



1989 Summer Outdoor Adventures Calendar

June	
17	Canoeing the Little Blue River, Nebraska
23-25	Canoeing the Upper Niobrara River, Nebraska
July	
5,6,7-9	Basic Rock Climbing Seminar, South Dakota
8	Day Canoe Trip, Nebraska
15-18	Backpacking on Pine Ridge Trail, Nebraska
15-26	Canoeing on the Green River Expedition, Utah
August	
2-6	Intermediate Rock Climbing, South Dakota
11-13	Family Canoeing on the Niobrara, Nebraska
11-20	Mountain Backpacking in the Tetons, Wyoming
18-20	Canoeing on the Dismal River, Nebraska
26	Day Canoe Trip, Nebraska



Campus Recreation 1989

Adventures create summer escapes

By Connie L. Sheehan
Senior Editor

I always envy those who go somewhere for the summer. Yet, as a member of the five-year-college-program club, my sunny summers are still spent gazing at classroom walls.

Now even summer wallflowers can experience exciting adventures maneuvering canoes through white-water foam, gliding over still pools of reflected prairie meadows or even brushing chalk from tired hands while gazing over the legendary Needles climbing area.

Your guides to summer excitement, Jim Fullerton and his Outdoor Recreation crew, just returned from two weeks of extensive training in Wyoming and South Dakota. The crew soon will be hitting the outdoor trail again, and this time the entire university population is invited along.

"Canoeing is by far our most popular program," said Fullerton, coordinator for Outdoor Recreation. He said it makes up one-half of the total summer schedule.

Experienced canoeists or not, participants can find a trip to fit any expertise. Choices range from leisurely day trips along quiet waters, weekend outings on challenging Nebraska waterways or camping and canoeing for the entire family.

Although canoeing currently leads in popularity, Fullerton said, rock climbing used to attract the most students during the 1970s, when he was a student employee for campus recreation. Interest in rock climbing was so high at that time, campus recreation organized a trip to the Andes of South America.

Fullerton said tentative future plans exist for a similar international trip, but for this summer, students of the '80s will be scaling in South Dakota. This state boasts some of America's most famous climbing areas.

Outdoor Recreation's program will offer basic rock climbing instruction close to home and a graduation climb at Palisades States Park, S.D. Later this summer, the intermediate climber's program will host an adventure to the popular Needles climbing area in South Dakota.

students and maybe there are professors in the groups too, they feel confident teaching," Fullerton said.

New staff members aren't chosen as trip leaders right away, Fullerton explained.

But a highly trained staff isn't the only benefit in planning a trip through Outdoor Recreation.

Fullerton said the department's equipment rental can outfit practically any activity, from mountaineering expeditions to camping. The equipment is available to university students, faculty and staff.

One money-saving note: Most trips already include required equipment in the program cost.

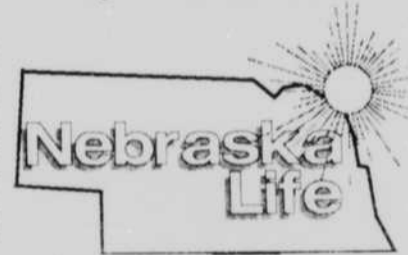
The adventure has been planned, experienced leadership provided and the equipment packed -- so how much does this package cost?

If I can afford these exciting adventures on a typical student income the prices must be modest indeed. For example, student costs for a two-day canoe trip on the Niobrara River are only \$50. This price includes transportation, meals while canoeing, fully outfitted canoes, cooking and camping equipment, leadership and instruction, and student field trip insurance.

"All you have to do is show up, get in the van and we drive," Fullerton said. "We provide a lot for the cost."

With program choices ranging from canoeing, rafting, rock climbing, backpacking and bicycle touring, no one needs to sit at home this summer.

So whether you're an inexperienced wallflower, like myself, or expert "wild" flower -- Outdoor Adventures can change summer humdrum to fun.



Whether it be rock climbing, canoeing or other programs offered by campus recreation, beginning or intermediate outings are supervised by fully trained staff. Participants receive instructions which allow them to feel confident when approaching their chosen activity.

The outdoor department is fortunate to have the support of campus recreation, Fullerton said, in providing an intensive staff training period along with an ongoing training program.

Fullerton explained that the staff is taken into the field, citing the recent training trip to Wyoming and South Dakota, and new staff works alongside veteran staff on leadership and teaching skills.

"So when they're (student staff) placed in charge of another group of

Canoers brave the unpredictable

By Connie L. Sheehan
Senior Editor

Americans have spent the last eight years dazzled by Indiana Jones' world pursuit for adventure -- the excitement of the unknown. But a group of local adventurers recently discovered that one doesn't need to travel the world to tap the unknown.

This local adventure began May 14 with whitewater rafting on the Dolores River of Colorado, a trip offered by Outdoor Recreation.

Just days before departure, the discovery was made that the water level at the dam-controlled Dolores River would be much too low to raft, said Jim Fullerton, coordinator for Outdoor Recreation.

"We were wrestling with cancelling the trip when we found out we couldn't raft," Fullerton said.

Canoeing is more challenging than rafting, he said, because one has to work harder and work more as a team. But when offered canoeing as an alternative to rafting, everyone in the group was enthusiastic.

"We drove to southwest Colorado, and when we got down there,"

Fullerton said, "we realized they weren't going to release hardly any water the week we wanted to canoe."

The group had thought the Dolores River would contain enough water at least for canoeing, although rafting was out of the question, but this didn't prove to be the case.

At that point, the group had to make a decision on what to do; head back to Nebraska or make other arrangements.

Within hours, the group leaders arranged a trip to the San Juan River in Utah, said Axel Krings, a computer science graduate student.

"The group played a makeshift game of baseball while calls were being made and in two hours the trip was completely planned," he said.

Krings said he was impressed by the efficiency of the planning, which included everything from necessary licenses, permits and campsites to river condition checks.

"After putting in the river at Mexican Hat, Utah, it wasn't more than five minutes before we hit our first fast water," Krings said.

Every canoe took in water and some canoes only had about two

inches of space left before being completely full of water, Krings said.

"The leaders don't take chances but there's still plenty of room for challenges on the trip," Krings said.

Bruce Rischar, program assistant and leader for the trip, took care of everything, Krings said.

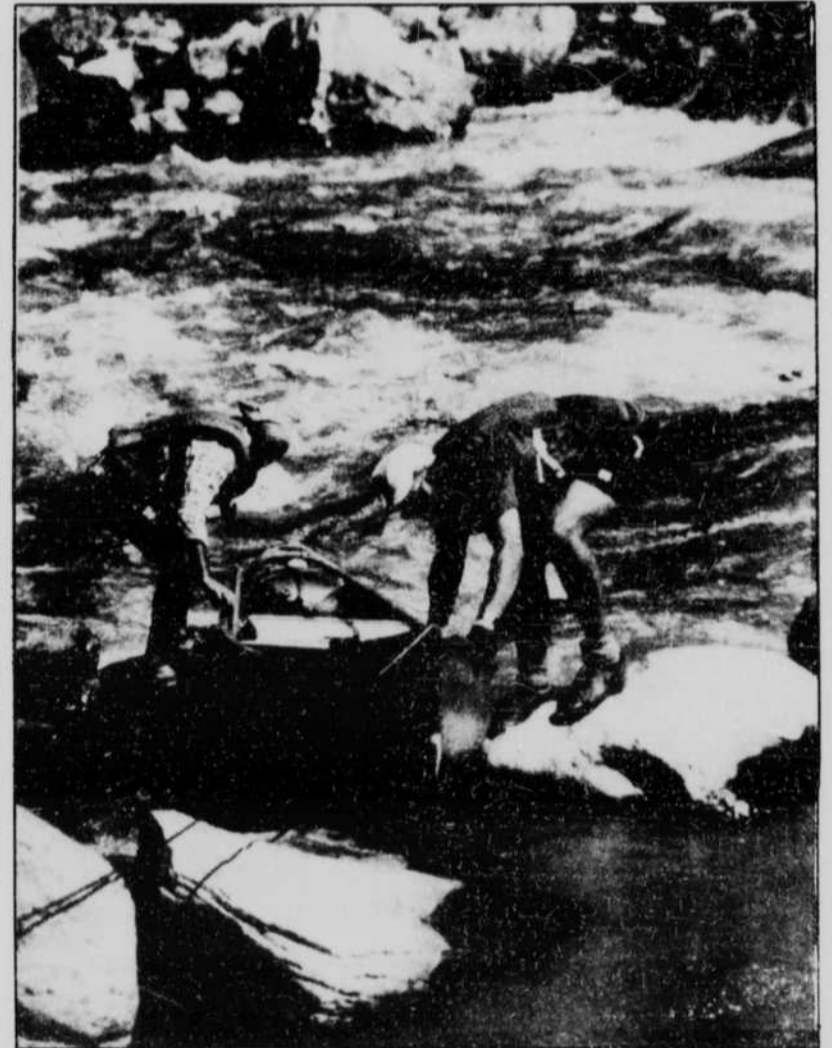
"Bruce read through the river maps at night, and I don't think there was any situation of the river that he couldn't handle," Krings said.

After five days on the river, the group arrived at the final destination only to find the university van had not been delivered as planned.

Krings said the group used the time to swim, while Rischar located a ride for the two-hour, one-way trip to Mexican Hat to locate the missing van.

"The funniest thing was the school bus arranged to pick us up because the van was missing. (The bus) broke down about fifteen minutes later," Krings said.

Fullerton said not all his trips are as unpredictable as this one, but then again, according to Indiana Jones -- it's the excitement of the unknown that makes for adventure.



Courtesy of Axel Krings

Canoes are walked through rapids on the San Juan River which are too difficult to maneuver.

