Wednesday, May 1, 1985

locks he members of the Student Fou-

dation enjoy a good joke, too, and we appreciate a well-written edi-April 12 package on the senior gift project was, however misguided.

perspective and also thank the 395 seniors who pledged \$25,872 in our its procedures and philosophies. call-a-thon campaign to support the class-elected clocks that will adorn the that the most appealing senior gifts unions on city and east campuses.

Some history: It has been well-

Therefore, our Foundation Aware-

erations of students that have benefit-

program on campus.

national average of similar institutions

last decade.

Perhaps we set too lofty a goal of \$50,000, but the magnitude and quality of the senior gift were dependent on torial and clever artwork, which your response. It was a modest goal in comparison to the \$175,000 in pledges by last year's Iowa State senior class. A So we would like to share with you committee from our Student Foundasome background that may help your tion visited Iowa State, which has one of the nation's top programs, to study

> The lessons learned at ISU told us were physical, lasting and visible.

There was adequate opportunity for input before the fact. We formed a gift committee of representative seniors from campus organizations, administration, alumni association and foundation to recommend three choices for a vote of the seniors. They were: the clocks, visitors' centers on both campuses and a computer-based career established that UNL is far below the information system.

You chided us for "not revealing in its financial support by recent gradwhat the decision was...The mystery is uates. Of the \$9 million-plus distribover now" and alluded to a meager vote uted to the university in private gifts to turnout.

the foundation last year - including There was no mystery, but we wer-\$2.2 million for scholarships -very lit- en't satisfied, either, with the number tle was contributed by graduates of the of votes - although the clocks won, no contest.

Of course, we wanted to spread the ness Week and senior gift projects were word and drum up enthusiasm for the conceived in an effort to build a sense project, and what better vehicle than the Daily Nebraskan? We invited the of commitment among today's students, a springboard for a lifetime of support newspaper to do a story, and a reporter of future students once we reach the talked to us, took notes and said there outer world. After all, there is ample would be one. Before the vote. Of evidence of the support of earlier gencourse, there was no story.

Where were we to reveal the results ted us in virtually every building and of the vote? In the Daily Nebraskan, which had already declared its non-

interest? We told each senior individu- support it or decline as they wished. ally over the phone. There was no mystery.

Your reference to Secretary of Education William Bennett and our "proof to back up his arguments that students don't really need financial aid, that aid cuts will only put a damper on our squandering ways" don't wash.

We did not appeal to students; we appealed to graduates. You conveniently ignored the fact that we suggested pledges of \$85 stretched over four years \$10 the first year, which we felt was fairly modest for a recent graduate, followed by \$25 each of the next three.

We emphasized that the seniors of the Daily Nebraskan - before the could pledge as little or as much as was fact - in our second annual senior gift comfortable for them. Plus, these project. pledges were strictly voluntary, not

university needs cyclotrons, library books, scholarships, etc., more than union clocks. Every item mentioned was discussed by the committee, plus many more suggestions. The consensus was that other sources, including the foundation and private contributions, were wrestling with those shortages, and the senior gift had to have as much broad appeal as possible for success.

Naturally, we don't expect total agreement with the choice, but we tried hard to be as democratic as possible. We would welcome the opinions

Student newspapers are no more "infees. Nobody was billed. Seniors could herently evil" than senior gifts, but it is

Photo courtesy of Student Alumni Association

much more difficult to be constructive.

The Daily Nebraskan would be the perfect forum for informing the 1986 senior class about its gift project and for conducting the selection poll.

We would be delighted to have you work with us next time.

P.S. We thought you might be interested in the enclosed picture of the 1912 senior class gift - a clock over the entrance to Architectural Hall. The Lincoln architectural firm of Bahr, Vermeer & Haecker recently sent a \$1,000 gift to the foundation to restore that clock to working order.

Carla Weiland Student Foundation president Steve Henning **Student Foundation** class of '85

Letters

Poor turnout at protest angers graduating senior

I attended the march on the Capitol Monday to protest what I see as an unfair hike in tuition. I was appalled when I arrived on the scene to find a group of 200 or so students doing their best to represent the views of more than 23,000 lazy, apathetic others. Apparently, many students attending this university either don't other 49 states, we must take up the struggle. We must work diligently to impress upon the regents and the senators from our districts that we are willing to work with them, but that we as students (and as a strong voting power) will no longer tolerate tuition hikes and the cutting of valid educational programs without our consent. The university community of students is a powerful voting bloc. If we strive for persistence, organization and cooperation, we can return the university to being an institution that represents the ideals of growth and higher learning.

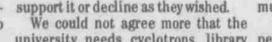
to pay for the new bookstore and the multimillion-dollar veterinary college (the price tag does not include maintenance) and other such extravagances.

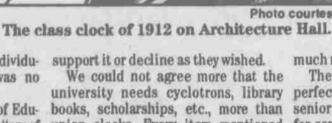
The university cannot afford such stupidity in spending at a time when education is being murdered by budget cuts. We need to preserve and upgrade what we already have. Unfortunately even dumber decisions are being implemented on the national level - like the Reagan administration's policy of spending us into bankruptcy with unnecessary, unaffordable and

is the case not only with goods and services, but also with education.

Many students complain about class size and the quality of instruction. We get the number and quality of instructors that we pay for. The best professors can get jobs at almost any school in the country, so they are going to pick schools with high salaries, good research facilities and low work loads. Think about it, would you rather make less money and teach larger classes?

If you are concerned about getting a quality education, you have to be willing to pay for it.





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comprehend the significance of a possible 30 percent increase in their tuition or don't care.

I am a graduating senior and as such I felt it was my duty to voice my discontent with the present financial structure of this institution. I have observed the demise of the economy of Nebraska, and have seen how students are asked to bear more and more of the financial burdens that were once paid for by a healthy tax base.

There is little hope for improvement in the state's economy.

If students wish to save this university from falling into the ranks of mediocrity and from having to pay large sums of money for an education that would be scoffed at throughout the

Is your excuse for not being at the Capitol Monday really good enough?

Student says university

Just how passive can the students here be?

The Nebraska student body is about to be

shafted by the regents and few people seem to

care. I am, of course, talking about the tuition

increase about to be thrust upon UNL students

can't afford 'stupidity

Melissa Blaisdell senior marketing

counterproductive defense programs. Maybe the NU Board of Regents is just adopting the Reagan approach to government that seems to be in vogue these days.

Jack Davis graduate student forestry

Student says NU needs equal tuition, fund hike

In this capitalistic country I have heard it said many times that "you get what you pay for." This

Would you rather pay two to three times as much to go out-of-state to school, or raise tuition here 30 percent to 50 percent and get the same quality education? A 30 percent to 50 percent tuition increase translates to only a 10 percent to 20 percent total cost increase.

If we could convince our state legislators to match our tuition increases with the same percent increases in state funding, the University of Nebraska could offer a quality education at a fair price.

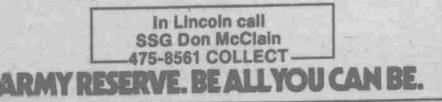
> Tim Isaacson junior electrical engineering

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