Tuesday, April 10, 1984

## **Daily Nebraskan**

## Student prepares for European peace tour

## By Sallie Jo Simmons

The Youth Mission Board of the Presbyterian Church USA in Atlanta, Ga., will sponsor a five-week study tour this summer in Europe. UNL junior Phillip Whitmarsh was selected as one of 12 delegates for the 1984 European Models in Peacemaking tour.

"I'm not naive enough to just let the

future happen," Whitmarsh said. The peace movement has begun and Whitmarsh said he wants to help people understand their problems, to avoid miscommunication and any unnecessary actions.

Whitmarsh will tour London; Northern Ireland; Frankfurt and West Berlin, West Germany; East Germany; Hungary; Geneva, Switzerland; and Amsterdam, the Netherlands.

Whitmarsh said they will participate in seminars discussing prevalent issues to each country. For example, he said, the conflict between the Protestant and Catholic churches will be approached in Ireland and the missile crisis will be confronted in Germany.

To prepare for the tour, Whitmarsh said the delegates will receive a brief synopsis of each country's political, religious, economic, historical and peace movement background. The delegates pose only as resource people, gathering information to be relayed back upon their return, Whitmarsh said. In turn, they will share the latest developments of the U.S. peace movements.

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The primary reason for the tour is to to tell U.S. citizens how the world views the important issues of today, Whitmarsh said. The delegates are responsible for sharing this information in letters and discussions with people of their areas and states when they return, he said.

Estimated expenses for the trip are \$3,050. The church pays \$1,050 for each delegate, Whitmarsh said.

At the moment, Whitmarsh said he is spending a lot of time contacting churches and organizations that will help him raise money. Whitmarsh said the plane fares to Atlanta and home from New York, plus added personal expenses are not included in the estimated price. He needs to raise \$2,000 for the trip and an extra \$1,000 for his expenses.

Although the announcements for this study tour were kept within the Presbyterian Church, Whitmarsh said the opportunity to travel abroad is more available than people realize. It's even easier to take study, church or school groups into Europe's Eastern bloc, he said.

This study tour emphasizes more than one devotion, he said. A devotion to peace, as well as religion, is something he and the other tour members value, Whitmarsh said.

The interest in peacekeeping has prompted the United Nations to sponsor a Peace Academy in Costa Rica, Whitmarsh said. The peacekeeping academies balance the military and war colleges. The United States currently is proposing the establishment of such an academy, Whitmarsh said. A peace academy is like a college graduate school where conflict resolution in the home, town or country is taught.

Many churches have joined the peacemaking bandwagon, but not all of them achieve their real goal of peace, Whitmarsh said. Civil disobedience, like the protestors at Strategic Air Command Headquarters, obtain great publicity through sensationalism, he said. Whitmarsh said disrupting the peace to achieve peace is the wrong approach.

Senior Week activities, sponsored by the Student Alumni Association, will begin with a champagne reception at the Cornhusker Hotel tonight at 8 p.m. The reception is open to all graduating seniors.

For seniors or others who have questions about their future careers, the week includes a speech by Adele Scheele,

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author of Making College Pay Off. The speech will begin at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday in the Nebraska Union Centennial Room. Career information from the U.S. Post Office, the Department of Motor Vehicles, NU Alumni Association, among other businesses, will be set up in the Nebraska Union lobby Thursday from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.



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