

## Tuition strike suggested as last resort

By Kathy Stokebrand

At a press conference Wednesday, ASUN President Bud Cuca said a tuition strike may be used as a last resort to protest the 10 percent tuition increase passed last week by the NU Board of Regents.

According to Mark Hirschfeld, member of ASUN's Government Liaison Committee, tuition money would be held in an escrow account, an account under legal document in which funds are held until specified terms are met. ASUN senator Todd Adams, a law student, is looking into the legalities of such an account that would possibly go through Student Legal Services and be in ASUN's name, Hirschfeld said.

Hirschfeld said if the university took an apathetic attitude toward a move, the interest the account could draw in 90 days would nearly pay for the \$10 late fee to students for not paying tuition.

He said that tuition can still be paid at least halfway into the semester.

Cuca said that 25 percent of the student body had protested the tuition increase by signing a petition. If that kind of response would be repeated through the tuition strike, he said he felt it would be hard for the regents to ignore students again.

Hirschfeld said many campuses have effectively used the escrow account for different purposes. He emphasized that the escrow account would be used only if other methods of action against the increase fail.

Cuca said there were still several questions that needed to be answered. For example, why wasn't there a tuition hearing where students could voice their opinion? Why has such a small amount of tuition money gone to teacher's salaries? Why are teacher's salaries so low compared to the national average, while administrators salaries are way above the national average?

Cuca said that ASUN would like to conglomerate the facts and take action. To answer these questions ASUN intends to have each college Advisory Board set up a budget committee. Each budget committee will investigate their respective college budget for waste. Each advisory board will then hold a preliminary hearing.

According to Cuca the committees' findings will be compiled for a large public hearing concerning the entire university budget in mid-December or after the semester break ends in January.

Cuca said if, after the information is

compiled, the increase is warranted then they will lobby for funds. If the increase is not warranted, the results will be presented to the Legislature in February to work for a revised budget.

Cuca said ASUN will try to take the case to the Legislature and increase public awareness of the issue. He said that Student's Day will be held Oct. 27, the day of the Colorado-Nebraska game here, and all students will be asked to wear blue to

show concern for the fall in education quality and the increase in education costs.

By forming the individual college budget committees, collecting their budget information, compiling it, and holding the public hearing Cuca said ASUN is not only working against the 10 percent tuition increase, they are also working for the future so that when the tuition increase is recommended it must be justified.

## Enrollment at record high

UNL's enrollment for the fall semester is again at a record high level, but according to Harry Allen Director of Institutional Research and Planning, an enrollment decline probably will begin by the 1980-1981 school year.

Statistics from the Registration and Records department of Academic Services show that 22,755 students are currently enrolled at UNL, an increase of 278 students from last year's attendance.

"However, we're experiencing the peak of high school graduation rates in Nebraska right now and since UNL is the only state university in Nebraska, we have been seeing the results of these large graduating classes," Allen said.

According to Allen, the total graduating classes of Nebraska High Schools in 1982 will be approximately 22,800, down almost 3,000 from 1979 graduation estimates.

"In order for UNL to remain at its current enrollment figures, we're either

going to have to have a larger percentage of the high school graduates enroll here or have better student retention," Allen said.

Another factor that might lead to the decline in enrollment is that UNL is not in the recruiting game, according to Ted Pfeifer, Director of Registration and Records.

"UNL does not go outside the state of Nebraska to recruit students to enroll here and we don't have any objections to other schools that do come here," Pfeifer said.

"We're here as a service to incoming students, not as a recruiter," Pfeifer said. "We're going to try and get you your housing, financial aid and get you admitted to a university, which is a different attitude that any other school in Nebraska has," Pfeifer said.

The only exception to this is UNL's recruiting of honor students, such as National Merit Scholarship winners, Pfeifer said, adding that athletic programs also rely heavily on recruiting programs.

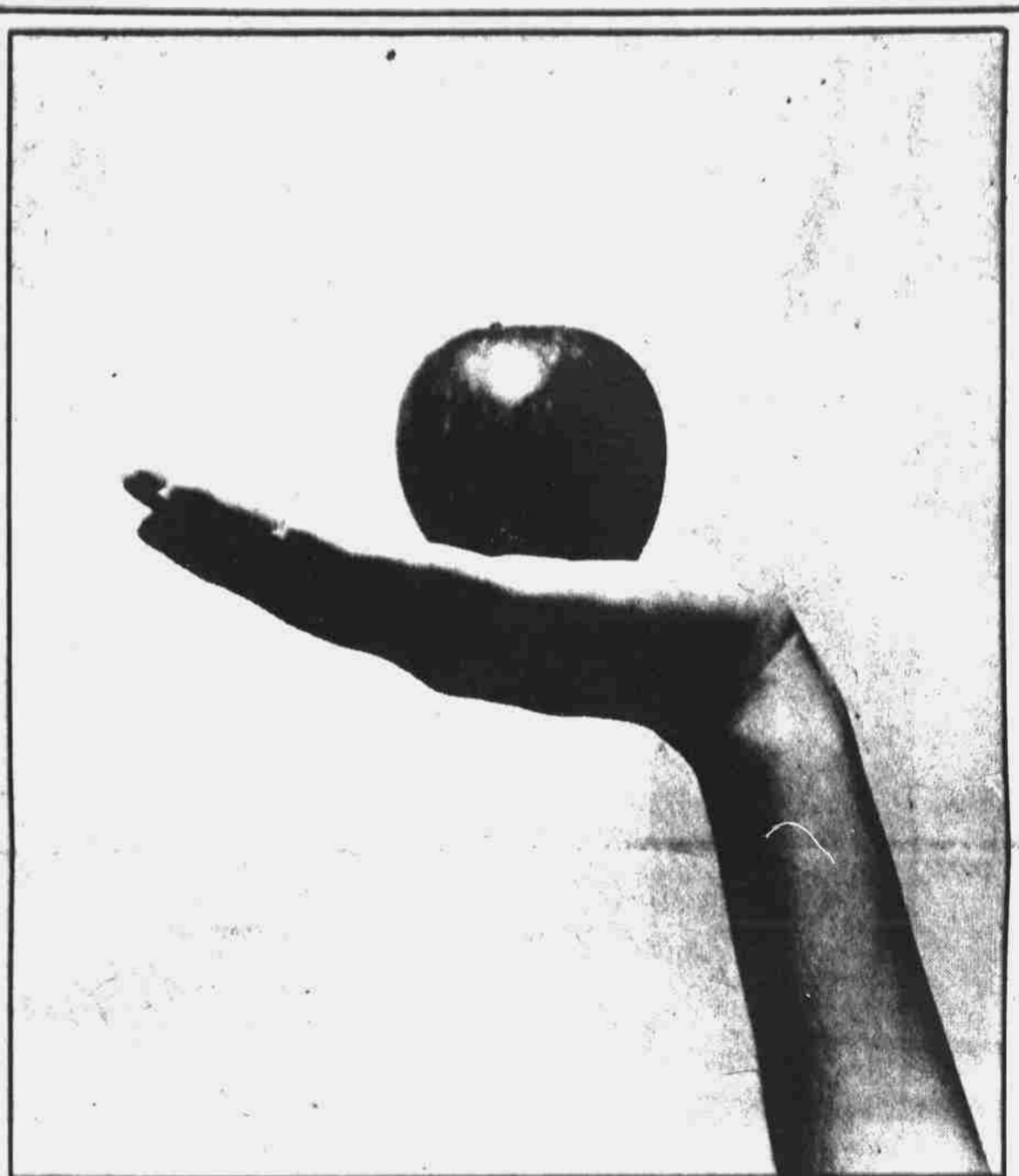


Photo by Mike Sweeney

### An apple a day

The hand is gray, the apple is gray, and the background is gray. If these colors don't look right to you, maybe you haven't been eating well.

Take a bit out of the first issue of Fathom, the literary magazine of the Daily Nebraskan. Stores in today's issue deal with exercise and nutrition—everything from a jogging university president to a dieting swim team. It ain't applesauce.

## Quality of undergraduate education at UNL high—Young

By Michelle Carr

Sitting in his office, Chancellor Roy Young appears to be more of a teacher than an administrator. Disregard the conservative pin stripe suit and its easy to visualize him in a classroom.

He resembles a teacher rather than an administrator because he explains his reasoning in a methodical, professor-like way—and makes sure the explanation is understood.

In fact, Young is a former professor of plant pathology at Oregon State. And, as a professor, he said he is attuned to student and faculty concerns.

Young said he sympathizes with student concerns about the recent 10 percent tuition increase. It is very important to provide an educational opportunity to all students willing to receive an education, he added.

However, he said, the present economic situation is not helping matters.

"The funds that have been requested in the budget are critically important to the university and continual increases in inflation and the cost of living result in pressures on tuition and state support," he said.

Despite concern over quality education, Young said the "quality of undergraduate education is high."

Graduates from UNL are finding good employment opportunities, Young said.

"The students at Nebraska are very serious and anxious to capitalize on an opportunity to obtain education. They are quite goal-oriented with specific career objectives in mind," he said.

YOUNG CAME to the university three years ago, after leaving positions at Oregon State as dean of research, acting president and vice president for research and graduate studies. Originally from McAllister, N.M., he received a bachelor's degree in biology and chemistry from New Mexico State University.

Young entered graduate college at Iowa State University at age 20 and, after serving in the U.S. Navy during World War II, received a doctorate in plant pathology.

In addition to his science degrees, Young has served on various science-related committees. He served as president of the Pacific Division of the American Association for the Advancement of Science from 1971 to 1972. He was a member of the Rockefeller Foundation Advisory Panel on Post-Doctoral Fellowships in Environmental Sciences from 1974 and 1978.

He is chairman of the National Association of State Universities and Land-Grant Colleges Special Committee on Energy and the Environment. Listing all other organ-

izations and committees to which Young belongs could go on indefinitely.

His interest in science and research is reflected by his concern for research support at UNL.

UNL RANKS low nationally in total amount of outside support, such as research according to Young. His primary goal when Young began at UNL was to "develop a great deal of attention to improve the opportunity for the faculty to seek outside support," he explained.

Young said it is difficult to improve faculty salaries without outside support.

Faculty salaries have not increased with other incomes because in a time of economic pressure taxpayers are looking "very carefully at how taxes may be reduced."

"It is a critical time for higher education in Nebraska. If additional support is not forthcoming some major programmatic changes will have to be made," he said.

For example, an entire program or college might have to be eliminated because of lack of funds. Or restriction on enrollment might have to be enforced, he said.

Young said another major concern at UNL is the 1979 operating budget, which includes lighting, heating and supplies. He said UNL has not received inflation increases for these resources for the last two years.

Because of the time demanded by his jobs, Young said he has little time to pursue hobbies he enjoys, such as hunting and fishing. He did indicate that he is happy with his duties.

"There is no lack of challenge in this particular position."

### inside friday

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