Thursday, August 24, 1989

Service offers free legal advice to UNL students From Staff Reports

Students who need an attorney have an alternative to using an entire paycheck for an hour of legal advice. Free legal advice and representation is available through the Student Legal Services Center, part of the Association of Students of the University of Nebraska.

Student Legal Services is funded by student fees and is handled through student government. Every semester each student pays \$1.37 in fees to finance the services.

Most of the cases the center handles involve misdemeanors and traffic violations, said Shelley Stall, attorney and director of the center. In March, 45 percent of the cases handled involved misdemeanor or traffic charges.

Legal services closed 108 cases in March compared to 84 cases in March 1988.

"I'm excited because the statistics are going up," Stall said. "Students are using the center more and more each year."

The first step for a student who wants to use legal services is to make an appointment with one of the two attorneys at the center. During the scheduled meeting, the attorney will listen to the student's problem and offer legal advice. The attorney will represent the student in court if necessary or refer the student to another source, such as a private attorney.

Stall said a referral is needed when the case involves a large settlement. A student also may be advised to take a case to small claims court.

Besides misdemeanor and traffic cases, the center handles landlord/ tenant, consumer, family law, employment and business problems. Landlord/tenant cases made up the second largest percentage in March. Twenty-one cases were closed, and in one of those cases a student recovered \$950 in a dispute with a landlord.

Student Legal Services publishes a handbook giving basic legal information to students. The handbook offers advice on how to handle auto accidents, student discipline, sexual harassment, and race and sex discrimination. It also advises students on how to win in small claims court.

Students always are not aware of where they stand in terms of the law, Stall said. They often don't realize that legal action can be sought in many circumstances, she said.



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Devaney Sports Center. John Yost, vice chancellor for research and dean-of graduate studies at UNL, gave the commencement address.

Drop/Add begins Tuesday in Union From Staff Reports

Drop/Add for the fall semester will be Tuesday through Sept. 5 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Sept. 6 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. in the Centennial Room of the Nebraska Union.

General Registration will be today and Friday from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Students may pick up time appointment cards at the service counter at 111G Administration. There is a \$5 Drop/Add fee, and a \$25 general registration fee.

Classes, including mini-courses, may not be added after Sept. 6. Students can drop classes in the usual manner at the Registration Office, service counter 17A, until Oct. 20. Students must have the instructor's permission to drop a class between Oct. 23 and Nov. 17. Classes may not be dropped after Nov. 17. Last week, our Back To Basics sale went so well, we've continued it with another week of items you shouldn't be without. We're featuring essentials that will turn your house into a haven. And everything you see here is 20% to 35% off its original price. Which we think will appeal to another very basic need of yours.

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