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Special Edition: New Student Enrollment

Despite tuition increases, UNL remains affordable in Big Eight

By Sam S. Kepfield
Staff Reporter

Despite a 7.5 percent increase in tuition rates, UNL remains one of the most affordable schools in the Big Eight, one administrator said.

The office of Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs James Griesen recently conducted a survey that ranked the University of Nebraska-Lincoln fifth in overall total costs in the Big Eight.

In 1991-1992, a resident undergraduate at

UNL enrolled in 30 hours of courses in the College of Arts and Sciences paid an average of \$4,713.50 in tuition, mandatory fees and room and board.

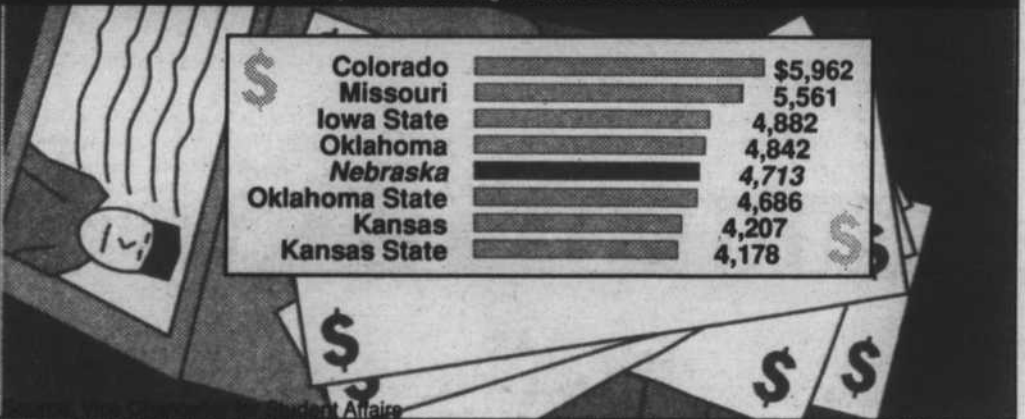
UNL ranked fourth in tuition costs, at \$1,717.50 per year, eighth in mandatory fees totalling \$176 and finished sixth in room and board at \$2,820.

The 7.42 percent jump in tuition was larger than anticipated, Griesen said. Initially, he said, UNL contemplated only a 5 percent rise in

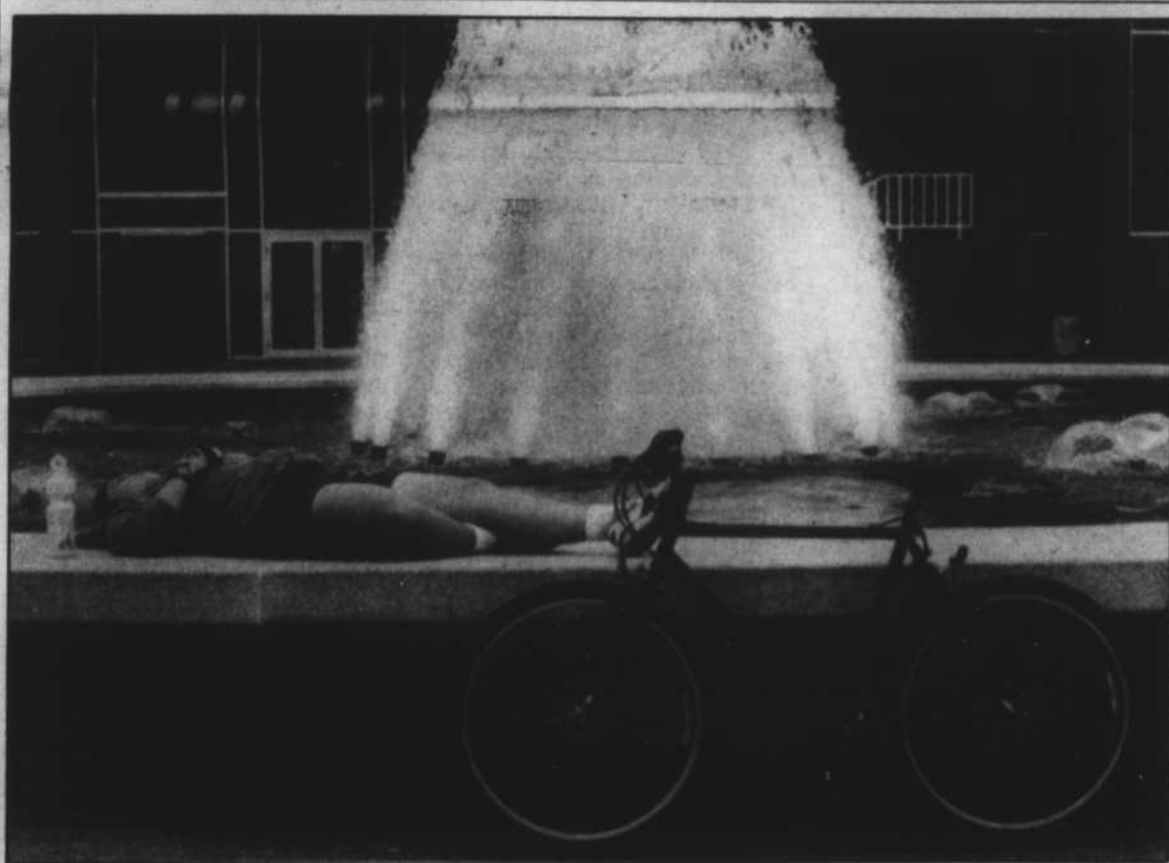
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Big 8 cost of attendance

Cost includes tuition, mandatory fees excluding health, room and board.



Scott Maurer/DN



Therese Goodlett/DN

Snoozin'

Chris Zabel naps by Broyhill fountain on a summer afternoon. Zabel is a senior elementary education major.

University makes effort to bridge student racial gap

By Steffenie Fries
Staff Reporter

While one University of Nebraska-Lincoln student remains doubtful about the campus racial environment, administrators are hopeful of improvement.

Angela Green, a junior political science major, said she thought the current climate for minorities at UNL was lacking, but James Griesen, vice chancellor for student affairs, said the administration has been formulating goals for a more comfortable racial environment in the future.

One goal, Griesen said, is to double the enrollment of minorities at UNL from 3 to 6 percent by the year 2000.

Griesen also listed a number of programs and organizations which had been instituted to promote a healthy racial climate on campus.

Besides joining individual ethnic groups, he said, the Culture Center provides a home base for all minority students.

The Racial Pluralism Action Team is another advocate for cultural harmony on campus, Griesen said. The team, composed of seven faculty and staff members and nine students, un-

dertakes activities, such as a yearly Cultural Diversity Retreat, to develop an action plan for productive change in the upcoming year.

Griesen said that the recently formed "First Step" Mentoring Program had been a constructive measure in this effort. The program pairs a faculty or staff member with a first year racial minority student, and the relationship seeks to ease the student's transition into academic life at the university.

According to Carmen K. Maurer, interim director of affirmative action, a new program based on unity and confrontation of fearful issues is to be implemented in the near future.

The current program, she said, is aimed at faculty and staff. However, Maurer said, it will take some time to reach all 6000 employees.

New minority students with problems or questions may find answers at the Multi-Cultural Affairs Office, director Jimmi Smith said.

"The first thing we do is sit down and listen to them," Smith said.

He said he encouraged all students to get involved in their own commu-

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Freshmen not only ones changing when college starts

By Mindy Wilson
Staff Reporter

Letting go. It's hard for parents to do. They've watched their children go from being a tiny infant to becoming a young adult. And when it's time for their children to leave for college, most parents have a difficult time dealing with the gap that's left behind, a university official said.

Vernon Williams, director of the Counseling Center at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, said the number one fear of parents is that they will be completely cut off from their children when their kids go away to college.

Where the child was before, there is now an empty space, he said. The parents aren't as involved with their children as they were before, Williams said, and sometimes parents have problems admitting that their children are be-

coming adults who can manage their own affairs.

Williams said that New Student Enrollment and other encounters a parent has with the university can help to lessen concerns. Parents can also benefit from talking to other parents who have had children in college.

"Parents have to remind themselves that this is a time to let go even if they don't want to," Williams said.

Whether the child going to college is the first or last does make a difference in parental concerns, Williams said.

Parents whose first child is starting college have more concerns than parents who already have had a child in college, he said.

With the last child, Williams said, parents are almost casual about the situation, especially

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