

Nebraska NETWORKS

Your quarterly connection to public broadcasting

Fall 2002, Issue No. 4

PARTNERS

INSIDE

Local Programming
Support: Geneva
and Nevada Wheeler

3

Calendar
of Events

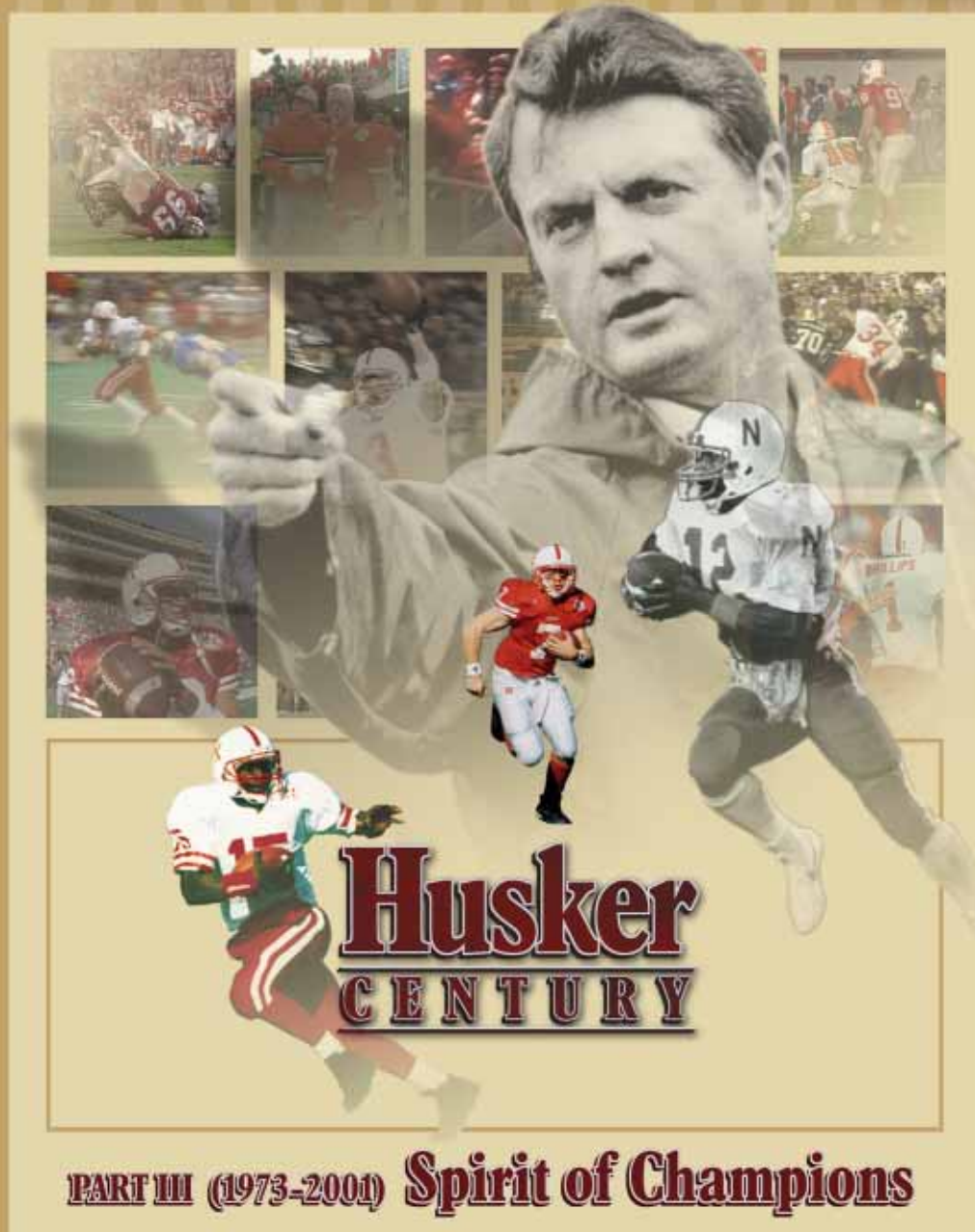
4

Programming:
Husker Century: Part III

5

Society Members
Jack G. McBride
Friends of the Future

6



**Husker
CENTURY**

PART III (1973-2001) Spirit of Champions



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Web Address:
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Message

Message from the Assistant General Manager of Content Development

We Listen to You!

Nebraskans are attuned to the cycle of seasons, and we adapt to the changes. To keep pace with the changing world, you tune in to public radio and television. In turn, we listen to you and adapt programming, usually in a seasonal cycle.

This fall we've fine tuned our programming on the Nebraska Public Radio Network (NPRN). A listener favorite, "Nebraska Concerts," will have a Saturday afternoon encore broadcast, and the "BBC News" has been replaced by extended National Public Radio coverage.

Also this fall, we adjusted the schedule of PBS programs, returning "Masterpiece Theatre" to Sunday nights and moving "Statewide," our Nebraska news and public affairs program, to Wednesday nights. "Statewide" now covers more business issues and includes more investigative pieces. "Next Exit," our eclectic series about unusual people and places in Nebraska, now follows "Statewide." NETV2 continues to expand, reaching more people than ever before on cable systems across the state.

We listen to you, and we appreciate your listening to us. With the state of Nebraska and the University of Nebraska cutting funds for NET operations again this year, private contributions from friends like you provide vital resources that help us strengthen local programming, acquire new programs, and deliver the quality television and radio programs Nebraskans expect.

Predicting what people want to see and hear (and when) is even more complicated than predicting our state's weather. At NET, we have our antennae out to detect change. With continued quality programming, you can know more about your world. And with your continued support, we can do more for Nebraska.



David Feingold
Assistant General Manager of Content Development
Nebraska Educational Telecommunications



Memorial Gifts

Memorial gifts are a lasting memory of your loved one's commitment to the mission of the Nebraska ETV and Nebraska Public Radio Networks. This legacy becomes a part of our endowed Funds for the Future, which helps ensure the future of public broadcasting in Nebraska.

To learn how to make a memorial gift, contact Jessica McMullen at jmcmullen2@unl.edu or 1-800-634-6788.

Local Programming

Support

World travelers. Educated professionals. Loyal friends. Many people may consider the accomplishments of sisters Geneva and Nevada Wheeler as unique as their names.

Born and raised in Nebraska to parents who enjoyed traveling, the sisters moved to Lincoln in 1918. Margaret McGregor, age 102, still remembers their address—819 N. 33rd. “We were neighbors,” she recalls. “I lived at 3160 Vine St.”



Geneva Wheeler



Nevada Wheeler

As was common back then, the Wheeler and McGregor families quickly became acquainted and spent many Sunday afternoons touring various parts of Lincoln and taking in events. “I remember one Sunday we visited Bess Streeter Aldrich’s house. We were on the stairs when we heard someone coming, and it was her! Just imagine how surprised we were — that was a memorable day,” says McGregor.

Soon after moving to Lincoln, Nevada graduated from Lincoln High and enrolled at the University of Nebraska, earning a A.B. degree and majoring in English. Geneva received an A.B. degree from the University and majored in history and sociology. Both women continued their studies at the Lincoln School of Commerce and took jobs in Lincoln. Geneva with the Midwest Life Insurance Company of Lincoln, and Nevada with the University of Nebraska College of Agriculture. Like her friends, McGregor attended college, earned a degree from Nebraska Wesleyan and taught piano and organ until recently.

In addition to the weekend outings, McGregor remembers a special day in 1962 when the Wheelers asked her to make yet another trip. “When Geneva and Nevada’s father died he left instructions in his will for them to travel. Nevada retired early from her job so they could.”

“One day they asked me if I wanted to go with them to tour the British Isles by car. I had never thought of such a thing, but a \$1,000 gift from a family friend made it possible for me to go. I remember Nevada

went to Omaha to take special classes to learn how to drive on the left-hand side of the road.”

The five-week trip was one of the most memorable of McGregor’s life. “We visited Buckingham Palace as well as Ireland and Wales. We heard bagpipes in Scotland and spent

the night at a lovely bed and breakfast there. I still keep in touch with the owner.”

Geneva and Nevada eventually made 11 trips to Europe and traveled to all 50 states, each Canadian province, Mexico, the Orient, Australia and New Zealand. “Both sisters were so accomplished,” says McGregor. “Nevada spoke French. Geneva took voice lessons and painted. They loved poetry, books and music.”

In 1980, when the sisters sold their house to reside in a retirement home in Lincoln, their love for travel followed them. “I remember they always wore hats and gloves, drove a little red car and kept a very precise travel journal,” says Rev. Bob Chitwood, executive director of Eastmont Towers in Lincoln. “They’d record the exact departure time, the price of gas, who they met along the way, and descriptions of sites such as windmills and dogs.”

In addition to their preciseness, Chitwood remembers a second character trait that defined the sisters—generosity. “Their parents taught them by example to be charitable. After their deaths, Geneva and Nevada continued to send gifts to the organizations supported by their parents and also added their own.”

Based on their actions, it’s not surprising that when the sisters passed away, Geneva in 1993 and Nevada in 2001, they left 100

Have You Accomplished Your Charitable Goals for 2002?

There are many worthy charitable organizations and institutions that are in need of your support. That’s why NPTV and PRNF are especially thankful for your gifts. As 2002 draws to an end we want you to know that we deeply appreciate your help in providing high quality television and radio programming for all Nebraskans.

In a year in which economic outcomes seem overwhelmingly negative, we wish to remind you that provisions of last year’s tax legislation may yet have a favorable impact on your financial position for 2002. We encourage you to review important financial matters, including your charitable gift commitments, before the end of 2002.

Should you wish to make a charitable contribution to NPTV and/or PRNF before December 31, there are many ways in which to make your gift, with cash and appreciated property (such as securities) the most popular giving options. You may also wish to consider making a long-term contribution to our endowed Funds for the Future through a bequest or other gift planning method.

For more information about year-end giving and Funds for the Future endowment gifts, please contact Michele Peón Casanova at mpeon-casanova1@unl.edu or 1-800-634-6788

percent of their estates to charities and organizations, including Nebraskans for Public Television. “With their love for music and traveling, I’m sure they enjoyed the documentaries and the special music and arts programs,” says Chitwood.

Looking back, their generosity and adventurous spirits are two qualities Chitwood most often associates with the Wheeler sisters. McGregor recalls something even more special: “Geneva and Nevada were loyal friends. My life would have been so different if I hadn’t known them.”

Calendar of *Events*



Upcom

If you were unable to attend these events, NET has many others scheduled for the coming months, including:

October

Live From The Mill Statewide,

Oct. 4, Kearney
"Live From The Mill" will broadcast live from The Museum of Nebraska Art in Kearney on Friday, October 4, 9 - 10 am (CT). Join host William Stibor in lively conversation with members of Nebraska's art scene from the central part of the state.

Special NPTV Membership Drive Evening,

Oct. 6
"Masterpiece Theatre: The Forsyte Saga"

Gift Planning Seminar and Luncheon,

Oct. 10, Lincoln
Do you have questions about estate planning? This free seminar and luncheon can help answer your questions about charitable gift planning. Sponsored by a consortium of local nonprofit agencies, the seminar features respected professionals from the legal and charitable communities and will highlight creative and effective strategies you can use to support your favorite charitable causes. For more information contact Marti Baumer at 1-800-634-6788.

Public Radio Nebraska Foundation On-air Membership Drive,

Oct. 18-26

Board Meetings for NPTV and PRNF,

Oct. 25, Lincoln 1-5 p.m.
Board members are reminded to mark their calendars. These meetings are open to the public.

2002 Recognition Banquet,

Oct. 25, Lincoln
Join us for the 6th annual recognition event. Honoring those people who make up the "public" in public broadcasting. A celebration of Nebraska Educational Telecommunica-

Autumn has arrived in Nebraska, and as we feel the last bit of summer warmth we can think back over a wonderful season of community festivals, concerts, picnics and road trips.

The annual meeting of the NPTV and PRNF boards took place in June with the induction of new board members and the election of officers. Mike Branker of **Lincoln** and Lora Lackoff of **Bassett** were elected as President and Vice President of the NPTV Board of Directors. They were joined by new members Dave A. Buchanan and David A. Ludtke of **Lincoln** and Arnold D. Weitz of **Omaha**. The PRNF Board of Directors welcomed Richard Meyer of **Scottsbluff** and James A. Mastera of **Lincoln** as President and Vice President. The PRNF board added Maren Lynn Chaloupka and Noralee Singer of **Scottsbluff**, Dr. Aileen D. Gruendel of **Grand Island**,

Kim A. Hilliard of **Kearney**, Loree MacNeill of Chadron and J. Robert Sandberg of **Lincoln**.

In mid-July PRNF hosted a membership booth and distributed much needed NPRN fans at the 2nd Annual Meadowlark Music Festival. Jack G. McBride and Friends of the Future Society members were invited to a wine tasting held at the James Arthur Vineyard near **Raymond**. Approximately 40 members met and chatted with festival guest Fred Child, host of NPR's "Performance Today".

The NPRN Satellite Music Appreciation Class returned in August with a presentation of "The Origins of Western Classical Music" with Professor David Breckbill. Over 70 students from around the state attended via satellite in their own communities. Classes were held in **Ainsworth, Chadron, Scottsbluff, North Platte, Kearney, Grand Island, Hastings and Lincoln**.

NET had a presence at this year's Nebraska State Fair. NET partnered with 4-H to promote web sites that are appropriate and fun for young people. The Cyber Fair offered kids and parents the opportunity to "play" on computers, visit recommended sites and hear presentations.

NPTV/PRNF joined the celebration of the arts in **Omaha** at "Arts on the Green" at the end of August. Along with music, dance and an "arts trade show", NPTV/PRNF hosted a booth welcoming visitors from **Omaha** and the surrounding community.

The **Norfolk** Arts Center was the next stop on the road for NPRN's "Live From The Mill Statewide" in September. With the exhibit "A Flowering of Quilts" as a backdrop, local artists joined host William Stibor celebrating arts from the northeast Nebraska region.



Television Programming

Husker Century III: Spirit of Champions 1973-2001

The final installment of the three-part series documenting Husker football from pioneer days through the 2001 season, will premiere November 8 in Lincoln and will air during the Nebraska ETV Network's December membership drive. "Husker Century III: Spirit of Champions" continues the Big Red saga — from Head Coach Bob Devaney choosing Tom Osborne as his successor in 1973 to Osborne choosing Frank Solich as his successor in 1998 and the Heisman Trophy presentation December 2001.

Through personal interviews with players and stand-up-and-cheer game footage, the "Spirit of Champions" captures the action and inspiration of the Osborne years and beyond. Players such as Turner Gill, Mike Rozier, Irving Fryar, Dave Rimington, Neil Smith, Grant Wistrom, Tommie Frazier, Scott Frost, Eric Crouch, and others explain what it means to be part of the Nebraska football program.

Narrated by former Husker Trev Alberts, the documentary takes viewers into the locker room for Osborne's halftime talks with players, revealing his passion for the game and his patience with young men. Coaches Barry Switzer, Steve Spurrier and others detail their strategy against Osborne, and national

sportscasters add their perspective on the Husker spirit. Tom Osborne, assistant coaches and current Head Coach Frank Solich share memories about former players and the program.

Find out how Nebraska's strength training program became a national model, discover the serendipitous start of the blackshirt tradition, and hear how Nebraska's walk-ons spark the work ethic of the entire team.

The first part of the football trilogy, "Husker Century I: Pioneer Spirit 1890-1940," traces Nebraska football as it paralleled the state's history from pioneer days through the Depression. "Husker Century II: Spirit of Play 1941-1972" highlights the bleak World War II years through the arrival of Bob Devaney, when he turned the program around and won two national championships.

It's all here: the overtimes and halftimes, the heartbreaking and heart-pounding excitement of bowl games and national titles. For fans who consider every Cornhusker a champion—don't miss "Spirit of Champions."

The Husker football trilogy is produced by the Nebraska ETV Network and the University of Nebraska Athletic Department's HuskerVision.



Upcoming Events

tions, it's a time to recommit to our mission of educating, challenging and inspiring Nebraska, the nation and the world through excellence in noncommercial telecommunications. The keynote speaker is Robert Coonrod, President and CEO of the Corporation for Public Broadcasting in Washington D.C. Admission is \$35. Reservations are required. Please contact Jessica McMullen at jmcmullen2@unl.edu or 1-800-634-6788.

November

Lincoln Symphony Orchestra Pre-Concert Chat Hosted by William Stibor,

Nov. 5, Lincoln
Join NPRN's Music Coordinator, William Stibor, prior to the LSO concert "The Many Moods of Mozart" to learn more about this musical genius. The event will take place at Saint Paul United Methodist Church with the discussion from 6:45 - 7:15 p.m. and the concert at 7:30 p.m. Purchase concert tickets at info@lincolnsymphony.com or 402-476-2211.

Premiere of Husker Century III & NPTV Auction,

Nov. 8, Lincoln 6:30 p.m.
What we've all been waiting for, the premiere of "Husker Century III"! The third documentary in a trilogy about Nebraska's legendary Huskers highlights the Osborne years. The premiere will be held at the beautiful Rococo Theatre in downtown Lincoln. This event is open to the public. Reserve your spot now! For more information see the article to the right.

December

NPTV Winter Membership Drive, 1st week in Dec.

For the latest information about NET events and programs visit our web site mynptv.org/members and nprn.org/members and click on Calendar of Events or call 1-800-534-6788.

Husker Century III to Premiere at the Rococo Theatre

Only a big theatre can hold big plays. And the historic Rococo Theatre is the best place in town to premiere a film of some of the biggest plays in Husker football history. "Husker Century III: Spirit of Champions" will premiere at 6:30 p.m. Friday, November 8, at the beautifully renovated Rococo Theatre in downtown Lincoln. In addition to being the first to see the final film in the Nebraska football trilogy, guests can



participate in an auction that will include special Husker memorabilia. Cost will be \$25 per person (\$20 for current NPTV/PRNF MemberCard holders). Food and drink will be available for purchase. Reservations are encouraged, but will only be held if accompanied by a credit card. To order your tickets, call Jessica McMullen at 800-634-6788 or email jmcmullen2@unl.edu for more information. Don't miss the Big Red plays at the Rococo Theatre!

With Your

Support



At NPTV/PRNF our members and supporters are our life-blood. This is the group of individuals, organizations, and corporations that truly keep us on the air. Currently, much of our energy has been directed toward providing a new benefit to you, our members. In September, NPTV/PRNF launched the MemberCard—a gift automatically sent to anyone contributing \$60 or more to Nebraskans for Public Television and/or the Public Radio Nebraska Foundation. By participating in the program, MemberCard holders receive special offers and discounts throughout the community of Nebraska's cultural organizations and businesses (known as MemberCard Partners) and have exclusive access to the NPTV/PRNF MemberStore. Coming this fall, the MemberStore will offer special discounts on program-related products.

By participating in the program, MemberCard holders receive special offers and discounts throughout the community of Nebraska's cultural organizations and businesses (known as MemberCard Partners) and have exclusive access to the NPTV/PRNF MemberStore. Coming this fall, the MemberStore will offer special discounts on program-related products.

In September, you should have received your initial card. This gives you the opportunity to take advantage of special offers from the organizations and businesses throughout the state, listed at left. Please stay tuned as the MemberCard program expands and develops. We look forward to presenting new MemberCard Partners and the MemberStore, which will be located on our web site mynptv.org/members and nprn.org/members this fall.

Current Membercard Partners

- Abendmusik Lincoln, Inc.
- Ainsworth Inn Bed & Breakfast
- The Angels Company
- Ashfall Fossil Beds State Historical Park
- Box L Ranch
- The Cambridge Bed and Breakfast
- The Fontenelle Inn Bed & Breakfast
- The Great Platte River Road
- Archway Monument
- Hastings Symphony Orchestra
- Lincoln Children's Museum
- Lincoln Friends of Chamber Music
- Nebraska Discount Travel
- Omaha Children's Museum
- Omaha Symphony Association
- Shepherd's Inn Bed & Breakfast, Inc.
- Stuhr Museum of the Prairie Pioneer
- Trailside Museum of Natural History
- UNL State Museum - Morrill Hall



Visit the new NPTV/PRNF member web site! Look for Member Benefits and Services, additional information about the brand new NPTV/PRNF MemberCard, our Calendar of Events and much, much more. Go to mynptv.org/members and/or nprn.org/members on the internet.

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