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# Space suits, moon rocks highlight Mueller show

Question: Where on the UNL campus can you find a genuine Apollo XI space suit, space food, a tile from the space shuttle Columbia, an Apollo IX flight helmet and other space artifacts?

Answer: In the lobby of the Ralph Mueller Planetarium in Morrill Hall.

The planetarium celebrates its 25th anniversary this month. As part of the celebration, space artifacts and items are being exhibited through March 31.

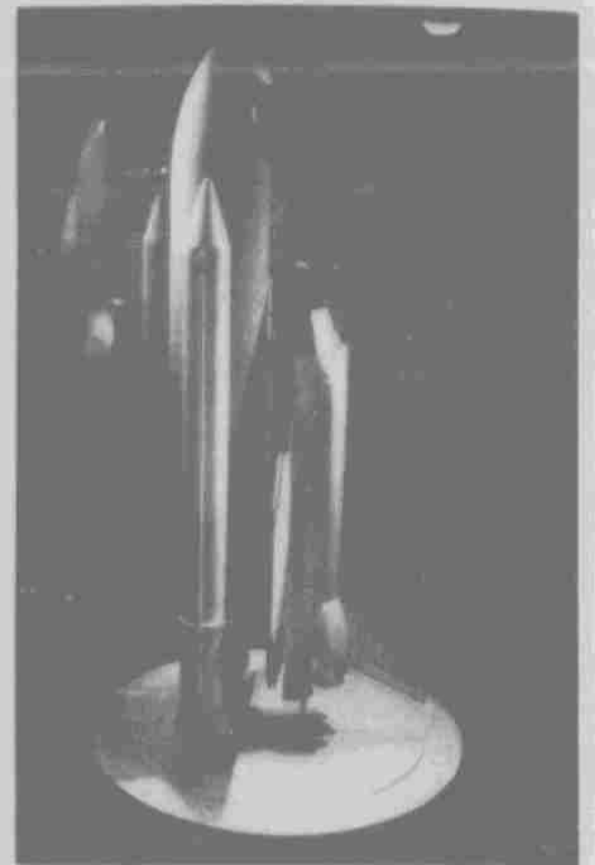
The exhibit gives students an opportunity to view historical items from past space missions, as well as some of the equipment used on today's space shuttles.

Some of the items on display actually have flown on missions of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration. The exhibit features a pressure suit worn by astronaut Thomas Stafford on his Gemini IX flight. A flight handbook used by astronaut Frank Borman of the Apollo VIII flight is displayed, as well as one of the heat tiles that protected the Columbia as it re-entered the earth's atmosphere.

"The actual flown items probably attract more people than anything," said planetarium coordinator Jack Dunn.

Dunn said he thought attendance had been "fairly good" for the first few days of the exhibit. Some other highlights of the exhibit are:

- a 1/50 scale model of the space shuttle
  - a 1/40 scale Apollo Lunar Module
  - a moon rock replica display
  - a moon geology exhibit from Apollo 16
  - a Mercury flight helmet
- In addition, Brunswick Corp. of Lincoln



Staff photo by Craig Andresen

A model of the space shuttle is part of the displays in the Mueller exhibit.

provided a display that features parts of the space shuttle made at the Lincoln plant.

The Dehner Boot Company of Omaha, which makes the boots worn aboard the space shuttle, also has a display.

Many of the exhibit's artifacts were furnished by the Kansas Cosmosphere and Discovery Center of Hutchinson, Kan., and by NASA.

# UNL libraries improving despite low national rank

By Kristi Lynch

Although UNL moved up five positions in the national rankings of college libraries based on size and growth, Dean Waddel, assistant dean of libraries at UNL, said he still considers the library in the "upper part of the bottom third."

"One of the things that one must keep in mind is that ranking was based on the compilation of about 10 different factors — size of the library holdings, volumes added, size of the staff and other factors," he said.

UNL's library was ranked 61st in 1981-82, compared to 66th in the 1979-80, by the Association of Research Libraries of Washington. All of the library's branches are included except the Law Library, Waddel said.

When the relative ranking is compared to about 100 institutions, it looks like the library itself is improving, he said. Although the library has improved in relative comparison to other libraries, the total ranking on the scale has not

improved. Waddel used the comparison of car manufacturers to prove this point.

"Let's say that this year you sell more cars than seven (out of 10) manufacturers, but you still sell fewer cars than you sold the year before. Has your ranking really improved?"


Waddel said that in 1980-81, UNL ranked, comparatively speaking, 60th out of 101 libraries with 1,547,212 volumes. In 1979-80, UNL had 1,494,040 volumes and ranked 60th out of 99. Although UNL improved in number of volumes, the relative position, in terms of volumes held, didn't change, he said.

The library is "hurting" in the staffing and salary areas, Waddel said.

"When comparing to roughly 100 libraries, we rank 83rd and that is the lowest ranking in any of the categories." Total expenditures and operating expenditures are also ranked low at 77th, he said.

"The university administration has tried to be helpful when it has had the resources to be helpful."

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