

Spanier 1 of 12 people to pick Big 12 commissioner

By Mitch Sherman
Senior Reporter

UNL Chancellor Graham Spanier is one of 12 people appointed to a committee that will choose a Big 12 Conference commissioner sometime in the next few months.

Spanier, Nebraska's representative in the 12-member group, said the committee decided at a meeting in Dallas last weekend to choose a conference commissioner sometime in the spring of 1995.

"A search will be launched in the next few weeks," Spanier said. "And we'd like to have someone working by July 1."

Although the Big 12 will not begin conference play until August 1996 — when Texas, Texas A&M, Baylor and Texas Tech join the conference — Spanier said a Big 12 commissioner would be busy from the day he was appointed.

Among the duties of the conference com-

missioner, Spanier said, would be long-range planning, selecting various sites of events, hiring a staff, becoming familiar with the universities and representing the conference in national discussion, TV contracts and bowl packages.

Spanier is one of three chancellors on the committee. Among the other nine members are three women's administrators, three athletic directors and three faculty representatives.

He said no candidate had an advantage now. The commissioner of the Big Eight is Carl James, and the Southwest Conference's commissioner is Steve Hatchell.

Another topic on the agenda at the meetings last weekend was the site of the new conference's headquarters. The SWC is centered in Dallas, and the Big Eight's headquarters are in Kansas City, Mo.

Spanier said both of those cities were under consideration, but no city was leading right now.

"We hope to choose a site sometime in 1995," he said. "It could be anywhere. Right now, everyone is open to any location."

Some Big Eight coaches have expressed concern that the new conference may adopt too many SWC policies. The SWC, these coaches have said, is joining the Big Eight, not the other way around. But Spanier said all sites were being considered, no matter where the city was located.

"I haven't heard anyone say they are for or against any city," he said. "You have to look at what it means economically; what cities make the highest bid and offer us the best facilities and resources."

"I'm looking at it in terms of what kind of access the city will have from Lincoln, Nebraska."

He said the site of the conference headquarters would be chosen sometime in 1995.

In addition to serving on the committee to choose a commissioner, Spanier also was

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GRAHAM SPANIER
UNL chancellor

lected to represent the Big 12 Conference on the NCAA president's commission. He begins a four-year term in January during the NCAA's annual convention.

"It's a group that represents all of the presidents and chancellors in a broad range of universities," Spanier said.

Eight Huskers chosen for All-Big Eight team

From Staff Reports

Nebraska landed eight football players on the Coaches' All-Big Eight first team, which was announced on Tuesday.

Nebraska's four offensive first-team selections were guard Brenden Stai, center Aaron Graham, tackle Zach Wiegert and I-back Lawrence Phillips.

On the first-team defense, linebackers Ed Stewart and Donta Jones

and defensive backs Barron Miles and Tyrone Williams all represented Nebraska.

It was Wiegert's third selection to the first team.

Colorado also placed eight players, but in nine positions — Chris Hudson was chosen as a return specialist and a defensive back — on the first team.

Colorado's Kordell Stewart was chosen over Kansas State's Chad May as the first-team quarterback.

Frazier won't stump for Quayle

By Jeff Griesch
Staff Reporter

Tommie Frazier and Tom Osborne said on Wednesday that they sympathized with Dan Quayle's medical condition after a blood clot was discovered on Monday in the former vice president's right lung.

But neither had any plans of helping Quayle with any possible presidential aspirations.

With blood clots as a common bond, Quayle could ask Frazier, one of the most recognizable figures in Nebraska, to campaign for him.

But Frazier, a registered Democrat, shied away from any ideas of getting politically involved.

"I'm not really that interested in politics right now," Frazier said.

Osborne said his experience dealing with Frazier's situation also would not warrant stumping for Quayle.

"I don't really have much of a connection with Dan Quayle. So I doubt that I would be much help."

TOM OSBORNE
Nebraska football coach

"I don't really have much of a connection with Dan Quayle," Osborne said. "So I doubt that I would be much help."

Quayle, who is considering running for president in 1996, will remain at Indiana University Medical Center for a week while being treated with Heparin, a blood-thinning drug.

Frazier still is being treated with Coumadin, another blood-thinning drug.

Frazier said that when the blood clot was first discovered in his leg,

he was worried about the clot moving to his lungs.

"I thought about it a lot at the time, but I don't really think about what could've happened anymore," Frazier said.

Osborne said Quayle's condition made him even more thankful that the clot in Frazier's leg did not move through his heart and into his lungs.

"At the time, we obviously knew that Tommie's situation could get much worse," Osborne said. "It could have been tragic."

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DeForge
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DeForge — who hit two of her four 3-point attempts — scored eight-straight Nebraska points in a time span of just over two minutes.

The 5-foot-11 guard from Niagara, Wis., said her big first half was as beneficial to her as it was to the team.

"I was a 3-point shooter in high school, and it's probably my favorite shot," DeForge said. "I was kind of connecting on a few of those shots there in the first half. For my confidence, that was a big boost."

Nebraska did not let up, as it went on a 15-5 run to end the first half with a 48-28 advantage.

Beck said her team's nearly flawless first-half performance was especially impressive against Kent.

"We played an almost perfect first half," Beck said. "I really respect Kent's program. They had a 20-8 record (last year), they believe in pressure defense, and that's one of the reasons I scheduled them — because of their strong pressure defense."

"This was a big victory for us, and we can build on it."

Nebraska scored the first six points of the second half to take a 26-point lead, but the lead slowly dwindled down to 16 at the 10-minute mark.

"We still have a lot of work to do because we looked really sloppy at times," Beck said. "We need to pass more and not dribble as much. Our second half wasn't great. I don't think we've learned how to bury somebody."

Nebraska was plagued by 33 turnovers, but Kent also turned the ball over 33 times.

Nebraska, which went into the game with four players averaging in double figures, did not stray from that trend.

Five Huskers reached double figures, with two reaching double figures in rebounds.

Lis Brenden led all scorers with 18, while Pyra Aarden and DeForge each contributed 15. Tina McClain had 14 and Belinda Bynum scored 10.

DeForge also grabbed 10 rebounds and McClain, a sophomore forward, pulled down a game-high 13.

Volleyball
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As one of two seniors on the team along with Peggy Meyer, Aspegren said she was feeling the pressure of playing in her final matches at Nebraska.

"I'm not nervous; I'm just really excited at this point," Aspegren said. "I know that everyone is going to do everything they can to make (Final Four)."

Nebraska hasn't been to the Final Four since 1990, when the Huskers lost to Pacific in the semifinal.

If the Huskers aren't able to make it to Austin, Texas, for the Final Four, Aspegren said this season still would be a successful one.

"I don't want to think about it if we don't make it," Aspegren said. "As long as I know that we did everything we could, I'll be all right."

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Huskers picked for scholar team

From Staff Reports

Two Nebraska football players earned spots on the 24-player Hitachi/CFA Scholar-Athlete Team announced by the College Football Association on Wednesday.

Rob Zatechka, a graduate student with a 4.0 grade point average in biological sciences, and Terry Connealy, a senior agribusiness major with a 3.8 GPA, both represented Nebraska.

Three other players from the Big Eight made the team: Matt McEwen and Laird Veatch from Kansas State and Marc Pedrotti of Missouri.

American Heart Association

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