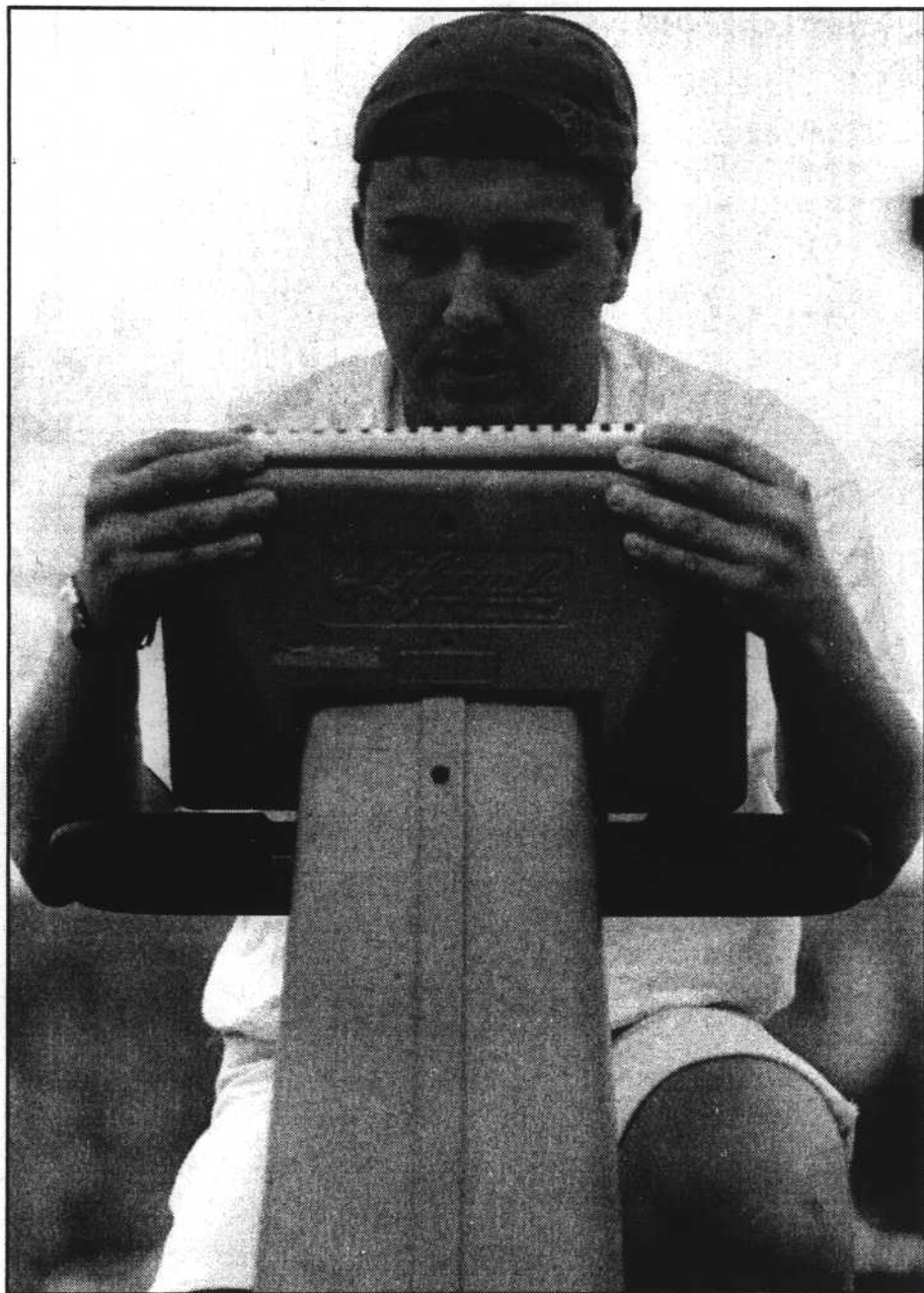


Students, police bike for bucks



Scott Bruhn/DN

Jerry Hodakowski races for the Special Olympics on a stationary bike.

Groups sponsor philanthropy for Special Olympics

By Becky Keasling
Staff Reporter

The UNL Police are working with campus fraternities and sororities to sponsor a philanthropy called "Racing for Special Olympics."

The Campus Recreation Center donated four stationary bikes for the event. The bikes are stationed at Broyhill Plaza.

Members of greek organizations, the UNL Police and various administrators and faculty hope to complete the goal of 135 hours of bike riding.

"It's going really well, and we just hope that the weather stays nice so we don't have to move inside," said Matt Jedlicka, Interfraternity Council president. "The campus police rode all day Sunday, and each fraternity and sorority are doing three-hour shifts."

So far, the event has raised \$1,000 for Special Olympics.

For 10 years, law-enforcement agencies of Nebraska have been sponsors for the Special Olympics. UNL Police approached the greek system about working together this year for Greek Week, which is taking place this week.

"Since this is the 10th year, the campus police decided to do something extra for the cause," said UNL Police Officer Brian Scusa.

Many students have become involved in the event.

"I decided to do it because it makes the whole campus look good, and it's nice to get involved," said Beta Theta Phi member Randy Eastman. "I rode for half an hour, and I had a great time."

The bike-a-thon, which began Sunday, will run from 2 p.m. to 10 p.m. through Wednesday. In case of rain, the event will be moved to the main lounge of the Nebraska Union. Everyone is welcome to participate or make a donation to benefit the Special Olympics.

New process may decrease ethanol costs

By Angie Schendt
Staff Reporter

Researchers at UNL have found a way to help cut production costs for ethanol, but they say it is too early to tell if the improvement would lower gas prices.

Ethanol is produced in three ways: wet-milling, whole-kernel milling and dry milling.

The new process uses different equipment to turn starch to gelatin. Currently, starch is turned to gelatin with jet cookers — long tubes using high levels of moisture.

The energy required for the old process can be expensive.

But costs could be reduced by using extruders instead of jet cookers, the new research shows. Extruders turn starch to gelatin at much lower moisture levels, which require less energy.

"The work we have done initially shows the outcome is real similar," said Daryl Grafelman, a former UNL graduate student who helped research the project.

If ethanol companies decide to pass on their potential savings to gas companies, consumers could end up saving a few pennies, Grafelman said.

A 50-million gallon dry-milling plant could save \$300,000 to \$500,000 annually in operating costs by using the new process, said Mike Meagher, a chemical engineer in the food science and technology department. Meagher also worked on the research project.

He said the new technology might even help to make the ethanol industry viable without government subsidies.

Making the technology available to industry is his chief aim, Meagher said.

"We're working with some people in York, but nothing solid has been set up," Meagher said.

York is the site of an ethanol plant. "This is technology that works in my opinion," he said. "If we can help the ethanol industry, we're also helping corn producers."

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Lincoln teens visit UNL for campus comparison

By Brian Jensen
Staff Reporter

UNL is reaching out to more Lincoln high school students than ever.

The new and improved New Student Enrollment program is now designed to invite to the University of Nebraska-Lincoln eleventh graders from all Lincoln high schools who have not decided on a college.

"This program has been going on for about four years, but this is the first year every Lincoln high school has participated," said Mark Davis, an assistant to the director of New Student Enrollment.

Students stay from 7:45 a.m. to about 1:45 p.m. and participate in numerous activities. They begin with a welcome admission program with guest speakers. Next, they can visit a classroom and eat at the residence halls. A campus tour and a panel discussion conclude the visit.

"Our purpose is comparability. We try to show the features of UNL that set us apart from the other colleges," said Pat McBride, director of New Student Enrollment.

So far, Northeast and Pius X already have participated in Rocket Day and Bolt Day. Names are complimentary with the mascot of each school. The remaining days are Lincoln East Spartan Day on April 7, Lincoln High Link Day on April 12 and Lincoln Southeast Knight Day April 21.

"We only allow 150 students from each school. It is on a first come, first serve basis of those who are interested," Davis said.

NSE will continue its regular tours for anyone interested throughout the school year, McBride said.

NSE days for incoming freshmen students who plan to attend UNL will take place June 8 through July 8 and July 17 through August 3. During this time students will tour campus and sign up for fall classes.

Trujillo lives in the residence halls and is billed by UNL Telecommunications, which is served by Lincoln Telephone Long Distance.

She said she wished she could use AT&T for all her long-distance calls because the rate she paid at UNL was too high.

"My parents have AT&T, and it's cheaper for them to call me than for me to call them," she said. "I'm a student here. They should keep rates comparable to other companies."

But Lucas Tobler, a freshman chemical engineering major from Cheyenne, Wyo., said a 2.3 percent decrease wouldn't affect him much because his average bill was only \$9.

His parents set up a toll-free number for him to call them.

"Most of my friends have bills upwards of \$30," he said. "So I'm pretty lucky."

Telephone

Continued from Page 1

Distance estimate that the average customer's monthly phone bill is about \$18.

Theresa Trujillo, a freshman biology major at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln from Roselle, Ill., said she would appreciate lower long-distance rates — no matter how small the percentage.

Right now, Trujillo would appreciate long-distance service, period.

"I have my long-distance turned off right now because I can't pay my phone bill," she said. "I made about two long-distance calls per day."

Trujillo's average monthly phone bill is about \$90. A 2.3 percent savings would mean a lot to her, she said.

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