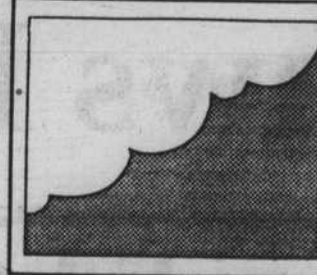


# Daily Nebraskan

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## TODAY'S WEATHER

53/38

Today, mostly cloudy. Tonight, cloudy with a 30 percent chance of rain. Tuesday, cloudy with a 20 percent chance of rain. High in the upper 40s.

# Space capsule trade decision postponed

By Adeana Leftin  
Senior Reporter  
and Dionne Searcey  
Senior Editor

The University of Nebraska Board of Regents voted Friday to table a decision to exchange the Apollo 009 capsule until its December meeting.

The university had announced Wednesday that the craft, which was used in a sub-orbital test flight Feb. 26, 1966, would be traded to the Kansas Cosmosphere and Space Center in Hutchinson, Kan., in exchange for space artifacts valued at \$1.5 million.

Max Ary, director of the cosmosphere, said he is confused by the

“Whoever ends up with the responsibility to restore the craft must do it within weeks.”

Ary  
director of the Kansas Cosmosphere and Space Center

regents' decision because he has a signed copy of a trade agreement.

"I'd think a signed contract would determine that a trade would be made," he said.

But J.B. Milliken, University of Nebraska corporation secretary, said the contract is not valid until it receives the regents' approval. University policy states that the regents must approve all contracts exceeding \$100,000 in property, he said.

Milliken said he did not know if

Ary could take legal action if the regents decided against the trade.

Bill Splinter, interim vice chancellor for research and dean of graduate studies, said the university wants to keep the capsule but can not afford the \$200,000 to \$400,000 cost to renovate it or to build proper storage for it.

Since NASA donated the craft to UNL in 1972, the craft slowly has deteriorated from exposure to the elements, Splinter said.

"It was as if we left one of our elephant skeletons on the mall," he said.

Ary said that if university officials continue delaying plans to restore the Apollo 009, the space capsule could become damaged beyond repair.

Another Nebraska winter could destroy the space capsule, Ary said.

"Whoever ends up with the responsibility to restore the craft must do it within weeks," he said.

Milliken said campus officials are

concerned about the condition of the craft and won't attempt to keep the capsule unless it can be repaired.

At the board meeting, Regent Margaret Robinson of Norfolk said the artifacts offered by the cosmosphere could not take the place of the capsule.

"This is a piece of history that we should keep on our campus," she said.

Robinson said the university should attempt to raise money to restore and properly house the Apollo before giving it up.

Ary said the cosmosphere is the only facility that has ever successfully restored a spacecraft similar to the Apollo 009.

Because of the university's delay in making the trade, he said, the cosmosphere has already lost two grants that would finance the restoration.

## Speaker says racist beliefs on rise

Denial of racism sustains racism, professor says

By Wendy Mott  
Staff Reporter

The resurgence of the belief in white supremacy is not the delusion of a crazy black woman but a reality, an author said Saturday in the Nebraska Union.

Bell hooks, a professor of English and women's studies at Oberlin College in Oberlin, Ohio, and the author of several feminist books, addressed an audience of about 250 people in her speech "Gender, Race, and Representation" sponsored by the University of Nebraska-Lincoln's Women's Studies department.

Claims by both white and black people that racism and racist assaults no longer exist only serve to perpetuate a racist society, hooks said.

Hooks said she studies the representation of whiteness in the black imagination. Although no official body of black academics or anthropologists has been formed to study the black idea of whiteness, she said, black people have shared

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Robin Trimarchi/DN

Bell hooks, a professor at Oberlin College, talks about her study of whiteness in the black imagination at the Nebraska Union Saturday night.

## Regents delay plans to buy new computer for records

By Wendy Navratil  
Senior Reporter

The University of Nebraska-Lincoln must shelve until next month plans to seek bids for a new student information computer system.

The NU Board of Regents, after sitting through an 8-hour meeting, decided Friday to postpone discussion on the UNL proposal for a new student information system until December.

But progress was made toward revamping the university's computer system with approval for the purchase of a new mainframe computer for the entire university system.

The \$2.5 million mainframe system will replace the current mainframe used by all University of Nebraska campuses.

"The (current) mainframe is running at about 95 to 100 percent capacity," said James Van Horn, associate vice president for administration. "Red-line on a computer is 90 percent."

Van Horn said the integration of the University of Nebraska at Kearney into the NU system put a strain on the mainframe, which contains the university-wide accounting system; the human resource system, including payroll and

See COMPUTER on 3

# Senator says loan plan needs support

By Jeremy Fitzpatrick  
Senior Reporter

University and student support is needed for a proposed direct federal loan program that could allow "tens of thousands and possibly hundreds of thousands of more people to go to college," said Sen. Paul Simon, D-Ill.

Simon said in a phone interview last week that his proposed Income-Dependant Education Assistance program, which has stalled in the Senate, needs collegiate support.

"If we can get the higher education community and students behind it, there is a good chance (of passage)," he said.

The IDEA program, which Simon engineered with Sen. David Durenberger, R-Minn., would change the student loan system to eliminate banks

## Funding, centralization of program might be problems, UNL official says

as the link between the government and students. In the IDEA system, students would be granted loans directly from the government instead of from banks, and would make their payments to the Internal Revenue Service following graduation.

Any student would be eligible for an IDEA loan, regardless of income. Beginning in the 1994-95 academic year, students could receive up to \$6,500 a year for their first two years of school, and \$8,000 a year for their last two years. Graduate students could receive up to \$11,000 a year.

John Beacon, director of admissions and director of scholarships and financial aid at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, said he philosophically supports direct loan programs but has reservations about Simon's proposal.

"If it's going to put more money in the hands of students, I would be in favor of it," he said.

But Beacon said he is concerned about several administrative aspects of implementing a direct loan program.

Losing the ability to deal with the loans locally is one problem, he said, because it would be more difficult for students to work with the federal government than with lending institutions.

"It's just not as localized," he said.

Funding is another issue, Beacon said, because about 9,300 lending institutions nationwide provide money for student loans.

If the government steps in and takes on that responsibility, he said, "where will (it) get the money?"

The IDEA plan, if passed, would be part of the reauthorization of the Higher Education Act. The Senate Labor and Human Resources Committee has approved the Higher Education Act but not the IDEA plan.

Simon said he now plans to introduce the bill as an amendment to the Higher Education Act when it comes up before the full Senate. That probably will happen in early January, he said.

The primary opposition to the bill has come from the banks that would be eliminated from the student loan system, Simon said. Opposition has also come from Secretary of Education Lamar Alexander.

"Interestingly, (Bush administration officials) originally talked about it," Simon said, "and obviously they got scared off by the banks."

The president's support is still possible, though, Simon said.

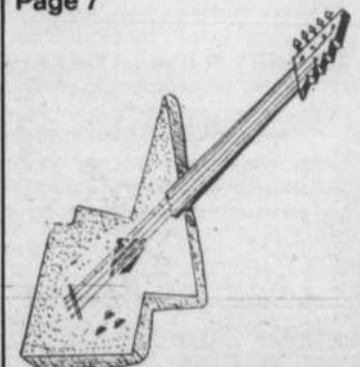
"If we pass a good strong bill, I don't think the president will want to veto it a year before an election."

## MONDAY

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NU speeds to victory. Page 3

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