

# Sadat's death affected all, even students—editor

By Steve Miller

The assassination of Egyptian President Anwar Sadat Oct. 6 presented an important decision before the news desk.

National and international news rarely finds its way into the pages of the *Daily Nebraskan*. There are a number of reasons why. The foremost is that the *Daily Nebraskan* is a student newspaper sponsored to some degree by the university and supported in part by student fees.

## commentary

We have a definite obligation to commit ourselves to covering campus news first. We are also obligated to cover city and state news since students are clearly affected.

The second reason is clearly obvious. The *Daily Nebraskan* is an extremely small operation. We have no Middle East Bureau and no Washington bureau. We have no wire services.

## Labor activist to talk to student association

Labor activist Ray Rogers will deliver the keynote address at the Ninth Annual National State Student Association Conference this weekend at UNL.

Rogers' speech, entitled "Confronting Power with Power," will focus on how student advocates can use Rogers' labor organizing techniques in protecting student rights against encroachment by universities and state governments.

Rogers will address student advocates from across the nation in the Harvest Room of the Nebraska Union at 8:30 p.m. Saturday.

As the director of Corporate Campaign, Inc., Rogers gained national prominence in 1980 when he orchestrated the "Corporate Campaign" for the Amalgamated Clothing and Textile Workers Union against the J.P. Stevens Company. Rogers' tactics helped the union win a 17-year fight with J.P. Stevens to organize Stevens' non-union employees.

Rogers is directing the efforts of the Airline Pilots Association to unionize New York Air, a non-union East Coast carrier and a subsidiary of Texas Air Corporation.

The conference is an assembly of volunteer and professional student advocates representing state student associations in more than 30 states. These state student associations, many of which are chartered as nonprofit corporations, lobby in state legislatures and give information of interest to students. The conference is sponsored by the United States Student Association and ASUN.

Conference participants will attend workshops designed to help them improve their organization skills, including fund-raising techniques, public relations methods and management practices.

Also, when a newspaper presents breaking news to its readers it should have the responsibility to provide follow-up reports. Continuous coverage of national and international events is clearly beyond our capabilities.

We cannot sacrifice coverage of campus issues but there are larger issues we cannot avoid. Unfortunately it seems these larger issues usually entail some tragic event. Last semester the *Daily Nebraskan* devoted space to the assassination of John Lennon and the attempted assassination of President Ronald Reagan.

We try to limit our stories to issues and events that affect the lives of UNL students. It was clear that the assassination of Sadat would make our pages. Sadat represented peace in the Middle East—an issue of interest to many students.

There are many UNL students from the Middle East. We have an obligation to them as well.

While we have no foreign bureaus, we do have a faculty of experts to consult. We were also able to contact spokes-

men for Nebraska—Sen. J. James Exon and Rep. Douglas Bereuter. It should be of interest to us all what some of our faculty members and elected officials know and have to say about such issues.

The morning of Oct. 6 students were flocking around television sets, listening to radios and buying copies of local newspapers.

Campus news did not suffer from our coverage of the assassination. We moved many local stories back in the paper but we provided what local coverage we could.

We cannot present much in the way of follow-up reports. I think we can be excused from that obligation. We'll leave that up to the rest of the media.

The important thing is that we were able to cover the death of Sadat, reasonably well I thought. We will continue to give space to such events no matter how far removed from our vicinity when we think that students lives and thoughts will be affected.

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