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Craig Andressen/Daily Nebraskan

According to the Peoples City Mission director, the public misunderstands the mission's role in meeting basic human needs. Here, three residents play cards in one of the mission's dining halls.

Republicans accent unity during state convention

By Geoff Goodwin

The accent was on unity and winning Saturday at the Nebraska Republican Party's state convention at the Cornhusker.

Senate candidate and NU Regent Nancy Hoch was the keynote speaker and promised a vigorous campaign against Sen. J. J. Exon in the fall.

Hoch was followed to the speaker's stand by Reps. Virginia Smith of the 3rd District and Doug Bereuter from the 1st District. They echoed Hoch's call for a hard campaign and took some jabs at Democratic presidential hopeful Walter Mondale.

Referring to Mondale's ties to special interest groups, Smith said, "He's got more strings attached to him than anybody since Howdy Doody."

The convention approved a moderate platform, defeating a plank that called for a constitutional amendment

to prohibit abortion and another that opposed the Equal Rights Amendment.

The convention also elected Duane Acklie of Lincoln as national committeeman. Acklie defeated Richard N. Thompson, also of Lincoln, 238-98.

Thompson, party finance chairman and a defeated candidate for the GOP senate nomination, gave Acklie his support after the results were announced.

Sallie Folsom of Grand Island was re-elected to a second term as national committeewoman. She had no opposition.

Acklie campaigned hard for the position, making over 500 phone calls to gather support.

The delegates also adopted a change in the party constitution which would increase the size of the State Central Committee from 100 to 150. The change is aimed at getting more participation in the party's affairs.

Summer facelift gives south crib diversified atmosphere

By Marc Simon

The Nebraska Union's South Crib, a lounge and eating area, will get a facelift this summer.

New carpeting, lighting, furniture and a tiered ceiling will transform the room according to several union officials.

The Crib will have a "unified but diversified atmosphere," Mary Marcy, Union Board president, said. She said this meant that different parts of the Crib will have different decor, she said, but all will fit into a central design concept.

For studiers, new booths will provide more comfort than much of the present seating, Marcy said. Also, a

brown carpet will improve decor and be coordinated with still-pending wall decoration improvements, she said.

Frank Kuhn, assistant director of operations at the union, said about three-fourths of the present ceiling will be lowered by making tiers. This will improve both lighting and acoustics, the latter important when the Crib is used as a performance room.

A unique addition to the room will be a 6-by-6 stained glass window with the words "The Crib" emblazoned on it, he said. It is being designed by Robert Stowers, a UNL architecture professor and Union Board member. It will stand at the union's south end, where the free literature rack is now.

Continued on Page 2

Chancellor misses daily student contact

By Judi Nygren

Although he entered Western Kentucky University hoping to serve the agricultural community someday, he never dreamed that some 30 years later he would be serving as a university chancellor in an agricultural state.

"When I started to college," UNL Chancellor Martin Massengale said, "I think I was perhaps interested in having a basic background in agriculture; to be able to serve people and to be more like a county agent or voc-ag teacher."

But between his junior and senior years, Massengale said, his aspirations changed. He decided to pursue a career as a college agriculture professor or researcher.

He attained both positions after completing his doctorate at the University of Wisconsin, and landing a job at the University of Arizona as an assistant agronomist and professor. Soon he was climbing the academic ranks there.

But even as he began moving into administrative positions — teaching, doing research, writing and traveling the world as an agricultural consultant — Massengale said he never expected to find himself heading a university.

Massengale came to UNL in 1976 as vice chancellor of agriculture and natural resources. He became chancellor in 1981.

"I had spent a number of years at the University of Arizona and had used many of my ideas and thoughts," Massengale said. "And the combination of the university, the industry and people made Nebraska look like a very exciting place and a

chance to look at ideas, challenges and opportunities."

Massengale said his son and daughter also shared his enthusiasm for Nebraska.

"The snow was a kind of novelty (to them)," he said.

Snow has not been the only adjustment the family has had to make. Once he became chancellor, Massengale said, added job responsibilities "competed" with his family time and leisure activities. Massengale said he enjoys golfing, fishing, bowling and reading.

Massengale said long office hours and many functions also prevent him from enjoying one of his favorite aspects of university life — the students.

"I think one of the things I miss most being in administration is the day-to-day contact with students."

Although he no longer visits with students daily, Massengale said, he has seen the UNL student body go through many changes since he arrived on campus. For one thing, he said, UNL has attracted more academically talented students.

"I feel very good about the quality of our students and faculty," he said. "And I think the university is continually striving to improve its quality."

Massengale said through increased interaction between the community and UNL faculty, the university has improved its quality and effectiveness. UNL's standing also has improved among its peer institutions, he said.

To continue improving, Massengale said, UNL will put more emphasis on areas like the fine arts, computer science, business and engineering. Administrators also will continue striving for higher faculty salaries, he said.



Photo courtesy of the Chancellor's office.

Chancellor Martin Massengale