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Damon Lee/DN

The Maza Kute singers of the Santee Sioux tribe perform on the Capitol steps Tuesday afternoon. The performance was part of a rally held in protest of recent re-enactment of a Native American raid in Oak.

Oak ambush re-enactment decried

By Dionne Searcey
Senior Reporter

The thumping of a drum preceded a rally Tuesday where an ethnic mix of cultures protested a re-enactment of Native American attacks on Oregon Trail pioneers.

About 60 teachers, students, government officials and passers-by stood on the steps of the Nebraska Capitol to protest the Oak, Neb., event that depicts an ambush on pioneers by Native Americans.

The protesters stood between two etchings commemorating Native Americans' part in Nebraska's history.

Protesters carried signs with mes-

sages such as, "Oak, respect yourself" and, "Reenactment of killing is sick."

The Lincoln rally, which was sponsored by the Nebraska Indian Inter-tribal Development Corp., prepared protesters for a later rally where they will meet with citizens.

Shawn Bordeaux, president of University of Nebraska Inter-tribal Exchange, said the reenactment was a mockery of his Native American culture.

"People aren't sensitive to who we are," Bordeaux said.

Sen. Ernie Chambers of Omaha agreed that Oak citizens weren't respecting the Native American culture in the Aug. 22 event where spectators

had to pay to watch the re-enactment.

"I see a group of white people who are highly insensitive trying to commercialize a tragic situation," Chambers said.

"I bet they'd be chafed if African Americans and Native Americans came to Oak to do a re-enactment of (Ku Klux) Klan activities in that area," Chambers said. "That's a part of white history."

But Richard Crees, a tour guide at the Capitol, said the re-enactment simply was a reflection of history.

"If you're going to condemn what's going on in Oak, you're going to have to condemn any Civil War re-enactment."

Fair hosts Earth festival

By Glenn Antonucci
Staff Reporter

This year's Nebraska State Fair will feature its first-ever recycling and environmental awareness program.

The Earthbound Festival will celebrate Nebraska's natural resources and agriculture, said Jane Polson, executive director of Keep Nebraska Beautiful.

"We want to heighten awareness of natural resources and peoples' responsibility to the environment in an entertaining way," Polson said.

Polson said the festival would feature booths displaying companies' recycled products, interactive projects with computer games and live entertainment.

Country singer John Michael Montgomery will headline the entertainment during his Sept. 3 performance at the Bob Devaney Sports Center. Montgomery will perform with renowned Canadian artist Michelle Wright.

Other attractions will include the covered wagon that represented Nebraska in the Oregon Trail's 150th Anniversary, a display of alternatively fueled vehicles and an environmental quilt.

Polson said Earthbound Festival is also a push for a litter-free fair. Polson said about 500 volunteers were needed to pass out pocket ashtrays and to man recycling bins. In return for their service, volunteers get free admission to the fair, free parking and a T-shirt.

Polson said she expected positive reaction to the festival.

"I think people are interested in doing everything that is environmentally safe and clean," she said.

Professors, students recognized

From staff reports

Two UNL professors and two graduate students were recognized at the College of Agricultural Studies and Natural Resources meeting earlier this month.

Jack Schinstock, assistant dean of the college and professor of biological systems engineering, received the 1993 L.K. Crowe outstanding adviser award.

The award was established by the late Vera Crowe in memory of her husband, a University of Nebraska-Lincoln dairy scientist who contribut-

"We want to heighten awareness of natural resources and peoples' responsibility to the environment in an entertaining way."

— Polson
executive director, Keep Nebraska Beautiful

Nebraska is among the leaders of the recycling effort, Polson said. Efforts on the East and West coasts have tapered off recently because of unstable recycled-product markets.

But Nebraska, by progressing slowly in its environmental efforts, has avoided flooding its "green markets."

Polson said another major objective of the festival was to convince people to "close the loop," not only by recycling, but also by buying recycled products.

Agricultural Hall will act as headquarters for the festival, and an open-air tent will provide entertainment throughout the fair. Acts will include Woody Woodpecker from Universal Studios, Nebraska Historian Robert Manly and a robotics display.

Much of the funding—in the form of money, recycling bins and liners—will be provided by the James River Corporation, a national paper company with offices in Omaha and Chicago.

Polson said those interested in volunteer work should call the Keep Nebraska Beautiful office.

ed to the college as a teacher and an adviser.

Laura Casari, an associate professor of agricultural leadership, education and communication, received the 1993 National Association of College Teachers of Agriculture meritorious teaching certificate.

The CASNR advisory board and the college presented outstanding teaching assistant awards to Kristin Barkhouse of Troy, Mich., and Robert Mitchell of Seward.

Barkhouse works in the department of animal science, and Mitchell works in the agronomy department.

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