

# Regents told insufficient financing has resulted in decline at UNL

By Ann Owens

Utica Sen. Douglas Bereuter told the NU Board of Regents that he is concerned about what he called the declining quality of education at UNL.

Bereuter said the main reason for the, so-called decline is that faculty members and resources do not match the growing student population.

Other reasons, he said, include NU rescuing the University of Nebraska Medical Center when it was in danger of losing accreditation and taking over Omaha's municipal university, now the University of Nebraska at Omaha (UNO).

Bereuter said the more drastic decline is at the undergraduate level.

### Quality not sustained

Bereuter said he believes in parity of educational quality between NU campuses, but added "we haven't put enough resources into UNL to sustain quality."

He said Nebraskans don't understand the situation. "They are deceived by a winning football team and new buildings," he added.

The Nebraska Legislature sometimes reaches into matters it shouldn't, Bereuter told the board. But he said he is afraid the university has tried to achieve parity by restraining UNL.

If someone has to be blamed, Bereuter said, it would be "various decision makers" including former and current administrators, regents and legislators.

Bereuter, a UNL graduate, told the board that he

would continue to pursue "quality" for UNL.

He said that he plans to speak with Omahans who he said influence the Legislature and "who have very aggressive ideas."

"Some go far out," he said, "and won't be satisfied until this (UNL) is a shell."

### Upgrading UNL

Other plans, Bereuter said, involve earmarking money for upgrading educational quality at UNL, cutting down class sizes and dismissing those graduate assistants who are "inappropriately" teaching classes.

"I hesitated speaking to the board today because the new chancellor (of UNL, Roy Young) is here," Bereuter said. "But if what I have to say has any merit, he might as well hear it the first day."

According to NU President D.B. Varner, the board was fortunate in hearing Bereuter while Young was present. He added that he was encouraged by Bereuter's concern and that he wants to "pursue the thrust of this."

The board thanked Bereuter and Omaha Sen. Glenn Goodrich, who also attended the meeting, for their interest in the university.

Varner recommended that Regents' committee "systematically look at quality of undergraduate education at UNL and UNO and report to the board at its next meeting."

The board voted to talk to Gov. J. James Exon and form a student-faculty-citizen committee to study the quality of education at NU.



Utica State Sen. Douglas Bereuter told the NU Board of Regents Saturday that the quality of education at UNL had declined.



Photo by Ted Kirk

Second district Rep. John McCollister, who is campaigning for the Republican nomination, addressed questions on forced busing, foreign policy, defense spending and his campaign at a Lincoln press conference Friday.

# McCollister is critical of busing, farm and business regulations

By Dick Piersol

The greatest legislative priority for the next U.S. Congress is to reduce the "backbreaking" federal regulation of farms and small businesses, according to second district Rep. John McCollister.

He told a Lincoln press conference Friday that federal regulations have hit small business disproportionately hard, compared to larger businesses.

McCollister, who is campaigning for the Republican senatorial nomination, said that if elected he wanted assignment to the Commerce and Small Business committees.

He also addressed questions on forced busing to achieve racial integration, foreign policy, defense spending, government spending and his campaign.

McCollister said forced busing is "not a good tool" to achieve integration and "90 per cent of the people object to it." He said integration could best be accomplished by continually ending discrimination in housing and employment.

### Wary of agreements with Soviets

The federal government, he said, is responsible for the difficulty in reducing unemployment.

"The U.S. Treasury elbows its way into the capital market," leaving private business with a hard time attracting capital. Five out of six jobs in America are in the private sector, he said.

McCollister said the federal government has added

more to the national debt in the past two years than in the previous thirty. He said he supports cuts in government spending on foreign aid, food stamps and welfare. He also said the growth of federal housing and health care programs should be curtailed.

In foreign policy, he said the Soviet Union has violated detente, most recently in Angola, and said he would be wary of any future agreements with the Russians. He said he voted against cutting off aid to the anti-Marxist Angolan factions.

President Gerald Ford and Secretary of State Henry Kissinger have been rendered incapable of conducting effective foreign policy and there was "no way 535 representatives of Congress could operate a clear policy," McCollister said. The U.S. Constitution reserves that right to the executive branch, he added.

### "Subconscious talking more"

On defense spending, McCollister said he supports the B-1 supersonic bomber but is "frankly uneasy with the cost escalations."

"My subconscious has been talking to me more lately," he said.

The recent U.S. Supreme Court decision overturning campaign spending limits would affect his campaign very little, he said adding that he has raised \$70,000 so far and will limit himself to spending \$100,000 for the primary election.

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