

## Faculty salary increase 'top priority'—Roskens

By Patti Gallagher

Calling an investment in the University of Nebraska "an investment in the future of the state," NU President Ronald Roskens made the university's bid for an 18 percent budget increase before the Legislature's Appropriations Committee Thursday.

Roskens, with the chancellors of the other three NU campuses, faculty members and students filled the committee room for the nearly six-hour hearing.

Nearly all of those testifying emphasized the need for increased salaries, with Roskens calling the 10.5 percent requested increase in staff and faculty salaries a "top priority" in the budget.

Although Gov. Charles Thone has recommended a 12.8 percent increase lid on state agency budgets, the university still presented a request of 18 percent more in state funds than fiscal year 1980-81.

The request represents \$25.2 million more than was appropriated last year, putting total legislative backing at \$193.4 million.

The budget request, according to Roskens, would not allow NU to gain any new programs, but only maintain or enhance present programs and facilities.

"The request would not be the end-all and be-all as far as the University of Nebraska goes," he said. "Were we to achieve the 18 percent there would be less pressure to eliminate programs in the immediate future. Eighteen percent would assume that we stay where we are."

The increased salaries and wages portion constitutes \$12.6 million, with \$1.5 million slotted for employee benefits. General operating costs are broken down into 17.8 percent for purchased utilities; 15 percent for medical supplies; 14 percent for library acquisitions; and 11 percent for all other general operating costs.

The budget also includes \$1.03 million for preventive maintenance; \$800,000 for computer support; \$3.5 million for program support; and slightly more than one-half million for special contracts and programs.

The program support allocation, \$3,563,000 for the entire NU system, covers eight specific UNL programs

for a cost of about \$1.1 million. Listed in order of their priority, the programs and their dollar amounts are:

—engineering and technology at \$125,000. This request would provide four new faculty members and "is only a start on needed improvement," according to Roskens.

—business administration at \$225,000. The request would add eight faculty positions and strengthen the program to keep the College of Business Administration accredited.

—computer science and mathematics, at \$168,000, would allow six new faculty members.

—home economics, at \$35,000. With college enrollment up 50 percent in recent years, a faculty member would be added with increased funding.

—geology-ground water, at \$71,700. The amount would permit hiring a geologist and geophysicist.

—libraries, at \$110,300. The funds would primarily be used to purchase additional books and periodicals.

—undergraduate laboratory equipment, at \$200,000.

—graduate program improvement, at \$158,000, which would allow hiring five new assistants and improve stipends.

The remainder of the program support figure would be distributed to UNO, the UN Medical Center, and the Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources.

Speaking on behalf of the NU Board of Regents was board chairman Robert Prokop of Wilber.

"The board consensus is that it (the request) is not a wish list," Prokop said. The regents are not asking for total support of the university from the Legislature, he added.

Prokop said the regents implementation of laboratory fees and the proposed 10 percent tuition increase will offset the need for more state aid.

But, Prokop said, continued increases in tuition and student fees could be a detriment to enrollment.

IANR Director Martin Massengale, testifying on the program support portion for the agriculture school, voiced his support for the proposed UNL regional College of Veterinary Medicine.

Allocating \$3 million for the college is presently under



Photo by Mitch Hrdlicka

NU President Ronald Roskens testifies before the Legislature's Appropriations Committee about NU budget requests.

consideration under another legislative bill.

Also speaking at the hearing was ASUN president Renee Wessels and Government Liaison Committee chairperson Nette Nelson.

Wessels said students are concerned about the national economy because "rising inflation translates into rising tuition for students."

Saying that we "respectfully disagree" with the governor's 12.8 percent recommendation, Wessels reaffirmed the student government's support for the 18 percent increase.



Photo by John Natvig

UNL students Mark Coniglio of Omaha and Mary Conyers of Columbus put the final touches on their snow sculpture "The Wicked Witch of the West" in the Sheldon Art Gallery Sculpture garden.

### Mockler, McMahon in run-off

Rick Mockler and Steve McMahon will meet next Wednesday in a runoff election for ASUN President, according to ASUN Electoral Commissioner Kim Weiland.

Mockler, SURE Party candidate, received 1,083 votes to 391 votes for McMahon, VOTE Party candidate.

In the first vice presidential race, SURE Party candidate Dan Wedekind will meet Wendy Wiseman, of the VOTE Party, in a runoff election. Wedekind received 1,153 votes to 636 votes for Wiseman.

Doran Matzke, running on the SURE Party ticket, was an outright winner in the second vice presidential contest. Matzke received 1,194 votes.

Other election results were unavailable as of 10 p.m. Thursday. Weiland said senatorial, advisory board, Committee for Fees Allocation members and the Fund A survey would not be available until noon Friday.

Weiland had no estimate on when the State Student Association, Recreation Center and Fund B surveys would be available.

### Alcohol discussion labels liquor 'social lubricant'

By Tricia Waters

Students need to take the alcohol emphasis out of activities and show more concern for friends who drink too much, four panel members said Thursday at a Student Y-sponsored discussion.

The discussion entitled "Student and Drinking" was part of the Y's Alcohol Awareness Week.

UNL Housing Director Doug Zatechka said alcohol is used as a "social lubricant" to make people feel more comfortable. He said few students can remember the last time they had a date that didn't involve alcohol.

Students should realize they can have fun without alcohol, he said.

But the idea is learned from adults, especially parents, Zatechka said. For example, students see their parents going to New Year's Eve parties to drink and enjoy themselves, he said.

Then, parents might tell their children not to drink, contradicting the example they set, Zatechka said.

Instead, parents should teach their kids that "you can drink if you do it responsibly," he said. And students should plan parties around recreations other than drinking.

Panhellenic President Carrie Christensen and Interfraternity Council President Kirk Trofholz said Greek houses have begun stressing de-emphasis of alcohol at parties.

At a recent IFC meeting, the group decided fraternities should provide transportation to off-campus parties, Trofholz said. That way, the students can get home safely, he said.

Someone in the audience asked if alcohol would ever be allowed on campus. Zatechka said he could see it in some circumstances, but that students wouldn't like them.

Continued on Page 6

### inside friday

**Never Been Any Reason:** YWCA class discusses reasons for women being overweight. . . . Page 7

**Brass Bash:** The Canadian Brass horn ensemble brings its world reknown blend of humor and music to Lincoln tonight. . . . Page 8

**Countdown in Kemper:** The four Big Eight coaches in tonight's basketball semi-finals discuss the possibilities. Page 8