

## Chinese leader Deng Xiaoping dead

BEIJING (AP)—Deng Xiaoping, the last of China's Communist revolutionaries who abandoned Mao's radical policies and pushed the world's most populous nation into the global community with capitalist-style reforms, died Wednesday.

Xinhua, China's official news agency, said he was 93, although the birth date in most records would have made him 92 when he died.

Though Deng retired from his last official post in 1990 and had not been seen in public for three years, he spent much of the past decade orchestrating Chinese politics from behind the scenes with a loosely-defined title: "paramount leader."

While he put an end to the iron rice bowl — lifetime jobs for all — he ruled with an iron fist. The military suppression of the 1989 Tiananmen Square pro-democracy protests — believed to have taken place on his final orders — killed hundreds, perhaps thousands, and put a blot on the economic progress Deng had achieved.

He died at 9:08 p.m. Wednesday (7:08 a.m. CST) of respiratory and circulatory failure brought on by lung infections and the Parkinson's disease that had stricken him long ago, Xinhua announced.

The announcement of Deng's death came about 3 a.m. Thursday.

The first test of Deng's legacy will be whether his hand-picked successor, Communist Party General Secretary Jiang Zemin, and the other younger technocrats he installed in the 1990s will weather political maneuvering that is expected to intensify in the coming months.

No one is expected to supplant Jiang, who received a boost in claiming Deng's mantle by being named chairman of Deng's 459-member funeral committee.

Deng succeeded Mao Tse-tung in the nearly two-year power struggle that followed the revolutionary leader's death in 1976.

## UNL students, professor react to death

By BRAD DAVIS  
Staff Reporter

With the death of China's leader Deng Xiaoping, Chinese on campus reflected on Deng's accomplishments while looking toward a new era of younger, more open-minded leadership.

"He represents a leader in the transition period — from a government that was totally closed and agrarian to an open economy," law student Matt Zhang said.

Deng was one of the early Communist leaders who changed the nation's system of equally-distributed wealth, Zhang said.

"After Mao (Tse-tung) died, he became a primary force in the Chinese government and started the process toward economic development," Zhang said. "He had a vision and knew that the only way to lead China into the next century was to focus on the economy."

Graduate student Kui Yi said Deng also helped liberate the Chi-

nese economy.

"Under his leadership our country was opened with his Open Door policy, which changed the economy from state-run to market-based. He made a lot of progress and is well-respected in the Chinese culture," Yi said.

Despite Deng's social and economic reforms, Chinese at UNL said Deng remains connected in their minds with one event: the Tiananmen Square massacre, in which hundreds and perhaps thousands of pro-democracy protesters were killed.

Suping Lu, economics and political science professor and librarian, said the killing of students in Tiananmen Square was a drawback for Deng. The power struggle was triggered not only by the fight for democracy, but because of the economy and inflation.

"If they could have solved the problem earlier and used police force, things wouldn't have escalated to that point; but he had to step in — the killing was inevi-

table," Lu said.

"It was him (Xiaoping) that ordered the massacre where they shot and killed a lot of students. In no way am I condoning killing students, but I think by doing that, he put China in the right direction," Lu said.

"If the democracy movement was successful, and there was a drastic move toward capitalism, it would have been total chaos, like Eastern Europe."

The shift toward a more democratic government is perhaps inevitable, according to many Chinese students. But the change will not happen instantaneously, they said.

"Maybe the impact of his death will be seen in the next generation, when the political culture and more democratic thinking will be in place," Lu said.

"Today is the end of the era for China in which it is a dictatorship. From now on, I don't see how anyone else can be a dictator," said Ping Liu, past president of the Chinese Students' Association.

China was riven by fear and poverty after the decade-long Cultural Revolution, an experiment in radical policies during which millions were persecuted or killed for political reasons.

Deng immediately put China on the road to a market economy, seeking foreign investment and encouraging the world's most populated country to set about making money.

"It doesn't matter if a cat is black or white, as long as it catches mice," was his most famous saying.

He abolished farming communes, allowed some private enterprises and established special economic zones to

produce goods for export.

But he chastised Westerners who hoped China was turning capitalist, and said his aim was to prove that socialism can achieve prosperity. He called his mix of market economics and state ownership "socialism with Chinese characteristics."

Noted for his sharp intellect and superior organizational skills, Deng became a political commissar in the Communist army, fighting the Japanese from 1937-45 and the Nationalists in the 1945-49 civil war.

Three years after the 1949 founding of the People's Republic of China, Deng became vice premier. By 1956,

he was on the Politburo Standing Committee — the most powerful ruling body.

Former U.S. Secretary of State George P. Shultz, who worked with Deng and China during much of the 1980s, said Deng was tempered by his days as a Communist guerrilla and never lost sight of them.

"He could be tough. He could also be brutal," Shultz said.

"And you could see the spark of creativity that allowed him to put China on a new and productive path.

"He has transformed China and thereby has had an immense impact on the shape of the future."



Deng Xiaoping (1904-1997)

Deng Xiaoping, who inherited a country paralyzed by fear and poverty, is credited more than any other leader with the modernization of China. A look at his career:

- Joined the Communist Party at age 16.
- Joined Mao Tse-tung, the revolutionary leader, on the 1934-35 "Long March" flight from Chiang Kai-shek's Nationalists.
- Became a political commissar of the 129th division of the Communist 8th Route Army, fighting the Japanese from 1937-45 and the Nationalists in the 1945-49 civil war.
- Founded the People's Republic of China in 1949.
- Became vice premier in 1952.
- In 1956, became a member of Politburo Standing Committee — the most powerful ruling body.
- Fell into political disfavor twice because of ties to Mao's rivals during the Cultural Revolution, was sent to work at a tractor factory.
- Returned to leadership in 1973, only to be purged once again in 1976.
- Returned to position as vice premier in 1977.
- Believed to have given final orders for the military suppression of the 1989 Tiananmen Square pro-democracy protests.

API/Amy Kranz

## The Lighter Side...

of The Associated Press



MATT HANEY/DN

### Lusty hound sprung from slammer

PANAMA, N.Y. — It was lust that landed Ralph in the slammer, but his friends banded together and bailed him out.

Now the former stray dog, a butterscotch-colored short hair, is licensed and legal, co-owned by some 30 families in this village about 65 miles south of Buffalo.

For years Ralph was offered shelter on cold nights, food and even medical attention by residents who didn't realize the dog didn't belong to anyone.

Apparently, that's the way Ralph wanted it. Now that he's licensed, the pooch is free to make his regular route among houses and trailers. Expecting Ralph to stay put would be against his nature, said Bob Crossley, who first gave Ralph his now-legal name in 1988.

"(If you) tie him up, you might as well shoot him," Crossley said. Ralph, a German shepherd and Akita mix, became the official village dog after an animal control officer took him into custody last month. The owners of a female dog complained when Ralph kept vigil from the other side of a fence for three days.

His friends turned in a license application and fee to spring the amorous pooch. There are plans to get Ralph neutered in the spring.

## Court: Abortion protesters can confront

WASHINGTON (AP) — Anti-abortion demonstrators have a free-speech right to confront clinic patients and staffers up close on public streets and sidewalks as long as they stay more than 15 feet away from the clinic, the Supreme Court ruled Wednesday.

In splintered voting, the court struck down a federal judge's order that had kept most demonstrators at abortion clinics in the Buffalo and Rochester, N.Y., areas 15 feet away from any patient or staff member.

The court said that a "floating buffer zone" — on public byways — violates demonstrators' free-speech rights, as guaranteed by the Constitution's First Amendment.

But the court upheld a fixed buffer zone that keeps demonstrators at least 15 feet away from clinic doorways, driveways and driveway entrances.

The court also upheld a part of the federal judge's order requiring so-

### U.S. Supreme Court

called sidewalk counselors who approach patients within the fixed buffer zones to retreat when patients indicate a desire not to be counseled.

Both sides of the abortion debate claimed victory.

"There is no longer an exception to ... free speech ... when the issue deals with abortion," said Jay Sekulow of the American Center for Law and Justice.

Marilyn Buckham, executive director of the Buffalo, N.Y., GYN Womenservices, one of four abortion clinics where anti-abortion protests were held in 1992, said:

"They upheld the buffer zone, which is the heart of this case. It is gratifying because it says to us the Supreme Court understood the question and there is common sense in the

Constitution. We're thrilled." The vote was 8-1 to strike down as unconstitutional the floating buffer zones. All but Justice Stephen G. Breyer joined that part of Rehnquist's opinion.

The court's vote to uphold as constitutional the fixed 15-foot buffer zone around clinic entrances and parking lots was 6-3.

Justices Antonin Scalia, Anthony M. Kennedy and Clarence Thomas voted to strike down all of the judge's order.

In other action, the court: Ruled 7-2 in a Maryland case that police can order passengers, as well as drivers, to get out of vehicles during traffic stops.

Agreed unanimously in a Florida decision that states cannot cancel early-release credits after giving them to inmates in an effort to ease prison overcrowding.

## Daily Nebraskan

Editor: Doug Kouma  
Managing Editor: Paula Lavigne  
Assoc. News Editors: Joshua Gillin, Chad Lorenz  
Night Editor: Anne Hjermsman  
Opinion Editor: Anthony Nguyen  
AP Wire Editor: John Fulwider  
Copy Desk Chief: Julie Sobczyk  
Sports Editor: Trevor Parks

A&E Editor: Jeff Randall  
Photo Director: Scott Bruhn  
Art Director: Aaron Steckelberg  
Web Editors: Michelle Collins, Amy Hopfensperger  
Night News Editors: Bryce Glenn, Leanne Sorensen, Rebecca Stone, Amy Taylor

General Manager: Dan Shattil  
Advertising Manager: Amy Struthers  
Asst. Ad Manager: Cheryl Renner  
Classified Ad Manager: Tiffany Clifton  
Publications: Travis Brandt  
Board Chairman: 436-7915  
Professional: Don Walton  
Advertiser: 473-7301

FAX NUMBER: 472-1761

The Daily Nebraskan (USPS 144-080) is published by the UNL Publications Board, Nebraska Union 34, 1400 R St., Lincoln, NE 68588-0448, Monday through Friday during the academic year; weekly during summer sessions.

Readers are encouraged to submit story ideas and comments to the Daily Nebraskan by calling 472-2588. The public has access to the Publications Board.

Subscription price is \$55 for one year.

Postmaster: Send address changes to the Daily Nebraskan, Nebraska Union 34, 1400 R St., Lincoln, NE 68588-0448. Second-class postage paid at Lincoln, Neb.

ALL MATERIAL COPYRIGHT 1997 DAILY NEBRASKAN

Questions? Comments? Ask for the appropriate section editor at 472-2588 or e-mail dn@unlinfo.unl.edu.