

## UNL swine stu at Mead to op

UNL's new swine research complex, under construction at the Mead Field Laboratory, will be shown at an open house Thursday from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

On display will be phase one of the complex—a 288-sow gestation unit, 96-stall farrowing house and 48-pen nursery, all enclosed under one roof, according to Ernest Peo, a UNL animal science professor.

Peo said that phases two and three of the complex also will be displayed, although they are not completed. They include a reproductive physiology unit and four "modified open front" growing and finishing units.

Photographs by  
Mark Billingsley

Stories by  
John Ortmann

## Regents' achievements cited by former chairman

By Rod Murphy

Looking back over the past year, Robert Simmons, former chairman of the NU Board of Regents, said although the board made significant achievements, he was disappointed that more had not been accomplished.

The Scottsbluff regent ended his term as chairman at this month's board meeting. Lincoln Regent Ed Schwartzkopf was elected chairman for the coming year.

Simmons will stay on the board for the remaining three years of his current six-year term.

Simmons reviewed the highlights of last year; the appointment of Ronald Roskens as university president, increased cooperation between the Lincoln and Omaha campuses, discussions concerning mandatory student fees, and a growing realization that the educational standards of the university should be higher.

Overall, Simmons said his major complaint was that the system moved too slow.

Simmons cited as an example the President's University-wide Task Force on Student Fees which has taken seven months to make its report to the Regents. The Regents will attempt to act on that report in their next meeting.

Simmons added, however, "We should have started on a program by now."

Simmons also said the board should

have made more progress in its attempts to bring UNL and the University of Nebraska at Omaha closer together.

"The difference of opinion between faculty and students at Lincoln and the faculty and students at Omaha has been going on for ten years and it's time it stopped," he said.

Simmons has served three years as a board member, holding the office of vice chairman prior to becoming chairman.

"As a general rule the vice chairman has been elected chairman for the next year. It's kind of a matter of taking turns," he said.

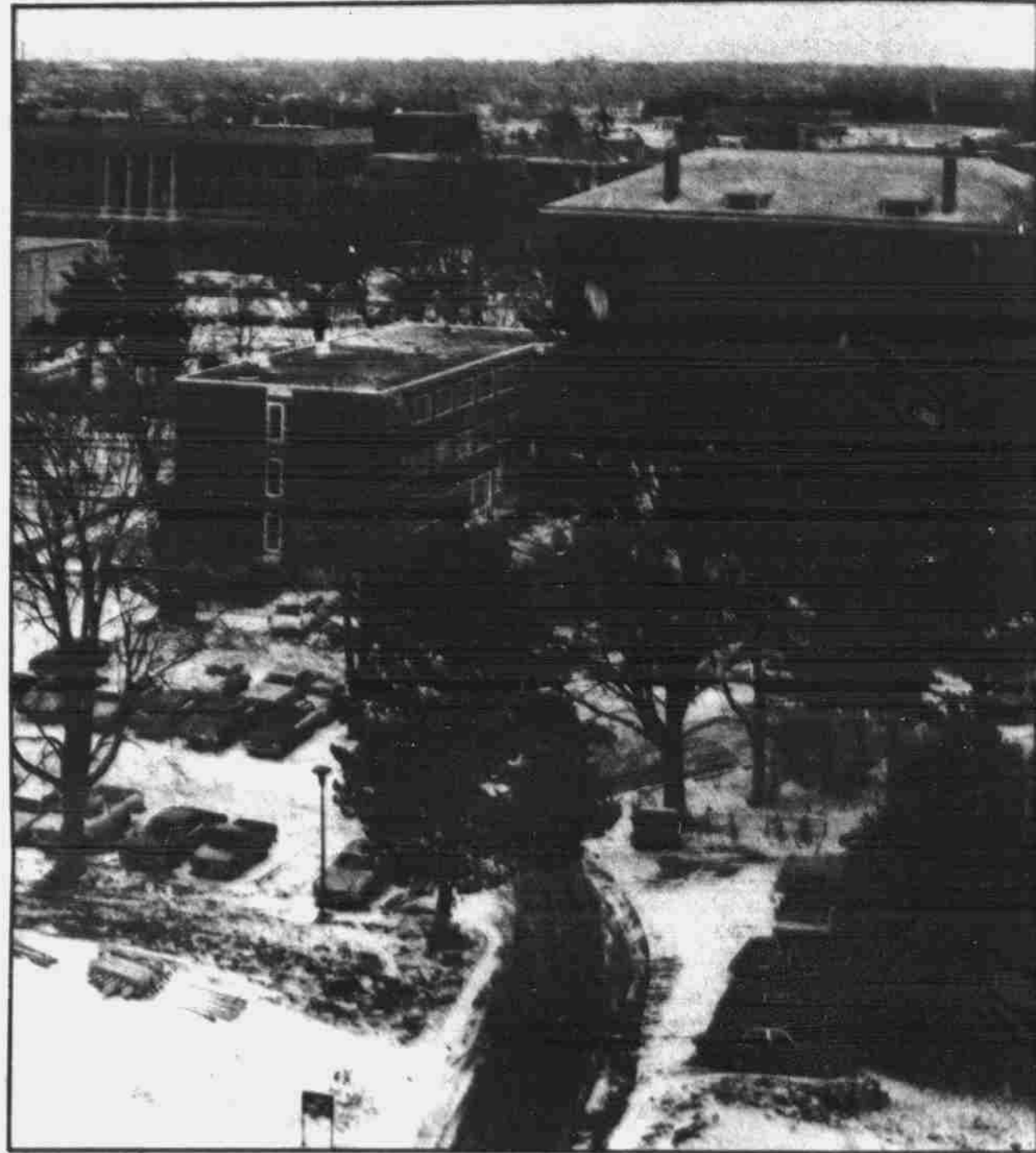
The chairman's task is to rule on matters of procedure. Otherwise, Simmons said, he is just like the other members of the board.

"The chairmanship isn't any particular honor or responsibility," beyond what other members do, he said.

However, the chairman often has more communication with administrators and faculty, he said.

Another difference between the chairman and other members of the board is that it is difficult for the chairman to present motions, he said.

Simmons, who has been practicing law since 1946 in Scottsbluff, was an officer in the U.S. Marine Corp and a FBI agent.



A view overlooking East Campus during the midyear academic recess. East Campus will be as new programs are initiated, old programs receive heightened recognition and the Daily

## Japanese participate in special research course

Spending as much as 14 hours a day on horseback can be hard on the posterior, but living with a cattle rancher in Idaho last summer provided Kazuhiko Imakawa with valuable experience with livestock and mechanized farming.

The cowboy shirted-and-booted native of the northern Japanese town of Tajiri is one of 35 young Japanese men staying at the Nebraska Center for Continuing Education on East Campus.

They are here for a 12-week short course on animal science which Chuck Havlicek, center program coordinator for conferences and institutes, said would be broken into a 7-week period of general study and a 5-week period of specialization in beef, dairy and swine production.

Havlicek, whose duties with the group include arranging field trips and getting textbooks, said his main concern was

finding host families for the students in the Lincoln area.

"These guys eat like horses," he said. "They just came off the farm where they were used to putting the food away."

However, four students interviewed gave American food mixed reviews. While basically good, they agreed American food is too simple, with not enough variety. Japanese food is flavored with a number of seasonings, they said, which gives each

dish an individual flavor.

The group has been in the United States 18 months and is scheduled to return to Japan in June. They spent the first three months at Big Bend Community College in Moses Lake, Wash.

The second part of the program involved assignment to a host farmer or rancher in Washington, Illinois, Idaho, Oregon, Montana or Nebraska.

Imakawa said the on-the-job training may not be strictly applicable to Japan, where hand labor often replaces machinery.

Tateo Shiraiishi, from Uto Kumamoto in southern Japan, said he worked on a dairy farm in Washington before coming to Nebraska. Shiraiishi was given charge a good deal of the time to contend with irrigation, cattle feeding and general management.

Yoshiyuki Goto, also from southern Japan agreed he was kept busy during his ranching experience. His host farmer in Illinois feeds 1200 cattle and 1500 hogs and raised 2000 acres of corn per year.

"We have a great appetite to know," Imakawa said, "so we learn."

Tadashi Matsumi, from Kyushu Island, said the group is generally satisfied with their education in the United States, but noted certain differences in Japanese and American teaching. Japanese teachers are strict, while American teachers are relaxed, he said, adding that he was surprised to see students eating and drinking in the classroom.

Imakawa said although the studies are hard, the students manage to enjoy themselves.



These students are among 35 Japanese participating in a 12-week short course on animal science.