

Larger budget increase draws support

By Michelle Carr

An impressive array of representatives of various interest groups in the state Wednesday gave the Legislature's Appropriations Committee their blessings of NU's request for a 15 percent increase in state financing for the 1980-81 fiscal year. Representatives of insurance companies, dental and medical associations, agricul-

tural groups, nursing interests and other outside groups complemented testimony from NU administrators, faculty members and students at the annual budget hearing. NU President Ronald Roskens said the outside support "was not drummed up," but "fell together rather nicely." "There always has been a great deal of interest in the university budget, but never in terms of people showing up like this

year," Roskens said.

He said three consecutive years of 7 percent increases from the Legislature apparently gave citizens of the state the idea that it "was time to show up and do something."

However, not all testimony was in the form of a blessing for support of the 15 percent budget.

A statement prepared by Regent Robert Simmons of Scottsbluff, which was read by William Swanson, corporation secretary of the NU Board of Regents, stated that Gov. Charles Thone's 8.5 university budget increase recommendation is adequate.

ASUN President Bud Cuca and Sen. Brad Belt, while stating their support for a 15 percent budget increase, were critical of the university's budget procedure.

"The university is in dire need of increased dollar support. Dollars alone will serve only as a temporary fix to some more structurally inherent problems," Belt said.

Under the continuation-plus budgeting programs continue indefinitely unless an official questions its existence, he said.

As an example of the problems created by continuation-plus creates budgeting, Belt cited the "disparity" between the budget of the UNL College of Business Administration and the Teachers College. The two colleges have the same enrollment, yet the Teachers College receives a budget of \$4.6 million and the business college has a budget of only \$2.4 million. Belt said.

See page 12 for more on the statement made by Regent Robert Simmons of Scottsbluff at the Legislature's Appropriation Committee hearing.

Belt also suggested that salaries and utilities be financed separately. Aside from the budget process, Belt said a need exists for better planning, review of the Central Administration and all levels of administration, duplication programming and a review of the purposes of the university.

Belt called on the legislators to provide "the necessary stimulus, and the necessary leadership to see that vital changes are

made."

Cuca said that the university's budgeting process needs student input. Currently, Cuca said, "there is virtually no student input."

He also said that the budget process needs to be revised to include more than just "two or three persons."

Later, Cuca told the Daily Nebraskan that after conferring with members of the Appropriations Committee, he thinks the committee will recommend a 10.5 percent budget increase to the Legislature.

Regent Robert Prokop of Wilber said that he does not know how much money the university should be appropriated because he does not have enough information about the university's needs.

He asked the committee to grant a special appropriation of \$15,000 to each regent for the purposes of hiring staff to conduct research about university issues.

"It is hard for me as a regent to receive information on which to form a sound opinion," he said.

If more research had been done, some regental decisions may have been different, Prokop said.

"Certain members of the board don't want others to know what is going on," he said.

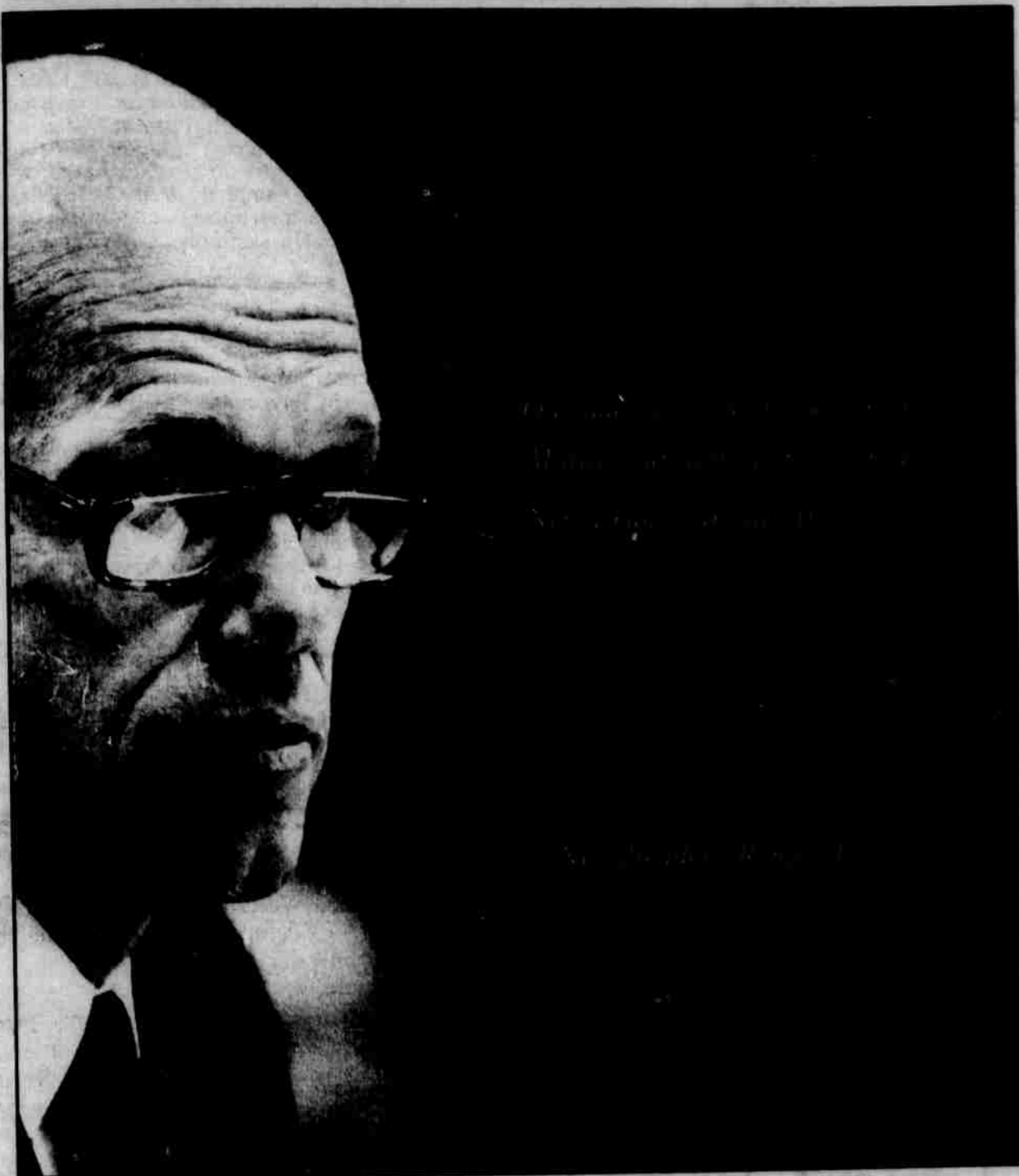
Roskens, who headed the list of more than 40 testifiers, said that even a 15 percent increase in appropriations would not be enough to cover inflation-induced reductions that have occurred in the operating budget.

Roskens urged the legislators to think of the tax funds allocated to public education as investments, rather than expenditures.

An increase in tuition is not the solution to cover budget deficiencies, Roskens said.

"The board of regents has traditionally resisted placing a disproportionate share of the financial burden of operating the university on students and their families."

Roskens said that the recent 10 percent tuition increase approved by the regents will represent the fifth consecutive year for an increase and will place NU "near the top of the Big Eight universities in terms of general tuition rates."



Daily Nebraskan Photo

Scali: Public U.N. view changed

By Mary Fastenau

John Scali, ABC correspondent, has followed the Iranian crisis for 102 days, but on the day of a major breakthrough Scali was explaining the event in Lincoln, Neb. instead of reporting from New York.

Scali, senior correspondent for ABC and former United States ambassador to the United Nations, was the featured speaker Wednesday night for the kickoff of the 1980 Model United Nations.

Scali's contract, which was negotiated last fall, didn't make provisions for the unpredictable world situation, so he was not a member of the news team which gave the details of negotiation between the United States and Iranian government through the auspices of the United Nations.

The terms of the negotiation, as reported on the ABC Evening News and interpreted by Scali, were the formation of a Commission of Inquiry composed of five to seven nonaligned countries who will have hearings on the United States' role in the Iranian situation. Scali said the hearings should take about two weeks.

Negotiations also give the option of releasing the hostages to a neutral third party or setting them free. The American hostages would then be allowed to decide if they want to testify in the Commission of Inquiry.

Scali told the group of about 400 gathered in the Nebraska Union that the negotiations to release the 53 American hostages also began in the fall.

He said Carter began negotiations under his own directive, not as a result of the recent suggestions of Sen. Ted Kennedy, Democratic presidential candidate.

Scali's expertise on the Iranian situation was not the subject of his speech, but was revealed during the question and answer period which followed his presentation and during the press conference held earlier in the day.

The ABC correspondent's address centered on the im-

portance of the United Nations in the current complicated diplomatic situation.

Scali said the United Nations has passed through a "dark and very controversial period" where it was characterized by a "spirit of confrontation and anger," but public opinion has recently reversed itself. The last three years, according to Scali have shown the United Nations with a "detectable spirit of cooperation."

He credited much of the change of attitude to Secretary General Kurt Waldheim whom he described as "an authentic, impressive and remarkable figure who deserves the title statesman."

He said there have been mumblings of the United States withdrawing from the United Nations, but he does not think any nation is so powerful or secure that it can ignore the policies of other nations.

Scali's reasons for the United States remaining in the United Nations were its position on the 15-member Security Council which is vital for the nation's security and the complicated world situation, where nations can't survive on their own. He also said the United Nations is the only recognized neutral meeting ground outside of the public spotlight and that the international organization serves as a "badge of equality" for all nations.

He also acknowledged that the United Nations would survive and endure without United States membership.

A commitment to the United Nations would mean that the United States must spend more time and effort to develop solutions which are beyond the grasp of individual countries, according to Scali.

He said that he is not certain at this point if helping other nations includes a war, especially a war that would be fought 12,500 miles away.

Although Scali praised Carter for his utilization of the United Nations, he said he could not agree with his judgment that the situation in Afghanistan is the most serious dilemma the United States has faced since World War II.



Photo by Tom Gessner

John Scali

inside thursday

A long road: Lisa Kramer's road to the Big Eight meet hasn't exactly been a smooth one Page 8
Sing Alleluia: Christian music takes a turn toward popular sounds Page 10
Records may be sealed: A legislative bill proposes to close some criminal records after one year Page 11