

## Animal science project awaits Legislature's OK

By Laure Perlinger

Completion of the long-awaited animal science project on UNL's East Campus could become a reality if the necessary capital construction money is approved by the Nebraska Legislature.

The project, in combination with agriculture and natural resources programs, is currently the second priority on the 1982-83 NU budget, behind maintenance.

Irvin T. Omtvedt, head of the Department of Animal Science said the animal science project, which was planned in the 1960s, has been considered since 1967 when it was decided to finish only phase one of the project — construction of Marvel Baker Hall for laboratory research, offices and classrooms.

Phase two, stream central planning, was scratched, he said.

Priority two consists of \$350,000 for design and blueprint development for the animal science project; planning money for a headquarters building at Mead; and operating funds for the four district stations at Concord, North Platte, Scottsbluff and Clay Center. Total cost for the project is \$1.9 million, Omtvedt said.

The animal science proposal is for two basic structures: — A livestock center in the old cattle barn area, including divisible livestock arena for multiple classes and livestock holding facilities for teaching and research.

— A laboratory-office-classroom addition to Marvel

Baker Hall, including an expansion of the meats laboratory and additional research space.

### Present buildings old

Omtvedt said present campus livestock holding and teaching facilities were built in the early 1900s.

Omtvedt said the animal science project's climb to the second rung of the budget priority ladder may have come at a bad time, when construction of the regional veterinary school is uncertain.

Completion of the animal science project is even more important if NU doesn't get the veterinary school, he said, explaining that most pre-veterinary medicine students will major in animal science. A pre-veterinary undergraduate degree is not offered, he said.

Earl Dickinson, head of the department of veterinary science, agreed with Omtvedt about the importance of the project in relation to the proposed veterinary college.

"They are completely compatible and mutually supportive and both are long overdue in promoting animal health and production in Nebraska," Dickinson said.

Dickinson said the U.S. Department of Agriculture is currently doing a feasibility study on federal assistance in regional programs. The study group will be at UNL Sept. 10 and by late November a final report will be submitted to U.S. Secretary of Agriculture John Block for review.

### Legislature approval needed

Dickinson said the veterinary college and animal

science project "go hand in glove" in animal agriculture, the number one industry in the state.

Omtvedt said the Legislature's bill approving capital construction money must be passed, the federal funds for construction must be secured, and at least two other states must agree to participate in the regional veterinary school.

Making better use of what UNL has has been the Legislature's theme for the past few years, Omtvedt said.

Omtvedt said the state livestock industry has pressured the animal science department to increase and improve facilities. Livestock organizations in particular have suggested updating UNL's agricultural teaching and research.

Omtvedt said Nebraska leads the nation in the number of fed-cattle yet UNL has the least adequate campus livestock facilities compared to surrounding states' animal science departments.

Nutrition, animal breeding and physiology are taught in the animal science department. Within the proposed veterinary college the animal science department would still teach nutrition.

## Cooling equipment transfer disputed

By Mary Louise Knapp

Union College continues to need new air conditioning equipment while problems concerning the transfer of the equipment are ironed out, officials from the college, UNL and UNO said Tuesday.

According to a recent report from United Press International the Seventh-Day Adventist college had been given a 500-ton York chiller by UNO, a \$30,000 grant from the Union Pacific Railroad Foundation to transport the chiller and a surplus cooling tower by UNL.

Officials from Union College and UNO said the report raised some questions among readers about the constitutionality of giving tax-financed equipment to a religious institution.

Richard Wood, NU general counsel, said the Nebraska Constitution prohibits state agencies from giving "credit in aid" to any individual, state or corporation.

Wood said that although the gifts of the air conditioning equipment are technically not credit he does not believe that NU has the right to give away surplus property without first calling for bids to determine if the property has any value.

Neither the cooling tower nor the chiller has been advertised for bids, Wood said.

Harley Schrader, director of UNL's Physical Plant, said the cooling tower was not purchased by tax funds but was a part of the Nebraska Center for Continuing Education, a donation of the Kellogg Foundation.

Jim Gallagher, public relations director for Union College, said the cooling tower has already been transferred to the college.

"The chiller is still up for grabs," Gallagher said. "We hope to get it, but we don't want to create a church-state conflict."

Gallagher said the chiller may have been paid for by tax funds, although the cooling tower was not.

No one expressed an interest in obtaining the chiller before Union College offered to excavate and move it, Gallagher said. Moving the chiller would cost about \$20,000, he said.

However, Union College has not yet expressed a definite desire to bid on the chiller, said Neil Morgensen, plant management director at UNO.

Morgensen said the plant management office has not declared the chiller to be surplus property and will take no further action until it receives word from Union College.

John Moore, assistant vice chancellor of business for UNO, said he is not aware of any written agreements concerning the chiller between UNO and Union College, and learned of the matter from the UPI report.

The chiller is stored in a sub-basement of the engineering building, and moving it would require excavation and removal of a basement wall, Moore said.

## Mockler says demand misjudged

By Ward W. Triplett III

UNL student regent Rick Mockler said students can stop feeling guilty about the lack of football tickets this year after a meeting with administrators revealed that fewer than 700 students had obtained duplicate student ID cards. The most likely cause for 547 students being left out of a season ticket, at least momentarily, was an underestimation of ticket demand, Mockler said.

"I think they (ticket officials) were overreacting to a crisis situation," he said.

"Where you might have a few isolated cases of abuse, that couldn't be the only reason for this happening," he said.

Mockler said he was bothered by headlines in the Daily

Nebraskan and the *Lincoln Journal-Star* that indicated students using duplicate student IDs to purchase two tickets had caused the shortage.

"For the first time, faculty and staff have been denied tickets. When students got denied tickets, we got accused of cheating each other. When faculty got denied, it had to be something else," Mockler said.

Something else, he said, could have been illegal ticket-buying methods such as duplicate student IDs, students dropping from full-time status to part-time after buying a ticket and married students getting two tickets each.

However, an enrollment increase could have been a reason as well, Mockler said.

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Photo by Mark Billingsley

Mr. Dillon, the cat, awakes after a short catnap on the shoulder of Doug Wenk. While Wenk walked along O St. his partner rested on his shoulder, unassisted.

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