

Lack of identity hurts black men, speaker says

Mentors needed for advice, guidance

BY DEREK LIPPINCOTT
Staff writer

Young black boys need a dream, and they need people to believe in it.

But in a society where black males have picked up negative stereotypes, this is an increasingly difficult task.

This was one of the messages given by Joseph White, professor emeritus at the University of California, Irvine, on Wednesday when he spoke of the psychological challenges facing black males.

About 150 people attended the lecture at the Nebraska Union.

University of Nebraska-Lincoln professor and chairman of psychology John Berman introduced White as "a legend in the field of African-American psychology."

And White is from Lincoln - "I'm a homeboy," White said as he began his speech.

White stressed the negative aspects of stereotypes given to black males in America. Black people make up 12 percent of the population in America and 50 percent of the population in American prisons. Facts such as these, White said, give the black population a bad rap.

However, behind the curtains and left out of gangster movie scenes, White said, is the ordinary black man.

"These are the guys you never see," White said. "They pay their rent. They pay their bills. But they don't make movies about these brothers. These brothers are the invisible ones."

Struggles to avoid the bad stereotypes and attempts to be recognized as an ordinary man, White said, involve identity and intimacy.

"What we mean by identity in psychology is, 'What is your dream?'" White said. "Every 13-to-14-year-old black male has a dream."

Intimacy, White said, is establishing and maintaining close relationships throughout the life cycle and with people who will believe in the boy's dream.

"The closest relationships throughout the black male's life cycle are the peers," White said. "They have a com-

“
We have to set a standard of excellence and a standard of responsibility.”

JOSEPH WHITE
University of California
professor emeritus

mon experience base. They are all black, American males.”

White stressed that peers can provide either a positive or negative influence.

White also stressed that black males need a mentor in their lives who guides them and believes in them.

"If the mentor believes in the young man's dream, the young man will ultimately believe in himself," White said.

White used the story of Malcolm X as an example. Malcolm X had a dream that nobody believed in. It eventually deteriorated, and he went to jail. In prison Malcolm X found a mentor and he turned his life around, he said.

Concluding his speech with a passage from his book, "The Black Man Emerging: Facing the Past and Seizing a Future in America," White told the crowd what the black community needed to accomplish.

"The hardest thing for people to do is separate blame from responsibility," White said. "We have to set a standard of excellence and a standard of responsibility."

"We need to start trying to be for real," White said. "You have to be real. You have to be down, or the children won't relate to you."

Lonnie Michael, a junior business major, said the speech conveyed positive aspects of black society as well as gave him communication tips.

"(White's speech) gave us a lot of interesting ideas about communicating," Michael said.



Career Services Snapshot

See what's developing this week in Career Services

NON-EDUCATION MAJORS

SIMPLIFY YOUR LIFE!

Check out the UNL Career Services website at www.unl.edu/careers/



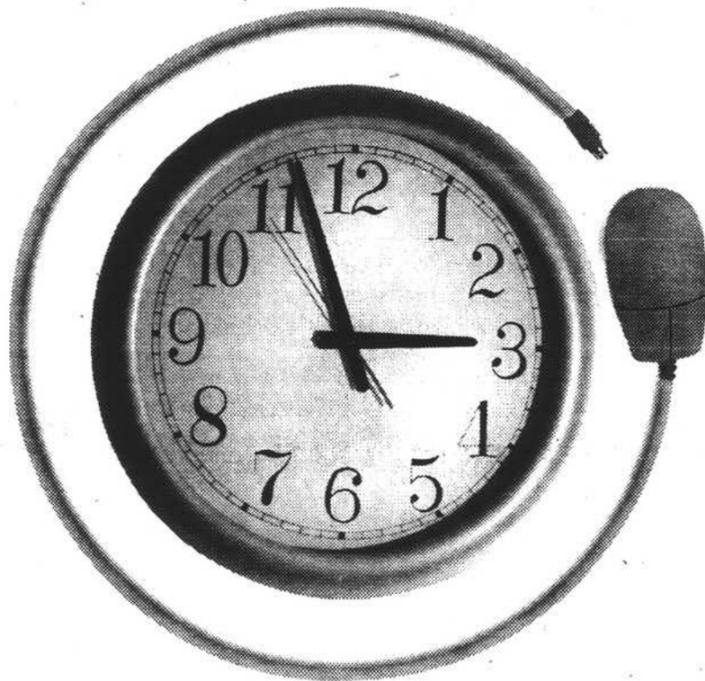
Spend a day starting your JOB SEARCH:

- resume & cover letter writing
- interviewing strategies
- job search resources
- interviewing & referral services

September 12th
12:30 - 3:30 pm City Union

UNL Career Services — 230 NE Union — 316 East Campus Union

The Navix® Help Desk is now open around the clock.



(Good to know next time you pull an all-nighter.)

The Navix Help Desk is now open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. So no matter how late you're surfing, we'll always be there if you need technical help.

Get 5 FREE Hours
And if you're a UNL student, faculty or staff member, we'll give you 5 free hours of Internet access every month when you sign up for one of these Navix plans:

Low Usage Plan: Get 15 hours of online time for just \$6.50 a month.
(With your 5 free hours, it's like 20 hours for the price of 15.)

Medium Usage Plan: Get 40 hours of online time for just \$10.00 a month.
(With your 5 free hours, it's like 45 hours for the price of 40.)

High Usage Plan: Get 250 hours of online time for just \$19.50 a month.
(With your 5 free hours, it's like 255 hours for the price of 250.)

Additional minutes for each plan are just \$.02 and activation is free! And if you keep your usage for that month under 5 hours, your service for that month is also free!

Navix is fast, easy and reliable, letting you go online at speeds up to 56kps. And there's even an 888 access number to use when you travel.

Call University Telecommunications at **472-5151** (students) or **472-3434** (faculty or staff). Or, stop by 211 Nebraska Hall.

Navix
Internet Services

Visit our websites: www.navix.net www.aliant.com

Aliant
Communications®

Making it easier to communicate.™

You must be a UNL student, faculty or staff member to qualify for these plans. Netscape software is available in Windows and Macintosh versions.

Hey Graduate Students!
Lincoln City Rugby Football Club Invites
Men & Women
Play Rugby

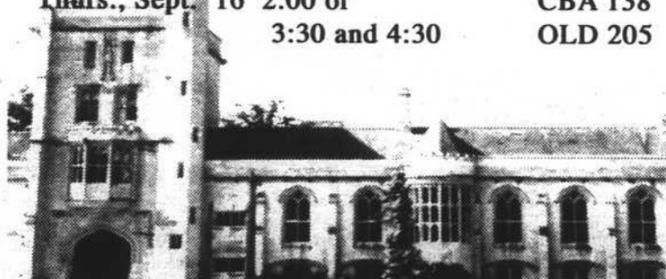
Tues. & Thurs. at Abbott Sports Complex
7600 N. 70th St. 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.

New and Experienced Players Welcome!

Contacts:
John Boehm 423-5900 (H) 475-0881 (W) JBoehm9460@aol.com
Susan Ely 420-2260 (H) buffy@navix.net

Discover Oxford University - Earn 6 Credit Hours
Summer 2000
Attend an information session:
ALL MAJORS WELCOME!!!

Mon., Sept. 13	11:00, 1:00, 2:00	CBA 138
Tues., Sept. 14	11:00, 12:00	CBA 138
Wed., Sept. 15	12:30	CBA 138
Thurs., Sept. 16	2:00 or 3:30 and 4:30	CBA 138 OLD 205



Contact CBA 138, 472-2310 if you have questions

dailyneb.com