

Leitzel

Continued from Page 1

her accomplishments in two categories: visible and invisible.

Her most important invisible accomplishment is building a team of academic leadership. She said a strong university needed a common agenda among faculty and administrators.

Her most visible accomplishment, Leitzel said, was preparing the general-education curriculum.

Four years ago, the university did a study on general education requirements. By the time she arrived, Leitzel said, UNL had not acted on a number of recommendations.

One of the first items on Leitzel's agenda was getting to work on that issue.

"It was clear to me the faculty were ready to make a commitment to make a new program," she said.

The program, the first part of which will be implemented this fall, will affect 25 percent of the undergraduate curriculum when finished.

Leitzel appointed the campus-wide general-education committee, which will disband in May. No committee member has quit, Leitzel said, and none has asked for the committee to slow down.

"There's a high level of commitment to this," she said. "I think they want to speed up."

Leitzel said her experiences with the faculty had been gratifying. The UNL faculty have always given her a high level of commitment, she said.

"I just never get a no," she said. In return, Leitzel said, she tries to provide the faculty as many teaching opportunities as possible.

Leitzel said faculty requests for teaching technology have resulted in multimedia classrooms and the new media center in Mabel Lee Hall.

"We can't provide what they need fast enough," she said.

Leitzel's schedule could only get busier. As interim chancellor, Leitzel said she will put the UNL budget in place and start planning. She said UNL would begin to review the strategic plan for academics in the fall.

On Friday, as she headed to a meeting on how to deal with the media, Leitzel said the nonstop meetings and appointments didn't bother her.

"Each one of these things is going to make a difference in how we are as a university," she said, as she scanned a typed schedule of events given to her every morning. "This group of people is very talented, so I like working with them."

Not all parts of her day are fun, Leitzel said. From time to time, problems arise that don't have easy solutions.

"On average, it's a pretty exciting place," she said.

Pope sends Easter message to victims of hatred, violence

VATICAN CITY (AP) — Embracing the victims of unrest, Pope John Paul II sent a message of peace Easter Sunday to people seeking "recognition of their deepest aspirations," including the Palestinians and Kurds.

In Jerusalem, thousands of tourists and Palestinian Christians thronged the Old City as drums and church bells reverberated.

But Palestinians said Israeli restrictions kept many West Bank believers away — a reminder that despite ongoing Israel-PLO talks, peaceful coexistence is not yet at hand.

Elsewhere on the day Christians celebrate their belief in Jesus Christ's resurrection, armored personnel carriers and troops guarded worshippers in the Philippines amid rising tensions between Christians and Muslims. A Muslim group is suspected of raiding a mostly Christian town there two weeks ago, killing 53 people.

Police also deployed around doomsday churches in South Korea. Some sects had predicted the world's destruction before dawn on Easter and dozens of the faithful prayed in anticipation of the end. When a predicted doomsday didn't pan out in 1992, sect members rioted.

In his traditional address from the balcony of St. Peter's Basilica, the pope directed his message to the people of Algeria, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Burundi and southern Sudan.

"To families torn apart by war, to the victims of hatred and violence ... the Church does not hesitate to renew the Paschal message of peace, reminding everyone of our common origin in the one God," he said.

More than 50,000 people filled St. Peter's Square under an icy drizzle. An ocean of umbrellas covered the square, brightened by splashes of color from azaleas, tulips and rhododendron.

The miserable weather forced John Paul to celebrate Easter Mass inside the basilica this year.

The 74-year-old pope looked tired after Saturday night's Easter vigil in the basilica, but his voice was strong.

In his address, John Paul spoke to "those who await, in suffering, the recognition of their deepest aspirations, such as the Palestinians, the Kurds, or, among others, the native peoples of Latin America. "The Church proposes dialogue as the only path able to promote just and fair solutions, for a coexistence marked with respect and mutual acceptance." While the pontiff frequently has expressed support for Palestinian rights, it was a rare mention of the Kurds.

Mock Trial

Continued from Page 1

Dawson, a juvenile court judge, presided over Harris' case. While the jury was deliberating, Dawson spoke to the students about their chosen profession.

"This is how you get to the point of saying: 'Yes, I want to be a trial lawyer,' or 'No, I want to go into corporate law,'" Dawson said with a laugh.

"It will get better."

The jury was forced to return after nearly a half-hour of deliberations. The vote was 6-1, a hung jury.

Students argued the case for almost five hours, and the decision, though it would not influence their grade, met with disappointment and silence.

Meanwhile, in a deserted courtroom down the hall, Jeff Meyer sat preparing his case. His trial would start in an hour.

In the case of Potter vs. Schrackle, he would represent Potter. His star witness, whom he spent a week preparing, canceled the night before. Meyer took the morning to brief a new witness and repair his case. The morning was hectic, he said, and maybe too real.

Meyer said he was unsure if he wanted to be a trial lawyer. But he was about to find out.

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