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ACCENT —ON DCE RECREATION—



(Chronicle photo by Don Wiles)

Bridge is a popular break for students with too much math on the mind. The Division of Continuing Education offers courses in the art.

Education becomes fun in U. recreation classes

By DEAN WIMMER
Chronicle staff writer

Instead of reading textbooks, students in Wes Steinberg's night class play cards. No, there is not a discipline problem; Steinberg teaches beginning bridge.

Bridge is one of many indoor recreation classes available through the Division of Continuing Education at the University of Utah. Young people have turned to recreational activities such as jogging and skiing; see "indoor" on page nine

DCE teachers find way to share their hobbies

By KELLY HINDLEY
Chronicle staff writer

Each quarter, Division of Continuing Education-sponsored recreation classes offer hundreds of students and community members the chance to learn new skills, meet new people and have fun. But DCE students aren't the only people who find recreation classes enjoyable. For many DCE instructors, the classes provide an important outlet through which they can share their talents and knowledge with other people.

Roy Webb works in the manuscripts division of the Marriott Library's special collections department. He is a senior member of the library staff, and he indexes personal papers, records, manuscripts and other unpublished materials to aid researchers and historians. But Webb is also a specialist in the history of river running. He is working on his third book on the subject, and once a week he teaches a history of river running class through DCE.

"It's a favorite topic of mine, and when you teach a class you have a captive audience," Webb said.

Webb became interested in river running when he lived in Vernal and worked at Dinosaur National Park. He found he not only enjoyed the feeling of river running—the fear mixed with exhilaration—but that he was also fascinated by its history. Through his research, Webb discovered that Utah was one of the first places where adventurers ran rapids, and a century after trappers, miners and government explorers ran Utah's rivers, the state became one of the first places where river running developed into a commercial enterprise.

After moving to Salt Lake City and beginning his work at the library, Webb approached DCE directors with the idea for a river running class. The class attracts students from a variety of river running backgrounds, from those who have made only one run to those who own river running companies, Webb said.

For Mary Lou Romney, teaching DCE art classes is a way to share her love of painting with other people. Romney teaches three DCE classes: oriental ink painting, Chinese papercutting and botanical illustration.

Romney says she enjoys the challenge of teaching. "My favorite thing is when a student says to me, 'I don't know why I'm taking this class. I can never learn to draw.' Then my eyes light up—it's very satisfying," she said.

After two years of study at the University of Utah, Romney left school in 1948 to marry and to raise seven children. Almost 30 years after her last college class, she returned to the U. to earn a bachelor's degree in painting. After earning a master's degree in painting from Utah State University, she began teaching art classes through DCE.

"The best thing about teaching is the chance to communicate with other people. I like getting to know people, and I feel like I have something to give," she said.

"The best thing about teaching is the chance to communicate with other people," Mary Lou Romney said.

During his career, Wesley Steinberg worked as an electrical engineer, an engineering manager and a teacher at the University of Washington. But after his retirement, it seemed only natural he start teaching bridge through DCE. Steinberg learned to play bridge as a young child, and he and his wife enjoyed organizing bridge tournaments and offering bridge workshops.

"Bridge is a very thing, intriguing game," Steinberg said. "You're pitting your wits and intelligence against everyone else in the room playing bridge."

His DCE classes in beginning and intermediate bridge attract both traditional college-age students and older community members, Steinberg said. In 10 classes, he can teach almost anyone the fundamentals of bridge, he added.

"Bridge is a game you either like or you don't like, and you usually know right away which it will be," Steinberg said. "I haven't found anyone who can't be taught."

Duff Minckler graduated from the U. last December with a bachelor's degree in elementary education, and he now teaches fifth grade. He earned his first bachelor's degree, in political science, from the U. in 1975. But after returning to school to earn a second degree, he was invited to teach DCE's guitar classes.

Minckler began playing the guitar when he was 12 years old, "because I wanted to impress the girls and be cool," he said. He enjoys teaching DCE classes, Minckler said, "because these classes are not something people are taking because they have to. The students are there because they want to learn to play the guitar." And after a day spent in the classroom with 32 10-year-olds, he also enjoys dealing with adults.

Outdoor recreation breaks up winter blahs, offers fun

By AMBER MCKEE
Chronicle staff writer

Tired of sitting home evenings, studying chemistry and psychology? Has your winter schedule got you down? Does the thought of spending one more afternoon in front of the boob tube make you shiver in disgust?

Then maybe you need change of pace by taking a break from the traditional indoor classes. The Division of Continuing Education offers just this sort of thing to break up the winter blahs. It provides classes in cross-country skiing, desert backpacking, mountain bike touring, snow camping, ice climbing, sea kayaking and canoeing. And two division instructors Harold Goodro and Jenny Hall Ibsen, are working hard to see their students have a good time as well as a learning experience.

Goodro, an associate instructor for the College of Health, and a rock climber for 30 years, said the classes provide a lot of fun and exercise for students. "Something ridiculous happens on every trip we take," he said. "You can't have 20 or 30 college students out camping together without something happening."

In his 12 years of instruction at the University of Utah, Goodro has indeed seen some strange things happen. "During one of our two-and-one-half day trips to Goblin Valley, we led around a totally blind man the whole time."

He also mentioned that on one or two of the trips, they

had had problems with students being drunk or on drugs. However, he added, this didn't happen very often and "other than (those incidents), the kids have the time of their life."

Goodro teaches the Goblin Valley backpacking trip as well as a trip to Capitol Reef during winter quarter. "It's a good chance to learn about the desert and its environment. The students get a lot out of it," Goodro said.

Associate instructor Jenny Hall Ibsen also enjoys teaching outdoor classes for DCE. "Up to this point the program has been really flexible. We have had a lot of student interest."

Ibsen teaches a beginning to intermediate cross-country ski class, and a Canyonland mountain bike tour through Southern Utah. The ski class teaches the students the fundamentals of cross-country skiing, as well as the history and geography of the Wasatch Front and aesthetic appreciation of the scenery and avalanche awareness in the mountains.

Although Ibsen enjoys teaching the ski class, her "baby" is the mountain-bike tour.

When she first began planning the bike tour, she received opposition from the associate director of academic programming for DCE.

"She didn't understand what I meant by 'mountain bike,'" Ibsen said. "She thought we were going to be

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The Division of Continuing Education's physical education department offers fun-hungry students classes in everything from scuba diving to cross-country skiing.