

# Daily Nebraskan

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University of Nebraska-Lincoln

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TODAY'S WEATHER

48/37

Today, breezy and cooler with a 70 percent chance of rain, northwest winds 15 to 30 mph. Tonight, 70 percent chance of rain mixing with snow. Tuesday, 30 percent chance of showers, high of 45 to 50.

## Collective's role was clear, official says

### Former member says dissolving board premature

By Alan Phelps  
Senior Editor

Tradition and administrative mistakes may have led members of the Women's Resource Center Collective to believe they were in charge of the WRC, an official said, but the bottom line is the collective cannot be the governing body.

Peg Blake, executive assistant to the vice chancellor for student affairs and a member of the WRC advisory board, said the board might have made a mistake when it began to discuss the roles for the coordinator, advisory board and collective, which was requested in a Feb. 26 memo by James Griesen, vice chancellor for student affairs.

"The vice chancellor is ultimately responsible, and he outlined the roles very clearly," she said. "There wasn't room for negotiation on that point. The advisory board made a mistake in attempting to see if there was any room for compromise."

Blake said that as an advisory board, she and the other members failed to perform the task assigned to them.

The advisory board was dissolved by Campus Activities and Programs director Marilyn Bugenhagen April

12, because of disagreements over who was in charge of the WRC — the university-appointed coordinator or the collective, the student group that began the WRC in the 1970s. A new board will be appointed in the fall.

Helen Moore, a professor of sociology and women's studies and a member of the dissolved board, said the advisory board had been working through Griesen's outline on the roles of the coordinator, and an agreement on the roles would have been possible.

She called Bugenhagen's action "premature."

"This had not been fully debated or discussed," she said. "We were right at that point in agenda."

"The pessimism was not on part of the advisory board."

But Blake was pessimistic about what the board could have accomplished. She said board members had agreed on what role the advisory board would play, but disagreed on the collective's role.

It was plain that "very stark differences" existed in the ways board members viewed the collective, she said.

Blake said some board members believed the collective and the WRC were one and the same.

"We were spending an inordinate amount of time and seemed to be getting very little accomplished," she said. "I don't think we would've been

See WOMEN on 3

## CBA to eliminate credit for computer course

By Mindy L. Leiter  
Staff Reporter

The College of Business Administration will no longer award college credit for its beginning computer classes because personal computer use has become more common among undergraduates, the college's dean said.

Gary Schwendiman said the four hours of college credit given for computer classes taken through CBA would be eliminated Aug. 29.

Next year, Schwendiman said, students in the college will be required to take a written and practical computer proficiency exam to graduate.

"This is a more efficient way to do things," he said. "It allows students with computer experience to move ahead more rapidly and gives students an alternative to their education."

He said the resolution was passed unanimously by faculty, who thought the college "should have done this

years ago."

The college will use the exam over the summer to determine whether it is a valid trial of a student's competence with computers, he said.

But Schwendiman said he thought the elimination of the computer course was the "wave of the future."

The computer now is what the slide ruler or calculator was in the past — an educational tool that has become standard for all students, he said.

Schwendiman said the college would encourage students to take the proficiency exam in their first year at UNL.

Students who fail the exam can:

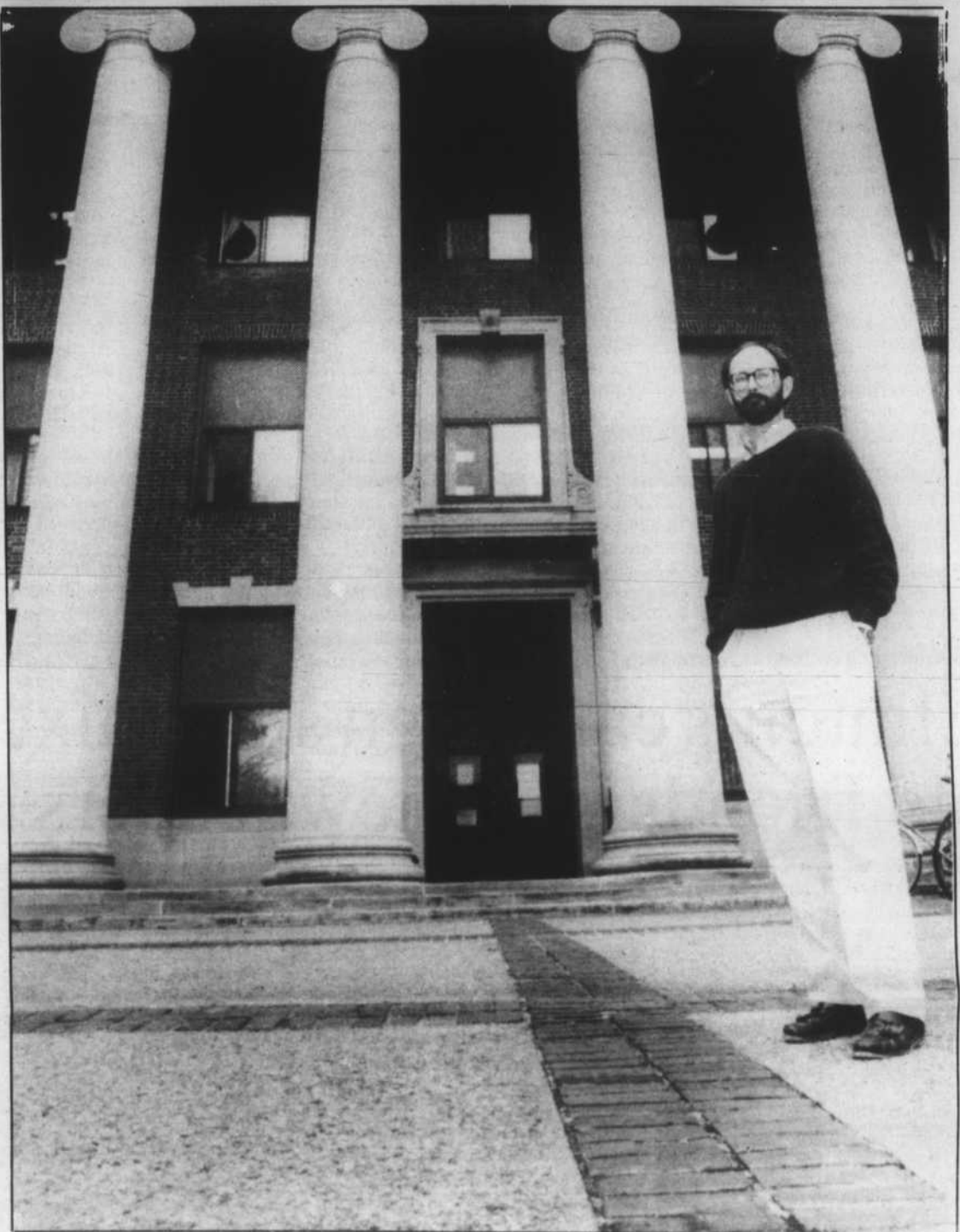
- Take the CBA computer course or a course offered by a community college to help them pass the exam.

- Use computers in computer labs to gain experience.

- Learn how to use computers through self-teaching packets.

Students who pass the proficiency

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Shaun Sartin/DN

John Anderson, an economics professor at UNL, says the Nebraska Legislature's tax plan will solve the problems at hand. "It's like a lot of tax policy," he said. "It's not by any means elegant or beautiful, but it would do the job."

## Tax talk

### Professor brings economic skills to UNL

By Jeremy Fitzpatrick  
Senior Reporter

UNL economics professor John Anderson compares tax policy formulation to sausage making: One really doesn't want to see how it's done or what goes into it, but what comes out often tastes good.

Anderson should know. He has the unique perspective that comes from having been involved in both the academic study

and actual creation of tax policy. Anderson has been an economics professor since 1977, and he spent two years — from 1985 to 1987 — as Michigan's deputy state treasurer. He was appointed to the office to head the state's Tax Policy Office and serve as the governor's tax-policy adviser.

Anderson's job was to study Michigan's tax system and anticipate any problems that could surface — such as the ones Nebraska is experiencing. His office worked to provide the governor with future options on tax policy and estimate the results of those options.

"We didn't have to go from brush fire to brush fire just reacting

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## UNL sponsors mentor program

By Mindy L. Leiter  
Staff Reporter

A mentorship program sponsored by UNL and coordinated by the Lincoln Public Schools seeks to harness the talents of gifted elementary and junior high students, said a university student involved in the program.

Steve Holliday, a junior mathematics major at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, said the mentors were used to enrich the curriculums of gifted students and work with them at an accelerated rate.

"We get the regular curriculum, and we go faster, with broader study and resources," he said.

Mentors work with students one-on-one every day during the school year, Holliday said, and

they are required to have at least 15 hours of college credit in whatever subject they tutor.

Michael Radelich, a doctoral candidate in English, said mentors tried to take their students about two years ahead of their classmates.

Tim Erickson, a UNL graduate with a degree in German, agreed.

"We don't try to push them, but their interests alone are different," he said. "They have talent, and we want to develop that talent."

"We don't want to deny their interests or abilities."

Holliday said he tried to inject reasoning skills into the learning process of his students.

"I try to get the students to work with logic puzzles, board games, chess, Othello," he said.

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