

Recognition possible if other campuses included

By Scott Whitcomb

Although UNL Campus Police have been denied recognition as a bargaining agent by the NU Board of Regents, the university's general counsel said the regents are not opposed to the idea.

Counsel John Gourley said the regents probably would accept the idea if it involved more groups than the UNL Campus Police.

He said if the unionization attempts involved the University of Nebraska at Omaha, University of Nebraska Medical Center and UNL, then "we would recognize the union."

"The regents will not support one particular union," Gourley said, "because every campus has a set of demands different than the others."

He said there would be a "fragmentation of bargaining units" if all three campuses were recognized separately.

"The regents have no animosity toward that particular union," Gourley said. "However, we can be more sym-

thetic to the needs of one union representing all three campuses than three separate unions."

Court petitioned

Gourley said the Campus Police union has petitioned the Nebraska Court of Industrial Relations to be recognized by the university.

He said the regents currently are not taking steps to prevent the union from becoming the sole bargaining agent, pending the result of a similar case in the court concerning UNL faculty.

Gourley said the court recognized the UNL faculty as a qualified bargaining agent, he said, but, "I could not speak for the court on what they will do concerning Campus Police."

Richard Farley, president of the NU Police Officers Union, said 85 per cent of the total 37 Campus Police officers are signed and are paying dues even though the regents have refused to recognize them.

"We have a very strong, dedicated department down there," Farley said, "and we are very proud of it. But we

have grown faster than the university has realized and it has created drastic problems."

Want 'to do job right'

Farley said they are dissatisfied with the number of working vehicles, radios, wages and general working conditions.

"Although wages are a concern in every union, the officers are more concerned about being able to do the job right," Farley said. "To do any job right you have to be given the basic tools of the trade."

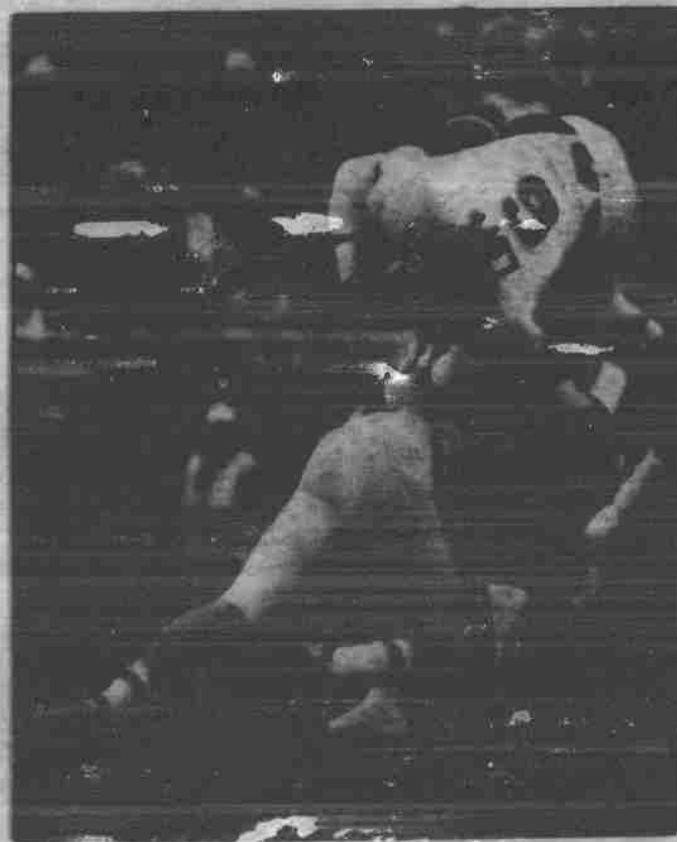
The department only has two working vehicles and four marked cruisers, Farley said. Two of the cruisers are without public address systems and sirens, and none of them has police radios, he said.

Farley cited one incident last year when an officer had six persons in custody on East Campus and no way to radio for help.

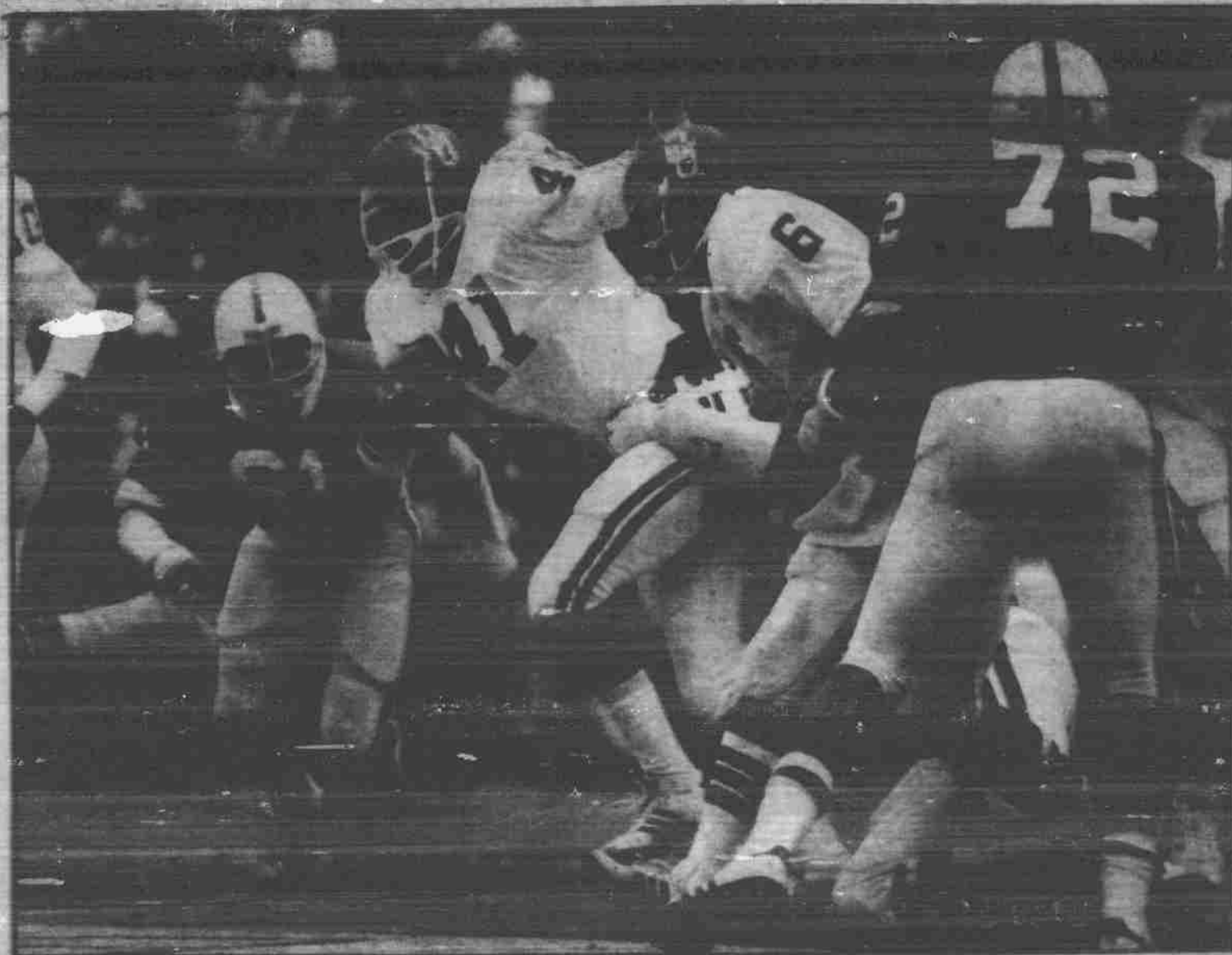
"Being a police officer is a tough job," Farley said, "and situations like that only add to the danger for the officer and the public."



At least one Husker fan found a way to ease the bitterness of both the cold and Friday's loss to Oklahoma University Sooners.



Photos by Kevin Higley and Ted Kirk



More work-study openings created by increases

By Maxine Kubicek

A \$54,000 increase in work-study funds will enable about 44 more students than last year to participate in the program, according to Jack Ritchie, director of scholarships and financial aids.

The increase in funds, effective at the start of classes last August, is because of an increase in the percentage of work-study salaries paid by departments. The departmental portion was raised from 5 per cent to 10 per cent.

The departments are able to absorb the raise by using more of either their discretionary funds or their part-time employment funds, Ritchie said. When spread among all the departments the effect of the raise on those departments is "minimal," he said.

"The percentage increase was agreed

upon by the deans of the colleges before it was put into effect," he said. "The main reason for the increase is to raise the number of students on work-study."

Doug Severs, employment adviser in the Office of Scholarships and Financial Aids, cited the increase in student wages as another reason for increasing the departmental portion of the funding.

Trying to hold steady

"We're trying at least to hold steady and hopefully to get more students working on campus," Severs said. "We projected we could hire 25 to 50 more students, depending upon the wages they will earn." Wages for students on work-study range from \$2.30 to \$3.60 an hour.

Nearly \$1 million was spent on the work-study program last year, he said.

"Every university can apply to the federal government for funding to employ

students with financial need, with the university supplying a minimum of 20 per cent of the funds," he said. "We decided to increase the money and the number of students involved."

Seventy per cent of the work-study budget comes from federal funds, Ritchie said. Of the remaining 30 per cent, 20 per cent is institutional funds and 10 per cent is departmental funds. "Institutional funds are automatically budgeted each year for this purpose," he said.

Benefit to UNL is secondary

Severs said work-study positions generally involve assisting university people and a few outside agencies such as the Red Cross and the YMCA. However, the benefits to the university is secondary to the main goal of assisting students with employment, he said.

Work-study jobs range from basic non-

skilled positions paying the minimum wage to staff assistants earning \$3.60 an hour. Other jobs include laborers, clerical positions requiring no specific skills, messengers, assistants, research assistants and working with animals on East Campus. Wages depend upon the amount of skill required for a job, he said. The work-study program does not allow for replacement of full-time or part-time permanent employees by students because students seldom can work four hours in the morning and four hours in the afternoon, Severs said.

"We usually try to work around the student's schedule," he said.

Severs said any student interested in work-study for the next school year should apply now. Applications for financial aid are available in Administration Bldg. 113 and will be accepted until Feb. 1.