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Friday, November 1
8 p.m.



Tickets Available:
University students \$2.00
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Rm 113 Music Bldg.

This residency is sponsored in part by grants from the Nebraska Arts Council and the National Endowment for the Arts, a Federal Agency.

Arched channels

Unique idea in building blocks

By John Kalkowski

The U.S. Patent Office has not received a patent application for a concrete block since 1939. That is until Don Blair, a UNL architecture major, filed for a patent on his concrete block earlier this year.

Blair's block has the same dimensions as the common concrete block. The main difference between his block and the common block is that his has arched channels on the inside wall, Blair said.

It is the arched vertical channels which make the design unique, he said.

Eliminates two-by-fours

According to Blair, when a wall is made of the blocks, the arched channels will reach from the floor to the ceiling. Sheetrock or paneling could be attached to the protrusions between the channels. Blair said this would eliminate the need for using wooden two-by-fours to attach the paneling to the wall, as done in construction work now.

Behind the paneling would be a small half-circle enclosure, which could be used for a variety of purposes, he said. According to Blair, the area could be filled with insulation or left as dead-air insulation. The plumbing system and electrical conduits of buildings could also run down through the enclosure, he said.

Without the paneling, the block could be used as an ornamental block, Blair said.

Acoustical value

According to Blair, the concrete block also may have acoustical values but will have to be tested by engineers first.

Blair began to develop the idea of this block in March or April, 1973.

"With the price of lumber so high, this block would replace the use of wood in many types of construction," he said.

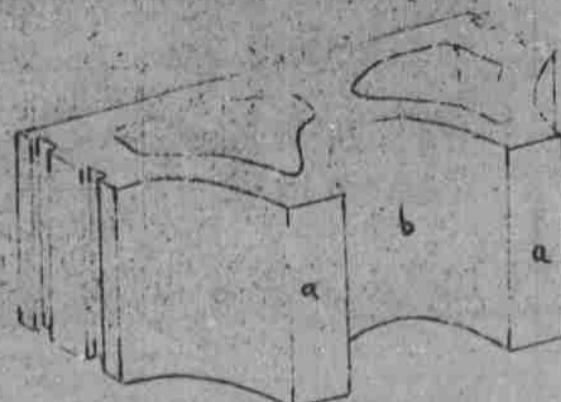
Whole buildings could be made with the block, according to Blair. Construction of foundations and basement walls is now the fastest and cheapest part of building, he said, and the use of his blocks could "cut the time and costs necessary to construct a building."

Blair said he has contacted several manufacturers about his block who said it could be massed produced.

"I am anxious for this block to get into general public use," he said.

Nothing like it

Before filing for a patent, Blair had a patent search done to see if there was anything similar to his design on the records. According to Blair, there were several patent applications on concrete blocks between 1904 and 1939, "but their designs were more like each other than any likeness to mine."



Blair's concrete block: (a) arched channels make use of wooden two-by-fours unnecessary, (b) half-circle enclosure can be filled with insulation or used to contain plumbing and electrical wiring.

Blair had employed a patent lawyer but later decided to do all the work on the patent application himself. The end product was a 13-page application, plus four pages of drawings and diagrams, he said.

According to Blair, the application is to describe the invention and its purposes in detail.

Blair also had a patent on a previous invention, "AnglBrik." "AnglBrik," a copyrighted name, is an ornamental brick with a slant-end cut of 45 degrees. He sold his rights to the "AnglBrik" earlier this year for what Blair described as a "fair price."

Lost and found finds all

That wedding ring you lost at the Nebraska Union may be at Campus Police's lost and found office.

Lt. Chester Parnham said all kinds of rings are turned in, from wedding rings to fraternity and sorority rings. Articles like gloves, keys and sunglasses also are turned in, he said.

Parnham said he could not estimate the number of articles that either Campus Police finds or students bring in.

He said most people phone him asking if lost articles have been found at a particular building on campus.

Only about 10 per cent of the lost articles are returned to people who come to the Campus Police Office, but most articles are returned by mail, he said.

Parnham advises students to place want ads in the Daily Nebraskan if Campus Police has not found a lost article.

Students may bring lost items to the Campus Police office, 1024 Avery Avenue, or call 472-3555 to ask about lost articles, he said.

calendar

- Wednesday**
- 8 a.m.-5 p.m.—Tassels, Homecoming Elections-Nebraska Union
 - 8 a.m.—Arts and Sciences Advisory Board-Union
 - 11:45 a.m.—Student Y, Women Speak '74-Union
 - 12 p.m.—Dr. Sartori, Luncheon-Union
 - 12:30 p.m.—Placement Luncheon-Union
 - 12:30 p.m.—Inter Varsity Christian Fellowship-Union
 - 12:30 p.m.—The Way, Campus Outreach-Union
 - 3 p.m.—Women's PE Majors Club-Union
 - 3:30 p.m.—Free University, "Student Legal Rights"-Union
 - 3:30 p.m.—School of Music Recitals-Kimball
 - 5 p.m.—All University Fund-Union
 - 5:15 p.m.—Mortar Board-Union
 - 5:30 p.m.—Engineering Toastmasters-Union
 - 5:30 p.m.—Gamma Lambda-Union
 - 5:30 p.m.—Free University, "Libertarianism"-Union
 - 6 p.m.—Gamma Lambda Pledges-Union
 - 6 p.m.—Phi Chi Theta-Union
 - 6:30 p.m.—ASUN Senate Meeting-Union
 - 6:30 p.m.—Afro American Collegiate Society-Union
 - 7 p.m.—Campus Crusade for Christ-Union
 - 7:30 p.m.—UNL Wildlife Club-Union
 - 7:30 p.m.—Math Counselors-Union
 - 9 p.m.—Phi Kappa Alpha-Union

HOMECOMING
★ ★ ELECTIONS ★ ★
Weds. Oct. 23, 8—5
Nebraska & East Unions

