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THURSDAY

WEATHER:

Today - Mostly cloudy. A 20% chance of rain. Northwest wind 15 to 25 mph.

Tonight - Rain. Low around 20.

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ABOVE THE RIM



Travis Heying/DN

A young Husker fan shows her support during the men's basketball team's first game of the season. Nebraska defeated Spalding America 113-68 at the Bob Devaney Sports Center Wednesday night.

Powell says he won't run in '96 race

WASHINGTON (AP) — After months of "prayerful consideration" that captivated the nation, Colin Powell awkwardly embraced the Republican Party on Wednesday but said he would not run for president in 1996 because it was "a calling that I do not yet hear."

Ending an extraordinary political mystery, Powell ruled out seeking any elected office next year. Instead, he said he would dedicate himself to restoring "the spirit of Lincoln" to a Republican Party much more diverse than many conservatives admitted.

"I'm sorry I disappointed you," the retired general said in a tribute to the thousands of everyday Americans who had urged him to run, through letters and draft Powell efforts.

"We're devastated," said James Lynch, a New York lawyer involved in the draft effort. Said Tim Bush, an organizer in New Hampshire: "I think really the country is the loser."

Such support brought him to the brink of a candidacy, Powell said, but in the end he stepped back from elective politics — for now anyway.

To run for president, he said, would demand "a passion and commitment that, despite my every effort, I do not have for political life, because such a life requires a calling that I do not yet hear."

"For me to pretend otherwise would not be honest to myself; it would not be honest to the American people."

Powell also ruled out being the GOP's vice presidential nominee but said he might consider an appointed government position. Many Republicans, even Powell critics, said the retired general still was almost certain to be considered for the No. 2 spot on the GOP ticket.

Powell's decision left 10 major declared Republican candidates and one GOP giant still sitting on the fence: House Speaker Newt Gingrich.

Gingrich said anew he was unlikely to run for president but that he would talk it over with his wife after Republicans finished the budget.

One of the remaining declared candidates, Pennsylvania Sen. Arlen Specter, said Wednesday that lackluster fund raising in recent weeks might force him to suspend his long-shot candidacy. He said fund raising had been stagnant while potential donors awaited a decision by Powell.

As he bowed out of the presidential race, Powell for the first time pledged political allegiance to a Republican Party he said was rightly dedicated to balancing the budget, cutting taxes and shrinking government.

"I believe they have ideas and energy at this time that I can agree with," he said.

But he bluntly rebuked prominent conserva-

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Panel discusses boot camps

By Ted Taylor
Staff Reporter

Youth correctional boot camps, styled after military basic training, have become a more popular alternative to prisons in nearly 25 states. Nebraska could be next.

A four-member panel Wednesday discussed the possibility of Nebraska joining such states as New York, Georgia and Oklahoma in establishing the youth camps.

An audience of 100 people turned out in Love Library for the seminar, "An Alternative to Prisons: Youth Correctional Boot Camps — Can They Work?"

"Boot camps have come about in response to a rising crime rate and demands for harsher treatment," said Susan Jacobs, associate professor in the University of Nebraska at Omaha criminal justice program.

Jacobs said early plans for the camps tried to deal with overcrowded prisons and took a much more militaristic stance.

"But that approach was increasingly objected," she said. "A program like that lent itself to psychological and physical abuse."

The panel also discussed the idea of hard labor programs within the boot camps.

Nebraska Supreme Court Judge John Wright said the programs were meant to focus on two things: rehabilitating offenders and reducing prison overcrowding.

"If it is to work," he said, "the work programs must enhance practical, interpersonal skills and minimize the incarceration aspect."

Jacobs said there were three rationales for the work program: to punish, to rehabilitate and to shock.

But she said early evaluations of the work programs showed they did not lower recidivism rates. Instead, she said, it sent offenders into job markets that didn't need their skills.

Wayne Osgood, associate professor of sociology, cited a University of Maryland study that looked at various boot camp programs in other states. The study was used as an aid in trying to design a camp for Nebraska.

"We are trying to find what is consistent with all the other programs," he said.

But Deputy Attorney General Laurie Camp said Nebraska's camp would stand alone.

"We have the opportunity to design our own program and our own facility," she said. "We shouldn't have to model ours after any specific one."

The Maryland study addresses who should be put in the camps and how time in the camps should be spent.

Gov. Ben Nelson's 1993 crime bill included the Regimented Inmate Discipline program with a provision for a youth camp. It was repealed for financial reasons.

Camp said she was hesitant to call this the "boot camp bill."

"The cost of a barracks style facility was \$50,000 per bed," she said, "which is less expensive than building a new medium security facility — \$90,000 per bed."

The total estimated cost for the facility is \$5 million, Camp said, which is a reasonable amount.

The bill likely will come up again in the next legislative session, Camp said.

"At that time, we will need to persuade the Legislature that the up-front cost would be outweighed by the long-term savings," Camp said.

ASUN, caucus debate proposal Harms family accuses

Barney of fraud

By Kasey Kerber
Staff Reporter

Faculty Women's Caucus representatives and ASUN met for the second time Wednesday night to debate the caucus' proposal to make the student code of conduct tougher on violent crimes.

The caucus had changed sections of its proposal since last week's Association of Students of the University of Nebraska meeting.

At that time, the student senate voted not to support the caucus' proposal. Instead, ASUN passed a bill voting to suggest changes to the code only after working with the

chancellor's new task force on student violence.

The caucus' proposal would suspend students accused or convicted of a violent misdemeanor from intercollegiate events or activities in which they represent the university.

The proposal came after NU football coach Tom Osborne allowed I-back Lawrence Phillips — who was found guilty of assaulting a former girlfriend — back on the team.

Mary McGarvey, an associate economics professor representing the caucus, explained the changes to the group's original proposal.

In the original proposal, a student accused of a violent crime would face a University Judicial Board proceeding within five days. The group's proposal now requires that the proceeding be held "as expeditiously as possible."

The faculty caucus also removed a

portion of the proposal that would suspend a student convicted of a violent crime from participation in school-sponsored activities for a period of seven years. The proposal now would suspend the student for "a period of time to be determined by normal processes."

After explaining the changes, McGarvey and Helen Moore, chairwoman of the sociology department, fielded questions and concerns from ASUN senators for most of the meeting.

Andrea Vuko, a business senator, voiced one of the senate's main concerns: that the proposed changes unfairly target those students who participate in university-sponsored activities.

"The main problem I see with this proposal is that it discriminates against

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