## Cuts come at bad time, officials say

By Susie Arth Senior Reporter

Gov. Ben Nelson's proposal to cut state appropriations to the University of Nebraska may trip NU just as it was beginning to regain its footing, an official said.

NU President Martin Massengale said the proposed cuts came just as the university was beginning to recover from budget cuts in the mid-1980s.

"We had just reclaimed lost ground," he said, "and now we're looking at more cuts."

Joe Rowson, director of public affairs at NU, said the budget cuts in the mid-1980s were especially difficult because they came in the middle of the fiscal year.

Plans for maintenance and new

POLICE REPORT Beginning midnight Wednesday

8:25 a.m. - False fire alarm, Abel

11:20 a.m. - Wallet stolen,

between two men, Nebraska Union. 3:58 p.m. — Backpack stolen, Ne-

4:32 p.m. - Hit-and-run accident, parking lot at 14th and Avery streets, \$400.

7:16 p.m. - Two-vehicle, non-

injury accident, 400 University Terrace, \$450.

vehicle, parking lot at 17th and

10:15 p.m. — Two-vehicle, non-

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- \$258 stolen from

Neihardt Residence Hall, \$32. 3:10 p.m. — Verbal disturbance

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braska Union, \$140.

7:50 p.m.

Court streets.

injury accident, \$600.

said. But the most significant result of the 1980s cuts, he said, was NU falling behind its peer institutions in fac-

ulty salaries.
"I'd hate to see the pattern we went through in the mid-1980s resurface,"

After the series of cuts ended, Rowson said, the university's first goal was to increase faculty salaries so that it could become competitive with its peers.

"The university regained its posi-tion in terms of salaries," he said, and it was just beginning to get back on track with deferred maintenance and supplies.

The new budget cuts again are hitting during the middle of the fiscal year, Rowson said, and they will af-

supplies had to be put off, Rowson includes maintenance and supplies. Massengale said mid-year budget cuts were especially painful.
Salaries cannot be decreased dur-

ing the middle of a year, he said, because faculty are already teaching courses. Therefore, maintenance and supplies purchases must wait, he said.

Nelson's proposal also called for a two-year delay in university capital construction projects, including renovation of the Arts and Sciences Building at UNO and construction of additional classrooms at UNK.

But Rowson said Massengale proposed a plan that would begin construction as scheduled, but delay the repayment of the construction bonds.

Rowson said Massengale was hoping to take advantage of low interest rates and stretch the repayment of the fect NU's operational budget, which bonds over a longer period of time.

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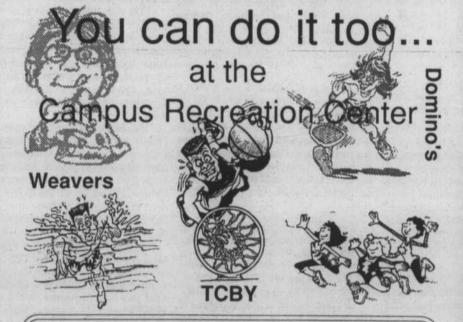
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