

Eleanor — identity troubles



Eleanor McGovern

by Chris Harper

Eleanor McGovern jumps on her French 10-speed bicycle each morning at 8:15 a.m. and rides to her first class.

Sen. George McGovern's wife? No. The bicycle rider peddles down 17th Street in Lincoln. This Eleanor hails from Omaha and is a UNL art education major.

Nebraska's Eleanor said she isn't certain if she's related to South Dakota's Eleanor, but added that she supports the Democratic nominee for president.

Born in 1952, Eleanor entered the world the same year George entered politics as a Democratic party organizer in South Dakota.

The UNL artist said her interest in politics is limited, although she has worked in the McGovern campaign and for legislative candidate Bonnie Hibler.

"A woman with no name" is how Eleanor's problem might be described. "No one will believe that my name is really Eleanor McGovern," she said.

"People think I'm kidding when I say I'm Eleanor McGovern. I hope there's another Pat Nixon in this world," she said.

Last week Eleanor renewed her driver's license. After completing the written examination, she asked for her new license.

"He didn't believe I was Eleanor McGovern. He asked, 'Come on, what's your real name?' I showed him my old license and he said, 'Oh, I guess your name really is Eleanor McGovern.'"

A driver's license hasn't been her only name recognition problem. Last May after the Nebraska primary, which McGovern won, her parents' mailbox in Omaha was egged, Eleanor said.

"My mom and dad always get phonecalls asking if George is home," she added.

Disbelief, eggs and phonecalls have posed problems, but the name also has its advantages, Eleanor said.

"It was great to see my name on the cover of *Time* magazine last week and to see it flash on the television screen during the Democratic convention.

"At least all my professors remember my name," Eleanor said. "On the other hand, when you meet someone else, they always laugh and it usually elicits a political discussion."

In the final analysis, however, Eleanor said she believes the bad points outweigh the good.

"I always wished I had another name, but now I really do," Eleanor said.



Thumbs up . . . from the curb only.

Council authorizes hitchhiking from curb

An ordinance allowing hitchhiking from the curb was unanimously adopted Monday by the Lincoln City Council.

A last-minute amendment by Councilman Bob Sikyta prohibits persons under 16 years old from soliciting rides.

"As a parent," Sikyta explained, "I don't think we would be setting too damn good an example by letting nine-year-old kids go out and hitchhike. I think it would be fair to make the legal age for driving the age limit on this."

The new ordinance states that a hitchhiker must not stand in the roadway where he could obstruct traffic. Likewise, the driver may not obstruct traffic when stopping to pick up hitchhikers.

Responding to a question from Councilman Harry Peterson, City Attorney Dick Wood advised that should problems arise from hitchhiking in congested areas in the future, the council could ban the practice in those areas.

UNL voter drive will end today

An estimated 650 UNL students have registered to vote since a campus voter registration drive started Monday.

Today is the last day students can register on campus prior to the Nov. 7 general election. Otherwise, students have until Oct. 27 to register, but must do so at the election commissioner's Office in the City-County Building at 10th and J Streets.

Bill Lock, co-chairman for the drive, said he hopes more than 1,000 students will register before the booths in the Nebraska Union south lounge close at 4 p.m. today.

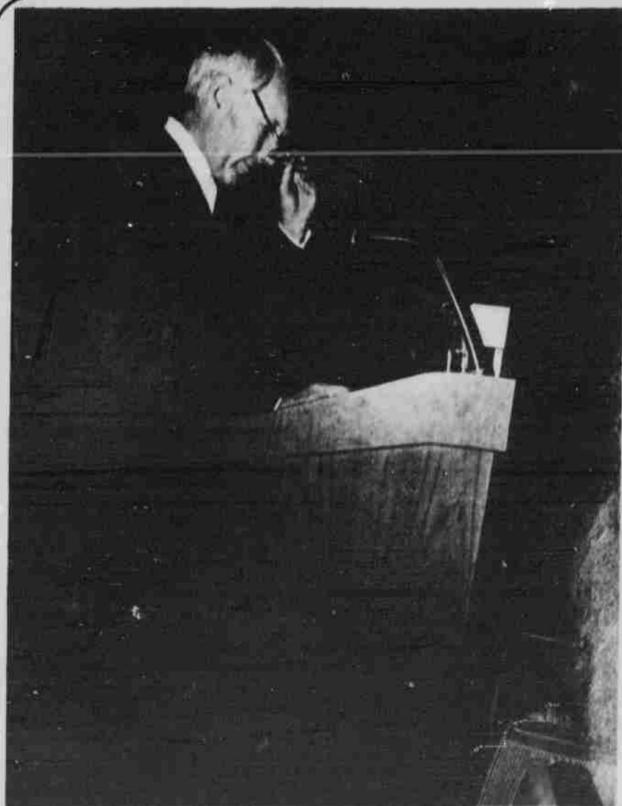


photo by Gail Folda

Plans set for black center

A Cultural Center for UNL black students will be established on campus, Chancellor James Zumberge announced Tuesday.

In a speech to the Faculty Senate, Zumberge revealed plans for the Center after blasting Regent Robert Prokop's plan for a minimum classroom teaching load for faculty members.

After the meeting, Zumberge said the Cultural Center would help minority students adjust to the University.

"When a minority student comes to an all white, middle class environment like the campus," Zumberge said, "one would have to consider him disadvantaged."

The center will assist black students in campus cultural and social adjustment, Zumberge said.

The center will help black students overcome his disadvantage in several ways, according to Zumberge. He said the center will be used for programs which will help the student adjust culturally and socially. It also will offer a medium for cultural exchange and aid in the University recruiting black students, he said.

The center will be located in a building just north of Nebraska Hall, at 1012 N. 16 St. The building, which is owned by the University, is now vacant.

The center will be financed by a \$12,000

gift from a Foundation donor, and with a three-year annual \$5,500 gift from discretionary funds administered by UNL Athletic Director Bob Devaney. No tax dollars are involved.

Similar centers have been established at other universities, Zumberge said. He dismissed charges that the center would be de facto segregation and promote separatism.

He said it is not intended to be a "separate but equal facility, but instead a means through which students can make their way through the University."

During his speech, the chancellor criticized an academic workload plan proposed by Regent Robert Prokop.

He said Prokop's plan "smacks of production line, piecemeal work." He said the majority of the Board of Regents is not in favor of the proposal.

Prokop's proposal is based on the so-called "Texas Plan." The Texas Plan is a statistical profile of how each professor spends his work hours. Prokop's plan would require each instructor to spend 12 hours a week teaching. Under the plan, waivers could be granted for faculty members doing research.

The University has received a \$40,000

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