

OPINION

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Daily
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Top pick

DN favors George for new chancellor

When the new chancellor at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln looks out his Canfield Administration building office window, he should envision a university that is responsive to students, academically respectable and a place he wants to call home.



Jason Gildow/DN

As UNL's leader, the chancellor must listen to students, strengthen academics and diversity, and maintain access to incoming students.

And he needs to stay long enough to see those things through.

All three candidates for chancellor are qualified, capable individuals, but the Daily Nebraskan feels the best candidate is Thomas George, provost and academic vice president at Washington State University.

George is said to be hard-working — a characteristic that should mesh with Ne-

braska values and something UNL needs from its campus chief.

George is said to be a lively and accessible personality. A chancellor who turns a friendly ear to students should never be undervalued.

George's "to do" list is impressive.

He wants to lead UNL toward the technological 21st century, and he has the experience to do it.

While at Washington State, George has worked with Microsoft on a program called "Virtual WSU," which uses technology in the classroom and extends teaching beyond the walls of campus.

George wants to raise admission standards, but he would provide a percentage window of admission for students who show potential but don't meet the minimum requirements.

Even more important is George's interest in improving the quality of undergraduate education for students who enroll at UNL.

He wants to promote undergraduate teaching by top professors.

George's record on diversity includes hiring more minority faculty at WSU. And he wants to integrate more diversity into the curriculum and student groups here at UNL.

If George were to accomplish all his goals and were to stick around to see them realized, he'd be the leader we need.

However, UNL should not be a stepping stone for our next chancellor.

Instead, our next chancellor should help make this university a stepping stone to excellence for its students.

Editorial policy

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Rah Rah

I am from North Carolina and generally support ACC football, especially at North Carolina and Duke. However, I must admit that my favorite football team is Nebraska.

Over the past 20 years or so, I have found the Nebraska program to be the best in the USA, and Tom Osborne represents that program as the best coach in the USA.

More than that, he is the best "man" in college football. In a sport riddled with corruption, cheating, etc. and coaches that are arrogant jerks, Tom is a refreshing, honest and masterful coach. In a word, he is CLASS.

Please extend my congratulations to him for another great year which I'm sure will be culminated in another national championship when Nebraska beats Florida soon.

If not, it was still a great year, and Tom will handle it in the style we have all seen displayed over the years, and one that no other coach in the country can match for class, decency and integrity.

Good luck at the Fiesta Bowl and thanks for all the memories.

Frank Holderby
Concord, N.C.
via e-mail

Amazed again

This university never ceases to amaze me. In my four years here, there has been a number of things that have left me simply stunned. And the university has done it again. Mr. Melvin Jones, an African-American man is hired and Dr. Joan Leitzel, a Caucasian woman is shafted.

Now, that may appear to be strong language, but consider the mixed message. I think that it is great that finally this university will get a minority presence on the chancellor's cabinet.

By the same token, we will lose quite possibly one of the best woman administrators in the country. Now I have not heard that Dr. Leitzel is leaving, but how can she stay? She is not even in the final pool for the chancellor's position.

And why not? Because of some bogus politics? We need some continuity here. We need a person who has a sense of this community and where it needs to go.

For my money that person is Joan Leitzel, and it is a shame that she will not be the next chancellor of this university. I do not need to make any excuses for Dr. Leitzel.

Like many who have come before her, the possibility is there that this institution could lose her. The reasons surrounding her not



Jason Gildow/DN

being in the final three are reasons to which I am not privy. The bottom line is that she is not there and that, my friends, is truly amazing.

More than that, it is a shame.

John L. Harris
Special Assistant
Office of the Vice Chancellor for
Student Affairs

Sls boom bah

I am writing to comment on a recent event that brings shame, embarrassment and humiliation to our campus, our state and our country.

What is causing me to lower my flag to half staff and wear black until the millennium is the inability of our national champion student body to tear down a single goal post.

I have been witness to many many Big Eight championship games in Memorial Stadium and a part of many on field celebrations,

but never before have I experienced or seen such a magnificent display of complete ineptitude and ignorance.

As a civil engineering graduate student, I also have the technical background to analyze and critique this recent performance.

To make sure future generations of TRUE Husker fans will not be subjected to this same fate, I post these scientific tips to careful, expedient and safe demolition of rigidly connected, four member, vertical H structures:

1. Bring utensils. No goal post is a match for a precise calculated combination of oxygen and acetylene.

2. Get bigger students. We need some big corn-fed Husker fans hangin' from that baby. I don't know what they're feeding you in the residence halls, but it's obviously not enough. Perhaps Boyd Eply could enhance his Husker Power program to help our school in this plight.

3. And most importantly, rock, rock, rock your way to success. Once one of the tips reaches ground level, or even within 6-8 feet of the turf, the game is over.

The best way to do this is put all the kids on one side of the thing. Equal spacing does not work, because similar downward forces on each end will just cancel each other out and at most produce 1-8 inches of bend (as was the case Friday).

So Husker underclassmen, I challenge you to use your education at UNL to make change. Change in the policies of your university, change in your acceptance of hats as a fashion statement, and most importantly, changes in your approach to destruction of university property.

Tom Ahlschwede
Graduate Student
Engineering
via e-mail

Send your brief letters to:
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Lincoln, Neb. 68588, or Fax
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