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This Week:
Students study space. --Page 4
Jason gets the axe. --Page 5
Big Red art. --Page 7

Mutual agreement ends Roskens' tenure

By Sara Bauder
Staff Reporter

The twelve-year era of University of Nebraska President Ronald Roskens came to an end Monday night when the Board of Regents, offering no explanation, relieved him of his duties and appointed University of Nebraska-Lincoln Chancellor Martin Massengale interim president.

After a closed meeting that lasted more than four hours, the regents voted 7-1 to remove Roskens and replace him temporarily with Massengale.

John Payne of Kearney was the only regent to vote against the removing Roskens.

Bryan Hill, student regent from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, cast his unofficial vote in favor of ousting Roskens. Paula Effle, student regent from the University of Nebraska at Omaha, voted against the proposal. Student regent Jim Anderson, from the University of Nebraska Medical Center, was not at the meeting.

Regents approved a mutual agreement with Roskens that grants Roskens the title of Presi-

dent Emeritus and pays his current salary through June 30, 1991.

Roskens will receive \$112,000 a year and the full benefits of employment, including retirement, social security and vacation leave.

The regents also appointed Roskens as professor of higher education with tenure until June 30, 1991.

Massengale will continue to serve as the chancellor of UNL while taking on the additional responsibilities of president of the university system.

Roskens said he was not angry or bitter about the Board's actions.

"I have no regrets and no negative views," he said.

Roskens said his departure as president would not make a vast difference in the university.

Regents Chairman Nancy Hoch of Nebraska City thanked Roskens for his contributions to the University of Nebraska and for his attendance at the meeting.

She said she believed the Board's actions

See ROSKENS on 2

Senators criticize regents' actions

By Sara Bauder
Staff Reporter

The Board of Regents' refusal to give reasons for dismissing University of Nebraska President Ronald Roskens has caused concern among some state senators and other officials.

State Senator Jerome Warner of Waverly expressed his support for Roskens and questioned the reasons for his dismissal.

"I think it was a serious mistake -- both in what they did and how they did it," Warner said.

"He's done an exceptional job. The university has the finest budget they've ever had."

Warner added that Roskens had done a "superb job" working with the state legislature.

"Apparently, the regents are so unsure of their reasons that they are afraid to say them," Warner said. "The rumors about what the

reasons have been are a bunch of petty things."

Sen. Ron Withem of Papillion concurred with Warner, saying the rumors he has heard that explain why Roskens was fired seem petty.

"The scuttlebutt you hear is that it's kind of been a conflict of egos," Withem said. "... and a quarter of a million dollars over a personality quarrel is a pretty expensive price to pay."

Roskens will receive \$224,000 from NU until his contract expires in 1991.

Warner said the regents should make the exact reasons for their decisions known to the public.

"When you hold elected office, you are accountable to the public," he said.

Withem also said the regents have an obligation to inform the public.

In a letter that Withem sent to Board

See SENATORS on 2

UNL sponsors International Institute

By Jana Pedersen
Staff Reporter

Decreased interest in math and science by American graduate students has created a need for a new program at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

The second International Teaching Institute will help prepare 40 international graduate students for teaching positions at UNL, institute coordinator Lavon Gappa said.

Gappa said the program was developed to respond to the growing number of graduate students who are not American.

The international graduate stu-

dents are gaining a more important role in classroom teaching at UNL because there are fewer American teaching assistants, she said.

"With the increasing number of (international) graduate students coming in and the global perspective of higher education, (the institute) became just a response to that," she said.

Language is the most obvious difficulty for foreign teachers, Gappa said, but cultural differences and different teaching styles can be equally important.

Undergraduate students typically complain about language difficulties when they have an international

teaching assistant, she said.

But many times the teaching assistant speaks English very well and the real problem is a different teaching style which results from cultural differences, she said.

To make international graduate students more aware of cultural differences, institute participants "receive a lot of information on American culture and especially Nebraska and the UNL environment," Gappa said.

Learning appropriate UNL classroom behaviors "can make all the

See TEACH on 4

National group unites Chinese students

By Sara Bauder
Staff Reporter

In spite of their fear of an informant for the Chinese embassy, Chinese students at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln are standing up for their vision of democracy.

Ding Liu, president of the UNL Chinese Student and Scholars Association, was one of three UNL students who attended a national meeting of Chinese students at the University of Illinois in Chicago July 28 through 30.

At this meeting, 600 students representing 190 schools formed the Autonomous Solidarity Union of Chinese Students. The creation of this group marks the first time that Chinese students have formed a student union independent of the Chi-

nese government.

Several leaders of the Chinese democratic movement who managed to escape China spoke at the meeting, Ding said.

Bo Gao, a UNL graduate student of physics who also attended the meeting, said he thought the gathering was very important.

"It gives me hope," he said. "I have been worried about Chinese people being united, but this shows we can unite. And it shows that we can eventually prevail."

Bo said even if the Chinese government is upset with the formation of an independent student union, it is still a good idea.

"I think we are better off to have an organization of our own," he said.

Bo said that if a student was arrested before the organization was

formed, it was an individual matter involving just that student. But now a student arrest will be meaningful to other students because they will all belong to the same group.

UNL's Chinese student organization also has broken its ties with the Chinese embassy, Ding said.

"We don't accept doctrines from them," Ding said. "This is the first year this has happened. We used to be very close to the embassy."

Ding said he was surprised that the embassy had not taken any action against pro-democracy Chinese students.

"The embassy has not done anything yet," he said. "We are wondering why."

"We think they are dealing with the students inside China, then they

See CHINA on 4



Connie Sheehan/Daily Nebraskan

Bug-eyed!

Annie Wallman, 5, of Lincoln receives a Madagascar "hissing" cockroach Tuesday at the Morrill Hall Encounter Center.