

tiny sliver off the total salaries of certain individuals. It won't happen. The system is this and we all know it. You attack those areas where we are most vulnerable. You attack the school at Curtis, the School of Nursing, a few other areas and you immediately build a constituency for those groups. The rest of the group sits back, satisfied, complacent in their largess, knowing that they will not be touched and the system continues as usual. I want to say once again as I said this morning, there are members of this body who are voting for these, what I call increases, over what we have accepted as normal cuts for the rest of the state government and there will come a time when it will be vested upon you to try to protect something which is of deep interest to your own district that takes precedence even over the great University of Nebraska and you're going to be hard pressed because you are going to stand there alone, barefooted and naked, crying for mercy like a coyote in the wilderness and no one is going to pay any attention to you. I know that it is easy to build a constituency for the University when you have several hundred million dollars to work with. It's not easy, as Senator Vickers has said, to build a constituency for the tech schools. Most of those people have a job. Many of them work. Many of them attend school part time. They have no constituency. You're not going to find them up there. Hell, no. They are working and they go to school and they spend 90 percent of their time in productive activity. I want to say again, no one in this body, not one of you, has had the contact with the University that I have had from the student-parent principle. I'm not going to get into that, but if you want an explanation, I'll give it to you and you're going to suffer embarrassment because I'm not satisfied. I'd like to see excellence in our educational system. I think I understand a little bit about it, but when the system begins to roll and you become overwhelmed with it and you become inebriated with the elixir of that fountain of youth,...

SPEAKER NICHOL: Time. Time is up.

SENATOR SCHMIT: ...remember that in the final analysis you stand alone when your own little legislative district is at bay. And it's going to be a very lonely fight because you're not going to have the great University of Nebraska standing behind you. Thank you very much.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Rod Johnson, then Senator Higgins.