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Staff Photo by Dave Bentz

The Midlands sun rides high overhead a ripening stalk of corn in an East Campus test plot.

Bereuter says investment would ease unemployment

By Chris Welsch

Increased investment in research and development of industry would help ease the high rate of unemployment, 1st District Rep. Doug Bereuter said Tuesday.

The private sector will not take care of everything, Bereuter said at the Nebraska Union. He spoke to the UNL College Republicans.

The government must feel responsible to help decrease the unemployment rate, he said.

He said he would like to create a new American Conservation Corps. Young men and women could be put to work in national parks and forests.

The American Conservation Corps would be similar to the Civilian Conservation Corps of the Depression years, Bereuter said.

Bereuter said investment in research and development would help spur the private sector.

"Presently we are losing our technological lead to Japan," he said. "We need funds for government laboratories, universities and research grants."

Bereuter said he would like to convince the Reagan administration to change its policies concerning research programs and programs like the American Conservation Corps.

A program like the ACC would provide immediate relief, he said. It wouldn't be the answer to everything, he said, but he would like to see it passed through Congress.

Lower interest rates would also create new job opportunities, he said.

"Today we've had three important bits of news indicating economic recovery," Bereuter said. The prime rate was reduced to 12 percent at the Bank of America, trading was heavy on the stock market and last month's retail sales were up by 1 percent.

According to Bereuter, unemployment always lags behind economic recovery.

"Any unemployment is bad for our country," he said. However, he said, there is a bright side. More people are employed now than ever before and many families have several working members, accounting for the over-sized work force, he said.

Bereuter said he was pleased with the progress of President Reagan's economic policies despite the 10.1 percent rate of unemployment.

"Twenty-one months ago we had a 21.5 percent interest rate and the inflation rate was 11 percent," he said.

"Supply-side economics didn't bring results as fast as we had hoped for," Bereuter said. This was because supply-side economics was deemed a failure before it was given a chance, he added.

"It reminds me of a joke," Bereuter said.

If you believe supply-side economics will solve our economic problems, he said, you probably still are waiting for Amelia Earhart's plane to come in.

Bereuter said the November election is crucial.

"We all need to work together," he said. "We are facing some very close races."

Regent candidates divided on lump-sum budget

Norton stresses need to decide budget priorities

By Duane Retzlaff

The University of Nebraska needs to emphasize, in the budget, the parts of the university that serve the state best or have a tradition of excellence, said James Norton, challenger for the 5th District NU Board of Regents position.

Norton, an attorney from David City, earned his bachelor of science and law degrees from UNL in 1952 and 1955, respectively.

Norton said the university cannot be everything to everyone.

"I think the university or board of regents should establish what I call 'centers of excellence,'" Norton said. For example, "the Ag College should be as number one



Staff Photo by Dave Bentz

James Norton

Norton said.

Norton said there is no way to avoid raising tuition next year, because the university's operating costs are going up, a condition that makes capital construction spending unlikely.

"At this point in time, capital construction would have to be at the bottom of the lists," he said.

Norton agreed with the current policy of not paying the student regent/student body president, saying service, not a salary, should be the motivation for running for the office.

After talking with students, he found their biggest concern is getting a job after graduation, Norton said. When economic times are bad, more students go to college, which compounds the problem, he added.

Norton said he is confident about his chances of unseating incumbent Robert Koefoot of Grand Island, who has served two six-year terms on the board.

Koefoot supports lump-sum budget for university

By Duane Retzlaff

The proposed lump-sum budget gets strong support from Robert Koefoot of Grand Island, the incumbent in the 5th District NU Board of Regents race.

"I have always favored the lump-sum budget," he said, adding, "however, I think the Legislature should know how the money is spent."

Koefoot, who is completing his second six-year term, said the regents and administration should have the say where the money is spent.

As it is now, the Nebraska Legislature reviews the university's budget request line by line, vetoing what it doesn't approve, he said.



Photo courtesy of Robert Koefoot

Robert Koefoot

will get from the Legislature.

Koefoot said the biggest problem facing students is finding the money for college, a problem that has no easy answers.

It may be that students will have to get part-time jobs, he said, and take longer to get through school.

"I guess God helps those who help themselves," he said.

Faculty salaries are the key to a quality university, Koefoot said, adding, however, that the state can't afford to spend more now.

Capital construction is a budget item that should be tabled until the economy improves, he said.

If there is any capital construction spending, it should be for improvement of the university's computer system and maintenance of existing buildings, he said.



as their football team. Agriculture is really what Nebraska is all about," he said.

Norton said the Nebraska Legislature has been fair in its funding to the university, especially with regard to the economic situation.

The university budget should continue to be presented to the Legislature in the current line-item format, Norton said.

"I think the Legislature is entitled to know where the university intends to spend it," he said, adding, "I don't understand the reasoning behind the lump-sum budget."

Faculty salaries should be emphasized in the budget, because "the quality of the school is based primarily on the faculty,"



The Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources is one area of the university that deserves continued support, said the 59-year-old doctor.

The student regent/student body president should not have a vote on the board of regents, Koefoot said, but should get a salary for duties as student body president.

Koefoot said he was one of two regents to vote last year for the student body president getting a salary.

Tuition rates are going to be higher next year, he predicted, although the increase will not be determined until the university knows how much money it