

Hill, Kan., and a Nebraska track and field pole vaulter, said he thinks the UNL recreation center is definitely one of the better facilities around.

"I'm very pleased with the number of programs that the recreation center offers," he said. "It is probably one of the best in the Big Eight, and I've been to a few of them." Campbell said the efforts don't stop

at just pleasing the students. Campbell said the recreation cen-

ter administration also attempts to meet community needs as well as student needs. Family members of students have access to the recreation facilities for 70 percent of what the student pays

Powell said with the increasing number of people using the facilities every year, the challenge of providing the right activities also increases

In 1993-94 school year, 590,000 people used the UNL recreation facilities. And Campbell said there has been approximately a 10 percent in-crease on that number in 1994-95.

In the past two years there has been a 7 percent increase in intramural team ports.

Campbell said he credits awareness of physical fitness benefits for the increase in numbers at the campus recreation center.

"I think a lot of it has to do with the fact that students come here aware that it's here," he said. "I also think there is an awareness among students of the benefits of physical activity."

Campbell said other benefits also seem to have risen from the campus recreation center.

"We hear that it's a great place to meet people," Campbell said. "I guess this has kind of become the social center for the campus."

Powell agreed. "I think that students are just looking for something to belong to," he said

However, not all students are excited about the increased popularity at the recreation center.

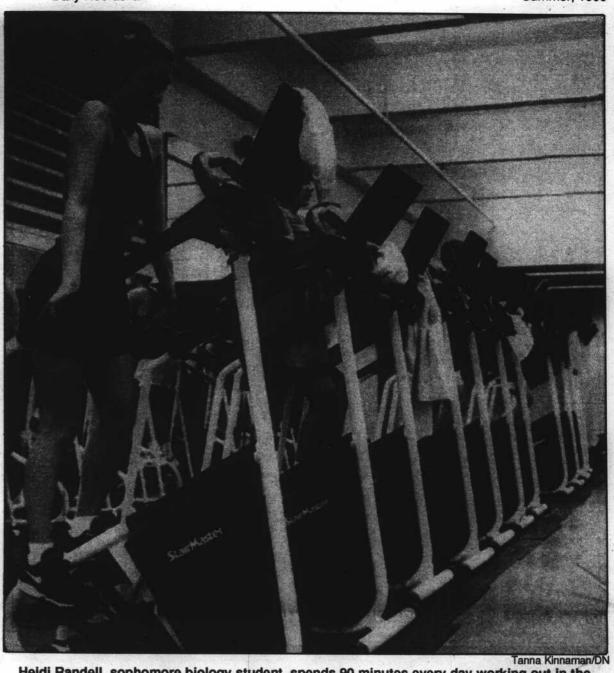
Tom Fechter, a senior from Sergeant Bluff, Iowa, said he decided to start workouts at Gold's Gym because he could get a personal trainer and the recreation center was too crowded.

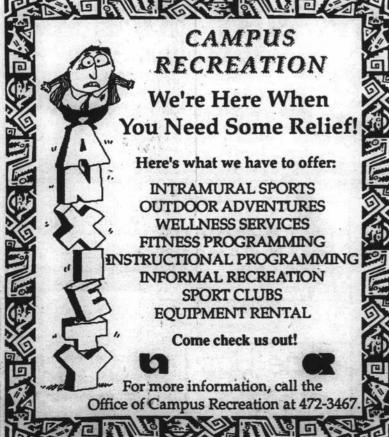
Rebecca Eppens, assistant manager of Gold's Gymat 4760 Leighton Ave., said the demographics show that the average age of people that workout

there are in early to late 20s. "We do get a lot of college stu-dents," she said. "I know that for sure." Eppens said that they try to cater to college product the try to cater to

college needs with three-month or sixmonth memberships because students may not be around for the full year. She also said that rates for students run around \$20-50 less than normal

Regardless of a person's needs for physical fitness, there is a lot of variety in choices not only on campus but also around town.





Page 22