

# Officials ponder sites for parking garages

By Catherine Blalock  
Staff Reporter

As parking problems on the University of Nebraska-Lincoln campus increase, university officials are talking about how to solve them.

Parking garages may be an answer. Paul Carlson, interim vice chancellor for business and finance, said, "Two parking garages are being considered, one for visitor parking and another for the athletic department, faculty and commuter students."

Three sites are being considered for a visitor parking garage, Carlson said.

One site is east of the Nebraska Union next to the Alpha Phi sorority house, another is west of the union and the third is south of the union.

"None of the sites are viable in their present situation," Carlson said.

A plan forwarded to the NU Board of Regents in January suggests that a \$5.5 million, 450-space parking garage be built between the Nebraska Union and Alpha Phi Sorority.

Chancellor Graham Spanier pulled the item off the regents' agenda, but it's still being considered.

Bob Sezker, spokesman for the Historical Society, said increased traf-

fic, employee parking and access to the building's loading docks were areas of concern.

But a solution could be found.

Employees would be able to park in the garage, Carlson said.

Kim Todd, campus landscape architect, said the society would still be able to use its loading dock.

Before a parking garage could be built east of the union, it would have to be made accessible to both the Historical Society and the Alpha Phi Sorority, Carlson said.

The site south of the union would depend on the cost.

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**PAUL CARLSON**  
Interim Vice Chancellor  
Business and Finance

It would require either buying out the Wendy's building or buying out its lease, he said.

The site west of the union would require rerouting the utilities, which would cost one-half to three-quarters of a million dollars, said Carlson.

A parking garage there would have to be decreased from the proposed 450 stalls to 300 to 350.

There would still be some parking left on the east side, and some landscaping would be done to enhance the

looks of the area, Carlson said.

A decision at this time is on hold, but it will be an economical one for all involved, he said.

Parking fees are not contributing to funds for the garage. They are being used to provide free bus transportation to and from anywhere in Lincoln, to put more lights in the parking lots on both campuses and to resurface parking lots.

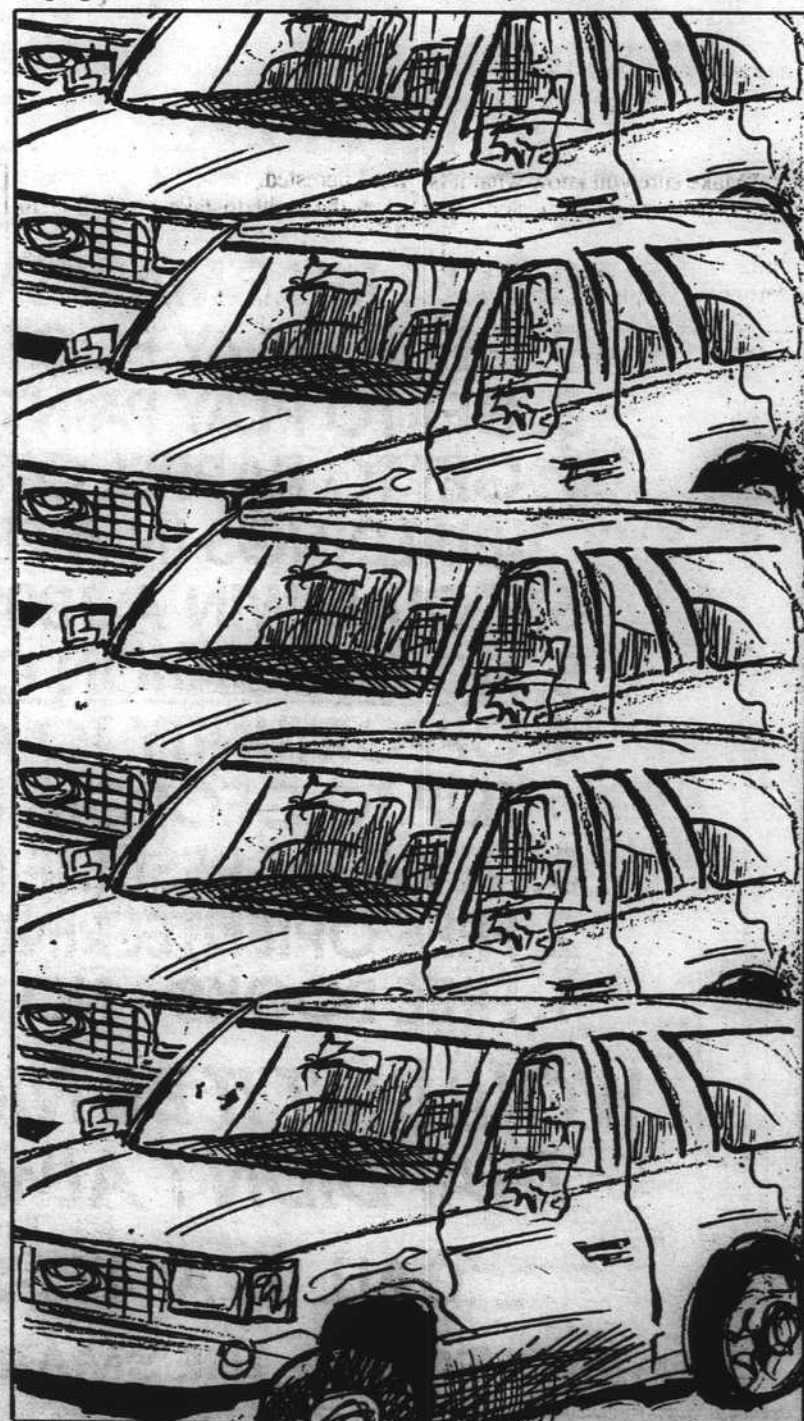
Parking lots located between Vine street and R street will be resurfaced this summer, Carlson said.

Plans for a parking garage near the stadium between 9th and 10th streets and T and U streets is being discussed. It would provide parking for the athletic department, faculty and commuter students. Commuter students will be charged a fee, but the amount is unknown at this time, he said.

"It cannot exist without a huge subsidy from the athletic department," Carlson said.

No figures or any decisions have been made yet, he said.

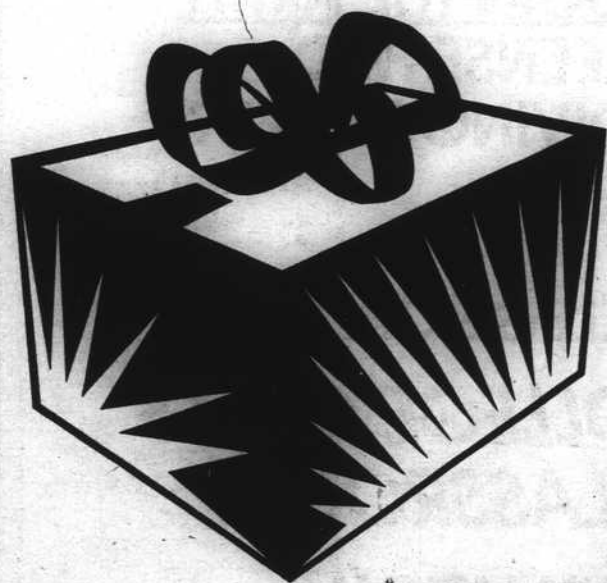
A visitor parking garage would not be feasible at that location because visitors are not going to park by the stadium and walk to the union, a building which they cannot see from the stadium, Carlson said.



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