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ASUN Senate approves revised Fund A budget

By Duane Retzlaff

The ASUN Senate approved a revised Fund A budget Wednesday, made necessary by UNL Chancellor Martin Massengale's rejection of the Committee for Fees Allocation proposal.

One reason for the chancellor's rejection of the CFA budget was that it would have raised the Fund A budget too much — by 25.9 percent — compared to the 7 percent Fund B increase.

If the CFA Fund A budget had been approved, Fund A fees would have increased 95 cents, from \$4.49 to \$5.44 per semester. With the \$21,250 cut requested by the chancellor, the Fund A fees will increase by only 45 cents.

However, the chancellor added Fund B items to the CFA's budget, which raises the total fees allocation by about \$8,000.

ASUN President Dan Wedekind said students should realize that the CFA and ASUN worked very hard to keep student fees down, while the administration approved a

larger budget than the CFA requested.

Wedekind said the administration says "let's keep student fees down" when it really means "let's keep Fund A student fees down."

The CFA looks at student fees as a whole, not Fund A and B separately, because students pay their fees in one lump sum, Wedekind said.

Richard Armstrong, vice chancellor for student affairs, said NU by-laws provide for students to make a Fund A budget proposal, but not a Fund B proposal. For this reason, the CFA's Fund B budget proposal does not weigh as heavily with the chancellor, he said.

In practice, students have been encouraged to make a Fund B budget proposal because the administration recognizes that student input is valuable, Armstrong said.

One reason for the priority of Fund B under the NU by-laws, he said, is that employees of Fund B organizations, such as the Union and the Health Center, depend on their salaries for their livelihood.

For example, he said, 80 percent of the Health Center's

budget goes for employee salaries.

Armstrong said the Fund B additions he recommended to the chancellor were originally approved by the Union Board (which has some student members) before being rejected by the CFA.

CFA chairman John Leif said he agreed with the administration's Fund B budget addition of \$31,088 for the Nebraska Union contingency fund.

"I felt the administration's increases were in the student's best interests," he said.

However, Leif disagreed with the Fund A cuts, saying, "the money would have been spent on very worthwhile programs."

Leif said the student fees budget should be looked at as a whole. He said he favored establishing a limit on the fees budget, and then working within that restraint.

Armstrong said a lid would not be appropriate because the budget forming process is long, and changing conditions could force budget adjustments.

DeBoer favors aid to students, aged

By Pat Higgins

If Nebraska had the proper leadership, the state's economy wouldn't be as bad off as it is today, Stan DeBoer said. DeBoer, a candidate for the Republican nomination for governor, said the problem of dwindling general fund revenues wouldn't exist if agricultural interests were more strongly supported. Nebraska depends on agriculture for success, he said.

"A year ago last June our economy was substantially better, but it has fallen through the bottom," DeBoer said in a Wednesday interview. "The farm bill that Congress has passed is holding down the prices of commodities."

A Bertrand farmer, DeBoer was a founder of the American Agriculture Movement in 1977. The AAM formed as a result of dissatisfaction with President Carter's farm program. But DeBoer said he isn't happy with the current administration either.

"The AAM worked for the election of Ronald Reagan, but the 1982 farm program will cause even more problems than exists today," DeBoer said.

Nebraska is suffering because of agriculture problems, he said. Jobs in Omaha and Lincoln, he said, depend upon the farmer.

"The farmer may till the soil but it is interconnected with everyone else," DeBoer said.

Funding for the university and pay increases for state employees must be based on an increase in the economy in general, DeBoer said. State programs should also be analyzed for effectiveness and efficiency.

Agricultural prosperity Thone's aim

By Pat Higgins

State government has had a positive record for the last four years, Gov. Charles Thone said in an interview Wednesday. Thone said a decreased number of state employees have been able to provide better services to Nebraska citizens. That success can be credited to increased efficiency and consolidation of agencies, Thone said.

"I'm a fiscal conservative and proudly so," Thone said. "In these times we can't waste money." Thone said within the last four years the university has been affected positively. Faculty salaries were next to last in the Big Eight when he took office, and now they are second, he said. As soon as the economy turns around, aid to the university will increase, Thone said.

The important issues in the next four years will be the state's fundamentals, particularly agriculture, Thone said.

"We want to make real progress rather than an illusion of progress," Thone said.

Marketing agricultural products should be emphasized because production is increasing, Thone said. As chairman of the President's Export Council, Thone said he is trying to develop more foreign markets for agriculture. Thone traveled to China in 1981 in search of new markets and China is now Nebraska's fourth largest trading partner, he said.

The state has also concluded a sale of swine to China, Thone said. In the next four years, Mexico should be

sought as a trading partner, he said. Trading agricultural products for oil should be considered too, Thone said.

"Everything should be done to foster prosperity of agriculture," Thone said.

Water issues will be even more prominent in the near future, Thone said. He said his administration has established a coordinating agency for water issues.

"Water issues are so vital to our state," Thone said. "The coordinating agency's emphasis is on conservation because of how precious that resource is."

The state has made great progress in the area of criminal justice, Thone said. Three new correctional facilities have been built. There has been a change of direction in the criminal justice area also, he said.

"Our stress is on rehabilitation," Thone said. "There has been an increase in education of prisoners and work-release programs."

Economic development has been promoted in the state, Thone said. He said there are more and better jobs available for Nebraskans.

Thone disagreed with the charge made by Democratic gubernatorial candidate Bob Kerrey that Democrats haven't been involved in the Thone administration. He said Director of Personnel Jan Pieper and Tax Commissioner Don Leuenberger were all cabinet-level appointees who are Democrats.

"Mr. Kerrey, as usual, has his facts 180 degrees wrong," Thone said.



Photo by Dave Bentz

Stan DeBoer

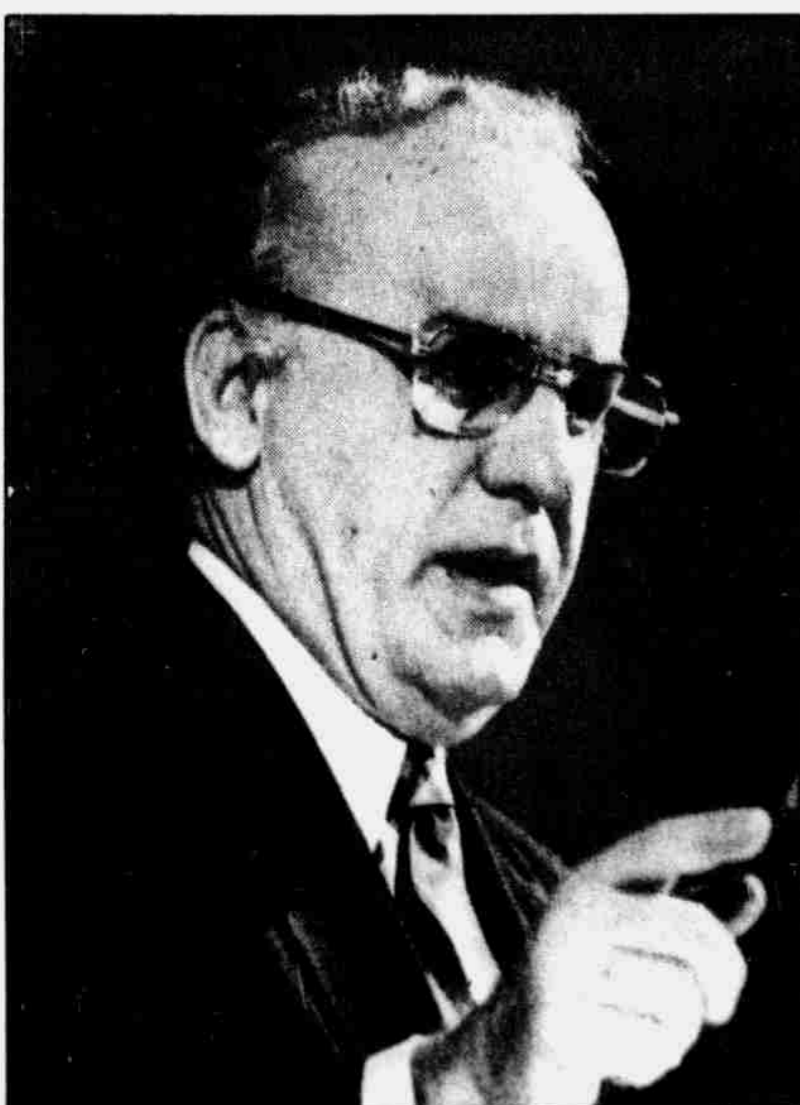


Photo by Dave Bentz

Charles Thone