

Construction progresses at UNL

Although some projects are scheduled to be finished as early as February, improvements are not coming to an end.

BY VERONICA DAEHN

The plethora of seemingly unending construction projects on the University of Nebraska-Lincoln campus will not come to a halt in the near future.

The closest project to completion is the Kauffman Residential Center being built north of the Nebraska Union, said Barry Shull, manager of architectural and engineering services for Facilities Management and Planning.

The \$14.7 million project, which will house the J.D. Edwards Honors Program, will be done in February or March, Shull said.

The center will house computer science honors students and will contain faculty members' and administrative offices, classrooms and a dining hall.

Construction began on the center in July of 1999 and is right on schedule, Shull said.

A hazardous materials building is being built on the southwest side of Hamilton Hall. Shull said this should be done by March or April.

This building will replace the former hazardous materials building that was displaced by the stadium parking garage, he said.

Ground was broken in July at 17th and Vine streets for the construction of Othmer Hall, a chemical engineering building. It is expected to be done by June 2002, Shull said.

Construction of a parking garage at 17th and R streets will be done by October 2001,

but a portion of it could be completed and opened by August. That project began in June.

Love Library South is undergoing phases of construction, Shull said.

The heating, ventilation and air conditioning system in the library is the original one from the 1940s and is being replaced.

"The humidity control was non-existent," Shull said. "And the comfort of people inside was not up to today's standards."

Working on the library is difficult because it is an occupied building, he said. That's why the construction is being done in phases.

A building that will be used for the Teachers College is being constructed on 14th and Vine streets, Shull said.

This will replace Lyman and Bancroft Halls and will be completed in July.

College's relocation may have to wait

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building up to date and make sure the connections are up to date."

The new building will combine the news-editorial and broadcasting newsrooms, a move that will make UNL's college of journalism one of the only schools in the country to implement media convergence.

"That part we're looking forward to," Shipley said.

The move could be hardest on the broadcasting department, Shipley said, because it has so much large, technical equipment.

Some of the department's satellites will be placed on top of the Nebraska Union because of interference from the Federal Building, which is near the new building, which used to house Security Mutual.

The broadcasting department will need extra time to move its equipment to the building, Shipley said. It's not as easy as moving household items, she said.

"Broadcasting will need transition time because of their equipment and the time it will take to

make sure everything works," Shipley said. "That's going to take longer."

If the move cannot be completed by the start of the next fall semester, Shipley said, some classes will remain in Avery Hall until the end of that semester. Other classes would be taught in the new building, she said.

Despite the hassle, the move is worthwhile, Shipley said.

"It's going to be a fantastic move for us," she said. "We've been so cramped here with the sharing of classrooms and no study rooms or lounges."

Charlyne Berens, chairwoman of the news-editorial department, said she was looking forward to sharing the newsroom with the broadcasting department.

"Convergence is the way media are going," Berens said. "The idea is we will be able to use our strengths to help each other."

While the move itself won't be fun, Berens said, it will be worth it.

"Nobody ever likes to move, but they usually like the results when they're finished," she said. "I think we will, too. It's worth the hassle."

Workshops help RHA mold leaders

The association continues toward its goals despite the resignation of its president.

BY ANNA JO BRATTON

Despite the recent resignation of its president, the Residence Hall Association has been focusing on developing leadership among its members this semester.

The student-led association also is trying to use its funds to improve the social aspect of dorm life, said Becky Minshull, who will be RHA president until the end of the semester.

Minshull announced her resignation Sunday. Because she is graduating in May, she needs to balance homework with her duties in RHA, she said.

Minshull said she would continue to be involved.

Tiffany Quinze, the current vice president of RHA, will replace Minshull as president and will appoint a new vice president.

Quinze said she admired

Minshull for giving up her position in RHA to focus on school. While it's a little overwhelming now to think about being president, the other members of the group should make the transition easy, she said.

"We have a really awesome group of senators," she said.

Many of the council members recently attended a leadership conference at the University of North Dakota.

The conference helped prepare students for leadership positions, which will ease the transition to a new leader next semester.

It also will help RHA plan events in the future that will draw more students, Minshull said.

"You have to be excited in what you do to get people involved," Minshull said.

The conference, held by the Midwest Affiliate of College and University Residence Halls, occurs annually at colleges in Nebraska, Minnesota, North Dakota, South Dakota, Iowa and Kansas.

RHA

Participants attend workshops on how to present ideas, deal with problems and be effective leaders.

A lot of people on RHA also are leaders in other campus organizations, Minshull said. They can bring the skills they learn at the conference back to make an impact on the campus, she said.

Each year, the conference works to raise money to donate to a charity. This year, schools collected pop tabs for the Ronald McDonald House. More than 40 schools attended; UNL collected 52 percent of the total pop tabs.

"That said something really big about UNL caring," Minshull said.

In other events, Movie Madness will take place Thursday night in the Heritage Room at the Nebraska Union. "The Whole Nine Yards," will be

"I really am a firm believer in RHA and what it can accomplish."

Becky Minshull
RHA president

showing at 7, and "28 Days" will be showing at 9.

RHA also will be sponsoring the Angel Tree Project again this year in cooperation with ASUN and the Athletic Department.

Beginning Nov. 27, students can pick up a card at the Nebraska and East unions and in the dining halls.

The cards list a specific child and tells what the child needs or wants.

Minshull said she hopes students will be more involved in their residence halls, RHA and on campus.

"I really am a firm believer in RHA and what it can accomplish," she said.

The Point sponsors ski-trip giveaway

The promotion gives the winner and four friends a stay in Winter Park, Colo.

BY JOSH FUNK

There may not be any of the bickering or crazy challenges associated with MTV's "Road Rules," but The Point's new promotion bears a few other similarities to the popular show.

One winner will take four friends on a ski trip to Winter Park, Colo., to kick off 104.1 The Point's World Tour.

A photographer will accompany the winning group and send back pictures and video, which will be broadcast on The Point's Web site, <http://www.the-point1041.com>, and at The Brass

Rail, which is home to the station's world tour promotion.

The radio station will supply the winners with a van for the trip, two condominiums for two days in Winter Park and lift tickets, Clear Channel Communications Marketing Executive Marc Frease said.

The promotion is targeted at university students, Frease said, and it differs from the TV show in a few important ways.

"This is a one-destination party," Frease said. "It kind of highlights college life."

The promotion begins next Monday, and the prize package will be given away at The Rail, 1436 O St., on Dec. 7.

The Rail's owner Tommy Mausbach said the promotional parties will feature local bands.

"I know the promotional

parties will be a real good time with the on-air (radio) personalities and local bands," said Mausbach, who is looking to promote his newly remodeled bar. "I think (the trip) could be interesting."

The Point has enlisted the help of Sprint PCS, which donated the use of a phone to transmit photos, Sunsational Tan, Micro Mart and The Rail to sponsor the trip.

People will be able to register for the contest at any of the sponsors' businesses and through radio call-ins.

The Dec. 7 giveaway party will feature on-air personalities Matt Rydberg and Brady Goodman at The Rail from 8 to 10 p.m.

The winner will have the option of taking the trip anytime

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Tommy Mausbach
Brass Rail owner

this winter, Frease said, though he or she will have to plan it two weeks in advance.

Frease, who is a senior UNL marketing major, said the trip would be "something (the winners) can remember for the rest of their lives."

A nerdy week for nerdy students

UNIVERSITY WIRE

PITTSBURGH - Two weeks ago, the geek community was successful in staging a series of events called Geek Week, despite the fact that fraternity and sorority members are a small minority of the Carnegie Mellon University campus population.

Recognizing that far more of CMU's students belong to the geek population, the Activities Board recently scheduled a slate of events called Geek Week.

With events including juvenile geek activities like playing with toys and watching movies with lots of nerd appeal to more plugged-in pursuits like playing video games, Geek Week had something for all varieties of dweeb.

A number of the activities during the week were designed to bring out the young geek in the participants. The centerpiece was perhaps Friday's event, "Toys! Toys! Toys!" The organizers managed to assemble a remarkable variety of playthings from years past, including Voltron, Play-Doh, Lite Brite, Mr. and Mrs. Potato Head, and a whopping 36,000 Legos. Even if you're someone who thinks that they don't qualify as a geek at all, that's a whole lot of Legos.

Before that, the Activities Board scheduled a substantially more violent toy-related evening, as dolls of Britney Spears, Teletubbies, and Jar Jar Binks met their unfortunate demise at the hands of the attendees.

Deservedly, every Star Wars

fan's arch-nemesis, Jar Jar, took the worst beating of all.

If there's one thing that geeks like, other than computers (naturally), it's movies, and Geek Week featured plenty of them. Thursday evening the Activities Board screened the classic geek movie, "Real Genius."

The following night included late-night showings, this time with the focus on Japanese anime. Japanimation favorites like were screened until the wee hours of the morning.

A Geek Week without computers and video games just wouldn't be right, and the CMU effort was full of them, for all degrees of technology lovers.

For those moderate geeks just interested in the fun side of computing, a five-round video game

tournament was held in Wean Hall. After the first four qualifying rounds, the competition culminated in the finals on Saturday, complete with fog machine and strobe lights. The entrants were known only by first names and sometimes initials.

For those more interested in the technical side of all things computer, Geek Week offered a couple of events. Jim Waldo gave a lecture on Wednesday, "Networks of Things: Changing the Network Rules," perhaps to get the participants into the tech-geek spirit of things.

Intriguing hacker-related competitions were designed by the Activities Board, but would-be participants failed to enter, probably because they were too busy ... hacking.

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