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Damon Lee/DN

Campus Yesterday and Today:

The photo on the left shows buildings on campus at 12th and R streets during the 1920s, including the former Grant Memorial Hall and Pharmacy Hall. Sheldon Memorial Art Gallery and its adjacent sculpture garden, seen in the photo on the right, are now located at the same location, along with Hamilton Hall in the background.

UNL's history, charter traced to 1869

By Lisa Vernon
Staff Reporter

Since its charter, started by an act of the Nebraska Legislature in 1869 until present day, the University of Nebraska-Lincoln has come a long way from the days of the prairie.

"The university's history is evident in the collection we have in the university archives," UNL archivist Lynn Porn said. "We have yearbooks, files, newspapers and much more."

According to sources that detail UNL's history, the university's charter originally provided for six departments or colleges, but when the university first opened in 1871, only the

college of ancient and modern literature, mathematics and natural sciences began. Only 20 students were in attendance the first year.

The following year the college of agriculture was added.

Admission requirements to UNL were much different than today. In the early years, it was noted that if you could read, you were admitted.

UNL began with only four blocks of land, which was at one time surrounded by an iron fence. Today, the university is set on 655.2 acres in Lincoln, including both City and East campuses.

UNL's first building, University

Hall, was built in 1871 and was the only building on campus until 1886.

On June 25, 1874, 320 acres of land were purchased by the university from Mr. and Mrs. Moses Culver to be a farm for agriculture students to study their trade.

Today, that farm is known as UNL's East Campus and is still the sight of agriculture classes in addition to numerous others.

The first UNL library began in one room in University Hall, where it stayed for 15 years. Currently, UNL is Nebraska's major comprehensive research university. The library is the state's largest with more than two

million volumes, 20,000 periodicals and electronic access to libraries and data bases throughout the country and world.

Students began their life at the university by living in boarding houses off campus. Now, the 13 residence halls, fraternities and sororities house more than 7,500 UNL students.

January 1883 was when UNL's first fraternity, Sigma Chi, was established followed by Phi Delta Theta in December of the same year. In 1884, the first women's organization, Kappa Kappa Gamma, was started followed by Delta Gamma in 1887. There are currently 17 sororities and 28 fraternities in existence on campus.

In 1890, the "Big Red" football tradition was started with the organization of the first team. Nebraska's biggest rival of the time was Doane College in Crete, Nebraska. Today, Doane is a division II college.

Ground breaking for Memorial Stadium was held on April 26, 1923, and was dedicated in a Homecoming game with Kansas on Oct. 20 of the same year.

The name "Cornhuskers" was first applied to Nebraska athletes by Charles S. Sherman, the sporting editor of "The Nebraska State Journal." Before this time, the athletes were known as "Bug-eaters," "Trec-planters" or "Nebraskans."

Parent adjustment vital to student's success

By Stacie Hake
Staff Reporter

A big problem for parents is learning how to "let go" of their children when they leave for college, a University of Nebraska-Lincoln official said.

Vernon Williams, Career Counseling coordinator at UNL, said parents often had trouble adjusting when their children started their collegiate lives.

"Many parents, when their son or daughter left for school, they didn't realize what it would be like," Williams said. "They didn't realize the troubles they would have, like if they were studying or eating."

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not be able to adjust, and they may sometimes act inappropriately.

He said examples of such actions include calling their child too often or calling their child's instructors if they happen to be failing a class.

"The student is the one who has to deal with it," Williams said. "The student is the one who has to make the

grade and do well in the course."

Williams said parents needed to learn to accept their children were growing up and are handling responsibilities.

If parents can't accept that change, they should look for support from others or re-evaluate their thoughts, he said.

"It helps to talk to someone who has been through it; you get a better perspective on things by talking," Williams said. "It's not like they're cutting all ties, but having someone else to talk to helps," Williams said.

Williams said another method for help would be relaxation techniques,

including such activities as prayer, exercise and things to keep busy.

Betty Ball, the mother of Erin Ball, a sophomore political science major, said she was thankful her four children were not still dependent on her.

"I feel like you have to let go every year," Ball said. "Even as they grow, they are spending less time because of jobs and activities."

Williams said he helps out with the New Student Enrollment program by giving a lecture on what parents should anticipate when their children leave for college.

"Even though it is not that big of a problem, there is still that sinking feeling as a parent," Williams said.