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Fraternity hazing takes toll on greek system

National Fiji officer looks into problem

By Jeffrey Robb
Staff Reporter

The University of Nebraska-Lincoln presented its investigation of last week's hazing incident at Phi Gamma Delta Fraternity to the chapter's national representatives Monday, a university official said.

Glenn Moor, Fiji's national director of business affairs, came to Lincoln to discuss with

administrators the hazing and subsequent injury of UNL freshman Jeff Knoll.

Knoll fell out of a third-floor window of the house Wednesday while trying to escape after being forced to drink alcohol, officials said.

Knoll is in serious condition but is conscious, a Lincoln General Hospital official said.

Moor and four local alumni met with James Griesen, UNL vice chancellor for student affairs; Jayne Wade Anderson, director of the greek affairs; and Linda Schwartzkopf, director of UNL student judicial affairs.

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House presidents: stereotypes 'unfair'

By Paula Lavigne
Staff Reporter

Phi Gamma Delta Fraternity pledge's fall from a third-story window has increased awareness about the dangers of hazing.

But University of Nebraska-Lincoln fraternity presidents say the incident has given the greek system a bad image.

"Any time something happens connected with hazing, (stereotyping) runs rampant through the greek system," said Brent Burmood, president of Sigma Alpha Epsilon Fraternity.

Stereotypes that the public has formed about fraternities are untrue, he said.

Burmood said the images associated with fraternities were distorted and came from isolated incidents. Burmood said he did not consider hazing a serious problem at UNL.

"The No. 1 thing the greek system faces is not hazing, drinking and running wild," he

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Massengale withdraws from search

By Jeff Zeleny
Senior Editor

Martin Massengale withdrew from Florida State University's presidential search Monday, five days after interviewing with the search committee in Tallahassee, Fla.

Massengale, the outgoing University of Nebraska president, was one of nine finalists for the FSU position. He had a preliminary interview with the search committee Thursday.

In a letter dated Nov. 8 that was faxed to the search committee chairman, Massengale cited professional reasons for withdrawing from the search.

"After considerable reflection following the visit to Florida State University, I have decided for professional reasons not to pursue the position further at this time," Massengale wrote in the letter.

"I enjoyed my visit and consider FSU an excellent university well positioned to take greater leadership nationally and internationally in public higher education," he said in the letter. "I appreciated the many courtesies shown me during my visit."

Massengale could not be reached for com-

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Expert testifies dirt on shovel from grave site

Bjorklund trial update

► The trial was scheduled to resume at 9 a.m. Monday, but was delayed until about 11:15 while attorneys and the judge had a discussion in chambers.

► An FBI soil analysis expert testified that the dirt found on Bjorklund's shovel matched the type of soil found in the grave south of Lincoln, where Harms was found.

By Steve Smith
Senior Reporter

In more than two hours of testimony Monday, a federal soil analysis expert said the dirt on a shovel belonging to Roger Bjorklund came from Candice Harms' grave site.

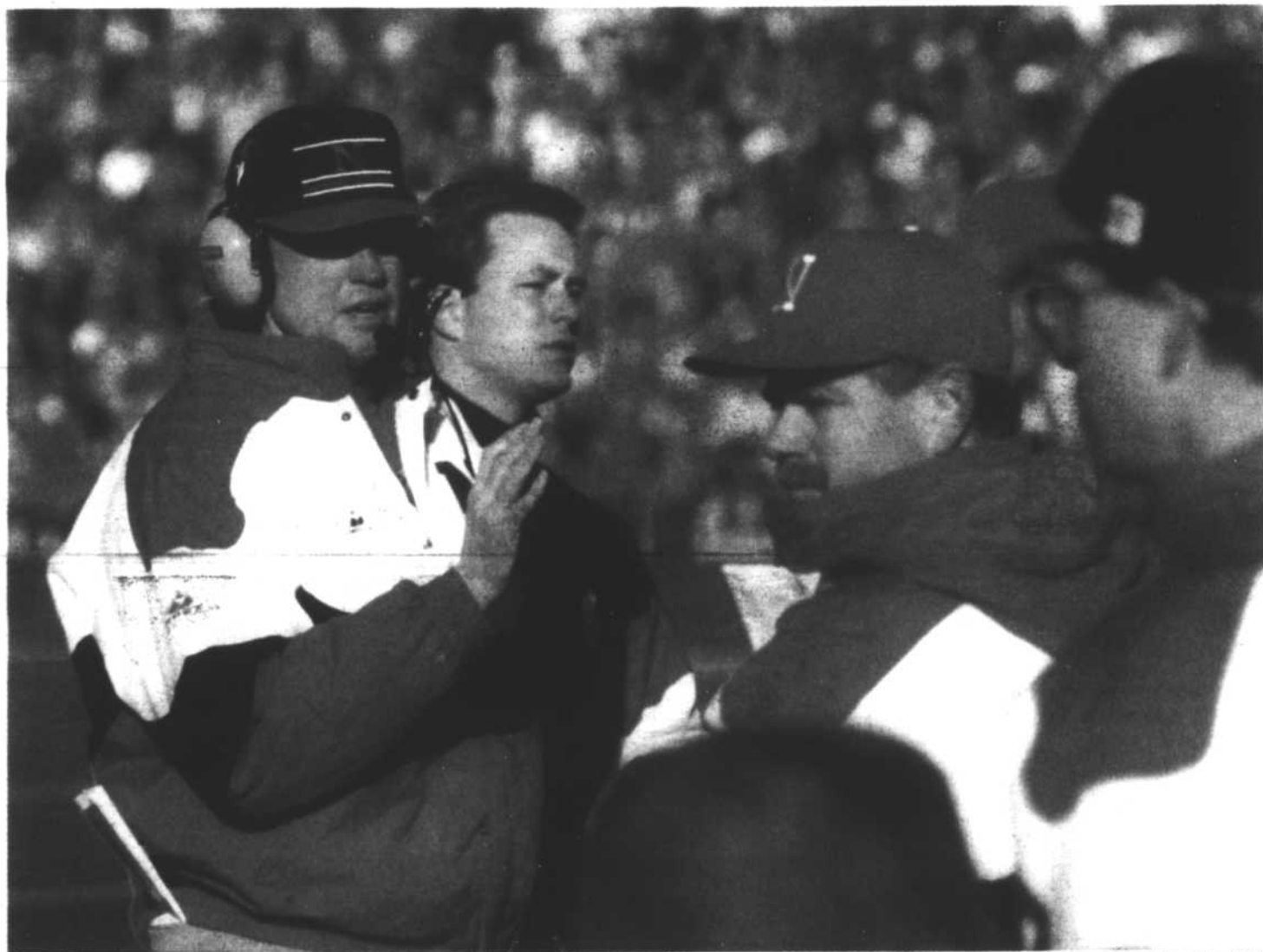
Bruce Hall, an FBI forensic mineralogist in Washington, D.C., said the soil from Harms' grave at 134th Street and Yankee Hill Road was similar to the dirt on a shovel at Bjorklund's home. Hall said he analyzed the soil samples on the basis of color, texture and composition.

Police recovered the shovel from Bjorklund's home during a Dec. 8 search of the house.

Bjorklund, 31, is being tried for the first-degree murder of Harms, a University of Nebraska-Lincoln student.

"Based on the investigation, it's my opinion that the grave was the source of the shovel's dirt," Hall said.

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Kiley Timperley/DN

Tom Osborne, left, and members of the football staff stand on the sidelines at the Kansas game Saturday. It was the 1,000th game in Husker history.

Grand tradition

Nebraska football program marks milestone with win

By Jeff Singer
Senior Editor

It began more than 100 years ago, when Nebraska's football team defeated Omaha YMCA 10-0 on Nov. 27, 1890.

And 999 games later, the Nebraska football tradition is still going strong.

Nebraska football has become an icon within state borders and is recognized nationally as one of the most consistent programs in the country.

Saturday, the Huskers played their 1,000th game, which ended with the same result as their first — a victory. This time, their opponent was Kansas, a team Nebraska has played 100 times in its 1,000 games. The Huskers beat the Jayhawks 21-20.

Although many of Nebraska's teams had success before the 1960s, the Husker program came to the national forefront when former coach and athletic director Bob Devaney came to Lincoln in 1962.

Devaney turned Husker football into a program that has produced a number of continuing NCAA records. The team has had 32 consecutive winning seasons, 25 straight nine-win seasons, 25 straight bowl appearances and 193 consecutive sellout

games at Memorial Stadium.

But Nebraska Associate Athletic Director Don Bryant, who saw his first Husker football game in 1937, said Nebraska football folklore was popular even before the Devaney era.

Beginning in the 1920s, he said, Husker football has been a rallying point for Nebraskans.

"Nebraska football had a great tradition and a great spirit of excellence before Bob Devaney," Bryant said. "It set a great foundation for Bob Devaney to help catapult the program to perennial excellence, and Coach (Tom) Osborne has continued to build upon that."

Nebraska has won more than two-thirds of its 1,000 games, with 671 wins, 289 losses and 40 ties. Nebraska's victories led to more conference titles than any other Big Eight school, as well as to two national titles in 1970 and 1971.

"We have had a great football tradition here at Nebraska," Devaney said. "And as long as Tom Osborne is here, we will continue to have a good program."

Osborne succeeded Devaney in 1973, and in the process has become the nation's

winningest active coach. Osborne also has teamed with Devaney to be the only coaches in college football history to post consecutive 100-win careers in back-to-back stints at the same school.

"We've enjoyed a 31-year stretch that's been unequalled," Osborne said. "It hasn't been difficult to follow what Bob accomplished with the players and coaches we've had here, but it has been difficult in that he set a very high standard of success."

While looking forward to their next 1,000 games, this year's fourth-ranked Huskers have succeeded with a 9-0 record in pursuit of their first national title in 22 years.

Bryant said the success level Nebraska has had to date is remarkable.

"The most impressive thing about this program is to be able to maintain this type of excellence with only 1 1/2 million people in the state," Bryant said. "It's a miracle."

Osborne said he was proud of his program because it often was seen as a symbol of Nebraskans' desire for excellence.

"One thing that exemplifies Nebraska football is a good work ethic," Osborne said. "Players realize you have to pay a price for success, and this goes along with the similar type of ethic we have in the state of Nebraska."