

Daily Nebraskan

Is there a side of Frank Solich we don't know? An in-depth look at the Husker head man
In Sports Thursday/14



The first edition of the petaluma watson series opens with a confessional of beauty
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UNL professor doesn't just teach art history -- she writes it
In Arts/8



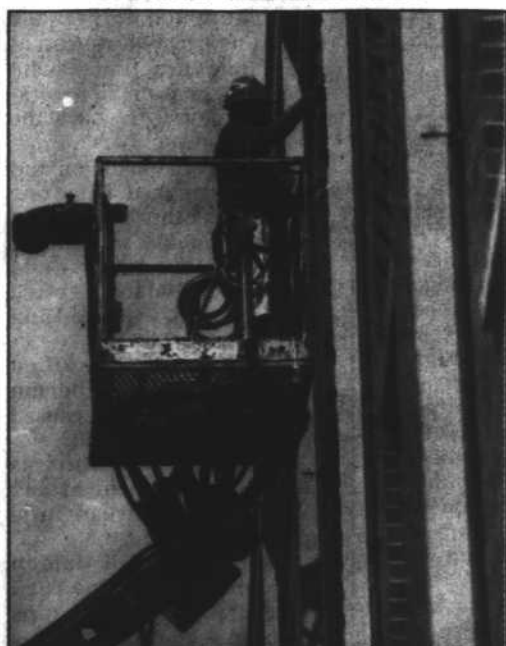
Carlos Sotoc of Denver scrapes excess plaster from the interior walls of the Kauffman Residential Center on Wednesday. The \$14.7 million building that will house the J.D. Edwards Honors Program should be completed in February.



Photos by Steven Bender/DN

constructing COZY

STORY BY GEORGE GREEN



Construction work continues on the Kauffman Residential Center, a building that will house the J.D. Edwards Honors Program. Some classes are expected to begin in the building in the spring, with students moving in next fall.

Brainy building open in February

Some computer science and business honors students will have a new home next fall, if construction plans on the Esther L. Kauffman Academic Residential Center continue on schedule.

The Kauffman Center, directly north of the Nebraska Union, houses the J.D. Edwards Honors Program in Computer Science and Management.

Construction crews will finish work on the exterior of the building at the end of September, and the entire facility will be done in February, said Laura Antczak, assistant director of recruitment for the J.D. Edwards program.

Students will not move in to the building until next fall, but in February classes will be held in the building and administrators and staff will begin working in it, Antczak said.

The finished building will house 116 students in 58 suites, Antczak said.

Each freshman suite houses two students and contains a private bathroom. Sophomore suites have two private bedrooms. Junior and senior suites contain two private bedrooms, a living room, a bedroom and a kitchenette, Antczak said.

The building will also have classrooms, break rooms, a presentation and speech lab, a writing lab, a great hall for dining and two state-of-the-art computer labs, said Steven Dunbar, Founding Director of the J.D. Edwards Honors Program.

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J.D. Edwards Honors Program director

to prepare students to use information technology to meet the challenges of the industry in the 21st century," Dunbar said.

J.D. Edwards offers undergraduate and graduate curriculum and a three-week summer camp for 50 high school students entering their senior year, Antczak said.

Sixteen undergraduates and eight graduate students entered the program last year and 32 undergraduates, along with 15 graduate students, entered this fall, Antczak said.

Undergraduate applicants must score a 30 or above on the ACT or 1340 or above on the SAT, have a 3.5 high school grade point average and be in the top 10 percent of their graduating class, said Antczak.

Program participants receive a full-ride scholarship, which pays for room and board, fees and tuition, Dunbar said.

"We want to produce top-quality graduates who combine business knowledge and computing fundamentals," Antczak said.

'Nebraska' song canned for now

BY JILL ZEMAN

For the past four years, students dutifully rose at football games, commencement ceremonies and convocations to sing the lyrics, "Nebraska! Nebraska!"

But not anymore. The alma mater, "Nebraska," will no longer be referred to as the university's alma mater.

The decision was made by Interim Chancellor Harvey Perlman, who said he decided to give the song a break because he felt it wasn't respected the way an alma mater should be.

"My impression was that a lot of people reacted negatively, laughed at it and were indifferent," Perlman said.

The song's lyrics were penned by former chancellor James Moeser, and the tune was written by Omaha musician Chip Davis, of Mannheim Steamroller fame.

Moeser ended his term in July 2000, to accept a position as chancellor at the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill.

"I think (Moeser) had a good idea, but it never caught on," Perlman said.

The concept of an alma mater seemed outdated to Perlman, especially when students didn't take it seriously, he said.

"I have never been in a circumstance (where the song was played) where people were not laughing, or even seriously participating in it," he said.

Perlman said he has no plans to choose a new alma mater song.

The song was played at the Spring 2000 commencement ceremony, but the university band did not perform the tune at the summer commencement ceremony or at the new student convocation.

But the convocation wasn't entirely void of the alma mater, as it was played during a video that displayed different aspects of campus, said Sally Buchholz, interim director of public relations.

Buchholz said the song was not entirely removed from the university's play list; rather it will be reserved to use at "special occasions."

This means the song can be

played by request for any event, but it will not be automatically included in ceremonies, she said.

Association of Students of the University of Nebraska president Joel Schafer said he thought Perlman made a good decision by removing the alma mater status of the tune.

"The song wasn't very popular with the students," he said.

Schafer said he thought Moeser's departure gave the university an opportunity to eliminate the alma mater.

"No one had the courage to tell the emperor he had no clothes while he was here," he said.

Craig Cornish, acting director of bands, said he was instructed by Moeser to play the alma mater at nearly every performance.

Apart from official university ceremonies, the song was performed at volleyball, basketball and football games, alumni gatherings and pep rallies, he said.

"(The band members) didn't seem to enjoy it," he said.

Derryl Myles, NU trumpet player and senior broadcasting major, said the band did not play the song at band camp, which was held before the start of the semester.

Myles said he thought many band members didn't view the alma mater as reflective of the university, but simply as a required piece of music.

"No one was really attached to it," he said. "It was just another song to play."

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Harvey Perlman
Interim chancellor

Senior checks could be done with a click

BY JILL ZEMAN

Instead of waiting months to receive the go-ahead for graduation, a senior check for students could soon be just a click away.

An appropriation to fund an online degree audit program that would help students track their academic progress was announced Wednesday in the first Association of Students of the University of Nebraska meeting of the semester.

The Technology Fees and Advisory Committee allocated more than \$170,000 to Information Services for development and implementation of an online degree audit program, said Mike Echternacht, committee chairman.

The program received \$83,241.75 for the 2000-01 academic year and is slated to get \$88,387 in 2001-02, he said.

The committee's budget is funded by technology fees, paid by students, he said. The fees add up to about \$5 per credit hour.

The program will provide the equivalent of a senior check, where students can see what requirements they need to take to graduate, he said.

ASUN

The College of Business Administration's degree audit program is near completion and students may be able to access it as soon as this year, he said.

When CBA's program is ready for use, it will be posted on the UNL Web site, and other colleges within the university will soon follow, he said.

"It's a long, complex process," Echternacht said.

In other business, ASUN president Joel Schafer, in his executive report, encouraged student senators to be active in their roles throughout the year.

Schafer said a student had written an essay about ASUN that said the senate was irrelevant and unrepresentative of the student body.

To reject the notion that ASUN is irrelevant, Schafer said senators should pursue issues within their colleges that affect the people they represent.

"Don't just show up on Wednesday nights to give a thumbs up or thumbs down," he said.