

Daily Nebraskan

December 8, 1989

University of Nebraska-Lincoln

Vol. 89 No. 71

Friday	
WEATHER:	INDEX
Friday, mostly sunny and not as cold, high in the upper-30s, south winds 10 to 20 miles per hour.	News Digest 2
Friday night, partly cloudy, high in the mid-20s.	Editorial 4
Saturday, mostly sunny, high in the mid- to upper-40s.	Sports 7
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Selection of NU financial adviser still pending

By Jerry Guenther
Senior Reporter

After voting to postpone selection of a financial adviser for the University of Nebraska, the NU Board of Regents still appears undecided over the controversial issue of whether FirsTier Bank should be retained.

The regents are scheduled to meet again Saturday, but it is unlikely that a decision will be made then.

Joe Rowson, UNL director of public affairs, said he doesn't think the regents have a deadline to choose an adviser.

Rowson said the issue is not included on Saturday's agenda and he doesn't expect anyone to bring it up because no materials concerning it had arrived as of Thursday morning.

An ad hoc committee that reviewed NU's financial advisory situation had recommended to retain FirsTier as financial adviser, but

regents postponed choosing an adviser when some members expressed concern about the review process and possible conflicts of interest during the October meeting.

Regent Donald Fricke of Lincoln, chairman of the regents' business affairs committee, said he wants to see the issue moved along, but realizes the regents have other important considerations to address.

Fricke said there has been a lot of unfair criticism surrounding the selection process, and he believes the criticism is unfounded.

"I don't think there was anything out of line with the selection process," Fricke said.

Regardless of whether the regents take action on the issue Saturday, Fricke said, he thinks FirsTier eventually will be selected.

"If we don't get it addressed at this meeting, we'll address it at our next meeting," Fricke said. "Thirty days isn't going to make that much of

a difference."

Regent Rosemary Skrupa of Omaha, who voted to postpone FirsTier's approval in October, said she still has "some really grave reservations about retaining them."

Although Skrupa said she doesn't

favor selecting FirsTier, she isn't bothered that NU Interim President and UNL Chancellor Martin Massengale serves on the board of directors of FirsTier Financial Inc.

Skrupa said she would rather have more than one company serve as financial consultant and adviser, even though she owns stock in FirsTier.

"I think we should redo the process," Skrupa said. "When you're talking about bonds, you're talking big money."

Alan Seagren, who headed the ad hoc committee that recommended to retain FirsTier as financial adviser for the NU system, said the search for an adviser began last July.

Seagren said he was aware of criticisms of the selection process, but thought it was conducted fairly.

Other members serving on the evaluation committee included Clay Singleton, associate dean of the College of Business Administration; Kim Phelps, assistant vice chancellor for business and finance; Julie Totten, University of Nebraska at Omaha vice chancellor for business and finance; and Del Lee, University of Nebraska Medical Center assistant

vice chancellor for business and finance.

Warren Johnson, a Lincoln attorney, advised the committee on legal affairs, but did not vote on the recommendations.

Seagren said the requests for proposals that were sent out to prospective advisers included information on NU's financial needs and services that the university would request from the selected firm.

The committee also requested firms to submit information on their history, experience in dealing with complex bond issues, personnel, expertise, financial stability, creativity, services and possible conflicts of interest, Seagren said.

Evaluation committee members shared with the regents the requests for qualifications, Seagren said.

Besides the evaluation information, Seagren said, firms also were

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ASUN and Hill agree senate is progressive

By Jana Pedersen
Senior Reporter

After working together for one semester, ASUN senators and executives agreed that this year's Association of Students of the University of Nebraska has been more progressive than past senates.

ASUN President Bryan Hill said the diversity of this year's senate has helped make it "more proactive than reactive."

"But that in itself doesn't make it a good senate," Hill said. "I think the general attitude is a little bit more progressive. They're not as conservative and more willing to take the lead."

Teachers College Sen. Marc Shkolnick agreed that ASUN has begun to take the lead on issues.

"This senate was not intimidated to speak up to the (NU) Board of Regents and the administration," Shkolnick said. "We can't be intimidated because the administration and regents are here for us and are answerable to us."

Hill said one of the areas in which ASUN has taken the lead is in combatting homophobia.

ASUN recently approved an amendment to add discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation to the anti-discrimination clause in its by-laws, Hill said.

"I think that's one of the things that's going to be very helpful in combatting homophobia on campus, and I'm very proud," he said. "That's not the most popular issue, but it's important and it's right."

He said ASUN has encouraged the student governments and faculty senates of all branches of the NU system to adopt anti-discrimination clauses that include sexual orientation.

ASUN also helped get the regents to adopt the "individual characteristics" change to its anti-discrimination clause, he said.

But the clause "isn't as specific as we would have liked," Hill said. "What good does it do if nobody knows it's been changed?"

To publicize the fact that sexual orientation is included under that bylaw amendment, Hill said he has worked with the UNL Affirmative Action Office on developing posters that explain all that "individual characteristics" includes.

The "individual characteristics" posters will be displayed alongside other anti-discrimination posters in new glass cases that will be purchased by the affirmative action office, Hill said.

He said ASUN also has sponsored the display of posters on AIDS education, another issue that he said ASUN

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Meissa McReynolds/Daily Nebraskan

"There is no way Apartheid can be justified . . ."

Gene Crump, Nebraska deputy attorney general, speaks at a rally at Nebraska Wesleyan University Thursday. "Apartheid is oppression. It is racism in its basest form," said Crump, a graduate of Wesleyan. The rally was part of Anti-Apartheid Week, sponsored by the Wesleyan chapter of Nebraskans for Peace and Wesleyan Young Democrats.

Yost withdraws candidacy for UF provost position

John Yost Thursday said he withdrew his name from a list of candidates for provost at the University of Florida.

Yost, vice chancellor for research and dean of graduate studies at UNL, was among 20 finalists considered for the UF position.

Yost said he withdrew his name after recently learning that UF's new president, John Lombardi, is a historian.

Yost, also a historian, said: "In a university as comprehensive as the University of Florida, it would be in the best interest of the university to have a president and provost who would complement each other."

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Support group to form for gay UNL men

By Jerry Guenther
Senior Reporter

The founder of a new support group for gay men said he hopes the group will help the men develop positive attitudes about themselves.

Rodney Bell III, chairperson of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln Gay/Lesbian Alumni Association, said the support group will form in January and will be open to gay male UNL students.

Bell said the program, which will operate through the UNL Counseling Center, is the first support group that UNL has offered to gay men.

Vernon Williams, director of the Counseling Center, said the center already has the resources necessary to run the program.

Williams said he will be working with Bell between now and January to develop the program.

Having a support group run by professional counselors in a confidential environment is

important to gay men, Bell said.

"It's already something that should be coming out of the Counseling Center," Bell said.

Because of the health risks and other dan-

"It's already something that should be coming out of the Counseling Center."

-- Bell

gers associated with being gay, Bell said, he thinks UNL needs such a program.

Many gay men feel unaccepted because of their sexual preference, Bell said. He said he hopes the group can help them alleviate the

depression they often feel.

Some gay men become so depressed and feel so isolated that they commit suicide, he said.

Bell said he hopes the support group will help gay men to "come out" and develop a positive gay identity.

Gay men often do not have role models to identify with, Bell said, and he hopes that the support group will include some men who have "been out of the closet for years" to serve as those role models.

Bell said he has spoken to about 50 people, including some who aren't gay, and they all agreed that there is a need for the program.

Once the program gets established, Bell said, it will be open to referrals from other agencies that are counseling gay UNL men.

The support group will not include lesbians because the Women's Resource Center already offers a similar program, Bell said.

Both Bell and Williams said the support group will not cost the Counseling Center any additional money.