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Marchers remember King, dream

By Teri Sperry

"We Still Have a Dream," the banners read, as approximately 300 Nebraskans commemorated Martin Luther King Jr.'s 1963 March on Washington Saturday.

Demonstrators, concerned about jobs, peace and freedom, assembled outside the Malone Community Center, attributed their (blacks) lack of participation more to apathy than hopelessness. He said most Capitol Building.

The event was a disappointment to several participants and organizers. James Terry, supervisor of the Media Center and Volunteer for the Nebraska State Library Commission, said the march could have been more successful had the turnout been

larger.

"That just shows that people are still hopeless about the possibility of changing conditions for blacks," he said.

Blacks made up a small percentage of the marchers. Rod Orduna, youth director at the Malone Center, attributed their blacks lack of participation more to apathy than hopelessness. He said most young blacks are not interested in being involved in the civil rights movement in 1983, because new laws and regulations have made the existing problems less evident to them.

"Among blacks today there is no unity," Orduna said.

He said the diversity of issues presented in the demonstration weakened the event's power.

Participants displayed signs expressing their sen-

timents on various public issues, such as U.S. involvement in El Salvador, nuclear disarmament and the rights of women and homosexuals. The rally included speeches on military spending and the struggle of family farmers.

Beatty Brasch of Lincoln co-chaired the Commemorative March Coalition in Lincoln. She said the approximately 30 special-interest groups represented were united in their anti-Reagan attitudes. She said one of the functions of the march was to show that the president does not have majority support on civil rights as well as many other issues.

Reagan policies criticized

Terry said Reagan has hurt blacks by cutting welfare and food stamp funds while increasing the defense budget, and giving tax-exempt status to schools which practice discrimination.

Terry, 33, said he remembered Martin Luther King's historic march and his "I Have a Dream" speech.

"I was 13 and just becoming aware of social problems that needed to be changed. . . I had hope there would be progress," he said. "But since the Reagan administration came to power, we've gone backwards."

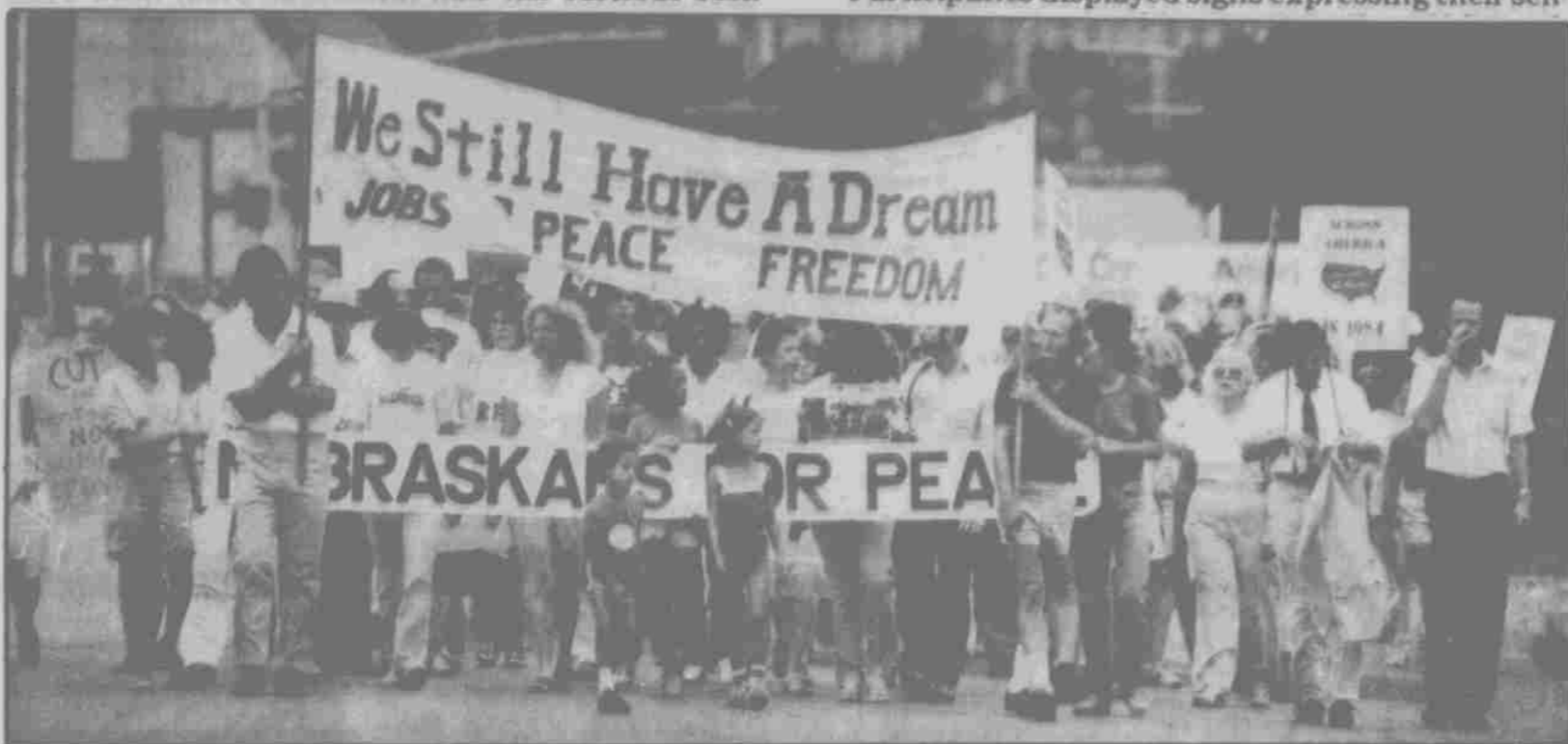
Orduna said he believes that people are now more visibly active in the civil rights movement, but they have lost sight of its real purpose.

"It's politics now, and that's all," he said. The deeply-felt common cause which led the movement in the 1960s is missing in 1983, he said.

However, Brasch said the rally in Lincoln and similar events in more than 400 cities across the nation shared an overall purpose to "rededicate ourselves to the principles of Martin Luther King."

JoAnn Maxey, former state senator and Lincoln School Board member, expressed confidence that Saturday's demonstrations would eventually prove successful in uniting the public in efforts to achieve King's goals.

"We vow that the dream shall no longer be a dream" Maxey said.



Staff photo by Dave Bentz

Nebraskans advocating peace, jobs and freedom march down 13th Street toward the State Capitol Building Saturday in commemoration of Martin Luther King Jr.'s 1963 March on Washington.

New registration, drop/add systems save time, money and headaches

By Jim Berryman

General registration for fall classes entered a new dimension last week, as UNL officials launched a new computerized system.

Ted Pfeifer, UNL director of registration and records, said the new system is more efficient and beneficial to both students and UNL.

"It's going exceptionally well," Pfeifer said as he observed the new registration process in action Friday in the Nebraska Union Ballroom. About 3,500

students went through general registration this year, a number similar to last year's, he said.

After paying a registration fee and consulting open-course lists posted throughout the ballroom, a student going through the process fills out a computer registration form including which courses he wants to take. The form is inserted into the computer, which checks the student's choices to make sure the classes are still open.

If the classes are open, the computer automatically registers the student in the courses, and the student immediately receives an ID card. If the class is closed, the computer will not register the student, and the student must begin the process again.

Pfeifer said he is pleased with how smoothly the process worked.

"Students are adjusting to the mechanics of the system better than I had anticipated," he said.

Pfeifer credited the mechanics as the major reason most students completed the registration process in record time. On the average, he said, about 10 minutes passed from the time a student stepped into the ballroom until he was fully registered and left with an ID card. Students interviewed said past registration had taken a half hour or more to complete.

The new registration process also saves money Pfeifer said. In the past, mailing ID cards to students was a major expense, but because cards are now handed to students, the postal cost is eliminated.

However, he said, the new process requires more money to be spent on computers. Still, the director said the system provides more services to students. "The new system makes everybody's life easier," he said.

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Dryland corn hit hard by the drought of '83

By Gene Gentrup

Farmers in southeastern and south central Nebraska are feeling the effects of a long summer drought. August temperatures from 10 to 12 degrees above normal have continued to damage Nebraska's corn crop and forced many farmers to cut much of it for silage.

Robert Lemke, who farms about 5 quarter acres with his two sons near Walton, 5 miles east of Lincoln, said his hopes for a dryland corn crop have pretty much diminished.

"I'll have no corn crop this year," Lemke said, "so I'll probably chop it all."

Lemke said his corn looked good for most of the summer but this month's heat was too much. He compared his current crop damage with that done by hailstorms in the mid-1970s and this summer's dry air to the summer of 1934.

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Staff photo by Craig Anderson

Robert Lemke stands tall next to his stunted corn crop. August's scorching heat took its toll on this field, located five miles east of Lincoln.

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