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FRIDAY

WEATHER:

Today - Mostly cloudy.
Southeast wind.

Tonight - Cloudy, chance
of showers. Low in the
mid 40's.



September 8, 1995

Nelson announces he will run for Senate



Staci McKee/DN

Gov. Ben Nelson, left, announces Thursday morning at the Governor's Mansion that he will run for U.S. Senate next year. Nelson's wife, Diane, stands to his right.

Governor to bid for Exon's seat

By Matt Woody
Senior Reporter

Ending weeks of speculation, Nebraska Gov. E. Benjamin Nelson announced Thursday morning that he would seek election to the U.S. Senate.

Shortly after 9:30 a.m., Nelson entered a news conference at the Governor's Mansion. Nelson presented his statement with his wife, Diane, at his side and his children standing behind him.

"After careful consideration and a lot of consultation with my family, friends and supporters, I have decided to run for the United States Senate," he said.

Cheers and applause broke loose from about 50 supporters in attendance.

The governor said he would officially file as a candidate for Sen. Jim Exon's Senate seat in early 1996 and make an official campaign announcement then. Exon will retire after finishing his third term next year.

Although many had expected Nelson to run for the Senate, he said he made the final decision less than an hour before the news conference.

Nelson said he wanted to take a nonpartisan attitude to Washington. He referred to his involvement on the unfunded mandates bill that was passed by Congress earlier this year.

If he and other lawmakers are able to put aside partisan politics and work together, he said, they can begin to fix a "broken system."

"The politics of the past have failed the people of this state and this nation," Nelson said. "Anyone who knows me knows that I'm not interested in petty and divisive politics."

In his announcement speech, Nelson pointed to his accomplishments as governor. Nelson said he had worked together with state leaders to cut the growth of state spending, to lead Nebraska to a low 2.5 percent unemployment rate and to pass tough crime bills.

"We've moved this state forward," he said, "and we've done it together."

Nelson said he expected to hear criticism from some that he broke a pledge to serve out his term as governor. At the time he signed the pledge, Nelson said, he fully intended to

Republicans criticize Nelson's goals

By John Fulwider
Staff Reporter

The Republican Party had fewer than five minutes to respond to Gov. Ben Nelson's announcement of his U.S. Senate candidacy.

Then the spotlight switched to Nelson again.

While Andy Abboud, executive director of the Nebraska Republican party, gave a press conference on the south lawn of the State Capitol, a smiling Nelson walked across the street from his mansion to talk to Abboud.

Abboud returned the governor's smile and kept talking as several TV cameras turned toward Nelson. Nelson made his way through the crowd of reporters and shook Abboud's hand.

"I really look forward to having a positive campaign," Nelson said.

"It will be a positive campaign," Abboud said. "I guarantee it."

"No matter what they may think of him as governor, Nebraskans will not want to send another Clinton Democrat to the United States Senate."

DON STENBERG
attorney general

Before Nelson arrived, Abboud criticized him for breaking his pledge to finish his four-year term as governor.

"We are disappointed that the governor is not a man of his word," Abboud said.

Abboud said Nelson had attempted to distance himself from Democrats and run a more independent-oriented campaign. But that won't wash with voters, Abboud said. He said President Clinton, Sen. Bob Kerrey and "a bunch of other Democrats" con-

vinced Nelson to run.

"The independent thing is a sham," Abboud said.

Abboud took a few moments to discuss the Republican side of the Senate race. He said it didn't matter to him when Nelson officially began campaigning. The Republican campaign already has started, he said.

See REACTION on 8

Student found dead in Burr Hall

Police say foul play is not suspected in East Campus death

By Jeff Zeleny
Senior Reporter

An 18-year-old UNL freshman was found dead Thursday afternoon in her Burr Residence Hall room.

The female student was found by her roommate about 12:30 p.m. in her third-floor room on East Campus, said University Police Chief Ken Cauble. The death is classified as undetermined, he said.

"It does not appear to be a criminal investigation," Cauble said.

The name of the student was not immediately released because her family had not been notified. Cauble said the student was from Lyons, a town of

more than 1,200 people about 35 miles north of Fremont.

Police do not believe the death was caused violently.

The Lancaster County Sheriff's office and the University Police department continued late Thursday afternoon to investigate the death. An autopsy will be performed on the woman today.

Housing officials informed Burr Hall residents of the death at a meeting Thursday evening. Counseling was offered to the students, said Lyn Jakobsen, assistant director of housing.

Students huddled in clusters in the Burr Hall lobby Thursday afternoon, whispering about the death, as family and friends of the student and her roommate removed things from her room.

Two group counseling sessions will be offered today at 11 a.m. and 1 p.m.

"It does not appear to be a criminal investigation."

KEN CAUBLE

University Police Chief

in Burr Hall, Jakobsen said. Therapists from the University Health Center talked individually with students and staff Thursday.

"We'll see the need," Jakobsen said, standing in the Burr Hall lobby. "Whenever anyone looks distraught, we'll get them over to the counseling center."

East Campus students should not be afraid of the death, Jakobsen said, because the student was not a crime victim.

Recent assaults appear to be related, police say

By Jeff Zeleny
Senior Reporter

Lincoln and University police are investigating two assault cases this week that appear to be related.

In two separate incidents that happened within 45 minutes Tuesday night, two women told police they were followed by a man in his mid-20s. In both cases the man caught, grabbed and scared the women.

Police said the women fought the man away and were not injured.

Lincoln Police Sgt. Ann Heermann gave the following account of the first assault, which occurred about 11 p.m. Tuesday:

As a 20-year-old woman was jogging west on O Street between 13th and 14th streets, she noticed a man

exit a bar and begin to follow her. As the woman approached 11th Street, she noticed the man was jogging behind her.

The man then grabbed the woman by the shoulders. As she struggled to break free, he grabbed her buttocks with one hand and her breasts with the other.

The woman escaped and called police.

University Police Sgt. Bill Manning said a third-year female student reported an assault about 11:45 p.m. Tuesday. Manning gave the following account of the assault, which occurred in an alley off 16th Street, between Q and R streets:

See ASSAULT on 8