

Student calls for debates

Let's just pretend for a second that the University of Nebraska-Lincoln is actually an educational institution and that the recent presidential search debacle was just an aberration in an administration that truly cares about teaching students.

OK, a second's up. Now let's face reality. While many of us do receive educations at UNL, and often very good ones, the politics of the upper echelons in the administration seem to have very little to do with students and academics. Do you suppose our president-to-be really cares that I got a B+ on a recent class assignment?

I'll admit, I don't exactly understand what happened with this presidential search and maybe that's how the higher-ups want it to be. I've been baffled ever since the unexplained canning of Ronald Roskens as NU's president awhile back.

Still, I do know that it's odd to spend thousands of dollars and a lot of time for a presidential search that provided us with the candidate we all knew would get the position anyway.

I pray it's not too late to provide the answer to this nightmare. Before Martin Massengale accepts the presidency of the NU system, allow me to throw my hat into the ring.

I don't know how all of this works, but if I can get enough student support, I bet I can push my way into the NU Oval Office.

And who better to run a university than a student? I'll bet students are more in touch with what's going on than any administrator could ever hope to be.

Here's my platform: First, as NU president, I would cancel my salary. To keep a finger on the pulse of student life around here, it's important that the president live like a student. If elected (or appointed or drawn from a hat — whatever the selection process is) I would try to hold down a part-time job as well as a 12-hour class schedule.

If the president were forced to live on a student budget, my guess is that she or he really would know how to run a university.

And what's this about a reserved parking spot? Nonsense! Any real president would drive down here every morning and fight for a parking place like the rest of us. I can't wait until I have to leave my first high-level meeting with the governor to go plug my meter.

I even hear there's an official president's mansion. Hogwash! This NU president would make do with a seedy efficiency at 15th and C for \$225 a month (plus deposit and first and last month's rent).

As a nice finishing touch to complete the finish-like qualities of the



Jim Hanna

NU presidency, I'd allow holds to be placed on my records if I failed to do anything constructive.

As for actual things I would do for the university as president, let's start with punting this joint's dry campus policy. I would encourage responsible alcohol use but I'd at least allow the of-age adults at NU to make their own drinking decisions.

"Bugeaters" would be returned to its rightful place as our school's nickname.

I would keep Tom Osborne as our football coach, but I'd insist that at least once a year he blow his top at a postgame press conference.

"So we lost! Who gives a #*!@? Go to hell! All of you reporters suck S&*@! Get the *%#@# off my back!" or something like that.

I'd also do a few nutty things that would take us back to our high school days. You know, when faculty members would do funny skits at the annual talent show or students would be able to throw pies in faculty members' faces at a carnival booth. Think of the feel-good energy that would sweep the campus if students and faculty members were allowed, nay, forced to cavort together at all-school functions.

One mandatory all-school function would be the Cornhusker Kegger, to be held every spring in Memorial Stadium. Attendance would be mandatory. A limitless supply of spirits would be provided to enhance teacher-pupil communication. Imagine the faculty-student bonding that would occur if you got tanked and puked on your psychology professor.

The Hanna Administration would require every professor to take and pass any test he or she dumped on a class.

Before I can put any of my plans into effect, however, I will have to beat out Massengale.

So, I hereby challenge our president to a series of public debates so that we can make our opinions known. I have no bones to pick with Massengale, so this would not be a forum for hurling crybaby insults. We would discuss logically the future of this institution with hushed voices and calm tempers.

We'd invite the search committee to hear our debates and upon consideration of each of our merits, to appoint the person who will lead NU into the 21st century.

I would actually be a pretty awful NU president, so I don't think Massengale has anything to worry about. He would have little to lose and a lot to gain if he faced and then thrashed me in a series of debates.

The students would get an opportunity to learn what's really going on with the NU presidency and we wouldn't feel so alienated from a process that conceivably could have a big impact on us.

So, if nothing else, at least humor the students and pretend that we somehow figure into the selection process. It may be that the NU presidency has nothing to do with students and we really should be shut out from all of its mysterious workings.

But at least give us the impression that we count.

If they won't let us have that tiny concession, then pave the way for President Hanna.

Hanna is a senior theater major and a Daily Nebraskan reporter and columnist.

How to stay cool when it's over 200.

If your cholesterol level rises above 200, see your doctor. You could be at risk for heart disease. Especially if you also smoke, are overweight, or have high blood pressure. Your doctor can show you ways to reduce your cholesterol level and your risk for heart problems. So be aware of your cholesterol level. Then you can keep your cool.

For information call (402)346-0771. American Heart Association Nebraska Affiliate

Work at the Daily Nebraskan this spring

Apply to work on the Spring Daily Nebraskan staff.

Can you write?

Do you have a nose for news?

Can you take photographs?

Can you draw?

POSITIONS ARE NOW OPEN FOR STAFF:

- Artists
- Photographers
- News reporters
- A&E reporters
- CARTOONISTS
- GRAPHIC ARTISTS
- Sports reporters
- Copy editors
- Editorial Cartoonists

Pick up an application and sign up for an interview in room 34 Nebraska Union between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. today through December 13. Interviews will be scheduled through Dead Week.

(Applicants must be UNL students during the spring semester.) UNL does not discriminate in its academic, admissions or employment programs and abides by all federal regulations pertaining to the same.

SPRING BREAK

RESERVATIONS AVAILABLE NOW!

DAYTONA BEACH 7 NIGHTS	from \$119*
SOUTH PADRE ISLAND 5 AND 7 NIGHTS	from \$129*
STEAMBOAT 2, 5 AND 7 NIGHTS	from \$96*
FORT LAUDERDALE 7 NIGHTS	from \$137*
PANAMA CITY BEACH 7 NIGHTS	from \$124*
CORPUS CHRISTI / MUSTANG ISLAND 5 AND 7 NIGHTS	from \$108*
HILTON HEAD ISLAND 5 AND 7 NIGHTS	from \$112*

CALL TOLL FREE TODAY
1-800-321-5911

*Depending on break dates and length of stay.



John Bruce/Daily Nebraskan

Storm Warning...

"A mighty storm on the harp."
Washington Post

Blowin' Like Hell,
the new album from William Clarke
on Alligator CDs / Cassettes / Records

It's Blowin' Like Hell.

Live! 11/27 at the Zoo Bar

\$5.77

Cassettes

\$9.77

Compact Discs

Twisters
MUSIC & GIFTS