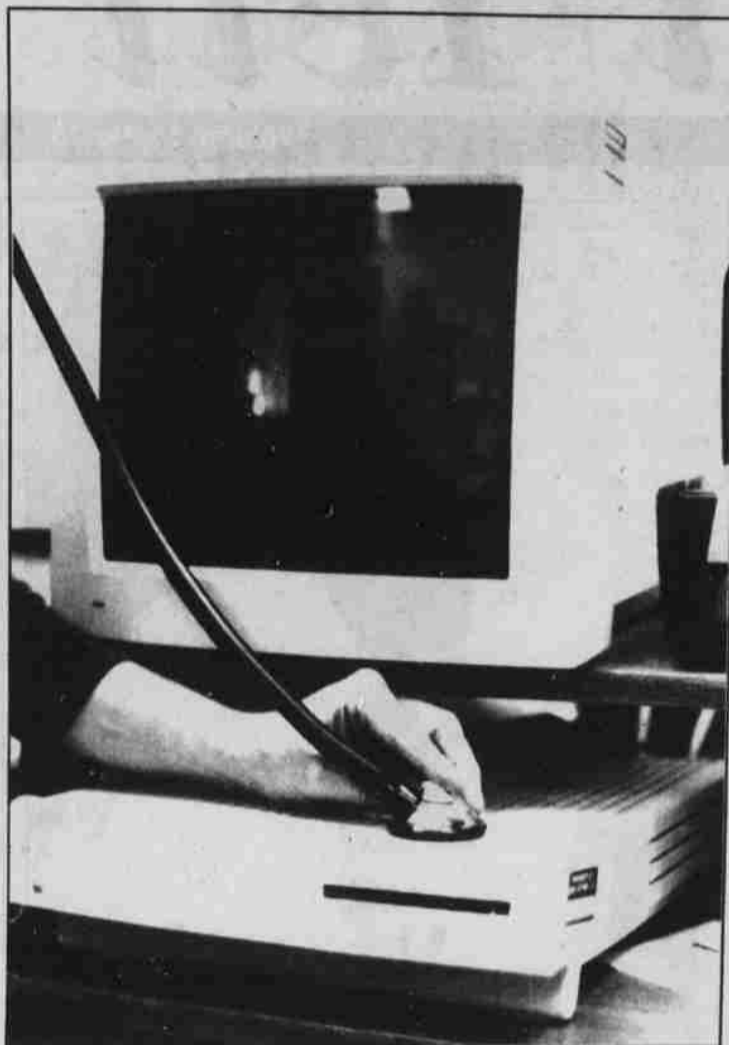


# Computer users warned of Michelangelo virus



(CPS) —All users of IBM and IBM-compatible computers should beware of a virus that was programmed to strike March 6.

Experts warned that vital data on the hard disks could be destroyed by the so-called Michelangelo virus, which is programmed to lie dormant until a computer's clock reads March 6, the birth date of the artist.

If an infected system is booted, all data on the boot disk will be jumbled, reports The Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT). Recovering data from the jumbled disk will be difficult or impossible. If the boot disk is the hard disk, all data will be destroyed.

The Michelangelo virus is running rampant on college campuses in particular, said Howard Ramagli, director of information services and technology at Lake Forest College.

Ramagli said there are two types of destructive programs: viruses, which infect a program or the directory of a hard drive, and Trojan horses, which are

## Michelangelo hasn't visited UNLV

by Stephanie Holland

As of yet, there have been no reports of the virus destroying any programs on the UNLV campus.

Susan Bunyan from computer services said, "We've had no calls saying that any machines aren't running. We handed out virus protector programs for faculty to clean their disks of virus."

So far, the library computers are also clean of the Michelangelo viruses.

"The students that use them press return instead of correcting the date on the computers, so they really had no idea that it was March 6," said one worker from the library's computer center. "We sometimes have other viruses such as the Stone and Key Press, but Michelangelo hasn't affected us yet."

separate programs that hide until a given time or event.

Viruses often are written as pranks. "Sometimes it's someone just hacking around who finds a way to create a virus that will do something to a hard drive," he said.

Some viruses are harmless, such as those that play a tune or display a message. Others, like Michelangelo, are ex-

tremely destructive.

"Sometimes people do it because they're mean," Ramagli said.

One symptom of the Michelangelo virus is its consumption of 2,048 bytes of memory on the hard disk, but conclusive detection is impossible without an anti-virus program.

see MICHELANGELO page 3

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## Fee hike at UC Davis results in protest, five student arrests

Davis, Calif. (CPS)—As the University of California Regents approved a 22 percent student fee hike for next fall, more than 1,400 students gathered at the University of California, Davis campus, chanting in protest. The student action resulted in five arrests.

The student gathering began as an outdoor rally until some 800 students suddenly entered Freeborn Hall, where the Regents were holding their meeting, and carried their cries directly to the leaders of the university system.

Although police were on hand to contain the crowd, sources present at the protest said authorities could not restrain the students and were forced to allow them in.

Police arrested and charged two students with assault and three students with disturbing the peace.

In the meeting, which proceeded uninterrupted by the protest, the Regents approved Gov. Pete Wilson's budget plan for next year calling for a \$550 per year increase in student fees, setting undergraduate resident fees at \$3,036 for the year.

Students are not the only ones feeling a fiscal bite. Other cost-saving measures provided for in the 1992-93 budget plan include withholding cost-of-living increases for faculty and staff for the second year in a row, freezing salaries for most senior executives for the sec-

ond consecutive year, cutting State General Fund support of the Office of the President administrative budget by 25 percent and offering more early retirement incentives.

William B. Baker, vice president of budget and university relations, said pay scales within the California system are suffering from the budget crisis. "Salaries for university faculty will continue to lag behind salaries at comparable institutions," he said.

Despite the steep fee increase and sweeping cuts, the Regents-approved budget is still a best-case scenario. The budget still must be approved by the Legislature. The budget plan, which is nearly identical to this year's crisis plan, reflects a pessimistic overall state fiscal situation.

In his address to the Regents, University of California President David P. Gardner said, "We are and will remain for the foreseeable future in perilous economic times, internationally, domestically and as a state."

"The implications for the University of California have been, and will continue to be, affected by this reality, and our institutional capacity to accommodate the adverse consequences of these forces is more constricted than our critics prefer to acknowledge or are willing to concede."

In a letter Gardner planned to make public, he addressed the student fee increase, assur-

ing that financial aid, in the form of grants and loans, will help all "needy students, including middle-income students."

"I am keenly aware that the cost of attending UC has gone up dramatically, but as fees increase next year, so too will the number of courses and sections offered so that you will be able to enroll in the classes you need to make timely progress toward your degree," Gardner said.

The 22 percent student fee increase, which should net \$60 million to help fund the \$2.1 billion State General Fund Budget, is the third major fee hike in a row. Last year saw a 40 percent increase and the year before a jump of 10 percent.

The protesters, which included students from most UC campuses, occupied Freeborn Hall, vowing to stay until the five arrested students were released "with all charges nullified."

They also offered the Regents and legislators a list of demands, calling for a fee hike freeze, expanded funding for higher education, direct student representation in the selection process of the Regents and the removal of Diana Darnell as student regent.

Agreeing with the other regents, Darnell voted for the fee hike. Only Lt. Gov. Leo McCarthy, an ex-officio member of the Board of Regents, voted against the measure.

## The Rebel Yell

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