

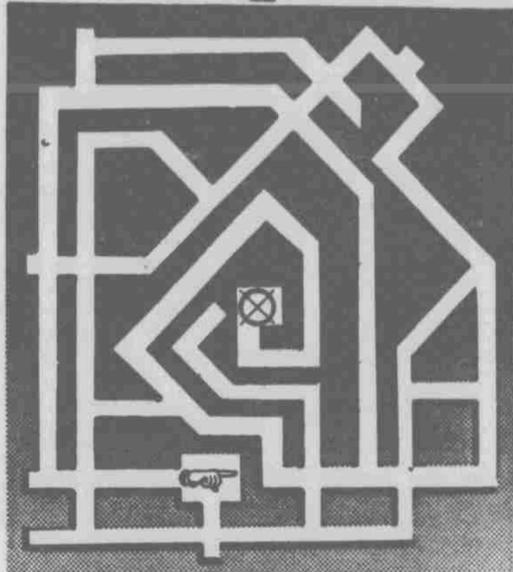
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TODAY

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Historical Society plans to transfer unneeded books to Love collection

By Todd von Kampen
Senior Reporter

UNL's library collections should be many books richer after the Nebraska State Historical Society "weeds out" its library in early 1987, said society and library officials.

Society director James Hanson said his staff began sorting through its stacks in October in search of books that are duplicate copies or unrelated to the society's purpose. The discarded books are being taken to Love Library, where UNL librarians will review them and select those the library can use. The Nebraska Library Commission will get any remaining books.

Interim Dean of Libraries Kent Hendrickson said the society's review will let the UNL library system add needed books to its collection for free. UNL does not have to pay for the books because they are state property, he said.

"It's an opportunity to pick up some things that we've missed in the past or couldn't buy in the past," he said.

The society began the review after a consultant suggested some books be discarded, Hanson said. Most libraries review their collections regularly, but the society has not reviewed its books as often as it should, he said.

Many of the books to be discarded are out-of-date reference books and scientific treatises not related to the society's focus on genealogy and history. The society would be interested in such treatises, only if they were done at NU or by Nebraskans working at other schools, he said.

The society also needs to make more room for books in storage, Hanson said. Some of the society's books have been sitting in cardboard boxes for as long as 12 years without anyone looking at them, he said.

Hendrickson said UNL librarians want to pick up the scientific treatises and

possibly replace some worn out books. The sorting process will take time because UNL librarians must add sorting to their regular duties, he said.

Hanson said the society won't know the total number of discarded books until the review is complete.

Sirens to ring Thursday at UNL for tornado drill

UNL will conduct a tornado drill Thursday between 10 and 10:45 a.m., said Joyce Taylor, a member of the UNL Disaster Preparedness Committee.

Taylor said university sirens will ring for five minutes at 10:30 a.m. Students and faculty members are to move to tornado shelters. All buildings on the UNL campus have tornado shelters, which are marked by a yellow sign at the main entrance of the buildings.

In previous years, she said, the drills occurred during spring break. The drills, sponsored by the Department of Civil Defense, will be conducted throughout the state as part of "Tornado Awareness Week."

Taylor said she hopes students and faculty members will cooperate and move to the shelters quickly. Students and faculty members are requested to bring AM/FM radios and flashlights with them to the shelters. At 10:35 a.m. radio and TV stations will give an all-clear message.

Building maintenance reporters will monitor the buildings during the drill and help everyone find the shelters, Taylor said.

"People unwilling to participate are leaving themselves wide open," Taylor said. "If they don't, they don't. We never know when something like this might happen."

After the drill, all building maintenance reporters will evaluate the exercise and report to the UNL maintenance department, Taylor said.

Last year, faculty members and administrators had a compliance rate of 95 percent, Taylor said.

Diplomat blasts aid to Contras

Staff Reporter

Nicaraguan diplomat and poet Roberto Vargas told a group of graduate political science students Tuesday that the United States is trying to annihilate Nicaragua.

President Reagan proposed \$100 million in aid to Nicaraguan rebels in his State of the Union address. Vargas said the Contras aren't getting the money and probably won't be in Nicaragua by this summer.

"The Contras isn't a country, isn't a nation, isn't a movement. It's a mercenary army," Vargas said. Vargas is the Cultural and Labor Affairs Counselor for Nicaragua at its U.S. Embassy in Washington. "They don't have popular support, so what is the justification of giving them \$100 million?"

Vargas said the ruling Sandinistas do have the support of the people.

"If we didn't have the support of the people, we would have been gone long ago," he said.

He also said Nicaragua has suffered from negative propaganda spread by the United States.

"Nicaragua has been used as a scapegoat for other things that are happening in the world," he said. Nicaragua is called "the cancer of the hemisphere" and "the most mortal threat to the entire free world" because the Sandinistas are communist.

Since the Sandinistas took power in 1979, Nicaragua has been elevated from a "banana republic" to the "sea of red lapping at the doorstep" of the United States, he said.

"I don't believe or trust anything this administration says anymore," Vargas said. "And I feel sorry for people who do."

The people of Nicaragua, who have spent 46 years under dictatorships financed by the United States, are arming themselves against the "daily threats from the most powerful nation in the world," he said.

Vargas will speak at a brown bag luncheon today at 11:30 a.m. in Oldfather 538.

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