



Photo by Bill Ganzel

Nebraskans help in McGovern victory

by Bart Becker

RACINE, WIS.—A group of UNL students can claim at least partial credit for George McGovern's victory in Tuesday's Wisconsin primary.

The Nebraska students, freed from school by spring break during the week before Easter, passed up the chance for a leisurely vacation in favor of a week of campaigning.

During the week prior to the primary, the young workers established headquarters in the Southeastern Wisconsin cities of Beloit, Kenosha, Janesville and Racine. And they attempted to reach potential McGovern supporters by a variety of means.

Plans called for widespread leafletting and door-to-door canvassing but as the week wore on telephone campaigning assumed the major role.

On Wednesday, six days before the voters went to

the polls, a storm buried Wisconsin in nearly a foot of snow. Because of the inclement weather, the phone campaign took on added importance.

Mary Kris Jensen, UNL coordinator of Students for McGovern, said the snow hadn't hampered the phone procedures in Janesville, where she joined several other Nebraskans for the campaign. But most of the volunteers indicated they preferred the face-to-face confrontation.

"When you shake a hand and say 'hello,' you assume a personality you just can't project over the phone," said Joe Carberry, a UNL junior from Norfolk.

Because Nebraskans had been leaving Janesville and heading back to Nebraska the emphasis had been switched from an attempt to reach all the voters to determining the McGovern supporters and assuring that they reached the polls on Tuesday, Jensen said.

UNL student Suzy Prenger of Omaha said the Janesville volunteers had been working "a good 10-hour day," and sometimes staying on the job from 8 or 9 a.m. until 11 p.m. to finish a day's work.

Their efforts began to pay off when a Wednesday report showed McGovern leading a poll with 23 per cent of the respondents favoring the South Dakota senator. Thirty per cent, however, were undecided.

College students, traditionally McGovern's strongest supporters, were scheduled to begin their spring break before Tuesday's election. Political observers in Wisconsin indicated that might hinder McGovern's chances.

However, reports at week's end showed Wisconsin's 150,000 college students registering as absentee voters at four times the normal rate.

In Racine, a primarily industrial city on the shores of Lake Michigan, the volunteers began an all-out effort on Thursday when a bus carrying 26 Nebraskans arrived at 5:30 a.m.

Most of the new arrivals were from Omaha, and they were both high school and college students.

UNL student Gail Darling of Auburn briefed the group on the procedures of telephone campaigning, door-to-door canvassing and leafletting at factories

and shopping centers.

Volunteers were fed a lunch of bologna or peanut butter and jelly sandwiches, topped off with potato chips and washed down with a bottle of soda pop. Then they were sent to their duties.

Lincolmites Biff Hoffman and Steve Fischer were assigned to go door-to-door in a residential area. They handed literature to interested individuals and fielded questions about the campaign and about McGovern's stands on the issues.

Four other early morning arrivals, Omaha Gross High School students Kay Simodynes and Pam Thurman, Archie Manning and Creighton University student Bill Keating, were dispatched to leaflet at the entrance to a shopping center.

McGovern received an added boost to his Wisconsin attempt by earning the endorsement of Wisconsin Sen. William Proxmire over the weekend. The volunteers indicated a strong showing in Wisconsin would send McGovern into subsequent primaries, including the Nebraska test in May, with renewed vigor and organization.

The students also said that McGovern's opponents' campaign workers seemed less organized than themselves.

"If Janesville is any indication of the rest of the state," said Carberry, "McGovern's got it easily."

Photographers place high in Hearst competition

Both Daily Nebraskan photographers placed among the top 20 in the nation in this year's William Randolph Hearst Foundation photography competition. Bill Ganzel placed fifth and Gail Folde placed twelfth it was announced Saturday.

Ganzel was awarded \$300 for his efforts and the UNL School of Journalism received the same amount.

Ganzel's photographs are featured in a special picture section on page 8 of today's Daily Nebraskan.



NOVA. . . "different approaches to the same goal." See story on page 12.