

Daily Nebraskan

August 27, 1991

University of Nebraska-Lincoln

Vol. 91 No. 3



TODAY'S WEATHER

95/70

Today, sunny and hot, with south winds 10-15 miles per hour. Tonight, clear and warm. Wednesday, sunny, breezy and hot with high in mid-90's.

Two candidates withdraw from chancellor's search to pursue other interests

By Wendy Navratil
Senior Reporter

Two of the final four candidates for UNL chancellor have withdrawn themselves from consideration less than two weeks before NU President Martin Massengale hopes to present a recommendation to the NU Board of Regents.

Albert Karnig, provost at the University of Wyoming, announced his withdrawal from the search at the end of last week, said J.B. Milliken, executive assistant to NU President Martin Massengale.

In addition, James Coffman, provost at Kansas State University, indicated last Friday that he intended to withdraw from the search, Milliken said.

After discussions with the candidates last week, Massengale announced Monday that Graham Spanier, provost at Oregon State University, and Herman Lujan, vice provost at the University of Washington, had been invited to Nebraska this week for additional meetings with NU officials.

Coffman said his decision to withdraw was made "simultaneously" with Massengale's decision to invite Spanier and Lujan back to Nebraska. He said that with a new school year beginning and no decision yet made, he thought he should withdraw and direct his attention to his responsibilities at KSU.

"We're back in school now, and I need to devote myself to Kansas State. I like what I'm doing," Coffman said.

Karnig notified Massengale of his decision to withdraw in a letter dated Aug. 16. He cited the onset of a new academic year and his responsibility to address budgetary, planning and organizational decisions as his reasons for withdrawing, according to a University of Wyoming press release.

The two remaining candidates will return to Nebraska this week to meet individually with

regents, Interim Chancellor Jack Goebel and officials in each of the candidates' "home departments."

"It's often the practice for a new chancellor to receive tenure and an appointment in his or her home department," Milliken said. "I'm sure they (Spanier and Lujan) would be interested in that."

Lujan will visit Wednesday and will meet with officials in the political science department. Spanier will visit Friday and will meet with officials in the sociology and human development departments.

Both will meet with NU officials and regents in Lincoln and in other, currently unspecified, Nebraska cities during their visits.

Milliken said the candidates probably would not meet with the public during the visits.

"Principally, the time will be spent meeting with members of the board," he said. "It will be a pretty tight fit to get everything done. There was an opportunity earlier for the public to meet the candidates."

Although all four candidates visited the UNL campus in late July and early August, the regents did not meet with them individually.

Massengale appoints the new chancellor, but the Board of Regents must approve his choice.

"I see this as an opportunity to get a feel for who these candidates are," said Regent Nancy O'Brien of Waterloo. "They come highly recommended, but we haven't met them."

Regent Robert Allen of Hastings said he wanted to see if the candidates had focused on students rather than on research, publishing and the pursuit of grants. Those, he said, were the three traditional criteria for promotion at the university level.

"I want to change that around to make teaching No. 1," Allen said.

Regent Margaret Robinson of Norfolk noted

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William Lauer/Daily Nebraskan

High life

Workers scale the Coliseum roof Monday.

TUESDAY

SAT scores on the decline. Page 5.

UNL bicycle regulators get tough. Page 6.

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City life confuses country boy. Page 16.

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Gulf veteran relates pre-war experience

Newland returns to UNL with new educational plans

By Lesli Thorn
Staff Reporter

Eric Newland's educational plans were suddenly put on hold last August with the explosion of the crisis in the gulf.

Newland is a senior psychology major from Seward. But he's also a flight medic with the 24th medical unit of the Army National Guard. And last December, he was called to serve in the Persian Gulf.

The crisis forced Newland to pack up his entire life in just a few days.

"I had nonstop stuff to do. I got the call on a Thursday night and left a few days later," he said.

Before traveling to the gulf, Newland withdrew from the university, as

did 108 other UNL students who served in the Persian Gulf. The people he spoke to at the vice chancellor's office were "great," he said.

"I wasn't the first person they saw that day, and they met with several persons from my unit," he said.

Two of his professors gave him grades for his courses. Newland said he will finish his incomplete classes in the spring.

Before he left, Newland also had to settle financial aid difficulties.

Students going to the gulf had to defer their loans or begin paying them off immediately after withdrawing from school. Newland had to repay the financial aid he received from the Department of Veterans Affairs.

And, four days after he was activated, Newland married his fiancée, Tammy. They originally planned to be married in July 1991 but stepped

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Kuwaitis nervous as U.S. military leaves

KUWAIT CITY (AP) — As the withdrawal of the last U.S. troops approaches, Kuwaitis are increasingly nervous about their nation's security with Saddam Hussein still in power in Iraq.

Disagreements between Persian Gulf states have blocked efforts to fashion a domestic and regional military network. Meanwhile, the 3,700-member 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment is scheduled to begin leaving the emirate Sept. 1.

"You have to remember that Kuwait was traumatized by the Iraqi invasion," said Khalifa al-Karafi, a member of the advisory National Council. "People remain very worried about Saddam."

After Iraqi troops invaded Kuwait on Aug. 2, 1990, Kuwait's 20,300-member military crumbled. A border buffer zone is now patrolled by U.N. units and Kuwaiti police, but there are reports of Iraqis crossing

the border to salvage or smuggle weapons.

Anxiety peaked last week during the Soviet coup. Banks were besieged by Kuwaitis fearful that Soviet hard-liners backing Saddam would replace Mikhail Gorbachev, who supported the allied forces that ousted Iraq from Kuwait in February.

"We couldn't keep up with the demand for dollars," said a Kuwait City money changer, speaking on condition of anonymity. "People thought that with Gorbachev gone, the hard-liners would cozy up to Saddam and he would come to Kuwait again."

On Thursday — the day after Gorbachev regained control of the Kremlin — some members of Kuwait's advisory council proposed negotiating 10-year military base agreements with the United States and Great Britain. Both countries rejected the idea, saying they do

not intend to maintain ground forces in Kuwait.

Western diplomats and military officials acknowledge that Iraq has not given up its long-standing claim to this oil-rich emirate.

But they also believe Kuwait has not taken all steps available to protect itself or reassure the public.

As envisioned by the West, Kuwait is to have a four-tier "security blanket" — a strong local army, a backup regional force, U.N. observers on the border and U.S. ships in the Persian Gulf.

Yet Kuwait's Defense Ministry has struggled to decide how to rebuild the nation's 16,000-man army, whose ranks were depleted with the departure of many non-Kuwaiti soldiers.

And attempts to put together a regional security force have failed amid bickering over its size and

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Student Profile