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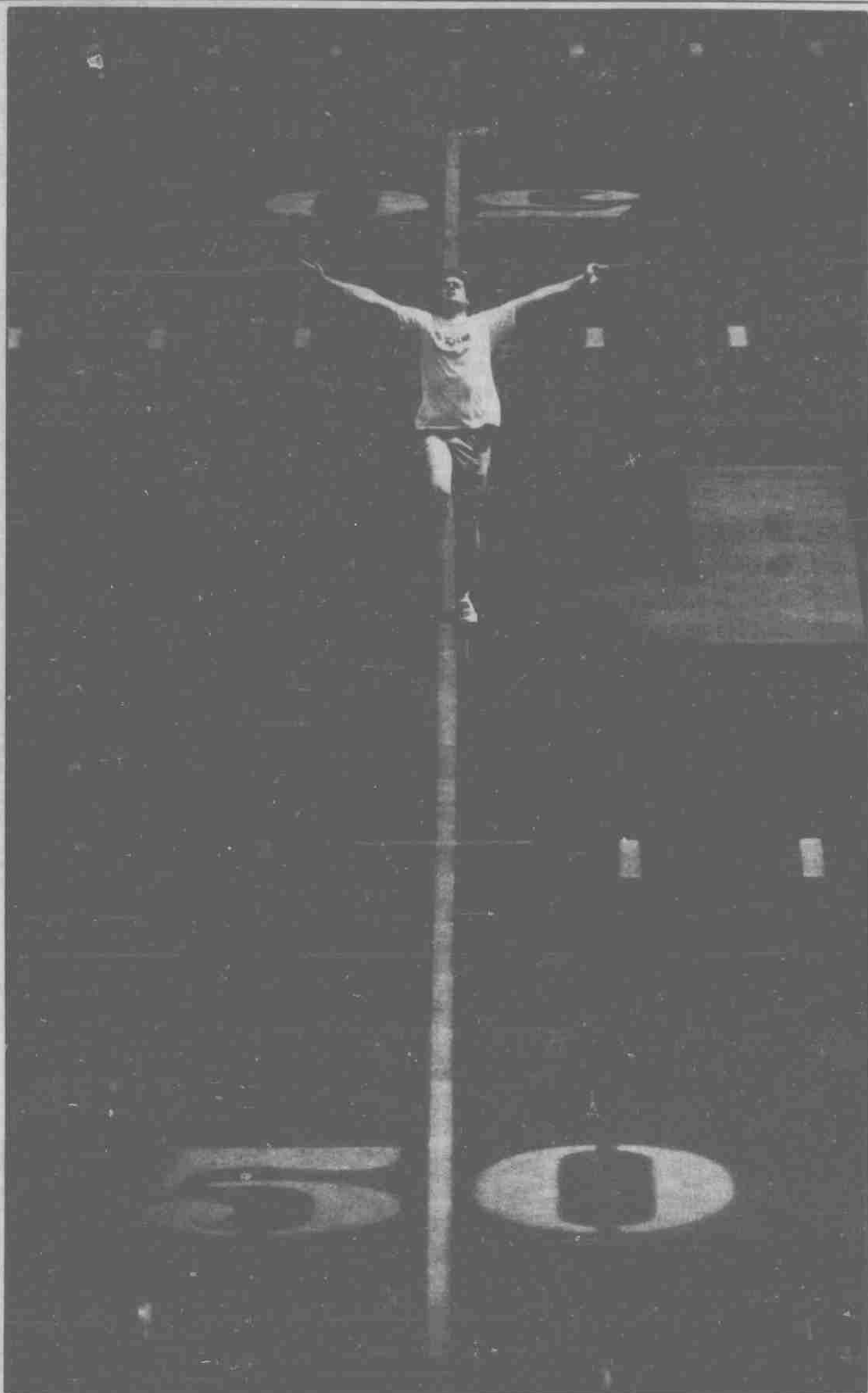
University of Nebraska-Lincoln

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Weather: Our weather pattern is finally moving back to normal for this time of year. Mostly cloudy today and cooler with a high of 77 (25C). Tonight, 70% chance of thunderstorms and a low of 53 (12C). Cooler again on Tuesday with a high of 70 (21C).
Barb Branda/Daily Nebraskan

Heavy metal from across the sea...Page 10

Lack of light is baseball's plight...Page 8



Mark Davis/Daily Nebraskan

And a one, and a two . . .

Todd Fleishner, member of the Cornhusker Marching Band, practices for drum major tryouts Saturday morning at Memorial Field. Eight people competed for the three spots Sunday. Bill Ballenger, assistant director of the band said, "They (drum major contestants) not only are judged on their performance here today, but also on past performances and interaction with students and staff and their general personality."

Lawn Trompers Students' shortcuts kill campus grass

By Cynthia Hutchinson
Special to the
Daily Nebraskan

Thirty-six miles of sidewalks weave their way around UNL's City and East Campuses, but one look at the landscape proves that for some people, 36 miles isn't enough.

'When you wait until the last minute to go to class like I do, paths come in handy.'

Footpaths — dirt slashes where grass has been worn by people who take shortcuts across it — are numerous on both campuses. A beginning journalism class at UNL recently counted 171 paths on the two campuses. Combined, the paths stretched for 9,956 feet — almost two miles. Officials from UNL's grounds department, which strives to make and keep the campus clean and attractive, say they find that 9,956 feet particularly distressful. Wilbur "Bud" Dasenbrock, director of the grounds department, said the foot-packed, earthen paths damage the soil.

"It's like trying to grow something on granite rock," Dasenbrock said.

People routinely tromp on paths, seemingly unaware of the damage it causes. At various paths on campus, students in the journalism class observed 1,036 people who had the option of using a sidewalk or a path. Seven hundred of them, or about 67 percent, chose the path.

"I'm surprised at the number of people who can justify cutting across like that," Dasenbrock said.

Said "cutter," Robb Walker of Lincoln: "When you wait until the last minute to go to class like I do, paths come in handy."

Walker, an undeclared freshman, had a typical justification. When asked why they cut, most people said they did so because a path is shorter and they were in a hurry. Many had no second thoughts about cutting.

Patrick O'Brien, a freshman in the College of Arts and Sciences from Bellevue, said "It doesn't bother me in the least, but it gives the groundskeeper something to do. The grass can grow back."

"Noncutters" do exist. Some responses from people who use sidewalks: Sidewalks have a purpose, the grass would be damaged and "my shoes would get muddy."

Some women respondents said they found it difficult to walk on the paths in high-heeled shoes. Other noncutters said they use sidewalks "out of habit." One said he uses the paths on campus because he doesn't walk on grass at his own home.

"I take pretty good care of my own yard," said John Safford, a 32-year-old senior business major. "I'm sure they (the grounds people) don't appreciate people cutting on the grass."

Safford is right. Dasenbrock said the grounds people don't enjoy seeing their work trampled on.

But the problem paths cause appears to be not only a problem of the lack of green grass, but also the lack of green backs.

The grounds department has \$200,000 worth of requests for sidewalks to be constructed, Dasenbrock said.

Responsible for duties that include hauling garbage, picking up litter, removing snow and landscaping, the grounds department has only had a .56 percent increase a year for 14 years to operate, he said. Department expenses include gas, mowers and construction materials which are needed for building sidewalks, for example.

According to information provided by the department, the operating expense has remained at \$205,845 the last four years. In the last six years, the university has not responded to the department's budget needs, Dasenbrock said.

Because of that, the grounds department has had to cut full-time positions to keep up. This year the most recent staff cuts — six since January — drops the total number of full-time employees to about 38, he said.

Since 1971, when the department had about 55 full-time employees, the campus has expanded considerably. Two dozen new buildings, plus recreational fields and new parking lots have been added, Dasenbrock said.

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Official says Soviets fought brunt of WWII

By Eric Dodds
Staff Reporter

The last bomb fell. The last shot was fired on April 25, 1945, as the armies of the United States and Soviet Union faced each other across the Elbe River in Germany, marking the end of Nazi Germany and the end of U.S.-Soviet cooperation.

A two-day conference was held at UNL this weekend to commemorate the Elbe River meeting. Vadim Kuznetsov of the Soviet Embassy said

in a speech Friday night that the major brunt of the war against Nazi Germany was fought by the Soviet Union. Kuznetsov, who called "the great patriotic war" a national struggle of life and death, said most Americans are not aware of Soviet contribution in defeating Germany. He said the Soviet front had 3 1/4 times more German losses than all other fronts. But, Kuznetsov said, the Soviet people paid a high price for victory, losing nine lives a minute for a total of more than 20 million dead, compared to 250,000 for the United States. United States citizens know that six million Jews were killed by the Germans but, Kuznetsov said, few Americans know the Ger-

mans killed four million Soviet prisoners of war.

Kuznetsov said democracies of western Europe followed policies to channel Hitler's aggression to the East. In 1939, the Soviet Union proposed a collective security pact with England and France. But when they declined, Kuznetsov said, the Soviet Union had no choice but to sign the German-Soviet non-aggression pact.

Kuznetsov said that today the United States and Soviet Union have a common interest of survival in the nuclear world. Kuznetsov was critical of President Reagan's strategic defense initiative, which, he said, will be destabilizing. Hoping for an arms control agreement in Geneva,

Kuznetsov said, "we firmly believe it is possible, moreover imperative, to come to such an agreement." The Soviet Union, he said, is prepared to stop all testing of nuclear weapons if the United States will do the same.

Peter Schoettle of the U.S. State Department said the American public needs more accurate information on the Soviet Union's contribution in the war. But in his speech Saturday afternoon, Schoettle quickly turned his attention to present-day superpower relations by saying that the Reagan administration has based its Soviet policy on realism, strength and dialogue.

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