

Weather: Cloudy, windy and cold today with a chance of light rain. Northwesterly winds at 20 mph to 35 mph and a high near 45. Cloudy and cold tonight with a low of 32. Partly cloudy on Tuesday with a high near 50.

Books on tape great for people on the go

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Ropin' and wrestlin' at annual NU rodeo

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Warner suggests override of \$3.1 million in NU cuts.

By Todd von Kampen
Senior Reporter

Several NU programs and colleges that escaped elimination during the last round of budget cuts won't be so lucky if the legislature sustains line-item vetoes to NU's 1986-87 budget, Waverly Sen. Jerome Warner said Sunday.

Warner, chairman of the Legislature's Appropriations Committee, said he will suggest that the committee vote to override Gov. Bob Kerrey's veto of \$3.1 million in NU state support. Such a vote, he said, would be in keeping with the committee's practice this session of protecting health and education programs from further cuts.

The committee will meet in the Capitol, room 1003, at 7:30 a.m. today to decide which of Kerrey's \$32.6 million in cuts should be overridden. The Legislature will take up override motions at 1:30 p.m. Thirty votes are needed for the motions to succeed.

Warner said the NU programs that would be lost represent "elimination of opportunities in the state" that Nebraska needs.

In a statement Saturday, NU President Ronald Roskens said the damage that would result from Kerrey's cuts "will not be quickly or easily repaired."

"The university has historically been an integral part of our common efforts to fashion the good life," Roskens said. "Denying adequate resources to the university at this juncture may seem an attractive, short-term option. But it is one that will inevitably jeopardize the quality and scope of education available to our children and grandchildren."

Each of NU's three campuses would

have to choose from a list of program eliminations that the Appropriations Committee received during the last fall's special session, Warner said. UNL would have to find \$1.6 million in further cuts, UNO \$417,000 and the NU Medical Center \$1 million, he said.

Possible budget choices for UNL would include closing the NU School of Technical Agriculture at Curtis, the Nebraska State Museum in Morrill Hall and the Bureau of Business Research. UNL also could eliminate programming money for the Nebraska ETV Network and cut funds for the Bob Devaney Sports Center and women's athletics.

'The people in my district — all of them — can't stand a tax increase of any kind.'

—Haberman

Budget-cutting options for UNO include closing its branch development office and taking more money from intercollegiate athletics and the College of Continuing Studies. UNMC would have to decide whether to close the College of Pharmacy, the Lincoln division of the School of Nursing, the Nebraska Psychiatric Institute and the Meyer Children's Rehabilitation Institute.

Kerrey said Thursday that the line-item vetoes, with few exceptions, would cut every state agency's budget by 2 percent. But that statement distorts

the true effects of the cuts, Warner said.

"The perception is that 2 percent (cuts) takes 2 percent out of every activity," he said. "It doesn't work that way in any agency. You take it out of specific activities and try to retain the quality of what you have left."

The NU Board of Regents would have the option of using the money meant for a 3 percent salary increase to fight the program cuts, Warner said. But such a strategy, he said, would force the regents to choose between giving faculty and staff members raises or cutting the programs in which they teach.

Because some senators want to avoid a tax increase, Warner said, several probably will vote to sustain the vetoes. But those who think they can keep taxes stable should remember the revenue shortfalls of the last five years, he said.

"If the overrides all fail, there will be no tax rate adjustment," he said. "It probably also means we'll be back in November because the reserves would be running low."

Imperial Sen. Rex Haberman, who consistently has voted for budget cuts, said "there are some things I like and some things I don't like" in Kerrey's vetoes. He said he will oppose a tax increase in any event.

"The people in my district — all of them — can't stand a tax increase of any kind," Haberman said.

After the override votes this afternoon, the Legislature will consider two bills that would raise tax rates. LB539 would raise the state sales tax, while LB31 probably will be amended to raise the state income tax, Warner said.



Mark Davis/Daily Nebraskan

Crockett sits in front of a collection of awards he won for running marathons. Crockett said that competition gets easier as he gets older; there's less of it.

UNL professor worries about academic liberty

UNL sociology professor Harry Crockett, honored by faculty members for his devotion to academic freedom, said he is worried about deteriorating conditions at U.S. universities — conditions that could erode academic freedom.

Although Crockett worked for the past three years on the Academic Freedom and Tenure Committee, he says "conditions essential to the exercise of academic freedom at UNL are not in excellent repair." He said he advocates more faculty involvement in personnel discussions and "rewards."

Crockett said that despite his work academic freedom at UNL is under greater duress today than it was in 1978, when he was secretary of the UNL Faculty Senate.

That year, Jim Lake, a UNL law professor, said he had been at the university 27 years and had never seen morale so low, Crockett recalled.

On Tuesday, Crockett received the Lake Academic Freedom Award,

named for the law professor.

Crockett was co-investigator of a national study of civil liberties, which resulted in "Tolerance for Nonconformity" and is regarded as a landmark book on the subject.

Crockett said he has been interested in academic freedom since his days as a graduate student.

Academic freedom, Crockett said, is a necessary base for any university.

Although he sees no signs of erosion of academic freedom at UNL, that freedom could erode if conditions continue to worsen, he said.

Despite his concerns about the conditions at UNL, Crockett said he has a "great respect for UNL faculty."

Crockett, a member of the UNL faculty since 1976, was chairman of the Committee of Academic Freedom and Responsibility for the Midwest Sociological Society from 1974 to 1977. In 1976, he organized an academic responsibility panel for the society.

'Purple' star Avery to talk at UNL

Oscar-nominated actress Margaret Avery will be the featured speaker at the University Programs Council-American Minority Council Honors Day Program on Saturday.

Avery, nominated for her portrayal of Shug Avery in "The Color Purple," will address a limited audience at the Wick Alumni Center at 6:30 p.m. Avery will focus on personal achievement.

People interested in attending must contact the Campus Activities and Programs office, Nebraska Union

200, to make reservations. One-hundred slots are still available, and there is no charge for the reservations. Tickets will be required for attendance.

Avery has starred in numerous films, specials and on the stage. In her most recent role as the lusty nightclub singer, Avery said playing the part had tremendous impact on her own work.

"When I first read the book," she said, "I immediately identified with Shug."

"I admire Shug's spirit," Avery said. "I'd like to think I have some of it. But she's much freer than I am, and that's what I had to work the hardest for in playing the role."

Avery previously starred in two major biographies of great musicians. She was honored with the NAACP's Image Award for her starring performance in the feature film "Scott Joplin" as the wife of the premiere ragtime composer/pianist. She also starred opposite Ben Vereen in the title role of "Louis Armstrong, Chicago Style," a made-for-TV movie.

Cuts drain council of funds to improve teaching

By Deb Hooker
Staff Reporter

With NU increasingly strapped for money, administrators have chosen to cut programs to improve teaching rather than cut research or faculty positions, said the chairman of the teaching council Friday.

The teaching council, which was a primary funding source for proposals that would improve the quality of teaching, no longer can afford this role,

said Chairman James McShane. The council share of the NU budget has been cut from \$97,130 in the 1977-78 fiscal year to \$10,699 for the 1985-86 year. The NU Foundation provided \$12,000 annually for three years, but that support ended in 1985. McShane, an associate English professor, said funding for the improvement of teaching is easier to cut than research funding because "innovation and research is more obviously necessary."

"The university is the research insti-

tution of the state," he said.

Because the council no longer can afford to fund proposals, members have redefined its role to one of a "lever."

"We said, 'Look, give us the best proposals you can, and we'll try and find funding for them elsewhere,'" McShane said.

In the past, the council funded or partially funded proposals to pay teachers to spend a summer putting together new courses, pay travel expenses, design programs in which students

could work on projects with outside departments and colleges and to research ways to improve teaching.

As the number of grants that the council could afford to fund decreased, so did the number of requests for grants. In 1977-78, the council funded 44 of 116 requested grants. This year, the number dropped to 3 grants out of a requested 16.

"Why would you ask money from someone who didn't have any?" McShane asked.

McShane said that as students' tuition costs rise and state support declines, students have a right to see continued effort to improve teaching.

"I think it's a matter of as long as the students must bear the added costs, the administration could find a little more money to put into the support of teaching," he said.

"Teaching is the first priority of the university's responsibilities," he said, "and the teaching council's budget should reflect this."