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But experts say
the norms of this state,

Bennington

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The strikers want a steering committee composed of students, faculty, administrators and non-management staff to review all budget information and determine where cuts should be made, he said. The committee would also re-evaluate selected college procedures and services.

"We need to see numbers. And all our attempts have been met with contempt and harassment by the administration," Kingsley said. "There are so many questions. We don't want a confrontation. But we do want answers."

During the two-hour meeting outside the administration building, faculty member Ronald Cohen defended the college's decision to reject a request that it release the salaries of all employees without revealing their names. Cohen said that information was confidential.

"Budget decisions can't be made by democratic vote," he

said.

Sgorbati acknowledged that students and faculty who complained of feeling disenfranchised had a point.

"As long as I've been here there's been a real problem with communication," she said, "but I refuse to just blame it on the administration."

"I do not see why people have to create other structures," Sgorbati said of the proposed steering committee.

A student leader said protesters were not demanding "let's do it tomorrow or we burn down the barn.... We just want the opportunity to discuss some ideas."

Sgorbati promised to relay the students' request to meet with Coleman. The president appeared a few hours later and spoke with students on the lawn outside her office, Kingsley said.

"She insisted there be no nego-

tiations and that our needs would not be met in any way," Kingsley said. "She said there were proper channels in which our needs could be addressed. We said we need some new way."

Students who occupied the administration building overnight said they had called alumni and asked that they contribute money to the college, specifying that it go to the faculty budget. Kingsley said the requests were well received.

According to Sgorbati, trustees and alumni had called Coleman "and were completely furious and freaked out."

Coleman could not be reached for comment Thursday.

The trustees' plan to avoid a deficit includes tapping a Capital Campaign Fund for not more than \$3.275 million over the next four years.

In addition, five staff members were laid off in April.

Wolk

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other parts of the

Attorney General Jeffrey L. Amestoy said he shared Wolk's perception crime had gotten

jail space today was about the same as it was 30 years ago, when the state had about 300 beds and the county lock-ups had another