

Daily Nebraskan

Financial benefits of Antelope Valley plan outlined in report
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Regent: Perlman is pro-gay

■ Interim Chancellor Harvey Perlman should be purged from the list of possible chancellors, Regent Robert Allen says.

BY VERONICA DAEHN

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Interim Chancellor Harvey Perlman shouldn't be considered for the permanent chancellor position, Hastings Regent Robert Allen wrote in an Oct. 20 letter, because of his "attention and interest in helping homosexuals."

The letter, written to members of the Board of Regents and obtained by the Daily Nebraskan, said as dean of the Nebraska College of Law, Perlman sponsored "several homosexual items," including a gay dating service.

Allen also objected to Perlman's telling members of UNL's Academic Senate that he was opposed to Initiative 416, which would ban gay and lesbian mar-

riages, civil unions and domestic partnerships in Nebraska.

Perlman, who said he hasn't decided whether he'll be in the running for the permanent chancellor position, refused to comment on Allen's letter but said the two had spoken on the phone since the letter was written.

"Regent Allen is certainly entitled to his opinion," Perlman said. "And it differs from my opinion."

In an interview, Allen said the university should not be taking stances on controversial issues, such as Initiative 416.

"Why get involved?" Allen said. "It's not going to help us."

With UNL's large number of administrative openings, speaking out on controversial issues can't help the university rebuild, Allen said.

"This is a time where we need to do the things that are in the best interest of the state," Allen said. "And that is not to get involved in Initiative 416 on either side."

Allen said Perlman's remarks against Initiative 416,

and his support of gays and lesbians while dean of the College of Law, would harm UNL.

"Considering Harvey Perlman's attention and interest in helping homosexuals," Allen wrote, "his public comments regarding Initiative 416 should not have come as a surprise."

Allen, who owns a furniture store in Hastings, said he has had experience with homosexuals, having fired one "years ago for soliciting young boys."

But Allen said he also has employed a gay man for the last 17 years.

"I have a homosexual work for me," Allen said. "And I love him dearly. But if you get too much of that, it hurts your school, and I think Harvey's done that."

Allen's letter said he was both "surprised" and "disappointed" with Perlman's comments about Initiative 416.

The letter also stated Allen had been disappointed with former UNL Chancellor Graham Spanier for supporting and helping with Perlman's "homosexual items."

One of the "homosexual items" to which Allen

referred in his letter was the "dating service" Allen said Perlman started in the law college.

The dating service was a gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered law student organization, Allen said.

While Allen said he likes Perlman, the interim chancellor's "homosexual baggage" would damage the university, he said.

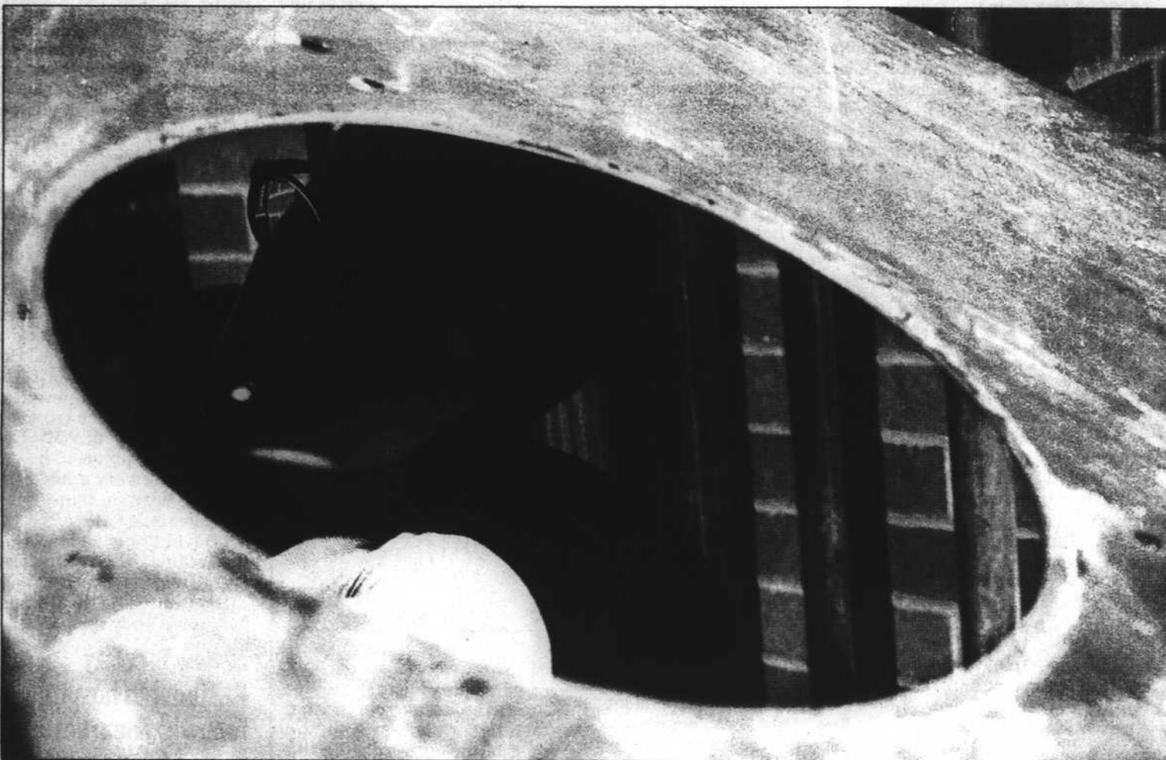
"It's not that Harvey isn't a talented guy; he is," Allen said. "But he's not helping the university by talking about 416 publicly."

"It is my opinion," Allen wrote in the letter, "that the vast majority of Nebraska citizens would prefer that our university avoid doing anything that would encourage anyone to be involved in the homosexual lifestyle, or in any form of sexuality, for that matter."

McCook Regent Don Blank wrote a letter to the regents, which he would not provide to the Daily Nebraskan, in response to Allen's letter.

It is important to realize Allen doesn't represent the majority when it comes to support for Perlman.

Please see PERLMAN on 8



First-year ceramics graduate student Kari Radasch cleans a spray booth that will be turned into the smaller of the test kilns used at Richards Hall. Radasch's kiln-building class set the concrete foundations for the kilns Thursday afternoon. Below, the building, under construction. Nate Wagner/DN



Richards renaissance gives hall new life

BY JILL ZEMAN

Room numbers are displayed by white pieces of paper taped to doors with the number printed on them.

Signs in some of the doorways warn of wet paint, and some of the bathrooms do not have mirrors.

Exposed wires and ventilation shafts line a few hallways, and every now and then a ladder can be seen next to rows of offices.

The art students who attend classes in Richards Hall, a UNL building being renovated, encounter these unusual sights every day.

Despite the temporary quirks, Richards Hall should be one of the best art buildings in the country when it's completed, said Barry Shull, UNL manager of architectural and engineering services for Facilities Management and Planning.

The doors are open for Richards Hall, as a kiln

Please see BUILDING on 5

a New beginning

Ode to Norman: One man's view

Editor's Note: What follows is a Daily Nebraskan reporter's testament to Nebraska Football and The Game of the Century.

BY BRIAN CARLSON

I've always tried to keep the Nebraska-Oklahoma rivalry in perspective.

The important thing to remember, you see, is that it's not life and death.

It's a whole lot more.

So it is with overwhelming and indescribable emotion that I, and not a few like-minded Husker diehards, greet the long-overdue, yet shockingly soon, return of the vaunted rivalry tomorrow in Norman, Okla.

Game of the Century. It is almost impossible to overstate the game's profound significance.

I'm among those who believe the game between Nebraska and Oklahoma, Nos. 1 and 2 respectively in the Bowl Championship Series rankings, marks nothing less than the most significant historical development since the end of the Cold War.

Lunacy? Sure. Insanity? Yep. Questionable life priorities? Of course.

So?

It must be generational.

The way to understand this seemingly unhealthy obsession with the rivalry is this:

I'm too young to remember 1971's Game of the Century, when Johnny Rodgers and the Huskers beat the Sooners 35-31 in what is generally considered the greatest game ever played. It is only a nostalgic afterthought from a time when I was not a gleam in anyone's eye.

So my earliest memories of the rivalry are from 1985, '86 and '87, when the Huskers went down to bitter defeats. In 1987, the No. 1 Huskers lost 17-7 to the No. 2 Sooners, and I cried all night, as if a part of me had died.

Such experiences taught me the world is a bleak, nasty, unfor-

Please see RIVALRY on 8

416 leader: 'I'm moving'

BY JILL ZEMAN

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Three days after the general election, Guyla Mills, chairwoman of the Defense of Marriage - Yes to 416 committee, will pack her bags and leave Nebraska, her political battleground for the past 15 years.

Mills said Thursday that on Nov. 10, she planned to move to Virginia to work for Kerusso Ministries, a group that works to "spread the truth about homosexuality."

Mills decided last February to leave for Virginia, she said.

But Mills said she didn't feel she was abandoning her cause by leaving three days after the election.

She said she planned to visit Nebraska frequently to serve on the board of directors of the Nebraska Family Council, of which she is now director.

"My roots are here in Nebraska," she said.

But moving so soon after her campaigning efforts - staunchly proclaiming her defense of Nebraska families - does raise some questions in her opponents' eyes, said Andy Schuerman, UNL student and member of Huskers Against 416.

Schuerman said he had no problem with where Mills chooses to live.

"What I do have a problem with is her saying (the passage of Initiative 416) will protect Nebraska families with full knowledge that three days after the election, whether it passes or fails, she's leaving," he said.

Election 2000

Schuerman said while the pro-416 camp has touted the initiative as an issue focused on Nebraskans, it now clearly seems like part of a national crusade.

"I can't imagine what kind of effort is in line with Nebraska values when the majority of the funding comes from out-of-state," he said.

Though Mills isn't connected with the out-of-state funding, the Catholic and Mormon churches, along with other non-Nebraska entities, have heavily funded the 416 movement.

Mills appeared Thursday night in a debate sponsored by the Association of Students of the University of Nebraska.

Mary Carol Bond, Lincoln campaign coordinator for the Vote No on DOMA Committee, debated Mills.

The event was moderated by History Professor Patrice Berger, Honors Program director.

The majority of the about 70-person crowd sported buttons against Initiative 416, provided by the Vote No on DOMA Committee.

Audience members burst into enthusiastic applause after some of Bond's comments. At times, Bond had to hold up her hand to quiet some students who opposed the initiative, who made comments during the debate.

Mills acknowledged the unpopularity of her view with many of the students in atten-

Please see 416 on 8

On social items, some agreement

BY BRIAN CARLSON

On issues such as Social Security, prescription drugs and taxes, there are clear differences between Senate candidates Ben Nelson and Don Stenberg.

That's not the case on most social and crime issues, where Nelson, the Democrat, and Stenberg, the Republican, have essentially conservative views.

Both candidates oppose abortion. As governor from 1991-99, Nelson signed bills requiring waiting periods and banning partial-birth abortion.

Nebraska's partial-birth abortion ban made it all the way to the U.S. Supreme Court, where Stenberg, the attorney general, defended it during April oral arguments. In June, the court voted 5-4 to uphold a lower court's opinion that the ban was unconstitutional.

ISSUES WATCH

The abortion issue could arise for Nebraska's next U.S. senator in the form of U.S. Supreme Court nominations. Analysts predict the next president could appoint as many as three or four justices to replace those who retire, and the Senate must confirm them.

Currently, a 6-3 majority on the court supports the right to an abortion.

Nelson said he would not make his vote to confirm Supreme Court nominees contingent on the nominee's opposition to abortion. But he said justices should strictly interpret the Constitution.

"Supreme Court justices should apply the Constitution as it is, not make law," Nelson said in a

Please see ISSUES on 8

GAMEDAY

Nebraska vs. Oklahoma

When: Saturday, @ 11 a.m.

Where: Memorial Stadium, Norman, Okla.

T.V.: ABC (KLN 8 & KETV 7)

Radio: Pinnacle Sports Network (1400-AM KLIN)