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Daily Nebraskan

New buildings extend fitness opportunities

By Sara Bauder
Staff Reporter

Students for the fall semester will be among the first to use the University of Nebraska-Lincoln's new Campus Recreation/Athletic Facility building.

According to Stan Campbell, director of Campus Recreation, the building will provide students with a wide selection of fitness opportunities.

Campbell said the weight training and fitness room will be 8,100 square feet of fitness variety.

"There will be exercise bikes, rowing and stairclimbing machines, weight machines and free weights," Campbell said.

"We hope the variety of equipment will

appeal to people with different fitness needs."

The building will have a gymnasium area consisting of four basketball courts, three badminton/pickle ball courts and a suspended jogging track. Campbell said the basketball courts will also be marked for volleyball.

The building will also have 13 racketball courts which can be adapted to wallyball, one squash court and a five-lane, 25-yard swimming pool.

Campus Recreation's offices and the equipment rental offices will also be in the new building. Campbell said that students will be able to check out equipment to be used in the building if they present a student ID and a picture ID. The equipment is available at no cost.

A number of facilities besides the new Campus Recreation/Athletic Facility buildings will be available to students in the fall as well.

Cook Pavilion, which is attached to the new building, is an indoor football field. Aside from its use as a practice field for the football team, the building is used for aerobic conditioning classes, jogging, frisbee, and intramural events such as indoor soccer and tug-o-war.

Campus Recreation has two gymnasium areas with basketball/volleyball courts, a six-lane pool and lockers in Mabel Lee Hall as well. Campbell said Mabel Lee would probably be used more for scheduled activities than for general student use.

In the Military and Naval Science Building, a basketball court and a separate volleyball

court are available. The building also has a rifle range, which is used by the rifle club and ROTC and for an intramural rifle meet held in the fall.

The East Campus Activities Building has two basketball courts, a weight training and fitness area and lockers.

Campus Recreation maintains a variety of outdoor fitness facilities as well, such as tennis courts, sand volleyball lots, basketball courts, and two jogging and fitness trails.

The city campus office will be in the new Campus Recreation/Athletic Facility building and will be open on weekdays from 7:30 a.m. until 5:30 p.m. A satellite office will operate from the East Campus Activities Building and will be open from 11 a.m. until 10 p.m.

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Daily Nebraskan File Photo

Nebraska I-back Ken Clark (32) turns the corner against Texas A&M during the 1988 Kickoff Classic. Despite the football team's success in generating revenue for the Nebraska athletic department, Athletic Director Bob Devaney is concerned about other Cornhusker teams suffering attendance problems.

NU success, Devaney's pride persists

By Jeff Apel
Staff Reporter

Nebraska athletic director Bob Devaney has long been proud of his department's accomplishments, and that pride continues to grow each year.

Devaney said he considers the Nebraska athletic department to be one of the best sports domains in the country because of its overall excellence. The Cornhuskers captured their fifth consecutive mythical combined All-Big Eight sports crown this season by claiming 10 conference titles.

Nebraska earned conference championships in women's cross country, men's and women's indoor

and outdoor track, and men's swimming this season. The Huskers also earned Big Eight titles in men's and women's gymnastics, football and volleyball.

The only blemish this season was the baseball team, which finished last in the seven-team conference race.

"We pretty much dominated the Big Eight in many ways," Devaney said.

Devaney said the Nebraska athletic department prides itself on maintaining an equal balance between men's and women's athletics. Last season, the Huskers fielded nine women's sports teams and participated in 10 men's sports.

Devaney said he has no immediate plans of trimming the number of

women's sports even though Nebraska is battling a budget-balancing problem. He said the Huskers are "stepping up" fund-raising efforts and looking into new ways to raise money in order to combat potential financial woes.

Financial problems and attendance at non-revenue sports are the two areas that concern Devaney the most. The Husker football team has sold out each of its last 161 home football games, but women's teams have had consistent problems drawing fans to their games, as have non-revenue men's teams, such as the wrestling, swimming and diving, and tennis teams.

"We're very proud of our women's sports, even though we have some that don't draw (audiences) very well," Devaney said. "We also have some men's sports that we don't have great attendance at either."

Devaney said Nebraska's athletic department adds to its excellence by contributing to the university. He said the department is currently contributing by financing the second phase of a student recreation center.

Phase II of the center, which includes new basketball courts and a student/faculty lounge, is scheduled to be completed when the fall semester begins. That phase will be connected to the center's first phase, which consisted of an indoor football practice field.

"We've completed some buildings," Devaney said, "and we're hoping to complete some more projects in the future."

Devaney said it is important for the entire athletic department to try to improve. He said Nebraska's athletic department would run the risk of mediocrity if it ever became satisfied with what it had accomplished, and didn't try to improve.

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