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ASUN explores civil rights

Mental journey highlights meeting

By Andrea Kaser Staff Reporter

ASUN members began last night's meeting with their eyes closed.

John Harris, special assistant to the vice chancellor for student affairs and guest speaker at the meeting, asked members to close their eyes while he took them on a mental journey to Africa.

"Right now, in this room, we are a community of people. We are Afri-cans. We're princes and kings and queens and princesses," he told the Association of Students of the University of Nebraska.

"One day there comes a rustling from the shore. Suddenly someone and they do the same to your leg, and you wonder why."

Strangers do this to the sisters, rights, Harris said. brothers, mothers and fathers of this community, Harris said, and they are herded onto crowded ships. "Someone's taking us from Africa,

and we know not why," Harris said. This was where the civil rights

movement began, ASUN Harris said. Harris was invited to speak in honor of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. The movement

began "when someone decided that because of the very nature of my skin I was different inferior. We still wonder why," he said

The civil rights movement was, for King, not a political movement, but a moral one, Harris said. But, King believed morals could not be legislated, he said. Behaviors, however, grabs your arm and puts a chain on it, could be mandated by law, he said, citing King. And that is why lawmakers play such a crucial role in civil

As a legislative body, the actions of ASUN are key to race relations at UNL, Harris said.

The United States is at a turning point, he said, with the arrival of the Clinton administration and the recent riots in Los Angeles.

'As people feel less and less a part of the American dream, they're ca-pable of anything," he said.

The decisions of ASUN members' generation will set the course for the future of civil rights, he said.

forward or backward in race relations like never before," he said.

In other business, members of the campus life committee decided to petition to put prayer back into UNL graduation ceremonies. And the Government Liaison Committee was granted approval to lobby for legislative bills that support multicultural education in elementary and secondary schools.

Splinter

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As vice chancellor for research, Splinter oversaw the university museum, University of Nebraska Press and regulatory committees overseeing research.

Splinter said the university museum was one of the top museums in the country and he enjoyed working with it.

He mentioned the largest elephant skeleton in the world on display there: "I remember when I was a kid, they found it south of North Platte," he said.

The University Press has

"Your generation will move us achieved national recognition under Splinter's supervision.

Regent

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Besides Dr. Wilson, the regents attending the Nov. 15 meeting were Payne, Don Blank of McCook and Nancy Hoch of Nebraska City. Massengale arrived after the meeting had started.

Dr. Blank would not disclose any information from the gathering, in-cluding whether Massengale was told during the meeting that he did not have the board's support to receive a contract extension.

"By no means did we (the regents

Visitors

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their stay in Lincoln. They will audit four UNL business and economics courses, serve as interns at local businesses to get hands-on free enterprise experience, and work with tutors and with Anderson at the center. Overall, the Tajiks will work an average of six days a week.

"It's going to be very, very busy," Anderson said. "A lot of people think that 90 days is a lot of time to learn. But when you're starting on the ground, floor, it really isn't.'

Anderson said obstacles could come up in the Tajiks' road to learning free enterprise.

'Obviously, there's a problem with very quickly.

"I've been very pleased to serve on the press board to decide which books will be published," Splinter said. "One little fringe benefit is that I get to read books printed by

Nebraska Press. I enjoy that." As for his personal plans after retirement, Splinter said he hoped to complete some research on East Campus - studying soil moisture measurement with radio frequencies

He also has planned a trip to Alaska, and wants to go sailing off the coast of Maine, he said.

But Splinter is not sure he will like life after UNL.

"I'm retiring with some apprehen-sions," he said, "because really I've enjoyed my academic work all these years, teaching and doing research."

that were present) represent the board of regents," Dr. Blank said. "There were simply some people on the board who wanted to talk to Dr. Massengale."

Skrupa said she thought the meeting was "ill advised and wrong."

'It puts all the regents in a bad light," she said.

Skrupa said the meeting should have been discussed as a personnel matter in a closed meeting, but the press should have been notified.

The meeting with Massengale was within state law, which states that a quorum of members is necessary for a gathering to be an official board meeting.

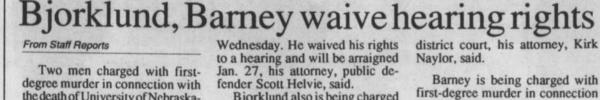
the language," he said. "We didn't realize that a lot of American business terms don't translate into Tajik. So we're literally creating words to work with.

Anderson said the process would work much more effectively if a larger delegation of professors from Khojand could come to Lincoln to learn.

"I think that the program would really take off if they had a few more folks over here," he said.

But the Khojand visitors have some things working in their favor, Anderson said.

'They have the support of the community and the local businesses," he said. "And they pick up on concepts



degree murder in connection with the death of University of Nebraska-Lincoln student Candice Harms waived their rights to a prelimi-

nary hearing Wednesday. Robert Bjorklund, 30, appeared in Lancaster County Court

to commit a felony.

Bjorklund also is being charged with the Harms case. with robbery and use of a weapon Harms' body was discovered in

Scott Barney, 24, waived his right to a preliminary hearing Tues-day, and will be arraigned Feb. 3 in

a field southeast of Lincoln Dec. 6 after she had been missing for 12

Project to help disabled students find jobs

From Staff Reports

Students with disabilities will soon have more help finding jobs because of a \$135,000 grant the University of Nebraska-Lincoln recently received.

According to a UNL news release, the grant, given by the U.S. Department of Education Office of Special Education and Rehabilitation Services', will be used to create

Don't Miss Our

a project entitled Relevant Employment for Students in University Mediated Experiences.

The project will be aimed at helping college students with disabilities make the transfer from college into employment, Mary Friehe, assistant professor of special education and communication disorders, said in the release.

"Our objective is to work with university students with disabilities to get them better prepared for employment," Friche said.

The project will be co-directed by Friehe and Jan Leuenberger of the University of Nebraska at Omaha. Project members also will include a project coordinator, a part-time career planning and placement counselor, a part-time rehabilitation counselor and a graduate assistant on the UNL and UNO campuses, the release said.

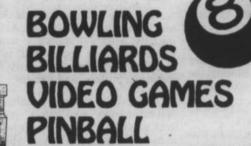


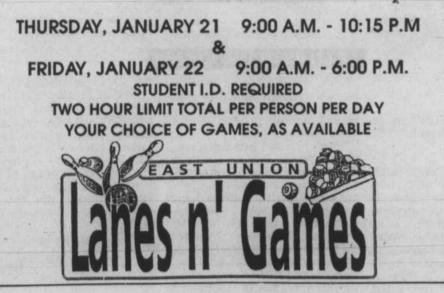


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