



Fans rally and lead the crowd, in cheers for George Bush and jeers for Bill Clinton.

Robin Trimarchi/DN

Bush

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about American education problems. Schools need to be re-invented to compete globally, he said.

"We spend more per capita on education than every country except Switzerland," he said. "The results still aren't good enough."

If he is re-elected, Bush said, additional adult education training programs will be created for military personnel who lost jobs from defense budget cuts. The Head Start program also would continue to be a priority.

Bush said his education proposal, American 2000, was reviewing problems across the country as seen by community leaders, teachers and parents.

He warned the crowd about what Gov. Bill Clinton's administration would be like if he were elected.

"We don't need a return to Jimmy Carter days," he said.

"Who wants to go back to... a Democratic president in the White House who had a 21.5 percent interest rate and 15 percent inflation rate?"

Bush said he was confident of re-election, but he urged voters to look at the candidate who could uphold the public trust.

"People all over the world look to the occupants of the White House for the character that shapes the presidency," he said. "In the final analysis, voters will say who has the honor, integrity and sense of service."

Things That Make You Go Mmm...



Chambers

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sitting next to her that day, police would have come and talked to me."

Nevertheless, Chambers outlined four major concerns about the incident in his letter to Spanier:

• UNL police had no business making "such an outrageous, racist call" to Bates, who was implicated "solely because of his race," Chambers said.

Chambers called the manner in which the contact was made "highly inappropriate and unprofessional."

• More than 180 students are enrolled in the anthropology class, he said, and several different ethnic groups are represented.

"Was every member of each racial group — including each white student — subjected to the same insulting, heavy-handed police procedure as Mr. Bates?" Chambers asked. "Were all of their names linked to the disappearance of Ms. Harms solely on the basis of their ethnic background?"

• Chambers contended that UNL and Lincoln police were "barking up the wrong tree" by going after Bates, who was the starting fullback for the Cornhusker football team from 1979-81.

Bates is working toward his master's degree at UNL and works for the Nebraska Department of Correctional Services.

"He's a law-abiding citizen," Chambers wrote in the letter.

• "Implications of obvious violations of privacy" surround the incident, Chambers said, adding that he was trying to find which UNL personnel provided the police with names of African-American male students in the class.

Also, he said, Bates' telephone number is unlisted.

"Did they get it from the phone company by asserting that he is the subject of some type of criminal investigation?" Chambers asked. "If so, they sullied his name in addition to invading his privacy."

Bates' number is listed in the 1992-93 UNL Student Directory.

Griesen said gender and race information of all students had been stored in computer banks in the Registrar's Office, and officials released the names of African-American students enrolled in the class only after they determined the information formed a "need-to-know" scenario.

"I think it was appropriate," Griesen said. "When the police departments are trying to find a missing student, you need to give them access to any information available that might speed up their investigation."

Copies of the Chambers' letter also were sent to Bates; Massengale;

Griesen; Eric Jolly, director of UNL's Office of Affirmative Action/Diversity; George Garrison, chairman of the University of Nebraska at Omaha's black studies program; black UNL administrators and faculty members; legislators; and news media.

Chambers called the incident "racist and inappropriate," and said he wondered if the tactic of interviewing students based on their race had become widespread at UNL.

"If (Harms) was talking to a white male, would they round up all the white males on campus?" he said. "Like I said in the letter, I'm sure she talked to other people from other ethnic groups, too."

"But they only do this sort of trashy investigation when a black person is involved."

UNL Police Chief Ken Cauble said he would continue his own investigation of the incident, but had not yet received enough information to comment.

Chambers said the incident concerned him because it could be precedent-setting, and other students could be targeted for future questioning solely because of their race.

He cited another incident, which occurred last month at New York State University in Oneonta, N.Y., in which university officials compiled a list of names and addresses of every black male student for police who were searching for a crime suspect.

According to an article in Newsday, the officials' action stemmed from a Sept. 4 burglary in which a 77-year-old woman received stab wounds. She said the suspect was African-American, and the local sheriff's department put out an alert for a "college-age black male," giving no further description.

Chambers said there were striking similarities between that incident and the one involving Bates.

"If all of this can be done on the basis of your being black... the university's policies need to be changed."

Griesen, however, said there were "no parallels at all" between the cases.

Spanier could not be reached for comment.

Griesen said he and other UNL officials would continue to investigate the matter, and would decide later how to respond to Chambers' charges.

Chambers said he was optimistic about the possibility of meeting with Spanier and other UNL officials.

"I'm bringing this matter up not only as a black man who is outraged and offended by this action, but also as an elected member of office," Chambers said. "If this kind of thing goes on and the university tolerates it, the university will gain an implacable enemy in the (Nebraska) Legislature — namely, me."



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