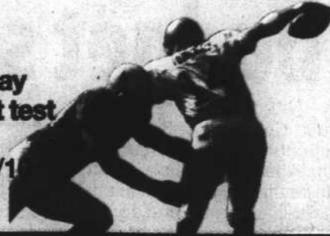


Daily Nebraskan

18-year-old woman second victim of fatal Burger King drive-thru accident In News/3

The Blackshirts have improved, but Saturday they face their stiffest test of the season In SportsWednesday/1



A series looking at creative parts of Halloween kicks off today with a review of Lincoln's haunted fun



UNL minority population jumps 4.8%

Officials said the increase was a good sign but that the school can't let up its efforts.

BY VERONICA DAEHN

The number of minority students at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln has increased, but they still don't make up much of the total student population.

According to information put together by Institutional Research and Planning, black, American Indian, Asian and Hispanic students made up 6.2 percent of the total student enrollment in 1999. This year, they make up 6.4 percent.

While the increase in the proportion of minority students compared to total enrollment is slight, the actual number of minority students at UNL did increase by 4.8 percent this year compared to 1999.

In 1999, there were 1,368

minorities enrolled at UNL. This year there are 1,433.

These numbers do not include international students studying abroad at UNL.

The total number of students enrolled is up this year by 0.6 percent. In 1999, 22,142 students were enrolled. This year there are 22,268.

Jimmi Smith, director of multicultural affairs, said UNL needs to continue to work hard at recruitment and retention of minority students.

The slight increase isn't enough, he said.

"We need to do substantially more," Smith said. "It needs to carry into every college. Students and faculty need to call for greater retention."

Smith said the Office of Admissions shouldn't be solely responsible for recruiting students of color.

White students need to do their part and open their arms to minority students, Smith said.

"We need everyone in the

university community to help," he said.

James Griesen, vice chancellor for student affairs, said the increase in minority students was a good sign.

"We're very pleased (the numbers are) moving in the right direction," Griesen said.

The number of freshman minority students is a key area to watch, Griesen said.

Freshman minority students increased by 24 students from 1999 to 2000, an increase of 10.4 percent.

The total freshman enrollment for UNL fell by six students, a decrease of 0.2 percent.

Griesen said Cynthia Gooch, assistant director of admissions for multicultural recruitment, deserved credit for the increase in minority students.

She has been involved with the recruitment of students since 1999, Griesen said.

Gooch was out of the office Tuesday and unable to be reached for comment.

"We have to do more to attract and retain students. We can do that by always looking at our students and seeing they get the experiences they need."

Chuck van Rossum

assistant director of the minority assistance program

Chuck van Rossum, assistant director of the minority assistance program, said one can be excited about the increase in minority students, but should not be satisfied.

"We have to do more to attract and retain students," van Rossum said. "We can do that by always looking at our students and seeing they get the experiences they need."

Most students attend a university for the academic program they're taking, he said. And there have been changes in UNL's academic departments.

Several colleges have been

proactive in developing programs that make students more welcome, he said.

But the programs are just the beginning.

"It's just starting steps," van Rossum said. "We've been paying attention to students, but it needs to happen more."

Making all UNL students feel cared for was the key to retention, regardless of the color of their skin, van Rossum said.

"That's the key," he said. "We want the students to have the best experiences. If we do that everyday, they're more apt to stay."

The number of minority students compared to the total student body population increased from 6.2 percent in 1999 to 6.4 percent in 2000, while the total number of minority students increased by 4.8 percent over the same period.

Year	Black	American Indian	Asian	Hispanic	Total minority enrollment	Total UNL enrollment
1999	438	90	461	379	1,368	22,142
2000	469	117	467	387	1,433	22,268

Melanie Falk/DN



Nate Wagner/DN

JAIL BREAK: Sophomore Carmen Helvey holds out her cup to collect spare change from students passing by the Project CARE-sponsored Jail N' Bail fund-raiser in the Nebraska Union. Volunteer students and faculty members participated in the second annual Jail N' Bail to raise money to promote alcohol education on campus. Students had to raise \$25, and faculty members had to raise \$50 to get out of jail. Friends also could pay to keep their friends in jail if they didn't want to help them get out.

Dole honors Stenberg fight

BY LINDSEY BAKER

After a short delay because of heavy fog, former Kansas Sen. Bob Dole landed in Kearney on Tuesday to lend his support to Republican Don Stenberg in the Nebraska Senate race.

Speaking before a group of 160 Stenberg supporters, Dole, the 1996 Republican presidential candidate, spoke in strong favor of Stenberg.

"This is a very important race," Dole said. "It's important that (Nebraska Sen.) Chuck Hagel has a partner in the Senate. I think we need a Republican Senate."

The focus of Dole's speech, as well as Hagel's and Stenberg's succeeding speeches, was the importance of maintaining a Republican majority in the House of Representatives and

Election 2000

U.S. Senate.

"I think Nov. 7 will be one of the most defining times in the history of our country," Hagel said. "We have within our grasp (the opportunity) to shape the world for the better if we lead."

Kansas Sen. Sam Brownback, who now holds Dole's former Senate seat, agreed.

"This is a critical race and a critical year," he said in Kearney. "1952 was the last time that Republicans were able to gain the presidency, the House and the Senate. If we govern for two years with this lineup, we'll govern for 10 years."

Stenberg focused on his

Please see DOLE on 6

Hot topics overshadow less-touchy work

Much of the student senate's work is not done in the public eye.

BY MARGARET BEHM

Recognizing American Indian Day and coming out in favor of domestic partner benefits are social issues on which the student senate has taken action.

The Association of Students of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln is proud of its reputation of supporting human rights, said Arts & Sciences Sen. Nathan Fuerst.

But just because those controversial social issues garner more attention than more mundane student issues, like parking, doesn't mean that ASUN isn't doing anything, student senate members said.

"In the past couple of years, ASUN has tried to support human rights," Fuerst said. "That's something we work for."

Aside from working on social issues, though, the senators of ASUN take action on campus

ASUN

issues that don't make the senate floor, ASUN President Joel Schafer said.

"There's a lot going on behind the scenes," Schafer said.

ASUN senators join a committee to work on a specialty area of the university. Their choices are campus life, human rights, academic, special topics, communications or the Committee for Fees Allocation.

Advisory councils are overseen by senators of each committee.

The idea to support Domestic Partner Benefits - which would give insurance and other benefits given to same-sex couples - first started in the Sexual Orientation Advisory Council. It then moved to the Human Rights Committee and, eventually, to the senate floor.

Other ASUN committees work with areas such as parking, NU on Wheels, technology fees, Homecoming and public rela-

"In the past couple of years, ASUN has tried to support human rights. That's something we work for."

Nathan Fuerst

arts and sciences senator

tions.

"We appoint over 200 people campus-wide to various committees," Schafer said.

ASUN does try to improve problems like parking, but the senators don't rule the lots, said business Sen. Jessica Lopez.

"Parking is a never-ending issue," she said. "Some people think that we have a lot of power, some people think we have little. With parking, we can only do so much."

The Campus Life Committee is trying to figure out how to solve a recent busing problem, Fuerst said.

About a month ago, the city's Star Tran bus service took away five bus routes and added one

on 27th Street, Fuerst said.

The committee is discussing possible solutions to the problem, Fuerst said.

"The problem has been identified, now we're trying to decide how to solve it," he said.

On some issues, sometimes the public may think ASUN has taken action when it hasn't.

Because it's been discussed in senate meetings, some people may think ASUN has taken a stand on Initiative 416, the so-called Defense of Marriage Amendment, because it had been involved in ASUN conversations.

"It was an issue that had

Please see ASUN on 6

Issues 2000

Empty court slots critical in election

BY BRIAN CARLSON

As the closest presidential race since 1960 nears Election Day, the future of the U.S. Supreme Court hangs in the balance.

Court observers such as John Gruhl, a political science professor at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, predict the next president could appoint as many as three or four new justices to replace those who retire.

Vice President Al Gore, the Democratic candidate, and Texas Gov. George W. Bush, the Republican candidate, have expressed sharply different ideas about how justices should interpret the Constitution.

For that reason, Gruhl said, the outcome of the presidential election could have an enormous impact on issues such as abortion, affirmative action, religion and states' rights.

"This is one of the clear differences between the candidates," he said. "It's one of the ways things could be very different depending on who wins."

Gore has said he would appoint justices who believe the Constitution is a "living and breathing" document that should be interpreted in light of changes in society. He said he admired the late Justice Thurgood Marshall, who was one of the court's most liberal and activist justices.

Please see COURT on 6