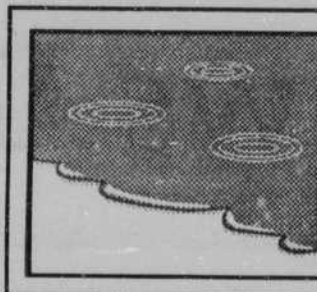


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TODAY'S WEATHER

Today, a 50 percent chance of light snow in the morning with the high of 20 and a north wind 10-15. Cloudy becoming partly cloudy later. Mostly clear tonight with the low 0-5 mph. Sunny Saturday with the high in the upper-20s.



Michelle Paulman/Daily Nebraskan

Anthony Joern, a biological sciences professor, jogs laps in Cook Pavilion Thursday.

Regents support bill to up strength, duties of advisory commission

By Kristie Coda
Staff Reporter

Two University of Nebraska regents were cautious, but positive, about a bill to provide powers and duties for Nebraska's higher education coordinating commission.

Regent Nancy O'Brien of Omaha and regents Chairman Don Blank of McCook expressed concern about the provisions giving the commission governance powers.

The commission is "not a body that can and should be involved in governance," Blank said.

LB663, introduced Wednesday in the Nebraska Legislature, outlines powers and duties for the Nebraska Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education, which presently serves only as an advisory body. Nebraska voters approved strengthening the commission in November by adding a constitutional amendment.

The bill would give the commission the power to approve or disapprove programs, to review and submit public higher education institutions' budget requests to the Legislature, to approve changes in role and mission statements and to create a comprehensive statewide plan for

higher education.

Blank said he wasn't overly concerned that the bill would diminish the power of the NU Board of Regents.

"The general intent is in a direction we (regents) are comfortable with," he said, though he added that "there are some areas that'll have to be looked at."

O'Brien agreed.

"For the most part," she said, "I'm fairly pleased with the legislation."

O'Brien said one part of the bill that will need to be examined is a provision that the commission prioritize capital construction projects.

If the bill passes, the Board of Regents would continue its current prioritization of capital construction projects, but the commission would review the priorities and have the power to change them.

O'Brien said the provision probably would not pose a problem because the commission should not have reason to change the priorities.

"If our priorities are set according to our role and mission and according to the statewide plans . . . we won't have any conflict with the coordinating commission," O'Brien said.

"I'm very confident that we can work out the small details and problems," she said.

Officials say time needed for divestment of S. Africa

By Lisa Donovan
Senior Reporter

Complying with a legislative proposal to require Nebraska institutions to divest of South Africa would not be an overnight process for the University of Nebraska, one official said.

"We try to make informed, intelligent decisions. We would probably do it (divest) in six months, although the bill would give us a year and a half," said James Van Horn, NU vice president of administration, director of finance and administrative systems.

Currently, Van Horn said, the university follows the state-required guidelines of the Sullivan Principles, which provide exemptions allowing investment in South African compa-

nies with non-discriminatory practices.

If LB395, introduced Jan. 17 by state Sen. Ernie Chambers of Omaha, is passed by the Nebraska Legislature this year, it would give state institutions until Jan. 1, 1993, to withdraw or halt all investing in South Africa.

The market value of the university's investments in the 10 to 12 South African companies that fall under the bill's provisions is estimated to be between \$3.5 and \$3.8 million.

Realistically, Van Horn said, stocks and bonds could be liquidated in 24 hours, but that wouldn't be good money management.

"I was happy to see that there was some time given," for the university to complete total divestment, Van

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Warships endangered by enemy missiles Two Iraqi warplanes shot down

DAHRAN, Saudi Arabia (AP) - Iraq's elusive air force showed signs of life Thursday, sending two warplanes over Saudi territory where they were shot down carrying missiles capable of sinking allied warships.

Iraq mocked the allies for failing to launch a ground offensive, but allied commanders said they would stick to their game plan and intensify the around-the-clock air strikes on Iraq and occupied Kuwait.

The United States and Britain each lost a warplane during the night Wednesday. The American pilot was saved in a dramatic rescue after his jet was disabled by ground fire and he ejected over the Persian Gulf.

The two crewmen of the British Tornado GR-1 fighter-bomber are

missing, British sources in Riyadh said.

The losses occurred as allied forces took advantage of clearing skies to step up their relentless air assault on Iraq and Kuwait. Many of the attacks concentrated on Iraq's elite Republican Guards, an Army spokesman said.

"We are hitting them with all assets available to us," U.S. Army Lt. Col. Greg Pepin said of the elite Iraqi unit. He estimated that more than 150,000 of the guards are "well dug in" in Kuwait and southern Iraq.

The allied tactics call for "softening up" the Iraqi forces from the air before trying to eject them from Kuwait by ground.

The number of allied sorties passed 15,000 on Thursday, Pepin said. Allied sources in Dhahran said the U.S.-led coalition wants to pick up the pace, perhaps flying 3,000 missions a day if the skies remain clear.

In addition, Pentagon sources said

Thursday that U.S. submarines, operating from the depths of the Mediterranean and Red seas, are continuing to fire Tomahawk cruise missiles at targets inside Iraq.

Gen. Colin Powell, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, said Wednesday in Washington that air attacks would intensify along supply routes and communications lines around the Iraqi city of Basra, near the Persian Gulf and Kuwaiti border, in an attempt to strangle the Iraqi army in Kuwait.

Despite the crushing allied air assault, Saddam Hussein reportedly visited his troops on the front lines in southern Iraq and Kuwait on Wednesday.

The official Iraqi News Agency said Saddam's commanders discussed the latest developments in the war with their commander-in-chief, then mocked the allies, saying they fear a ground war.

OPERATION DESERT STORM



FRIDAY



Word from Washington: The war could last months and mean casualties and losses. Page 2

Arguments for abolishing the death penalty. Page 4

A draft probably won't be needed, a Selective Service official says. Page 6

Environmentalists push for end to compact disc boxes. Page 9

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Officials: Loss of funds won't stop research

By Mindy Wilson
Staff Reporter

If Gov. Ben Nelson does not continue former Gov. Kay Orr's commitment to the Nebraska Research Initiative, the resulting \$4 million loss would slow but not halt research expansion at NU, two officials said.

Darrell Nelson, dean and director of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln's Agricultural Research Division, said loss of the funds for the University of Nebraska would affect the progress of research expansion plans.

Many projects might not receive needed funds, he said.

The governor has not said whether he will push for the research monies, but has said state agencies must tighten

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