

# Floors foster community

BY IEVA AUGSTUMS  
Assignment Reporter

For 494 UNL students next semester, the classroom will extend into their showers, dinner tables and beds.

The UNL Department of Housing is bringing learning experience to where students live by offering nine residential learning communities. Special program and interest floors, which already operate under the same idea, will again be offered.

The purpose is to help the class of 2002 take advantage of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln's academic opportunities.

Lyn Jakobsen, assistant director of Housing for Residential Education, said the program helps students' education by grouping them in their areas of study.

"Living in a community of students with the same interests helps students get in touch with their own personal values," Jakobsen said. "Students learn from other students and develop integrity."

Although most types of these communities have been at UNL in some form for a couple of years, next year four more types will be added and all will be expanded.

Don Gregory, Freshman Learning Community director, said academics and residential living should be more related than they are now.

In all residential learning communities, Gregory said, students will take one or more classes with other freshmen in their community, participate in other class-related activities related to their academic interests and share structured study sessions.

"A lot of learning does happen in the residence halls," Gregory said. "Learning communities help advance students' learning potentials."

Coordinators hope the programs help break down the traditional barriers between students and faculty members. That's not easy, Jakobsen said, but it is important for the learning communities to succeed.

"Faculty don't always know how to talk to students," she said. "However, having faculty interact with learning-community members will help increase a freshman's sense of belonging to this campus."

Jeff Bangert, a freshman management information systems major, said his involvement this year with the Business Learning Community has helped him learn to be a leader.

"It is very essential to make students feel more welcome and involved in the UNL community," Bangert said. "My learning community helped me become who I am today."

Bangert will be a student assistant on the Business Learning Community floor in Cather Residence Hall this fall.

Using a \$50,000 budget, Jakobsen said, she plans to give students a successful "freshman experience." The student assistants on the floors will have a major role in shaping that total experience as well, she said.

Gregory said there are no requirements to living on the floors. "(Students) just need to possess the willingness to learn," he said.

Jakobsen said even non-freshmen are welcome on the learning community floors.

Students interested in living on learning-community floors must submit their university housing contracts by April 13.

Jakobsen said students who already live on program floors will be allowed to return to their same room or floor if they turn in their contract on time. Those who wish to return or live on a program floor but do not meet the deadline will be assigned to available floors after June

21.

Director of University Housing Doug Zatechka said more universities nationwide are moving toward learning communities in residence halls. "We are trying to provide a community for students that want to feel at home, but still want to learn," Zatechka said.

"Learning communities are the perfect solution."

### Residential university learning communities

• **Achievement, Commitment & Excellence (ACE)** is for students interested or majoring in agricultural sciences and natural resources or human resources and family sciences. ACE students will take a leadership class and participate in community service projects. The program has 48 openings in Burr Residence Hall and includes tutors, upperclass mentors and academic advising.

• **College of Business Administration** is for business students. The program includes Computer Management 198D, English 150 and Sociology 101 courses, as well as in-house advising, computer labs with business software and close contact with faculty members. The program will be housed in Cather and Pound Residence Halls and has 75 openings.

• **Engineering & Technology** is for engineering students. Program traditions include discussion panels with faculty members, test review sessions, career services, upperclass mentors and floor events, such as the "Brains & Brawn Olympics" and an egg-drop contest. Students will take an engineering freshman seminar, Chemistry 111 and Math 106 or 107. There are 25 openings in Abel Residence Hall.

• **Freshman Learning Community (FLC)** is for general studies students only. Classes included are English 150, Political Science 100 and University Foundations. All students living in Schramm Residence Hall have the option to participate in study sessions, in-house academic advising, career services and Student Involvement activities. FLC is limited to 100 students.

• **Journalist's Perspective I** is for journalism majors and non-majors interested in political issues. Students will take Political Science 100 and an introductory journalism class. The program will be housed in Schramm Residence Hall and has 45 openings.

• **Journalist's Perspective II** is similar to JP I; however, students will take English 150 instead of an introductory journalism course. JP II has 46 openings and will also be housed in Schramm Residence Hall.

• **Psychology - The Mind's World** is for psychology majors and non-majors. The program includes English 150, an introductory psychology class, study sessions and

informal meetings with faculty members, students and staff in the Psychology Department. There are 100 openings in Schramm Residence Hall.

• **Education Occupations** is open to women planning to live in Sandoz Residence Hall. The program is designed to increase students' skills and help prepare them for future educational courses. All students will take Education 131. There are 30 openings.

• **Education Occupations - Webster Robbins Floor** is open to any student interested in education occupations or multicultural education. The program will focus on the histories, traditions and cultures of various representations of races. Classes include Ethnic Studies 100, University Foundations and Education 131. The program will be housed in Abel Residence Hall and has 25 openings.

### Special program floors

• **Academic Scholarship Floors**, located in Harper and Smith Residence Halls, are for students on scholarship, including Regents Scholars and David Scholars. Special emphasis on quiet hours is enforced to help students study.

• **Music**, located in Selveck Quadrangle, provides students with three practice rooms with pianos and music stands. In-hall tutoring for students taking difficult music theory courses is arranged by the School of Music.

• **Community Service Learning**, located in Pound Residence Hall, allows students to learn more about themselves while helping others. Structured opportunities for community involvement is provided.

### Special interest floors

• **Outdoor Adventures**, located in Harper Residence Hall, provides challenges for the mind, body and spirit. Students have the option to participate in Campus Recreation activities and attend guest lectures on outdoor subjects.

• **Wellness Floors**, located in Pound Residence Hall, are for students who have made a commitment to a healthy lifestyle. Living in a smoke-free environment, students have the opportunity to learn more about nutrition, physical fitness, emotional well-being and spirituality.

## Law & Order

### Starlite Motel room robbed

Thieves cleaned out a Starlite Motel room, taking personal belongings, bedding and the television.

The five people staying in the room, 52nd Street and Cornhusker Highway, left Tuesday night and, when they returned Wednesday before noon, their room was empty, Lincoln Police Sgt. Ann Heermann said.

Four of the victims were from Lincoln, and the fifth is from Seattle.

The door to the room was ajar and all of their belongings were gone including airline tickets. Their loss is estimated at \$5,810.

The motel lost a television, cable converter box and the bedspreads, for a

loss of \$530.

### Glass broken at Hamilton Hall

Strong winds Wednesday afternoon shattered four Hamilton Hall windows, littering the sidewalk with broken glass.

Maintenance workers discovered the broken windows around 4 p.m. and told police strong winds were the culprit, according to University Police Sgt. Mylo Bushing.

Police barricaded the area to prevent students from walking through the broken glass.

The broken glass still in the frames has been removed and facilities maintenance plans to clean up the sidewalk Friday morning, Construction Supervisor Ray Campbell said.

## Citywide chase ends in arrest

BY JOSH FUNK  
Senior Reporter

A Gas 'N Shop customer led police on a chase across the city that ended when he veered off the road into a rock.

The disturbance started when Kevin Weils pulled into the 55th and Superior streets store just before 1:30 a.m. Thursday, nearly hitting the clerk's car, Lincoln Police Sgt. Ann Heermann said.

Worried that Weils might hit his car on the way out, the clerk took down Weils' license plate number while he pumped gas.

After topping off his tank, Weils, of Lincoln, got into his 1995 Dodge Intrepid and waited at the pumps.

When the clerk asked Weils to leave, Weils made an obscene gesture and pulled away, but then came back.

The clerk called police and a Lancaster County Sheriff's deputy arrived to ask Weils to leave.

But Weils drove away when the deputy arrived.

Lincoln police followed him down Superior Street to 44th Street, where the Nebraska State Patrol took over.

A trooper was following Weils until he sped through a red light at 27th Street, Nebraska State Patrol Traffic Unit Capt. A.K. Anderson said.

Another cruiser picked up the chase at 14th Street.

Weils sped ahead of the trooper, and when police caught up to him at 7th and Superior streets, Weils' car had jumped the curb, hit a sign pole and crashed into a rock.

Weils climbed over a fence toward I-180 where a sheriff's deputy was waiting to arrest him.

The State Patrol arrested Weils for driving while intoxicated, and Lincoln police filed charges for disturbing the peace and fleeing arrest.

## Calls made by phony newspaper reporter

BY JOSH FUNK  
Senior Reporter

A man impersonating a Daily Nebraskan and Omaha World-Herald reporter has been prying into state Legislature candidate Scott Stinson's background.

The man, who said his name was Mark Kruger, called two of Stinson's business partners at Woody's Pub and members of Stinson's church.

Tuesday morning Kruger called Woody's Pub part-owner Mike Korsakas saying he was a Daily Nebraskan reporter.

Korsakas, an attorney and accountant, refused to comment, so Kruger called the pub again that afternoon and talked to part-owner John Mahoney and identified himself as World-Herald reporter.

But Mahoney already had talked to Korsakas, so he began to question Kruger's credentials, Mahoney said.

Though Mahoney offered, Kruger did not want to talk to Stinson, who would have been at the bar later.

"He was just prying into Scott's life," Mahoney said.

Kruger became flustered and confrontational before hanging up, Mahoney said.

Kruger also blocked out the caller-ID function both times he called.

Neither the Omaha World-Herald nor the Daily Nebraskan had any employee record of Mark Kruger.

## Bar faces ADA complaint

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and wrapping the pipes under the sink. These take little money and effort and don't require changing dimensions, Walter said.

The law does look at how compliance will negatively impact the business. If a store widening its aisles will reduce the store space to the extent it will jeopardize the business, different measures can be taken, Walter said.

If businesses show good faith, the Department of Justice will work with them.

If a business refuses to comply with the ADA and the Department of Justice's investigation, then the department will file a lawsuit. The Zoo Bar is not at and may never be at that stage, she said.

## Daily Nebraskan

Questions? Comments? Ask for the appropriate section editor at (402) 472-2588 or e-mail dn@unlinfo.unl.edu.

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