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John Christensen has been the very public face for the University of Nebraska at Omaha since becoming interim chancellor in Sept. 2006. He was named UNO chancellor in 2007, the first UNO graduate and first Omaha native to lead the institution. He has spent most of his academic career at UNO starting in 1979. The chancellor oversees six colleges, 1,000 faculty and staff, 15,000 students and an annual budget of $172 million. By honoring Christensen, OPC also was saluting UNO’s 100th anniversary in 2008. During the roast, the audience heard titles for Christensen such as: “John the Viking,” “Big Bad (Dr.) John,” “Interim John,” “The Boss” and “The Jesse Ventura of UNO. The UNO chancellor was the target of an irreverent tribute that included roasters wearing antlers in a salute to Christensen’s Danish heritage and a musical tribute set to the tune “Big Bad John.” In the Face drawing, the chancellor is shown on the UNO campus holding a snapshot of his family, wife and three sons (all UNO graduates) and dog, Tug. . Back to Top