

# ASUN supports construction of stadium

By **VERONICA DAEHN**  
Staff writer

ASUN senators may have helped take more students out to the ball game Wednesday night when they passed a bill in support of the construction of a new baseball and softball complex.

The complex would be home to the University of Nebraska-Lincoln men's baseball team, the women's softball team and a minor league professional baseball team.

The baseball stadium would seat up to 5,000 people.

City-owned land west of Interstate 80 would be the site of the new complex.

Association of Students of the University of

Nebraska President Andy Schuerman said the NU Board of Regents will vote Friday on whether the project should be approved.

"I've been talking to students (about it) and getting a feel for how I should vote," Schuerman said.

Senators passed a bill saying ASUN would endorse this project as long as student fees, state taxes or tuition were not used for funding.

The \$29.5 million project would be the result of three entities working together - UNL, the city of Lincoln and NEBCO Inc., a private firm.

Associate Vice Chancellor for Business and Finance Scott Lewis said if approved, Lincoln would pay \$12.83 million, and NEBCO would pay \$6.1 million.

UNL would pay \$10.6 million, most of which

will be garnered through private donations, Lewis said.

The Athletic Department would use its operating funds to pay the remainder.

"No student fees, tuition dollars or state funds would be used," Lewis said.

Because the complex would be located across a four-lane highway, Schuerman said, shuttles or trains would be looked at as an option to transport students to the stadium.

So far, student fees used for parking are not being considered to fund the parking lot that would accompany the complex.

Schuerman said even if the regents approve the project Friday, UNL will still be able to "pull out of the deal" up until next March.

The complex would be completed by March 1,

2001, Lewis said, in time for a men's baseball game and women's softball game to be played that day.

The college baseball and softball seasons would not interfere with the professional minor league, Lewis said.

College games are done by the time the professional season starts.

The current baseball field would be used as a practice site to avoid conflicts in scheduling, he said.

Cody Northrop, College of Engineering and Technology senator, said he thinks the complex is a good idea.

"I like it because I think we could use it, and Lincoln could use it," Northrop said. "A lot of teams (share stadiums)."

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