

it costs to have the people run it. You tell me that isn't an empire. The largest city in the State of Nebraska, their budget, their general fund budget doesn't even come close to the University of Nebraska's. You compare it, \$470 million to run the University to \$86 million to run a city the population of about 350,000. The City of Omaha also gets federal funds but then so does the University. The City of Omaha gets bonds and the University has innumerable other places where it gets money, the University Foundation plus tuitions, etcetera. If you want to talk about budget cuts where they are needed, that is where they are needed. But it is the Taj Mahal. It is the Vatican of Nebraska. It is the holy of holies of Nebraska. Don't touch the beloved University, don't let them take it away, as they say in politics. How many people will be affected by a budget cut at the University of Nebraska in the State of Nebraska? You're talking about quality education when you are talking about \$2,823,000 worth of printing equipment alone? You can't give someone a good education without spending close to \$3 million? And that is a low figure. I would go for your package, Senator Beutler, if it were realistic, but I see it as just offering a little carrot to the rest of us and preserving that 470 million for the University. And I will bet you \$5.00 to two doughnuts that Ron Roskens would be tickled to death to accept this. I will bet you that everybody, they would be just chuckling to say, we pulled one on them again, we let them think we cut the Lincoln budget, the Taj Mahal, when actually all we did was cut everybody else. It doesn't go far enough. And I think when the people of Nebraska realize that the University of Nebraska cost...I can't even think figures that high, five times as much to run as the largest city in the state, when you are talking about just general fund monies, that has to say something to you. So if you are going to cut the budget, instead of cutting ADC and human services for people and Medicaid for the elderly...

SPEAKER NICHOL: One minute.

SENATOR HIGGINS: ...let's talk about cutting it where it should be cut...

SPEAKER NICHOL: One minute.

SENATOR HIGGINS: ...with the young and the healthy that are able to educate themselves, to work, to support themselves.