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Weather: Sunny, windy and warm today with a high of 84 (29C). Warm tonight with a low of 55 (3C). Mostly sunny and hot this weekend with highs in the upper 80s (31C).

Bob Brubacher/Daily Nebraskan

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Nebraska investment policies protest apartheid

By Chris Burbach
Editorial Page Editor

While hundreds of universities across the United States noisily debate proposals of divestment of their holdings in white-ruled South Africa, NU quietly continues pursuing a similar policy which the Nebraska unicameral made law almost a year ago.

That law — and the current demonstrations — are aimed at protesting the South African minority government's official policy of racial segregation, apartheid.

The law gives the Nebraska State Investment Officer until Jan. 1, 1987, to divest all state holdings in financial institutions and corporations which are not making progress toward a number of reforms specified by law. It also forbids new investments of state funds in such interests.

While there is some question whether the law is binding on NU, since its holdings aren't technically state funds, NU administrators have formed a similar policy "subsequently, and as a result of the state law," said Bill Hemann, NU assistant vice president for administration.

"I think we're taking a positive kind of stance on this issue," Hemann said.

That means researching corporations in which NU has holdings to determine their compliance with the specified reforms, then divesting interests when the corporations do not satisfy the law and when it is economically advantageous for the university to do so, said Alan Seagren, vice president for administration at NU. University policy also forbids acquiring new interests in corporations which have South African ties.

The holdings in question total between

\$800,000 and \$1 million in endowments — about 10 percent of NU's total endowment fund, Seagren said. The university's money manager -

Omaha National Bank — has divested between 1 percent and 2 percent of those holdings, he said. Seagren declined to reveal the names of the

companies with South African connections which NU has invested in, because the research by Omaha National and the state investment council into the companies' progress toward reform is not yet completed, he said.

"It wouldn't be fair to point at a company and say 'You're bad' when they still have almost two years to come into compliance with the law," Seagren said.

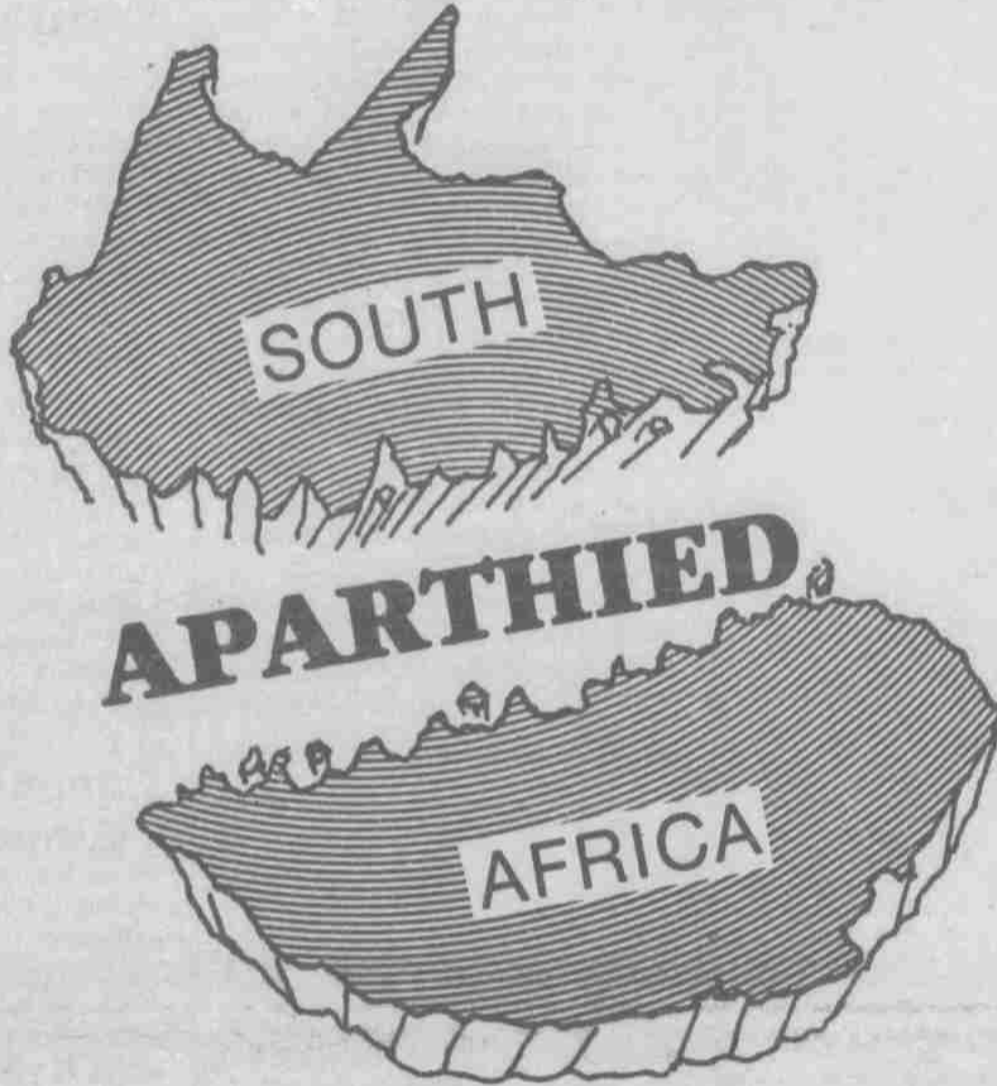
Nor is NU about to divest an interest in a corporation when it is financially beneficial to keep it, he said — at least while the deadline is so far away.

In contrast, the state of Nebraska is divesting at a pace far ahead of the schedule dictated by the 1987 deadline. The State Investment Council has divested about 75 percent of the \$40 million it held in corporations which have South African ties, said state investment officer Don Mathes.

Those corporations are varied, Mathes said. Many of them are in the health care business — Medtronics and Bristol Meyers, among others.

Sen. Ernest Chambers of Omaha, who sponsored the divestment bill, declined comment on Mathes' compliance with the law. Chambers said he would judge that after the deadline.

While the issue of South African apartheid is just now heating up nationally, it has been on Chamber's agenda for a long time, he said. His interest in the plight of non-white South Africans first resulted in legislative action when the Legislature passed a resolution in 1980 he co-sponsored condemning apartheid and declaring that banks and institutions with South African holdings should be removed from the approved list for investment by the state of Nebraska.



Tony Schappaugh/Daily Nebraskan

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Co-sponsor opposes funding

Vet program bill advances

By Jonathan Taylor
Staff Reporter

Plans to authorize the NU Board of Regents to establish a cooperative veterinary school program moved a step closer to reality Thursday as the state Legislature advanced LB204, 28 to 3. But one of the bill's co-sponsors, Sen. Tom Vickers said he may not support his own bill if the Legislature votes to approve funding before the NU Board of Regents completes planning and agreements for the program. LB204 would allow the regents to form a cooperative regional veterinary school program with a college of veterinary medicine in

another state.

If passed, the appropriations bill would provide about \$18 million over a six year period ending June 30, 1991. Vickers said he is opposed to the initial \$200,000 that would be appropriated by the state to complete "planning and discussion" for the program.

"I will not spend another thin dime until the spending is done on something constructive," Vickers said. Vickers' attempted amendment to kill the appropriations bill was rejected 23 to 19.

Vickers said LB204 only authorizes the NU Board of Regents to "enter into agreements" with other local veteri-

nary schools to form a regional program.

"You don't need to spend money to enter into agreements," he said.

The Legislature shouldn't appropriate the \$200,000 until it is known exactly what the money is being spent for, Vickers said.

Once plans are finished, Vickers said, then the Legislature can appropriate the money.

More than \$500,000 has been spent planning the veterinary program already, Vickers said, and that money "would have been useful to the university right now." "We should have just burned the money, at least then we might have seen smoke," he said.

By Ward W. Triplett III
and
Kema Soderberg
Staff Reporters

If all goes as planned, the much-debated, much-needed and presently sawdust-filled University Bookstore will open for business in the Nebraska Union by August.

The state Legislature last week approved \$5 million for university renovation projects. That includes structures at UNO.

Frank Kuhn, director of operations for the Nebraska unions, said the bookstore should open as scheduled in mid-August. Construction is scheduled to finish in mid-July to give bookstore officials a month to move supplies.

"The target date is August 15," Kuhn said. "But I think it's all right to assume anytime you have a construction project with a deadline it will come down to the wire. I know that from past experience."

The \$1.3 million bookstore renovation has displaced a part of the Harvest Room in the Nebraska Union as well. While no permanent changes are due there, a part of the union's largest food service is closed as workers work underneath it on the bookstore. Kuhn said about 40 percent of the Harvest Room is out of commission now, and may remain that way to mid-July. But, the Harvest Room may end up a nicer place because of it, Kuhn said.

"It may give us an opportunity to carpet the area and soften it up some," Kuhn said.

Other union renovation projects scheduled to be ready by fall include a new freight elevator and a computer room in the main lounge.

Kuhn said the union would have had to replace its current freight elevator regardless of the bookstore renovation.

The bookstore will have its own elevator, and that will take the pressure off the union's elevator.

The new elevator will be hydraulic with a larger car to allow risers and large stage additions to be moved in it.

The computer room also is a likelihood, Kuhn said. There has been a hold-up as to where and how computer lines would run, but plans are to have the facility working by fall, he said.

The Nebraska Union Board approved \$12,000 for the project last year. The facility originally was intended for the first floor women's lounge, but was moved to the southwest corner of the main lounge.

When the bookstore is finished, the small television now in the southwest corner of the main lounge will move back to the room currently holding video and pinball games. The games will be moved to the room vacated by the Upper-Level University Bookstore in the union basement. The current freshman bookstore area will remain a part of the University Bookstore operation.

Other renovation projects are scheduled for this summer as well.

Jerry Delhay, university maintenance manager, said the wall between the second floor of the Administration Building and the first floor of the Teachers College will be knocked out to give handicapped people access between the buildings. Eventually, the wall between the Teachers College basement and Administration Building first floor will be removed for the same purpose, he said.

Two rooms in Richards Hall also will be remodeled, he said. Display walls, lighting and minimal decoration will be added to the showroom. A classroom will also receive a facelift.

Home ec majors find success

By Tammy Kaup
Staff Reporter

Contrary to popular belief, home economics is not just cooking and sewing — and potential employers know that, according to the dean of UNL's College of Home Economics.

"I think our students are getting excellent jobs," Hazel Anthony said. And not just in cooking and sewing. Home Economics graduates are active in business, public relations and merchandising, to name a few, she said.

Graduating senior Denise Garey said her consumer affairs degree has given her training in management, sales and public relations promotion. This training landed her a job with Pizza Hut restaurants. Although her classes provided a general background, they did not force her to specialize so much that she could not work at a variety of jobs, she said.

Cathy Westervelt, a junior interior design major, said she wants to own a business — doing design for homes. Westervelt said she enjoys studying home economics because there is less "textbook learning" and more practical application.

Kim Dowd, also a junior in interior design, said she plans to work with the renovation of old buildings and downtown areas of towns. Always possessing an "inkling for the arts," study in home economics allows her to "use creativity in a way that will make me happy and others too," she said.

Consumer affairs junior Susan Wampler wants to work in consumer management relations or for a consumer-oriented agency, such as the Better Business Bureau. She said home economics is a profession with lifelong relevance that affects everyone since home economics is based on the family.

"No matter how much society changes, it helps us meet those changes," she said.

Some students majoring in home economics have opted for a more traditional use of their major — teaching.

Marybeth Prusa, a junior in home economics education, said she would like to teach, but "because I have a home economics degree, that's not all I can do," she said.

She said she thinks she has a strong base in nutrition, human development and design, as well as education.

Sharon Bredemeier also wants to teach. She is a junior in human development, elementary education and special education.

She said she wants to teach primary students in a public school, but after about 10 years teaching, would like to own her own day-care center.

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