



Fiji members active in changing image

By Matthew Waite
Senior Reporter

It's a little quieter around the Phi Gamma Delta Fraternity house these days. Six months after Jeffery Knoll fell from a third-story window in an incident involving hazing, members of the fraternity are taking the university-imposed sanctions seriously and are working to improve the image of their fraternity.

Following the incident, Fiji was sanctioned by the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. The fraternity is not allowed to serve alcohol at social functions until 1996-97 or sign new members until the summer of 1994.

The fraternity members also are required to perform 12 to 16 hours of community service per month. But according to the Fiji philanthropy chair, the members would have done this anyway.

Dave Hunter, a sophomore, said the fraternity would have been involved in public service activities even without the sanctions.

"Maybe it influenced us to do more," he said. The fraternity has started or is planning the following:

- Continuing to work with the Tabitha Meals on Wheels program. Fiji president Brian Mejak said the members had to prove themselves to be reliable before they were given more responsibilities in the Tabitha program.

- Serving dinner at the First Presbyterian Church to raise money for Fresh Start, a program for children. Hunter said he hoped the members of the fraternity could raise more than \$300 for the program.

- Serving dinner at the Peoples City Mission in Lincoln. Mejak said members would work every Wednesday night for two hours.

- Recruiting members for the Nebraska Human Resources Institute, a program similar to the Big Brothers/Big Sisters program.

Mike Johnson, a member of Fiji, volunteers in the institute as part of Project Pals, a program involving children with orthopedic disabilities. "You just basically hang out ... and help them get better self-confidence in themselves," Johnson said.

There are 12 to 15 counselors paired with a child, called a junior counselor, he said. The pairs can do activities as a group or just go out on their own, he said.

"We do things like go to the circus and go bowling," Johnson said. "They really enjoy spending the time with us. They really look up to us."



Phi Gamma Delta Fraternity members Jeff Barton, left, and Marcus Haith play basketball in the Fiji parking lot Wednesday afternoon. Members of the fraternity are doing community service projects in Lincoln to comply with sanctions imposed by the university last fall.

Jay Calderon/DN

"They really enjoyed going to the circus."

This weekend the group of volunteers and children are going out for a picnic, Johnson said. He said the program benefited many.

"It's good for the community and the university to have a program like this," he said. "It gives (students) experiences other than in the classroom."

Johnson said he was the only member of the fraternity currently involved in the program,

but he is trying to change that. He said he had talked to several members who were interested in volunteering.

Hunter said with all of the activities being planned, there had not been any problems finding willing Fiji members, even after the in-house membership had been reduced to a "core" group of 40 because of the hazing sanctions. More than 20 other members live off-campus.

"We haven't had any problems getting the guys to do the Meals on Wheels," he said. "We

haven't had any problems getting guys to fill up the events we have."

James Griesen, vice chancellor for student affairs at UNL, said the Fiji community service activities were "acceptable." He would not say if he was pleased or displeased with their actions.

Griesen said he wanted to have formal community service plans approved by the university

See FIJI on 6

ASUN passes bill opposing the ticket price increase

By Heather Lampe
Staff Reporter

A bill opposing the recent \$17 increase in student football tickets was passed by unanimous vote in ASUN Wednesday night.

Andrew Loudon, president of ASUN, said he was very disappointed that the athletic department did little to gauge student opinion on the increase.

The bill states that the Association

of Students of the University of Nebraska requests that the athletic department make a greater effort to involve students in future decisions that affect the student body.

Britt Ehlers, first vice president of ASUN, said he and Loudon would talk to Athletic Director Bill Byrne next week to urge the department not to raise the price of basketball tickets.

"We want to make sure they listen to us in the future and ideally try to get a price decrease in next year's basketball tickets," Ehlers said.

Ehlers said the price increase was especially unfair to students because students had just recently received worse seating in Memorial Stadium.

And, Ehlers said, the timing of the increase was unfair to students.

"(Students) had no idea. It was almost just one week before lottery applications were due. It gave students little time to plan for the \$17 increase," Ehlers said.

According to the athletic department, the increase will help pay athletic department costs, such as changes and repairs to the stadium.

Greg Sphon, a senator for graduate studies, said he wasn't so much upset at the price increase, but at the idea that students weren't involved in the decision.

"While no one likes a price hike, the main thing is that students didn't

have the chance to make a decision," Sphon said.

In other action, the steering committee in charge of raising money and planning for the memorial in honor of Candice Harms was appointed.

Six members, including Candice Harms' mother, Pat, will be involved in raising \$15,000 over a six-month period for the memorial.

Loudon said the memorial would most likely be a wall placed in the northwest section of North Plaza Park, or green space.

Sphon said the memorial was a positive way to remember Harms.

"The memorial is a way to show that each individual student is more

than just a number but rather part of a larger UNL student body and family," he said.

Ehlers said the memorial was not only a good way to remember Harms but also a way to remind students not to take the attitude that "it will never happen to me."

Dave Milligan, a senator for the Engineering and Technology College, was elected speaker of the senate.

The speaker's responsibilities include being the public relations person for ASUN, sitting on the appointments board, being a member of the executive committee of ASUN and choosing members of ASUN's subcommittees.

Fair matches students with jobs

By Julie Sobczyk
Staff Reporter

Some UNL students got a head start on looking for summer employment Wednesday at the Job Fair in the Nebraska Union.

The fair, sponsored by the Student Employment and Internship Center, gave students an opportunity to meet with local employers and discuss summer jobs.

Lindy Nolan, assistant coordinator of the fair, said 44 businesses around Lincoln were represented at the event.

Freshmen through seniors attended the fair. Most of them were interested in part-time jobs for the summer.

Eric Petz, a sophomore business major, said he heard about the fair and stopped in to see what it had to offer.

"I'm looking for a summer job in either an office or some type of manual labor," Petz said. "I think the fair gave me a lot of different aspects and opportunities for jobs around Lincoln."

Business representatives also realized the benefits of the job fair.

Carolyn Straub, director of human resources for Runza Restaurants, said the job fair had been successful for Runza. Many people applied for the

part-time and summer jobs for which they were hiring.

Nick Badura, a representative from Matrixx Marketing, agreed.

"I feel we've had success here," she said. "We've given out a lot of applications, and I think it's been very beneficial."

Linda Zimmerman, a recruiter from Harris Laboratories, said the job fair was an excellent way for students to get a head start on their futures.

"I think college graduates can improve job prospects if they get a part-time job or internship in a field related to their major."

Lied Center to lose director

From Staff Reports

Robert Chumbley, director of the Lied Center for Performing Arts, has accepted the executive position of the Fine Arts Center at the State University of New York in Buffalo, the chancellor's office announced Wednesday.

Chumbley, who has been executive and artistic director at the Lied Center since 1989, also accepted an associate professor job at SUNY-Buffalo.

Chumbley's wife, Shirley Irek, has accepted a job as visiting associate professor of music at SUNY-

Buffalo. Irek is an assistant professor at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln School of Music.

Chancellor Graham Spanier said Chumbley's leadership during the Lied Center's first four seasons was exceptional.

"We sincerely regret he has chosen to leave UNL but understand that the professional opportunities afforded to Mr. Chumbley and Shirley Irek are not ones they should pass up," Spanier said in a statement.

A national search for Chumbley's successor will begin immediately in order to have a director in place by fall.