

NEWS BRIEFS

Golden Key chapter honored

The Golden Key National Honor Society at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln won the Key Chapter Award at the national convention awards banquet in Atlanta.

The award is presented to outstanding Golden Key chapters across the country that have excelled in five major areas: communication at the local and national levels, leadership and support of the adviser and officers, involvement of honorary members in programs and activities of the chapter, the institution of a successful campus awareness and reception and the involvement of members in chapter activities that benefit the campus and community.

Golden Key is a nonprofit, academic honors organization that provides academic recognition, leadership opportunities and scholarships. Membership into the society is by invitation only to the top 15 percent of juniors and seniors in all fields of study.

UNL ministers say involvement in religious groups increasing

By Lesli Thorn
Staff Reporter

Ministers of four religious groups at UNL say they are optimistic that religious involvement on campus is increasing.

The Rev. Larry Meyer, campus pastor at the Lutheran Student Center, 535 N. 16th St., said students place a higher value on organized religion now than in the past.

"Nationwide, there has been an increased involvement in church activities by students," Meyer said.

Involvement by freshmen at the Lutheran Student Center increased about 50 percent in 1990, he said.

The student center served 140 students at weekly worship services and 1,000 total students for "one reason or another" in 1990. Meyer said he expects this number to increase in 1991.

Brett Yohn, director of Campus Challenge, 1725 S. 52nd St., also said student religious involvement at UNL is increasing.

Yohn said students may get involved in religion in order to sort out problems in their home environment.

"If the student came from a bad home environment, there is a need for spiritual guidance, a need to make sense of things that happened at home," he said.

Students also attend church more after they start college because of a change in values, he said.

"This is when students face the insecurity of getting a job," he said.

“Life tends to not show reason sometimes, and students are looking for the answers to many social and moral issues they face.”

Pennington minister

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"This time can make students think there's more to life than money."

More than 100 students are involved with Campus Challenge, Yohn said.

Campus Challenge is the UNL chapter of Baptist Student Union, Yohn said. The chapter's name was changed this year because it is multidenom-

national.

The Rev. Jim Pennington, director of ministries at the University Lutheran Chapel Missouri Synod and the Student Center, 1510 Q St., said about 325 students attend services each week at his parish. He said student religious involvement is on the upswing because students are seeking answers to life's "puzzling questions."

"Life tends to not show reason sometimes, and students are looking for the answers to the many social and moral issues they face," Pennington said.

The Rev. Mark Randall, campus minister at Cornerstone-United Ministries in Higher Education, 640 N. 16th St., said student religious involvement is increasing, but students don't express their involvement through attendance at weekly services. Instead, they seek religion on their own and without organized religion, he said.

"This is a period in life when young people move from a first-person identity to a second-person identity and try to find religion on their own," he said.

Randall said Cornerstone serves between 60 to 80 students each week and 300 to 400 students each academic year.

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Budget forces cut to save \$4,300 Midterm grade reports eliminated

By Sarah Duey
Staff Reporter

Because of budget cuts, students at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln will not receive midterm grade reports this year.

The elimination of the midterm reports are in response to a Nebraska Legislature mandate last spring that called for UNL to cut its

budget 2 percent this year and 1 percent next year.

In the past, professors sent reports to students at midterm to inform them either of a failing grade or outstanding progress.

James Griesen, vice chancellor for student affairs, said he has heard no negative feedback about the elimination of the reports, a move decided upon last summer.

Eliminating grade reports will save the university about \$4,300, he said.

Griesen said the cut was unfortunate but added that he thought infor-

mation on students' progress could be communicated in other ways.

The UNL Department of Registration and Records will inform students about the change through dorm newsletters, an ad in the Daily Nebraskan and a brief on this semester's tuition statement.

The administration hopes to make students and faculty aware of the change, he said.

"We want to let students know that these reports won't be coming," Griesen said. "We will make an effort to communicate this to all."

Professor says breakup of U.S.S.R. may help, hurt profits for U.S. farmers

By Roger Price
Staff Reporter

The breakup of the Soviet Union may boost U.S. grain prices, but helping to restructure the country's food distribution system eventually could hurt the U.S. farmer, a UNL professor said.

Wes Peterson, associate professor of agricultural economics at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, said scholars across the country are attempting to predict the impact of changes in the Soviet Union on U.S. farmers.

"There is no historical base for figuring this out," he said. "All the rules are being thrown out the window. It is very difficult to predict."

Changes won't be dramatic, Peterson said, but farmers may see a small increase in grain sales.

"The Soviets are the second largest agriculture market for the U.S., and they are likely to stay that way," he said.

A small harvest because of the summer drought combined with the increased Soviet demand also may increase grain prices, he said.

A possible increase in U.S. foreign aid could help the Soviets pay for

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— Peterson agricultural economics associate professor

grain, Peterson said. However, he said he does not foresee "large-scale aid," similar to aid given to Western Europe after World War II under the Marshall Plan.

Some Americans may become upset by U.S. aid to the Soviets, he said.

"You'd have zillions of people standing up and saying you have problems at home. You are already seeing it in the editorial cartoons," he said.

And, Peterson said, food and monetary aid will not solve the real problem with feeding the Soviets.

Although the agricultural production system in the Soviet Union is not suffering, the distribution system is, he said.

It is easier now for the Soviets to import grains than export what they produce, Peterson said.

But, he said, "if we provide the Soviets with technical assistance to change their distribution system, they won't need us anymore."

Peterson said the United States should help the Soviets create a more efficient food distribution system despite the effects at home.

Career days to spread information

By Lori Stones
Staff Reporter

Students can ask questions and learn more about their chosen careers at Technical Career Day Sept. 25 and Career Information Day Sept. 26 in the Nebraska Union.

Keith Zimmer, athletic and career counselor for the Hewitt Academic Center, said Technical Career Day is an event "designed for students with technical majors such as computer science, engineering, arts (and) construction."

The College Placement Association of Nebraska, which includes about 36 postsecondary institutions, is coordinating Career Information Day.

Sandra Knight, assistant director for Career Planning and Placement, said that last year about 500 students attended Technical Career Day and 1,200 students attended Career Information Day. Both events are free.

Twenty companies have signed up for Technical Career Day and 63 have signed up for Career Information Day.

Zimmer said he is hoping students will take advantage of and benefit

from these two days.

For freshman and sophomores, he said, the event is a chance to "explore and learn more about careers," and for juniors and seniors "it is a chance to make contacts for internships and jobs."

Students are encouraged to dress professionally if they plan to contact company representatives for future interviews.

Knight said, "This is a golden opportunity for students," adding that any level of student, whether undergraduate or graduate, can benefit from the event.

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