

# Regents accept budget recommendation

By Ann Owens

The NU Board of Regents Saturday voted to approve the Nebraska Legislature's Appropriation Committee's \$95 million budget recommendation.

NU President D.B. Varner told the board that "because of the high level of emotion in this situation, this board would be wise to accept the recommendation."

The \$95 million recommendation is \$5 million less than the board requested but \$11 million more than Gov. J. James Exon recommended.

Regent approval should "get it out of this arena of argument and all this emotion," Varner said. "There is no further gain of arguing the point."

The university has been criticized for not generating more funds of its own, Varner said, but Exon has said that an increase in tuition is not justified.

Varner "a little confused"

"Because tuition is the main way the university generates its own funds," Varner said, "it leaves me just a little confused."

He added that although NU is seeking federal funds, the number and amount of federal funds are declining and they usually go to specific individual projects rather than into the university operating expense.

Combined resident tuition and student fees of \$22.10 a credit hour currently is highest in the Big 8 Conference, Varner said. He suggested a possible raise in the University of Nebraska Medical Center student charges or a possible increase in NU graduate student tuition.

"The university has made some progress toward flexibility this year," Varner said, "but at this moment there is no realistic chance of their (the Legislature's) modifying the recommendation to give the board lump sum appropriation."

The regents agreed to accept the recommendation with an amendment by Regent Robert Simmons of Scottsbluff that the board would continue to support on its lump sum

policy and that by accepting the raised cash ceiling, increasing the amount of funds the university can generate, it did not mandate raising tuition.

**Raun stung by criticism**

In a press conference before the board meeting, Regent Robert Raun of Minden said he had been "stung by intemperate and unjustified criticisms of the sincere efforts of himself and his colleagues who govern the university on behalf of the citizens of the state of Nebraska."

Raun said he was compelled to respond to the "flood of criticism that has been leveled at the regents and the university by the chief executive of this state."

Raun applauded the Appropriations Committee for increasing Exon's budget recommendation. He also praised NU administrators for the perseverance in advocating the board's budget request.

**Smoking areas**

**In other business Saturday:**

-The board reaffirmed its support of earlier capital construction priorities. The Legislature had added

\$250,000 for planning a cardiovascular center at the medical center and removed two priority projects from the list—planning a specialty care center and renovating the old nursing building on the medical center campus.

-The regents named Omaha National Bank as the depository for NU trust and endowment funds. William Erskine, vice-president for administration, said bank fees, proximity and past performance were considered in selecting a bank.

-Support for a regional veterinary medicine college was reaffirmed at Exon's request.

-Student Regent Clint Bellows of the University of Nebraska at Omaha asked the board to support a proposal which would designate smoking and nonsmoking areas on the three NU campuses.

Bellows said studies show that smoke inhaled by a non-smoker is hazardous to his health. Action was deferred until next month's April 24th meeting to determine the proposal's legality. If passed, the resolution would allow each campus to designate smoking and nonsmoking areas.

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## Four independents join ASUN battle

Editor's note: This is the last in a series of interviews with all parties and executive candidates for Wednesday's 1976 ASUN election.

By George Miller

Besides four parties fielding executive candidates for the March 17 ASUN elections, three independent presidential candidates and one vice-presidential candidate also will appear on the ballot.

The three presidential candidates are Bill Mueller, a junior pre-law major from Ogallala, Judith-Anne Sadler, a junior business administration major from Kingston, Jamaica and Mark Blongewicz, a junior political science major from Ralston.

The independent candidate for first vice-president is Paula Jean Haeder, a pre-law junior from Omaha.

Mueller, who has been endorsed by "The Faction," comprised solely of Greek students, said he is not running just as a Greek candidate.

"I decided to run before the Greek slate endorsed me," Mueller said, adding that the endorsement could both help and hurt his campaign.

**"No faith"**

Mueller said student participation in ASUN Senate is the major issue in the campaign. He said people do not understand ASUN and therefore don't have any faith in it and don't use it.

Mueller said he would open ASUN Senate up to more people by not appointing any ASUN senators to other government bodies such as the Union Board or Council on Student Life (CSL).

He said he wants to examine every organization receiving funds from the Fees Allocation Board (FAB) to see why and what is being done with their funds.

"I don't want to make FAB feel it's subservient (to ASUN Senate) because they're not," he said. "But ASUN should know the reason behind each fee allocation."

**Co-equals**

"The (NU Board of) Regents and the administration

are not out to get us," he said. "But until we start working with them as co-equals, we'll never get anywhere."

He also said he does not view ASUN Senate appointees as Senate representatives but as representatives of students in general.

Mueller has been vice-president of the Interfraternity Council for a semester and is a member of the Prospective Law Students Association.

**Tired of trivia**

Judith-Anne Sadler said she was running for ASUN president because she was "tired of all the trivia" ASUN Senate concerns itself with "while the real important issues get put aside."

"In the last year," she said, "ASUN has been so busy tearing at other organizations that it seems to lose sight of the fact that we're all students."

ASUN should coordinate efforts by the various UNL colleges to streamline grading, faculty evaluation and advising systems, she said.

It also should have some say in administrative policy, she said, but added that the administrators ultimately make policy. If the Senate loses credibility with the administration, "all 22,000 students will suffer," Sadler added.

ASUN Senate should have power to appoint people to campus organizations and recall them for just cause, she said. The Senate also should set up a system with CSL by which both ASUN Senate and CSL could present their reports to the chancellor if the two groups disagree, Sadler said.

She also said, if elected, she would concentrate on lobbying with the Nebraska Legislature and the regents.

**Negative attitude**

"We have to think of ways to change Nebraska's

negative attitude to education," Sadler said.

Sadler has served on CSL for two years, the College of Business Administration minority committee since its inception last semester.

Another independent presidential candidate, Mark Blongewicz, said he advocates abolishing the NU Board of Regents and uniting all campus policy bodies with ASUN Senate.

Admitting that abolition of the regents would be "rough if not impossible," Blongewicz said the regents are only "rubber stamps" for the Legislature, the NU administration and "own" search committees.

**A unified front**

He also said ASUN Senate should not compete with other policy groups because working together, they "could provide a unified student front" to the administration.

Blongewicz also advocated a student referendum to see if students want to continue paying student fees.

In addition, he said he favors a tuition boycott and "mass violations" of university rules if students cannot get what they want any other way.

Also mentioned as being on the Greek Slate is Paula Jean Haeder, who said she was not running solely as a Greek candidate.

"The slate will help if we can get more Greeks motivated and participating (in the ASUN elections)," she said.

If elected, she said, she would concentrate on streamlining ASUN Senate meeting procedures so meetings would run faster with less danger of losing a quorum.

## Candidates to talk at Union, Harper

ASUN candidates will be involved in two debates today.

All executive candidates belonging to parties and all independent executive candidates except Paula Jean Haeder will debate at 12:30 p.m. outside the Nebraska Union by Broyhill Fountain, according to Builders member Mark Harrington, which is sponsoring the debate.

Harrington said Haeder, an independent candidate for first vice-president, has been ill and living in Omaha the past week and is not expected to attend.

He said the independent candidates will give opening statements, and a representative from each party will make a statement. The debate format will not be highly structured, he said.

"We're going to play it by ear," said Harrington, a sophomore business major from Ogallala.

If weather is bad, the debate will be moved into the Union, he said. Room number will be posted inside.

Representatives from each party and independent candidates also will speak in the Harper Hall Main Lounge tonight at 8 p.m., said Pat Pirtle, Harper Hall treasurer.

He said each party representative and independent candidate will present his platform. Pirtle is a junior history major from Omaha.

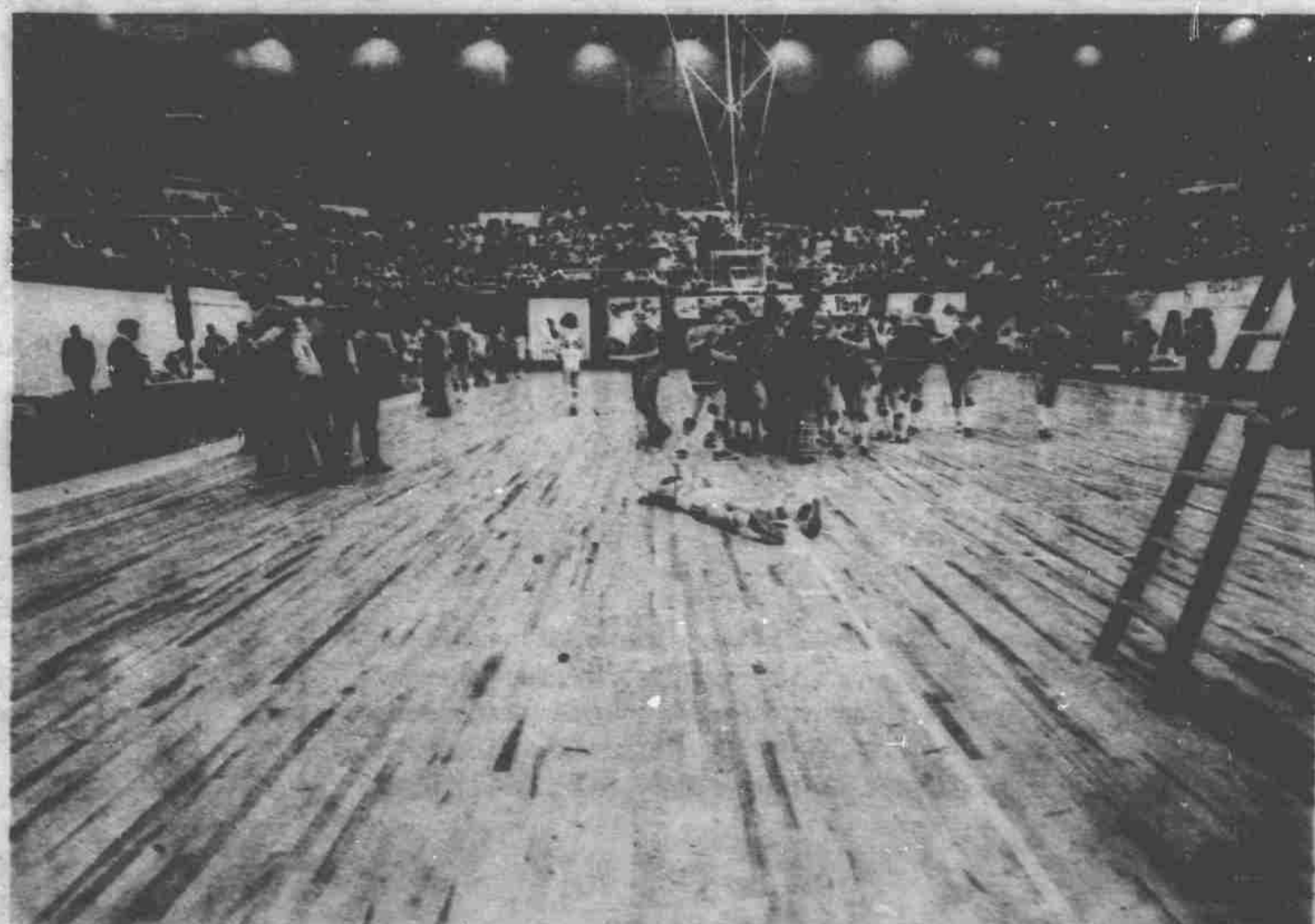


Photo by Ted Kink

Anguished Brian Kohlboehn of Holdrege High School sprawls on the floor after missing a last-second jump shot that would have handed Holdrege a one point victory over Aurora and the Class B state championship. The final score was Aurora 53, Holdrege 52.