

OPINION

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Daily
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University of Nebraska-Lincoln

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Goodbye Graham

Chancellor brought wind of change

At this time of the year UNL is saying goodbye to many of those who have shaped the university.

Usually that means graduating seniors who have spent four, five, six or more years here.

But this year, we're also saying goodbye to a chancellor. A chancellor who has made a difference in the university experience of many students who have come and gone.

When Graham Spanier was installed three years ago as the 17th chancellor of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, the community welcomed a new breed of chancellor for a new generation.

Since that time, we've seen this 46-year-old higher education star shine brightly.

Spanier also has had his share of cloudy, controversial moments, but for the most part he has been the needed spark to launch UNL into the next century.

Spanier was aggressive. He wasn't afraid to butt heads with anyone if he thought he was right.

He promoted diversity and openness in a state where many have found that type of change a slow process.

Spanier has recruited quality faculty and pushed for the hiring of more women and minorities.

Two senior positions in Spanier's cabinet have been filled by women. Recruiting Joan Leitzel, senior vice chancellor for academic affairs, and Priscilla Grew, vice chancellor for research, to the university could well be one of Spanier's biggest accomplishments.

But with that aggression came criticism. His push to replace a parking lot with grass met with considerable protest from students and university employees.

Controversy surrounded issuing pink triangle stickers. The stickers were designed to inform homosexuals of faculty and staff open to them. Spanier came away from the situation with national publicity on his new 'social agenda.'

And nothing Spanier did escaped the roving eye of Regent Robert Allen of Hastings. Allen helped point out that everyone, including Graham Spanier, needs a reality check.

Spanier was accessible. Not a man of backroom bargaining, Spanier put a refreshingly visible face on a position that had been treated by some predecessors as an exclusive office job.

His face was familiar to students. He was in touch with students. Spanier implemented a freshman leadership class and was a mentor on an honor student residence hall floor. He has his own cafeteria card and has been known to frequently visit with members of the greek community.

Spanier supported NRoll and the subsequent end of drop/add lines.

Spanier was academic. UNL's general education curriculum has been revised. Relations have been improved with the National Science Foundation. And UNL has been designated a Carnegie I Research University.

Don't be fooled, Spanier is not perfect. But Spanier brought a refreshing air of change into university administration. The chancellor of a 'different generation' has pushed us into the next generation.



Mehling
OF THE DAILY NEBRASKAN

Other Huskers

I am the president of the Campus Recreation Advisory Council and would like to express my extreme disappointment with the lack of coverage received by the UNL Women's Bowling Club. Not many students know that this team is the national champion (the men's team finished third in the nation.) Of course they would know it if they read the Lincoln or Omaha papers or watched ABC Sports last weekend, but they surely wouldn't know it from reading the Daily Nebraskan. I know for a fact that the DN was contacted about this accomplishment. The Office of Campus Recreation called the DN on April 21, and the club sent a press release from the tournament in Knoxville, Tenn. It is a sad state of affairs when an accomplishment of this magnitude goes completely unrecognized by our student "news" paper.

Campus Recreation has continually sent information to the DN about its programs, including intramural sports and sport clubs, like women's bowling, yet rarely does any of it find its way into the DN. We're still reading stories about the football team's national championship (not that they don't deserve it) but don't these women deserve some recognition for their accomplishment too? Especially on their own campus!

Kristi Routh
Campus Recreation Advisory
Council President
junior
advertising

Sensible Story

I want to thank reporter Paula Lavigne for her sensitive and sensible article about Cindy Roubal's work as a dancer ("Part-time job puts student in limelight, Apr. 21.")

When so much that is written about exposure of the human body is dogmatic, hypocritical or just

plain silly, it is refreshing to get a matter-of-fact, straightforward account, like this story.

citizens.

Ellis G. Knox
Lincoln

Kwee Tew
senior
fisheries and wildlife

Two Bones To Pick

I have been waiting for a week to see some comments from feminist groups on Cindy Roubal, an honored student who "helped break the stereotype of big-breasted, blonde-bimbo dancers." Until today I have seen only one comment, made by Teresa Austin, a pre-med



Jason Gildow/DN

student (Apr. 26.) I wonder where those strip-pool opponents are.

I also want to tell Heather Tunender (Foreign languages, Apr. 25) that American students do not need to learn foreign languages. The tragedy of Francisco Renteria's death is not going to happen to them. If it does happen, let's say in Mexico, the U.S. government will severely punish the Mexican government for brutally murdering her kid. So, why should Michael Justice worry about learning a foreign language?

Double standards. That's what is now going on in this country, promoted by the government, and its

'In God We Trust'

So Robb Goff is dictating to us on our thoughts and values (Right, wrong still our choice, Apr. 18.) Isn't that so thoughtful of him?

The fact is, our country IS falling apart, and lack of general morality is, in fact, a cause. Get out of your cave and take a look around. The rapes, murders and thefts you speak of are simply the end result of lesser wrong-doing over the course of time. Ever read "Lord of the Flies"? Prime case of what can happen when individuals are left without any supervision.

Robb says murder, theft and rape are all universally disliked. If this were true, these things wouldn't be so common. Since everyone has different opinions on what is moral — for instance, I think abortion is graver than theft — Robb simply cannot draw the line between what he feels is universally disliked and what an individual feels is OK. It goes against his own argument — an argument Ted Bundy would have opposed.

And who is this "new group" of people that is moralizing the world and trying to stifle individual freedom? Could it be the right-wing Republicans? Robb certainly can't mean the liberal Democrats who want to decide for us how to spend our paychecks and have control of every aspect of health care.

For all of you out there who lived in the dark ages, not to fear. Not all of us Generation Xers are "about to change the way people look at things as a whole." There are still some of us who defend the rights of the unborn, long for a safer society, and believe in the United States' universal motto: In God We Trust.

Terri Tvrdy
staff
Department of Economics

Editorial policy

Staff editorials represent the official policy of the Spring 1995. Daily Nebraskan. Policy is set by the Daily Nebraskan Editorial Board. Editorials do not necessarily reflect the views of the university, its employees, the students or the NU Board of Regents. Editorial columns represent the opinion of the author. The regents publish the Daily Nebraskan. They establish the UNL Publications Board to supervise the daily production of the paper. According to policy set by the regents, responsibility for the editorial content of the newspaper lies solely in the hands of its students.

Letter policy

The Daily Nebraskan welcomes brief letters to the editor from all readers and interested others. Letters will be selected for publication on the basis of clarity, originality, timeliness and space available. The Daily Nebraskan retains the right to edit or reject all material submitted. Readers also are welcome to submit material as guest opinions. The editor decides whether material should run as a guest opinion. Letters and guest opinions sent to the newspaper become the property of the Daily Nebraskan and cannot be returned. Anonymous submissions will not be published. Letters should include the author's name, year in school, major and group affiliation, if any. Requests to withhold names will not be granted. Submit material to: Daily Nebraskan, 34 Nebraska Union, 1400 R St., Lincoln, Neb. 68588-0448.

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