

and so they lock off the swimming pool area and that is where the visiting women's athletic teams change. That is their locker room. It is probably the largest locker room in the State of Nebraska but it is not very good use of a swimming pool because when they are using that facility it can't be used by the student body. Many programs at the campus are conducted in a building that is in excess of sixty years old. They include gymnastics, wrestling, and dance. Those of you who visited that facility noticed the leaking roof and the general state of disrepair of that building but it simply isn't economical to rehabilitate a sixty year old structure. Students have no facility to use much of the time due to the varsity sports schedule. There simply is not time to accommodate the schedule of varsity athletics and the needs of the general student body at large. There is no indoor track facility at Chadron State College. There are no racquet ball courts or no tennis courts. The growth in women sports has been large at Chadron State College as well as at other colleges around the United States and the State of Nebraska and the current facilities were not built with this in mind and so particularly facilities for women's sports are very lacking at Chadron State College. There is virtually no intramural program at the college because the facilities that are in place now are utilized so much for varsity athletics. Handicapped access is very poor at Chadron State College athletic facilities and there are no facilities presently for handicapped athletics or for rehabilitation. I would like to talk a minute now about the facility itself. What we propose is the construction of six handball courts, a weight room, two classrooms, five offices, a conference area, and several spaces for locker areas to accommodate the student body and the athletic department at the school. Now I would like to specifically address the problem that some people have raised, the objections of many people with respect to earmarking. Since the inception of the cigarette tax for the purpose of building the Devaney Sports Center some years ago, we have generated approximately \$102 million in cigarette taxes that have been earmarked for capital construction. Of that total, 44% has gone to capital construction projects within the University of Nebraska. 84.5% of the total capital construction money in that five cent cigarette tax increase has gone to fund capital construction projects within the city limits of Omaha or the city limits of Lincoln. West of Kearney, Nebraska, .7% has been expended for capital construction purposes. East of Kearney, Nebraska, 99.3% of the cigarette taxes have been expended. What I am proposing is that earmarking is necessary just so that we can divert a few of those funds to the vast expanse of the state west of Kearney and outside of the city limits of Omaha and Lincoln and I think that is