

Off-campus autonomy valued, students say

By Taryn Gilster
Staff Reporter

For many students at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, moving off campus is a step toward independence.

Off-campus living was a new experience for UNL students Cherie Boardman, a junior broadcasting major, and Laurie Stockfleth, a junior accounting major.

"We liked living in the dorms for two years, but we felt that it was time to move on," Boardman said. "I was tired of feeling like I was at school 24 hours a day. I enjoy my own freedom, cooking my own meals, the spacious living, our own bathroom and the close parking."

Boardman and Stockfleth agreed that the hunt for an apartment was harder than expected.

"We thought that we were getting an early jump on the apartment search when we started looking in July," Stockfleth said. "But we were lucky to get the last one in this complex."

"It's hard to find something when you don't live in Lincoln over the summer," Boardman said.

Roommates Stuart O'Neil and Jon Vanderford said the residence halls became too confining, and they thought it was time to try something new.

"It's somewhat challenging and frustrating looking for the perfect place," said Vanderford, a senior broadcasting major. "It's hard to break

away, but you learn to adjust."

Doug Zatechka, director of UNL housing, said students usually move off campus when they are juniors or seniors.

"Despite the convenience of on-campus living, a certain level of development occurs in people and they start to take care of their own needs," he said.

In the 1990 fall semester, 24,453 students were enrolled at UNL. Of these students, 11,713 lived off campus, 6,045 lived in residence halls, 2,542 lived with parents or relatives and 2,347 lived in Greek houses or cooperatives. The remaining 1,806 students did not report where they lived.

In searching for the perfect apartment, all four students agreed that close proximity to campus, easy access to the bus lines, price and look of the apartment, quality of the neighborhood and personal recommendations were major factors in selecting an apartment.

O'Neil, a music and English major, said, "We feel that we're paying more for more. We're paying \$379 and have our own bedrooms and a kitchen."

Boardman and Stockfleth said they don't think they're saving money but are happier with the way their money is being spent. Rent for their two-bedroom apartment is \$399.

"Apartment living is another facet in one's education. There are fewer



William Lauer/DN

Cherie Boardman (left) and Laurie Stockfleth moved into an apartment after spending two years in the residence halls.

distractions here, and I feel more comfortable and able to study. I feel it is 'our' place and not just a hall. Thus, Stuart and I are more apt to take care of something that is ours," Vanderford said.

Sherri Moore, a manager at Willowhaven Apartments, 1800 Knox St., said students want to pay cheap rent and to be near campus.

Shirley Meyer, a manager at Superior Place apartments, 1501 Superior St., said students prefer dishwashers, large bedrooms, spacious closets, more than one bathroom and a pool.

"We also allow our tenants to have

a cat," she said.

O'Neil and Vanderford said off-campus living has pros and cons.

"Your whole day must be planned out. Once you're on campus, it's hard to run back to the apartment if you forget something," Vanderford said.

"Things that used to be taken care of before aren't anymore. You have bills to pay, food to buy and parking to hassle with," O'Neil said.

To reduce the costs of off-campus living, many students search for inexpensive furniture and appliances, a local thrift store manager said.

Ann Zwetzig, Goodwill Stores retail manager, said many students come to Goodwill for furniture, houseware items, rugs and pictures.

Shelli Peterson, a clerk at the Junior League Thrift Shop at 2201 O St., said most of the store's customers are college students buying small appliances, dishes and stereos for their apartments.

All four students said they were fortunate in furnishing their apartments because their families helped.

O'Neil said, "I also picked up some plates and bowls out of a dumpster."

Suspects charged with bicycle theft

From Staff Reports

Three juveniles were arrested at 2:40 a.m. Thursday for allegedly stealing two bicycles.

University of Nebraska-Lincoln police officers were contacted by a witness who reportedly observed three juveniles taking two bicycles from the bicycle rack at Walter Scott Engineering Building, UNL police Lt. Mylo

Bushing said.

The witness said he saw the juveniles discard one of the bicycles in the bushes and ride off on the other.

UNL police apprehended the juveniles and brought them to headquarters for identification.

The juveniles were released to one of the parents and will appear in juvenile court for larceny of bicycles.

Fellowships worth \$2,500 awarded to graduates

From Staff Reports

Nine University of Nebraska-Lincoln graduates pursuing degrees in agriculture and natural resources have been awarded \$2,500 fellowships for the 1991-92 academic year.

The fellowships are provided by the Farmers National Fund and the Milton E. Mohr Fellowship Fund in the NU Foundation.

Mohr fellowships were awarded to: Patricia Wilson, veterinary science, Algonquin, Ill.; Nataraj Chandrasekaran, veterinary science, Madras, India; Michael B. Smith, biological systems engineering, Seward; Sandeep Bhatnagar, biological systems engineering, Udaipur, India; Ellen Bergfeld, animal science, Summitville, Ohio; Drew Brumbaugh, agronomy, York; and Charles Duffy, agronomy, Geneva, Ill.

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