



SPORTS

Shandranonymous

Shandra Johnson doesn't always know her times in the pool and doesn't always care. Call her the winner, and she's happy. **PAGE 12**



A & E

Euro fab

First came the fabrics, then came the artist. Maria Tyniec, a Polish textiles artist joins her art work, already at UNL, and begins her residency. **PAGE 10**

THURSDAY

November 19, 1998

CHILI CONDITIONS

Partly cloudy, high 43. Mostly clear tonight, low 25.

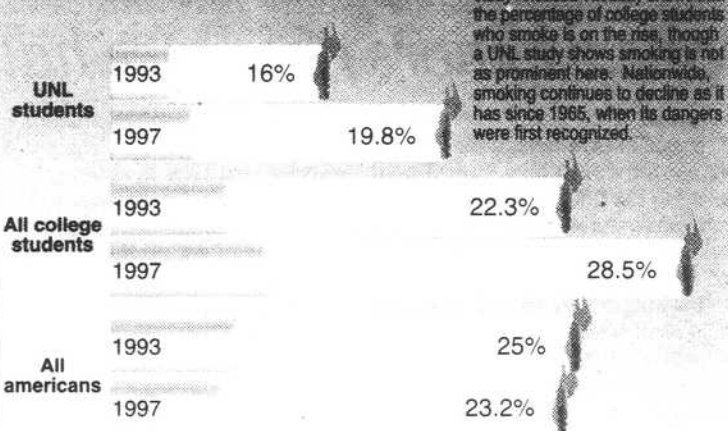
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Up (and down) in smoke



A Harvard School of Public Health study released Tuesday shows that the percentage of college students who smoke is on the rise, though a UNL study shows smoking is not as prominent here. Nationwide, smoking continues to decline as it has since 1965, when its dangers were first recognized.

Source: Center for Disease Control, Journal of American Medical Association and UNL Health Center.

MATT HANEY/DN

College smoking on increase

By JOSH FUNK
Senior staff writer

Nationally, health risks and costs have scared people away from smoking, but on college campuses it is increasingly popular.

A study released Tuesday shows that the collegiate population that smokes increased by nearly one-third from 1993 to 1997.

"Eighteen- to 24-year-olds have become the new battleground," said Bill Novelli with the Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids in a statement. "The tobacco industry has set up very aggressive promotions specifically targeted to

this age group."

The Harvard School of Public Health surveyed more than 14,000 students at 116 colleges about risky behaviors.

The numbers show that 28.5 percent of college students were smoking in 1997, which is up from 22.3 percent in 1993.

And that battle continues today with the American Cancer Society's 22nd Annual Great American Smokeout.

The Smokeout encourages addicted smokers to kick the habit and tries to prevent teen-age smoking through education.

Yet many smokers, such as freshman general studies major Jon Nelson,

are not ready to quit.

"I'll quit eventually, but not today," said Nelson, who started when he was a high school freshman.

But a University of Nebraska-Lincoln study shows that smoking is not as prominent here, though it's still increasing from 16 percent of students in 1993 to 19.8 percent in 1998.

The Harvard study showed that one-fourth of college smokers started in college, but most had been smoking since high school or earlier.

"In the college setting, students may be likely to start smoking to fit in if they

Please see **SMOKE** on 6

\$14.3 million OK'd for new honors hall

■ The NU Board of Regents voted 6-1 to approve the Esther L. Kauffman Residential Center for honors students, to be located just north of the Nebraska Union.

By LINDSAY YOUNG
Senior staff writer

The NU Board of Regents approved a budget of about \$14.3 million for the construction of a residential center that will house UNL computer science and management honors program students.

With a vote of 6-1, the regents passed the budget Wednesday morning.

Carole and C. Edward McVane, both UNL alumni, donated \$32 million through the University of Nebraska Foundation for the J.D. Edwards Honors Program, which will provide for the construction of the Esther L. Kauffman Residential Center.

Regents

Construction is scheduled to begin in September 1999. It is scheduled to be completed Jan. 1, 2001, and to open in March 2001.

The center devoted to honors students will be located in the place of the parking lot north of the Nebraska Union and west of Selleck Residence Hall.

Regent Chuck Hassebrook of Walthill cast the only dissenting vote.

Hassebrook said more space will be built into the center than what is needed. For example, he said, the great hall, a 2,700-square-foot meeting space for special events, isn't needed.

Hassebrook said there was meeting space nearby that could be used for the same purposes.

"Every dollar we get we ought to use as frugally as possible," Hassebrook said.

UNL Chancellor James Moeser said housing honors students in one residential center has been known to aid other universities in retention and

Please see **REGENTS** on 2

Payment of loans places some students in trouble

Editor's note: Today is the last in a three-part series on the changing face of student loans: where they come from, trends in how students use them and how students pay them back.

By JESSICA FARGEN
Staff writer

The joyride of a seemingly free education that comes with receiving a student loan check each semester can come to a screeching halt six months after students graduate.

Alexia Scott, who graduated in December, just got off that ride.

For the last five months, Scott has been paying \$165 a month toward her more than \$10,000 education, which landed her a computer programming job in Lincoln.

"When you go through the loan program, you think, 'Oh, you have six months after you graduate,'" Scott said. "You tell yourself that

you'll save that money up, but the first time they come it's a shock."

Craig Munier, the University of Nebraska-Lincoln's director of scholarships and financial aid, said the May 1998 UNL graduates had an average student loan debt of \$15,711, which figures to about \$180 a month for 10 years.

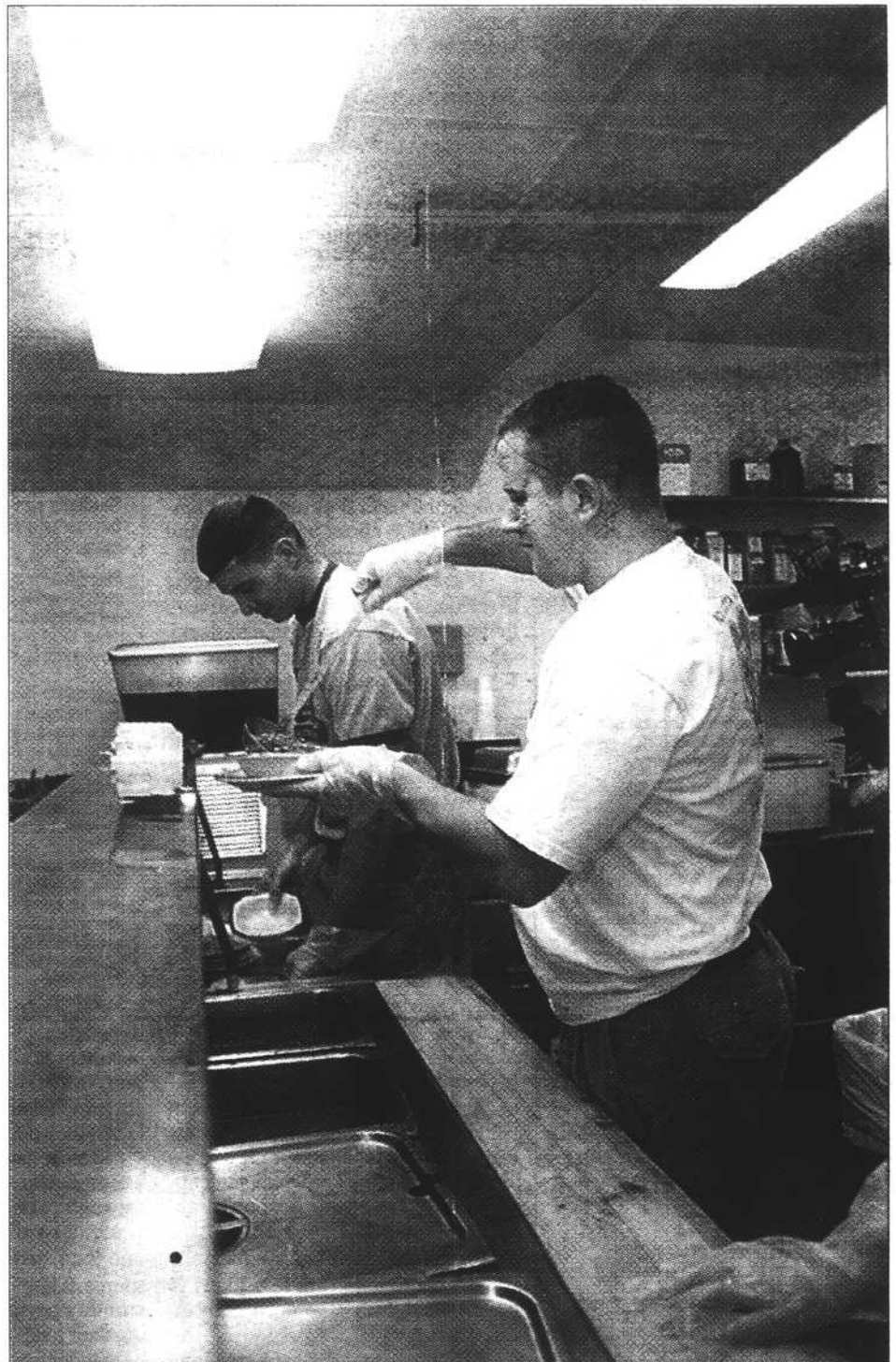
Ten years is a long time to make 120 monthly loan payments, explaining why some students may default on their loans, which occurs when 270 days pass with no payment.

If students think they may default, they should contact their direct loan servicing agent right away, Munier said. Options such as renegotiation and deferment or forbearance, which cease payment for a period of time, are available.

Tom Melecki, vice president of policy, research and planning at the Nebraska Student

Please see **LOANS** on 2

Hearty helpings



DAWN DIETRICH/DN

JARED HOLLINGER, a freshman construction major, serves chili to the people at the People's City Mission on Wednesday evening, while Justin Clark, a sophomore marketing major, hands Hollinger bowls. More than 75 students helped with the chili supper, which was planned because of the recent beating of a homeless man on City Campus. **PLEASE SEE STORY ON PAGE 6.**