

Wednesday
April 4, 1984

Daily Nebraskan

University of Nebraska-Lincoln

Vol. 83 No. 130

Mondale sweeps New York contest

From The Reuter News Report

NEW YORK — Walter Mondale Tuesday night swept toward a decisive victory in the New York primary and a commanding lead over stumbling rival Gary Hart in the race for the Democratic presidential nomination.

With 93 percent of the precincts reporting, Mondale had captured 45 percent of the vote to Hart's 27 percent. Rev. Jesse Jackson placed a close third, with 24 percent of the vote.

Jackson attracted a big turnout among black voters, who gave him their overwhelming support.

Mondale early victor

Mondale's margins over Hart were so strong among so many major voting groups that ABC, NBC and CBS called him a clear winner as soon as the polls closed.

The New York vote will distribute 252 delegates — the biggest block yet chosen — to the Democratic presidential nominating convention in July and will swell Mondale's lead considerably.

In 28 state votes conducted before today, unofficial estimates gave him 716 of the 1,967 delegates needed for nomination, Hart 435, 101 for Jackson and 320 uncommitted.

Mondale gains wide support

Just as important for old-guard liberal Mondale was the psychological boost to his long comeback drive against "new ideas" candidate Hart, upset winner in New Hampshire and several other early primaries.

Except for a Hart win in Connecticut a week ago, the former vice president has now beaten him in every major state over the past three weeks including the coveted northern industrial bastions of Michigan, Illinois and New York.

Interviews with voters leaving the polls today indicated Hart's slide and Mondale's recovery reached remarkable proportions, at least in this state.

An ABC News survey said Mondale beat Hart among men, women, all races and religious groups, all but the very wealthiest income groups, all but the youngest age groups, and in cities, suburbs and rural areas.

The poll showed Mondale's charges that Hart is fuzzy on the issues and is more image than substance had hurt the senator for more than Mondale's own perceived weakness of alleged ties to special interest groups.

Mondale also swept three major voting blocs — Jews, Catholics and trade unionists, who turned out in droves. He yielded the fourth major bloc, blacks, to Jackson.

ABC's estimated blacks would cast nearly one-quarter of the state vote and Jackson would take 80 percent of that total.



Craig Andresen/Daily Nebraskan

High schoolers gather in the Nebraska Union Tuesday for the eighth annual Foreign Language Fair. The event attracted more than 1,700 teen-agers from around the state.

Foreign Language Fair at UNL draws Nebraska high school students

By Jay Mulligan

Letter-jackets and portable stereos invaded the Nebraska Union Tuesday as more than 1,700 high school students attended the Foreign Language Fair.

The fair, in its eighth year, brings high school students from across the state to UNL for a day of competition, learning and fun.

High school Juniors and Seniors received a map of campus, a schedule for the day and information on summer and fall modern language programs.

"Everything is going very smoothly," said Walter Centuori, vice chairman of the UNL modern language department and fair director. Centuori said the fair was one of the largest gatherings of people from across the state, third only to the state fair and Nebraska football games.

Things are not always so easy for the people who have to clean up afterwards.

Frank Kuhn, assistant director of operation for the Nebraska Union, said large crowds pose cleanup problems.

Kuhn said the only real problem with having the fair at the union is that it requires a lot of space.

"The problem is that it (the fair) has grown so much it has almost outgrown our facilities," Kuhn said. But Kuhn said, the fair is still a good chance for the high school students to become familiar with the union.

"We get a chance to showcase the union," Kuhn said. "The union is diverse. We do a lot of things for the community, state and the university."

This year's fair featured a computer display that allows students to test their foreign language skills while learning about computers.

Radio Shack supplied two computers, which both high school language students and teachers used. Ron Frame of the Radio Shack Computer Center, 46th and O streets said the computers had two programs for students to try. One program, written in Spanish, required students to answer questions back in Spanish. If the students wrote the right answers, the computer rewarded them with their horoscopes. The other program, written by several students attending the fair, tested students on their knowledge of German.

Kerrey may put holdings in 'blind trust'

By Brad Kuhn

Gov. Bob Kerrey has found that sometimes business and political careers don't mix.

Responding to a story in the Tuesday *Lincoln Star*, Kerrey told reporters at his weekly news conference that he is considering placing his business holdings in a "blind trust" where he would divorce himself from personal business dealings for the remainder of his term.

The story described an alleged extortion attempt in which Lincoln developers Robert Rentfro, Jerry Joyce and their lawyer, Alan Plessman, allegedly made a videotape describing details of transactions between Rentfro, Joyce, and State Security Savings Co. of Lincoln.

The two have accused William F. Wright, part owner of State Security, and James Stuart, Jr., president of Commerce Group Inc., which owns the National Bank of Commerce, of participating in insider loans and information in connection with the May 1983 purchase of Shoppers Fair. Shoppers Fair is a retail area next to the East

Park Plaza Shopping Center.

County records show the area was sold to American Investment Group in May 1983 for \$2.65 million. At the time of the purchase, Stuart and Fred Kiechel, a Lincoln physician, were the only partners in AIG.

Rentfro and Joyce have accused Wright of arranging for AIG to purchase Shoppers Fair at a low price.

Wright, Gov. Kerrey and Dean F. Rasmussen of Omaha, the governor's brother-in-law and business partner, joined the AIG partnership sometime after the Shoppers Fair transaction.

Rentfro and Joyce allegedly distributed the two-hour, copyrighted videotape to Stuart, Wright, Gov. Kerrey and other persons involved, with a letter demanding substantial sums of money and other concessions, threatening to file a lawsuit against AIG, and embarrass Wright and through him, his business associate Gov. Kerrey, by turning the tape over to law enforcement agencies unless the demands were met.

Gov. Kerrey said he received a letter and a videotape sometime around March 24. He said that because of the nature of the letter, he did not view the tape, but turned it over to legal counsel

Omaha attorney Bill Campbell. Campbell advised him to hand both the letter and the tape over to the U.S. attorney's office and the FBI. He also notified the Nebraska attorney general and the State Banking Department.

Banking Director Roger Beverage, who held a hearing on the matter Monday, said he has found nothing to indicate any impropriety on the part of Wright in connection with the transaction. Kerrey said that Beverage took sworn statements from everyone involved in the incident and that the investigation is continuing.

For the sake of public trust, Kerrey said he may have to temporarily separate himself from his private business.

"I can't afford to be involved in litigation for the remainder of my public service career," he said. "It's something that I don't want to do. It's something that's not in my best interests, but it's something I may do."

Asked if having to separate himself from his business would adversely affect his decision to run for a second term, Kerrey appeared to have mixed feelings.

Continued on Page 7

Wednesday

Inside

• Corncocks, a UNL spirit group, plans to rejuvenate its ranks with a push for new members later this month Page 6

• Nebraska women's golf team finished fifth in the Big Red Invitational Page 11

• KLMS brings back a fair-weather friend Page 13

Index

Arts and Entertainment.....	12
Classified	13
Crossword	15
Editorial.....	4
Off The Wire	2
Sports	10