

Prairie land...

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 "It is dedicated to our pioneer ancestors," Mrs. Hall said.
 Royce Ballinger, director of the NU School of Biological Sciences, welcomed the guests including Mrs. Hall, UNL Chancellor Martin Massengale, NU Regent Ed Schwartzkopf, Ernest Rousek of the Audubon Society, Jack Thompson, chairman of the NU Board of Trustees and Marvin Kivett, director of the State Historical Society.

Ballinger told the crowd the Prairie land is significant in three ways.

"It will serve as a laboratory for research and teaching, it represents and recognizes the importance of our daily lives and our national heritage and is a triumph of those who cared about our prairies," he said.

Massengale said the prairie land reminded him of the writings of Willa Cather and Mari Sandoz "who captured the wonders of the prairie land."

On the edge of the Nine-Mile Prairie is another marker containing the words of former NU agronomy professor John Weaver, who studied the land in the 1920s: "Prairie is much more than land covered by grass. It is a slowly evolved, highly complex, organic entity, centuries old. Once destroyed, it can never be replaced by man."



Marguerite Hall

Dan Dulaney/Daily Nebraskan

Wild West exhibit reflects prairie life

Cowboys and Indians were not just an imaginary child's game for the John Christlies, of Bellevue, who donated their collection of Western art to UNL in 1979.

Through approximately 200 paintings and 200 sculptures, the UNL exhibit depicts what the Wild West was like before it was tamed.

The collection, on display at Love Memorial Library 205, was valued at about \$2 million at the time it was donated.

The bronze sculptures, which sparked Christlieb's interest in Western art, give individual personalities to characters of the West. From stately Indian chiefs to cowboys on the trail, each subject tells its own story, as well as a general story of the Western Plains.

The collection includes a painting of Omaha as seen from the Iowa side of the Missouri River. It was painted by August Schawbe, the first professional artist listed in Omaha.

Setting it Straight

The Daily Nebraskan regrets the inadvertent use of the holy word "Koran" in a sports prediction column on Page 14 of Friday's issue.

Malicious use of the word was in no way intended, nor was it intended to make light of members of Lincoln's Islamic community, their religion or their holy book. We extend our apology to any person offended by the use of the word.

Wire Report

National and international news from the Reuter News Report

Soviets seize U.S. boat, refuse diplomatic contact

WASHINGTON — A Soviet official indicated Sunday that five American seamen detained after their boat was mysteriously seized in waters off Alaska would be freed soon. The official, Stanislav Menshikov, a Communist Party Adviser, said in a television interview from Moscow that the fishing supply boat presented no danger to the Soviet Union. He also said he did not know why Moscow has refused to allow U.S. diplomats to contact the Americans, who are in custody at an unknown location.

"There is no desire on the part of the Soviet government to hold the fishermen captives," Menshikov said in ABC's "This Week with David Brinkley." He added that the incident will be "solved quickly." The U.S. Coast Guard in Juneau, Alaska, first reported the incident Saturday. A spokesman said the Freida K, a 120-foot supply vessel for American fishing boats operating in the Bering Strait and the Arctic between Siberia and Alaska, had been due at its homeport of Nome, Alaska, last Wednesday on a run from Point Lay in north Alaska. The State Department said the Soviet Union only had reported that the men had been detained and had given no details on the incident itself or the men's whereabouts.

"We won't know anything until we talk to the Americans," said Joseph Reap, a State Department spokesman. Adding to the mystery was a Radio Moscow English-language broadcast Saturday saying that "in August" Soviet sailors had rescued four American fishermen in the Bering Sea and a woman pilot from California whose plane had crashed on a flight to Hawaii. The broadcast said the fishermen's boat had capsized and there was some initial confusion in the United States over whether the report referred to the Freida K.

Reap told Reuters he had no information that the Freida K had capsized and a Coast Guard spokesman said the maritime agency was aware of the two August incidents. The Coast Guard said the Freida K carried water, fuel and other supplies to fishing fleets and was on its third trip to the area when it was seized. The spokesman said the men were based in Homer, Alaska.

Grain-carrying freighter grounded

HAMILTON, Bermuda — A 28,000-ton freighter remained aground on reefs off Bermuda Sunday after two attempts to free it failed. The Sealuck, a 600-foot Maltese-registered bulk carrier with a mostly Philippine crew of 26, was carrying grain from Houston to Novorossiysk in the Soviet Union when it struck shallow reefs seven miles north of Bermuda late Saturday.

Two attempts to refloat the ship, owned by Thena Maris Shipping Management of New York, were unsuccessful, and salvage workers from the Dutch firm Smit Tacm flew to Bermuda Sunday. Bermuda's anti-pollution team has visited the ship but so far there are no signs of leaks from the 841 tons of bunker fuel or 133 tons of diesel oil the ship is carrying. Nevertheless, local officials are worried about the 1,200 tons of engine fuel on board.

Talks may only reduce tensions

WASHINGTON — Vice President George Bush said on NBC's "Meet the Press" that possibly all that would come from the Reagan-Gromyko meeting would be a reduction in tensions between the two nations. Soviet Communist Party Central Committee adviser Stanislav Menshikov said the outcome of the meeting would hinge on whether the United States offered any changes in its policies.

Appearing on ABC's "This Week with David Brinkley," Menshikov repeated the Kremlin's position on resuming arms control talks that it would depend on the United States stopping deployment of certain nuclear missiles in Western Europe. Assistant Secretary of State Richard Burt said on the same program that the United States was prepared to be flexible on arms control, regional issues and bilateral relations, but that Moscow also must be willing to make concessions.

Reagan leads in Newsweek poll

WASHINGTON — A Newsweek opinion poll published Sunday showed the Reagan-Bush ticket leading Mondale-Ferraro by 18 percentage points, 57 percent to 39 percent. This was in the range of the 15 percent margin found by a Gallup Poll announced Thursday and the 16 percent found by an ABC News-Washington Post poll announced Wednesday.

Newsweek's poll was taken Sept. 6 to 9, the Gallup survey Sept. 7 to 9 and the ABC poll Sept. 7 to 11. The Newsweek poll found Democrats leading Republicans at the congressional level by only 6 percentage points, far below their 18-point lead of two years earlier.

The survey, taken before Mondale last Monday detailed a plan to cut federal budget deficits through higher taxes and lower spending, found economic issues of paramount importance. While 81 percent of the 1,005 people interviewed by telephone agreed taxes would have to rise, Reagan was seen as more likely to cut the deficit and maintain prosperity. Two-thirds of Reagan's supporters said they were motivated positively while 55 percent of Mondale's backers said they were more motivated by opposition to Reagan, Newsweek said.

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