 percent of the land and must use inferior schools and hospitals.

"The issue is greater than that," he said. "Because of the color of their skin, they're being denied basic rights." Before Hitchcock spoke, Early Warning! played tapes of Martin Luther King Jr. speeches.

Early Warning! facilitator Joe Bowman also spoke to the crowd.

"Prejudice is an arrogant attitude of intolerance of our fellow man," he said.

Bowman said people in Lincoln are physically attacked because they are gay or someone thinks they are gay.

'Prejudice is an arrogant attitude of intolerance of our fellow man.'

—Bowman

"It's true that many of our gay and lesbian brothers and sisters have suffered brutality at the hands of our sick homophobic brothers here at the University of Nebraska," he said. And Jeff Petersen doesn't think there's a need for education about homosexuality here."

Last week, ASUN president Jeff Petersen supported ASUN's denial of funds for COLAGE.

In his final comments, Bowman said the sit-in by "concerned citizens for COLAGE" at the ASUN office Wednesday afternoon was not sponsored by Early Warning!.



Members of Early Warning! protest outside the Nebraska Union Wednesday.

Demonstrators trouble Model UN

By Scott Cook
Staff Reporter

Organizers of the Nebraska Model United Nations are concerned that Early Warning!'s demonstration against prejudice Wednesday may have given visitors the wrong impression that the group is affiliated with NMUN and the University Program Council.

Michelle Howell, a junior Eng-

lish major and secretary general of Model UN, said that although Early Warning! is a recognized organization, she wanted to make it clear that Early Warning! is not in any way associated with Model UN or UPC.

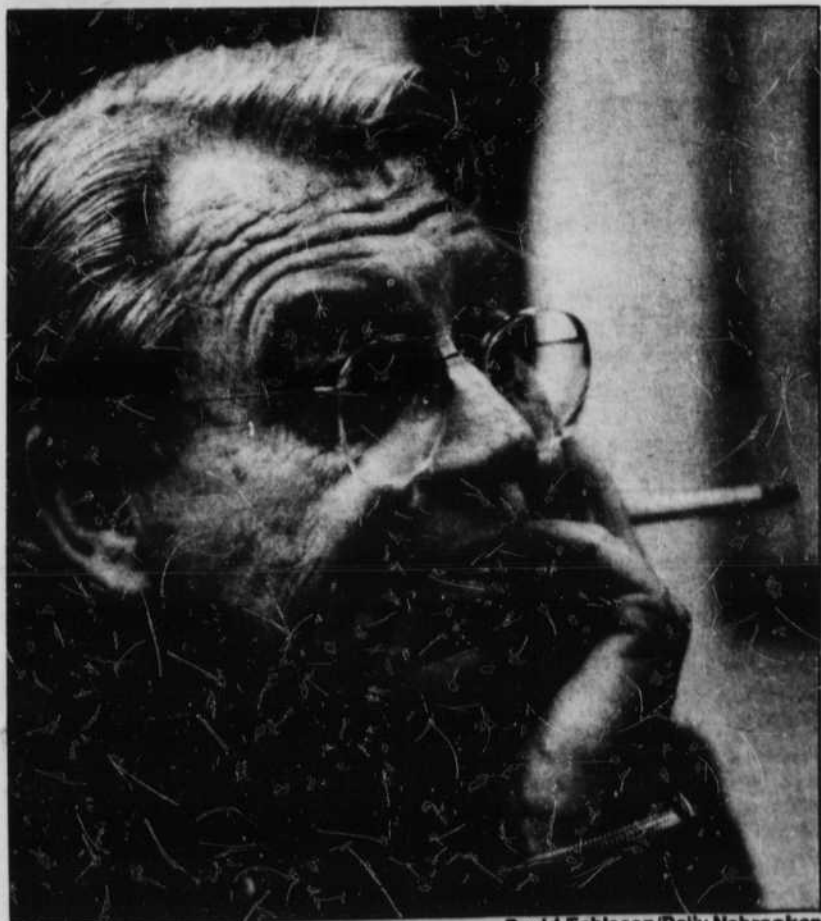
Howell said she was concerned that high school students attending Model UN, which began Wednesday, would get the wrong impression of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

Howell said she heard before Wednesday that Early Warning! was going to engage in radical activities in protest of apartheid and racial prejudice.

"We thought there were going to be die-ins or something like that," she said.

Howell said she discovered that these rumors were false after she spoke with Joe Bowman, facilitator.

See PROTEST on 6



David Fahleson/Daily Nebraskan

Woods encourages youth idealism

By Diana Johnson
Senior Editor

In the 10 years since he began lecturing in the United States following his escape from South Africa, Donald Woods said he has been impressed with young Americans' idealism and potential for idealism.

"However, I think there is a vacuum in leadership," said Woods, whose stand against apartheid caused his banning from South Africa. "I think they've got the potential idealism, but they lack direction and guidance for that idealism."

Woods, whose book "Biko" inspired the movie "Cry Freedom," spoke to a packed crowd in the Centennial Ballroom at the Nebraska Union Wednesday.

Woods, who as editor of the South African newspaper Daily Dispatch exposed the death of anti-apartheid leader Steven Biko by government police, said he is pained to see young people who claim to be conservative.

"Now it's OK to be conservative, but for God's sake, not when you're young," Woods, who now lives in London, said to a roar of applause.

The United States has been at its best when the most broad, most gen-

erous and most idealistic views are adopted, Woods said.

But in order to make changes, older members of the U.S. Congress should be replaced by young, fresh minds, he said. Young leaders should target their energy in that direction.

"Never mind all that about cholesterol and caffeine," he said.

Knowing the U.S. economic triumph over the Dust Bowl, Woods said he is convinced U.S. citizens have the capacity to do almost anything if leadership points them in the right direction.

He also was reminded of that strength when former President John F. Kennedy vowed that the United States would put a man on the moon, Woods said.

He said he wished that same direction would help the United States solve some of its problems. Levels of poverty exist in America which should simply be unacceptable, he said.

"You're the one country that actually can eliminate the entire problem," Woods said, "yet none of your candidates for office make it the number one priority."

"I would hope the young people here would get into the Congress, get into the Senate and put their energies into targeting them at the real ene-

mies," he said.

But that will only happen if a vote puts the right leadership in office, he said.

That one vote for one person is actually what apartheid is all about, Woods said.

Black South Africans do not want to be equal to the white Afrikaners, he said.

Most black South Africans don't care that of 317 racial laws, five of them have been removed in recent years, he said.

"They're not interested in those 317," Woods said. "They're interested only in one and that is (for) the right to vote."

In South Africa, 27 million blacks and other non-whites are ruled by a government elected by 5 million whites.

A black majority rule is their only demand, he said.

"They figure once they have the right to vote the right people into office," he said, "they'll take care of those 317 laws."

White South Africans and the world continue to have an ignorance of what's happening in the country, he said, because of censorship laws.

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Woods