

Daily Nebraskan  
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## Down to one

Search was a waste of time, money

And then there was one. One University of Nebraska presidential candidate, that is. Unfortunately, he's the same candidate who was already in place before a \$65,000 search. So just what did that money buy?

Martin Massengale, NU interim president and chancellor of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

It took a week, but the four outside candidates the 20-member NU Presidential Search Committee selected have withdrawn from consideration. After one candidate withdrew Tuesday, the final three contenders pulled out Thursday.

That left Massengale — and a host of questions. Questions about how the 15-month on-again, off-again search failed to produce a single candidate willing to take the job; about the effectiveness of the committee's investigation of the finalists' backgrounds; and about the role of internal politicking, which should have no place in the NU system.

The final phase of the long and now meaningless search began to sink in a quagmire of politics on Monday. The search committee announced then that while it had omitted Massengale from its list of recommended presidential candidates, the NU Board of Regents could add internal candidates to the list.

In other words, the committee handed the regents the responsibility of nominating Massengale, because it couldn't handle the political repercussions.

But things got worse. On Tuesday, one of the four finalists, Gene Budig, withdrew his nomination because he said he could not leave his post at the University of Kansas.

On Wednesday, Regent John Payne of Kearney said Massengale was the front-runner for the position. The same day, Regent Robert Allen of Hastings said he wouldn't be surprised if the candidates named by the search committee dropped out after Payne's statement.

That was quite a prediction. On Thursday, the three remaining candidates withdrew. So it's back to square one. Allen even suggested Thursday that Massengale withdraw his nomination because of the political mess the selection process has turned into.

Perhaps he would be wise to do just that. By now, it would be appropriate if NU remained without a permanent leader.

— Lisa Donovan  
and Eric Pfanner  
for the Daily Nebraskan

## Minorities should keep skeletons in the closet

Homosexuals: "We are normal and demand recognition!"

Heterosexuals: "Your are perverts, and belong in jail!"

Psychiatrists: "Homosexuals are sick people, and belong in treatment."

These were the words spoken on behalf of the "homosexual issue" during the 1950s. Back then, according to the Kinsey Report on sexual research, it was a curable disease, and not a way of life.

Today, the Kinsey report of sexual research addresses the situation as a behavior problem, where some of the blame for the unusual behavior is the parent's fault. "If I can't have it, you can't have it either" is what the person is saying. The love between homosexuals is a pseudo-love, more often than not simply a reaction formation against hatred. The attitude toward the opposite sex is one of extreme hostility. Homosexual men, frustrated in their sex lives early in life, turn against women with a vengeance. Similarly, lesbian women express an intense hatred of men.

The following explanation is from "Male and Female Homosexuality, Psychological Approaches": "The biological-evolutionary argument that Darwinian fitness resides in the capacity to reproduce the species, which in turn makes heterosexuality an overpowering drive, cannot be refuted. Indeed, as time goes on, it

makes more and more sense. Further, our clinical experience is unanimous: homosexuality is a curable deviation from the analytic ideal."

With this in mind, homosexuals and lesbians cannot be considered other than disturbed. UNL's resource center should be helping these individuals on the road to recovery, not insisting on minority rights to protect such madness.

With homosexuals as the main thesis, I would like to address the minority who is trying to let homosexuals in the ROTC battalion. This minority's only issue of retaliation against the ROTC is that "it is against UNL's policy to discriminate." To this minority, you are fighting a futile war, for it isn't the policies of ROTC, but that of the armed forces as a whole. And as a member of such a force, I support such policies.

I've noticed that people who are against such policies have never been part of the armed forces, had they been, they would know something about how a unit or platoon works, and the internal disruption that a homosexual could cause.

In closing, I would advise such a minority to keep your skeletons in the closet!

David Bentz  
freshman  
physics

## Gorby and Bush



WITH HIGHEST RESPECT FOR  
BILL WATKINSON  
SHELL TO Daily Nebraskan

## UNL progress may be long way off

ROTC needs to adopt university policy, end military hypocrisy

In October, the U.S. Supreme Court took the country a small step forward for civil rights. But there is much more to do.

The court allowed a gay man to re-enlist in the Army. He had been kept from re-enlisting after the military decided to act on his confessions of homosexuality.

Unfortunately, it may be years before progress like this reaches the University of Nebraska-Lincoln campus. ROTC still blatantly violates university policy by excluding gays, lesbians and bisexuals.

A university policy enacted in the spring of 1990 by the NU Board of Regents includes gays, lesbians and bisexuals under the protection of the university's non-discrimination clause. The amendment to the bylaw was worded to include "personal characteristics" — more specifically, sexual orientation.

ROTC's policy is not its own. It follows the orders of the Pentagon, which has had a long-standing policy of excluding those who engage in homosexual activity or even claim the desire to engage in such activity.

Defense Department policy says the presence of homosexual members adversely affects discipline, good order and morale and says it causes breaches of security.

Even so, in 1988 and 1989, the department published reports that argued against its own policy excluding gays, lesbians and bisexuals.

In the report, the department compares the integration of blacks into the military to the integration of non-heterosexuals into the armed forces. The same arguments concern-

ing morale and public acceptability used to be given to exclude blacks from the military. But when the military changed its policy, these arguments were silenced. The structure of the armed forces was changed to help integrate people of color. Soldiers who resisted the integration faced military discipline for their actions.



Eric Aspengren

The defense report says, "... there is no reason that military structure could not deal with soldiers, sailors and air force personnel unable to take orders from or work with their lesbian, gay or bisexual colleagues."

But societal homophobia keeps the military from following its own reasoning. And until the Defense Department reviews its own reports and changes its policies, ROTC will remain the same.

If the military decided that it was not going to tolerate anti-gay or anti-lesbian behavior it could stop or, at the very least, reduce it.

The military argues that homosexuals and bisexuals are security and psychological risks because of their preference. They also are assumed to be risks because they can be blackmailed.

But the Defense Department report states that gays, lesbians and bisexuals are not only as fit psychologically, but sometimes more fit,

than heterosexuals for military service.

And if homosexuals and bisexuals were not forced to keep their sexuality a secret, they would not be open to blackmail. If they were allowed to be open with their sexuality, they would not have a secret.

UNL's ROTC program must follow the orders of the Defense Department. UNL also has no choice but to enforce its own policy.

There would be complications in enforcing this policy, because the ROTC program is included in the university bylaws. Thus there must be a bylaw change to remove ROTC. If one part of the university is violating a universitywide policy it must either change its behaviors or leave. If that takes changing the bylaws to eliminate any mention of ROTC — so be it.

One argument against removing ROTC is that land grant colleges or universities are required to include courses in military tactics. Many people assume that military tactics courses must be taught in an ROTC program. That's not the case.

The university does not have to have a ROTC program to offer courses in military tactics. It already offers courses in tactics through the history department. And the Morrill Act stipulates that the courses are to be offered "in such manner as the legislatures of the states may respectively prescribe."

To eliminate hypocrisy, the regents need to make a tough decision: remove ROTC from campus.

Aspengren is a freshman philosophy and aesthetics major and a Daily Nebraskan columnist.

## editorial POLICY

Signed staff editorials represent the official policy of the Fall 1990 Daily Nebraskan. Policy is set by the Daily Nebraskan Editorial Board. Its members are: Eric Pfanner, editor; Lisa Donovan, editorial page editor;

Victoria Ayotte, managing editor; Diane Brayton, associate news editor; Darcie Wiegert, associate news editor; Emily Rosenbaum, copy desk chief; Jana Pedersen, wire editor.

Editorials do not necessarily re-

flect the views of the university, its employees, the students or the NU Board of Regents.

According to policy set by the regents, responsibility for the editorial

## letter POLICY

The Daily Nebraskan welcomes brief letters to the editor from all readers and interested others.

Letters will be selected for publication on the basis of clarity, originality, timeliness and space available. The Daily Nebraskan retains the right to edit all material submitted.

Readers also are welcome to sub-

mit material as guest opinions. Whether material should run as a letter or guest opinion, or not to run, is left to the editor's discretion.

Letters and guest opinions sent to the newspaper become the property of the Daily Nebraskan and cannot be returned. Letters should be typewritten.

Anonymous submissions will not be considered for publication. Letters should include the author's name, year in school, major and group affiliation, if any. Requests to withhold names will not be granted.

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