

Perlman among finalists

CHANCELLOR from page 1

chancellor at KU from 1978-84. During that time, Moeser worked as dean of KU's School of Fine Arts.

Hogan has served on Minnesota's Board of Regents since 1993 and was the board chairman from 1997-99.

He holds a doctorate in electrical engineering from Oklahoma State University in Stillwater, while Perlman received his law and bachelor's degrees from UNL.

Perlman, a professor of law, served as dean of the NU College of Law from 1983-1998.

He also served as acting senior vice chancellor for academic affairs in 1995-96.

Perlman began working at UNL in 1967 and became interim chancellor when Moeser left in July to become chancellor at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

NU Interim College of Law Dean Steven Willborn said he worked alongside Perlman during the interim chancellor's tenure as law dean.

"I could have never expected to have a better dean," Willborn said. "He was a perfect dean, in my eyes."

Perlman has dealt with several difficult issues as interim chancellor, Willborn said.

Perlman spearheaded the academic prioritization process and faced criticism with an Omaha World-Herald series entitled, "UNL: Confronting Mediocrity."

But Willborn said he thought Perlman handled the conflicts gracefully.

"I'd be tremendously excited if he was chosen as chancellor," he said.

Joel Schafer, Association of Students of the University of Nebraska president and member of the chancellor search committee, said he thought either Hogan or Perlman would make a good chancellor.

Schafer also said he was glad to see diversity - Hogan is black - in the committee's selections.

"I'm really interested to see who'll get it," he said.

Sheila Scheideler, Academic Senate president, said she was

pleased Perlman was named as a finalist.

"I think he's done a wonderful job as interim chancellor," Scheideler said.

While Scheideler said she thought Perlman was qualified for the position, she said she didn't think Hogan should be out of the running.

"I think we need to let the search process run its course," Scheideler said. "We need to make sure the best candidate is picked for the job."

Perlman and Hogan will meet soon with NU President Dennis Smith and members of the NU Board of Regents for interviews, said Joe Rowson, NU spokesman.

Smith will be out of town for a meeting until Wednesday, Rowson said.

But in announcing the finalists, Smith said in a press release, "I'm pleased that the search committee has identified two outstanding candidates, both of whom are highly qualified."

"I look forward to conducting interviews with them in the near future."

Weekend thieves strike parking meters

METERS from page 1

investigation, said shuttle bus driver Chuck Lindahl.

Drivers picking up students in front of the Nebraska Union were told to instead drive down Q Street and pick students up at the corner of 14th and R streets, Lindahl said.

Lindahl said the lead driver radioed the other drivers and told them R Street was blocked because of a spilled bag of change.

The redirection of the busses confused some students trying to get home, Lindahl said.

"I don't think they really

knew for sure what was going on," he said.

Lindahl said he had to flag students down so they would see the bus.

He said drivers often have to take different routes because of construction or road blocks.

Podwinski said the meters were robbed sometime between Friday night and Monday morning, but the missing change wasn't discovered until Monday.

He said police didn't have any suspects but that the investigation was ongoing.

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Bill's controversy persists

DRINKING from page 1

advocate underage drinking.

To the contrary, he said, the group opposes the risky behavior and has worked on other bills aimed at curbing the problem.

Specifically, Hansen said his group has backed LB574, which would change Nebraska drivers' licenses to thwart phony ID producers.

Despite the groups' work against underage driving, he said it was compelled to oppose LB114 because the bill was constitutionally suspect.

"Legally, this is very troubling to us," he said.

Current law requires cops to witness minors holding a container of alcohol before they can dish out citations. LB114's new provisions would let officers apprehend a suspect if the suspect exhibit signs of drinking and is in the proximity of alcohol, even if the cops doesn't catch the minor red-handed.

According to the Constitution, Hansen said, suspects are presumed innocent until proven guilty.

Quandahl's bill would toss the precept out the window by assuming minors were guilty simply because they were next to some booze, Hansen said.

Jake Bettin, a senior at Northwest High School in Omaha, said well-trained and honest officers would only ticket guilty minors.

Moreover, he said, it's not tough to spot a drunk with a beer can nearby.

"It's common sense," he said.

Common sense also will prevail when minors learn how much of a risk they are taking by boozing, he said.

Most won't drink because they want to drive, he said.

Mike Kelley, a lobbyist for the Nebraska Criminal Defense Attorneys Association, wasn't so sure that kids would automatically drop their beer bottles simply because the law upped the stakes.

Rather, he said, most kids will continue partying, and the random few who get busted will simply have to deal with unfair consequences.

This bill would nail a first-time MIP offender with more consequences than a first-time DWI offender, he said.

"This just goes after everybody with the biggest stick we can find," he said.

It ties judges' hands and forces them to stick good kids with harsh penalties, he said.

Hansen said a driver's license suspension could result in the "academic bankruptcy" of students who depend on their automobiles to get to class.

Sen. Phil Erdman of Bayard, wasn't quite so sympathetic.

No one forces minors to battle the law, he said.

People stuck under the gun got there by making bad decisions, he said.

Erdman, 23, said he has yet to taste a drop of alcohol.

"This is 100 percent preventable. I'm living proof that it can happen," he said.

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