

# Clinton: Keep eyes on world

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degree. Johanns, who in August proudly announced on the floor of the Republican National Convention that Nebraska was the only state Clinton had not visited as president, welcomed Clinton to Nebraska on Friday. "I can only assume this may be one of your last visits to a state as president," he said. "In recognition of this, we are proud to provide you with some of your last memories - your best memories - as 42nd President of the United States."

Mendez, president of the Hispanic student organization at UNK, then introduced Clinton. She praised him for promoting diversity, expanding free trade, intervening to stop violence in Bosnia and Kosovo and seeking peace in the Middle East.

"As the first post-Cold War president, he has had no obvious signposts for foreign policy," she said. "But he has unquestionably met these challenges."

When Clinton took the podium, he said: "Didn't Casey do a good job? She was great."

Before beginning his foreign policy remarks, Clinton talked about the 50th state he had visited as president, a state which voted overwhelmingly for his Republican opposition in both 1992 and 1996.

"When I came in here and I looked at this crowd, one of my staff members joked that we had found a building in Nebraska that would hold every single Democrat - and a few charitable Republicans, to boot," he said to laughter. "Let me say, I'm glad that I finally made it to Nebraska. There were a lot of signs outside that said, you saved the best until last."

"And I saw the patriotism and the spirit of the people, all the children holding the American flags. It was very, very moving coming in."

Clinton told a story about a movement in the 1870s to relocate the capital from Washington to a more central location. A Kearney publisher started a national campaign to make Kearney the new U.S. capital, promising to rename it New Washington, use the real estate profits to pay off the national debt and convert the government buildings in Washington into asylums.

"Well, history took a different course, except for that part about turning those buildings into asylums," Clinton said. "I have occupied one for the last eight years."

"And we are finally paying off the national debt, which is good," he said. "But since half of Washington is in Kearney today, maybe we should think again about moving the capital. I rather like it here."

Clinton urged Americans to care deeply about foreign affairs because, as the world grows more interdependent, events around the world will affect everyone's lives. No longer is there a "clear, bright line dividing America's domestic concerns and America's foreign policy concerns," he said.

He touted the country's successes, including the longest economic expansion in history, the lowest unemployment in 30 years, the lowest crime rate in 27 years and three years of budget surpluses and debt reduction. As a military and economic power, the United States is unrivaled, he said.

"But the really important question is, what do we intend to make of this moment?" Clinton asked. "Will we be grateful, but basically complacent, being the political equivalent of couch potatoes? Will we assume that in this era of the Internet, peace and prosperity will just spread? That all we have to do is kind of sit back, hook the world up to AOL and wait for people to beat their swords into shares on the NASDAQ?"

Instead, Clinton said, the country must recognize the world's changes and steer the "train of globalization" to its proper destination.

"If we want America to stay on the



Two counter-snipers watch for unusual activity from the rooftop of a hangar during President Clinton's stop at Offutt Air Force Base in Bellevue on Friday. Every person who came to see Clinton had to walk through a metal detector or be checked by the Secret Service.

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President Bill Clinton

right track, if we want other people to be on that track and have the chance to enjoy peace and prosperity, we have no choice but to try to lead the train," he said.

As he recounted what he considered his presidency's foreign policy successes, Clinton outlined five broad principles that, he said, should guide U.S. foreign policy after he leaves office on Jan. 20.

First, he said, the United States must maintain its alliances and adapt them to face future challenges.

NATO, created to counter the expansion of Soviet communism in Europe, now must address crises like the ethnic warfare it faced in the former Yugoslavia.

In Asia, the United States should maintain its military presence, preserve its alliance with Japan, work to prevent war between China and Taiwan, monitor North Korea's development of weapons of mass destruction and continue to support the democratic South Korea, Clinton said.

In addition, the United States should build strong relationships with countries in Latin America, South Asia and Africa.

"America cannot lead if we walk away from our friends and our neighbors," he said.

Second, the United States should try to build strong relationships with former Cold War adversaries Russia and China, Clinton said.

In Russia, he said, the United States should support the country's move toward democracy and the rule of law, while expressing its objection when it disagrees with Russian policy, as in its war in Chechnya.

With China, the United States should continue to pursue free trade because it will promote openness, improving freedom's chance to flourish there, he said.

Third, the United States must not ignore local conflicts that have raged in places like the Balkans, Cyprus, India and Pakistan and Ethiopia and Eritrea, Clinton said. The United States must continue to press for peace in Northern Ireland and the Middle East, he said.

"Local conflicts can become worldwide headaches if they're allowed to fester," Clinton said. "Therefore, whenever possible, we should stop them before they get out of hand."

Fourth, Clinton said, the world's openness has raised new national security concerns, including terrorism, the spread of weapons of mass destruction and the threat of cyberterrorism. He congratulated the University of Nebraska for its new information assurance center.

The United States also must respond to concerns such as global warming, the spread of AIDS and the need for more efficient fuels, including ethanol and biomass fuels. Advances in ethanol production eventually could allow cars to get 500 miles to the gallon, he said.

"If I were - no offense, Mr. President, if I were the President of the University of Nebraska, whatever I

was spending on that, I'd double it," Clinton said.

Fifth, Clinton called for further expansion of free trade, but with "a more human face."

He said trade agreements such as the North American Free Trade Agreement and the creation of the World Trade Organization had helped fuel the strong U.S. economy. More than 25 percent of the U.S. economy's growth has resulted from trade, he said.

But as the United States pursues free trade, it should use foreign aid to address worldwide challenges such as education, health care, drug trafficking, the spread of AIDS and economic development. Urging the country not to "squander the best moment in our history on small-mindedness," Clinton urged an active U.S. role in the world that, he said, has the momentum of history on its side.

"We can no longer separate America's fate from the world any more than you could separate Nebraska's fate from America's, or Kearney's fate from Nebraska's," he said. "So that's what I came here to say."

"I hope that in the years ahead the heartland of America will say, America chooses to be a part of the world, with a clear head and a strong heart; to share the risks and the opportunities of the world; to work with others until ultimately there is a global community of free nations, working with us, for peace and security, where everybody counts and everybody has got a chance."

"If we will do that, America's best days, and the world's finest hours, lie ahead."

UNK students said that, regardless of what they thought of Clinton personally, they enjoyed his visit.

Ryan Palmer, a junior biology major at UNK, said he appreciated Clinton's call for Nebraskans to be interested in foreign policy.

"Love him or hate him, just seeing the spectacle of a presidential visit is what it's all about," he said. "He's a very gifted speaker. Love him or hate him, you have to respect him."

Kenda Olson, a freshman teaching major at UNK, said she enjoyed listening to the substance of Clinton's speech rather than focusing on the scandals that have surrounded his administration.

"It was good to come and see everything that comes along with seeing the president," she said. "He did a very good job and didn't let in all the slander that people have said about him."

James Scott, a UNK political science professor and author of books about Ronald Reagan's foreign policy and foreign policy in the post-Cold War world, said Clinton's speech would guide historians in studying Clinton's foreign policy record and ideas.

"It was a nice call to action and a reminder of America's responsibility in the world," he said. "What he's done in the speech is lay out the accomplishments of the last eight years. We have seen some real progress."

# Bush challenges recount decision

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

On the eve of historic U.S. Supreme Court arguments, Al Gore's attorney said Sunday the vice president urgently needs a legal victory to recount Florida's votes or "that's the end of the road" for his dogged drive to the presidency.

A chorus of anxious Democrats agreed. George W. Bush's lawyers asked the high court to overturn a Florida Supreme Court recount plan, saying it was "virtually guaranteed to incite controversy, suspicion and lack of confidence" in the first American presidential election of the 21st century. In briefs filed late Sunday, Democrat attorneys previewed their case for the 90-minute court session that could bring a close to the 33-day election drama.

"Voters have important rights to have their ballots counted, and the magnitude of those rights dwarfs" any legal arguments raised by Bush, the vice president's brief read.

As deeply divided as the country, the high court justices voted 5-4 on Saturday to temporarily halt manual recounts in Florida and consider the Bush v. Gore case.

More than 50 people lined up outside the court at midday Sunday, pitching tents and spreading sleeping bags across bone-chilling cement in hopes of snaring a courtroom seat.

Gore, who trails Bush by less than 200 votes out of 6 million cast, wants to recount about 45,000 disputed ballots throughout the state. Bush argues there is no fair way to count the ballots that didn't register votes in a machine count, and the legislative branch of government - not the courts - should determine the nation's 43rd president.

Neither side committed to giving up if the Supreme Court issues an adverse decision, but even Gore's advisers conceded he has fewer options than Bush beyond the high court.

"If no votes are counted, then I think that's the end of the road," said David Boies, who will argue the case for Gore. But the lawyer stopped short of saying his client would bow out if the Supreme Court ruled against him, suggesting Gore might await appeals of failed Democrat lawsuits seeking to throw out up to 25,000 Florida absentee ballots.

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Robert Torricelli  
New Jersey Democratic senator

happen," the lawyer said.

House Minority Leader Richard Gephardt, a steadfast Gore supporter since Election Day, told ABC, "I believe he will" concede if the court rules against him - and Bush should do the same if the tables are turned.

A spokeswoman later said the Missouri lawmaker would defer to Gore's judgment if the vice president thought he had other legal options.

"I believe that probably is the last word, and it's the last chance to have this issue not go to the United States Congress," Sen. Robert Torricelli, D-N.J. said of the court.

The GOP-led Florida Legislature, under guidance from the Bush camp, is preparing to appoint its own slate of Bush electors - raising the possibility of two separate slates for a divided Congress to sort out.

Gore's own advisers said privately the pressure to concede would be unbearable if the Democrat lost the Supreme Court fight. They discussed worst-case scenarios in small groups over the weekend, including the possibility that Gore would suspend his campaign with a high-minded speech that stopped just short of a concession.

That would leave his options open in the unlikely event that Democrats prevail in the absentee ballot cases or the Supreme Court ruling is viewed as partisan and political pressure builds against Bush, senior advisers said. They stressed that no recommendations have been made to Gore, a senator's son who first ran for president in 1988. They said their boss appeared to be confident of victory in the high court.

The Supreme Court is pressing against deadlines set in the U.S. Constitution. States must assign electors Tuesday, and those individuals meet Dec. 18 as the Electoral College to name the nation's next president.

# Constitutional glitch delays Israeli election

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

JERUSALEM - Hours after Prime Minister Ehud Barak resigned on Sunday to run for re-election, his predecessor, Benjamin Netanyahu, declared his own candidacy and called on parliament to pass legislation to allow him to run.

Barak's resignation plunged Israel into a sudden election campaign, and the hard-line Netanyahu quickly took up the challenge - even though it might not be technically possible for him to run.

"I present my candidacy today for prime minister and head of the Likud party," Netanyahu said at a news conference.

In calling special elections to be held in February, Barak, who lags far behind Netanyahu in opinion polls, took advantage of a law that prevents the former prime minister from running because he is not a member of or candidate for parliament.

Barak's resignation made possible a special election for the prime ministership only. This replaces an earlier plan,

which called for general elections that were expected next spring and would have enabled Netanyahu to run concurrently for parliament and prime minister.

Netanyahu denounced Barak for what he called "the most cynical trick in the history of the nation."

He appealed directly to members of parliament, saying, "Allow the people to choose a new leadership to replace those who have run the situation down."

Barak will remain in office until the election and was formally re-nominated as the Labor Party candidate only hours after he resigned. Still, he faces a difficult battle to win re-election. Ongoing violence with the Palestinians, which has claimed more than 300 lives, is pushing the Israeli public toward right-wing parties such as Likud.

It's not clear, however, who that party's candidate will be.

Current Likud leader Ariel Sharon is running even with Barak in the polls, while Netanyahu, the former party chief, holds a double-digit lead over Barak that has expanded as the violence drags on.

# A cold Offutt crowd warms to the president

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work to better himself and his community. The country's "true greatness" lies in its ordinary citizens, Clinton said, not in its leaders.

U.S. Sen. Bob Kerrey, who traveled with Clinton all day, said Nebraskans set aside any partisan differences they had with the president to show respect for the office.

Despite the high schoolers' charge that Clinton would have rather been anywhere than the Midlands on Friday, Clinton seemed sincere in his fondness for a state he'd avoided for nearly eight years.

"I may have been late, but I was sure glad when I got here," Clinton said. Sorbello, the Omaha Democrat, said Clinton's reception was "wonderful," but said it wouldn't have been possible had Democrats not stuck together.

At last, she said, it was their time to bask in the sun - albeit a cold sun. "We haven't had it easy," she said.

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The Daily Nebraskan (USPS 144-080) is published by the UNL Publications Board, 20 Nebraska Union, 1400 R St., Lincoln, NE 68588-0448, Monday through Friday during the academic year; weekly during the summer sessions. The public has access to the Publications Board. Readers are encouraged to submit story ideas and comments to the Daily Nebraskan by calling (402) 472-2588.

Subscriptions are \$60 for one year.  
Postmaster: Send address changes to the Daily Nebraskan, 20 Nebraska Union, 1400 R St., Lincoln, NE 68588-0448. Periodical postage paid at Lincoln, NE.  
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DAILY NEBRASKAN

**Weather**

**TODAY**  
Snow showers  
high 14, low 1

**TOMORROW**  
Sunny  
high 25, low 2

**WEDNESDAY**  
Partly cloudy  
high 15, low 6