

# George

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would be her assistant.

"He was an outstanding student," Harbach said. "He performed just flawlessly."

But something happened on the way to the chapel.

"Things were going great until about six months into it," he said, "and we got emotionally involved."

"My lessons went down the tube."

Less than a year after they met, the two church organists heard wedding bells of their own.

Twenty-five years later, Harbach is a music professor at Washington State University, and George is a jazz recorder, conductor and performer.

The two co-own a publishing company called Vivace Press, which has compact discs in more than 200 record stores and has releases played on more than 67 U.S. radio stations.

The recent focus of both musicians' work has been to bring underrepresented, minority composers into the mainstream.

George released a compact disc in August called "Close Your Eyes: Women Jazz Composers." It focuses on women jazz composers from the well-known to the not-so-well known.

At WSU, Harbach teaches music for non-music majors and, with the help of multimedia and live performances, educates students who have little knowledge of music.

She works with composers from other countries, including a composer from Russia's Ukraine. She also recently released a compact disc of child prodigies, including Mozart and an 8-year-old pianist from London.

If George is offered the position at UNL, Harbach said she would like to work with the music faculty.

Harbach and George occasionally merge their talents, but both said it was difficult finding time to rehearse.

"It takes a lot, but we enjoy it," Harbach said, laughing. "It keeps us off the streets."

George said their busy lives haven't allowed time for children, but they do have four cats. The cats are like souvenirs from their previous homes be-

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**GUS KRAVAS**

Vice provost for student affairs at Washington State University

cause they took one from each city they've lived in, Harbach said.

"We have one big 16-pounder from Rochester (N.Y.)," Harbach said. "She's a walking pillow."

Harbach said it might be time for a Lincoln cat.

"I've lived in the East Coast, lived on the West Coast," she said, "now it's time for the middle."

Gus Kravas, vice provost for student affairs at WSU, said many people would miss George and Harbach if they left.

"So, I understand you guys are the ones trying to steal our provost," he said, laughing.

Kravas said George's list of strengths "goes on and on" and that he is a person who "sinks his teeth into trying to do something."

George has tremendous energy, Kravas said, and involves himself in every aspect of the university from student functions to retirement parties for faculty members.

"He's just consumed by his work, and he works all the time," Kravas said. "He's the kind of individual who would call you at 11:30 at night and follow up on a message."

If George came to UNL, Kravas said, he would push the university into the future and stay ahead of the competition.

"It's one of those discriminating points that separates institutions of the future from those looking in the rearview mirror," he said.



Tanna Kinnaman/DN

**James Moeser, one of three finalists for the UNL chancellor position, talks with English professor George Wolf Monday afternoon at a reception at the Sheldon Memorial Art Gallery.**

## Reception

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he seemed knowledgeable, alert and attentive, but some said they couldn't make a decision based on a handshake.

John Beacon, director of the Office of Scholarships and Financial Aid, asked Moeser how he felt about direct lending.

"He said he was for it and that it was just scandalous what was happening to it," Beacon said. "It was good to hear that."

Laura Casari, associate professor of agriculture leadership, education and communication, said she admired Moeser's quick answers to her questions on tenure and academic freedom.

"He knows what he's doing," she said.

Moeser's visit to UNL was not

his first. He was the keynote speaker at an organ conference at the School of Music last fall.

For a group of music students, that visit made Moeser the best candidate.

"He's the guy," said Jeremy Bankson, a junior organ major. Bankson said he became a fan of Moeser's after reading his column in the American Guild of Organists newsletter.

Both Moeser and his wife are organists, and Moeser taught organ performance at the University of Kansas for 17 years.

But if offered the chancellor seat, he said, he probably wouldn't pull up an organ bench.

"Playing the organ is like being a brain surgeon," he said. "You don't do it unless you're always practicing."

He said his wife, Susan Dickerson Moeser, might be inter-

ested, though. She did not arrive in time for the reception, he said, but was coming to Lincoln Monday night.

"It's been a fascinating day," Moeser said. "I've been going non-stop since 7:30 a.m."

Moeser said he had an excellent meeting with NU President Dennis Smith. He has met with administrators, Academic Senate members and regents.

He will meet with representatives from the Association of Students of the University of Nebraska, deans, directors and community leaders today, and will attend a press conference at 1:15 p.m. in Varner Hall.

The third chancellor candidate, Thomas George, provost and academic vice president at Washington State University, also arrives today.

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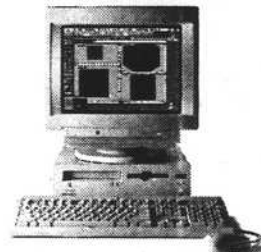
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