

# Daily Nebraskan

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University of Nebraska-Lincoln

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SPORTS

## Huskers hold on

Nebraska squeaks by Kansas after the Jayhawks' last minute, two-point conversion fails.

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Monday

50/25

Partly cloudy and cool today. Tuesday, mostly sunny, highs in the low 50's.

## Dennis Smith picked for NU's top spot

### 3 finalists drop out prior to selection

By Jeff Zeleny  
Senior Editor

Dennis Smith was named the fifth president of the University of Nebraska system Sunday after accepting a unanimous offer extended by the NU Board of Regents.



Smith

Smith, executive vice chancellor of the University of California, Irvine, will sign a three-year contract beginning March 1 with an annual salary of \$165,000. Current NU President Martin Massengale makes the same salary.

In a special meeting Sunday, the regents voted 8-0 to offer Smith the contract. All four student regents supported the vote.

Regent Chairman John Payne of Kearney said he offered Smith, 55, the contract Friday afternoon. Smith's interview with the board last Wednesday was a big factor in the decision, Payne said.

"It just seemed the chemistry was right," he said. "He is easygoing, but he is firm. Once he makes a decision, it is our feeling that is how he is going to be."

Smith was one of four finalists interviewed by the regents last week. The other three candidates withdrew from the race over the weekend.

Constantine Curris, president of the University of Northern Iowa; Gregory O'Brien, chancellor of the University of New Orleans; and Warren Baker, president of California Polytechnic State University, had all withdrawn their names from consideration by Saturday evening.

Payne said he told Curris Friday afternoon the board was leaning toward another candidate.

"We had to be fair," Payne said. "At that time, it didn't seem (the board would select Curris)."

Regent Nancy O'Brien of Waterloo, co-chairwoman of the presidential search committee, said it was common for candidates to withdraw immediately before the selection of a president.

See **PRESIDENT** on 2



Jay Calderon/DN

Regent Charles Wilson of Lincoln and Regent Chairman John Payne of Kearney speak with the new University of Nebraska President Dennis Smith during a telephone press conference Sunday.

## New NU president pleases UNL officials

By Steve Smith  
Senior Reporter

Dennis Smith's selection as the next NU president met approval from University of Nebraska-Lincoln officials Sunday.

During a special meeting Sunday, the regents voted unanimously to appoint Smith to NU's top post. The vote ended a 10-month search for NU President Martin Massengale's successor. Massengale announced in January he would not seek to extend his contract, which expires in January 1994.

Smith, who is executive vice chancellor at the University of California, Irvine, will be installed as NU's president March 1. Massengale will continue to serve as president

— "I think we, as students, have gotten our say in this (presidential selection) process."

— Benes  
UNL student regent

until that time.

UNL Chancellor Graham Spanier, who was a member of the presidential search committee, said he was pleased with the regents' selection.

Spanier said he thought the momentum Smith would gain from the regents' unani-

mous vote would benefit the new president as he took office.

"The fact that he received a unanimous regents' vote is quite encouraging — that's a strong endorsement," Spanier said. "He'll enjoy a lot of momentum and support coming in."

Spanier said he and the other NU chancellors — UNO's Del Weber, UNK's Gladys Styles Johnston, and UNMC's Carol Aschenbrenner — got a taste of Smith's leadership abilities when they met with the four finalists last week.

"He's very highly regarded," Spanier said. "The chancellors saw strength and leadership in our discussion with him."

See **REACTION** on 2

## Assault charges in UNL beating to be determined later this week

From Staff Reports

The Lancaster County Attorney's office began its investigation of the assault of a UNL international student Friday, Deputy County Attorney Jodi Nelson said.

Nelson, who is handling the case, said her office would decide this week what charges should be filed in the Oct. 17 assault of Boon-Chung "Marco" Ong.

Three men were cited with third-degree assault about two weeks ago by the University of Nebraska-Lincoln police department. One of the three suspects was a student, Police Chief Ken Cauble said.

The names of the suspects will be released after charges are filed by the county attorney's office, Nelson said.

Police said the University of Nebraska Athletic Department assisted in the investigation. Athletic department officials have declined comment.

Ong, a junior marketing major from Malaysia, was beaten and kicked in the head outside the Nebraska Union.

## Grant to fund UNL student exchanges

By Dionne Searcey  
Senior Reporter

Two UNL students will receive a bargain rate when they study abroad next year, an international affairs official said.

Peter Levitov, associate dean of international affairs, said the University of Nebraska-Lincoln and 11 other schools received a federal grant that gives the Lincoln campus \$6,000 to split between two students.

The grant is part of an exchange program with schools in European Community

countries. More than 200 American universities applied for the grant. Levitov said 16 European schools were selected to serve as exchange partners with U.S. schools in the program.

The UNL Office of International Affairs will have information available to students about the program before winter break, he said.

The application, Levitov said, would probably require a research proposal describing the type of European Community study intended. The sponsoring universities together will create an application process.

Tuition probably will cost less than the

amount of the scholarship, he said. The students could use leftover scholarship money to buy plane tickets or room and board.

American students applying for the program must study European Community issues abroad, Levitov said.

From the European schools, 32 students will be selected to take classes in American studies in the United States.

"It is focused," he said. "It is not just studying abroad."

The Fund for the Improvement of Post Secondary Education financed 20 Ameri-

See **GRANT** on 3

## Hazing hard to detect, Griesen says

### Accident provides chance to educate

By Jeremy Fitzpatrick  
Editor

Hazing at UNL takes place under "a conspiracy of silence" that makes it difficult to prevent, Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs James Griesen said Friday.

Jeff Knoll, a freshman from Ogallala, fell from a third-floor window at Phi Gamma Delta fraternity Wednesday. Griesen said hazing — including drinking "in a coercive environment" — was involved in Knoll's accident. Knoll was upgraded during the weekend

from critical to serious condition at Lincoln General Hospital.

Griesen, speaking at a press conference, said hazing violated the University of Nebraska-Lincoln's Student Code of Conduct. But hazing usually takes place with the consent of the victim, he said, making the practice difficult to identify or stop.

"It makes it virtually impossible for the university to deal with it," he said.

Griesen said consent of the victim was not a defense for hazing. Hazing still is punishable under the student code of conduct even if the victim willingly participates, he said.

Griesen said the hazing that took place at the Phi Gamma Delta house Wednesday in-

involved "alcohol consumption in an environment where it would appear (Knoll) felt he had no alternative."

He said hazing was not a violation of state law. But because it is a violation of UNL's Student Code of Conduct, it could result in the loss of Phi Gamma Delta's charter.

Griesen said the fall still was being investigated. Facts in the case are being forwarded by the police to the Lincoln County Attorney's office, he said.

Griesen said he did not know how prevalent hazing was at UNL.

"The true extent to hazing we probably

See **HAZING** on 2