

Homecoming to feature recycling

By Lori Huff
Staff Reporter

Homecoming at UNL this year is taking a new approach to a serious subject.

"Having Fun: NU Directions" is the theme of this year's Homecoming festivities, said Courtney Flanagan, Homecoming Committee chairman.

Flanagan said many activities are planned to correlate with the theme. She said different groups, made up of representatives from fraternities, sororities and residence halls, will collect cans for recycling.

"The different triads are asked to bring their cans to Broyhill Fountain at noon on Friday, where they will receive one point for each crushed can submitted," Flanagan said.

Val Wetzel, adviser to the Homecoming Committee, said the triad with the most amount of points will receive a certificate.

Many of the activities planned for Homecoming will be held at the Devaney Sports Center. Flanagan said the triad groups will sponsor booths at the center that correlate with a carnival theme.

"We are changing things this year," Flanagan said. "We are trying to get everyone involved and include, not only students, but everyone in the community. We don't want to limit the activities."

She said proceeds from the aluminum-can drive and the carnival will be donated to the University of Nebraska Environmental Resource Center.

"We feel that it is a cause that deserves everyone's attention and we are happy to assist the center," she said.

David Regan, the director of UNERC, said donations will go toward buying books, periodicals and other necessary materials.

Regan said the center is "dependent completely on donations at this point."

"We've sent out a mailing of over 1,000 requests for materials and other contributions," he said, "One-fourth of what we take in is put aside for a fund to buy a camcorder, on which environmental documentaries can be taped."

Regan said the purpose of the volunteer, student-run organization is to

"facilitate research and serve as an advising center for new environmental studies majors."

He said he thinks Homecoming involvement in the environmental cause will help increase awareness of the environment.

Other activities during Homecoming week include the kickoff celebration today from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m. at Broyhill Plaza, a talent show at 7 p.m. Tuesday in the Nebraska Union and royalty elections on Wednesday.

Screenings of the movie "House Party II" at the Lincoln Theatre, 1145 P St., will begin at 5, 7 and 9 p.m. on Thursday. Free passes for the screening may be obtained at the kickoff celebration or at information booths in the Nebraska and East unions.

Budget

Continued from Page 1

"They can respond in any way, from offering extensive additional material or indicating they've already responded via the hearing process," Zorn said.

If preliminary recommendations to eliminate programs or departments are made, those departments will be given another hearing, in accordance with NU general counsel Richard Wood's interpretation of UNL bylaw requirements, Zorn said.

Paul Olson, professor of English, said the recent developments in the budget-cutting process offer faculty members some reassurance.

"I hope we're back on track," Olson said. "It does mean that there's some consensus developing as to the way that things should be done."

"It complicates things in some respects," Zorn said, "but I think that's an indication of how difficult such a process is and how much more difficult it is to do vertical cuts rather than across-the-board cuts."

James McShane, former president of the Academic Senate, said UNL's attempts to make vertical cuts explain, in part, why the process has been more tedious than the budget-cutting process at NU's three other institutions.

"The other schools are currently taking horizontal cuts. We took our horizontal cuts — we are as far along as they are," McShane said. "What we are doing now is saying that you can't run a university forever on horizontal cuts. We're taking vertical cuts to restore some of the damage from horizontal cuts."

"We have some extremely difficult decisions to make," Zorn said.

Hearing

Continued from Page 1

Women faculty at UNL are three times more likely to be affected by budget cuts, Laughlin said, adding that she thinks UNL officials believe women can teach, but men are better suited for research activities.

"That's blatant sexism," she said.

Home economics is the most productive part of the university, she said, and is a large part of women's history.

"Centrality to mission is overlooked," she said. "It's a matter of separating the 'superior' sciences (male-dominated) from the 'inferior' sciences."

Instead of judging home economics on sexist criteria, she said, officials making the budget cuts should consider the quality of faculty teaching, peer acceptance of accredited graduate programs and peer acceptance of research findings.

Karen Craig, dean of the home economics college, said she received evaluations from accrediting organizations saying the college was of high quality. Craig said the college was also cost-effective, with lower instructional costs than other colleges.

And, she said, the college enhances the lives of Nebraskans and rural America.

"How can the officials say (the home economics college) doesn't meet the criterion of quality?" she said.

The director of the Counseling Center, Vernon Williams, argued against its proposed elimination. Under the proposed budget cuts, the center's duties would be absorbed into the mental health division at the University Health Center.

Williams said that dissolving the center and reassigning the minority employees to the University Health Center would hurt minority students who use the services.

"If the BRRC decides to cut the Counseling Center, a program that helps students stay in school and get maximum education will be gone," he said.

Williams said African-American students feel alienated and rejected at the mental health center at the University Health Center. If the Counseling Center was transferred to the University Health Center, minority students would forego getting help, he said.

The effectiveness of minority staff members at the Counseling Center cannot be transferred to the health

center, Williams said. The staff members make the counseling environment the way it is to help people in diverse categories, he said.

Some students have problems but aren't willing to go to the health center for fear of being called mentally ill, Williams said. The Counseling Center serves as an informal welcoming center for them, he said.

Onesimo Sandoval, a senior business administration major and spokesman for the Mexican American Student Association, said UNL attracts minority students, but fails to do anything to keep them.

Low-income minority students may be unable to afford fees that may result if the Counseling Center becomes part of the health center, Sandoval said. The Counseling Center currently is free to students.

Barbara DiBernard, associate professor of English and women's studies, said eliminating the Counseling Center also would hurt the gay and lesbian communities.

The Counseling Center is the only safe, supportive place that gays and lesbians can go, she said.

"The health center treats them for physical and mental illness," she said, "instead of giving them information and support."

Nelson

Continued from Page 1

Sometimes, he said, tough choices must be made.

"If you don't have enough (funding) to go around," he said, "you are only kidding yourself if you make everything a priority."

"The university is having to go through that same sort of process right now, and there's a lot of agony and a lot of acrimony associated with it. It's not fun."

And a significant increase in UNL's budget is not likely anytime soon, he said.

"I think we are going to have to get through it as it is for a while."

He said he will keep trying, however.

"I would hope that at some point along the line there is going to be something more we can do," he said.

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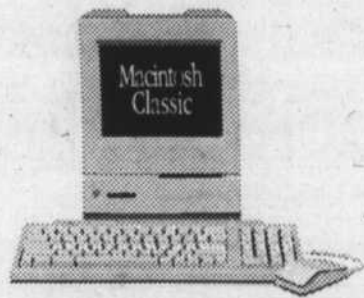
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Homecoming 1991 Royalty Candidates



Front Row (left to right):

Stacie Yost, Tami Lindau, Kelly Spencer, Dave Gale, Elizabeth Jurgens, Jacqueline Gines.

Second Row (left to right):

Duane Bernt, Teg Hughes, Donn Raymond, Leigh Ann Eickhoff, Brian Wilcox, Eric Marsh.

Third Row (left to right):

Jim Bazata, Eric Thurber, Susan Brown, Kyle Hauberg, Shawn Burnham, Todd Weber.

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