

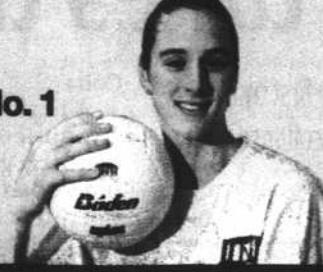
Daily Nebraskan

Lincoln fifth grader cooks her way to New York with her Easy-Bake Oven
In News/5



Last year's star player, Nancy Meendering, watches NU fight for No. 1 - without her.

In SportsWeekend/12



A tribute to John Lennon: 20 years after his murder, fans remember his impact
In Arts/8



Great Platte River Archway Monument celebrated, criticized

■ One critic says the Kearney museum's architecture detracts from the history it is meant to portray.

BY BRADLEY DAVIS AND GEORGE GREEN

When President Clinton sets foot in the Great Platte River Archway Monument on Friday, some Nebraskans say he will be exploring a grand museum.

But at least one archway critic remains steadfast in his opposition to the monument.

Assistant General Manager of the arch, Ronnie O'Brien, said no matter what some detractors say, most visitors leave the arch in awe.

"It's a very powerful experience," she said.

O'Brien said articles in local papers rave about the arch's technologically advanced displays.

Barbara Clark, group sales coordinator for the arch, said the \$60 million monument fuses infrared technology, modern audio systems, Western artifacts and murals into a genuine experience of what the Old West used to be like.

"You get the feeling like you're really there," she said.

Visitors put on radio headsets before they traverse the arch, Clark said. And, when they enter new exhibits, infrared sensors trigger the displays to begin their presentations.

Some exhibits place visitors in the heart of Western lightning storms while others bring them face to face with stampeding buffalo, she said.

When visitors aren't dodging buffaloes, Clark said, they are listening to

cast figures describe life on the prairie.

"It's so fabulous that it's beyond words," she said.

Kearney Mayor Pete Kotsiopoulos said the arch also is bolstering local economies.

Preliminary sales tax numbers and motel booking figures show that the arch is helping Kearney businesses, he said.

Moreover, he said, the arch's positive repercussions will ripple across the state.

If visitors stop at the arch for even an hour or two, he said, they are more likely to stay in a hotel in Lincoln or Omaha that night.

But, Kotsiopoulos said, the figures he has are only preliminary, and he expects more good news from the monument.

"We only know the tip of the iceberg," he said.

Kotsiopoulos said the arch's historical value is equally as important as its financial benefits.

Visitors will learn about Nebraska's rich history from presentations that use the latest technology from around the world, he said.

The inside of the arch is fascinating and will surprise visitors with its interactive exhibits, he said.

"The internal part is incredible," he said.

Though people are raving about the arch's inside, there will always be discussion about its exterior, Kotsiopoulos



Courtesy Photo

The Great Platte River Archway Monument spans the width of Interstate 80 near Kearney. The archway has Nebraska history exhibits in its museum.

said.

Architects will debate about the monument's structural significance for years to come, he said.

One of the arch's most vocal critics,

Please see ARCH on 6

The Clinton Years

President paved way from Cold War to globalization

BY BRIAN CARLSON

In what is billed as a major speech, President Clinton will discuss his foreign policy record today and chart a course for the future of the U.S. role in the world.

As part of his first visit to Nebraska as president, Clinton will speak today at 9 a.m. at the University of Nebraska at Kearney. His address is titled "A Foreign Policy for the Global Age."

"The president will talk about the role that America has played in the world over the course of the last several years, the principles that have guided the administration's foreign policy and the path we should take in the future," said Jason Schechter, a White House spokesman.

"He will stress the continuing importance of America's engagement in the world and the American people's interest in foreign policy."

"This speech is as much a look back on the successes of the Clinton administration on foreign policy as it is a look down the road to what our foreign policy should be in the future."

Clinton's foreign-policy address in Nebraska provides a chance to evaluate the foreign-policy record he compiled during his two terms. Two University of Nebraska-Lincoln professors said Clinton's record was a mixture of failures and successes, marked by confusion over the nature of the post-Cold War era.

An article by Sandy Berger, Clinton's national security adviser, in the November/December issue of Foreign Affairs bears the same title as Clinton's speech.

Berger gives Clinton credit for expanding NATO, halting the violence in Bosnia, leading the NATO bombing campaign to stop human-rights abuses by Yugoslav forces in Kosovo, sealing free-trade agreements and leading the country into a globalized world.

"I believe President Clinton's most fundamental achievement is that he steered America from the Cold War era to the era of globalization in a way that enhanced not only our power but also our authority," Berger wrote. "That is the foundation on which we must advance our interests in a global age."

Berger argues that the next president should maintain the strong U.S. alliances but help them adapt to new challenges, constructively engage former Cold War adversaries such as Russia and China, work to quell local conflicts that threaten international peace, address the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and continue to press for economic integration and free trade.

David Forsythe, a UNL political science professor, said Clinton's foreign-policy legacy is difficult to define. No "Clinton doctrine" has emerged, he said, but that may be because of the era's complexity.

During the Cold War, the United States had a clear enemy in the Soviet Union and was able to define its foreign policy in terms of containing Soviet communism. No such simple foreign-affairs paradigm is apparent today, Forsythe said.

"His legacy is the difficulty of establishing a coherent policy after the Cold War," he said. "It's not at all clear that Clinton is associated with any particular vision about the U.S. and world affairs. He was much more in the pragmatic, muddle-through tradition

than he was in the big picture tradition."

After primarily stressing domestic policy during his successful campaign to defeat President George Bush in the 1992 election, Clinton received criticism for his early foreign policy.

"Most scholars believe Clinton was not very interested in foreign policy when he came into office," he said. "It was only late in his second term that he began to pay more systematic attention to foreign policy."

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