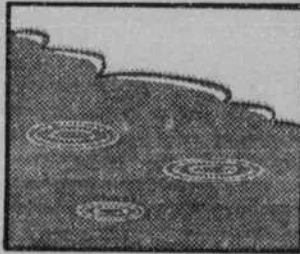


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WEATHER

Colder today with the high in the upper-30s with a 30 percent chance of snow and 1-3 inches accumulation possible. Tonight, clearing with the low around 25. The high around 40 Tuesday.

Massengale eyes educational excellence

By Dionne Searcey
Staff Reporter

NU President Martin Massengale presented a vision Saturday for the future of the University of Nebraska, calling for it to become a national leader in providing quality education and a top research institution.

Regents

Massengale, outlining the goals at the NU Board of Regents meeting, said the university should become recognized as an innovative leader in education.

New initiatives, such as rewards for excellent teaching, are required to meet this goal, he said.

Massengale said research and teaching must work together to strengthen education. He called for the university to participate in more faculty exchanges, to strengthen student involvement in research and to utilize satellite technology and visitor presentations.

Improving the quality of educa-

tion, he said, must include strengthening the foundation of arts and sciences and implementing changes in curriculum important to developing critical thinking and judgment skills.

Achieving improvement may require the university to tighten admissions requirements and create a more convenient registration process, Massengale said.

"I think there is room for a fresh look at how we accommodate and assist our students," he said.

Massengale also said the university needs to become a leading research institution. NU is currently ranked "in the 50s" nationally for research.

"I'd like to see us in the top 35," he said.

This goal, Massengale said, is based on assessing the sciences critical to Nebraska: biotechnology, materials science, health sciences, water science and telecommunications management.

Funding is needed to pursue this goal, Massengale said, but cannot accomplish it alone.

"We need to pursue, department

by department and individual by individual, a commitment to future excellence through careful consideration of every tenured appointment, every leadership selection, every choice we make."

He said universities are closely related to economic strength in today's society.

"In earlier times, industry located near its base of supply — the river or the port or the coal field — because it needed to be near its resource base.

"Today, industry is locating near its resource base, too, . . . but it isn't the port or the river anymore. We are in a new age. Knowledge and information are the new resources, and the university is where you find them."

Massengale said that with the current economic situation these goals may be difficult to attain.

"It may take a little longer to reach our goals, it may take extra individual effort, and I'm sure it will. But a lot is at stake in the future well-being of the university. . . . And that is certainly well worth the time and energy required to insure its success."

Goals of Massengale's vision for NU:

"The University of Nebraska should become recognized as an innovative national leader in quality education for undergraduate, graduates and professionals."

Sub point 1: "We want to find new ways to reward excellent teaching."

Sub point 2: "We can bring the strengths of world-class research to many more students by means of faculty exchanges, visiting presentations, satellite technology and direct involvement of undergraduates in ongoing research."

Sub point 3: ". . . (to enhance the students' educational experience, there are needs) from improved and more convenient registration processes to interaction with faculty, and living and working environments. In addition, it is time we take a new look at admissions . . ."

"That the University of Nebraska become one of the leading research institutions in the nation. We currently rank somewhere in the 50s depending on which measures one chooses. I'd like to see us in the top 35."

Amie DeFrain/Daily Nebraskan

Foreign students receive threats after gulf remarks

By Tabitha Hiner
Senior Reporter

Zafer Abrass usually got one or two messages a day before Thursday.

Since he participated in a forum about the Persian Gulf war, however, the University of Nebraska-Lincoln architecture graduate student from Syria has heard the songs of M.C. Hammer and Vanilla Ice on his answering machine and obscene threats when he does answer the phone.

Abrass said he thought the calls were being made by two white male university students who read a Thursday article in which the Daily Nebraskan quoted Abrass.

The article made it sound as though the speakers were criticizing U.S. foreign policy in the Persian Gulf region, Abrass said.

After the article was printed, Abrass said, a person started calling and hanging up when Abrass' wife answered the phone. Abrass said he thought the caller hung up because his wife is American and does not have an accent.

When the caller realized he had the right number, Abrass said, he started leaving messages on Abrass' answer-

ing machine.

He said he didn't understand why he was getting the phone calls until he answered the phone Saturday night.

During that conversation, the caller asked Abrass how he could have dared to write the newspaper article, Abrass said. After he denied writing the article, the caller asked him why he was lying, Abrass said.

The conversation continued for 20 minutes until the caller threatened to kill Abrass, he said.

Nadeem Yousef, a student from Iraq who also was quoted in the article, has received three messages on his answering machine since the story was printed.

The UNL doctoral candidate in English said he thought the calls were "immature" and "inhumane."

"It's a free country," he said. "Everybody has the right to express his views."

Abrass and Yousef said they were not criticizing the United States at the forum, but rather giving a historical account of what had happened in the Persian Gulf since World War I.

"We were just trying to have a mutual understanding of the Arab perspective," Abrass said. "We're not trying to hurt anybody's feelings."

Experts: Smart weapons reduce war casualties

By Dionne Searcey
Staff Reporter

High technology weapons have had a dramatic effect in the war with Iraq, allowing the military to pinpoint its targets and to save lives, UNL military experts said.

Lt. Col.

Robert M. Jacob-

son, a military

science professor

at the University

of Nebraska-

Lincoln, said the

war in the Per-

sian Gulf has

proved the American

military can use

high technology to

reduce the loss of

lives.

Gulf Analysis



MONDAY



The Husker men's basketball team romps over Oklahoma. Page 7.

The NU regents approve an increase in UNL residence hall rates. Page 3.

Columnist looks at the three little pigs' story from the wolf's point of view. Page 4.

Comedian Sam Kinison's performance at the Lied Center is rescheduled. Page 12.

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See WEAPONS on 6



Shaun Sartin/Daily Nebraskan

Oversized racquet?

Shawn Miller, a sophomore at Southeast Community College, plays tennis behind Cather-Pound residence halls as temperatures reached into the low-to-mid-50s Sunday afternoon.