## Muskie, others discuss Middle East this week

Former U.S. Secretary of State Edmund Muskie will be a featured speaker at the Middle East symposium at UNL Wednes-

day, Thursday and Friday,

Muskie will speak on "Israel, the Middle East and United States National Interests" at 8 p.m. Wednesday in the main ballroom of the Hilton Hotel. After his speech, Muskie will attend a public reception in the Hilton's Nebraska Room. He also will appear at a press conference Wednesday afternoon at the Lincoln airport.

The symposium, which will feature 15 noted scholars from universities in the United States and Israel, is to be an indepth analysis of national interests in America as they are affected by Israel and other Middle East nations.

"We're presenting a balanced panel of scholars whose views, although vastly different from each other, are marked by their objectivity and search for truth and the best policies that will secure peace for the troubled region with which the future of America has been so intricately involved," said Dr. Ivan Volgyes.

Volgyes is a professor of political science at UNL and is co-chairman of the symposium.

Harry Allen, UNL director of institutional research and planning, is the

Themes to be discussed at the symposium include: "Birth and Rebirth of Nations in the Middle East"; "Cultures and Societies of the Middle East: The Dillemma of Change"; "Military Security and United States National Interests"; "The Middle East: Crossroads of Religion"; "Israeli Agriculture: Relevance to Developed and Developing Countries": and "The Middle East and the Soviet Union."

"With the cooperation of the NU Foundation and the private sector, we will provide a forum for exploration of a subject of great importance," said NU President Ronald Roskens.

"The breadth of knowledge of the participants is but one indication of the quality of the symposium," Roskens said.

James Leonard, a career diplomat who was a deputy special negotiator on the Middle East from 1979 to 1981, will close the symposium with an assessment of the prospects of peace in the Middle East.

In addition to speeches, a free concert will be played by Israeli pianist Yifram Bronfman at 8 p.m. Thursday in Kimball Recital Hall. The 23-year-old Bronfman has performed with the New York, Philadelphia, Los Angeles, San Diego and Minn-

Painter Gordon Wetmore will discuss the recent work he did in the Middle East at a luncheon Thursday in the Nebraska

The symposium is sponsored by the Nebraska Committee on Humanities, the NU Foundation and a variety of private corporations.

## Uranium mining...

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Another legal problem to be resolved involves the presence of oil and gas companies in Fort Robinson State Park

Both Amoco Minerals Co. and Dalco drove claim stakes into parts of the park, believing they were within federal law. Park employees later pulled up the some 220 stakes, and Amoco has since withdrawn its claims.

The state attorney general's office and the Game and Parks Commission say the companies acted legally, but the issue is a complicated one.

Clark said the companies have rights to stake property under a federal mining act enacted in 1877, but that it depends on which part of the park the stakes were in, since some parts of the park were purchased by the state and immune from federal jurisdiction.

The state currently owns the surface rights to the park, but the federal government owns the mineral rights, leading most observers to believe the issue will be decided in federal courts.

The park situation is delicate because state officials and conservationists believe mining should not be present in land set aside for recreational use, particularly in an

area with the historical significance of Fort Robinson.

City must decide

Concerns have been raised about contaminating and overtaxing the water supply in the park, but oil and gas company officials said there will be no park damage.

Another possible legal development involves Crawford, which itself may be sitting on top of a sizeable uranium de-

City officials and residents there are caught between the facts that, although the city is in need of outside industry and economic growth, if mining were allowed the consequences for an already shaky water supply would be unknown.

If it is determined that the city is indeed sitting on a uranium deposit, and exploratory companies feel it is worth looking into, then the city will have to decide what kind of laws enact and how much to rely on outside help in the form of federal and state agencies.

There is a Nov. 8 deadline for the state to develop a plan to regulate uranium development, or the federal government, in the form of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, will do it for them.

## RHA will study crowded cafeteria, visitation hours

The Residence Hall Association established two committees Thursday night, one dealing with overcrowding in Selleck cafeteria, and the other with a 0-24 hour visitation policy in residence halls.

The Selleck cafeteria is becoming increasingly overcrowded during weekday lunches and Selleck residents are upset about it, said Sue MacDonald, Selleck president.

The Selleck hall government had originally planned to establish two 10minute periods during which only Selleck residents would be admitted to the cafeteria, but the plan was not accepted by

the housing office. Since Selleck is the only hall offering a fast-food line, the association formed a committee to study the possibility of installing fast-food service in one or two

other halls next year. A motion also was passed establishing a committee to deal with a 0-24 hour visitation proposal.

Smith Hall representative Ann Jensen will head the committee unless another person contacts RHA President Robin Lynch this week.

The association also confirmed the appointment of Ron Geis as RHA parliamentarian. Geis is a freshman animal science major living in Burr Hall.

In other business, ASUN President Rick Mockler spoke briefly to RHA members about a United States Student Association conference in Washington, D.C., April 10 through 14.

Funding from the administration help-

ed cover transportation costs, and the ASUN Senate paid \$500 for registration fees, Mockler said. ASUN is sending seven or eight people to the conference.

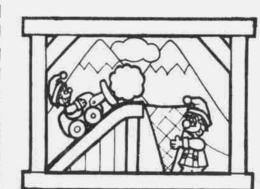
Since costs also are being kept low by staying at local residences, Mockler encouraged any RHA member to attend the conference, at a cost of about \$200.

Also at Thursday's meeting, RHA officially designated April as RHA Awareness Month. A newsletter containing information about RHA and its members will be sent out to residents this week to promote more awareness.



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