



# The Rebel Yell

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## ASU, UNLV suffer similarly from cuts

by Natalie Lutz

### Part 2 of 3

UNLV is not unique with its budget-cutting problems. Universities all over the country have been forced to raise tuition and cut operating budgets, salaries and renovations. The following is Part 2 of a three-part series which examines these cuts in-depth.

With an enormous budget deficit in the state of Arizona, Arizona State University had to cut \$10.1 million from its permanent budget, including a 3 percent cut in salaries; an additional \$3.6 million, 2 percent of the general fund cut by legislators; and a loss of \$5.2 million in revenue due to a loss in student enrollment, for a total \$18.9 million budget cut.

This fiscal year, 1992-93, the Arizona State University System proposal before the legislators does not allocate a tuition increase. Because the University System raised tuition this year, and still had to cut its permanent budget by \$10.1 million, the system does not want to raise tuition again, said Gaye Murphy, assistant director of University Fiscal Planning and Analysis at ASU.

As a result of the \$18.9 million budget cut, 5.5 percent of the state funded university employees, 267 people, were laid-off, terminated or reduced. During school year 1990-91, 130

class sections were cut, with an additional 98 sections cut this year.

In addition, three new buildings, a life science, computer network and engineering building, and two parking structures, which are already finished, will remain vacant because of lack of support staff and operating dollars. The Legislature allocated money for the building projects, but hasn't allocated operating and maintenance money.

The Arizona Legislature is proposing a 2 percent cut, and the governor is proposing an additional 3.5 percent cut in the general fund for next year. There is a difference of \$50 million to \$60 million that still needs to be cut from the state

budget, according to the governor and legislators.

The general fund for the University System has been cut seven of the past 10 years, Murphy said. Along with this one-time drastic cut, midyear state budget cuts, ranging from 1 to 7 percent of the original appropriations, occurred in eight of the past 11 years.

The Arizona State University System received 19.5 percent of the state general fund in 1979, cut to 15.2 percent this year.

By comparison, the University and Community College System of Nevada receives 20 percent of the general state fund.

Included in UNLV's \$11.92 million reduction is \$2 million

for minor repairs and improvements, allocated to seven roofing projects, three classroom/office renovation projects and numerous other projects that have been postponed.

Of the \$10 million allocated for minor repairs and improvements in the University System, \$9 million was returned in the budget cut.

"This is a one-shot appropriation," said Ron Sparks, vice chancellor for finance for the University and Community College System of Nevada. But, according to Sparks, if there are shortfalls in the fiscal year 1993-94 state budget, "those minor repairs and improvements won't get done. We are

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## Earth Day '92



photos by Rob Weidenfeld

At left, alumnus Don Delacruz purchases products wrapped in excessive packaging. Above, Evan Hollander proves "pre-cycling" is so easy, even a child can do it.

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