

## Dole counts on Nebraska to offset Carter wins

By Paula Dittrick

Republican vice presidential candidate Bob Dole said his party is "counting on Nebraska and the Midwest to offset what may be Carter victories elsewhere."

Kansas Sen. Dole spoke during an hour stop in Lincoln at a rally for Republican Senate candidate John Y. McCollister.

On his second campaign trip to Nebraska, Dole said he had come to help his friend, McCollister.

Asked about his congressional race, McCollister said, "I think it's very close. Dole is here to add spice to the rally."

Dole told listeners in the crowded Ramada Inn room

that, "If you'll work six more days for President Ford and McCollister, they'll work for you—McCollister for six years and Ford for four years."

Dole said Ford has appointed him to work for increased farm exports. "I guess I will be a sort of international salesman," Dole said.

### Prosperity in exports

He added that the prosperity of rural programs lies with the export market.

Dole said that despite problems, the two years of the Ford administration have been good for agriculture. The number of workable farm acres and exports have increased during that time, Dole said.

"For 40 some years the American farmers were shackled with government control," but "the farmer wants to produce and Republican policy is that they should have the opportunity to do that," Dole said.

He said the Ford-Dole administration would want full production, fair consumer prices and good farm prices.

Dole said he thought it was strange that Sen. Robert Byrd (D-W.Va.) came to support McCollister's opponent, Edward Zorinsky.

Dole called Byrd "the father of imposed strict restraints on exports of farm commodities" and suggested that asking for that kind of support isn't to understand "what it's like in Nebraska."

### Embargo a mistake

"I think the embargo is a mistake. There will be no embargo under the Ford-Dole administration unless there is an emergency," Dole said.

Dole said Ford has assigned him to work with the families of men missing in action in Southeast Asia.

Dole called Carter's promise of a blanket pardon a mistaken priority. "We should concern ourselves with the forgotten Americans in Southeast Asia, not the draft dodgers," he said.

Dole said the Ford administration was "on the road to 4 per cent unemployment."

Voters have a "philosophical choice" between what Dole called the ultra-liberal policies of Carter and Mondale or the conservative and modern policies of Ford and Dole.



Photo by Ted Kirk

Sen. Robert Dole, Republican vice presidential nominee, shook a few hands as he left the Lincoln Ramada Inn Wednesday, as the ever present Secret Service kept an eye on the crowd.

## State's high court to hear death penalty arguments

By Anita Stork

The constitutionality of Nebraska's death penalty law will be argued before the State Supreme Court Nov. 8.

The court will hear the cases of four men who have been sentenced to die in the electric chair. A fifth case, that of Wesley Peery of Lincoln, will not be heard until several months later.

Paul Snyder, state assistant attorney general who will be representing the state, said every person sentenced to death gets "an automatic appeal" to the State Supreme Court.

"The defendants also are challenging the constitutionality of the law so our (the attorney general's) office handles the case," Snyder said.

Three of the defendants, John Rust, Richard Holton and Rodney Stewart, are from Omaha. They will be represented by Stan Kreiger of the Omaha public defenders' office.

Holton was convicted of shooting and killing a bartender. Stewart was convicted of shooting and killing Thomas Evans and injuring Daniel Evans in a drug related argument. Rust was convicted of shooting and killing Michael Kellogg, a civilian, during a gun battle with police after a robbery.

The fourth case is that of Erwin Charles Simants. It is being appealed from Lincoln County District Court. Simants was convicted of killing six members of the Henry Kellie family of Sutherland.

### Cruel, unusual punishment

Kreiger said he believes the death penalty is cruel and unusual punishment.

"In 1972 the U.S. Supreme Court ruled that the death penalty was being imposed in a freakish manner," Kreiger said. "This decision, in effect, eliminated every state's death penalty."

Since then, the state has rewritten its death penalty law, Kreiger said. This is the law's first judicial test following its approval by the Nebraska Legislature in 1973.

Snyder believes the law will be upheld on the basis of a July 1976 U.S. Supreme Court decision upholding similar statutes in Florida, Georgia and Texas.

"Nebraska's law—very similar to Florida's—established guidelines for imposing the death penalty," Snyder said. Those guidelines, Snyder said, are a list of aggravating

and mitigating circumstances judges must consider before sentencing.

### Aggravating circumstances

Snyder said aggravating circumstances, those which make the crime more reprehensible, include:

- Offender previously was convicted of a felony.
- The murder was committed to conceal a crime.
- The crime created danger to other people.
- A law enforcement officer was murdered.

Mitigating circumstances, Snyder said, include:

- No previous criminal record for the defendant.
- The defendant's age.

- Accused acted under another person's domination.
- Accused was the accomplice of another who committed the crime.

"This Nebraska death sentence procedure cannot, and in fact does not, eliminate discriminatory, arbitrary and capricious decisions by judges who, for one reason or another, have their own view of what should be done," according to Kreiger's brief.

His arguments, Kreiger said, include that "even assuming the law's constitutionality, the particular judge did not take the aggravating and mitigating circumstances into account" when sentencing the defendants.

## Students rate faculty salaries low

By Anita Stork

Faculty members are underpaid in the opinion of five of six UNL student government members informally questioned.

Gregg Johnson, co-chairman of ASUN's Government Liaison Committee, said there is documented evidence that faculty members are underpaid when compared with instructors at other universities.

"Our university is losing a lot of resources and federal grants," Johnson said. "As soon as faculty become experienced, they're hired away by another university."

### Schools are members

Five Big 8 Conference schools are members of the American Association of Universities (AAU). Based on AAU 1975-76 figures, "full professors need a 9.3 per cent salary increase" to bring them up to the average compensation level of other Big 8 AAU schools, Johnson said.

Associate professors would need a 5.6 per cent increase and assistant professors an increase of 3.6 per cent, he added.

Bill Mueller, UNL student regent and ASUN president, said he thinks faculty members are underpaid and salaries are not competitive with other institutions in the Big 8 and around the country.

"It's easy to look at their salaries and say they're getting paid a lot," Mueller said, "but to get top faculty members we have to pay more. We simply need more support for faculty salaries."

Karen Morgan, Council on Student Life member, said professors are not paid enough.

### 'Morale is down'

"I feel bad about the exodus of faculty members," Morgan said. "The morale of the faculty is down."

John Welch, co-chairman of the ASUN Government Liaison Committee, said salaries are "definitely too low."

"The Legislature's Appropriations Committee hasn't established what kind of faculty they want us to have," Welch said. "Do they want the faculty to be in the top half of the Big 8 or first? They need to set the goals and roles for UNL."

Faculty members are not paid enough, said Tony Williams, ASUN first vice president.

"It's evident when you see the number of faculty leaving," Williams said. "If we want a good education we're going to have to pay the price."

### 'Dollars aren't guarantee'

Bill Darnell, ASUN senator for Teachers College, said he "had no research handy to make a general statement." However, he said "dollars aren't a guarantee for quality education."

To increase faculty salaries, Williams said, he would favor a possible tuition increase.

"I think students would be willing to pay more if the university isn't up to par," he said.

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