

# Daily Nebraskan

Tuesday, April 30, 1985

University of Nebraska-Lincoln

Vol. 84 No. 151

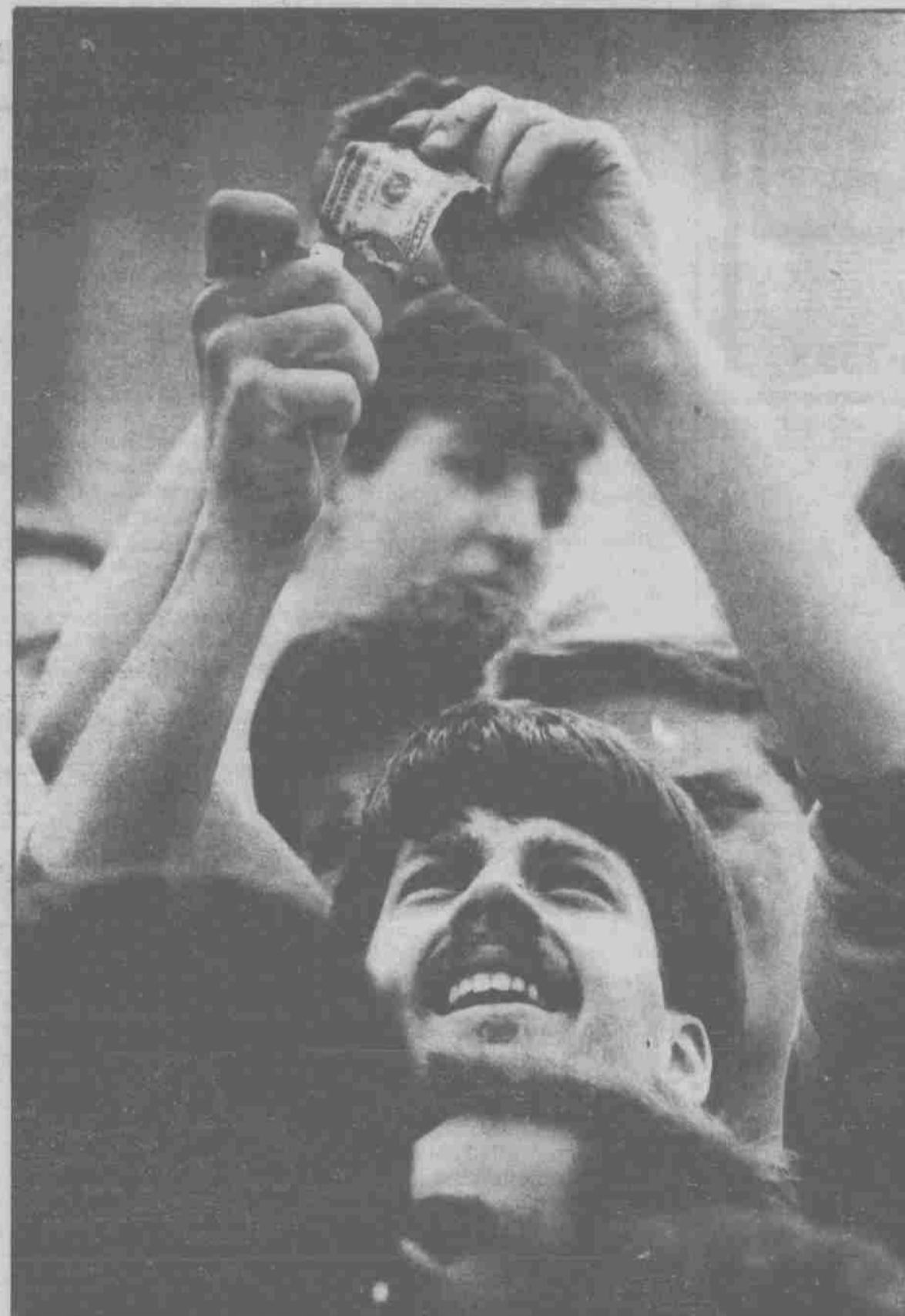
**Weather:** Occasional showers and thunderstorms today, otherwise cloudy with a high of 68 (20C). Rain tonight with a low of 56 (13C). Partly cloudy on Wednesday with a chance of rain and a high of 71 (22C).

Bob Brubacher/Daily Nebraskan

**Student violinist takes a 'bow'...Page 8**

**Some like their buns hot and buttered...Page 9**

## March to the Capitol



Mark Davis/Daily Nebraskan



UNL students who marched to the state Capitol on Monday came up with other ways to protest tuition increases. Clockwise from left: A UNL student watches some of his tuition money go up in smoke; marchers cross a street near the Capitol; the Nebraska state flag was lowered to half-staff by the student marchers before they headed for state senators' offices to hand them formal letters of complaint. An estimated 200 to 300 people participated in the protest.

## Students carry budget protest to state Capitol

By Gene Gentrup  
and  
Jonathan Taylor  
Staff Reporters

About 300 university supporters chanting "More money" and "Hey Bob (Kerrey), do your job" marched to the state Capitol Monday to protest the Legislature's proposed NU budget increase and a probable tuition hike.

Amid chants of "No way, we won't pay," and "We have a voice," ASUN President Gerard Keating told the protestors at the Capitol about his proposed "budget compromise," which would increase the NU budget by 2.5 percent, and would allow the university to function at last year's operating levels. The proposal also would increase faculty salaries by 5 percent.

UNL and UNO students fearing a tuition increase in light of the smallest proposed budget increase in years, participated in the march.

Suzanne Scott, student regent for UNMC did not attend the rally as expected. Keating later said he believed "outside influences" changed her decision.

ASUN officials organized the rally

because they feared a 30 percent increase would be necessary to meet university budget needs if the Legislature approves the \$1.6 million budget increase. The NU Board of Regents had proposed a 12.6 percent increase for fiscal year 1985-86.

Sen. Don Wesley of Lincoln, Keating and three other NU students spoke to protestors, emphasizing the need for students' voices. They also appealed to state legislators not to force the regents into raising tuition.

NU President Ronald Roskens said last week that any "talk" of a 30 percent tuition increase, in addition to the 10 percent increase already scheduled for this fall, was just a "rumor." At the regent's meeting earlier this month, Regent Kermit Hansen of Elkhorn considered, but did not submit, a proposal to increase tuition by 20 percent. Roskens said the board will consider reductions in university operating expenses before looking at a tuition increase.

Wesley told the crowd that state legislators spend their time determining who they are serving. He said it usually comes down to the regents.

Wesley said, however, he believes the university exists for students. "That's who it's for and that's why

we've got to listen to you," Wesley said.

Wesley, who approached the microphone with his fist raised high, told university supporters that it was "time to take some action" and warned students of an attempt earlier in the day to tamper with university funds.

*"If you take away university funds, how can you have an institution of high opportunity and learning?"*

The tampering of university funds Wesley referred to was an amendment proposed by Sen. Dan Lynch of Omaha, which would cut about \$400,000 from the university budget. The amendment would reallocate more than \$380,000 of the \$500,000 already appropriated for financial aid and use it to fund the State Scholarship Program and another program

matched by federal funds.

Lynch said the amendment would raise need-based financial aid by 10 percent by cutting non-need-based student aid.

Wesley said he was unfamiliar with the ASUN budget compromise, but planned to sponsor an amendment that would appropriate more money to the university. Although he did not know what he would do, Wesley said he was looking for possible revenue-creating proposals and budget reallocations favoring the university.

UNL student Barb Meister, chairperson of Farm Action for Concerns of Tomorrow's Society, said state legislators must begin dealing with the "most drastic cause" of this year's limited amount of state funds — the distressed agricultural economy.

She criticized legislators for their "negligence" in dealing with the farm economy and not "treating the cause."

"The ag economy is what's going to make us or break us in the long run," Meister said.

Between speakers, supporters chanted: "We want action" and "We want Bob," referring to Gov. Bob Kerrey, who was in Omaha.

Willie Watkins, former president for UNL's Afrikan People's Union told

students it was their job "to let people know that if you take away university funds, how can you have an institution of high opportunity and learning?"

"How can you educate and provide future leaders if you take away the basis of the university?" Watkins asked.

Pointing to the Capitol building a few feet behind him, Watkins told supporters, "The buck stops right here at this building — this is your money," he said. "Without us there is no university."

After Watkins' speech, the crowd yelled: "No Big Red" and "Go Big Green."

Keating said university students cannot absorb increasing university costs.

"There can be no doubt that these decisions demand sacrifice from all partners involved, but it should not be expected that one partner should sacrifice above and beyond the rest," he said.

"By cutting and eliminating areas of the university, we are cutting and eliminating the future of the state of Nebraska and the opportunity for its people to develop their God-given abilities," he said.