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TODAY'S WEATHER

Mostly sunny and mild today with the high 55-60 and a southwest wind 5-15 mph changing to the north later. Tonight, partly cloudy with the low 25-30. Partly cloudy Saturday with the high near 50.

Chancellor search committee formed

By Lisa Donovan
Senior Reporter

A radio station manager, a car dealer, a secretary, seven faculty members and two students will search for a new chancellor for the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, NU President Martin Massengale announced Thursday.

Committee member James McShane, an associate professor of English and president of the Academic Senate at UNL, said that with the backgrounds and vast experience of the committee members, he was looking forward to a positive search.

"We have people (on the committee) with experience all over the curricula and public," he said.

The other committee members are: Eric Brown, general manager of KRVN Farm Radio in Lexington; Dorothy Callahan, a cooperative extension agent in Omaha; Miguel Carranza, an associate professor of sociology; James Kinder, a professor of animal science; Gates

Minnick, president of DuTeau Chevrolet in Lincoln; Harvey Perlman, dean of the College of Law; Sheila Perry, secretary to the dean of the College of Journalism; Michael Riley, a professor of engineering; Andrew Sigerson, a undergraduate student; William Stott, a graduate student in architecture; and Lani Zimmerman, an associate professor of nursing at the University of Nebraska Medical Center, Lincoln division.

Joe Rowson, director of public relations for NU, said he hopes the committee will complete the search quickly and have a new chancellor on campus by this fall.

According to the bylaws of the NU Board of Regents, the committee will create a job description, solicit applications, interview people and make nominations to the university president. The president will make a recommendation to the regents, who will vote on whether to hire the candidate.

Sigerson said he hoped the search won't get tangled up in the politics that plagued the presidential search.

"As I hope to see it done, most of the politics will be removed from it," said Sigerson, a general studies senator in the Association of Students of the University of Nebraska.

Sigerson said applications should be taken from all over. He said he hopes to see a lot of strong applications from women and minorities.

Perlman, search committee chairman, also said it will be important to consider many people with different backgrounds.

Sigerson said it should be up to the committee to decide the finalists for the position.

The search should be somewhat confidential, he said, so committee members don't feel as if they're being coerced to nominate someone.

"I don't want to be pressured by outside sources," Sigerson said.

Riley said he anticipates that the search will be difficult, but it's important that the committee not focus on the controversial search for the NU president.

Kinder said he, too, thought everyone should just "let bygones be bygones."

"If there were things to be learned from the presidential search, let's learn them and let's get on with it (the chancellor search)," Kinder said.

But Perlman said the controversy of the presidential search can't be forgotten.

"We can't be oblivious" to the problems of the presidential search, he said. "I don't think those problems are inherent in searches of this kind."

Kinder added that he didn't think the controversy surrounding the presidential search had anything to do with the chancellor search process.

It's important that the chancellor search be carried out correctly, he said.

McShane said he wanted to ensure that the chancellor eventually selected will have strong backing and be widely respected.

"A very good search lends credibility to the chancellor who takes over after it."



Michelle Paulman/Daily Nebraskan

Strolling through the trees

A woman enjoys the springlike weather outside Richards Hall Thursday afternoon.

Killer secret

Gay student must cope with fears of rejection, suicide

Editor's note: This story was written for a University of Nebraska-Lincoln depth reporting class.

By Paul Domeier
Senior Editor

Simon didn't go to the Halloween party. The costume he was going to wear couldn't replace his everyday disguise — that of a closet homosexual at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

Simon drops his disguise every time he attends a Gay/Lesbian Student Association function, like this Halloween party. But Simon had heard this party was one people from outside the organization would attend.

Later, the partygoers might recognize him on campus without the false moustache of the 18th century sleazy lawyer costume. Being recognized as someone from a GLSA party would have exposed his secret too soon.

After years alone, Simon finally linked himself to UNL's gay community by attending GLSA meetings in the fall. And, he is slowly letting the rest of the world know.

Simon only recently came out of the closet to himself. He first noticed his homosexual feelings at about age 14, but didn't embrace them.

"I thought it was merely a stage that everyone went through," he said.

His attraction to the boys in school and his natural shyness made him introverted.

Because he was introverted, his junior-high classmates harassed him.

He retreated into books, reading and re-reading the more than 150 novels he owned.

See SIMON on 5

Allies bomb bridges, bunkers

DAHHRAN, Saudi Arabia (AP) — In endless hours of air strikes, U.S. and allied pilots rocked Baghdad, key bridges and the bunkers of front-line troops Thursday, and blew two more Iraqi "get-away jets" out of the sky.

A second veteran U.S. battleship joined in the bombardment of Iraqi-held Kuwait.

The pounding was having an impact. Returning pilots told of a devastated landscape in Kuwait, and journalists near the border found firsthand evidence — four Iraqi soldiers who turned themselves in muttering over and over about the "bombing . . . bombing . . . bombing."

But Desert Storm losses mounted, too. A U.S. Navy FA-18 Hornet fighter went down in the northern Persian Gulf, apparently not from hostile fire,

and an Army helicopter crashed in Saudi Arabia. The Navy pilot was missing; one soldier was killed and four were wounded in the helicopter accident.

President Bush's two top war advisers — Defense Secretary Dick Cheney and joint chiefs chairman Gen. Colin Powell — flew to the gulf over the weekend to confer with local commanders on the countdown to a ground offensive, a momentous clash between a half-million or more men on each side.

"Our hope is that we can wrap it up as soon as possible, to minimize the loss of life on all sides," the defense secretary said before he left.

Iraq launched one of its largely ineffective Scud missiles early today at Riyadh. Like an estimated 17 others previously fired at the Saudi capital, it was intercepted by a U.S. Patriot missile. The wreckage landed in a parking lot and caused no injuries or major damage, witnesses said.

The commander of British forces

in Operation Desert Storm, Lt. Gen. Peter de la Billiere, told reporters he believes "the land war is inevitable." A U.S. command spokesman disputed the use of "inevitable." But up on the northern desert line, U.S. troops had little doubt.

"This could get very ugly at any moment," one officer told a reporter visiting the Saudi-Kuwaiti front. That view found high-level support in France, where President Francois Mitterrand told reporters: "The ground battle promises to take place . . . this month."

In Tehran, Turkey's foreign minister met with President Hashemi Rafsanjani to discuss the Iranian leader's offer to mediate between Iraqi President Saddam Hussein and the international alliance arrayed against him. A Soviet envoy also was to meet with Iranian officials.

The Bush administration says there is nothing to mediate: Saddam must simply announce a withdrawal from Kuwait.

FRIDAY



London is attacked by mortar shell. Page 3.

Ancient archeological sites in Iran are in peril, UNL professor says. Page 6.

UNL track team is hoping for a high number of qualifiers at this weekend's invitational meet. Page 7.

Lied Center for Performing Arts plans to spotlight Mel Torme. Page 9.

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Downtown mall redevelopment plans abandoned

By Dionne Searcey
Staff Reporter

Plans to redevelop the Centrum Shopping Center have been leveled, Mayor Bill Harris said Thursday.

In a letter to Steve Watson of Centrum Partners, Harris said the city would discontinue plans for redeveloping the mall, located at 11th and O streets.

Part of the \$1.5 million renovation plan included moving back the north wall of the Centrum to build a 2,500-square-foot, glass-enclosed plaza.

The city would have leased the plaza for festivals.

The Lincoln Children's Museum, now in the Atrium, would have been moved to the Centrum.

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