

# Daily Nebraskan

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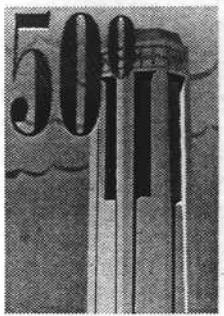
inside **M**onday

## Sports

Gilman named Huskers' Lifter of the Year, page 7

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Music professor to perform with his students, page 9



April 17, 1995

## Interim chancellor thrives on work

### Leitzel ready to take charge

By Matthew Waite  
Senior Reporter

On a Friday-morning walk from the administration building to the Nebraska Union, Joan Leitzel got philosophical in between meetings.

"I think it was Mark Twain that said, 'If you find a job you love, you'll never have to go to work,'" the senior vice chancellor for academic affairs said on the already warm spring day.

That philosophy and the challenges of each day are what drive Leitzel when she begins work at 7:30 a.m. and sometimes continues into the night.

On Aug. 15, Leitzel will take on those days as the interim chancellor for the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

Busy throughout her 2 1/2 years at UNL, Leitzel said she hadn't found time to look ahead to the possibility that she could be the permanent replacement for Graham Spanier. Spanier will become the next president at Penn State.

"I'll have to make that decision if I am nominated for the position, but I have not made it yet," she said.

Still, some suggest the university drop interim from her new title and make Leitzel the next UNL chancellor.

Leitzel, hired as UNL's senior academic official in August 1992, lists

See LEITZEL on 2

### Leitzel

■ Joan Leitzel was hired as UNL's vice chancellor for academic affairs in August 1992.

■ She says her most visible accomplishment at UNL has been preparing the university's general education curriculum.

■ She will become interim chancellor of UNL Aug. 15, when current Chancellor Graham Spanier leaves. She says she has not decided whether she would accept a nomination to become the next permanent chancellor.

### NU candidates not ruled out

By Matthew Waite  
Senior Reporter

Members of the NU Board of Regents aren't saying officially whether they would allow internal candidates into the search for UNL's next chancellor, Regent Chairwoman Nancy O'Brien says.

But O'Brien said that shouldn't hold any candidates from the four NU campuses back, including Joan Leitzel, the senior vice chancellor for academic affairs who will become interim chancellor on Aug. 15.

Some regents and university offi-

cial have suggested Leitzel stay on as chancellor.

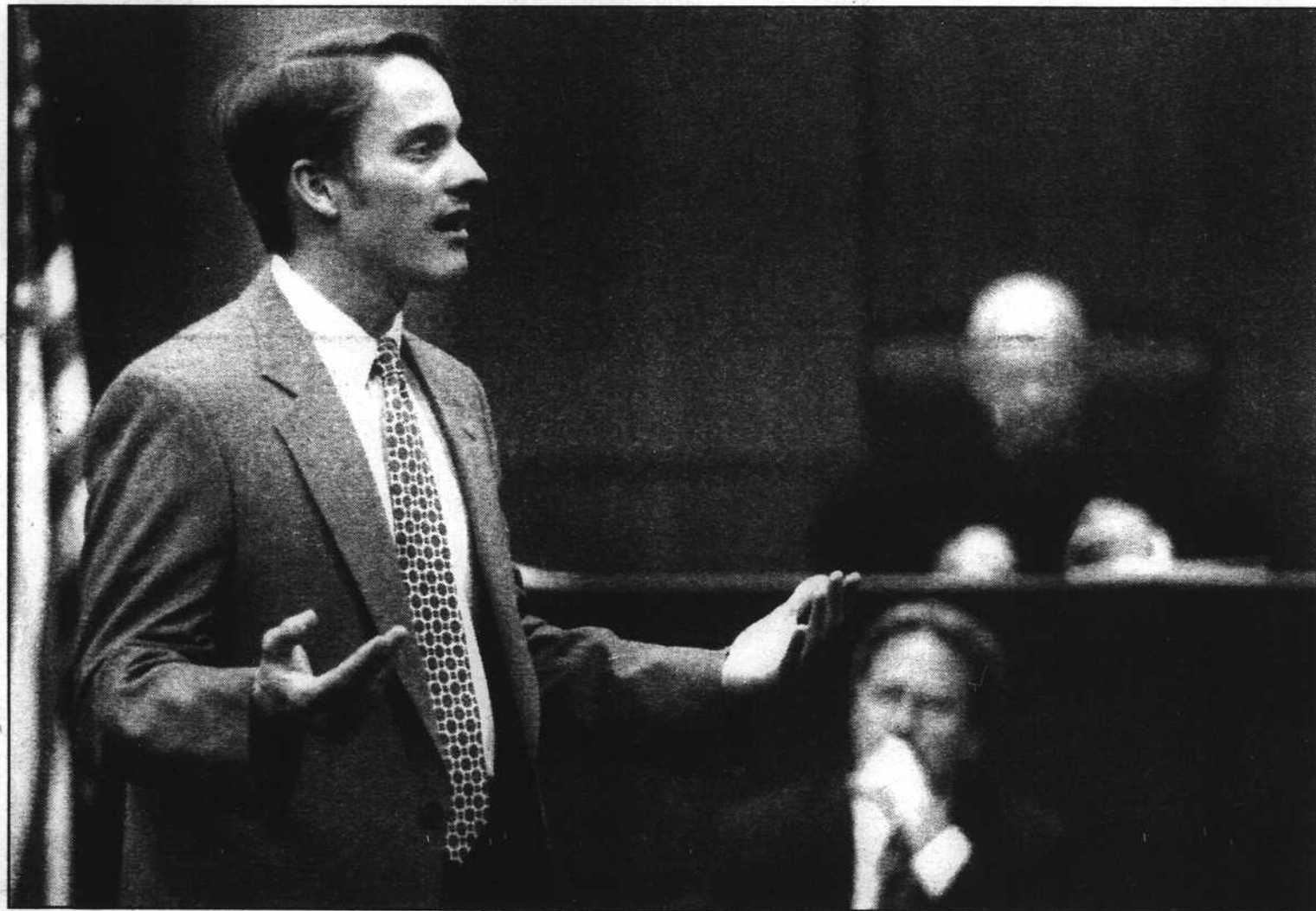
The decision to be part of the search is up to her, O'Brien said. Under a normal search, candidates apply or are nominated.

"She is a qualified lady and I will leave it at that," O'Brien said.

The past two searches — for the University of Nebraska president and University of Nebraska-Lincoln chancellor — have seen the board bar any internal candidates. Graham Spanier came from the University of Oregon; Dennis Smith from the University of California-Irvine.

That decision came after the 1992 search to find an NU president. A search committee had selected final-

See CHANCELLOR on 6



Ben Harris, a third-year law student, makes his closing argument for the defense Saturday during a mock trial at the County-City Building. Law students participated in the trials as part of their final exams in a trial advocacy class.

Damon Lee/DN

## Law students hold court for final exam

By Brian Sharp  
Senior Reporter

Welcome to the State of Nita.

In the District Court of the County, in the case of State vs. John Burns, the honorable Judge Tom Dawson presiding.

Please be seated. This court is now in session.

But there is no State of Nita and no real-life Mr. Burns. For many second- and third-year students at the University of Nebraska Law School, the trial meant their final exam had begun.

Students in a trial advocacy class argued cases in mock trials held Saturday in the courtrooms of the County-City Building. The students tested how well they could prepare cases, cross-examine witnesses and handle themselves in court.

Ben Harris, who defended Burns on a first-degree murder charge, said the real judge, courtroom and jury increased the pressure. He often found himself lost in the action.

"I kept forgetting it was a class," Harris said. "Then you realize that in reality, you're just pushing for a grade."

Twenty trials will be held in all, with the rest finishing next weekend. Students, professors and community members volunteer as jurors. Witnesses were generally friends of the acting

See MOCK TRAIL on 2

## 50 years later, visions of Holocaust haunt survivor

By DeDra Janssen  
Senior Editor

They came at night. The Nazi soldiers forced open the door with the butts of their rifles, almost ripping it from its hinges.

With swastikas gleaming from the sleeves of their green and gray uniforms, the soldiers burst into the room, interrupting 17-year-old Joe Boin's evening meal . . . and the next six years of his life.

"Who is Joe Boin?" the soldiers asked.

"I am," responded the frightened youth.

"Come on, you have to go."

"Where am I going?"

"Never mind, just go."

Boin asked no more questions. Grabbing his jacket, he went with the soldiers into the cold Novem-

ber night, leaving his mother, father and two younger sisters in their Berlin home with their meal of cream cheese, herring and potatoes.

Boin, now 72, recalls that night almost 50 years ago. It was the night the Holocaust became his reality.

Sitting in an armchair in his Omaha apartment, Boin talks stoically about his experience in the concentration camps — first at Sachsenhausen, then Buchenwald, then Auschwitz and, finally at Hindenburg. His voice never wavers.

Lilly, his wife of 50 years, listens from the sofa across the small living room. Occasionally, she interrupts him in German.

Mrs. Boin, 86, spent three years at a concentration camp called Theresienstadt, where she lost her

first husband. Her parents and siblings also perished in the Holocaust.

Boin's nightmare began on Nov. 12, 1939, the year Adolf Hitler's troops invaded Poland and set off World War II. It's a nightmare that will always be a part of him.

"Every day I think about it," he says, speaking with a heavy German accent. "You think about it, and even if you don't think about it, you go to bed in the evening, and somehow it comes out."

"I sometimes wake up to the smell at Auschwitz and the train and seeing the children thrown away like a bunch of garbage. I don't think it will ever get out of your mind. It's something that will stay with you for the rest of your life."

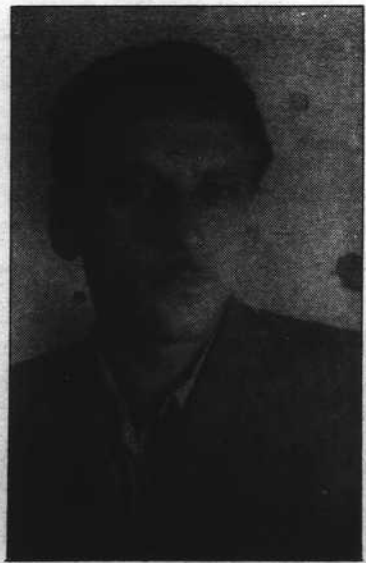
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It was cold that night, Boin recalls, but it wasn't snowing. He even remembers what he was wearing — a gray jacket over a green sweater with gray pants.

Photographs show a handsome young man with brown hair and blue eyes. A mustache, thicker in the middle than the ends, decorated his long, thin face. Though he was thin at 145 pounds, his body was muscular from playing soccer and doing gymnastics.

It's doubtful that the soldiers noticed such details as they pushed young Boin into the back of the MacDiesel military truck that would take him to Sachsenhausen, a concentration camp near Berlin.

See SURVIVOR on 3



Courtesy of Joe Boin

Joe Boin in 1946