

WEATHER: Partly cloudy and windy with a chance of light snow or flurries by afternoon. Highs upper 20s. Variable cloudiness and much colder Thursday night with some flurries. Lows around 5 below to 5 above. Partly sunny and colder Friday. Highs teens.

Daily Nebraskan

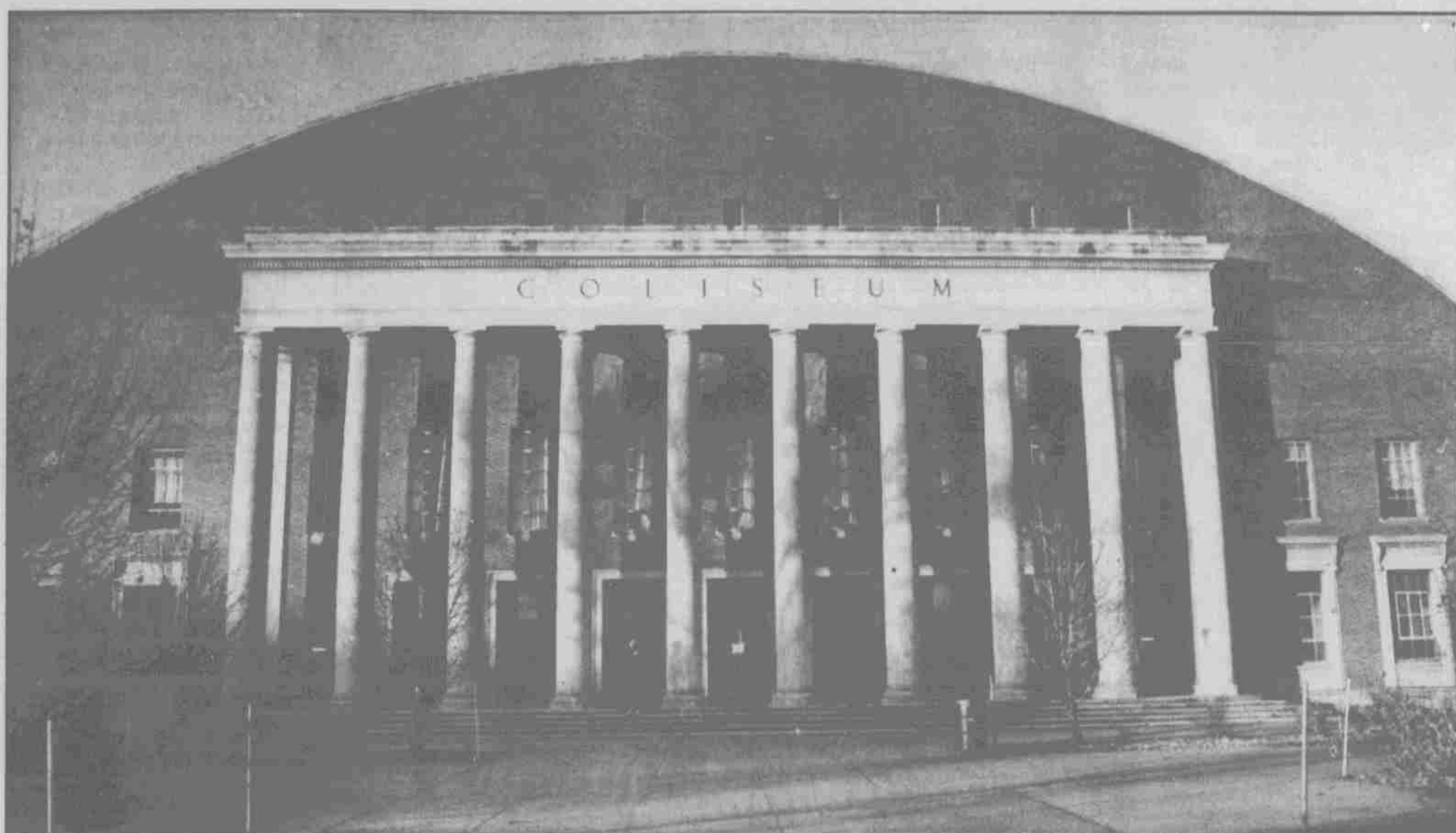
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The UNL coliseum

Andrea Hoy/Daily Nebraskan

Hofmeister proposes to open pools

By Eric Paulak
Staff Reporter

Proposals to open up part of the Bob Devaney Sports Complex to all students and faculty and to renovate two swimming pools on campus have been presented to the UNL administration, said ASUN First Vice President Dan Hofmeister.

The proposals are designed to help compensate for the shortage of pool time created when the Coliseum pool was closed last fall.

The first proposal is to open part, if not all, of the Devaney Sports Complex to students and faculty. It is currently reserved for athletic-department use only. Hofmeister made the proposal to Chancellor Martin Massengale, but Massengale has not responded yet.

The second proposal is to renovate swimming pools in Mabel Lee and Abel halls. More locker space would be added to each, along with repairs to the pools. The renovation would cost between \$30,000 and \$40,000, Hofmeister said.

Stan Campbell, director of campus recreation, said since the Coliseum pool was closed, many groups have been unable to swim on campus. Some instructional classes and intramurals have been canceled, swimming clubs have had to go off-campus to swim, and open swimming times have been reduced.

Campbell said that either proposal would help campus recreation bring back some of the things that were cut.

If the Board of Regents approves the proposed recreation center, Hofmeister said he will still try to get the sports center open to students and faculty.

Hofmeister tried gaining entrance to the swimming pool at the sports center, but he said an assistant swimming coach told him he could not swim there. Hofmeister said he looked through past minutes from regents meetings but could not find anything that said students could not use the complex.

Vice Chancellor for Business and Finance John Goebel is looking into the feasibility of renovating the two swimming pools, Hofmeister said, but any final decisions will be made by Massengale. Neither he nor Massengale could be reached for comment.

Recreation Center inches toward reality

By Jen Deselms
Senior Reporter

It's a ghost that just keeps haunting the students and administration of UNL.

And now, more than 15 years after it was first talked about and five years after it was formally proposed, the phantom student-recreation center finally seems to be materializing.

Although the NU Board of Regents has yet to formally approve the project, the NU Foundation, boosted by an endorsement from Nebraska football coach Tom Osborne, has collected about \$800,000 from football season-ticket holders.

That's nearly 10 times the amount that was collected between 1980 and 1985. But that was before the student-recreation center was combined with an indoor-practice field for the football team, which is now proposed.

The need for a student-recreation center was identified in 1979. A study of Big Eight universities showed that

NU Foundation still seeks donations

UNL offered the fewest open-recreation hours per student per week. An overall ranking of recreation opportunities placed Nebraska seventh, ahead of Oklahoma. Oklahoma has since improved their recreation buildings, said Stan Campbell, UNL director of campus recreation.

Although the need had been identified, it would be years before major donations for the project would be made.

Before 1986, only two fund-raising efforts had been launched for the recreation center: a Sigma Alpha Epsilon flag-football tournament and a Schramm 4 residence-hall floor card-a-thon, which collectively raised \$712.14 in 1981. Foundation investments brought that amount up to \$947.81 by 1986 — far short of the original estimated cost of \$7 to \$9 million. (Today's projected cost for the combined center is \$16 to \$17 million.)

Popular support, unlike financial support, for the center has been strong since the outset. Two ASUN surveys in 1981 and 1985 showed students were overwhelmingly in favor of a center, and only a slightly smaller number supported increasing student fees to help support a recreation center. Seventy-six percent of the 2,585 students surveyed in the 1981 ASUN election voted for a student-recreation center, and 61 percent supported financing through student fees. Most students surveyed suggested an increase of up to \$10.

Student support for the center dropped to 66 percent in ASUN's 1985 survey. Marlene Beyke, director of development for ASUN, said the drop could be caused by fluctuating voter turnout and less publicity and information distributed before the survey.

Despite strong support from students, groups actively involved in rais-

ing money for the center in 1981 anticipated a slow process.

Dan Berlin, student assistant and organizer of Schramm 4's card-a-thon in 1981, said the card players realized they would probably never get to see the rec center built but were thinking of younger brothers and sisters who could use it in the future.

Kent Dunovan was a member of Sigma Alpha Epsilon in 1981 when the fraternity raised money for the student-recreation center.

Dunovan, a 1982 UNL graduate now studying for his MBA at UNL, said he didn't really remember any large student concern about recreation space when he was an undergraduate. He said he still hasn't seen a large push from students for the recreation center but sees the football team as the force behind the project.

The student end of the practice field is just tagging along with the football program, Dunovan said. A recreation

See REC on 3

Government interns value experience Time restricts participation

By Michael Hooper
Senior Reporter

With an active social life, classes to attend and study for, and commitments to a club or friends, it's difficult for a student to get involved in state government.

And since many students often don't care about the issues affecting Nebraska, there's little peer encouragement to get involved.

But some students who have chosen to participate in state government say it's rewarding.

Bryan Robertson, a senior accounting major, got an internship in the State Capitol through UNL's Internship and Cooperative Education Office.

Robertson said his internship in former Gov. Bob Kerrey's office helped him learn about researching state issues, writing and communicating.

From January to June last year, Robertson gathered information on various state issues and surveyed state officials who were to speak at

legislative-committee hearings. He also condensed the governor's speeches.

Compiling such information was probably more significant than, say, doing a research paper for a class, said Robertson, who now is ASUN's lobbyist. His internship encouraged him to apply to law school.

Cynthia Brill, a senior political science major who interned in Lincoln Sen. Don Wesely's office last fall, agreed with Robertson.

During her internship, Brill helped bring in speakers to Health and Human Services Committee hearings and wrote a report on adolescent problems including high-risk pregnancy.

"I felt it was significant not only because people were interested, but because I learned a lot about the human and financial costs of unplanned pregnancies," Brill said.

Brill said the experience in Wesely's office confirmed her interest in politics.

Millie Katz, director of the Internship and Cooperative Education Office, said 25 to 40 stu-

dents intern in Nebraska's Legislature.

"It gives them direct insight into government that you can't get from a textbook," she said.

Another way to get involved is by being a page in the Legislature. To do this, students must ask their senator to sponsor them. If they are sponsored by their senator, they are then reviewed by a panel of senators who then vote on them. If chosen, the pages are assigned duties by the clerk of the Legislature.

Pages do everything from serving coffee to getting copies of bills.

Other students get involved in state government through their personal interests, which may spur them to call, write or speak to their senators.

ASUN's Government Liaison Committee is working on a plan to inform senators on the danger of slashing the university budget again, said Andy Pollock, the committee's chairman.

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Andrea Hoy/Daily Nebraskan

Patrick O'Donnell, clerk of the Legislature, hands bills being introduced to page Scott McKelvey while page Jean Wurtz looks over the legislative floor.

CFA looks at ASUN budget — Page 1