

SENATOR HABERMAN: Mr. President, we had a lot of debate before lunch. We have had a pro and con after lunch, therefore, I call the question.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Can't make a speech before you call the question. Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. Chairman and members of the Legislature, this amendment is peculiar for Senator Warner and his Budget Committee to offer. I spent a good bit of time trying to understand what was done by talking to him and Senator Hannibal. What they did was an across the board cut which they don't agree with. In these programs they used the across the board approach to all three of these entities although they are situated differently. So when we start out by saying we have a principle according to which we operate, we cleave to that principle only so long as it suits our end. When you take two individuals and they are unequally situated and you do the identical thing to both of them, you are doing the same thing to them but you are not treating them equally. If there is a man who has got \$1 million and I have \$100, and you take \$50 from both of us, you are treating us the same but \$50 from me is 50 percent of what I had. Fifty dollars from the millionaire is nothing. Big Red football, the athletic program at UN-L is a masterpiece of achievement, not only in terms of how the athletes perform but in terms of the amount of money generated by some of the sports. UN-L does not have a self-supporting athletic program nor do the state colleges. To pretend that the aim here is to cut the budget is just a pretense. If you destroy the athletic programs at the state colleges and UN-O, and there are some players who would like to play football or these other sports within Nebraska, where is the only place left that they can come? Right down here to Lincoln. Lincoln always, either by chance or design, comes out the winner on these types of propositions. The Budget Committee members will pretend they don't really understand the dynamics of athletics, yet unerringly their innocent acts will elevate the UN-L program and destroy the others. I don't think the money ought to be cut out of UN-L's athletic budget but I will tell you why I think that was done, to make it appear that there was equity at work in the handling of these intercollegiate athletic programs. The total budget for the UN-L athletic program is \$1,485,000; \$202,000 of that comes from student fees; \$250,000 comes from gate receipts; \$300,000 from tuition