



Jon Waller/DN

Jerry Williams of Husker Glass Co. works on the skywalk at 12th and O streets.

## O Street upgrades continuing

By Tasha Ludwig  
Staff Reporter

While a new skywalk between 12th and 13th streets may be the most visible sign of improvements along O Street, a separate project by the Parks and Recreation Administration is working to beautify the area.

The O Street Beautification Project, sponsored by the parks administration, is scheduled to be complete by July and will include landscaping and a new sidewalk. The project also will include a hiker/biker trail on West P Street, said Larry Group of the Parks and Recreation Administration.

While the Downtown Lincoln

Association's skywalk was funded with bond issue money set aside by voters, \$70,000 to \$80,000 worth of state and federal grants fund the beautification project.

"Its purpose is to beautify circulation patterns," Group said.

The project has been in the works for 10 to 15 years, and includes landscaping as well as complete realignment of the curbing for the two-mile stretch from First Street to NW 22nd Street. That stretch of West O is a major entrance to Lincoln.

"This whole community has been neglected. The purpose is to give a nice entrance (into the city)," Group said.

Group said he and the task force

created to investigate landscaping possibilities had realized there were many potential problems.

The placement of underground utility lines has been recognized as a potential problem, he said, because the beautification project calls for the planting of various trees and shrubs along O Street behind the sidewalk.

Landscaping on West P Street will take place later, depending on funds available, Group said.

Although the project is scheduled to be completed by July, the planting of the trees and shrubs will not take place until fall, at the earliest, with the spring of 1996 being more probable.

## Wages

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wages.

The Association of Students of the University of Nebraska is considering the unions' budget. CFA has recommended a 5 percent increase for the wages.

The Campus Recreation Center also requested an increase for student wages from CFA, but was denied. Griesen said Campus Rec may rebudget to pay for increases, but it was too soon to tell.

Griesen said that in housing, the wage increases were going to positions that were harder to fill, such as food service. He said housing had few problems filling positions that did not require manual labor.

Katie Sweeney, an I.D. checker in Selleck Hall, said she worked on campus for many reasons, including convenience.

"You get to know a lot the people that come in," said Sweeney, a freshman international affairs major. "People come up to you on campus and say 'hey, checkout girl.'"

Sweeney said she did not mind

*"You get to know a lot the people that come in. People come up to you on campus and say 'hey, checkout girl.'"*

**KATIE SWEENEY**

Freshman international affairs major

working in the residence halls for lower pay, but said she would come back because of the pay increase.

In the Nebraska Unions, the raises would be for all student workers starting at the minimum wage, Swanson said. With the CFA increase, he said, the unions would start all student employees at \$4.50 an hour.

Swanson said the intent of the 10 percent increase was to raise student wages at all levels. He said increasing the lowest wage would help compress the area between it and the next

wage level.

Jobs in the unions starting at the lowest pay include information desk workers, student custodians and recreation area workers, such as those at the bowling alley on east campus, Swanson said.

Wages across campus are rising to combat the loss of student workers to the fast-food restaurants, Swanson said.

"We're not isolated by this," he said.

## Squirrels

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for electrical wires.

Cars that are rarely used and in storage are the most likely victims for squirrel damage. But he said it was unusual for a squirrel to build a nest in a car, especially one that was driven every day. Squirrels usually build nests in tree cavities.

"It sounds like a misaligned squirrel," he said.

Now that administrators don't have assigned parking, Mulnix and Currin don't park in the "lot by the big oak tree" where Mulnix's car attracted the baby squirrels.

On Monday afternoon, the lot by the oak tree was empty. Three squirrel nests were visible from the ground.

Perched on an overhanging branch, a single brown squirrel sat washing its tail, peering down at the lot below.

The squirrel did not respond to questions.

Mulnix said his feelings for squirrels were indifferent, but he felt attached to the three squirrels in a "fatherly way."

After the incident, Currin said he was never contacted by the squirrels.

"They never sent me a birth announcement," he said. "I felt kind of bad I wasn't included, but I understand."

This spring, to avoid serving as maternity ward for the squirrel family, Currin said he would put a "No vacancy" sign under his van.

"I hope they can read English."

## Views on environment subject of new class

By Stacie Renner  
Staff Reporter

Imagine nearly 200 "tree-huggers and environment rapers" trying to understand each others' views.

That's exactly what the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources is trying to do through a new class.

Agricultural Sciences 103, in its first year, is designed to give students an overview of agricultural sciences and natural resources, agronomy professor Rick Waldren said.

All agricultural science and natural resource majors are required to take the class, and about 190 students are enrolled. The class touches on issues such as animal rights, fisheries and wildlife, conservation and water rights.

"We now have agricultural science and natural resource degrees so we want to develop a course to show the commonalities," Waldren said.

Often, he said, the groups view each other as "tree-huggers" and "environment rapers," but they aren't all that different.

The departments of forestry, fisheries and wildlife, biological systems engineering, animal science, plant pathology, horticulture, agronomy and agricultural communications are represented by their departments' instructors.

There has never been a class that required all studies, which was a concern of the faculty, Waldren said. Faculty, rather than graduate assis-

tants, teach the course, for the most part.

The class involves no structured testing. Grades are based on attendance and assignments inside and outside of the classroom. Waldren said the class was supposed to foster dialogue and debate.

"Most of our classes in the college are content-oriented so we want to show them the big picture," Waldren said.

*"We now have agricultural science and natural resource degrees so we want to develop a course to show the commonalities."*

**RICK WALDREN**  
agronomy professor

Betsy Dierberger, assistant instructor in the agronomy department, said lectures addressed topics that students might already know about.

The class received an unenthusiastic response from some students. Some said the structure was too

loose.

"Don't just give A's for sitting there," said Matt Hasenauer, a junior agricultural education major. Hasenauer said grades besides those for attendance would help.

Travis Fries said a textbook would be useful, maybe even quizzes.

But he said the class was beneficial.

"It shows all the different views of things we need to be aware of. It's made for us to make our own judgments of things," Fries said.

Tony Kaufman, a sophomore biological systems engineering major, said the class was all common knowledge.

Adam Olson, freshman agricultural business major, agreed.

"It wasted my time," he said.

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