Thursday, October, 21, 1982

University of Nebraska-Lincoln

Nebraskan

Vol. 82, No. 45



Photo courtesy of Sen. Edward Zorinsky Sen. Edward Zorinsky

# Cases of abuse uninvestigated

#### By Vicki Ruhga

At the end of September 1982, there was a backlog of 103 cases of child abuse or neglect that had not been investigated by personnel of Child Protective Services.

Mike Johanns, a candidate for Lancaster County

## Zorinsky favors parity before freeze

#### **By Eric Peterson**

Sen. Edward Zorinsky, Democratic incumbent for U.S. Senate, said he opposes the nuclear arms freeze proposal supported by Sens. Edward Kennedy and Mark Hatfield and many grass-roots groups across the country.

Zorinsky said he favors instead the Warner-Jackson resolution, which he said aims at achieving parity between



the Soviet Union and the United States in nuclear weapons before freezing or reducing arms.

"I favor bilateral disarmament after parity is attained," Zorinsky said. He said he takes this position because he has access to more information than is generally

#### available.

"Because of top secret briefings, I think to accept a freeze at this time would not be in the best interest of the United States," he said.

Zorinsky criticized the Reagan administration for not working harder at arms limitation talks.

"This administration is dragging its feet on START," Zorinsky said.

The human rights situation in El Salvador has not improved appreciably, he said.

"The human rights situation is still being violated in El Salvador," Zorinsky said. The United States should act as a catalyst to bring the two sides together, not ship arms there.

He noted that it may take as much as a 10-to-1 ratio of troops for the government to defeat the guerrilla forces, a ratio he said could never be reached in spite of the \$800 million in aid this country has given to the El Salvadoran government.

**Continued on Page 7** 

### Keck says he's strong on education

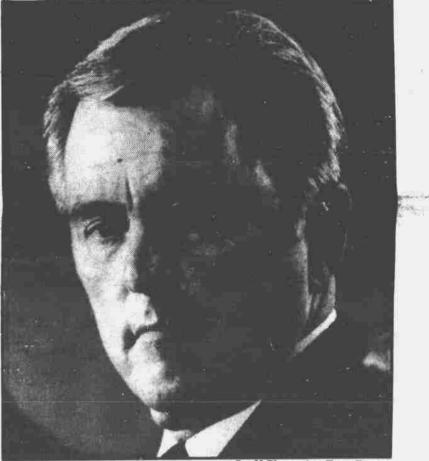
#### By Chris Welsch

Education is an area where President Reagan's cuts have been excessive, said James Keck, Republican candidate for the U.S. Senate.

Keck, 61, said his opponent, Democratic incumbent Edward Zorinsky, has been weak in supporting education, while he would be a strong supporter of it. Keck has been endorsed by the Nebraska State Education Association and the National Education Association.

Although cuts in education have been excessive, Keck said, funding for public school programs could best be provided by local government.

"Programs to help human needs, food stamps and school lunches, would be best met at a local level," he said.



Commissioner, said he believes that the Lancaster County Board is responsible.

"It is a question of filling the two open positions," Johannas said. "The entire funding structure for that organization is figured by the board."

Johanns said he became aware of the problem "through the grapevine." He said he heard of it from an individual who had been talking with Child Protective Services, and Johanns later called to verify the statements.

"The funding problem of filling the two positions should not have come up," he said. "A certain amount of money is committed to that department of local government and then allocated to certain areas."

"The Lancaster County Board is basically responsible for all county programs," Johanns said. "I would change the situation by making sure the Child Protective Services was properly funded. It would take a very insensitive person not to fund it. I think most people would respond."

Judy Wong, the unit manager of Child Protective Services, had no comment as to where the fault of responsibility for the uninvestigated cases lies. The estimate of 103 cases is accurate, she said.

Jerry Lemonds, Lancaster County director of welfare, said that the state welfare system supervises the county welfare operation.

He estimated that 85 percent of the county welfare operations budget comes from the state Department of Public Welfare. Thus, the budget drawn up by the County Board is based on how much it gets from the department, he said.

In regard to the Child Protective Services problem, Lemonds said that he went to the County Board of Public Welfare and told them more staff members were needed in Child Protective Services.

The County Board directed him to the State, Welfare Office. The acting state director said Child Protective Services could have the funds to hire one supervisor, Lemonds said. However, the move was stopped, when Gov. Charles Thone put a hiring freeze on all government offices, he said.

Lemonds and Wong said there had definitely been an increase in child abuse and neglect referrals in recent months.

"It is difficult to tell whether the increase is due to improved reporting or increased incidence," Wong said. "It may be due to greater public awareness which makes people report cases."

Currently, Wong said, there is also great economic stress on families, which sometimes results in increased child abuse.



Keck said he would fight any effort to cut financial aid or Guaranteed Student Loan programs. He said educating the youth of America is the cornerstone of democracy.

"The future of America is education," he said.

Keck said his experience in business and in the military makes him more qualified for the Senate than Zorinsky.

sky. Keck, born in Scranton, Pa., said he spent most of his life moving around the country. He is a graduate of West Point and was in the Air Force for 37 years. Keck retired as a lieutenant general in 1977.

Using legislation to cut government spending would

Staff Photo by Dave Bentz

Jim Keck

be one of his priorities, Keck said.

"For every one dollar we pay in federal taxes," Keck said, "Nebraskans.only see 35 cents of it." The rest is spread out and contributes to supporting a bureaucracy, he said.

**Continued on Page 7** 



Workers from United Roofing Inc. take care of the roof on the Transamerica Occidental Life building at 216 N. 11th St.