Flecky receives award for photo

By Michelle Clancy

The Rev. Michael Flecky, S.J., assistant professor of fine arts, is one of the 18 award winners in the annual Five State Photography Exhibition in Hays, Kan., held from Jan. 31 to Saturday.

Flecky received a $1,000 juror's award for his photograph "Blue Mountain Lake No. 2." His photographs "North Loup Falls" and "Halsey Forest" are also featured in the exhibition, which has 75 works.

"Blue Mountain Lake No. 2" is an 8 x 10 color print that Flecky had not shown before. It was taken at Blue Mountain Lake, N.Y., while Flecky was the artist in residence for the New York State Arts "North Loup Falls" and "Halsey Forest" are 8 x 10 black and white prints. Both are from Flecky's "Sandhills Series" done two years ago.

"These two pictures were popular and received very well," he said.

"Halsey Forest" is a view of a large forest landscape. "North Loup Falls" is a picture of a winding river going into a waterfall and a many-shaded sky.

The exhibition featured artists from Colorado, Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska and Oklahoma.

The photographs were judged by Thomas W. Southall, curator of photography for the Spencer Museum of Art at the University of Kansas in Lawrence.

The exhibition was sponsored by the Hays Art Council, Kansas Arts Commission, The Hays Daily News and the Union Pacific Foundation.

Flecky's recent seminar in New York provided him with the realization "that here in Omaha we are doing the latest things. Students in New York are looking to students in Omaha," he said.

Flecky, who did his graduate work at the Rochester (New York) Institute of Technology, conducted a seminar there titled "Photo Diary: Teaching Photography in a Liberal Arts Curriculum."

"The Photo Diary" is a G1 at Creighton, part of the Values Consciousness and Ethical Considerations division of the general education component.

Flecky said he explained how to teach photography at a liberal arts school as opposed to a technical school and how to incorporate visual arts with liberal arts.

"Art is also a personal biography," he said. "People are dealing with and reflecting upon their lives through the arts."

The graduate students at the Rochester Institute were shown work done by Creighton undergraduates and students who received their bachelor of fine arts degree and said that "they would be proud of the work done here," Flecky said.

Dr. Richard Zakia invited Flecky as part of a visiting artists program. Artists from a community college and technical arts school were also there.

Flecky was also a guest critic for an advanced undergraduate photography class and gave presentations to other undergraduate classes, he said.