

Regents lower pharmacy repair budget

By Diane Brayton
Staff Reporter

The NU Board of Regents Wednesday reduced a repair budget for the 12-year-old University of Nebraska College of Pharmacy building from original estimates of \$4.5 million to \$3.4 million.

The building, located at the University of Nebraska Medical Center in Omaha, was completed in November 1976 at a cost of \$2.8 million.

Don Leuenberger, UNMC vice chancellor for business and finance, said the safety of the pharmacy build-

ing has been questioned for the last seven years. Twenty-four faculty members and about 200 graduate pharmacy students use the building.

The regents listened to reports from various architectural consultants, including Alan Yee, a Honolulu engineer employed by Leo A. Daly, an Omaha architectural firm paid to evaluate the building's safety.

Yee told regents the building was unsafe to the point that a heavy snow-storm could collapse the entire four-story structure, according to reports from The Associated Press.

However, Eugene Holland, a Chi-

cago structural engineer, said in a videotaped presentation that the building is stronger than Yee's "extremely conservative" opinion, the AP reported.

Yee offered a plan to repair the building that was accepted by the board.

Leuenberger said the plan was "markedly different" than the original and more expensive plan approved in March.

"Dr. Yee is an expert in this type of construction," Leuenberger said, calling the plan "innovative and creative."

Leuenberger said Yee also is willing to certify that the building will comply with the original standards requested, Leuenberger said.

Senators add amendments on Indian remains bill

By Ryan Steeves
Staff Reporter

After adding two amendments, state senators gave second-round approval March 27 to a bill requiring the Nebraska State Historical Society to return identifiable skeletal remains and burial goods to American Indian tribes.

The bill, LB340, now advances to final reading, where senators will vote on whether to make it law.

One of the amendments gives the historical society one year to complete its study of identifiable skeletal remains currently in its possession. The time limit would begin once the language of the bill is implemented into law.

The amendment passed after senators defeated a proposal to increase the time limit to 1 1/2 years. Sen. Don Wesely of Lincoln introduced the proposal, saying it was a compromise between the one-year proposal and a three-year proposal supported by Sen. Jerome Warner of Waverly.

Sen. Dennis Baack of Kimball said the historical society has had

many of the remains for 50 years. He said he concurs with Attorney General Robert Spire's opinion that says the historical society has had the remains long enough to study.

The opinion says the state has had the burial remains and goods "for 47 years too long," Baack said.

Warner withdrew his proposal for a three-year time limit after Wesely's amendment failed.

Senators also passed an amendment that sets the guidelines for resolving disputes over skeletal remains and burial goods.

The amendment, introduced by Sen. David Bernard-Stevens of North Platte, would create an administrative group to resolve disputes.

The group would be comprised of an Indian representative and a historical society representative, Bernard-Stevens said. Those two representatives would choose a third administrator to complete the group, he said.

If the two representatives cannot agree on a third administrator within 15 days, the state ombudsman would automatically fill the position.

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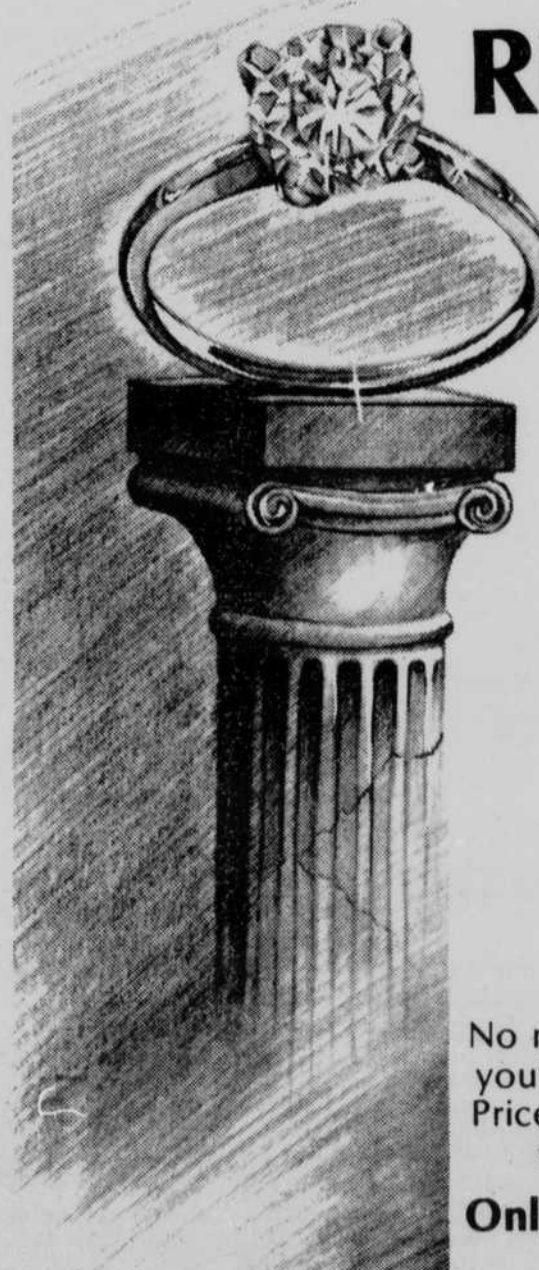
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