

Students want park on former ETV site

by Michael (O.J.) Nelson

The former site of the UNL Educational Television (ETV) Offices at 16 and "R" Streets may be turned into a University park if several students and an administrator get their way.

The corner has been vacant since March when the three 50-year-old buildings which housed the ETV offices were demolished.

A resolution calling for a park at the site was presented to and passed by the ASUN Senate in March. A committee of students, headed by Mike Berns, former ASUN senator and an architecture major, was appointed to investigate possible designs and funding for the area.

According to Berns, most of the planning for the proposed park is currently being handled by students. The proposal has received the support of Ron Wright, UNL assistant director of business and finance.

"I would personally like to see a park at that corner," Wright said. "The master plan calls for a parking lot to be built there but that is 20 or 30 years off. If we were to build a parking lot there now it would be very expensive."

He said the cost of designing, building and maintaining the lot would be out of line with the small number of parking spaces it would allow. He said only 60 or 70 cars could be parked on the space.

"Something very exciting could come out of this," he said. "We want students to help design the park. The University has a lot of untapped potential. If students have the talent and ability to design the area there is no reason why they shouldn't."

He added that he would like to see all parking moved to the edge of campus.

"There isn't anything beautiful about cars, especially a whole sea of them," he said.

Berns said several students are helping to design the proposed park. He said most of the area would be landscaped with grass and trees.

"The University has to make an effort to maintain a humanistic environment," said Berns. "Right now everything seems to be concrete, and human beings don't relate to concrete real well."

Berns said the campus needs more "green space." He said new University buildings have and will be built on what open space is left.

"What we want to do is to give students a place where they can go and talk or throw a frisbee or something," he said.

Mortar Board taps new members

"Mortar Board is nationally established as an active organization. It shouldn't be accepted as an honor only."

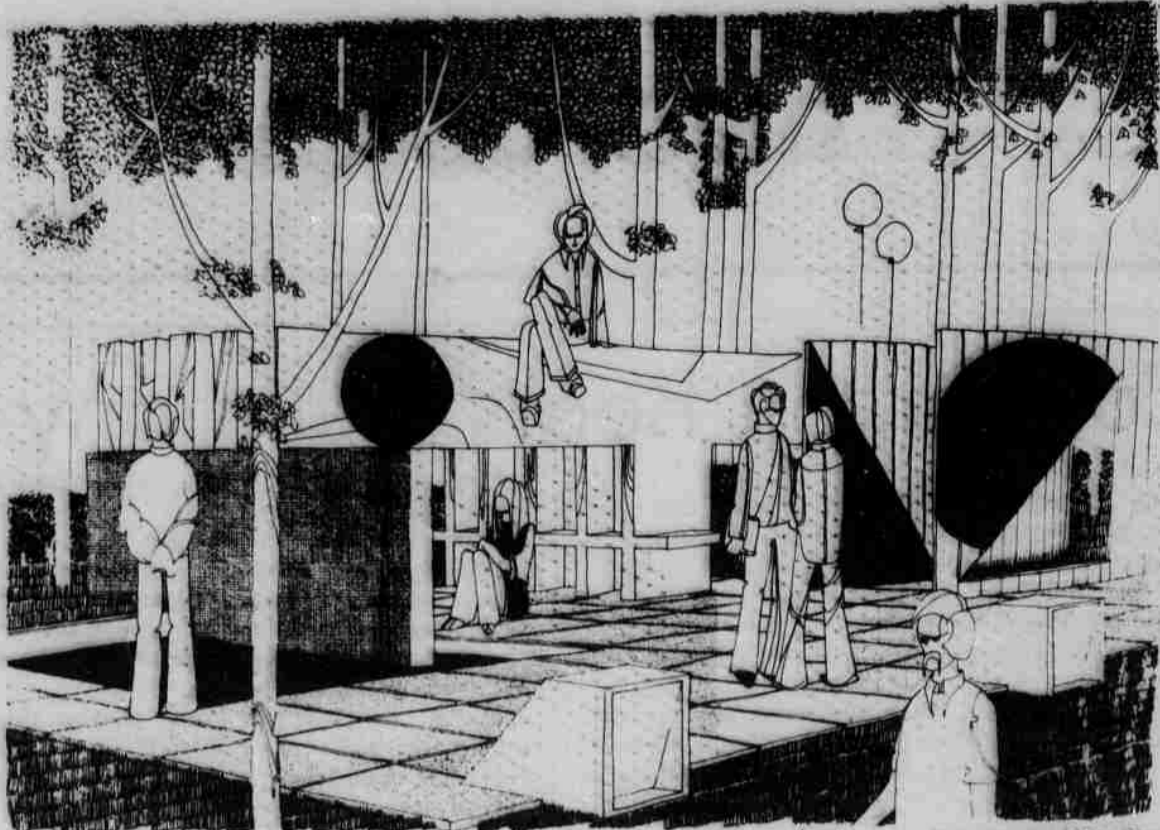
Janet White, president of Mortar Board, made that statement after 21 junior women were tapped as prospective members of the organization Monday night.

Mortar Board is the senior women's honorary. Members are chosen on the basis of scholarship, character and service to the University.

White explained, "We believe the women tapped should give serious consideration to the commitments involved in membership."

"Prospective members will be oriented to the organization in the next week. The role of recognition and honors, as well as the usefulness of the organization itself, should be examined and defined by those considering membership."

The official list of new Mortar Boards will not be announced until May 6, Ivy Day, after those chosen have indicated whether or not they will accept membership.



Proposed park... a place to throw frisbees.

Chicanos plan awareness days

Mexican-American speakers, dancers, handicraft sales, music and films will highlight the second annual Mexican-American Cultural Awareness Days at UNL, April 20-23.

Carlos Guerra, organizer and national chairman of the Mexican-American Youth Association, will be the main speaker for the awareness days. Guerra speaks Friday at 1:30 p.m. in the Nebraska Union Ballroom.

The Chicano Ballet de Aztlan, wearing traditional Mexican-American costumes and dancing ethnic dances, will perform Friday from 7:30 to 10 p.m. in the East Campus Union.

Sunday's events, including Spanish confessions for Catholics and a mass celebrated in Spanish, will take place at St. Mary Catholic Church, 14th and K Streets.

Linda Hernandez, coordinator for the awareness days, said about 40 Mexican-American students attend UNL. An additional 45-50 are enrolled in the High School Equivalency Program (HEP). About 300 Mexican-Americans are expected at the event, she said.

Hernandez said the event is sponsored by HEP, the Mexican-American Student Association (MASA), Union Program Council, UNL Chancellor James Zumberge, ASUN and Training Teachers of Teachers (TTT);

There are five purposes for the culture of the Mexican-American people in Nebraska.

- 1) To maintain and perpetuate the culture of the Mexican-American people in Nebraska.
- 2) To develop within the Chicano students

an awareness of their own cultural background and establish self-identity and pride in themselves.

3) To provide the University and the community with a cultural program that will enable them to understand the heritage of the Mexican-Americans.

4) To provide UNL students with insights into the problems, aspirations and goals of the Mexican-American people.

5) To encourage communication, understanding and respect between students, faculty and staff of different racial and ethnic backgrounds.

daily nebraskan

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The Daily Nebraskan is written, edited and managed by students at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln and is editorially independent of the University faculty, administration and student body.

The Daily Nebraskan is published by the CSL subcommittee on publications Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday throughout the school year, except holidays and vacations.

Second class postage paid at Lincoln, Nebraska 68508.

Address: The Daily Nebraskan/34 Nebraska Union/Lincoln, Neb., 68508. Telephone 402/472/2588.

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