

The Nebraskan

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University of Nebraska-Lincoln

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Weather: Warm and humid again today as we can expect partly cloudy skies with a high of 86 (30C). Clearing skies tonight with a 30 percent chance of early evening thunderstorms and a low of 68 (20C). Much the same can be expected on Wednesday and Thursday with highs in the middle 80s (30C) and lows in the upper 60s (20C).

Barb Brands/The Nebraskan

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Nurses petition Regents

By Gene Gentrup
News Editor

Thirty-five nursing school supporters, chanting "save our school" and "save your college" marched from Fairfield Hall to Varner Hall Monday and delivered over 7,000 petitions asking the NU Board of Regents not to phase-out the Lincoln division of NU's school of nursing.

NU President Ronald Roskens, who greeted the supporters on the north steps of Varner Hall, told them, "I will do what you have asked me to do. I will keep an open mind."

Roskens was referring to a request by nursing school faculty and students, to look for "viable alternatives" to University of Nebraska Medical Center Chancellor Charles Andrew's proposal to phase-out UNL's division of the NU nursing program.

Roskens commended the supporters for their efforts to keep the nursing program alive, but reminded them also that the state legislature's \$2.1 million in budget cuts is a situation that must be dealt with.

"We all know we have a very serious

problem and we are kidding nobody," he said.

Mary Kolbe, an assistant professor in the nursing school's Lincoln division said over 7,000 signed petitions were collected in just three days — most coming from the Lincoln area. Nursing supporters organized petition drives on the UNL campus and local shopping areas, and nursing officials have toured the state encouraging Nebraskans to write their respective senators, regents and NU administrators.

Donna Manstedt, an assistant instructor at the UNL division who was one of a few nursing faculty who met with Roskens earlier in the day, said Roskens told the group that the only way out of the phase-out problem was to gain legislative support for the school.

"It's a value judgment," Manstedt said. "You can argue, you can't argue," (over the nursing program's closing), she said.

The NU Board of Regents' public hearing on proposals to close Medical Center programs will begin at 9 a.m. today in the Great Plains room of the

Nebraska East Union.

The morning session will be devoted to the College of Pharmacy and the afternoon session, which begins at 1:15 p.m., will be devoted to the College of Nursing's Lincoln program.

After a round of meetings, Roskens said last week that an effort to avoid closing the UNL nursing program and NU's College of Pharmacy in Omaha are at a dead end.

"At the moment, there is nothing looming as a viable alternative, (but) we will continue to weigh one factor against another until we've looked at every option," Roskens said in a Lincoln Sunday Journal/Star story.

At Varner Hall Monday, nursing supporters said they supported last week's UNMC faculty senate's approval of reducing faculty raises 50 percent in an effort to save the two schools.

The proposal, which would cut a Regents-approved pay raise from 2.87 percent to 1.43 percent would raise \$305,000 if all the nearly 600 faculty agreed to the proposal.

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Dean defends UNL program

By Michael Hooper
Staff Reporter

Only if 225 less students were enrolled in NU's College of Nursing would the University of Nebraska Medical Center receive additional funding — funding which would come from closing its Lincoln program, NU's nursing dean said Monday. Transferring the students to the Omaha division would not save money, she said.

Speaking at a news conference, Rosalee Yeaworth said, "the only way to save money is if you don't serve the 225 students in Lincoln."

"We could not take those students (at UNO) without hiring more faculty in Omaha," she said.

University of Nebraska Medical Center Chancellor Charles Andrews has recommended phasing out the UNO College of Pharmacy and the UNL branch of the College of Nursing over a four-year period to make-up \$2.1 million in legislative budget cuts for the school.

Yeaworth said the transfer of Lincoln nursing students to the Omaha division of the College of Nursing would necessitate the addition of faculty in Omaha equivalent to the number currently employed in Lincoln. Nursing students also fear that UNL's nursing school would lose its accreditation before it is phased out in four years, leaving them with the inability to transfer credits to another accredited college.

The NU Board of Regents has sche-

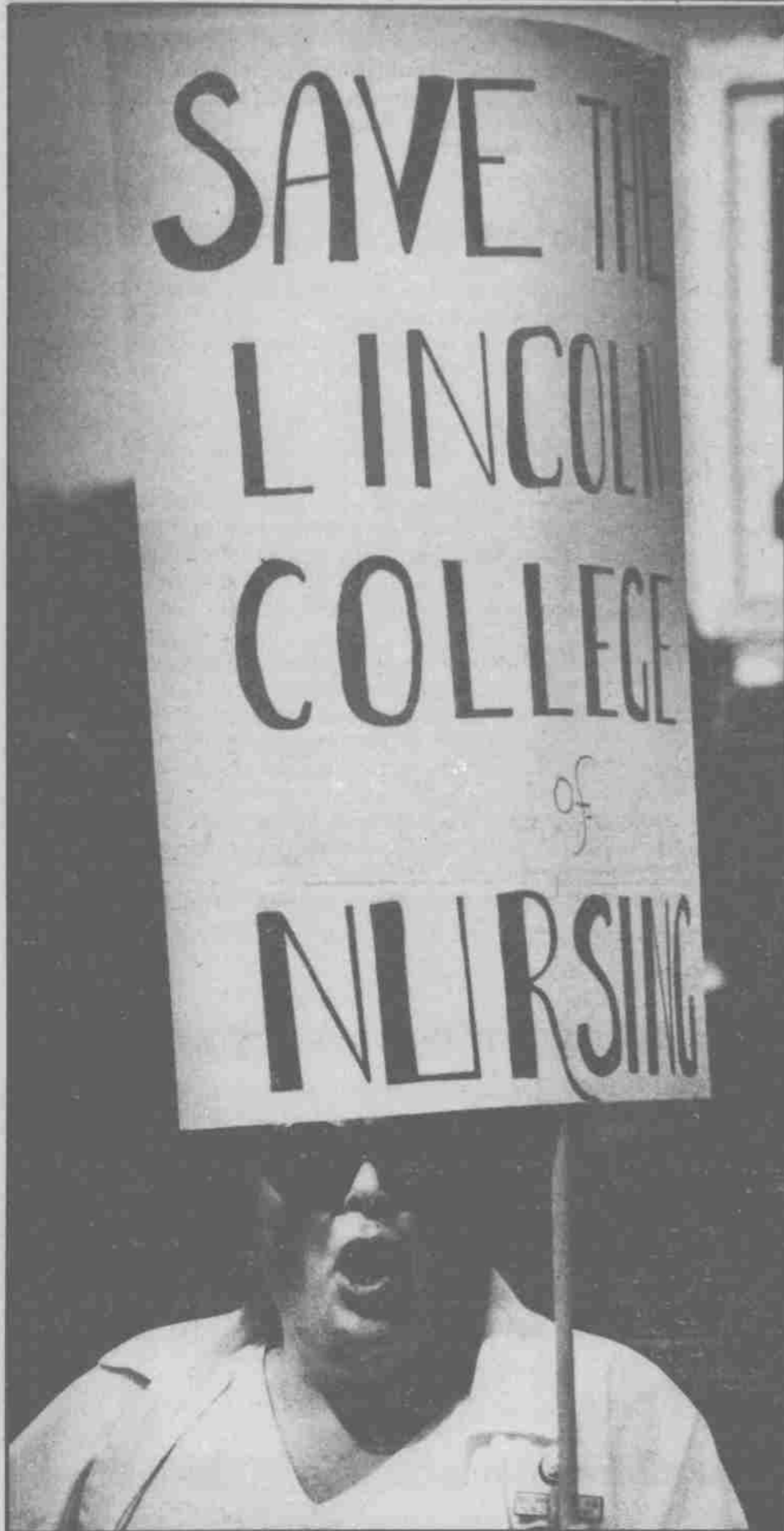
duled a public hearing on those proposals today at the east campus union.

Gov. Bob Kerrey said last week that he supports Andrew's proposal. He said NU must abandon whole programs or else accept "increased mediocrity."

Yeaworth said she disagrees. To close the nursing program at UNL would decrease excellence in education and state health care, she said.

She said the UNL nursing program not only serves undergraduates but graduates as well. It serves those who have their degree but want to learn the latest developments in health care.

Yeaworth said she favors across-the-board cuts rather than eliminating programs.



Mark Davis/The Nebraskan

Mary Prue, a fourth-year student at the UNL nursing school carries a protest sign and calls out for support of the nursing school while walking down Vine Street toward Varner Hall.

Burnout difficult to pinpoint

'Senioritis' can be chalked up to stress

By Kip Fry
Staff Reporter

Does senioritis really exist? While researchers at Michigan State University say yes, two officials at UNL say that such findings are too difficult to prove for them to make any sense.

The Michigan State scholars have determined that students, especially seniors and graduate students, suffer burnout, similar to the occupational burnout job holders experience. College students may go through an identical "lack of energy and spirit."

But the director of the UNL Health Center said it is difficult to make such a comparison.

We have seen a fair amount of people with stress in their senior year, basi-

cally because they are having to make some life decisions, Gerald Fleischli said, "But it is not the same as the burnout you find on the job."

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— Gerald Fleischli

Fleischli said that for burnout to occur there has to be an absence of change, which is not the case with students. This would make it difficult for anybody to study this.

Vern Williams, director of the UNL Counseling Center, said that students occasionally mirror these symptoms, but it is not a big enough problem to merit special help.

"Problems can arise when students commit themselves to a large number of activities," Williams said. "It can be any combination of social, job-related or school activities. If they do have problems with stress, they need to cut down on these activities."

Other symptoms may be that a student will become tired of studying, and start chomping at the bit, according to Fleischli. Also, a close relationship gone away may be troublesome.

The best way to deal with stress, he

said, is to identify the source of the problem. If that can be done, the person needs to confront it in a realistic fashion.

"I once talked to a student who wanted to go to Detroit to become an auto mechanic."

— Fleischli

I once talked to a student who wanted to go to Detroit to become an automechanic, Fleischli recalled. "He hadn't applied yet, and I told him there probably wouldn't be any jobs there. Then he said he wanted to work in a meat packing plant that had the same

situation. Once he figured all that out, he was able to take care of the situation."

Burnout may in part be caused by a traumatic childhood, Williams said, although there are many different factors involved.

"Some students need to take a respite, at least temporarily, from school," he said, "and do something else."

Stress is one of the top seven reasons students leave school, said Fleischli. One of the functions of the health Center is to prevent people from leaving school. Poor health can be caused by stress, he said, and that in turn will cause people to go elsewhere.