

Equality Day speakers explore aspects of the ERA

By Kim Wilt

The speaker stood before a crowd of women at the Kearney Holiday Inn. "My father told me there are three things nice people don't talk about," she said, "Religion, politics and sex. Well, this morning we've discussed politics, this afternoon it will be religion, and now—guess what?"

The speaker was Anne Follis, national president of Housewives for ERA. She was speaking about sex discrimination to approximately 200 women attending Equality Day 1978, a day-long program of lectures and small group discussions, sponsored by the Nebraska Coalition for Women.

"The day is devoted to the ERA," said Kappie Weber, chairperson of NCW. In the morning, participants heard speeches about the history of the Equal Rights Amendment and about its progress.

Follis spoke at lunch. The 31-year-old housewife from Illinois told the group that anti-ERA activist Phyllis Schlafly did not speak for all housewives, and said the opposition to the ERA "is a well-financed, elusive minority."

Follis said many housewives do not realize they do not have any legal rights as a wife. The basis for most laws in the United States is English common law, she said, which has as one of its principles the idea that when a man and a woman marry, they become one — the husband.

The ERA will establish that a housewife will be an equal partner to her husband. "It's (ERA) not going to downgrade housewives, it will uplift them"

She said she had visited Alice Paul, the author of the ERA, in the New Jersey nursing home where the militant feminist and suffragette lived. She said Dr. Paul had told her, "I did it (the ERA) for the children." Many women in the audience at the

Kearney Holiday Inn were visibly moved hearing this. Dr. Paul died last year, without seeing the ERA ratified.

The religious and moral part of the program was in the afternoon. Dr. Carole Kimberlin, assistant professor of communications and health psychology at University of Nebraska Medical Center and Dr. Susan Anthony Sallady, professor of biomedical ethics at UNMC, spoke on moral development and the ERA. Dr. Sallady is a descendent of Susan B. Anthony, an early feminist and suffragette.

Kimberlin and Sallady agreed that the ERA is a fundamental moral issue.

"We have to approach it as a moral commitment, not just a legal issue," Sallady said.

The Reverend Dennis Silk, from the

United Methodist Church of Central City, Nebraska, spoke on "The Theology of Equality." He said that while Christ did not speak directly about the position of women in society, he treated women as equal to men, acting against social custom at that time.

Weber said the idea for a "religious look at the ERA" came about because "if you're a feminist, that means being labeled as anti-family and anti-home." She said ERA supporters have had become involved with religious viewpoints "because the opposition has labeled us as anti-religious."

"We're trying to set up a religious coalition for abortion rights in Nebraska," Weber said. "33 demoninations agree with pro-choice views."

Football ticket sales to begin

Starting tomorrow, students who did not purchase their 1978 season football tickets last spring will have the chance to do so through September 1.

Students may buy tickets at the athletic ticket office, 117 South Stadium from 9 a.m. till noon, and from 1 p.m. till 4 p.m. Only full-time students registered for the 1978 fall semester will be allowed to buy tickets.

Those students who purchased tickets last spring may pick them up at the ticket office from September 5 through September 8, with pick-up for lottery tickets September 6. Ticket receipts must be presented at time of purchase.

All students must present their student identification card with the new 1978-79 certificate of registration attached, and per-

sonal checks must be made out for only the amount of each individual's ticket.

Football tickets are \$25 for the 1978 season, which includes six home games.

The 1978-79 basketball season features 11 home games for \$7. Season basketball tickets go on sale August 29.

Full refunds on season football tickets will be permitted if the ticket office is notified before September 8, and students applying for refunds after the first home-game but before the second will be refunded \$16.75. No refunds will be made after the second game.

The same rules apply for season basketball tickets, except that full refunds will be made if notification is before November 24, and a \$6 refund if notification is before the second game.

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