

\$32 million gift will establish innovative program of study

Selected students will live in same residence, learn together for four years.

BY JESSICA FARGEN
Staff writer

Thanks to a \$32 million gift from a Denver couple, students in computer science and business will have a place to live and learn together.

Carole and C. Edward McVane, both UNL alumni, announced the donation in May. The gift, which is in the form of a five-year commitment, will establish an on-campus residence for 140 undergraduate students and 30 graduate students.

The tentative plan is for students with an interest in business administration and computer science to live together for four years,

take similar classes and receive mentoring from the private sector, said Steve Dunbar, a UNL mathematics professor and the program's director.

The residential living center is tentatively scheduled for completion in spring of 2001. The program, which will require no additional tax money, is called the J.D. Edwards Honors Program.

"It creates the intellectual level of the honors program and the camaraderie of a group living experience and combines the best of the both of them," Dunbar said.

The program is in its initial stages, but work on a curriculum is under way, Dunbar said. A new degree program will not be created.

"It's going to be a lot like the existing honors program. That program sets a higher tone and sort of raises the level of expectation across the university," Dunbar said.

If the program is successful after five years, the family may continue to give \$4.6 million a year to keep it going.

According to a UNL statement, the McVaneys chose to donate to UNL because Edward McVane's interest in computer science started here.

The gift is a thank-you to UNL, as well as a way for present students to take education to another level, the statement said.

Edward McVane graduated from UNL in 1964 with a bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering. Carole McVane graduated in 1963 with an education degree.

Edward McVane established J.D. Edwards in 1977 in Denver. He is chairman, president and chief executive officer of the company, which develops, markets and supports multinational, integrated enterprise software.

Residence halls offer welcoming activities

BY JESSICA FARGEN
Staff writer

Orientation Teams for UNL's residence halls will have activities today aimed at making new residents feel welcome and connected to their new homes.

Disco Inferno - "Staying Alive" - is the theme for activities including a disco dance, game shows, barbecues and an all-campus dance.

Residence Hall Association President Ben Wallace said an all-campus dance has not been held for several years.

"It's a chance for people from different halls to get together and have fun," Wallace said.

The dance is at 8 p.m. Saturday in the Centennial Room at the Nebraska Union.

Tanya Neill, Residence Director for Sandoz Hall, said the activities make the transition to college a little easier.

"It helps the people to know each other," Neill said. "Thursday and Friday, those are the first experiences new students are going to have at college."

Neill said each hall has different welcoming activities sponsored by Hall Orientation Teams.

At Abel and Sandoz residence halls, HOTS has hospitality tables in the lobbies and has planned a walking campus tour.

"It helps them start to feel a little bit more connected to their complex or hall where they are living," Neill said.

Students who want to get involved in the Residence Hall Association can attend the first meeting Aug. 30 at 6:30 p.m. in the Nebraska Union.

SCHEDULE

Times and events may change

Harper/Schramm/Smith

Thursday

7 p.m. Movies and pizza

Friday

2 p.m. Scavenger hunt

8 p.m. Disco dance

Saturday

9 a.m. Pancake feed

2 p.m. Water games and snow cones

Sunday

9 a.m. Breakfast

9 p.m. Social

Neihardt

Thursday

8 p.m. Ice cream social and movies

Friday

3 p.m. Scavenger hunt

8 p.m. Game night

Saturday

1 p.m. Water olympics

4 p.m. Barbecue

Sunday

6:30 p.m. Family Feud

Selleck

Friday

5 p.m. Pizza party and dance

Saturday

1 p.m. Watermelon and water games

Sunday

1 p.m. Scavenger hunt

Cather/Pound

Thursday

6:30 p.m. Game show

8 p.m. Ice cream social and movies

Friday

5 p.m. Subs and Game Night

Saturday

11 a.m. Mud volleyball

1 p.m. Wacky olympics

4 p.m. Barbecue

Sunday

11 a.m. Mud volleyball

2 p.m. Jerry Springer

Abel/Sandoz

Thursday

7 p.m. Ice cream and karaoke

9:30 p.m. Movies

Friday

6 p.m. Subs

7 p.m. Sports

10 p.m. Movies

Saturday

11 a.m. Volleyball

Burr/Fedde

Thursday

7 p.m. Movies and Doritos

Friday

7 p.m. Pizza and movies

Saturday

11 a.m. Volleyball

Sunday

7 p.m. Karaoke, dance and ice cream

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- * A Sister Circle (for African-American women of all ages)
- * Graduate Student Women

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UNL welcomes new students to the Big Red

From staff reports

New students will get a taste of what UNL has to offer both academically and socially during Sunday's Big Red Welcome.

Freshmen who want to get to know their way around campus can meet tour guides on the front steps of the Nebraska Union at 1:30 p.m. for a mapping of the grounds.

Commuter students will answer new students' questions at 2:30 p.m. at the Wick Alumni Center on R Street.

New students can gather to meet university leaders at the Lied Center for Performing Arts at 4 p.m. where they will be greeted by Chancellor James Moeser, student government president Sara Russell and Bill McLaughlin, recipient of the Outstanding Educator Award.

The Cornhusker Marching Band will introduce new students to school songs during the welcome.

The day won't be all work and no play, though. A free welcome festival begins at 5 p.m. on R Street between 12th and 14th streets.

The festival includes food and soft drinks, performances by the NU Yell Squad, the Scarlets and Lil' Red.

Rap pioneers Sugarhill Gang top off the evening with a free concert sponsored by the University Program Council.