

# Daily Nebraskan

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**WEATHER:**

Today - Partly cloudy and cold. Northwest wind 10 to 20 mph.

Tonight - Clear and cold, Low around 0.

February 28, 1996

*'People always ask me to get out of here, but I can't go. People think there is nothing here, but there is a lot.'*

**AGNES LEAMONS**



Travis Heying/DN

Clint and Amanda Brockmann walk with their dog past a sign leading into their hometown, the smallest in Nebraska. Contrary to a Census Bureau error, there are actually seven people in the town of Monowi, not six.

## Isolated point

*Monowi residents enjoy the quiet life*

**M**ONOWI — A length of rusted metal pipe props open the front door to the old wooden school house. The haggard structure stands deserted and alone on the edge of town, amid frosted, overgrown Nebraska prairie grass.

Located along Nebraska Highway 12, which winds through the northern hills of Boyd County, the rural community is nestled just below the South Dakota border. It's a light villa with three stop signs and four street lights resting among pasture land, alfalfa and corn fields.

The town today appears ghostly with its abandoned buildings and shacks, junk scattered everywhere, overwhelming stillness — and seven lone inhabitants. The slow, leisurely pace of

Monowi harnesses the hourglass of time.

A census bureau error on the sign outside of town says only six people live here. But there are seven.

Monowi is officially the smallest incorporated town in Nebraska.

Lifelong residents Rudy and Elsie Eiler, owners of the Monowi Tavern (the only business in the town), are most qualified to recall Monowi's younger days.

"There used to be a lot of people around here," Rudy says. "Now, there's not as many folks to visit with. We are the whole community."

"It's so hard to make a living," he says, taking a drag from his Prime cigarette. "The economy is a big factor. Farms are bigger, and there are fewer people on the farms. There's less business. It's a smaller

population, but the people are the same — friendly."

According to the Nebraska State Historical Society, settlers founded Monowi in 1902 when the Chicago Northwestern railroad came through.

An 1889 treaty between Native Americans and the U.S. government opened the area for settlement in Boyd County, which previously had been Ponca Indian territory.

Two destructive fires literally wiped out the town. One demolished a bank and general store. Another in 1912 scorched a hotel, the post office and another general store.

The town never recovered.

See **MONOWI** on 7

## Forbes win shakes up GOP race

By John King  
The Associated Press

Flat-tax champion Steve Forbes captured Arizona's winner-take-all primary Tuesday, shocking Pat Buchanan and Bob Dole. The victory seized an improbable lead in the turbulent Republican presidential race. Stung in the night's showdown contest, Dole took some solace from winning North and South Dakota.

For Forbes, the dramatic Arizona win meant back-to-back victory celebrations after two disappointing fourth-place showings in Iowa and New Hampshire.

The publishing heir won Delaware's primary Saturday, and used that boost — and another major personal investment in TV ads — to surge past Buchanan and Dole in the final weekend of Arizona campaigning.

Forbes was ecstatic with his victory. "We believe deeply that America has the potential for the greatest economic boom and spiritual renewal in its history," he said to cheering supporters in Phoenix.

"A week ago they wrote our obituary," he said. "Now tonight we can perhaps write the obituary of conventional political punditry in America." Buchanan could only be disappointed. He drew enthusiastic crowds throughout the final weekend and asserted an Arizona win would make him the clear front-runner. Instead, he came away empty-handed looking to redeem himself with Saturday's showdown in South Carolina.

Dole flatly predicted a South Carolina victory, and the contest shapes up as his last best chance to launch a turnaround. Forbes trails in South Carolina, while Buchanan has been inching his way up. Dole left no doubt he considered the more conservative Buchanan the bigger threat in the South.

With one-third of Arizona's vote tallied, Forbes was leading with 36 percent. Buchanan and Dole were battling for second; exit polling suggested Buchanan had the edge.

Lamar Alexander was a dim afterthought on the first multi-state primary day of the muddled GOP campaign. Some leading Dole supporters said it was time for the former Tennessee governor to get out of the way. Tuesday's results put Forbes well ahead in The Associated Press delegate count, with 60 so far. Buchanan had 37 and Dole 36, while Alexander had 10 delegates.

A candidate needs 996 delegates to win the Republican nomination and the success of the anti-establishment candidates sparked talk in Republican circles Tuesday of a contested convention.

The dramatic comeback gave Forbes momentum for the nomination chase, with a critical, crowded stretch of primaries just ahead. Party leaders anxious to see Buchanan blocked from the nomination would surely turn quick attention to the deep-pocketed Forbes' candi-

See **FORBES** on 2

## Rising hall rates low for Big 12

By Julie Sobczyk  
Senior Reporter

Residence hall room and board rates will increase for the 1996-97 school year, but UNL's rates are still among the lowest in the Big 12, a UNL official said.

Doug Zatechka, director of housing at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, said room and board rates had increased for the past 17 years.

"One reason is because of inflation," Zatechka said. "I know of few costs that go down each year."

Next year the rate for a double room with a 20-meal plan will increase

by 5.2 percent and will cost \$3,525. Now that plan costs \$3,350.

The rate for a double room with a 14-meal plan will increase by 4.4 percent next year, costing \$3,440. Now, a 13-meal plan is offered for \$3,295.

A new 10-meal plan will be offered next year, Zatechka said, and will cost \$3,370 with a double room.

The idea for the 10-meal plan came from surveys done by ASUN, he said.

"The student government said there was a lot of interest about a plan that would offer fewer meals a week," he said. "We did some research and came up with the 10-meal plan."

Most of the Big 12 schools will have room and board increases for the 1996-97 year.

Despite the increase, UNL will have the second-lowest room and board rate in the Big 12, Zatechka said. Kansas State University will have the lowest rate — a double room with 20 meals for \$3,490 per year, a 3.6 percent increase from this year's rate.

Zatechka said students returning to the residence halls would not pay the increased rate.

Returning students will pay the same

See **RATES** on 2

### Rising Rates

Increase for the last 10 years to UNL room and board rates.

Academic year	Amount of increase	Room and board rates	Percent of increase over prior year rates
1988/89 (13-meal)	\$140	\$2,255	6.6%
(20-meal)	\$140	\$2,310	6.4%
1990/91 (13-meal)	\$195	\$2,570	8.2%
(20-meal)	\$195	\$2,625	8.0%
1992/93 (13-meal)	\$95	\$2,860	3.4%
(20-meal)	\$95	\$2,915	3.4%
1994/95 (13-meal)	\$150	\$3,090	5.1%
(20-meal)	\$150	\$3,145	5.0%
Recommended 1996/97 (10-meal)	NA	\$3,370	NA
(14-meal)	\$145	\$3,440	4.4%
(20-meal)	\$175	\$3,525	5.2%

Source: UNL Housing Department

Russell Johnson/DN