

Regents order review of university's hiring policy

By Michelle Carr

As a result of testimony from architect Richard Dunn, the NU Board of Regents Saturday directed university administrators to review NU's hiring policy.

Dunn alleges that the correct procedures were not used in the evaluation of his application for a full-time position in the UNL College of Architecture and that he was discriminated against because he is a graduate of NU.

Regent Robert Simmons of Scottsbluff requested the review of the hiring policy. Simmons said "this is a matter of the university of discriminating against Nebraska."

Dunn said the hiring for the two positions which he was denied, was against the college's bylaws. The job descriptions were prepared without faculty advice, and the college's Architecture Advisory Board did

not meet as a board as required, he said.

"Contrary to Chancellor (Roy) Young's statement to the Lincoln Journal, the department advisory board did not screen the candidates," Dunn said.

No graduates hired

No NU graduates have been hired for a full-time position in the architecture college since 1973, when Cecil Steward became dean of the college, Dunn said. He also said the university does not have a formal procedure for persons who do not receive appointments.

The regents agreed that the college bylaws were violated, but were divided on what action should be taken.

Regent James Moylan of Omaha said the ratio of NU graduates in faculty positions should be examined and a procedure

should be established to set a percentage for NU graduates in faculty positions in all NU colleges.

However, Richard Kennedy, the University of Nebraska Medical Center student regent, disagreed with the percentage requirement. He said that working with the same faculty members who taught the subject would cause graduates to become narrow and miss other views.

Graduates "need to go elsewhere to broaden their scope," Kennedy said.

Percentages questioned

Regent Ed Schwartzkopf of Lincoln said "a program of excellence cannot have percentages."

Regent Robert Raun of Minden also questioned the percentage requirement. He asked Dunn if animosity would exist if he were to be hired as a faculty member in the

architecture college.

Dunn replied that he would "have no problem with it," but that Steward and Department Chairman Homer Puderbaugh also would have to be questioned.

Stephen Sample, NU executive vice president for academic affairs, pointed out that the definition of an NU graduate could complicate the situation. He said that all faculty members who teach at the university for more than a year are considered Nebraskans. Residents of other states, who graduate from NU also would have to be considered in the definition, he said.

Dunn said he appeared before the regents because he had exhausted the complaint procedures through the university.

"The grievance procedure is a long road from Architecture Hall to Regents Hall," he said. "I tried to keep it (the grievance) in the university family."

Cupid's valentine arrows sting Lincoln sweethearts

By Pam George

Seemingly undaunted by the blistering cold and icy sidewalks, a scantily-clad stalker awaited unsuspecting lovers and others on Valentine's Day.

Many of those carousing around the UNL campus or making the bar rounds Feb. 14 received a special valentine message from Cupid himself, pink flesh and all.

Clad only in a drooping diaper, floppy red slippers, tights and stiff wings on his back, the skinny, curly-haired Cupid braved the sleet and wind to visit restaurants and bars in Lincoln.

"It's not really that cold out," Cupid said after startling the patrons of Godfather's with his act, "because I'm just so into love."

Cupid, otherwise known as Marc Willy, 23, a part-time UNL student, interrupted the UNL American Association of University Professors meeting.

Willy said he hid behind the podium and aimed at the speaker, physics Prof. Dan Schlitt, with one of his love arrows, but instead hit UNL English professor Robert Haller.

Disrupted meeting

He also disrupted a Model United Nations meeting.

"The speaker asked me to leave and said I had not been recognized," Willy said laughing. "But I was really into Cupid and acted like I didn't understand."

Willy, who is a clown by trade and performs pantomimes did not usually converse with anyone he came into contact with.

"My idea of Cupid is that he is not very verbal. It gets in his way of spreading love," he said.

Willy said he has always been fascinated by Cupid, who according to Roman mythology, is the mischievous son of the goddess of love, Venus.

"I have never seen anybody personify him before so I decided to try it," he explained.

Although some establishments paid him for his act, Willy said he visited many places just for fun.

Cupid also stalked people in the streets, moving swiftly and hiding laughter under a sheepish grin. "People were scared to be shot, but they wanted to be," Willy claimed.

Favorable reactions

Willy described most reactions as favorable, saying many people played along after being shot with an arrow.

"They would feel the love and then hug their boyfriend or girlfriend," he said.

"One many shouted 'Hey, thanks a lot for hitting me a year ago, I'm getting married tomorrow,'" Willy said.

At several downtown establishments Willy said the crowd laughed "hysterically," and seemed to enjoy his silent, mischievous antics.

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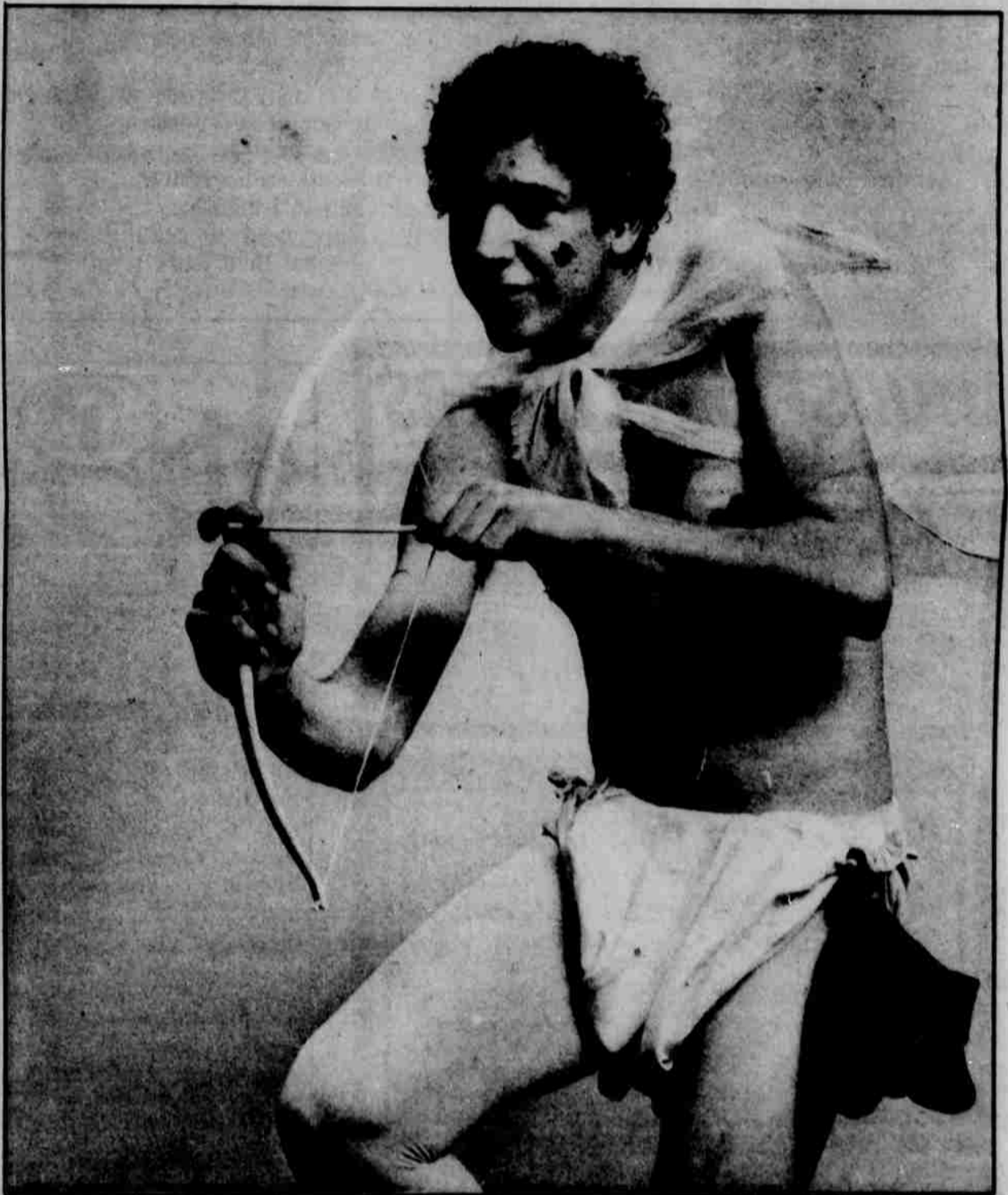


Photo by Mark Billingsley

The mythical character Cupid came to life in the person of UNL student Marc Willy Valentine's Day, shooting love arrows and passing out candy hearts to amused UNL students and patrons of local establishments.

Chairman selection methods bring criticism

By Kent Warneke

Concern has developed in UNL's Agricultural Communications Dept. about the methods used and time spent in the search for a new department chairman.

Comments from numerous ag communication staff members, one of whom requested anonymity have voiced doubts, disappointments and a lack of information on the procedure.

Some of the issues raised include the selection of members on the search committee, the lack of information given to the ag communication staff on the status of the position and the information received that one of the four candidates selected by the search committee has not been told that he is a candidate.

Ralston J. Graham originally planned to retire from his position as ag communication director July 1, 1979, but postponed it until Dec. 31, 1979. According to the undisclosed source, Martin Massengale, vice-chancellor of the Institute for Agriculture and Natural Resources, had asked Graham to postpone his retirement until a new department head could be chosen.

The source said that with Graham's announcement in April, 1979, of his proposed July retirement, no move was made to start a search committee to replace him. With the

subsequent later retirement date, a search committee was then formed in July to begin the replacement process.

Committee formed

The search committee, whose members were chosen by Massengale after discussion with various deans and directors, was organized on June 20 with 13 members, three of which were from ag communications.

Concern was raised when senior members of the department, Profs. Dee Clouse, Dan Lutz and Bart Stewart, were not put on the search committee, the source said.

"It's the administration's prerogative as to who is picked, but I felt I was qualified," Lutz said. "And it would have been nice to have seen greater departmental representation."

Clouse said, "I was a little surprised that I wasn't picked because I felt I was certainly qualified. I guess I didn't know what kind of criteria were used in the selection."

Massengale said the members were picked in an attempt to form a well-balanced committee. He said no one was placed on the committee if he was regarded as a possible candidate for the position because of seniority.

Both Clouse and Lutz joined the department in the 1950s and Stewart joined in 1965. The three members of the committee included Profs. Virginia Book, who joined the department in 1964, and John Adams and James Randall both of whom joined in the 1970s.

Adams, who chaired the search committee, said four candidates' names were turned in to Massengale in late September.

Those candidates included: Donald Springer of the University of Kentucky-Lexington; Delmar Hatesohl of the University of Missouri-Columbia; Richard Fleming of UNL and Art Higbee of Utah State University.

At the present time, Massengale said the university is in negotiations with the candidates and all the candidates still are active in the search.

However, when contacted, Higbee had not received word that he was a candidate for the position.

Only rumors

"I have heard nothing since the original confirmation of my application and that was months and months ago," Higbee said. "I have heard rumors about the position, but no type of confirmation at all."

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