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Shaun Sartin/ DN

Construction workers continue work at the Beadle Center Wednesday. Heavy rains during the summer have delayed the construction of the Genetics and Biomaterials Research facility.

## Muddy conditions delay project

By Jeremy Fitzpatrick  
Editor

Heavy rains this summer delayed construction on UNL's George W. Beadle Center for Genetics and Biomaterials Research and caused the contractor to ask for more time to complete the project.

Howard Parker, the University of Nebraska-Lincoln's project manager for the center, said rain over the summer caused muddy site conditions and delayed the pouring of concrete for the center's walls and floors.

The muddy conditions made it difficult to get equipment onto the construction site and hard to use once it was there, he said.

"It's been like a mud bath," he said. "It's difficult to bring equipment up to the site and to move equipment up to and around the

building."

The pouring of the center's concrete walls and floors also was delayed, Parker said, because concrete cannot be poured in the rain.

Parker said the center's builder — Builders, Inc. of Lincoln — has twice asked UNL to grant a construction delay because of the weather. The first request came on April 16, Parker said, and the second came July 19.

A delay would give Builder's Inc. extra time to complete the project without being penalized for finishing past the contract date.

Parker said UNL would grant a delay, but he was not sure how long it would be. The university is waiting to grant the delay until Builder's Inc. receives National Weather Service data on the days it is asking UNL to consider, he said.

The Beadle Center is now about

25 percent completed, Parker said. Original plans for the center called for it to have been about 40 percent done at this point, he said.



"The original contract's completion date was July 6, 1994," he said. "It remains to be seen what it will be when we get the weather service information, and we get the delay time."

The next obstacle the contractor faces, Parker said, is getting ready for the winter cold.

"The contractor is working as hard as possible to enclose as much of the construction by the time that winter weather sets in so they can work in an enclosed building," he said. "They are installing exterior walls right now wherever they can, and they are trying to finish as much of the concrete reinforced brick before the winter weather sets in."

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