

APPLICATIONS DUE MAY 9TH FOR UNION OFFICE SPACE

The Nebraska Union is now accepting applications for student organizational space assignments for the 1975-76 school year. If your organization desires to obtain or renew office space, you must send your application form to the Nebraska Union, Suite 220, no later than 5:00 pm, Friday May 9th. If you haven't received your application go to Suite 220 and pick one up.

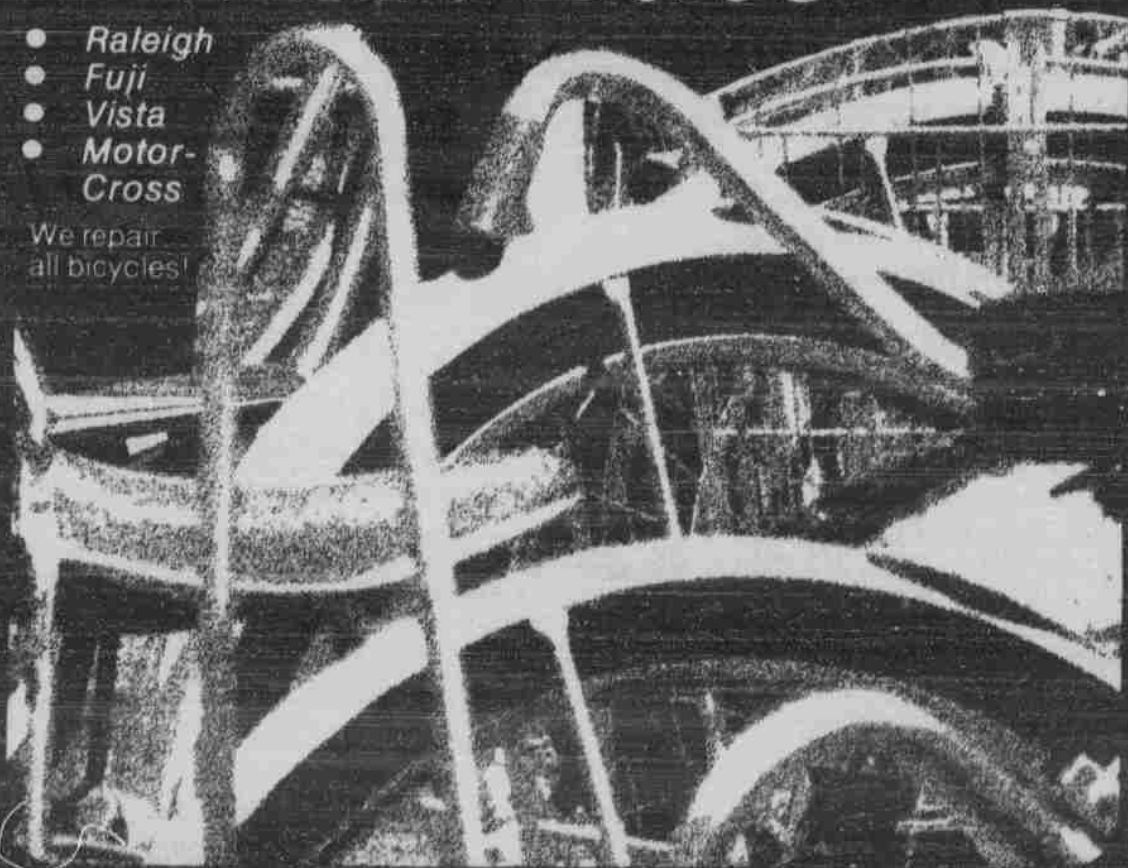
Remember, only applications received by May 9th will be considered for assignment.

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UNL could lose cool this summer

Air conditioning will not be turned on in most UNL buildings this summer, at least until the new fiscal year begins July 1, according to Harley Schrader, director of the UNL Physical Plant.

Air conditioners will be turned on in buildings "based on need," Schrader said. Units will not be used unless there is a problem with research projects, equipment or lack of sufficient ventilation.

"Some buildings (Dental College and Hamilton Hall) were built with windows that do not open and those are unbearable without air conditioning," Schrader said.

Plant funds down

Increased operating costs and staff pay increases have cut available Physical Plant Funds and there is "just not enough in the operating budget" for air conditioning this year, Schrader said.

A water rate increase is one of the major problems in balancing the budget, according to Ray Coffey, UNL assistant business manager.

Air conditioning units on campus use chilled water as a cooling source. Water rates for high volume users, such as UNL, have risen and could cost as much as \$100,000 more than budgeted if present use continues, Coffey explained.

"It takes a lot of water to run the cooling units and that is a major concern when we are trying to cut expenses.

Cutting costs

"We've already taken measures to cut costs by relining pipes and insulating buildings, but more measures have to be taken," he said.

Other possible expenses must be considered in budget planning, Schrader said.

"If we were to have a really cold winter we could use up to a million gallons of oil more than budgeted," he said.

Natural gas is used to turn water to steam for winter heating. The natural gas supply for UNL is on an "interruptive contract" said Coffey.

Lincoln priority

"That means Lincoln city residential demands have priority and when those demands take the full supply, the university must use oil," he said. "Oil is much more expensive and less efficient."

The Physical Plant budget includes "approximately 50 per cent personal services and 50 per cent operational expenses," according to Coffey.

"The governor recommended a seven and one-half per cent increase over last year's budget and from that increase would come increases in salaries as well as in operations," he added.

"The recommended increase would not cover air conditioning and expenses in a very cold winter. We must consider possible winter expense before using air conditioning this summer," said Schrader.

'Logical'

Elimination of air conditioning was the "next logical step" to keep prices within the budget this year, he said.

Other cost-cutting measures "have been discussed," he said, but would not be used unless the situation becomes more serious.

Long range suggestions include mandatory vacations for all employes during Christmas break when the university could be "completely closed down," Schrader said.

"Another suggestion, in a very serious situation, would be going on four-day weeks. People would make less but at least would have a job," he said.

Four day weeks and mandatory vacations are only "long range," he emphasized, and are not in any immediate plans.

"We hope it does not come to that, but if it did, probably the last thing the administration would want to do would be to lay off people and contribute to the unemployment problem," Schrader said.

He added, "Our major objective is to keep the classes open for education on campus, whether they're hot or not."

Whether air conditioners will be used after July 1 on the new fiscal allocations will depend on the amount allocated and projected rate increases and other costs, Coffey said.

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