



Kris Karnopp/Daily Nebraskan

### Rally

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Patricia Ireland, president elect of the National Organization for Women, said, "We will go toe to toe with these bullies."

"We won't go back. We will fight back," she said.

Rachel Murray, a former member of UNL's Students for Choice, joined ralliers on the banks of the Arkansas River to "stand up and be openly pro-choice."

About 16 supporters of UNL Students for Choice traveled to the rally, Murray said.

"I think this is exactly the response that they (abortion rights activists) needed to have to Operation Rescue," she said.

Murray joined others in shouting and waving signs.

"I feel recharged," she said. "I've been in this movement for a long time. I feel we've been needing to speak out for a long time."

UNL seniors Rachel Nutter and Lisa Giddings left Lincoln at 2 a.m. Friday to travel to the rally.

Nutter, a women's studies and psychology major, said, "I think people

need to stand up for what they believe in."

Both women later joined a counter-demonstration outside a Wichita family planning clinic.

Other keynote speakers included Kate Michelman, executive director of the National Abortion Rights Action League; Ann Stone, chairwoman of Republicans for Choice; Jane O'Brien Reilly, national coordinator for Catholics for Free Choice; Lynn Mara Paltrow, senior staff counsel of the American Civil Liberties Union's Reproductive Freedom Project, and Eleanor Smeal, founder of the Fund for the Feminist Majority.

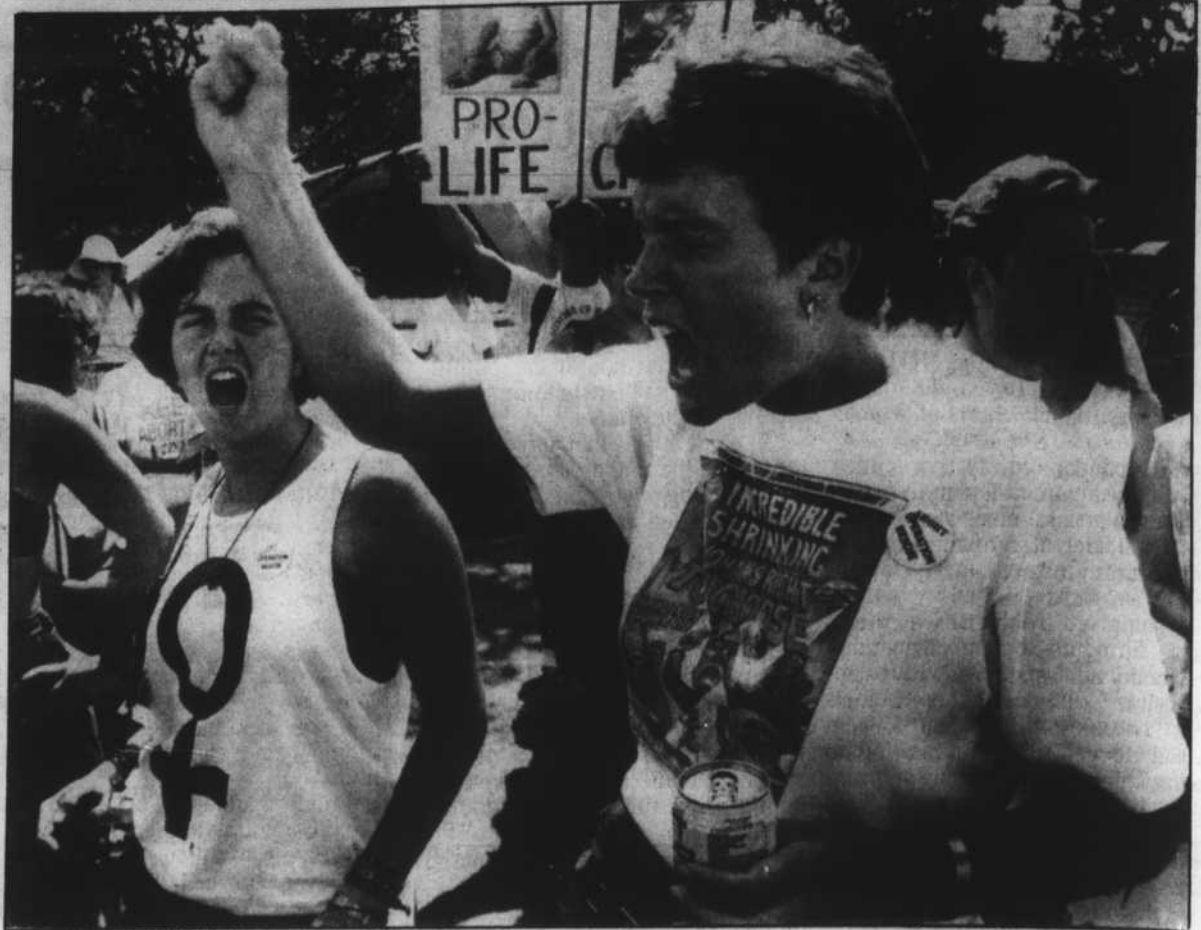
Some antiabortionists who entered the crowd during Smeal's speech were quickly escorted by police to the outskirts of the park.

Smeal yelled: "This is our rally. Operation Rescue, go home!"

The crowd joined in, chanting: "Go home. Go home."

A woman in the crowd yelled: "My baby's here. We don't want trouble today."

Some jeering was prompted by a Rural America Speaks Out for Life motorcade that featured tractors, trucks and other vehicles.



Shaun Sartin/Daily Nebraskan



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**CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT:** About 5,000 abortion-rights protesters gather at A. Price Woodard Park in Wichita, Kan.

Rachel Nutter (right) a UNL senior women's studies and psychology major, and Lisa Giddings, a math major, join in a chant with fellow abortion-rights activists.

B.K. Christopher (left) and Eden Blackwood, both of Shawnee Mission, Kan., cheer during a speech at the abortion-rights rally Saturday morning in downtown Wichita, Kan.

A group of children from Missouri protest outside a Wichita family planning clinic.

A Wichita policewoman mixes Gatorade for the dozens of officers that are needed to keep the peace during the protests.

Hayes Brickell of Las Vegas gives a thumbs-up to fellow anti-abortion activists driving by a clinic where abortions are performed.



Shaun Sartin/Daily Nebraskan

## UNL activist says group hurts cause

By Adeana Leftin  
Senior Reporter

Operation Rescue, a protesting group at the forefront of the anti-abortion movement, is doing more harm than good, the president of UNL Students for Life said Sunday.

Joe Luby, president of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln organization, said it was a "fact of American politics" that people or groups spearheading a good cause can hinder the movement.

Since mid-July, Operation Rescue has been blocking the entrance to abortion clinics in Wichita, Kan.

The protesters carry pictures of bloodied baby parts, discourage and sometimes prevent women from entering the clinics and are arrested often.

Operation Rescue is "entirely counterproductive," Luby said, and "is really helping perpetuate this myth that all pro-lifers are religious fanatics."

Luby said he believes groups who are against abortion should work to persuade others to take a similar stance.

Instead, Luby said, the tactics used by Operation Rescue alienate people.

"If anybody is changing their mind because of Operation Rescue, it's



Shaun Sartin/Daily Nebraskan

**“For us to participate in Wichita would be for us to associate with that group.”**

Luby president, UNL Students for Life

against pro-life," he said. "Certainly, there's room for protest, but they're taking it too far."

UNL Students for Life has a different strategy, Luby said.

Each year, the organization marches from the State Capitol building to the federal building, distributes literature and hosts speakers.

Luby said organization members hope that by having information booths

and passing out literature, they can "plant a seed."

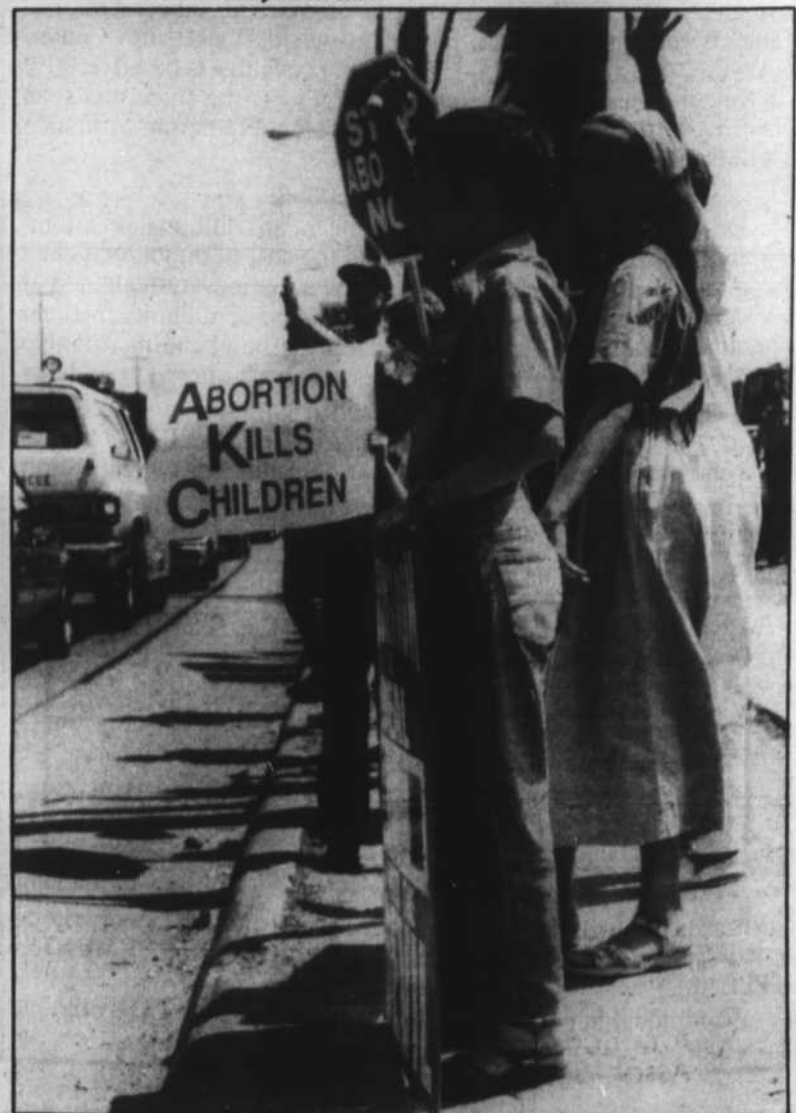
With an issue as controversial as abortion, people don't change their minds immediately, he said. But the information might make them reconsider their positions, he said.

The organization will continue with its long-term tactics, Luby said, and will not participate in the Wichita rally.

"For us to participate in Wichita would be for us to associate with that group," he said.

And Luby said UNL's group, as well as most other anti-abortion organizations, do not want any connection with Operation Rescue.

"Operation Rescue does not represent the entire pro-life movement," he said.



Stacey McKenzie/Daily Nebraskan