UNL archives' books hold more than yellowed pages

When one thinks of archives, one thinks of racks of musty old books with yellowed pages that were written by some unknown professor, that no one has opened since 1942.

However, the University Archives, located on the third floor of Love Library, can be helpful to students working on assignments and projects, according to the university's archivist.

Joseph Sovboda, a native of Czechoslovakia, has been working in the UNL archives for the past ten years. He has served as archivist for the Canadian province of Ontario and the Wyoming State Archives and Historical Department.

Svoboda said the main job of an archivist "is gathering, processing, and describing retired faculty papers and new materials so that they can be made available for research and information."

The archives are an evaluation of materials received piece by piece every day, or numerous papers received at once.

The archives are divided into two sections, one of which is the official records. Included in the official records is anything used by the administrative and academic offices. Minutes from Board of

Regents meetings are collected as well as faculty biographical and bibliographical information.

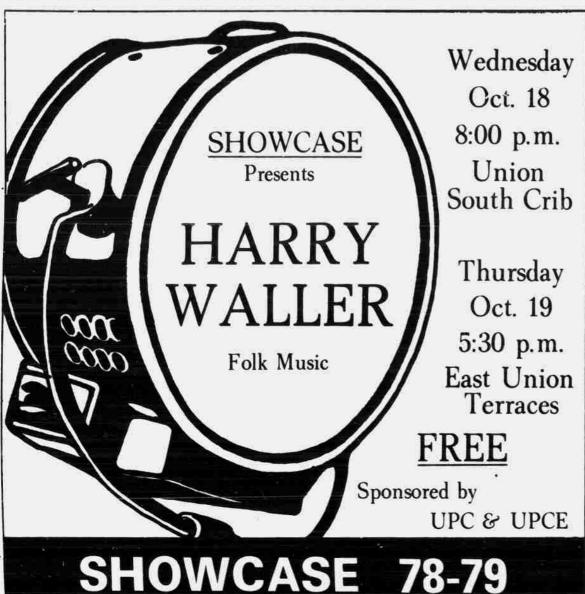
Publications of persons applying for jobs at the university in 1869 are in this section. Files on each building, some of which are no longer standing, also are kept.

An unofficial, or student section is kept in the archives. Included in the student section are ASUN, football and fraternity and sorority records, papers of deceased professors and student publications.

"Course descriptions of classes dating back to 1871 are in the archives," Svoboda The archives also has a complete set of copies of the "Hesperian" which was a monthly student newspaper and became the Daily Nebraskan in 1900.

Some of the more unusual items in the UNL archives are a photo of Willa Cather as a student at UNL, papers of Mari Sandoz and papers of Charles Bessey, a well-known botanist.

"The archives can be extremely useful to undergraduates working on assignments, projects, data, thesis statements and dissertations," Svoboda said. "The archives are also useful to alumni who just take an interest in the history of the university when he or she was in school."





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Investigation changes standing of UNO's ballot stuffing case

By Kris Hansen

New information from interviews may weaken the case against two students charged with ballot stuffing in UNO's spring election.

Ronald Beer, UNO vice chancellor of student services, interviewed students involved with the election while trying to determine the validity of the charges. He said information, which he cannot reveal, changed the standing of the case.

"It's not as substantial as the original case," he said. "It may well turn out they're not guilty."

Two students were charged by student court after an investigation on false ballots used in the election. The ballot stuffing affected the outcome of three senatorial seats.

Suspicion changed

"The investigation changed those on whom suspicion was cast," said Paul Hoffman, student body president.

Originally, two former senators were charged in the case. A handwriting analysis indicated one to three other people could be involved. Hoffmann said those charged by the court may or may not be the students originally suspected.

Beer said "accusations were flying thick and heavy" at the beginning of the investigation, which may have caused incorrect conclusions.

The handwriting analysis, done by an expert from the Omaha Police Department,

was not as helpful as was hoped, Hoffman said.

Gray

"It was not conclusive and it was not inconclusive," Hoffman said. "It was in the gray area."

Hoffman added that the analysis and statements from individuals who worked the election were enough evidence to present a case.

Beer must determine whether the charges were valid and recommend disciplinary action. Possibilities range from no action to probation to removal from school, he said.

"The key is to decide if the people charged are guilty," Beer said. "I'm not about to pre-judge anyone."

UNO's student court met last Saturday to hear the case for changing the election results. Another session is scheduled for Sunday to hear responses to those agruments.

Decision soon

Hoffmann said a decision will be made within a week on how to adjust the election. Possible solutions range from holding the entire election over to declaring no fraud occurred.

"I'll ask to recognize fraud in four races, which will change who was elected in two races," Hoffman said. Three senators were affected in two races and the winning margin was affected in the other two.

Hoffmann added that others want to hold all four races in question again in November during elections for other student government positions.

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