

Bowl group funds regents' trip

By Paula Lavigne
Senior Reporter

More than \$1 million was allotted to send 11 administrators, four regents and four student regents to the Orange Bowl, but not one penny came from the university.

Paul Carlson, interim vice chancellor for business and finance, said the Orange Bowl administration gave the University of Nebraska-Lincoln \$4.5 million.

However, he said, the money had to be divided among the the Big Eight conference schools. A university not in a conference, like Notre Dame, could pocket the whole \$4.5 million, he said.

"Iowa State and Kansas State, who didn't win a game all year, get \$400,000 for us going to the Orange Bowl," Carlson said.

UNL received an expense account for \$1.17 million to cover transportation, lodging, food and incidental costs for administrators and regents, Carlson said. However, he said, UNL Chancellor Graham Spanier received funds directly.

Unlike the football players, who received t-shirts, rings and other souvenirs, Carlson said the administrators and regents did not get extra gifts with the account funds.

Carlson said he and his staff had been working on the expense account since November and would not finish paying the bills until March. They had to follow the



Jeff Haller/DN

UNL Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs James Grieson cheers the Cornhuskers to victory at the Orange Bowl in Miami.

Orange Bowl Official Participation Manual, which Carlson called "The Bible."

The manual dictates everything from where UNL's guests will stay to who will drive them to and from the airport.

Carlson said guests were asked to attend parties, fashion shows, fishing trips, balls, parades and other events.

"The events are part of the whole atmosphere. They give us \$1.17 million to go down there and put

on a big party," he said. "We're just the invited guests."

Carlson said it was important both for the university and for the Orange Bowl to have guests from UNL at the game.

"The Orange Bowl puts on this big extravaganza, and they want proper representation," he said.

Spouses were included in the events, he said, because the Orange Bowl committees liked to make their celebration an old-fashioned family affair.

Interim engineering dean enjoys smooth transition

Splinter pleased by cooperation, reduced publicity

By Paula Lavigne
Senior Reporter

The calm after the storm has begun to settle on the engineering debate, and Bill Splinter, interim dean of the College of Engineering and Technology, is taking advantage of the low tide.

Splinter said he would carry out NU President Dennis Smith's recommendations by taking the engineering issue out of the media and working closely with both the University of the Nebraska-Lincoln and the University of Nebraska at Omaha campuses until a new dean was assigned.

"President Smith set forth a plan of action that we're going to follow," he said. "There won't be any news in that."

Splinter was asked to serve as interim dean within a few days after Stan Liberty announced in December that he would step down as dean on Jan. 1.

Splinter, a UNL alumnus, joined the faculty in 1968 as a professor and head of the agricultural engineering department. He retired from UNL as vice chancellor for research in 1993.

Splinter, who met with UNO faculty last week, said his first objective was to make engineering a non-issue by avoiding publicity.

"We've been in the press too much," he said. "The press likes to worry about conflict. There's going to be no conflict to worry about."

Splinter said he thought Smith had made a workable, wise decision when he did not recommend the creation of a second engineering college

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BILL SPLINTER

Interim engineering dean

in Omaha, even if that did not make everybody happy.

Now that everyone was going in the same direction, Splinter said, the faculty members no longer were in a confrontational mode. They have accepted Smith's decision, he said, and are willing to cooperate.

"I feel really good about it, quite frankly," he said.

By working closely with Omaha and Lincoln faculty members, program managers and graduate students, Splinter said he would try to find out what the problems were.

"I have an apartment in Omaha where I will be spending my Thursdays and Fridays of every week," he said. "We have an ongoing operation up there, and we need to spend more time with that program."

Splinter will be interim dean for six months. A permanent dean will be chosen by then, he said.

"I'm going to be 70 years old this year and have a lot of travel plans," he said. "I have no intentions of seeking a permanent position."

Joan Leitzel, senior vice chancellor for academic affairs, is forming a committee to find a permanent dean.

Until then, Splinter said the engineering program was "going to be a gray area of no interest to anybody."

Regents chairman not seeking second term, supports O'Brien

From Staff Reports

Citing a return to one-year terms, Regent Charles Wilson of Lincoln said Thursday he would not seek another term as chairman of the NU Board of Regents.

Wilson said Regent Nancy O'Brien of Waterloo, the board's vice-chairwoman, told him she was interested in the job. He said he would not

compete for the post and would support O'Brien.

In the last few years, Wilson said, there were chairs who served two-year terms. Recently, regents John Payne of Kearney and Don Blank of McCook both served two-year terms, he said.

Wilson said the two former chairmen served their terms under circum-

stances that called for a two-year term.

He said he could make a case for changing the chairmanship to a two-year term, which would mirror the biennial budget process in the Nebraska Legislature. However, he said, he would support O'Brien.

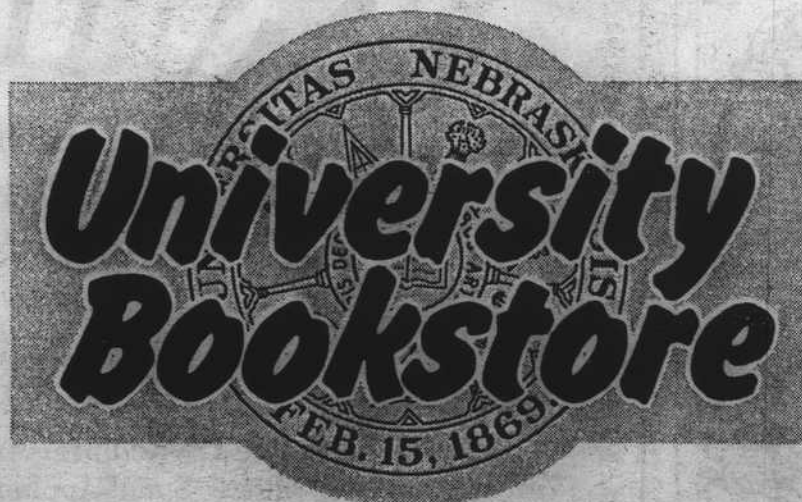
"I don't want to compete with Nancy O'Brien for the chair, especially in a second year," Wilson said. "And I think she'll be a good chair."

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