

Pope: farmers' work depends on God

By Alice Hrnicek

DES MOINES—Pope John Paul II reminded American farmers of their duty to feed the world's hungry people and conserve land for future generations in a two-hour Mass in a Des Moines cow pasture.

The Holy Father, leader of the world's 700 million Roman Catholics, addressed his homily to "heartland of America" in the harvest season.

Unlike his speeches given in other American cities, the Pope's address shied from controversial issues such as investiture of women and birth control.

Wearing a white robe, he restricted his comments to the simple value of rural life.

"You have become masters of the earth," the Pope said in a rich Polish accent. "But it is Christ alone who is the bread of life."

The crowd, officially estimated at 340,000, pressed closely together in the chill autumn air in an alfalfa field at Living History Farms on the west edge of Des Moines to greet the Holy Father.

The Pope flew directly to the farms in a helicopter from St. Patrick's Church, a small Irish parish several miles southwest of Des Moines in Cumming.

Mistaking the Army's helicopter bearing the press

corps for the one carrying the Pope, the crowd waved and cheered until realizing its error.

THE POPE WAVED from his helicopter, dubbed Angel One, before touching down a few minutes later.

Hundreds carried the Vatican, Polish and American flags and shouted, "Long live the Pope" as the patriarch stood on a barrel at the edge of the crowd.

A 25-foot banner near the front said, "We Lutherans love the Pope too."

The Holy Father said the Church esteems the work of farmers everywhere.

"You support the lives of millions who themselves do not work on the land, but who live because of what you produce," the patriarch said.

The Pope said Christ valued agricultural life and he asked farmers to follow three important standards set down by Jesus:

—Gratitude, sense of conservation and generosity.

Farmers should be grateful because their work depends on God, he said.

"THE FARMER PREPARES the soil, plants the seed

and cultivates the crop."

He called the land one of the most important resources God gave to the world, but that the future depends on today's conservation efforts.

The Pope also beseeched farmers in one of the most productive nations in the world to share their knowledge and food with the others of the world.

"You have the potential to provide food for millions who have nothing to eat and thus rid the world of hunger," he said.

Almost the entire crowd responded through the universal greeting of, "Peace be with you," by shaking hands and embracing.

The Pope gave Communion to 150 selected participants. Priests also gave Communion to the crowd.

Members of the crowd broke through a ring of National Guard security officers to escort to Pope to his helicopter after the mass.

The Pope left at 5:30 p.m., an hour behind his scheduled departure time. He arrived in Des Moines at 1:45 p.m., 45 minutes behind schedule, because of a delay in departure from Philadelphia Thursday morning.

The Pope left Des Moines for Chicago and Washington, D.C.

Student not expelled according to Dean

By Michelle Carr and Val Swinton

A UNL student, who claimed he was excluded from a women's poetry class by a vote, was not excluded, according to Max Larsen, dean of College of Arts and Sciences.

However Wordie Wright said he was excluded from English 253A taught by Linnea Johnson, entitled "Women and Poetry" on Aug. 29.

Larsen said UNL is an equal opportunity university and students have not or will not be discriminated against on a basis of sex, race, or national origin.

John Robinson, chairman of the English department, gave Larsen a report on the situation, but the contents of report could not be released, according to Larsen.

Larsen said that it was unfortunate that one male student felt "excluded." Wright was in "no way excluded" from the class and he may have left the class as a result of a misunderstanding.

Larsen said formal vote was called by the instructor. He said he was sorry that Wright felt unwelcome and excluded from the class.

Three class members interviewed by the Daily Nebraskan said there was no formal vote taken. Two of the members refused to be identified, but Pat Kovanda, a senior journalism major, said the opposition to the men's presence was voiced during the class. She said more than half of the women said they would be inhibited by men class members.

Wright said that after the opposition was voiced, some of the girls said the men would have to accept the outcome.

"That was the vote," Wright said, of his interpretation of the incident. He added that one of the girls suggested the men consider independent study as an alternative.

Wright said the incident was "blown out of proportion" by the women who did not want him in the class.

The incident, "took place and did happen," he said.

When asked if Wright would be allowed in the class, Larsen said, "Certainly, he is still enrolled." Larsen added that Wright has not made a complaint with the English department.

When contacted Thursday, Wright said he was not aware of Larsen's statement concerning his status in the English class.

Wright said if he was allowed back in the class, "it will be a real good challenge."

Wright added he plans to attend class. However, he said he does not want to be the only man and would like to contact the other excluded man.

"That would be defeating the whole purpose. We were both kicked out. People will think I'm doing this for a personal thing and because I'm black."

Wright said he has been trying to contact the other man but does not know his name. Wright said Robinson told him he also was trying to contact the unidentified man.

Wright discussed the situation Tuesday with Robinson and the fact that he would be unwelcome if he attended the class. He suggested that another teacher be assigned to him in independent study.

According to Wright, Robinson said he would talk to the class members about their attitudes if Wright attended class.



Photo by M. Billingsley

Lost in the crowd of 22,000 students at UNL.

AAUP will begin union campaign

By Randy Essex

UNL members of the American Association of University Professors (AAUP) voted unanimously Thursday to begin a campaign to organize a faculty labor union at UNL.

The vote came one week after UNO faculty members finished their vote accepting the AAUP as their collective bargaining agent in contract negotiations with the NU Board of Regents.

Robert Haller, an English professor and president of the UNL chapter of AAUP, said the AAUP will form a committee to organize the campaign. He said the first step by the committee will be to circulate cards to UNL faculty.

Faculty members will have the option of signing the cards and asking for a vote by the entire faculty to decide if UNL faculty should accept the AAUP as its bargaining agent.

Haller said the group hopes cards can be circulated by the end of this month and that a vote can be taken by the end of this academic year.

Although an estimated 15 to 20 percent of the UNL faculty belong to AAUP, Haller said only 22 professors voted Thursday on whether to circulate the cards.

Although UNO faculty will now be represented by the AAUP and UNL faculty will not, Haller said he does not want UNL faculty to consider the issue as if UNO's organization is a threat to UNL.

"In fact, the regents and the administration might give more to UNL because we aren't organized,"

Haller said.

The regents have traditionally opposed separate bargaining units within the NU system. The board took the UNO faculty to the Commission of Industrial Relations and eventually to the State Supreme Court in an attempt to block the unionization.

Haller said because the regents lost the court fight concerning UNO's right to organize, it might be more difficult for the board to fight the attempt to organize UNL faculty.

"They (the regents) would have to come up with a new argument," Haller said.

UNL faculty held a vote on unionization three years ago, which failed by a narrow margin.

Faculty Senate President William Campbell said after the UNO vote that any vote on bargaining at UNL now would have a better chance than it did three years ago.

UNO's vote made NU the only major land-grant institution in the country with a collective bargaining unit represented by the AAUP.

inside friday

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