

Tuition Takes a Cross Country Hike

By Steve Lemken

(CPS) -- In the wake of the announcement of Carter's budget for higher education which slashed campus-based student aid by \$582 million and reduced the number of awards available by 885,000, the nation-wide tuition increases are hitting students like a funeral hits the closest of kin. Students are going to dig harder and deeper for the cash or else many may have to quit until, or unless, funds become accessible.

Up in the Big Sky country of Montana, non-resident tuition fees upped \$400 while residents will have to pay one dollar more for each quarter hour of credit. At the University of Montana, the non-resident student will be paying \$1,921 and many of them will be hard-pressed to come up with the additional funds. Many of the students polled by the campus newspaper felt that it was unfair that the non-resident fees were increased so much more than resident fees.

Tuition hikes across the country range from six to 20 percent. Many reasons are cited for these actions, but the prevailing cause is that maintenance, fuel costs, and salaries for faculty and other employees have skyrocketed, with university officials holding little hope for relief. Contractual agreements at many schools, combined with an unwillingness at the state and federal level to loosen the cash flow to higher education leave administration trudging a familiar road looking for funds. The costs are, quite simply, being passed on to the students.

At the University of Chicago an eight percent increase has been recommended, which would be, in tuition costs, an additional \$100 over this year's fee of \$3,527. The suggestions for that school's budget also include a further reduction of faculty.

Stanford University in California will increase tuition to \$4,695 with basic room and board charges upped to \$1,970. This represents an overall increase of nearly 10 percent.

Williams College in Massachusetts says its operating costs will climb from \$17.5 million this year to about \$18.3 million next year. Students there will probably see a 7.7 percent hike which totals \$5,955 for 1977-78. The added fees are expected to be used for faculty salaries and scholarships.

Pennsylvanian students have been told that the governor's budget will be an austere one and they face a \$50 - 100 increase in the fall. Students were also warned that there will be less educational assistance money which is usually increased whenever tuition is increased. A director of the statewide student association said that the increase "is no service increase" and that it is only an attempt to maintain the present situation. Officials fear that enrollments will drop, adding to the current anticipated lack of resources.

In Ohio, students may get an increase even though the governor has included in his budget an increase to state-supported colleges and universities. Added costs due to the severe weather this winter are making college officials and state representatives skeptical as to whether or not the budget is adequate.

In at least one area students are gearing up to fight back at attempts to hike tuition. In Oregon, lobbyists from Oregon Student Lobby (OSL) are vying for six percent decrease while the state's Educational Coordinating Board recommends a six percent increase. The student lobby is calling for the decrease to bring the cost of higher education in Oregon more in line with the national average.

Kirby Garrett, coordinator for the OSL, said that since 1969, Oregon

educational costs have increased 66 percent, while the national higher ed price index increased 55 percent. Yet Kirby points out, student instruction fees (tuition) has increased 83 percent and he considers that an unfair proportion. The OSL Board of Commissioners has also recommended a tuition freeze non resident graduates and non-resident undergraduates fees.

Garret is optimistic about the goals of the OSL. He said the students are concerned and sup-

portive. The OSL is beginning a grass-roots campaign to inform students and urge them to write and phone as part of a coordinated lobby effort.

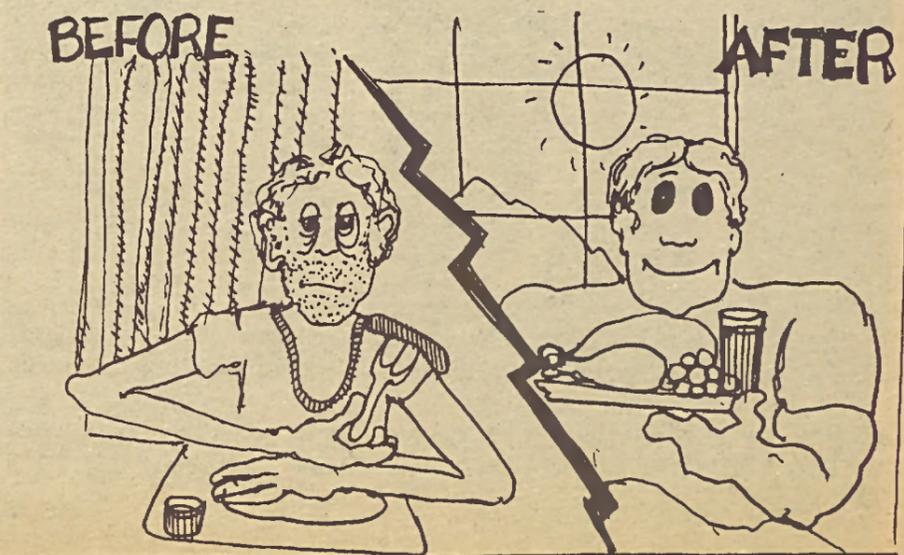
But again, as always, students have little say in the budget recommendations of most state legislatures. Higher education is usually considered a frill, and with the taxpayers breathing down their necks for less spending, there is a tendency to start the trimming at the colleges first.

Epicure Is A Success

"Quite an improvement over last year," is the commonly shared response of students eating at Howerton Cafeteria this year. The cafeteria came under the new management of Epicure Catering Services following much dissatisfaction by students and faculty about last year's food. Jim E. King, the Director of Dining Services, was well pleased with the students response which praised the food. Yet nothing is perfect.

Although the students like the food immeasurably, they do have two major objections. The first complaint concerns the practice of checking IDs as the students enter the cafeteria, and the second centers around the method of obtaining seconds. Mr. King had this to say about the first complaint, "Until we can get to know every student we need the I.D. checking system. We are new to you, and you are new to us. It's going to take a little time." "Time" according to King will be defined as the next few weeks.

As for seconds, the students complain that by having to go all the way to the end of the line (sometimes 30 to 50 people long), it consumes the time that they need to get to classes. Students asked why they couldn't simply get seconds the first time through, or why not tear down the partition and let students



break line for seconds as they did last year. Mr. King pointed out the fact that the persons wanting seconds are not the only ones in a hurry. The people waiting in line for their firsts would not appreciate other people getting in front of them and slowing them down. To tear down the partition and break line would cause the same problem of way-laying the persons already in line.

The first suggestion of getting seconds the first time through, Mr. King considers feasible in the future.

The reason this practice cannot begin now is due to the fact that

Epicure has not had enough time to gauge our eating habits. They realize it is our money they are using and do not want to waste food by over-preparing, nor do they want not to prepare enough. When Epicure gets an idea of what and how much we eat, then the idea of getting firsts and seconds simultaneously will be probable. Until then Mr. King feels that everyone should get their initial share, and then seconds be considered. As the process of getting acquainted continues, word to the wise might be to just sit back and enjoy your ice cream!

Schedule Changes People

With the beginning of another school year, there are many adjustments for the incoming freshmen. This year, the faculty and returning students are also making a change with the new schedule program.

The 75-minute Tuesday and Thursday classes have been eliminated and replaced with 50-minute periods. Why? According to Lenore Saunders, the registrar, and George Adams, chairman of Academic Affairs Committee, there were several key reasons for the modification.

"Professors felt many courses needed to meet 3 times a week rather than twice a week," commented Mrs. Saunders. She went on to say that "the grades of students in the same classes that met 3 times a week were higher than those that only met twice a week."

Equal time for classes is another reason, said Mr. Adams. "Most people (student and faculty) didn't like the long Tuesday-Thursday classes. The major complaint from

students on class evaluation was that 75-minutes was just too long," he adds.

"So far, the new schedule has been more effective than the other one," said Mrs. Saunders. They (students) have to do more studying because they meet more often."

Mrs. Saunders has not heard of any dissatisfied students or faculty members.

She noted that "there has been a very positive reaction to it. The only problem is learning where to be and when to be there."

Up to this time, the only future adjustment to the schedule is that there will probably be a few course added. As long as the majority supports it, the new schedule will be continued.

Davis First Floor Continues Lovings Ways

So as to continue in the tradition of being the— dorm hall, first floor residents of Davis Dorm gifted every girl on campus with a flower Sunday morning, Sept. 4. Every flower was a daisy, lilly, or carnation except for those presented to the hall counselors which were roses.

The spokesman for the hall, who wished to remain anonymous,

stated, "This is just our way of showing the girls how much we love them. It also may help us not to lose so severely when the homecoming dance comes up."

Davis First Floor has further plans for the remainder of the year directed towards charming the MAC women. Details were not available.