Eye care coming to UNL

From Staff Reports

Students in need of eye care will have a convenient, low-cost alternative when the University Health Center opens a new optometry department on



Health center medical director Russell LaBeau said the department was started in response to increasing student

Many students have called for information about eyecare services, he said. LaBeau said the service had been offered at many other universities but never at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

Mark Arneson, a local optometrist, will run the department. He received his University Health Center.

undergraduate degree from UNL and has been practicing in Lincoln for two

Glasses will not be available through the health center, but students can take their prescriptions off campus to get them filled. Contact lenses will be available at the health center in January.

Eye exams initially will be offered only on Thursday mornings, but the hours will be expanded as requests for appointments increase, he said.

The cost of the exams will not be covered by student health fees. LaBcau declined to release specific information regarding costs, but he said the exams would be significantly less expensive than private optometry clinics.

For more information, contact the

Health center: New hours

By Rebecca Oltmans Staff Reporter

The University Health Center has had no problems adjusting to having no overnight services, said Russell LaBeau, medical director of the health

The center stopped providing 24hour medical services on May 9. It eliminated late-evening and earlymorning services and expanded daytime hours

LaBeau said too few students used the overnight services. The cost of serving the small number of students was not economically feasible, costing up to \$400 per patient.

Cutting out the nighttime hours has made a big difference to the center financially, LeBeau said.

"We are better able to meet our budget," LeBeau said.

An orderly still remains over-

night to answer calls and to refer students to another location or phone number, he said.

"The calls are very few," LaBeau said. "Even afternoons are light, and about once or twice a week we'll refer a student out at night.'

LaBeau said weekend and holiday hours this summer also had been used lightly. The center usually receives fewer calls during the summer, he said.

Prior to this summer, the night hours in the summer were used less than 10 percent of what they were used during the academic year, LaBeau said.

Although the health center had more students using the nighttime hours in the regular school year, most calls came in before 10 p.m., LeBeau said.

"With the center being open until 10 p.m. this fall, we will still be able

to take care of most of those calls," LeBeau said.

Prevention specialist David Bower said the health center also had had no problems without the nighttime

detoxification service. Few students used the service when it was available at night, he said.

For students living on campus who need a detoxification center, the health center will refer them of have the UNL police escort them to the Cornhusker Place Detox Center at 721 K St.

If students are victims of sexual assault at night, they have a few options, Sexuality Education Coordinator Pat Tetreault said.

They could either call the Rape Spouse abuse crisis line," Tetreault said. "Or if they go to the emergency center at Lincoln General, the health center will pay for that service."

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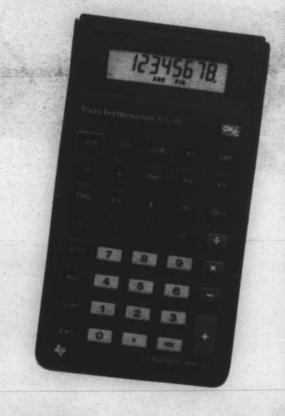
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Director

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Lied Center, the university or the Lincoln community, officials said.

Neither Howe nor Spanier would comment on who appeared to be a favorite. Spanier said he expected to announce the new director in early Sep-

Howe said the decision was up to Spanier, because he would make the offer. In that decision, Spanier said he was looking for no one quality.
"The Lied Center is going very, very

well right now," Spanier said. "We're simply interested in bringing in a topnotch person that can lead us for the next several years."



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