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Bessey Hall part of renovation idea

The first step in slowing the rapid decay of exhibits at the State Historical Museum in Morrill Hall was taken by Sen. Don Wesely with the introduction of a \$20,000 capital construction bill to the Nebraska Legislature last week.

Cosigned by Wiley Remmers of Auburn and Myron Rumery of North Platte, the bill would authorize the NU Board of Regents to develop plans for the renovation of Morrill Hall. It includes "upgrading the mechanical system to ensure adequate climate control for the protection and preservation of the exhibits."

Museum Director James Gunnerson told the ASUN Senate Sept. 16 that the deterioration of exhibits is "awesome." He said the museum has mounted skeletons that have deteriorated more in the last 50 years than in the previous 100,000 years.

At that meeting, Wesely told the senate that several

types of heating and cooling units, which range in cost from \$500,000 to \$2 million, would help slow the deterioration. Wesely said he would propose a \$1.5 million legislative bill to purchase and install the unit.

The Lincoln senator trimmed his proposal to \$20,000, limiting funds to the planning stage because the state budget is "too tight" for a substantial capital construction project.

However, Wesely did expand his renovation idea to include Bessey Hall.

If Bessey Hall is renovated, Wesely said, then classes meeting in Morrill Hall can be transferred to Bessey Hall, leaving room for museum expansion.

The planning, which would be completed by Jan 1, 1983, would include which buildings would be renovated, the type of heating and cooling units to be installed in Morrill Hall and the approximate cost of the project.

Failure to fix turf brings lawsuit

By Betsy Miller

The NU Board of Regents has filed suit against the firm that installed the artificial turf on UNL's Buck Beltzer Memorial Baseball Field.

John Wiltse, assistant general counsel for the university, said he filed suit against Durra Systems Corp. Jan. 7 asking for \$94,140.

"The main reason we are suing the corporation is that they have not lived up to their promises," Wiltse said.

The turf is splitting apart in some places, Wiltse said, and although the company has been out several times to correct the problem since the turf was installed in 1977, the problem still exists. Recently the company has not responded to the university's request for maintenance, he said.

"We've been writing them letters saying why don't you come out and fix this stuff," Wiltse said.

He said the university finally decided to sue the company for the amount that was charged to install the turf in 1977.

Durra Systems is a Delaware corporation with offices in Fort Washington, Penn.

Wiltse said the corporation was dissolved in June of 1980 "due to nonpayment of franchise taxes."

Wiltse said it is difficult to tell why the company dissolved and that there could be several seasons for the nonpayment.

He said that the company is dissolved "complicates things" but that the damage amount could still be collected by the university.

However, even if the full amount of damages is received, the cost of installing new turf would be an additional \$76,000, he said.

"What I've been told by experts is that the turf will have to be removed," Wiltse said.

Harley Schrader, UNL Physical Plant director, said the university's suit states that the field has lost turf fibers because of loose seams and also that cuts made by the company when they tried to repair the field have worsen-

ed the condition of the turf. Schrader said the pad underneath the artificial surface has been exposed and has deteriorated.

Durra Systems originally guaranteed the turf with a five-year warranty, Schrader said.

Wiltse said that the turf is not holding up and that the company has not returned to repair it was the main reason for the suit.

Schrader said Durra Systems submitted the lowest bid in 1977 so it was selected to install the field.

He said the university had not had the company do any work for them before, but other universities had contracts with Durra Systems.

"They were considered to have done a reasonably good job at other schools," Schrader said. "Durra Turf appeared to be a quality product."

Wiltse said it is difficult to determine when the case will be settled and that because the company is not located close to Nebraska, it will take longer for developments in the case to progress.

Regents to select chairman at first meeting of semester

The NU Board of Regents will select a new chairman at its first meeting of the semester Saturday at Regents Hall, 3835 Holdrege St. at 11:30 a.m.

Jim Raglin, NU director of public affairs, said new board chairmen are traditionally selected at the first meeting in January.

Raglin said the vice-chairman of the board is usually nominated for chairman, although it is possible to re-elect former chairmen or elect other members of the board.

Robert J. Prokop of Wilber is currently serving as chairman, and James H. Moylan of Omaha is the present vice-chairman.

All regents who are now serving have held the post of chairman except John Payne of Kearney, who was elected regent in 1980, Raglin said.

A new vice-chairman will also be chosen at the meeting.



Photo by D. Eric Kircher

Steve Beasley, a freshman from Waverly, is just one of the thousands of students stuck with the task of finding and buying stacks of all-too-expensive books for the spring semester.

Parking group votes to schedule hearing on increase proposal

Amid heated debate, the Parking Advisory Committee voted Tuesday afternoon to postpone action on a proposed increase in parking fines.

The committee decided to have a hearing on the issue Feb. 2.

Several students appeared before the committee to protest the proposed increase in parking fines.

John Crane, a sophomore from Abel Hall, said students did not have enough time to study the proposed increases.

Crane presented a petition protesting the increases with signatures of 1,400 students.

"Our primary objective with this petition is to put a moratorium on this proposal so we can discuss it further," Crane said.

Bill Flack, president of Harper-Schramm-Smith, suggested that, with more time, students would be able to give specific objections to the proposed increases.

Dr. Henry Baumgarten, representing the Faculty Senate, objected to the petition.

"I'm surprised at the negative attitude expressed by these students," Baumgarten said. "Your petition, very frankly, stinks. You're objecting to being punished for breaking the law."

Baumgarten said the increase in parking fines was meant to deter offenders rather than raise extra revenue.

The committee decided to put a five-minute limit on each speaker at the special hearing on increasing parking fines. It also decided to take action on the issue at a later meeting.

In other action the committee decided to keep this year's hang tag permits for all parking lots except those for residence halls.

Several residence hall students have complained of having their cars broken into and their permits removed.

The residence hall permits will be of the sticker type used in previous years.

Inside Wednesday

Torn Between Two Lovers: Although English professors may enjoy teaching and researching, they are often forced to put one off to compensate for larger classes. . . . Page 6

Dissimilar Discs: Armatrading and St. James compared; Adam Ant ain't; and hyperfund from Pigbag. . . . Page 8

Big Eight Battles: The Nebraska basketball team opens its conference season tonight against Kansas at the Bob Devaney Sports Center. . . . Page 10

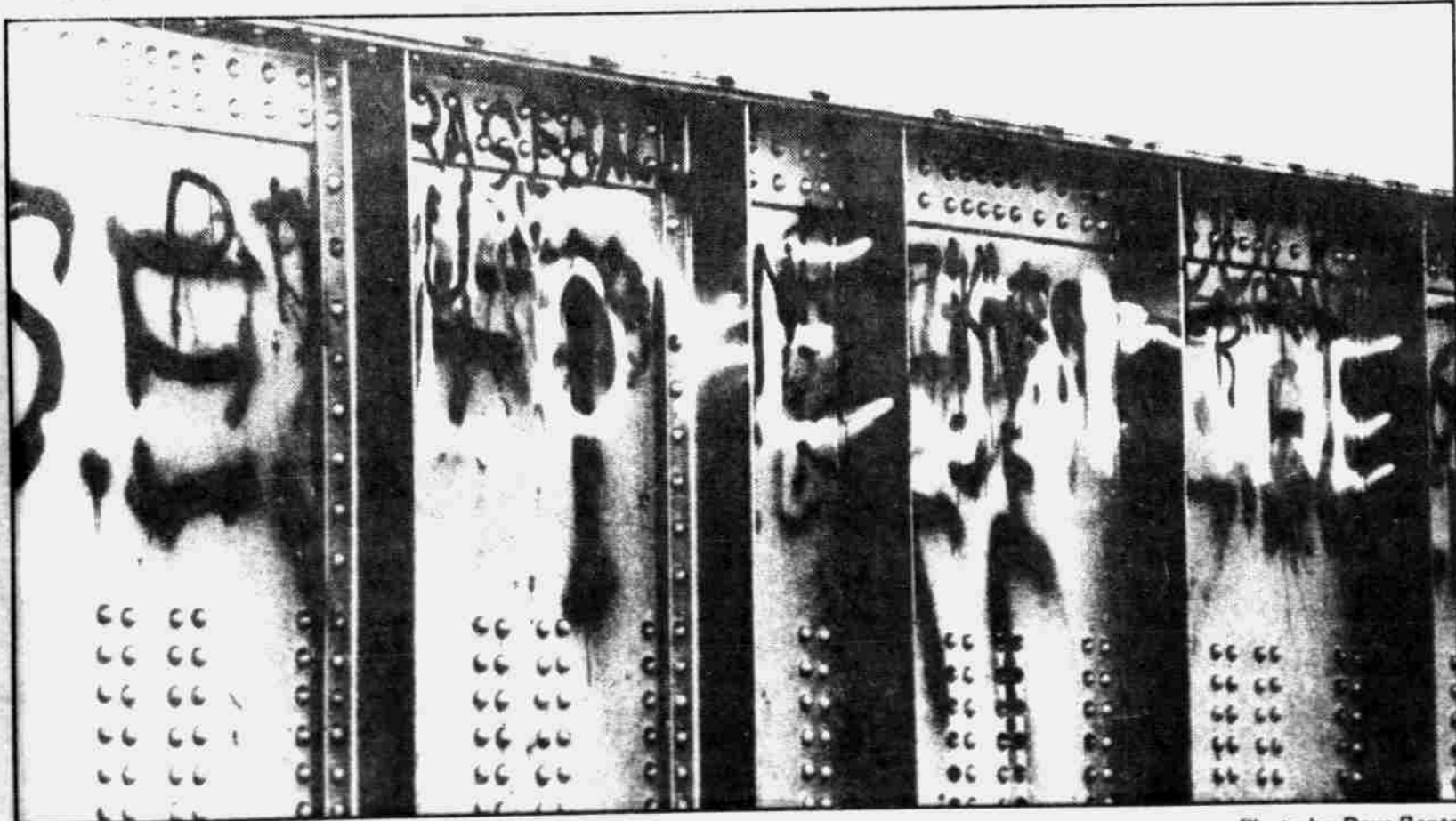


Photo by Dave Bentz

This south Lincoln viaduct has fallen victim to one of America's favorite pastimes — writing graffiti. The UNL campus has not escaped unscathed either. Story on Page 2.