

discovery

economy

make sure everything is up to par.

And research itself helps keep teaching up to par, according to Splinter. As the state's land-grant university, education and research are part of NU's mission.

The key is to find the right balance.

At institutions with primarily a teaching mission, such as the state colleges, professors must teach full time, Splinter said. A professor working on a project cannot spend as much time on his students.

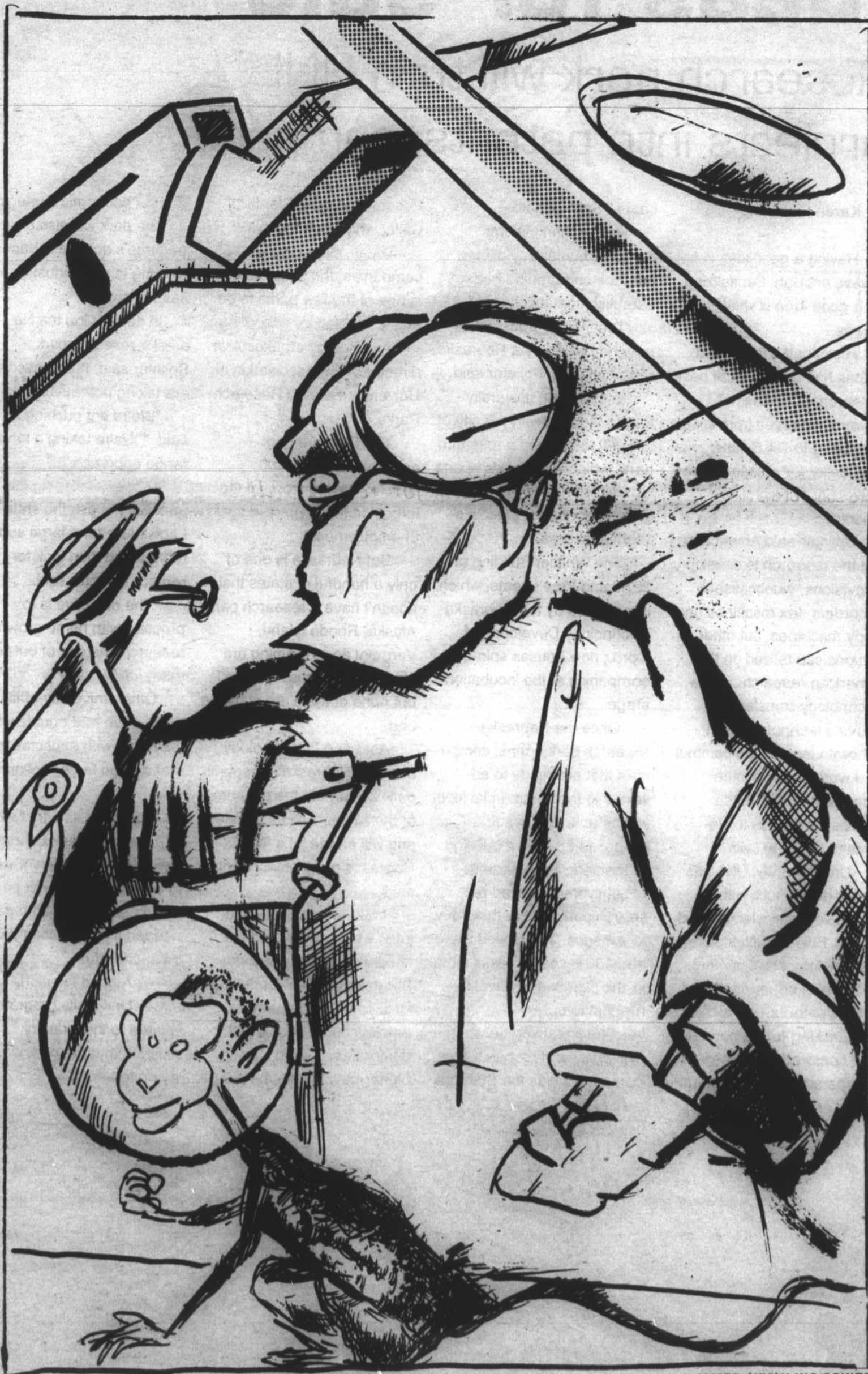
On the flip side, universities like the Massachusetts Institute of Technology devote more time to pure research than lower level courses.

Because of NU's mission, "we're ... responsible not only to teach a course, but to develop the next level of knowledge that goes into teaching the next course," Splinter said. "State colleges are limited to what's already in the book."

However, Splinter said research "should not be regarded as a handicap." Rather, discovery is just the vehicle to take the University of Nebraska into the 21st century.

"Research has no predictable end point," Splinter said.

Neither does NU.



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