

# Students heart of Snider's UNL career

By Jann Nyffeler

Jack Snider received the final standing ovation of his career as UNL's director of bands Friday night during the last concert of the 81-82 season.

Snider, who began working with the UNL bands 33 years ago, said in an interview Friday that he is neither tired nor unhappy with life at UNL.

"It's time for new ideas," he said.

"I've put up with a lot — doctor's appointments, moving chairs, moving stands. It's just the logistics of it all . . .

"Running a marching band every week is exhausting. It takes a lot of concentration and energy," he said. "It's hard for some people to understand all the work that goes into it. It's something

you love to do."

When he took over as marching band director in 1960, Snider expanded the program, made improvements and took different approaches — all with the goal of improving the situation for UNL students, he said.

Snider said he "always felt the kids in Nebraska deserved the best directors they could get. The kids have been fortunate to have good directors."

Snider's greatest pleasure is "his kids — seeing what they've done, watching them grow." In working with musicians, Snider said he's found a different kind of rapport with his students than one might establish in a regular classroom.

"You never get to show off your kids

in a classroom," he said. "One of the great things about the marching band is that it pulls kids from all areas of campus, from cattle ranchers to doctors."

Reminiscing about a halftime show commemorating Beethoven's birthday brought a smile to Snider's face.

"It was a really clever show," he said. "We had people dressed as 'Snoopy' characters out front with speaking parts. And none of the mikes worked. Back then, the crowd was very vocal. They wrote and responded to that show."

Financial problems were the biggest hurdles Snider faced in his years at UNL.

"We were always scrapping for money to go to bowls. It (the money) came from personal contributions and bowl receipts," he said.

Next semester Snider will be on sabbatical to Washington, D.C. During that time, he'll have the opportunity to explore the music libraries of the Library of Congress and the University of Maryland as well as the Marine Band's extensive Sousa library.

When he returns to Lincoln next January, Snider will teach beginning and instrumental conducting in a new conducting program. He will continue to work with student teachers, as he has done in the past.

He feels working until he reaches 65 "is long enough. There are a lot of things I want to do," he said.

"Change is good," he said, confident that "things won't collapse" in his absence.

## Future shape of humans topic of scholar's lecture

John O'Neill, a university distinguished visiting professor from the department of speech communication at Ohio State, will speak at UNL Thursday and Friday.

O'Neill's visit, sponsored by the UNL Research Council, will feature a lecture titled "The Future Shape of Human Beings." The lecture will be Thursday at 10 a.m. in the Nebraska Union Rostrum Room. O'Neill will examine the influence of bio-science and bio-technology on societal structure and the organization of human communication, Wayne Beach, an assistant professor of speech communication, said.

O'Neill, who is originally from York University, Canada, is a world-renowned scholar in the areas of phenomenology and critical theory, Beach said. O'Neill has written books and articles about subjects such as phenomenology, perception and consciousness, Beach said. He also has written about the works of Maurice Merleau-Ponty and Karl Marx, Beach added.

O'Neill's interests span a wide variety of topics such as time, space, technology and communication, sociology, political science and philosophy, Beach said. O'Neill is also interested in: the phenomenological concerns of language, embodiment and intersubjectivity and other interdisciplinary concerns.

"O'Neill doesn't view discipline boundaries, rather, he views ideas while investigating individual experience and individual meaning," Beach commented.

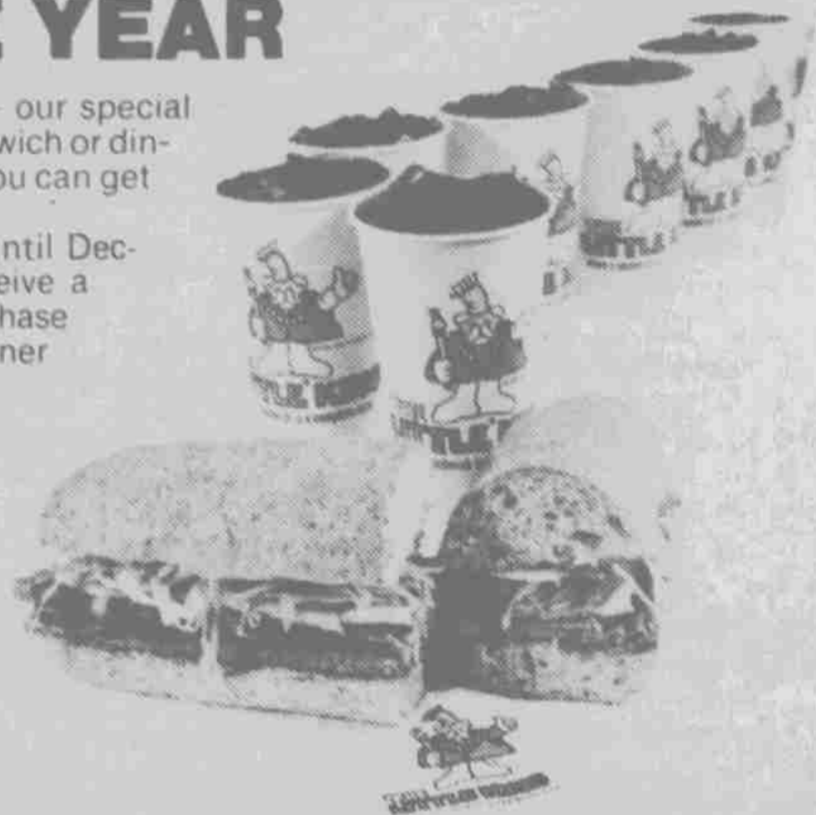
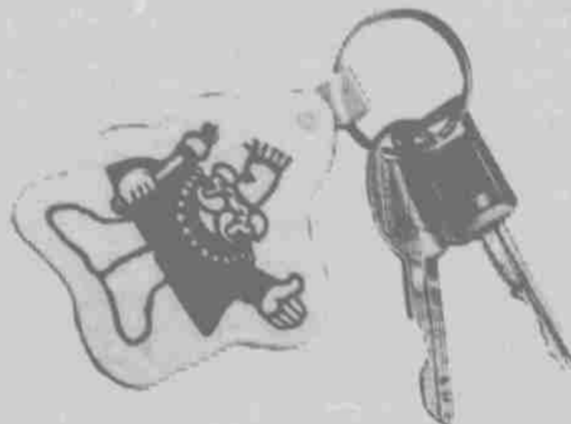
He has several academic degrees, including a sociology degree from the London School of Economics and Political Science, a master's degree in political science from Notre Dame and a doctoral degree in the history of social thought from Stanford University.

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