

## State, UNL compete for building

By Tam Lee

The state of Nebraska and its largest agency, the University of Nebraska, may be competing for the same site to house a new computer center.

NU administration officials last month asked the Nebraska Legislature's Appropriations Committee for about \$2.4 million to purchase and renovate the Lincoln Elks Lodge for a universitywide data center, said William Erskine, administration executive vice president.

That figure was a reduction of the original request of about \$6.3 million for construction of a new computer center, according to Robert Pazderka, NU capital construction coordinator.

The Appropriations Committee did not allocate money for NU to buy the building, but committee member Glenn Goodrich of Omaha proposed Monday that the Legislature appropriate some money for the state to begin making payments on the building.

The committee did not accept Goodrich's proposal, but he said he was trying to get enough votes to amend the capital construction bill to include the money for the Elks building before the bill goes to the floor next week.

At the committee meeting, Sen. Doug Bereuter asked Goodrich if the state was competing with NU for the building. Committee chairman Jerome Warner of Waverly replied that the university did not have the money to buy it.

Erskine said if the state does not allocate money for the purchase, a new computer center would have to wait. There is not enough money from other NU sources to fund the project, he said.

There is a possibility that the state and the university could share the building, Goodrich said, but added that the concept "has not been fully explored."

Pazderka said when the university first began considering building a computer center, it had planned to share it with the state. Now, however, NU is looking for a separate building, he said.

Many questions, such as who would operate the center, would have to be answered before the state and NU could share a data center, he said.

Pazderka said the Elks Lodge had 72,000 gross square feet of space, and the university had estimated that it would need 70,000 gross square feet for office and computer space.

Although he did not know how much space the state would require for its computers, Pazderka said it may be possible for the state and NU to share the space. Some alternatives may be to use the building for computers only, and not offices, he said.

Erskine said he would consider sharing a computer building with the state if it were physically possible.

"That building (Elks Lodge) is probably one in a million for a computer center," Pazderka said.

"I have looked at six or seven buildings and none are as good as the Elks building," he said.

Some of its advantages are that the floors are strong enough to hold the computers, it has windows only on the first floor, it has both freight and passenger elevators and it has a lot of open space which would not need much renovation, Pazderka said.

"That building is the most adaptable for computers of any I've looked at," he said.



Photo by Mark Billingsley

Adding insult to injury, Ron Coniglio steps from his car into a stream of melted snow to go pay a parking ticket.

### Pass-fail deadline Friday

The deadline to change spring semester courses to pass-fail is Friday.

Students must pick up a form in Administration 207 (the middle window) and take it to Administration 103.

A \$5.00 fee is charged. No teachers signature is required.

## UNL campus belle rings her chimes six minutes late

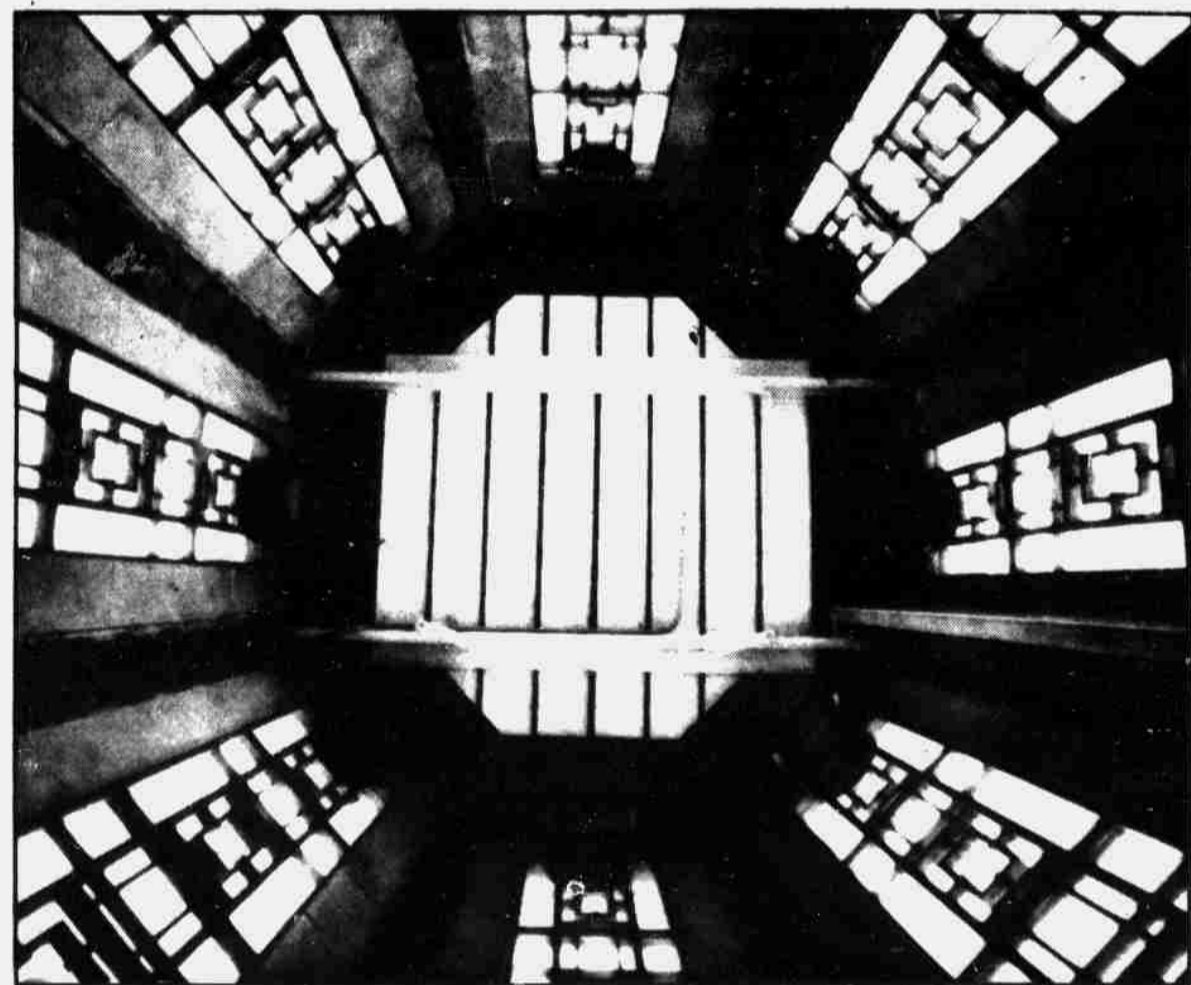


Photo by Bob Pearson

An inside view of Carillon Tower, from the bottom up, resembles an abstract piece of art.

By Kris Hansen

If you are set up with Carillon Towers, don't expect her to be on time.

The bells in the Ralph Mueller Carillon Tower, located between Morrill and Bessey Halls, are ringing six minutes late.

The bells, which are supposed to ring at 20 and 30 minutes after the hour, have been off since last semester, according to several professors in nearby buildings.

"We just hadn't been told that they were off," said Leroy Zavadil, electrical superintendent for the NU Physical Plant. He said the bells are run by time clocks which needed to be reset. "We're going to try and fix them today," he said Monday.

A random sample of instructors in Morrill and Oldfather halls revealed about half had noticed the bells were off.

"I noticed them because it affects how I teach," said Samuel Treves, geology professor. "When they ring late, I have to stop talking because they're so loud. I can't yell over them."

"They haven't been on time since the power outage last semester," added Esther Cope, assistant professor. "It was one way of knowing what time it was and when to get to class. I wish they'd get them fixed."

Tom Fischer, math professor, said, "A

few of us would leave to go run last fall and we noticed they didn't correspond to the correct time. We all noticed - hasn't everybody?"

Sociology and psychology Professor Harry Crockett said, "The fact that they were off has escaped me, but if they're going to ring them, the bells should be on time."

"I hadn't really noticed until I was waiting for class to get over - then I found out they were really off," added Dan Sebo, a graduate student.

Several instructors expressed dissatisfaction with the chimes themselves.

"It would bother me less if they didn't ring those silly little chimes at 5. If they're going to make them ring, make them ring on time, and change the chimes," said graduate assistant Carol Alston.

Doug Mollenby, math instructor, complained. "I notice them about once a year, and they just annoy me. The whole tower annoys me - just a big thing sticking up out of nowhere so somebody can have his name on it. It seems out of context."

Geography professor William Wayne said "I can't hear them in this part of the building [Morrill Hall]. I wish they'd put the tower on top of Oldfather."

Others like the chimes. "I like clocks and towers that chime, and I wish this one was on time," secretary Ginger Maca said. "It's really nice to listen to." Treves added, "They're fine, and I like them. I think they should develop a strong music program for Saturdays and Sundays."

## GLC hopes for landlord-tenant bill passage

A bill to amend Nebraska's landlord-tenant laws is being watched and supported by UNL's Government Liaison Committee, an ASUN subcommittee.

The landlord-tenant bill, LB121, includes two amendments to revise current statutes. The committee is lobbying for the amendment which would provide compensation for tenants who must take action to recover damage deposits.

If a landlord willfully withholds property or money, the tenant would be able to recover the amount and a sum equal to it to cover the loss of the use of the property and the inconvenience in recovering the money, according to an amendment drafted by Sen. Ralph Kelly of Grand Island.

However, Sen. William Nichol of Scottsbluff has proposed an amendment stating if a tenant has not complied with the rental agreement, the landlord may recover the

damages suffered. If the tenant's noncompliance was willful, the landlord also may recover an amount equal to the damages, court costs and fees.

Mike Herman, GLC chairman, said the committee opposes Nichol's amendment because it deviates from the bill's original intent.

The landlord holding a security deposit has the authority to retain that deposit if the tenant fails to comply with the lease. If the damage to a landlord's property exceeds the security deposit, the landlord can file suit against the tenant to recover damage costs, Herman said.

The current statute covers damages and landlord reimbursement adequately, Herman said, and does not need to be amended.

However, GLC favors Kelly's amendment, Herman said.

According to the GLC position state-

ment, "The current law makes it profitable for a landlord to wrongfully withhold a security deposit, and a tenant loses time and money in attempting to recover a wrongfully withheld security deposit."

The Kelly amendment would provide compensation for only the time and money spent while attempting to recover the deposit, the statement said.

"Now is the time when the tenant should have some say in the destiny of his security deposit," Herman said.

About 40 percent of those who go to Student Legal Services come in regard to landlord-tenant relationships," Herman said, and most are concerned with damage deposits.

The bill will affect every tenant and landlord, he said, but it will not hurt the honest landlord. It is specifically directed at the dishonest, he said.

The bill may reach the floor of the Legislature next week.

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**wednesday**

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