

Committee will review stadium expansion lean

It is not a football game day but Memorial Stadium will be on the minds of at least several members of the NU Board of Regents at their monthly meeting Saturday.

UNL Student Regent Greg Johnson said the regent's business affairs committee, of which he is a member, will review expansion plans before the general regents meeting at 1:30 p.m. It is not known if the issue, tabled at the September regents meeting for further study, will be voted on at the regular meeting.

Other items on the agenda for Saturday's meeting at Regents Hall include; a vote on non-stated funded projects the university hopes to accomplish in the next fiscal year; curriculum adjustments for the College of Engineering and Technology; and appropriating \$80,000 for utilities in the Life Science building.

All three NU campuses will present a list of non-state funded projects they hope to accomplish in fiscal year 1977-78. These projects, not included in the university's Capital Construction budget request

Sept. 15, are expected to be approved by the regents.

The ten-member board also will vote on limiting the final two years of classwork for industrial engineering majors to the

UNL campus. The program currently at the University of Nebraska at Omaha would be phased out during a three-year period, according to a report prepared by Ned Hedges, UNL interim vice chancellor for academic affairs.

In his report, Hedges said that the UNL engineering program has never been accredited, which might lead to a weakening of the UNL program. Although transferring the entire program from UNL to UNO has been discussed, Hedges report stated there is not enough money available to either duplicate or move the engineering programs.

The ASUN Senate's proposal to transfer the Fees Allocation Board to ASUN control will be delayed until the January regent meeting, according to Johnson.

The proposal, originally scheduled to be voted on at Saturday's meeting, is being held until NU President Ronald Roskens presents his recommendations on a new student fees structure to the board, Johnson said. He added that ASUN is hopeful that Roskens' report will be made next month.

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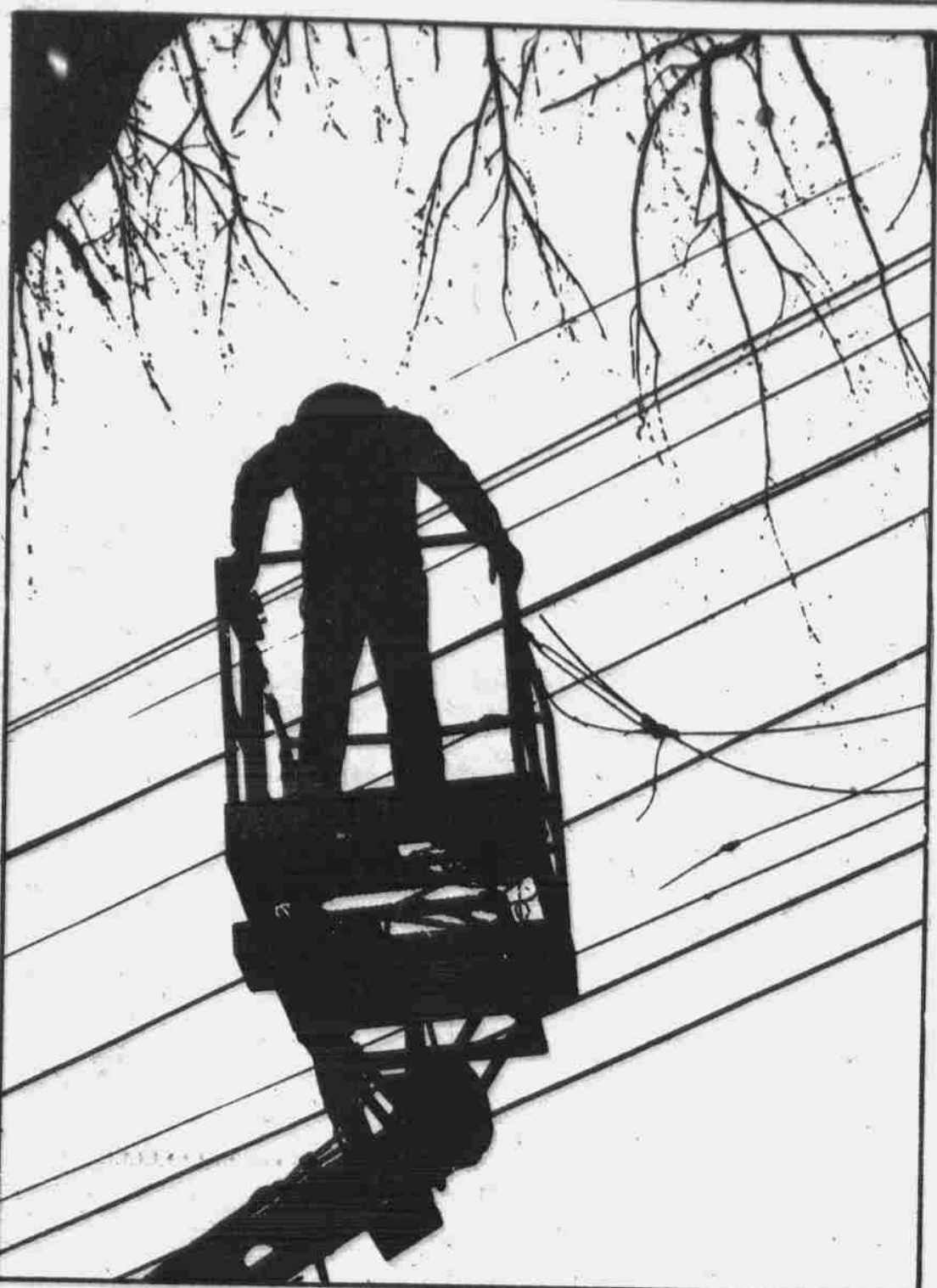


Photo by Mike Dahlheim

High contrast enlarging silhouettes a lineman against the late afternoon sky. The lineman is stringing cable above the intersection of 56th and Cotner streets.

Bilingual program to benefit minorities

By Margaret Stafford

A program to benefit Mexican-American children currently is being organized by the Elementary Education Department of the UNL Teachers College.

The Interstate Bilingual Program will train teachers for elementary schools with Mexican-American students who do not speak English, according to O.W. Kopp, chairman of elementary education.

"We have discussed the problem of teaching minority students for a long time," Kopp said. "This program is finally an attempt to solve the problem."

The program is being developed with the cooperation of the Houston, Texas Independent School District. Kopp said the general superintendent of schools in Houston, Bill Reagan, suggested the program to UNL officials after talking to students who are originally from Texas. Reagan visited UNL and saw that the good

things he had heard about the school were true and asked for the school's help, Kopp said.

Because Houston has thousands of Mexican-American students, it will be an excellent area to begin the program, according to Kopp. Houston also has the material and expertise needed to train new teachers, Kopp said.

"It is just a great laboratory for beginning teachers with these interests," Kopp said. "It will be much better than anything we can offer in Nebraska."

The bilingual program will be offered as a dual major with elementary education. The major can be completed within the normal 125 credit hour requirement by substituting 44 hours of Chicano-related classes for other requirements, Kopp said.

Majors will be required to spend two summers training for the program. The first summer, students will learn the customs, heritage and basic Spanish of Mexican-

Americans. The second summer, students will work together to develop language skills and prepare for the classroom, he said. The student then teaches in Houston under the supervision of the Houston school district.

After student teaching and completing the requirements for certification, the graduate will have the option of staying in Houston or returning to Nebraska, Kopp said. Job placement is "almost guaranteed" because of the great demand, Kopp added.

The Houston School system is trying to secure federal funds for the program and if all goes well, students can begin the program in January by taking the basic requirements, Kopp said. The first summer sessions will begin next summer if enough interest is shown, he said.

Kopp said interested students should meet at the Union Dec. 14 at 7 p.m., when Bill Reagan will explain the program and answer questions.

Once hot Go Big Red sales cool this Christmas

By Mary Jo Pitzl

Christmas shopping for the ardent Big Red fan?

Although the stores overflow with items ranging from Big Red furniture to a piece of the AstroTurf trod on by the Husker superstars themselves, the novelty item business has cooled somewhat, according to Lincoln businessmen.

Fans either have everything there is to buy, or are thinking twice before they put out money for another Big Red trinket.

Randall Klein and Frank Aerni are testimony to the dwindling buying power of the Nebraska football fan, and they have more than 49,000 pounds of AstroTurf to prove it.

Last spring, Klein, Aerni and three friends submitted an \$11,101 bid for the AstroTurf in Memorial Stadium. The Athletic Department was getting a new carpet for the football field and put the old AstroTurf up for public sale.

The five partners formed the Nebraska Football Sales Company and are making souvenir mats, desk sets and wall plaques from the 6,480 square yards of AstroTurf.

Since sales began last April, Aerni estimates the partners have made about \$20,000, just recently moving into the profit column. He said that about 19 of the original 24 2,600-pound rolls of AstroTurf are left to sell.

Operating in the red

Although the five-member company spent more than six months operating in the red, Aerni said he and his partners are not overly concerned about aggressively marketing their AstroTurf products.

"We're not real concerned about it now because it sells well as patio covering in the spring," Aerni said. "They (sales) went down in toward the end of the season, and then picked up."

Christmas sales have helped profits, Aerni said. The wall plaques, mats and desk sets are sold in several Lincoln stores, according to Aerni, although the majority of sales are handled through the mail.

Klein, who describes himself as a "dyed-in-the-wool fan," said he is not too worried about sales.

Klein said that when he and his friends started their company, they realized they were taking a chance and might not make any money.



"I don't think it's a good market at all for a one-shot bit," Klein said, explaining that the souvenir value of the AstroTurf probably would not last more than two years.

Saying that he can not sense the same football fever as when he was a UNL student in the early 1970s, Klein speculated that fans "might have been let down after the great years (Nebraska's two national championships in 1970-71).

"I think people are peaked out, but it can come back again. It may take a few years to dull the fever from the early '70s."

Many people have commented that the souvenirs are attractive but they have not put their money where their mouth is, according to Klein.

Worst customers

"Our worst customers are the people you would expect to be the best," he said, adding that sales are low among ardent Big Red fans.

The best sales are from people who really are not crazy about Nebraska football, Klein said. Many of these people are buying the souvenirs as gifts for avid Big Red boosters, he said.

Letters from the end zones have been selling for \$200 each, and strips of the goal line were sold at the Nebraska State Fair last fall, Klein said.

The numerals from the field's yardlines sell for \$175 apiece, he said.

A Holdrege man, who said he is related to former Nebraska quarterback Jerry Tagge, bought a "10" and a "40" from the company and sold back the zeros, Klein said.

He explained that the man wanted an AstroTurf "14" to hang on the wall of his cabin in case his cousin, who wore jersey 14, ever came to visit.