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Iraqi conflict may increase college costs



High prices ahead - Saddam Hussein's Aug. 2 invasion of Kuwait has left the 3,000-some Iraqi and Kuwaiti students studying at American campuses scared and on shaky financial ground.

(CPS) - The face-off with Iraq in the Middle East may hurt colleges in the United States in a very vulnerable place: their finances.

Higher energy prices and the nationwide recession they might bring would increase most campuses' costs, rob them of much-needed state and federal money and potentially drive up tuition even more rapidly, some observers say.

In 1973 and 1979, when previous "oil shocks" rocked the U.S., government funding of education nose dived while schools' expenses skyrocketed.

As a result, strapped colleges began deferring maintenance on their buildings. Faculty members' raises became so meager that many teachers left the profession and in the late seventies and early eighties, tuition rose by more than 10 percent a year.

Now, years later, many colleges are just beginning to emerge from the financial rubble of that period.

"Now, on top of everything else," said Harvey

Kaiser, a vice president at Syracuse University, "we have this unanticipated development."

The problem is oil prices, various campus business officers say.

Since Aug. 2, when Iraqi ruler Saddam Hussein invaded the oil-rich emirate of Kuwait and gained control of more than 20 percent of the world's proven reserves of oil, prices shot up from about \$20 a barrel to somewhere around \$25 a barrel.

If the crisis worsens dramatically - through, for instance, the bombing of Saudi Arabian oilfields - world oil prices could jump to well above \$50 a barrel, economists fear.

Many experts predict prices will stay in the \$22 to \$28 range over the next few months, assuming that other nations produce more oil to make up for the Iraqi and Kuwaiti oil not making it to market.

Higher oil prices have a drastic, far-reaching effect on the rest of the economy.

Orientation acquaints new students with UNLV

By Tina Crinite
Staff Reporter

Orientation for UNLV consisted of eight separate sessions held throughout the summer which provided information for 2,649 new students and 838 parents.

A majority of students were incoming freshmen. The remaining ten to fifteen percent were transfer students.

There were eighteen orienta-

tion leaders who led the students through guided tours and also in meeting the various college representatives in preparation for their first semester.

The purpose of orientation was "threefold" according to Jay De Leonard, assistant director of student activities. The students were introduced to the academic advisors, students services, as well as the physical aspects of the UNLV campus. The main point stressed during all the orienta-

tions was for students to make an effort to become involved with their education.

"Many students will receive their degree while sometimes lacking in an 'education,'" Leonard said. "It was stressed for students to take an interest in an activity which would provide an enhancement to their college experience such as student government, clubs, KUNV, and various other activities in addition to classes."

Each orientation consisted of a large group informant and then a division into colleges. Smaller groups were formed as many prepared to choose classes and fill out registration forms.

Most feedback was positive as far as the overall orientation preparation and execution were concerned.

"It worked, but there is still need for improvement," Leonard said. "It was a reasonable success."

Leonard also stressed the fact that many students may have dreaded sitting through the lecture and informational portions of orientation, but most learned something after all.

Future orientations will incorporate more items including a correlation of times in the taking of placement exams. This would alleviate the traveling back and forth for the students. More activities will be planned around the residence halls. Welcome week will also see an expansion, and there will be an increase in the overall time allotted for orientation.

These improvements are planned to increase the awareness of the students as they become acquainted with student services, and even more comfortable with the campus itself.

"We want students to be excited and interested in starting at UNLV and this can be accomplished in creating a great sense of belonging," Leonard said.

University newspapers seek campus crime reports

By Joseph J. Wheeler
Staff Reporter

The battle over campus crime is being fought not between university police and criminals, but between campus police and university newspapers.

Michigan students sued Oakland University in June, demanding that the campus police department release information about an incident in May in which a student was kidnapped and raped. The university agreed to the demands before going to court.

Students at Southwest Missouri State University sued their administrators in February, charging that crime statistics were being withheld from public knowledge.

Dawn Miller, editor of the Daily Athenaeum at West Virginia University in Morgantown, is fighting an ongoing battle to see the daily activity reports of her school's police force. Although no compromise has been reached so far, Miller hopes to work out an arrangement without bringing the matter to court.

UNLV Director of Public Safety David Hollenbeck said that although he understands the reluctance of some schools to reveal crime on their campuses, things are different at UNLV.

"There is some fear on the part of (some) administrations that if they paint an accurate picture of what the crime (rate) is on campus, that people will be reluctant to go to school there," he said. "But frankly, I've never had any kind of pressure like that here."

Hollenbeck said he feels his office has an obligation to inform the community and students about crime. "People have a right to know what sort of things are going on," he said, "so they can take reasonable precautions to make sure those things don't happen to them."

To that end the UNLV police allow access to their daily activity log, which lists each event in which a report was filed. Routine calls for service, such as helping a student get into a locked car, are not included.

Hollenbeck noted that such information as the names of crime victims, witnesses, and investigative facts that would hinder their efforts are off limits to reporters. The event itself, however, with a short summary, would show up in the daily log.

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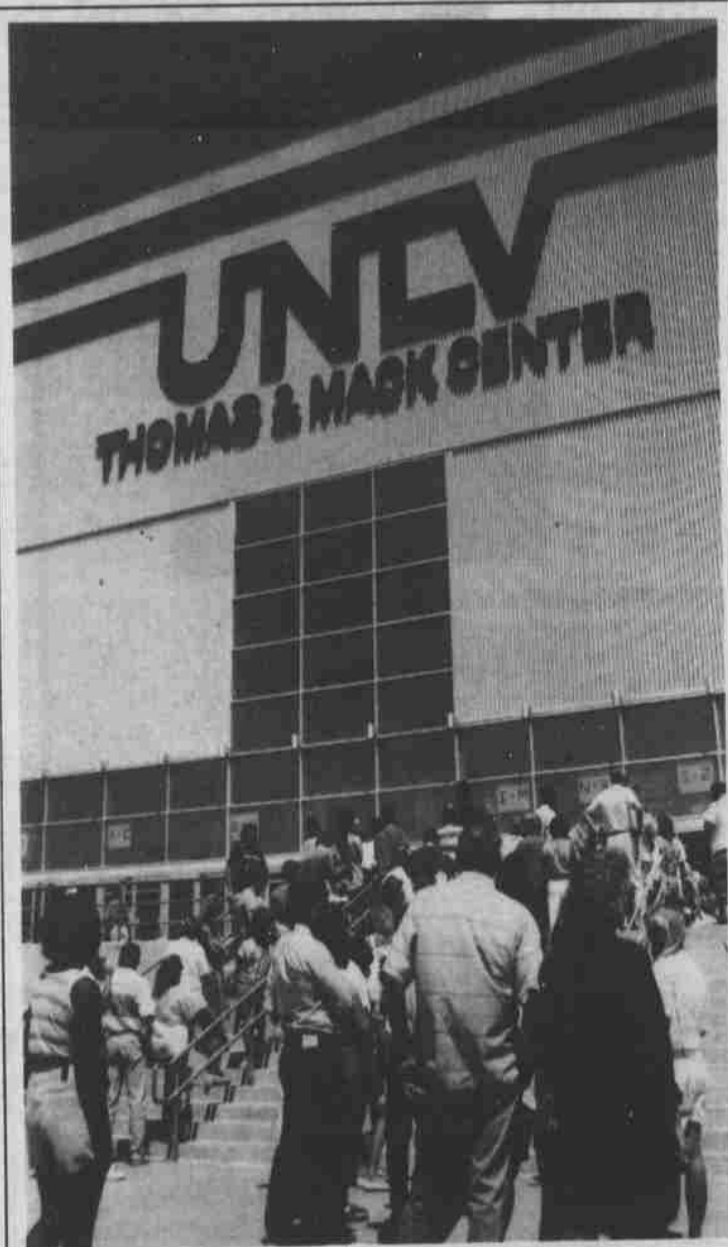
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UNLV radio station grows along with school

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New era dawns



Yell Photo / Channing Parkquardt

Registration - Students are confronted by long lines and long waits as UNLV begins the new semester with a record number of students.