

NU president search could lead to Roskens

Interim NU President Ronald Roskens is likely to be named to the permanent position, NU Board of Regents chairman predicted Friday. Although regent Robert Simmons of Scottsbluff may have spoken early, Roskens could slip easily into the post.

However, we hope that if this happens, Roskens would be named president because he is the best candidate and not because the search committee and the regents are tired of looking or being turned down.

At the meeting where Roskens was appointed interim president by the regents, regent James Moylan of Omaha said Roskens "is not to act as a caretaker president."

Some UNL supporters may wish that he does cast a low profile if Roskens' sympathies seem to lie more with the University of Nebraska at Omaha (UNO) than UNL.

UNO has come a long way since Roskens took the helm as chancellor in 1972. Under Roskens' leadership, UNO has vied for increasing amounts of NU funds, and gotten them. UNO projects, such as the Health, Physical Education and Recreation Bldg. have been top priorities on the NU budget.

The second-class citizen status that many Nebraskans put UNO in, is fading into the past.

As interim president, Roskens will be charged with working for the NU system as a whole. If he can shift his priorities from UNO to NU and its three campuses, the regents might as well stop looking. Roskens could lead NU to greater heights of prestige.

Maybe the best candidate is sitting in our own backyard.

Dollars yield sense

Sometimes it's hard to weigh the value of a college education. I'm sure we've all asked ourselves at one time or another why we're here.

Harlow Hyde, budget analyst for the state Department of Public Institutions contends that higher education in Nebraska is getting a disproportionately high share of the state's resources.

Education is the state's most inexhaustible resource. It's impossible to weigh its value in terms of dollars and cents because the investment pays off in an interest that enriches the state and its residents.

Hyde complains that nonresident students give the university nothing in return. Nebraska should be proud of its university, and if students from other states want to attend it, we should be proud they chose it as an institution where they could get a quality education. In addition, the state's financial investment in its universities and colleges should reflect that pride.

Don Wesley

Comprehensive Plan is Lincoln's crystal ball for year 2000

Chances are you probably have never seriously considered the question. I know I haven't. But let's imagine a crystal ball rests before us. The question we ask it is, "where will we be 25 years from now?" The crystal ball becomes cloudy and then clears enough to reveal the

accurate. For others, such a prediction could hardly be more ludicrous. For all of us, it is quite impossible to plan on being anywhere in particular when we enter the 21st Century.

Although we may find it slightly silly to be making plans now for the year 2000, that is precisely what the City of Lincoln and Lancaster County have been doing for the past six years. During this time local officials have been working on an update of the Lincoln City-Lancaster County Comprehensive Regional Plan. After long delays, much frustration and a good deal of disappointment, work on the Comprehensive Plan is about to be completed.

Next Monday and Tuesday, the City Council and the County Board will conduct joint public hearings on the proposed plan. The adoption of a final version of the plan is expected soon after. The plan originally was expected to be updated by September 1974. The review draft of the plan was 250 pages and was prepared by Barton-Aschman Associates, Inc. a consulting firm, for \$208,150.

The purpose of the plan is described in its introduction. "By definition, the comprehensive plan is general. It cannot and should not be made to include specific, detailed elements. Rather, it should be utilized as a guide, a reference against which specific plans and proposals are checked to determine whether they meet the basic objectives and needs of the region. As such, the comprehensive plan should be used as a basis for all public decisions which affect the physical development and maintenance of the area in any substantial way. The comprehensive plan described in this document has been developed to guide the impact of a doubling of populations in a manner which conserves available natural and man-made resources."

In other words, the Comprehensive Plan is Lincoln's crystal ball. In the plan one can see, generally, what Lincoln will be like at the end of this century. It is this point upon which the crux of the matter rests. Lincolnites involved in the development of the plan have had a chance to ask themselves, what sort of city they would like Lincoln to be.

Certainly I realize that not many people anticipate staying anywhere for 25 years. Ours is a mobile society and few would flinch at being called somewhat itinerant. Knowing that one only will be in a city for a few years must make it difficult to be terribly concerned about that city's distant future. But the potential good of looking far ahead and knowing what we want our city, state or country to be is that current decisions are placed in the context of a proposed future and public officials should then be more able to make those decisions in the best, long-term interests of citizens of the community. We need to begin to think very seriously about the future for it comes quickly upon us, and it is there where we all shall spend the rest of our lives.

Now, where did I put that crystal ball?

opinion

Arthur Hoppe

Super Show features Gilmore's end

"Welcome folks, to Super Show I. We're looking forward to bringing you a very exciting evening, wouldn't you say, Howard?"

"I certainly would, Frank. I've been told that we can expect a TV audience of more than 100 million viewers tonight for what may even be a new record. And I think they're going to get all the excitement they're looking for."

"Howard, you talked to our star earlier today. Would you say he's up for tonight's event?"

"I certainly would, Frank. They can say what they want about Gary—and they have, believe me—but this kid's shown a lot of guts and I think when he gets out there, he's going to give it his all."

"Thank you, Howard. We'll be back right after this message . . ."

innocent bystander

"Okay, here we are, back at Super Show I, brought to you live from Point of the Mountain, Utah. But before they bring Gary in, Howard, maybe you'd like to say a few words about why the state finally agreed to let us televise this event tonight. Was it the deterrent factor?"

"That played a part to be sure, Frank. But let's be honest with ourselves. The real answer to your question is money. M-O-N-E-Y. Money."

"I understand the television rights went for \$6.5 million, Howard."

"That's correct, Frank, a million more than Super Bowl XI. But let's point out that every penny of that money will go to improve the education of the school kids of Utah. It certainly does make sense."

"It certainly does, Howard. While we're waiting for Gary let's take a look down on the field. Over there on your left behind that screen is Utah's 'Fearsome Five.' They'll be armed with 30-30 lever action rifles. You talked to them earlier, too, didn't you, Howard?"

"Yes I did, Frank. And they're really up for this one. I think they're going to be right on target. And, speaking of that, we've had some criticism for showing a firing squad in action on prime time. In answer, I just want to say never an hour goes by on television that somebody doesn't shoot somebody else."

"A good point, Howard. Wait. I think . . . Yes, here comes Gary, now!"

"Just look at the way that kid handles himself, Frank, cool, confident, I think he's going to put on a great show for us. And let me remind our viewers about Super Show II, which we'll be bringing you February 14 from Baton Rouge, La. It's going to be a razzle-dazzle triple hanging."

"Thanks, Howard. And while we're waiting for Gary to be strapped in his chair, let's pause for this message . . ."

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paved paradise

image of this impressive, tall building with a statue of a man sowing seeds, standing upon its domed pinnacle. It looks like . . . could it be . . . yes, it is . . . the Nebraska state capitol. Lincoln, we'll still be in Lincoln 25 years from now.

For some of us, the crystal ball's prophecy may prove

Ralph

