

## UNL band's adventures captured on slides

by Matthew Truell

A slide show will recreate the experiences of the UNL band during their European tour, according to Lynn Alexander, chairman of the Committee to Send Nebraska Band to Europe.

Alexander said the slides deal with all aspects of the 23-day tour: the traveling and lodgings, the performances and audience reactions. The band's music backgrounds a taped narration by KFOR sportscaster Dick Perry.

The 168-member band left Lincoln May 15, visiting Switzerland, Germany, England, Belgium and the Netherlands. They gave a total of nine concerts.

Director of Band Jack Snider said the European audiences were overwhelmed by the performances.

"I think we gave them an extremely good impression of a college marching band," he said. Snider added that on several occasions they were "accused" of being a professional band.

Because of limited space, the band performed the formations they'd planned only once—in Germany—and that required some quick improvising, Snider said. Band members handled themselves extremely well, he said.

The trip had its mishaps.

One sightseeing member found himself in the middle of a Swiss Army firing range. Though no one fired at him, he was detained for a few hours since he had no passport or identification with him.

Because of a misunderstanding, the band cancelled a concert in Reche, Germany. Angry citizens from that town complained to the American Embassy and threatened to confiscate the band's instruments. Nothing came of the incident, Snider said.

Most band members thought the trip was worthwhile.

"It was a lot of fun," said sophomore trumpet player John Welch. "That's about all I can say."

John Huffman and Bill Evans agree it was a good way to see Europe, though Huffman said there wasn't enough time for sight-seeing.

For Lyle and Susan Schoen, the concert tour doubled as a honeymoon. They were married three days before the trip, and they took part of their wedding cake on the plane.

The slide show of the tour will be presented first at a meeting of the National Band Alumnae, on Sept. 28, Alexander said. Afterwards it will be available to any civic group wishing to see it.

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