

# Daily Nebraskan

December 6, 1988

University of Nebraska-Lincoln

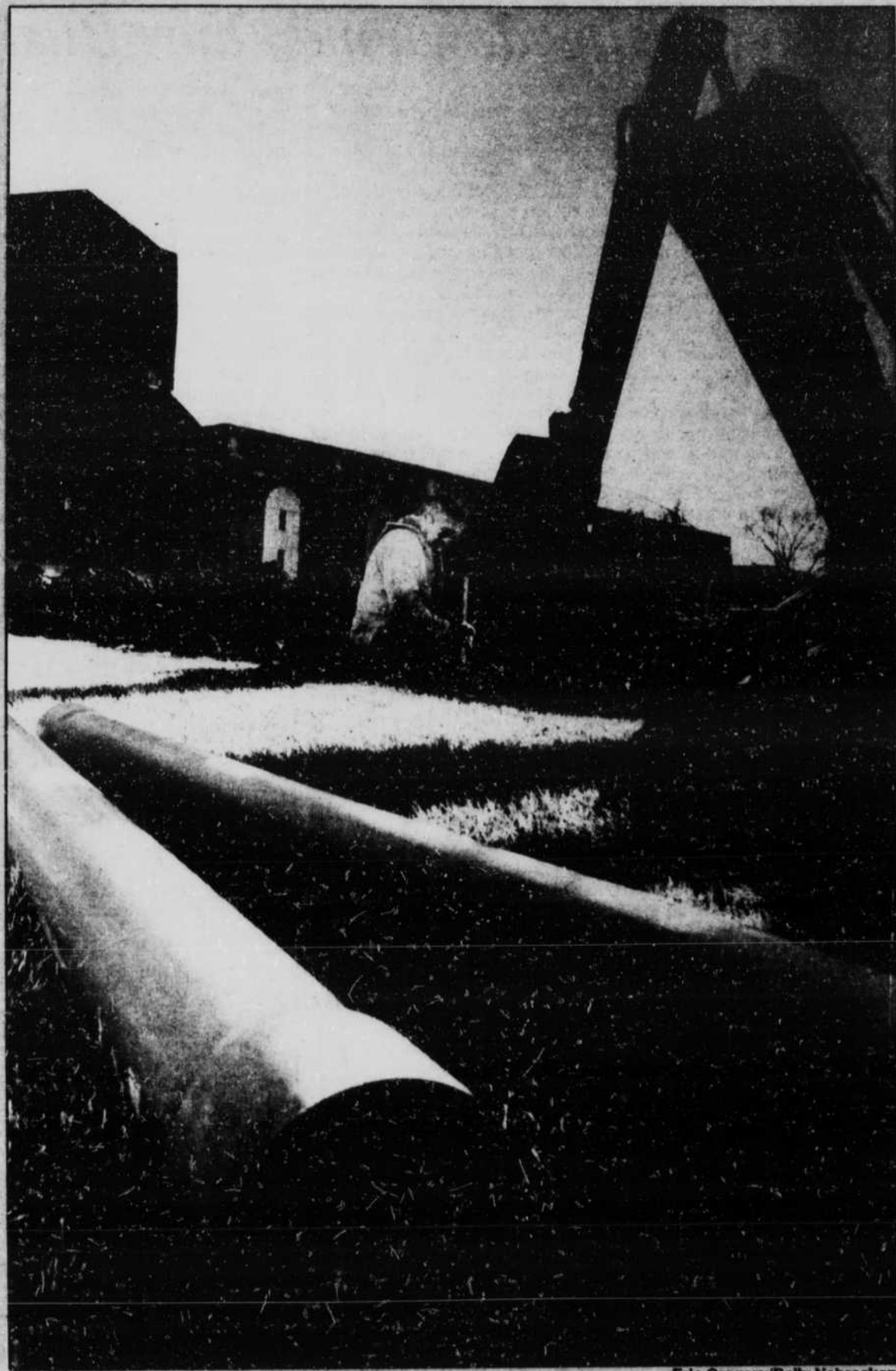
Vol. 88 No. 69

Tuesday

**WEATHER:** Tuesday, partly cloudy and cooler, high 50-55 with NW winds at 10-20 mph. Tuesday night, partly cloudy and cold, low in the mid 20s. Wednesday, mostly sunny and colder, high in the mid 30s.

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Eric Gregory/Daily Nebraskan

### Keep on diggin'

Wayne Heidtbrink digs for a high-voltage power line in the practice field north of Ed Weir Track Monday afternoon. A new line is being laid to power overhead lights that will permit night baseball games at Buck Beitzler Field.

## Yost hopes to raise number of minority graduate students

By Eve Nations  
Staff Reporter

Speaking to the Chancellor's Commission on the Status of Minorities, John Yost, vice chancellor for research and dean of graduate studies, said he was committed to minority recruitment and to the retention of graduate students.

Yost said he hopes to increase the number of minority graduate students by 50 percent during a three-year period, given available resources.

Presently, 72 minority graduate students attend the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, he said.

"There are possibilities of more fellowship money than at any other time," Yost said. "We need to use

the resources as much as possible to attract the graduate students."

Yost said the graduate studies program has an excess of \$100,000 to use for the recruitment of minority graduates.

"Our highest priority is to use the funds for the recruitment and retention of minority students," he said.

Yost also said he was optimistic about other money available. Yost cited a possible increase of the Patricia Robert Harris Fund as an example.

The fund, which gives money to specific departments for graduate fellowships, totalled \$200,000 this year. Yost said he hopes to double that for next year.

See MINORITIES on 3

## Interns with state senators learn how government works

By Shawn Schuldies  
Staff Reporter

An internship with a state senator is a good way for students to learn what goes on behind the scenes in state government, said a University of Nebraska-Lincoln official.

Internship coordinator Mildred Katz said that most students think internships with state senators are only for political science majors, but the internships are open to all students.

For example, Katz said, a senator from a rural area may want to hire a student who is studying agriculture.

The interns may not get to do "glamorous work or have much influence," Katz said. Students do, however, get to see how important issues affect the state, how bills are passed and learn how to communicate with voters when they attend constituent meetings, she said.

State senators look for students who are juniors or seniors and have had some previous political experience, Katz said.

State Sen. Scott Moore said it helps if a student has been a legislative page or worked on a campaign before they apply to be an intern, she said.

Chris Nabower, a community and regional planning graduate student, said her internship with Moore in the spring semester of 1988 helped to improve her writing and communication skills. Nabower said she did research for voters, answered phones, filed information and monitored committees for the senator.

But the internship was more time consuming than she expected, Nabower said. Instead of working 12-15 hours per week, Nabower said, she worked almost 25 hours a week.

Moore said he prefers to hire students from his district and who have had some previous political experience.

A student can benefit the most from an internship by simply observing and learning how government works, he said.

Although interns mostly do routine work, Moore said, he allows interns to research bills covering issues that interest them.

Katz said student interns also can benefit the university. The internship lets state senators see that UNL students are interested in political issues and are seriously interested in learning, she said.

When state senators do hear about students, Katz said, it's usually in a bad light. Students usually make the news in negative ways, she said. Interns help senators understand students better and see them in a more positive way.

Katz said the internships generally run from Jan. 1 to the end of the legislative session. Usually 18 internships are available each year, she said.

Interns also can get credit for three hours through the political science or speech communications departments, she said. But interns are not paid, she said.

Students should apply before Dec. 14 in order to interview with a state senator before Christmas vacation, Katz said.

## NU regents resist student regent vote idea

By Jana Pedersen  
Staff Reporter

A plan proposed by student regents to allow them a non-official vote on the NU Board of Regents is finding some opposition from other board members.

The main purpose of the proposal is to give student regents an opportunity to have a record of their opinions, according to University of Nebraska at Omaha Student Regent Joe Kerrigan.

Kerrigan said it is important to have a record of student regents' positions on issues to ensure that they are representing the views of their constituents.

UNL Student Regent Jeff Petersen agreed. "Presently there's no means for holding the student regents accountable or for making sure they are doing their jobs," he said. "Having a non-official vote would make them have to take stands."

Several other regents, however, questioned the constitutionality of such a vote.

Regent Donald Blank of McCook agreed that student regents should have a means to

show their responsibility to their constituents. But Blank said the proposal's constitutionality must be answered first, he said.

"As long as the votes are non-official," he said, "I don't see any problems with it."

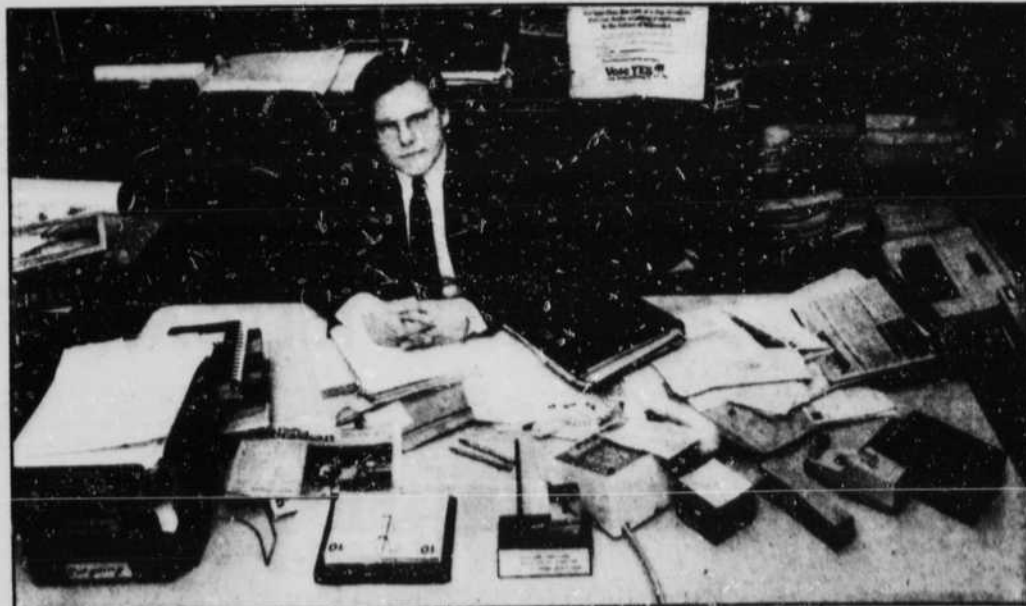
Regent Nancy Hoch of Nebraska City said she was in favor of more involvement by the student regents. But Hoch said she was not willing to take a stand on the non-official vote issue until she had more information about its constitutionality.

Regent Donald Fricke of Lincoln said the Nebraska state constitution does not allow for voting by student regents.

Constitutional requirements for regents, such as mandatory Nebraska residency and United States citizenship, may not apply to student regents, Fricke said.

The student regents also don't represent a specific district like other board members, he said. If regents allowed students to vote, certain districts could become over-represented, depending on where student regents are from, Fricke said.

See VOTE on 3



Butch Ireland/Daily Nebraskan

Jeff Petersen in his office.