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search stresses graduates

By Angle Bowers

Most college students go through periods of stress during their trek through the halls of knowledge. But the most stressful time for stu-dents may be that last semester before graduation.

And, graduating seniors say, find-ing a job after graduation is the big-

st stress of all.

Shawn Pickering, a consumer science and education major from Omaha, said he was worried about what he was going to do in two

"I have a job, but it's not the job I want or think I deserve after five years of college," Pickering said. "I think the economy's keeping people stressed out about finding a job."

Deidre Walker, an international business major, said the pressure on her won't let up, even when she gets employment.

"I'm still looking for a job," she said, "and once I get a job I'll still be stressed because I'll be trying to perform well in that job.

Waiting to hear back from employers is one pre-graduation stress that Lincoln-native Tanya Chris-

tiansen said she was under.
"I'm not pulling my hair out about it," Christiansen, a business administration major, said. "But I'm real anxious.

Even finding employment doesn't assure graduates of a stress-free semester, Stacey Sattler, a consumer science major, said.

"I'm moving away to a new city and starting a new job, which all takes money," Sattler said. "Everything's taking money and I don't have enough

Doug Overfield, an English major from Omaha, said that graduation vould be the end of some stresses,

but the beginning of others.
"Right now, I'm concentrating on making sure I do graduate," he said. "Then I have to find a job quick, find an apartment quick and start making money

Concern about passing classes has motivational aspects to it also, Theresa Ballard, a news-editorial

major, said.
"I think the stress is making me work harder because I don't want to flunk," the Omaha native said. "I

vant to graduate."

Overfield also said he was working harder because of graduation.

"I'm applying myself," he said.
"I'm doing better because I know where I'm going when I graduate."

Sometimes the stress becomes too intense to concentrate on studying, Sattler said. She said too many things going on at once dragged students down.

"I need to snap out of it and con-centrate on one thing," Sattler said. 'I'm just kind of getting lost."

Christiansen said she also had trouble concentrating on her class-

"I think it's stressful to stay motivated because you know that in two weeks you're going to be done," she said.

Some seniors said they had uneasiness about saying good-bye to friends that they had met in college. Walker said not knowing when she would see some of her friends again caused emotional stress for

Claudio Ravinet, an international affairs and Russian major, said going away to graduate school was a big stress for him. Ravinet said he wasn't sure if he was ready to start over again in a place where everyone was new.

Gifts

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such as nursing, medicine or law

often receive stamp art pictures or other decorative items with a theme related to their profession.

Other popular items for college graduates, Young said, include decorative paperweights and bowls, cashmere boxes, music boxes, figu-

rines and ring holders.

Clocks also make a nice gift, Young said, and can run from \$10 for normal alarm clocks to \$95 and up for Waterford clocks.

If none of these items strike the shopper's fancy, Young said Ben Simon's Gift Shop usually has a separate display for graduation gifts during the season, and a variety of gifts are available.

She said shoppers spent differ- shopper wants to spend.

ent amounts on graduates, depending on how well they knew them.
Friends and relatives usually spend anywhere from \$10 to \$50, she said, with the average purchase being around \$20 to \$25.

Members of the immediate family and close friends will often spend more, Young said, but it depends on what level of college the graduate is leaving and how much the



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