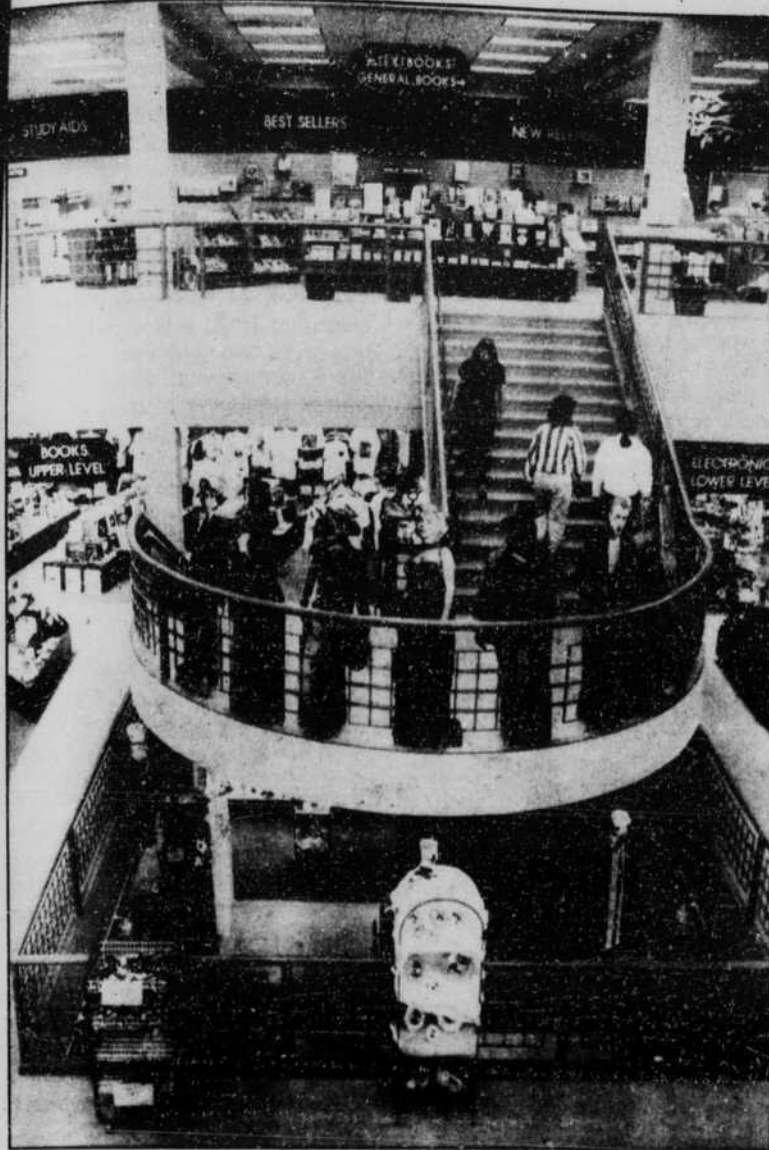


# Alternatives exist for students buying textbooks



William Lauer/Daily Nebraskan

The Nebraska Bookstore, 13th & Q streets, displays movie star cut-outs on its stairwell.

By Laura Smith  
Staff Reporter

The first week of class is the time to get settled in, meet new people and figure out class schedules. After that, it's time to hit the books.

Students at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln can find books for their classes at the Association of Students of the University of Nebraska Book Exchange, the University Bookstore and the Nebraska Bookstore.

The ASUN Book Exchange, which began in the spring of 1988, allows students who wish to buy or sell a textbook to register the book with the office, according to Marlene Beyke, ASUN's director of development.

She said the office acts as an information source, with the students doing all of the actual buying and selling.

Students who want to sell books through the book exchange should go to the ASUN Student Information Center, 115 Nebraska Union. Once there, they must fill out a card listing their name, address and phone number as well as class name, professor's name and the title and author of the book.

Students who want to buy a book, Beyke said, can look in the file, which is arranged by subject area, to

see if a book they want is listed.

The exchange "definitely benefits the people that are selling because they don't always get a marketable price elsewhere."

Dick Lewis, University Bookstore operations manager, said the University Bookstore, located in the lower level of the Nebraska Union, pays sixty percent of the original price for books that will be used the next semester.

Lewis said the store calculates how many books will be used the next semester to determine the number of books it will buy at the sixty percent rate. Other books are bought back by a wholesaler for a lower price.

The sixty percent buy-back rate applies to books that students sell back in May and December, Lewis said. The bookstores buy back at the wholesale rate throughout the year.

In addition to the store at the city union, new and used books also are available at the University Bookstore in the East Union for all classes that are on East Campus, he said.

The new photo ID office is located in the University Bookstore, so most new students will visit the store before school starts. Lewis said students can use the new ID as a credit card at the University bookstore.

At the beginning of the school year, the University Bookstore offers sales on school supplies such as pens,

pencils, notebooks and backpacks.

The Nebraska Bookstore, 1300 Q St., always has a promotion at the beginning of the year, according to manager Jerry Mullinix.

He said that last year, the bookstore gave away free books for a semester to one student each day during the store's "rush week," which is the first five days of class. This probably will be the store's promotion this year, too, Mullinix said.

"I can't think of anything better to give away that the students need," he said.

Mullinix said the Nebraska Bookstore has the largest general book section between Chicago and Denver with more than 50,000 books. He said the bookstore has the most used textbooks in the city because it is part of the Nebraska Book Company, which is the largest wholesaler in the country.

The Nebraska Bookstore buys back books that students will use the following semester at fifty percent of the original cost. If they will not be used the next semester, books are bought back at wholesale "which can be from nothing on up," Mullinix said.

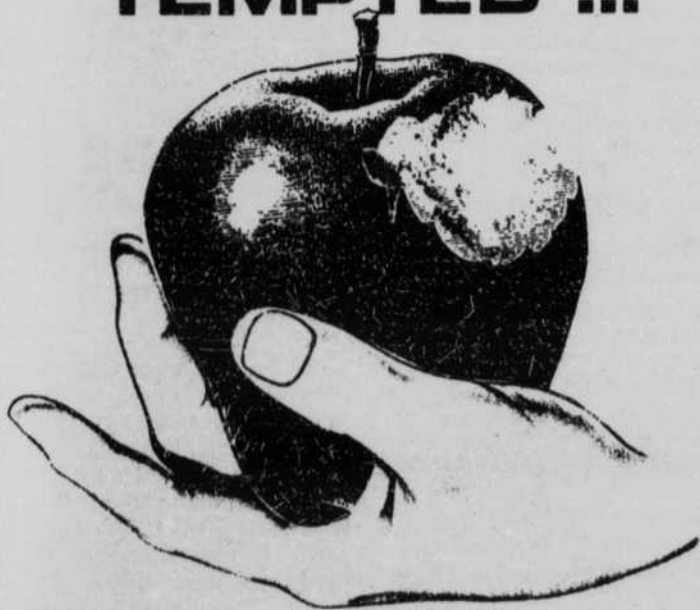
In addition to books, both bookstores carry cards, school supplies, art supplies, calculators and "Big Red" clothing. Both stores also have post offices and copy centers.

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