

Honor students and athletes join forces, fight drug abuse

By Jennifer O'Cilka
Staff Reporter

Members of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln chapter of the Golden Key National Honor Society have joined forces with UNL varsity athletes to combat drug abuse in Lincoln area schools, according to Paige Groppe, the program's chairperson.

The Best of America Say NO! program sends athletes and Golden Key members to speak at 10 area schools Thursday and Friday. The approximately 50 students involved in the UNL program will go to schools in groups of four to five, Groppe said.

Groppe said these students will attempt to show children that people can be successful without drugs and alcohol.

"Younger kids look up to older people, especially college students," she said.

Groppe said this is the first year the UNL chapter has been active in the program which was introduced at Florida State University three years ago. She said she felt very strongly about the project when she heard about it.

Although the Committee for Fees Allocation denied the group funding of \$1,200, the chapter cut corners and financed the program with group funds, Groppe said.

Participation in the program is voluntary,

she said. Students donate their time and car pool to the schools.

All students attended a training workshop March 19. She said the participants aren't professionals but they learned a lot in the workshops and have the facts to back themselves up.

"If we can't answer a question, we have the phone numbers of people they can call," Groppe said. "The worst thing we can do is lie to a child."

The speakers will relate personal experiences to the kids in an informal half-hour presentation with a half-hour question-and-answer session to follow, she said.

UNL varsity volleyball player and elementary education major Virginia Stahr said she will speak at her hometown high school, Centennial.

She said she wants to tell kids that drugs and alcohol may seem fun for awhile but they will get burned in the end.

"I feel like I've been given so much through my volleyball talents and I want to give something back," Stahr said.

Groppe said the Golden Key hopes to expand and revise the program next year.

"Hopefully it will be easier after this year when we start to get feedback. It seems pretty promising," she said.



Shaun Sartin/Daily Nebraskan

Best in Bed

The Sigma Phi Epsilon/Independent team takes first place in the Alpha Chi Omega first-ever bed race Sunday morning on the east side of Memorial Stadium. All profits will go to the cystic fibrosis foundation.

Members learn arrest tactics

MARCH from Page 1

energy," he said.

Divis encouraged protesters to kneel and tuck rather than standing up to authorities.

"Do what they say," he said.

But Divis' submission to the justice system has its limits.

"If I get arrested, I won't post bail or pay a fine," he said. "That system has too much money already."

After Divis had set down the ground rules, the group practiced for the protest later this week. Participants took turns playing the roles of protesters and policemen.

Would-be protesters locked arms and walked through a line of policemen. Another group of protesters locked arms and formed a circle on the ground, refusing to be torn apart.

After the exercise, participants agreed that they had actually resisted arrest, and that night sticks would have hurt more than the gentle open-fist taps they had felt on their heads.

One said he might like to get arrested this week, but won't resist arrest because of the bad feeling he got from the exercise.

Divis said people who decide to get arrested should have support people to follow police buses and find out where they are jailed, give them rides upon their release, and know vital information about them in case something goes wrong.

When he was arrested last year, Divis said, the deputy sheriff who transported him drove 85 miles per hour trying to lose a support person. But the support person eventually found the jail, he said.

At the end of the meeting, everyone stood and held hands, reciting a chant:

"Here we are once again/ holding hands in a circle/ face the sun, feel its power/ face the moon, let it flow/ Mother Earth gives us birth/ Father sky brings us changes."

Fifteen Lincolnites will travel to Nevada for the protest.

Student dies from gun wound

From Staff Reports

A University of Nebraska-Lincoln student died from an apparent self-inflicted shotgun wound in Columbus last Wednesday night, according to Platte County Attorney William Kurtenbach.

In a Friday press release, Kurtenbach said the body of Donald J.

George, 19, of Columbus was found Thursday morning near a pond in East Pawnee Park at Columbus.

The Nebraska State Patrol concluded that George died Wednesday night or early Thursday morning of a shotgun wound to the head, Kurtenbach said.

George was a freshman business major at UNL.

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