

Weather:

Partly cloudy and cooler today. Light and variable winds 5-10 mph with a high of 55. Fair and calm tonight, low of 30. Sunny and mild for Thursday. High near 58.

Osborne says fans, media overemphasize quarterbacks

Sports, page 11

'Places in the Heart' scheduled for East fall film series

Arts and Entertainment, page 9

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Legislature reduces NU cut; Roskens to battle for more

By Todd von Kampen
Senior Reporter

The Legislature Tuesday voted to soften the blow of Gov. Bob Kerrey's proposed cuts in state support for higher education by restoring almost \$2 million to the budgets of NU and the four state colleges.

As members of UNL's Government Liaison Committee watched from the balcony, senators voted 28-16 to adopt an Appropriations Committee amendment to the main budget bill that would trim Kerrey's 3 percent cut in NU support to 2 percent.

An amendment to do the same for Kearney, Chadron, Wayne and Peru state colleges passed 28-12 earlier in the day.

Although NU President Ronald Roskens welcomed the Legislature's move, he said the issue of university budget cuts has been only partially resolved. The university will continue to try to persuade the Legislature to restore more or all of the money that the budget bill would cut, he said.

"Obviously, it's better than 3 per-

cent," Roskens said. "But there are other amendments to be considered, and I don't know how it's going to turn out."

As amended, the budget bill would cut NU's 1985-86 state support by \$3.4 million, rather than the \$5 million Kerrey originally proposed. State colleges would receive \$523,000 less in state money, which is \$265,000 below Kerrey's figure. The budget bill remains at the second stage of floor consideration.

The Appropriations Committee set the stage for Tuesday's debate by voting 7-0 for a 2 percent cut for NU and the state colleges after it tied 4-4 on a motion for a 1.5 percent cut. Waverly Sen. Jerome Warner, committee chairman, told senators the committee had realized that its previous proposal for a cut would damage NU and the state colleges greatly.

"What occurred this morning was a continued realization that, at least in higher education because of the long-term impact, that maybe 2 (percent) was as far as we could, in good conscience, go," he said.

Senators on each side of the 2 per-

cent cut concentrated on the NU budget during debate on both amendments. Lincoln Sen. Don Wesely told senators a 2 percent cut makes sense because it would better enable the university to help Nebraska recover economically than would a 3 percent cut.

"If we want to develop this state, if we want to move past the hard times now, we have to recognize the role of higher education," Wesely said.

Rural senators shouldn't use the weak agricultural economy as an excuse to oppose smaller cuts in higher education, said Chadron Sen. Sandra Scofield. A 2 percent cut is "damage control" that should be followed in January's regular session by a commitment to strengthen NU, she said.

"I don't like 2 percent," she said. "If I had my druthers, I'd give the university an increase this year."

But opponents of the lower cut said its approval inevitably would lead to smaller cuts in other state agencies without tax money to make up for them. Also, said Bellwood Sen. Loran Schmit, NU targeted its "most vulnerable" programs for cuts to scare senators into avoiding budget cuts entirely. "I understand how the system works," he said. "I understand how you play the game. . . . But it never occurs to anyone that you might cut a sliver off here and there."

Deb Chapelle, executive director of the Nebraska State Student Association, said pressure from the media and public in favor of lower cuts made the difference in Tuesday's votes. However, students and faculty members, should not expect that senators will not vote for higher cuts later in the special session, she said.

"I think the votes were there for this amendment on this day," she said, "but I don't think there's any signal that the game's over."

Wesely agreed that public opposition to higher education cuts played a role in senators' thinking. But the Legislature is unlikely to lower the 2 percent cut further, he said. Wesely withdrew a proposal for a 1.5 percent cut after the 2 percent cut was passed.

"We're lucky that the mood swung and we were able to get it from 3 percent to 2 percent," he said. "At the start of the session, I didn't think that was possible."



Paul Vonderlage/Daily Nebraskan

Sen. Tom Vickers of Farnam proposes to reduce the university's proposed 3 percent budget cut to 2 percent as UNL students watch.

Students make best lobbyists against NU cuts, leader says

By Kent Endacott
Staff Reporter

While sounds of state senators debating the university's budget echoed in the Capitol, UNO and UNL students sat in lofts above the Legislative chamber to protest the cuts.

"We feel good at this point, but it's not over," said Deb Chapelle, executive director of the Nebraska State Student Association. "A lot of things have to happen. Students have been doing a lot of good things, but it has to continue."

Students are the most effective lobbyists the university has, Chapelle said. Student groups including the NSSA, the Association of Students of the University of Nebraska and Greek affiliations have joined forces to protest proposed NU budget cuts.

State senators voted 28-16 Tues-

day to adopt an amendment that would cut NU's budget by 2 percent instead of 3 percent. The amendment would restore \$1.6 million to the university's budget.

The bill can be vetoed any time before passage, or can be line-item vetoed by Gov. Bob Kerrey.

Chapelle said she thinks senators must be made aware of student efforts to maintain the quality of higher education in the state.

"We would like to see a 0 percent decrease, but the 2 percent is a good compromise," she said. "But it's not over until it's over, although I think we should feel good about the direction the cuts are going."

Chris Gunderson, an ASUN senator, said most of ASUN's lobbying is directed at senators from western Nebraska.

"They're the ones that oppose us," she said.

Please see **STUDENTS** on 5

Stuart Building sold for \$1.78 million; condominiums planned

By Deb Hooker
Staff Reporter

The NU Foundation and the National Bank of Commerce Trust and Savings Association announced Tuesday an agreement to sell the Stuart Building, 13th and P streets, to developer Larry Price.

NBC is the trustee for the Lincoln Foundation, the second owner of the building.

Tom Ash, director of Annual Giving and Publications for the Foundation, said Price has signed a contract to buy the building for about \$1.78 million. Price paid a \$100,000 down payment

and has until Nov. 30 to pay the rest, Ash said. Price will gain ownership then.

Edward J. Hirsch, executive vice president and corporate secretary for the NU foundation, said the Stuart family donated the five floors of the 13-story building to the foundation in 1977. The other eight floors are owned by the Lincoln Foundation.

Because NU owns five floors, it will receive five-thirteenths of the \$1.78 million. The Stuart family stipulated that any profit made by the foundation through the Stuart Building should go to the UNL College of Business Administration, Hirsch said.

CBA will receive all of the foundation's share of the money from the sale, except for money subtracted to reimburse the foundation for the building's expenses.

Price said he plans to convert the building into 80 condominiums for middle- to upper-middle-class people 49 and older. Lincoln has a good market for this type of living arrangement, Price said. And the Stuart Building's downtown location is convenient for older people, he said.

The building's name will be changed to University Towers after Price acquires the building.

The renovations will cost about \$5

million, Price said.

The building now is used primarily for office space. Price said present tenants will have 90 days after Dec. 1 to move. He said tenants haven't been happy with the situation, so he gave a luncheon to explain the changes.

The Stuart Theatre, which occupies most of the first floor of the building, is leased until 1987 to Dubinsky Bros. Theatres. The future of the theater will be decided upon when the lease expires, Price said. He said he will change as little as possible on the first floor.

Price said he also wants to retain the University Club, which has occupied

the top three floors of the building since 1929.

"What we would prefer to do is have them purchase the space," he said.

Jim Gordon, president of the University Club board of directors, said no decision has been made regarding the club's future.

Gordon said he expects the club to stay at its present location even after the building is converted into condominiums.

"Call it the Stuart Building or the University Towers, people identify the top of the Stuart — of that building — as the University Club," he said.