

Tuition increase to \$26.40 asked for 1980-81 year

By Cindy Coglianesi

Students returning to school in the fall of 1980 can expect to pay at least 10 percent more in tuition.

The NU Board of Regents approved a proposed operating budget at their July meeting which would require 10 percent increases in tuition for undergraduate students on both campuses, a 20 percent increase in the dentistry and pharmacy colleges and a 25 percent increase at the College of Medicine.

NU administrators recommended a 19.6 percent increase in the state tax money used in the 1980-81 operating budget. However, the Board of Regents, during its July meeting, trimmed the request to the Legislature so the increase will not exceed 15 percent. Page 25.

NU President Ronald Roskens and the NU administration originally asked the Board of Regents for approval of a 19.6 percent increase of state support for the 1980-81 operating budget. The regents approved an operating budget not to exceed 15 percent of this year's budget. In both proposals, tuition increases remained the same.

The increase may mean students will pay \$26.40 a credit hour for residents while non-residents can expect to pay \$71.50 a credit hour compared with this year's rates of \$24 per credit hour for residents and \$65 a credit hour for non-residents.

The Nebraska Legislature will be presented with the budget proposal next month and will act on the request in next year's session.

At the July meeting, ASUN President Bud Cuca told the board that educational costs are placing stress on students and raising tuition costs and student fees may "place some students out of the educational market."

University Vice President William Erskine responded that the University's proportion of tuition income to State General Fund support has been reduced in the years 1971-72 through 1979-80.

ASUN 1st Vice President Hubert Brown told the board members that UNL currently has the second highest tuition in the Big Eight, but he said that NU was at the bottom of the Big Eight in academic quality.

Cuca, Brown and UNL student regent John Kirk asked the board to consider cutting the tuition increase to 5 percent, a figure that Cuca said would be equitable and advantageous to the students.

Wilber Regent Robert Prokop agreed that the tuition increase would price some students out of the educational market. Regents Ed Schwartzkopf of Lincoln and Robert Raun, Minden, commented that inflation was evident in all sectors of the economy and that students should be expected to help pay the increasing costs of education.



Photo by M. Billingsley

Stormy weather striking Lincoln this summer brought much needed moisture. The fall forecast calls for cooler weather with much of the same.

Cool air to blow this way—professor

By Kevin Field

Students should prepare for a cool fall this year. Not only are thermostats in the residence halls being turned down to reduce costs, outdoor temperatures should be three to four degrees colder than normal for the next three months.

At least that is what the weather will be like if Art Douglas' predictions come true. Douglas, an Assistant Professor of Geography at UNL works with long-range weather prediction. He uses surface temperatures of the Pacific Ocean to determine where the jet stream is, and then tries to determine where it will go.

The jet stream is a band of fast-moving winds in the upper atmosphere, and it greatly influences our weather, Douglas said.

This method of long-range prediction gained considerable attention in the late fifties when it was noticed that the decade's drought ended with dramatic temperature changes in the Pacific, he said.

THE SYSTEM WAS developed then by the National Weather Service in Washington D.C., but has been discontinued.

However, it has been reliable for Douglas. The last three winters were forecasted to be cold by Douglas and the region has had cold winters. But, he cau-

tioned, he forecasts for the entire United States and reliability must be looked at on a large scale.

This winter should be like last year's, Douglas said. "We expect an overall basic weather pattern through January, colder than normal, however. Precipitation should be near normal at the beginning of the season, but it should get drier towards the end," he said.

Most of the region's air masses will be coming from Northern Canada and will be dry and colder towards the end of the season, he predicts.

"WE CAN ALSO EXPECT a 30-day period of temperatures about ten degrees colder than normal as winter progresses," he added.

Douglas stressed that the three-month prediction is more reliable than the six-month prediction and as conditions change, his predictions will be updated monthly.

If his forecast is right, Douglas said, it will be unfortunate for the country. A cold winter east of the Rocky Mountains will be an added problem for the government, he said.

"A certain amount of blame for our current economic condition must be placed on our last three winters and their drain on the economy," he said.

Douglas said he hoped more government planners and business people will use long range forecasts when setting budgets and planning projects.

Regent: Retirement decision, chiller appropriation unrelated

By Rocky Strunk
Associate News Editor

Regent action to change NU's mandatory retirement age from 65 to 70 in May had nothing to do with an earlier conflict with the Nebraska Legislature over an East Campus chiller appropriation, according to Lincoln Regent Ed Schwartzkopf.

"I was always in support of the age being 70 and we just wanted to be consistent with the Legislature," Schwartzkopf said.

Earlier this year, the regents established a retirement policy which allowed NU employees to remain after 65 only with regent approval.

State Sen. Frank Lewis of Bellevue looked upon the Regents' earlier retirement policy as "the Regents' continued desire to circumvent the authority of the Legislature." He then led a series of amendments dealing with the university's capital construction budget.

A RESOLUTION by Sen. Dave Newell of Omaha led to an interim study of the

feasibility of a "super board" of regents which will include three hearings, with the first one in Kearney today.

Newell's resolution calls for a Board of Regents that would provide statewide coordination of higher education systems. Regents would be appointed by the governor and confirmed by the Legislature.

"I'm against regents being appointed because they can become a political tool and can serve as political rewards," said Schwartzkopf, who has been on the Board of Regents since 1966. "We need to protect the elective process."

Because the regents hold elected positions, a constitutional amendment would have to pass during a general election before an appointed board could go into effect.

Newell's resolution was offered last May after floor debate on the university's capital construction budget. That debate centered upon an East Campus chilling unit.

ALTHOUGH THE CHILLER had been designated as the regents' number one

priority item on their 1978-79 budget request, and the regents entered into a contract agreement with a \$35,000 cancellation penalty, the Appropriations Committee had failed to include it in its university capital construction budget.

"It was a misunderstanding on the part of both bodies (legislature and regents) that there was a mixup on the chiller," said Sen. Gerald Koch, member of the Education Committee. "There was a bigger issue on the floor about it than had to be."

According to Koch, the university made the proper procedures at the preliminary budget hearings to get appropriations for its number one priority item.

The chiller was included in the capital construction budget after attempts by several state senators failed to restructure the administration budget.

"I don't sense any animosity by either body over the chiller," Schwartzkopf said. "I hope that the Legislature might become more familiar with the university's needs to provide a better learning situation."

SCHWARTZKOPF ADDED that the chiller was placed as highest priority be-

cause of the importance of temperature on research on East Campus.

Schwartzkopf also said that he felt pressure groups had influenced the Appropriations Committee and had changed the budget priorities.

"For what other reason would the Appropriations Committee have ignored our number one budget request?" Schwartzkopf asked.

Because of a 1977 State Supreme Court ruling, the Board of Regents has the right to determine its internal spending priorities and the Legislature has no control of the spending priorities adopted by the Regents.

This ruling was stated in Newell's resolution as one of the reasons for creation of a "super" Board of Regents.

The next hearing concerning Newell's proposal will be Monday at the Omaha-Douglas County Civic Center. It is scheduled for 10 a.m. in the County Commissioners' Hearing Room.

Schwartzkopf said he might attend the hearing, and ASUN President Bud Cuca said he will attend.