

### Buchanan launches bid to upset Bush

CONCORD, N.H. (AP)— Conservative columnist Patrick Buchanan launched his underdog Republican presidential campaign Tuesday with a vow to "take our country back" from a misguided President Bush.

Buchanan blamed Bush for breaking his word not to raise taxes, causing the recession with taxes and budget deficits and failing to defend American interests against "the predatory traders of Europe and Asia."

"He is yesterday and we are tomorrow," Buchanan told a crowd of about 200 jammed into a building lobby across from the state Capitol. Another 100 waited outside as he said of Bush, "He is a globalist and we are nationalists. . . . He would put America's wealth and power at the service of some vague new world order; we will put America first."

Bush shot back during an appearance in Chicago, saying: "We must not pull back into some isolationistic sphere listening to the siren's call of America First. I learned that lesson as a young kid" fighting the Second World War.

# Slavic commonwealth is OK'd

MOSCOW (AP)— Lawmakers in Ukraine and Byelorussia Tuesday overwhelmingly ratified the Slavic commonwealth pact, and Kazakhstan's president called the Soviet Union's future doubtful. Aides to Mikhail Gorbachev differed over whether he would soon resign.

Nursultan Nazarbayev, the Kazakh president who is Gorbachev's last powerful ally in the republics, had said previously he thought a union was still possible and that Gorbachev could play a role in it.

But late Tuesday, Soviet media quoted Nazarbayev as saying: "Today, prospects for signing the new Union Treaty forming an economic community are more problematic than ever."

While emphasizing his support for the union, Nazarbayev said from the Kazakh capital of Alma-Ata: "Kazakhstan must be ready for any change in events, and if that happens, we will have to live self-sufficiently."

His statements were far more alarmist than the assurances he offered Monday in Moscow during meetings with Gorbachev and Russian President Boris Yeltsin.

### Aides differ over Gorbachev's role

Yeltsin, Ukrainian President Leonid Kravchuk and Byelorussian leader Stanislav Shushkevich declared the Soviet Union dead politically on Sunday and invited other Soviet republics to join them in the commonwealth. At least one, Armenia, indicated it might.

In Washington, CIA Director Robert Gates predicted Tuesday that this winter may hold "the most significant civil disorder" in the crumbling Soviet Union since the Communist revolution in 1917. Gates called the Soviet situation "dangerously unstable" in testimony to the House Armed Services Committee.

Contradictory reports about Gorbachev's future indicated high-level uncertainty about his role.

Gorbachev's top spokesman denied speculation by another member of the inner circle that the president plans to resign. "Today he didn't think about it. As far as yesterday is

concerned, you had better ask him," spokesman Andrei Grachev told reporters.

Grachev was commenting on a remark by Georgy Shakhnazarov, one of Gorbachev's senior political advisers, who said the situation in the Soviet Union "is developing in a such way that it probably won't be necessary to wait long for (Gorbachev's resignation)."

But Grachev said: "The president's position is that, at present, and as far as he feels that he has the possibility to exercise the substantial political influence . . . he's going to secure for that (position) all his efforts so far as this is in his power."

Asked whether Gorbachev's authority extends to Russia, Byelorussia and Ukraine, Grachev said yes.

"Mr. Gorbachev considers himself to be the president of the U.S.S.R., which certainly includes the three states."

The Ukrainian parliament voted 288-10 to ratify the commonwealth agreement. It added 12 amendments emphasizing Ukrainian independence, stipulating that the commonwealth is not a legal state, and giving Ukraine permission to create an army.

## Peace talks open amid hopeful tone, little substance

WASHINGTON (AP)— Israel and Syria sounded hopeful notes at the opening of Mideast peace talks Tuesday, but after a three-hour exchange they could agree only to meet another day. Separately, Israeli-Palestinian negotiations hit a quick impasse over Palestinian representation.

The Bush administration registered its approval that the two sides had finally come together five weeks af-

ter an opening ceremony in Madrid, Spain.

Israeli delegations met separately with counterparts from Syria, Lebanon and a joint Jordan-Palestinian group.

At the outset, Syria appeared to offer a concession. Chief negotiator Muwaffak Allaf said Israel could have peace if it relinquished the Golan Heights, a strategic outpost taken in

the 1967 Six-Day War.

After a three-hour session, Israeli chief negotiator Yossi Ben-Aharon said there was nothing new to report. "There is no Syrian willingness to engage in any conversation on the substantive components of peace," he told reporters.

Allaf said he could not report any progress. The retired Syrian ambassador said the Israelis had tried "to

talk about everything except for withdrawal from territories, rejecting the possibility of land for peace."

On another negotiating front, Israel's talks with Palestinian Arabs immediately stalled in procedural bickering.

The Palestinians, trying to assert their independence, wanted to meet separately with Israel even though

they were invited as part of a joint delegation with Jordan.

The Palestinians did not succeed. Elyakim Rubinstein, the chief Israeli negotiator, debated the point in a corridor with Jordanian Abdul Salam Majali and Palestinian Haidar Abdel Shafi and said afterward: "It's clear to the Palestinians that Israel is willing to move on to substance."

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### Budget

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budget over two years.

Spanier announced last week that he would formulate a budget-reduction proposal to meet the \$1.7 million difference. He said he would try to have the proposal ready for the January meeting of the University of

Nebraska Board of Regents.

Spanier said he was consulting with UNL officials in drawing up his proposal. He promised he would not cut colleges without consulting them and said he would consult the Academic Senate's executive committee in making his final decisions.

"It's almost certain that when all is said or done, someone is going to say to you should have consulted us

and didn't, but we are going to try."

UNL's original budget-reduction plan called for all departments to submit a 5 percent cut — 3 percent to cover the Legislature's mandate and 2 percent for later reallocation.

Spanier said the 2 percent for reallocation, which he described as "old news," was no longer being considered for this year's cut.

### Big Eight

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director, said Missouri questioned part of the plan. He said the plan, which Iowa State, Nebraska, Oklahoma, Colorado, Kansas and Kansas State favored, is too dependent on a team's future success.

"We were comfortable with the way it was," Castiglione said. "The revenue sharing was one of our more grave concerns just because you're going to have dry spells in which you may not appear on TV for two or three years in a row."

Castiglione said Missouri would have suffered a cut this year, had the plan been implemented.

But James O'Hanlon, faculty representative at Nebraska, said the plan is designed to encourage improvement in quality of the competition that teams face.

"We're trying to use the incentives the way they were meant to be used," O'Hanlon said. "This will encourage teams to sponsor more sports and to face better competition."

Lower-echelon football teams, such as Iowa State, Missouri and Oklahoma State, which finished at the bottom of the conference this

year, may take the brunt of the cuts immediately, O'Hanlon said.

But Iowa State football coach Jim Walden said the cuts were fair.

"It's hard to give up some income," Walden said, "but we realize this isn't socialism anymore."

Devaney said passing the plan was somewhat prompted by Oklahoma's threats to depart to the Southwest Conference.

Oklahoma president Donnie Duncan "made a threat just to get up and leave," Devaney said of Friday's meeting. "I didn't think they'd go that far. We've lobbied for more television revenue for as long as I can remember, but we haven't threatened to leave the conference."

Because of each Big Eight team's relative success in either basketball or football, O'Hanlon said, the plan eventually should be equitable.

The plan also states that beginning next year, the minimum football gate revenue that teams take home will increase from \$7,500 to \$50,000.

The maximum basketball guarantee for visiting teams in a conference game will be \$25,000, starting next season. Fouraker said Nebraska currently pays out "close to \$30,000" for each game.

### ROTC

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"I don't want to see this opportunity go by," Tuck said.

Spanier said he didn't feel comfortable about conflicting with the law.

"The one area where I have concern is the conflict between federal law and Board of Regents policy," he said. "While I feel the discrimination is wrong, we cannot set a date for it to change."

If the ROTC classes do lose accreditation, Spanier said he thinks that would be the end of the military on campus.

"The Department of Defense would almost certainly close our Army, Navy and ROTC units if this occurs," Spanier wrote.

Spanier said that closure would represent a major loss of an educational asset to UNL students. It would also interfere with the relationship between a major land-grant university and the armed services, he said.

"I believe that ROTC is a fundamental and important part of our university," Spanier said.

### Restructure

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and will report directly to the chancellor. The director will have oversight responsibility for affirmative action activities and will also have advocacy responsibilities.

The affirmative action office itself also will be restructured and will have a much broader role in promoting affirmative action efforts on campus, he said.

Spanier also announced that he was setting up a new system to deal with sexual harassment

at UNL, which will be based out of the affirmative action office. He said he wanted a system in place that would allow individuals to quickly and easily report sexual harassment.

"We want a high degree of responsiveness," he said. "We want the problems solved."

Spanier said the search committee to select the new affirmative action director would be named within a couple of days.

Spanier praised both Munn and Maurer, saying that Munn had given 15 years of dedicated service and that Maurer had been highly recommended.

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