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LB 814

question or two?

PRESIDENT: Senator Scofield, please.

SENATOR SCOFIELD: Yes, Senator Weihing.

SENATOR WEIHING: Do you, as you look into the development of this, as this is continued to develop, it will be beyond fossils, will it not?

SENATOR SCOFIELD: Absolutely, Senator Weihing. I would...I have been labeling this as a natural history, natural science complex, that's really what's going on out there right now. The fossil exhibit is truly a remarkable centerpiece and it is unique in the world, that's no exaggeration. But beyond that, the kinds of educational activities that are going on out there right now with the field camps, get into the whole area of wild life vegetation, which is again a unique outcropping in the state. So, yes, it's quite a...there is even some talk of doing astronomy.

SENATOR WEIHING: Uh-huh, yes. Now, again, will you tell them the location.

SENATOR SCOFIELD: The location is not absolutely determined yet. That would, of course, be part of the planning phase. It will be on the grounds of Ft. Robinson, it would be outside the historic zone. If...for those of you who are familiar with the fort, as you come through the fort from the east and head around the curve and head out toward Wyoming, there is a little road called the Smiley Canyon Road. One of the most likely sites that appears to be appropriate for this would be just off of that road, in that area which is now buffalo pasture. A hiking trail would run parallel to the Smiley Canyon Road and culminate at the top of that ridge.

SENATOR WEIHING: Thank you. Thank you. I'm particularly interested in having the western Nebraska be a part of the total of Nebraska. I've spoke on this before. A number of years ago the thought was conceived of having a statewide arboretum, and that has come about, and it is a wonderful idea. Arboretums were places where you collected all of the trees and shrubs and you put them in one location, such as you would put it in Omaha, or Lincoln, or maybe Grand Island. You'd have a state arboretum. But as people traveled across and people who were