

OPINION

Thursday, November 16, 1995

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Daily
Nebraskan
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University of Nebraska-Lincoln

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Race is on

Chancellor selection should interest all

Graham Spanier's office will come one step closer to being filled today.

Although Spanier has been more than a 1,000 miles away from Lincoln since August, his presence is still alive. For all practical purposes, Spanier's administration is still running the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.



Bret Gottschall/DN

Today, the first of three finalists for Spanier's replacement will come to campus. John Kozak, provost of Iowa State University, will shake hands and smile as he tries to sell himself to UNL faculty, staff and students.

The university community's impression of Kozak and the other two candidates is crucial. NU President Dennis Smith should take that into account when he recommends the next man to lead the largest campus of the University of Nebraska system into the 21st century.

In the next week, we will see a lot of Kozak, James Moeser of the University of South Carolina and Thomas George of Washington State University. As the candidates sell themselves, we need to look beyond the glimmer of their eyes.

It is the responsibility of every member of the faculty and staff to take an interest in the candidate's visit. Students should also take an interest. This is one issue where apathy has no place.

The three men who will visit campus in the next week need to hear concerns of students. The chancellor's influence touches everything from tuition to parking to academic standards.

The 18th chancellor of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln faces many challenges. As the face of higher education continues to change, so must the chancellor.

He must be more than student friendly. He must be student receptive, student oriented and student driven.

The candidates — an organist and two chemists by discipline — should not forget their academic roots.

We need a chancellor who is not afraid to take a stand toward groups who have authority over the Lincoln campus. We need a chancellor who will stand up to the Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education. And we need a chancellor who will march to the State Capitol surrounded by students to fight for legislative funding.

We need a chancellor who is like Graham Spanier in many respects. But Kozak, George and Moeser should not be compared to Spanier. It is crucial that we move on.

The cushy leather chair in Room 201 of the Canfield Administration Building has been empty long enough.

Editorial policy

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MESHLING OF THE DAILY NEBRASKAN

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Weekly

I just wanted to point out the obvious brilliance and creativity of your cartoonist.

Oh wait, I'm sorry, he stole his joke from this week's "Entertainment Weekly."

C'mon, be yourself, not Jim Mullen. Wondering why Whoopi is twice as fat as Robin and Billy ...

Mike Wagner
Sophomore
Broadcasting
via e-mail

One two punch

1. Why is the Notre Dame fight song on the Mueller tower? It was playing at 10:30 in the morning, and that was wrong!

2. Mike Kluck doesn't know how to add (or at least calculate percentages). Ohio State's opposition's winning percentage is reported at .518.

However, the opposition record is reported at 43-27-3, which is .610. A minor discrepancy I realize.

Nebraska's opposition has a record of 49-38-1, which calculates to a .563 winning percentage, not .556 as reported.

Florida's opposition has a record of 40-35-2, which is a .532 winning percentage, not .519. So, I guess Ohio State's record would appear to be better, eh?

Mike Krueger
Grad Student
Communication Studies
via e-mail

TFGO

Thanks for going online! Being an alum (Teacher's College '88), it's nice to be able to stay in touch with UNL.

I'm at Boston University (Ed.M. '95) now, but still consider UNL home.

You might consider placing your e-mail address in each online issue. I didn't see it in today's paper, so I resorted to yesterday's to comment. Again, thanks for a great paper



Bret Gottschall/DN

and for providing a way for those of us outside Lincoln to come home.

Jeff Laass
Walpole, Mass.
via e-mail

Er, Errata?

I noted a couple of problems with Paula Lavigne's article ("Lincoln Jews vow to keep peace alive," Nov. 13).

The sanctuary of that synagogue has 200 chairs. All were full. There were another 30 or so chairs along the back of the room. Five people were left standing.

Lavigne reported only "more than 100 people." The difference matters.

There were also eight speakers. Lavigne mentions only four. Among those unnamed was Lt. Gov. Kim Robak, a high ranking public official.

Lavigne wrote "(Sam) Ismail offered a passage of hope from the Koran in Hebrew."

In Hebrew? Unlikely. Mr. Ismail is an Arab-American and the Koran is the holy book of the Muslims. He spoke in Arabic,

Ms. Lavigne, Arabic. A reporter should be more careful.

Robert J. Tobin
Grad Student
Geology

Peace out

I would like to especially thank Debra Cumberland for her very well-written, intelligent and thought-provoking column "Language can heal or destroy" (Nov. 8).

It is a very relevant piece of writing which deserves to be saved and reread.

The language we use does indeed matter. Not only what we say but how we say it as well.

Words have a tremendous power to bring ideas to life, but they also have a power for destruction.

Increasingly violent and warlike political rhetoric is destroying our political process and tearing apart our society.

We must learn to communicate in such a way as to motivate each other to seek real solutions to our problems.

Jim Anderson
Nebraskans for Peace



...to the

Daily
Nebraskan

Send your brief letters to:
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include a phone number for
verification.