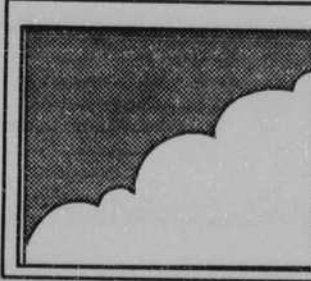


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TODAY'S WEATHER

Partly cloudy with the high around 60 today and a 50 percent chance of afternoon showers. Mostly cloudy to night with the low around 45 and a 40 percent chance of rain. Friday, mostly cloudy with the high in the lower-50s.

ASUN passes bylaws; racial, sexual minorities achieve representation

By Adeana Leftin
Staff Reporter

At its final meeting Wednesday night, this year's ASUN achieved its yearlong goal by creating a new committee and subcommittee to represent racial minorities and gays/lesbians/bisexuals.



Students supporting a bylaw amendment that would have allowed the two committees to have quotas had to settle for a standing Racial Affairs Committee and a Gay/Lesbian/Bisexual Subcommittee, under the authority of the Campus Life Committee.

Legislation failed that would have created a standing Gay/Lesbian/Bisexual Committee.

However, ASUN did pass a bylaw proposed by Teachers College Sen. Steve Thomlison that would create a such a subcommittee on the same level as the disabled and international student subcommittees created on March 6.

Lynn Kister, a member of the gay/lesbian/bisexual community, said she was "really angry" at ASUN's actions.

"I guess they (senators) consider racism a bigger problem than heterosexism on our campus," she said.

Because the committees cannot have quotas, the legislation creating the Racial Affairs Committee "strongly encourages that the following racial perspectives are presented on this committee: African American, Asian American, Caucasian American,

Latino American, Native American."

In a letter to the Association of Students of the University of Nebraska, ASUN President Phil Gosch stated that it was still his opinion that "an appointment process that 'strongly encourages' discrimination will effectively deny membership on the basis of race or sexual orientation."

Gosch said that he thought the appointments were still in violation of the Student Court's decision that quotas for the committees were unconstitutional.

He cited the two subcommittees created for disabled students and international students and said that creating committees at two levels would seem to place more importance on the standing committees.

According to Thomlison, Gosch has eight class days to sign or veto the legislation. If Gosch does nothing in the fewer than eight class days remaining before the new senate is installed, the bill will die.

College of Arts and Sciences Sen. Angela Green co-sponsored the bylaw that would have allowed the committees to have quotas.

When the bylaw failed, Green, another senator and several students at the meeting, walked out.

She said that she was tired of trying to get the committees created and never achieving anything.

Green said she thought many of the senators "copped out" and didn't vote for the bylaw because they were afraid it wouldn't get past the Student Court.

The bylaw that created the Racial Affairs Committee with suggestions on representation was not completely satisfactory to Green.

Attorney: Protesters should be pardoned

By Lisa Donovan
Senior Reporter

Lincoln Mayor Bill Harris should pardon protesters who were arrested for trespassing on city property when they tried to impede the bulldozing of 70 trees in Cooper Park last winter, a Lincoln attorney said.

The Lancaster County District Court found Monday that Cooper Park belongs to the state, not the city, and Miles Johnston Jr., a Lincoln attorney, said that some people have asked him about those who pleaded guilty to trespassing. Johnston has pointed them to Harris.

Last winter, the city decided to change a four-block area of land, at Sixth and D streets, into a recreation area for a school. The project, which involved the felling of 70 trees, was protested by environmentalists who

argued against the city's tree cutting because the land belonged to the state.

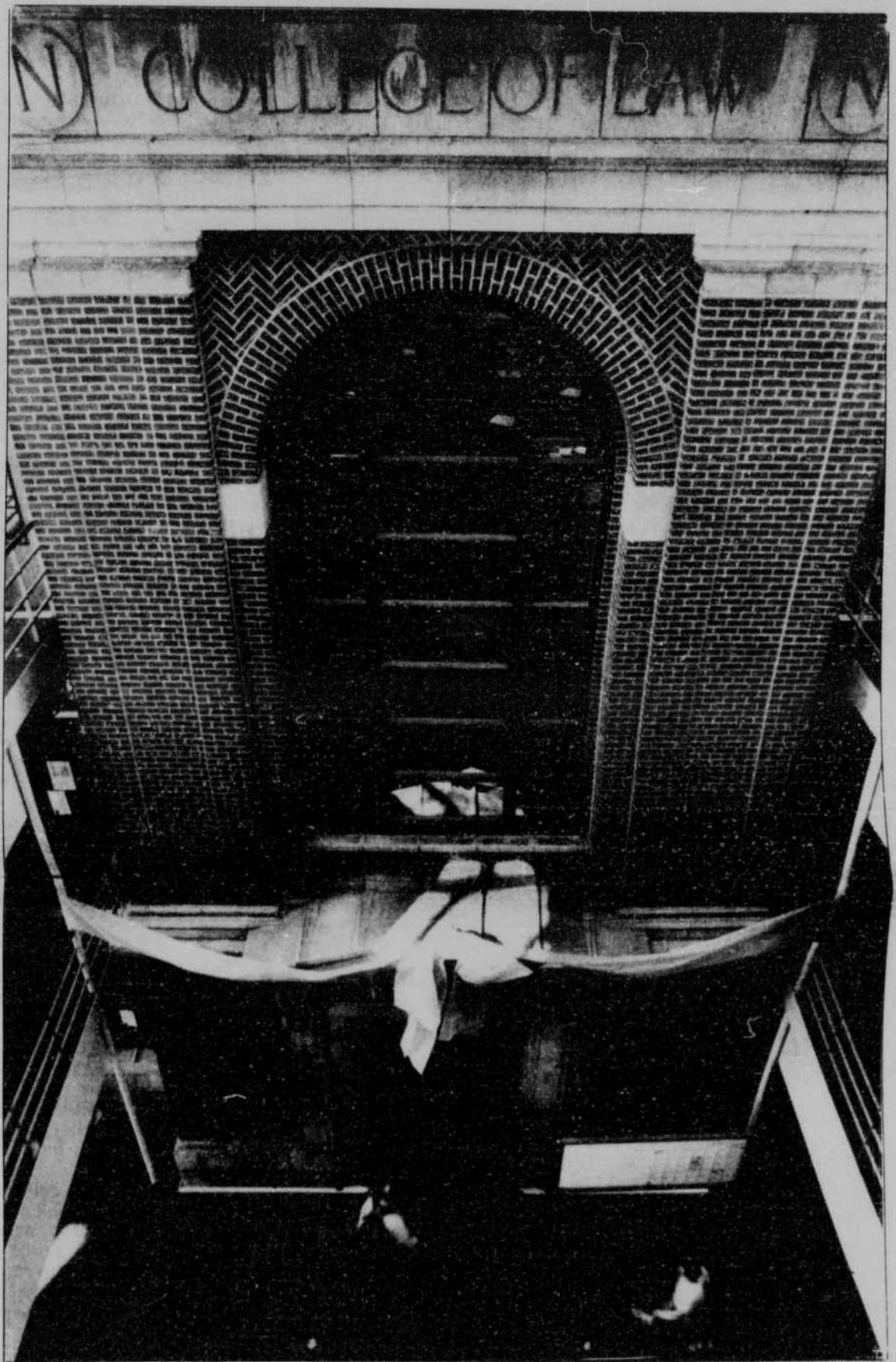
The South Salt Creek Community Organization filed a lawsuit contending that the land belonged to the state, which would have made the city's contract with the school district invalid. The court ruled that the land belonged to the city.

The ruling filed Monday by District Judge Jeffrey Chevront reversed the earlier decision and said the Cooper Park land belongs to the state and not the city.

Chevront said in the ruling that in 1867, a four-square-block area was "platted" to the city and became known as Lincoln Park.

Johnston explained that the "plat" of the then-Lincoln Park was a map transferring the property from the state to the city, but wasn't acknowledged

See COOPER on 3



Joe Heinzie/Daily Nebraskan

A yellow ribbon in Architectural Hall, the former law building, hangs above students making their way to class.

Untie yellow ribbon, student says

By Heather Heinisch
Staff Reporter

The yellow ribbon hung across the face of the former law school building in the College of Architecture has come under fire recently from a student who claims a political statement is being made on state property.

Paul Koester, a junior horticulture

major, said the ribbon shows blind support for U.S. policy in the Persian Gulf.

The ribbon has gone hand-in-hand with support for the war all along, he said, and is putting forth a definite message.

Koester said he wants the ribbon taken down in compliance with the university policy regarding bulletin boards.

According to Koester, the general purpose bulletin board policy states that no poster is to be affixed to any trees, windows, doors, walls, buildings or fence posts. Those who violate the policy are charged the removal fee, he said.

Ray Coffey, University of Nebraska-Lincoln business manager,

See RIBBON on 3

THURSDAY

The United States vows to continue downing Iraqi warplanes. **Page 2.**

Diversions dreams of Spring Break. **Page 5.**

Potential Husker point guard spotted — at intramurals. **Page 13.**

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Environmental resource center waits for space

By Wendy Navratil
Staff Reporter

Availability and accessibility of information are not synonymous when environmental issues are in question, Dave Regan of Ecology Now said of the motivation behind opening an environmental resource center in the Nebraska Union.

Actually getting space in the union appears to be the project's only hitch.

"We want to create one place people could come to for answers about the environment. The key is accessibility. It all depends on the

Union Board," said Regan, the project organizer. "There's a shortage of space — everybody wants some."

Ecology Now, the Biology Club-Tri Beta, the Natural Resources Law Society and the Wildlife Club are teaming up to form the Operations Committee, which will oversee the development of the resource center.

Regan and the presidents of each of the four groups met with Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs James Griesen and University of Nebraska Foundation representative Kevin Meyer on Wednesday night to examine and discuss a preliminary agreement to establish a fund for

the environmental resource center through the foundation.

The group plans to reassemble April 3 to sign a final agreement after the preliminary version is approved and possibly revised by the foundation's attorney.

Regan said establishing a fund through the foundation would enable private donors to obtain tax deductions on donations to the resource center. According to foundation criteria, these donated funds could not be used to support lobbying efforts or what Regan called "overtly

See ENVIRONMENT on 3