

Daily Nebraskan

August 28, 1989

University of Nebraska-Lincoln

Vol. 89 No. 2

Monday

WEATHER:

Monday, a 40 percent chance of thunderstorms in the morning with mostly cloudy conditions. Becoming partly sunny in the afternoon, with winds 10 to 20 miles per hour and highs in the low- to mid-80's. Monday night, a 40 percent chance of thundershowers with a low in the lower- to mid-60's. Tuesday, high in the lower- to mid-80's.

INDEX

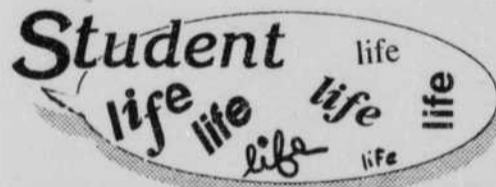
News Digest 2
 Editorial 4
 Arts & Entertainment 17
 Sports 25
 Classifieds 29

Survey: AIDS threat has lifted UNL's condom sense

By C.J. Schepers
 Staff Reporter

Condom use among University of Nebraska-Lincoln students has nearly doubled in the last four years because of the "AIDS scare," according to Greg Barth, information systems manager at the University Health Center.

"I think it's part of a national trend and concern about AIDS and sexually transmitted diseases," he said.



In comparing results from the annual Student Health Surveys since 1986, Barth said he found students reporting a steady increase in the use of condoms over other contraceptives.

The survey reflects the answers of about 300 UNL students randomly selected for telephone interviews.

The 1986 report shows that 22.7 percent of students said they used condoms as their preferred birth control method.

In 1987, that figure jumped to 31.7 percent and in 1988, it rose again to 38 percent. Results from the 1989 spring survey indicate that 43

percent of UNL students interviewed said condoms were their most commonly used method of birth control.

This year, for the first time, the survey asked: "Has the threat of AIDS affected your sex life?"

Of the unmarried students interviewed, 26.6 percent said the threat of acquired immune deficiency syndrome had affected their sex lives.

When asked how the deadly disease affected them, 36.4 percent said they were more selective in their sex partners, 33.3 percent reported they had fewer partners, 7.6 percent said they had become celibate and 12.1 percent said they now use condoms.

"There is a direct result of the AIDS threat," in relation to condom use, Barth said.

Dr. Gerald Fleischli, medical director of the University Health Center, said other contributing factors to increased condom popularity include easier access.

Condom access and promotion has increased through vending machines at the health center, the "fish bowl" that sits on the pharmacy's front counter and campus-wide promotions of safer sex, Fleischli said.

He said the health center has "become more aggressive" in promoting condom use because of AIDS and the nationwide focus on condoms.

Another interesting finding in the survey, Barth said, involved the age at when students first had sexual intercourse.

1989 UNL Sexual Habits Survey

conducted by the University Health Center

Q: How often have you had sexual intercourse? (in the last six months.)

A:	unmarried	married
not at all	38.3	3.8
1-3 x / month	16.5	3.8
once a week	15.2	30.8
2-3x / week	9.9	38.5
4-5x / week	2.5	17.3
daily	1.2	0.0

Q: At what age did you first engage in sexual intercourse?

A: age	♂	♀	All
12-14	6.6	2.5	4.5
15	9.0	4.1	6.6
16	10.7	10.7	10.7
17	27.9	19.0	23.5
18	16.4	27.4	21.8
19	6.6	20.7	13.6
20	8.2	6.6	7.4
21	2.5	2.5	2.5
22	3.3	2.5	2.9
23+	9.9	4.1	6.5

Q: Have you ever engaged in sexual intercourse?

A: Yes...	All	Unmarried
All	80.5	76.1
♀	75.6	70.7
♂	86.0	82.5

male ♂
 female ♀
 figures in %

In comparing responses between men and women, the figures indicate a traditional pattern of men having sex at a younger age than women.

At age 19, however, the total percentage of women first engaging in intercourse exceeds men. At 19, only 6.6 percent of male students said they had first engaged in intercourse, compared to 20.7 percent of females reporting first encounters.

The results indicate that the "double standard still exists," in society's acceptance of men engaging in sex at a younger age than women, said David Johnson, sociology department chairman.

"Women are more likely to have their first sexual experience when they go off to college," Johnson said.

See SURVEY on 8



Paintball Wizards

A paintballer prepares to lob a shot against oncoming opponents. See story on page 16.

William Lauer/Daily Nebraskan

Doctors study young adults' strokes

By Melissa McReynolds
 Staff Reporter

Doctors are looking for a common factor that causes some young adults to suffer strokes after performing such simple tasks as blowing their noses or slamming drinks.

A healthy 32-year-old woman, who had no family history of strokes, traumatized an artery supplying blood to her brain while tossing back several shots of whiskey in rapid succession during a drinking game, according to a June letter published by the New England Journal of Medicine.

"Since the article was published, we've received letters from around the country from people describing similar experiences," said Dr. Richard M. Trosch, a neurology resident at Yale University and a co-author of the article.

Trosch said he and his Yale co-author, Drs. Moshe Hasbani and Lawrence M. Brass, are hoping to collect blood samples from the

people who wrote to find why "everyday people doing everyday things" suffer strokes.

The Yale Stroke Program article listed 24 potential stroke-causing "trivial traumas," including brushing teeth, childbirth, heavy lifting and diving into water.

Trosch said the common factor may be weakened vessel walls in the stroke victims' vascular systems. Until such a catalyst is found, Trosch said, it is impossible to issue a warning about potential stroke-causing actions.

Young adults are more susceptible to such trauma, Trosch said, because their arteries are more taut than older individuals.

The New England Journal of Medicine article attributes the woman's traumatized artery and subsequent stroke to the way she consumed the alcohol, not the alcohol itself.

"Although alcoholic intoxication has been reported as a risk factor for stroke," the authors wrote, "the manner in which one chooses to be-

come intoxicated has not."

Trosch explained that spontaneous dissection, or tearing, of the artery begins with a sudden hyperextension of neck muscles. This can occur, for example, when drinkers throw their head back to slam a drink.

One of four main arteries that supplies blood to the brain can then stick to the vertebra of the neck, he said. Then, if the neck is rotated, the artery becomes pinched, and then torn, Trosch said.

Trosch said many strokes may have been caused by "trivial traumas" that can go undetected.

"The absence of trivial trauma from a patient's history does not exclude the possibility that it occurred," the article stated. "Patients may consider such movements insignificant and thus not recall them, or be too embarrassed to recount them."

Relating the stroke to the trauma also can be difficult, the authors wrote, because the onset of symptoms may not begin for hours or even days.

Grant rewards teaching

Federal grant is received

By Lisa Bolin
 Staff Reporter

A recently received federal grant will help improve undergraduate education at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln by upgrading teaching rewards, said Laverne Barrett, co-director of the grant.

The grant will help provide the personnel, workshops, consultants and research travel needed to develop a fair reward process, Barrett said.

Barrett, associate professor of agriculture education, said he and co-director Robert Narveson, professor of English, are using the three-year grant to develop a process in which effective teaching is recognized and properly rewarded through promotions, tenure and merit pay.

UNL received \$53,000 for August 1989 through July 1990, he said. The grant came from the federal Education Department's Fund for the Improvement of Postsecondary Education and will be used by faculty members in the Arts and Sciences and Agriculture colleges.

He said research often receives more credit than teaching, particularly at a research-oriented university like Nebraska.

"Most define scholarly acts as

publications and speeches," Barrett said. "As a norm, activities of teaching don't count as scholarly, when in fact they are. It is a nationwide problem that research and teaching activities are not valued the same."

Ensuring that both research and teaching are rewarded fairly will benefit teaching as a whole, he said.

"If teachers are better rewarded, they'll spend more time doing it," Barrett said. "The more time they spend teaching, the better they will be, and the students will learn more."

Barrett said he expects UNL to receive an additional \$120,000 during the next two years.

The English, psychology, agricultural education and agronomy departments each will design plans for how teaching should be rewarded, he said.

The overall plan also will rely on student evaluations, peer and self-evaluations and trained observers, Barrett said.

Observers from each college will attend project meetings to develop a plan, he said.

Barrett said there has been no opposition yet.

"The administration has been just wonderful," he said. "They have been very excited and very supportive. Any problems that may arise

See GRANT on 7

Reunion faces ups, downs as first anniversary nears

By Emily Rosenbaum
 Staff Reporter

As the one-year anniversary of the Reunion's opening approaches, the project's developer said the student center has had successes and failures, but overall he's pleased.

David Hunter, one of four partners of the Hardy Building Corp. that owns the Reunion, said the food court, copy center and Hair Tech all have "done quite well."

The 100-seat conference room frequently has been used by organizations on and off campus and by several businesses, Hunter said.

But stores selling items such as T-

shirts and sweatshirts, which Hunter describes as non-necessity retail items, did not do as well because of a competitive market.

Campus Screen Printing was one of the original businesses that opened in the Reunion in May and has since closed.

Yogurt Sensations and Bodies by Design also opened in May and now are no longer located in the Reunion.

"There's always some trial and error," Hunter said. "We'll change some things that aren't as good."

Changes to the Reunion will be announced in two weeks, Hunter said.

See REUNION on 14