

Weather:

Sunny and cold today. Light easterly winds with a high of 28. Increasing clouds tonight with a 20 percent chance of light snow. Low of 15. Cloudy on Thursday with a 30 percent chance of rain or light snow. High of 33.

The Verandas triumph in RHA-sponsored battle

Arts and Entertainment, page 9

Huskers are assured of New Year's bowl

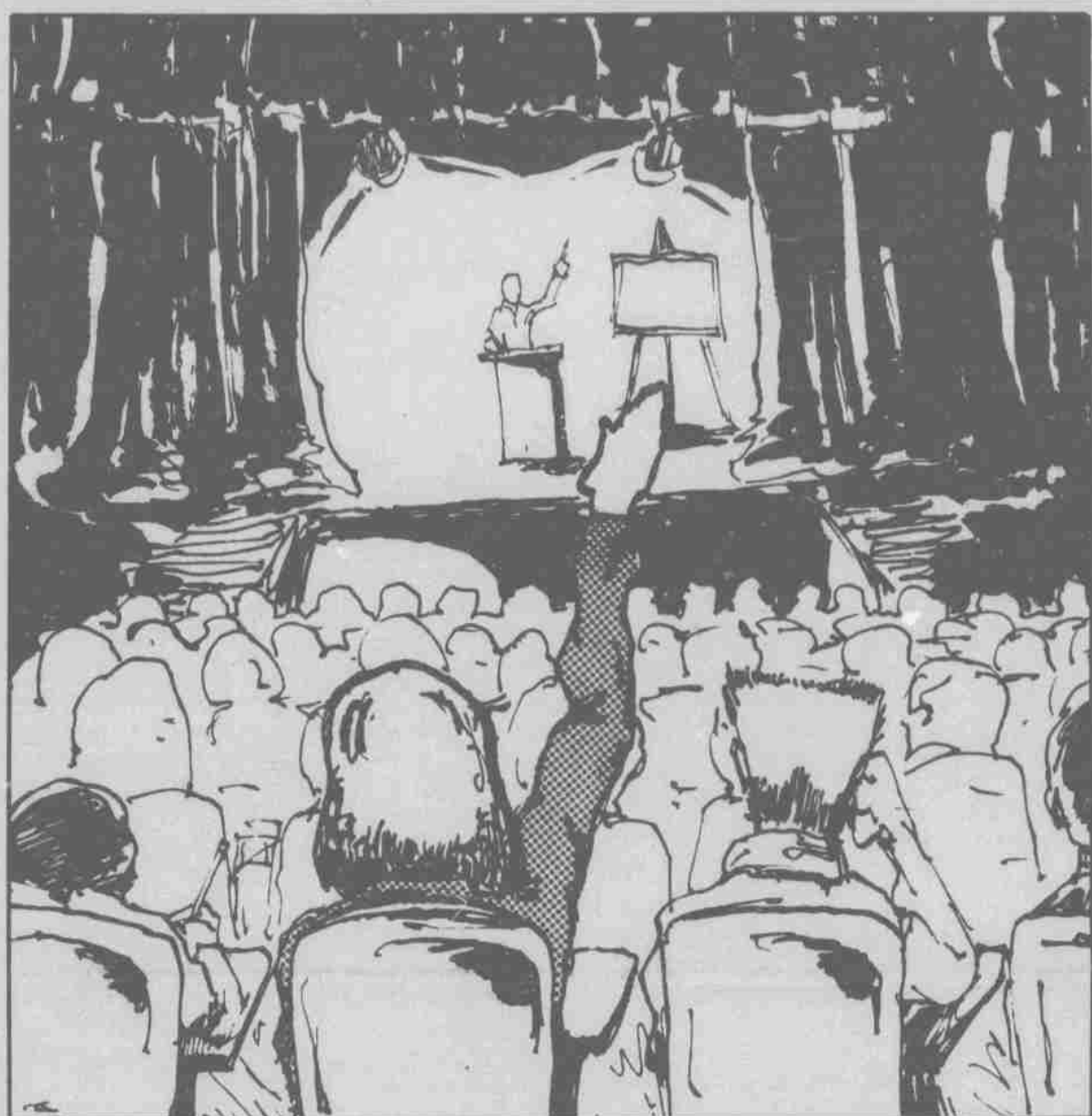
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Participation

UNL classes active, professors say

By Janis Lovitt
Staff Reporter

Although research shows that many U.S. college students spend as little as 5 percent of class in discussion, several UNL professors say they think class participation here has increased in the last few years.

The report, "Higher Education and the American Resurgence," was written by Frank Newman, former president of the University of Rhode Island. Newman said not enough college students challenge professors' ideas. The report suggested that students won't be as creative or take risks when they enter the job market.

Delivee Wright, director of UNL's Teaching and Learning Center, said she thinks a combination of good instructors and enthusiastic students leads to good discussions in UNL classrooms.

Wright said there might have been a decrease in participation since the 1960s, but she said she thinks class discussions actually have increased in the last few years.

Professors are aware of the problem, Wright said. The Teaching and Learning Center helps professors learn to overcome low class participation.

Keith Prichard, professor of adult education and social foundations, said professors have to work to get the class involved. He said he thinks it is the instructors' responsibility to get the class talking.

"A good professor will shift the lecture to a question," he said. "He should set aside time after each lecture for student's questions."

"The classroom is like a theater," Prichard said. "The students are the audience, and the professors are the actors."

Please see PARTICIPATE on 6

Gubernatorial campaign possibility for Boosalis

By Diana Johnson
Senior Reporter

Former Lincoln mayor Helen Boosalis may run for governor in 1986 — or she may not.

Boosalis said in a news conference Tuesday at the YWCA that she is not declining the Democrat gubernatorial nomination, but is considering it seriously.

Speculation about her possible candidacy began when she announced news conferences Monday in Omaha and Lincoln.

"I will not announce my candidacy for governor, but I will tell you what I am going to do," she said.

Boosalis said urging from her supporters, mostly in Lincoln, encouraged her to look into the financial and political possibilities of a gubernatorial campaign.

Boosalis said she also has been encouraged by polls conducted by the Lincoln Journal-Star and KLIN radio that indicate the voters polled considered her a top contender for possible gubernatorial candidacy. However, both polls said most voters questioned had no preference.

Boosalis said she appointed Marilyn Michel, a financial consultant for Merrill Lynch, to explore the financing for a possible campaign for the governorship.

First estimations of the costs for the campaign have been "rather astounding," Boosalis said, but she expects monetary support for her possible candidacy.

Boosalis said she has organized other committees to explore possible support from western Nebraska.

Results of those exploratory committees should allow her to decide by mid-January, she said.

"I think it would be unreasonable to expect a decision before then," Boosalis told reporters. Announcements for the nomination by other candidates will have no bearing in her decision to run, she said.

If she does run for governor, Boosalis said, issues would include agriculture, the economy, jobs, financing for education and water quality in Nebraska.

"We also need to restore our faith in ourselves as Nebraskans," she said, adding that she would help the state "realize its potential and help direct it."

Boosalis said her previous involvement with city and state governments would give her "more than adequate experience to handle the job."

"It isn't to say that being governor is easy. It's going to be tough, but I know that," Boosalis said.

Professors doubt usefulness of Reagan-Gorbachev summit

By Molly Adams
Staff Reporter

The summit talks that end today between President Reagan and Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev probably won't yield any spectacular agreements between the two superpowers, say some UNL political science professors.

The two-day summit, which was used to discuss arms issues, began Tuesday.

David Forsythe, calling the summit meeting a "media event," said that "in general, not much is going to come out of the meeting."

"If something important does come out of it, I will be surprised," he said.

Still, Forsythe said he thinks the two leaders could reach "smaller agreements" on things like continued U.S.-Soviet negotiations and possibly an agenda for future meetings.

Peter Cheng echoed Forsythe's comments about future negotiations. He said this meeting could "lay foundation for agreements in the future."

"This is a good beginning," Cheng said. "Eventually, both sides will understand each

other better, and similar meetings may be more successful."

William Avery also said the summit meeting would serve merely as a way for the heads of state to get to know each other.

"Summitry is not always a time for reaching firm agreements," Avery said. "Agreements, such as arms control, have to be hammered out in hard, detailed discussions among professionals who have a detailed command of the facts."

Avery said he doesn't think there is any sign of agreement on arms control. He said he doesn't think Reagan is "in any position to offer new concessions on arms control."

David Rapkin, department chairman and associate professor, said it "remains to be seen if Reagan will compromise on nuclear arms reductions and space-based defenses. He said he thinks it is "highly unlikely" that Reagan will compromise on those issues.

"There is such a high degree of animosity (in the administration), I don't believe the summit will do anything to move us off a dead center," he said.

Curator looks to history to endure budget cuts, controversy

By Kent Endacott
Staff Reporter

Jim Hanson's life has been a little hectic lately, but it finally seems to be settling down.

Much has happened to the man since he became director of the Nebraska State Historical Society on June 1.

In September, Hanson was involved in a controversial transfer of two outstate museum curators, Vance Nelson, curator of the Fort Robinson Museum, had to change places with Tom Buecker, curator of Neligh's Mills Museum.

Nelson, with the support of a number of western Nebraska communities, protested the transfer.

In response to the transfer, Caroline Sandoz — niece of Nebraska author

Mari Sandoz — reneged on a promise to the society to donate Sandoz's papers.

Hanson also faces a lean operating budget for the museum system.

During the regular session of the Legislature, the historical society's budget was reduced by 2 percent, coupled with a mandatory 3 percent salary increase for employees. Budget reductions that were passed in the special Legislative session will take another 3 percent out of the society's \$2 million budget.

"The changes caused by the budget cuts are qualitative changes," Hanson said. "The cuts have hurt the institution. We are forced to try to do a better job with less money."

But these problems haven't drained Hanson's enthusiasm for his new job.

"I'm a great believer in what a person can learn from the past," Hanson said. "We can learn from the problems that faced those before us, and we can learn by how they solved these problems. History gives us a sense of purpose."

Nebraska's history has been a part of Hanson's life as far back as he can recall. He said his job as director of the Nebraska Historical Society is the fulfillment of a childhood dream.

"When I was about 6 years old, my father brought me to Lincoln for the dedication of this building," Hanson said. "This was the new building at the time, and I thought, 'Gee, wouldn't that be a wonderful job.' Thirty years later, the job opened up and I applied for it, because if I didn't, I would have felt bad."

Hanson, 38, graduated from Chadron State College in 1969 with honors in history. During his senior year at Chadron State, he was hired as a technical consultant for the movie "A Man Called Horse." In 1970, he received his master's from Chadron State, and his doctorate from the University of Wyoming in 1973.

Directing the state historical society requires a rare combination of businessman and historian, Hanson said. His resume shows he has experience as both.

He was director of the Panhandle-Plains Historic Museum in Canyon, Texas, from 1974 to 1976 and was coordinator-consultant to the Smithsonian Institution's Native American Museum Program from 1977 to 1982. He was an adviser to the U.S. Department of Labor, where he specialized in training Native Americans in tourism and museum management.

He also has published several articles in museum journals on Western frontier life.



Hanson