

Students still can apply for aid

By Lee Rood
Staff Reporter

Students who find their bank accounts dwindling with the onset of the fall semester still have time to apply for financial aid, said John Beacon, director of the Office of Scholarships and Financial Aid.

Although the priority deadline for aid has passed for the 1990-91 school year, Beacon said students have until May to apply for Pell Grants and Stafford Loans for this school year.

Students who applied for financial aid by March 1, 1990, were eligible for all kinds of aid to meet their financial need, he said. Students who applied after the priority deadline will not necessarily be awarded aid to meet their entire financial need, he said.

To apply for aid, students need to pick up financial aid packets in the financial aid office, located in the basement of the Administration Building.

To avoid delays, Beacon said, students should remember to answer all questions in the Family Financial Statement, sign the statements and use their correct social security numbers.

Beacon said students should re-

ceive Student Aid Reports four to six weeks after applying for aid. After reviewing the reports for accuracy, students should bring them to the financial aid office for processing, he said.

About 30 percent of students who apply for aid are selected at random by the Department of Education for verification, Beacon said. Others may be selected if "something looks suspicious" on their application, he said. The verification process can delay the award process, he said.

Students not selected for verification should know if they are eligible for aid four to six weeks after they turn in their Student Aid Reports.

Beacon said the financial aid office had not processed as many applications as it had by this time last year because of a decision to begin processing applications later this year and because of some problems with processing changes, he said.

"We didn't perform as well as we would have liked to," he said.

Students who applied for aid by the priority deadline should have received notices by now, Beacon said. The office plans to notify students who applied for financial aid during the summer in the next few weeks, he

said. "I expect to have large numbers out within the next two weeks," he said.

Beacon said he did not know how many summer applications have yet to be processed.

First-time borrowers have to attend a loan counseling session in the Nebraska Union before they can pick up their loan checks. The sessions will be at noon and 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, until late September. The location of the counseling sessions is posted daily in the Nebraska Union.

Perkins Loans will be disbursed Sept. 24, 25 and 26 -- in time for the Sept. 26 tuition deadline, Beacon said.

Bookstore using bag-check tent to prevent back-to-school thefts

From Staff Reports

Adding to the circus-like back-to-school atmosphere, the University Bookstore has erected a tent outside the Nebraska Union.

The bookstore is providing a bag-check service to try to stem backpack thefts during the first days of school, said Dick Lewis, operating manager of the University Bookstore.

Last semester during the book-buying rush before classes started, 20 backpacks were stolen out of the lobby totaling about \$1,200 in lost property, Lewis said.

Lewis said he expected about 500 backpacks to be in the 20-by-40 tent

at one time.

Students must show their student ID cards to use the bag check, Lewis said. The tent will be open through Wednesday.

When the bookstore is closed, Campus Activities and Programs will use the tent for its orientation activities, Lewis said.

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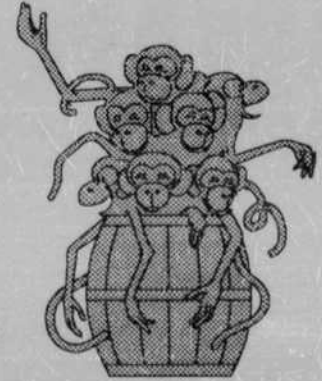
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