

## U.S. colleges announce small tuition increases

NEW YORK - Many colleges and universities are announcing some of the smallest tuition increases in a decade for next fall.

College officials credit themselves with cutting costs, especially in administration, and passing the savings on to students.

But some higher education leaders believe next fall's modest increases also are a response to a growing sense of outrage among students, legislators and others after a decade in which tuition increases were far in excess of the nation's inflation rate.

"I think we're approaching the end of the big increases," said Robert Atwell, president of the American Council of Education. "What's doing it is the demographics, the student response, the legislative response in some cases, the governing boards getting interested in this issue, the editorial boards of newspapers and magazines."

Especially sobering, say Atwell and others, has been a recent falloff in applications at many colleges, including at top ones such as Harvard, suggesting that schools no longer can simply raise their rates with impunity.

Average tuitions rose by 5-to-9 percent during the current school year, according to the College Board's most recent annual college cost survey. Costs rose in double digits from 1981 through 1984. Rates at four-year public colleges shot up 20 percent in 1983-84. They leveled into the 5-9 percent range for the past five years.

Still, some like Richard Rosser, president of the National Association of Independent Colleges and Univer-

sities, aren't ready to declare an end to the college cost spiral.

He and others point out that next fall's announced increases are "all over the map," with some still in double digits. And students on several campuses have protested steep hikes in recent weeks:

- About 500 students at Arizona State University in Tempe demonstrated last month after regents voted to raise yearly tuition by \$116 for in-state students to \$1,478, and \$1,000 for out-of-state students to \$6,484 at ASU.

- At the University of Miami, where costs are headed up 9.9 percent to \$18,212, about 150 students wore black armbands and carried a coffin to mourn the "death" of affordable tuitions.

- Syracuse University students boycotted school owned profit-making outlets in January to protest a 9.94 percent tuition increase that will raise annual costs to \$17,588. During a nationally televised basketball game, students also displayed signs protesting the increase.

- In Oklahoma, 10,000 students attending public colleges and universities presented regents a petition protesting proposed tuition increases ranging up to 12.5 percent. Last year, rates rose 16.6 percent.

Such protests would seem to indicate a mood change from previous years when students paid their tuition with barely a murmur even as rates were climbing by as much as 20 percent.

Next fall's more modest increases also may reflect nervousness in academia over a continuing U.S. Justice Department investigation of at least 56 private colleges looking into whether school officials are improperly collaborating in setting tuitions and financial aid packages.

Some colleges also seem to be taking serious steps to curb costs. A recent survey found administrators' salaries rose by just 4.5 percent this academic year, less than the overall inflation rate for the second time in three years.

And many schools have benefited from Wall Street's rebound from the stock-market crash. The National Association of College and University Business Officers reported in February that college endowments grew by 14.1 percent, the biggest gain in four years, and a turnaround from the 1.3 percent rise in 1987-88, when stocks took their worst beating since 1929.

- Stanford University, up 5.25 percent, smallest increase in 15 years.
- University of Michigan, up 6.5 percent, compared with a 9.6 percent last fall.
- University of Iowa, up 3 percent, smallest increase in a decade.
- Columbia College, in Columbia, Mo., up 5.7 percent, smallest in more than 20 years.
- Lehigh University, up 7.7 percent, smallest in 13 years.
- Drexel University, up 5.9 percent, smallest in more than a decade.
- University of Oklahoma, up 12.5 percent, compared with 16.6 percent last fall.

## Afghan base contested

ISLAMABAD, Pakistan - The former Afghan defense minister who led a coup attempt against the government defected Wednesday to the Moslem insurgents he fought for more than a decade, guerrilla and Pakistani government sources said.

Gen. Shah Nawaz Tanai fled Afghanistan on Wednesday with his wife, two daughters and son, then returned with the guerrillas, according to the sources.

The situation in Afghanistan was unclear. President Najib again claimed that the coup Tanai launched Tuesday had "absolutely been broken. Of that there is no doubt." Tanai's flight seemed to indicate this.

But Western diplomats and guerrilla leaders based in Pakistan said fighting continued, although on a smaller scale.

Rival factions were reported battling for control of Bagram, the country's largest air base.

Guerrilla sources and Western diplomats in Islamabad said Tanai's forces had won control of the base. Najib ordered warplanes to bomb it, and several Soviet-supplied Scud missiles were also fired, they said.

"Bagram is completely destroyed," said one guerrilla source, speaking on condition of anonymity.

Afghanistan's charge d'affaires in Pakistan, Qudratullah Ahmadi, denied the base had fallen to the mutineers, who had the support of the Moslem guerrillas.

Western diplomats and guerrilla leaders in Pakistan said they also had reports of fighting in the southern city of Kandahar and the northwestern city of Herat. The diplo-

rats and guerrilla sources, all speaking on condition of anonymity, also told of sporadic street fighting in Kabul, the capital.

Najib said "a number of people," mostly civilians, had been killed or injured during nearly 20 hours of fighting. He gave no specific figures, but guerrilla sources said there were hundreds of casualties.

Before the coup began, Najib said Tanai, who had been defense minister, threw away his identification card from the ruling People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan and his military uniform. Tanai escaped with "valuable government documents," Najib said.

Tanai, a battle-hardened soldier popular with the rank-and-file military, has been accused of engineering three coup attempts against Najib's government. He is a Marxist hard-liner who opposed Najib's efforts to make peace with the guerrillas.

However, guerrilla sources said Tanai contacted guerrilla leader Gulbuddin Hekmatyar before leaving Afghanistan and that one of Hekmatyar's commanders had been with Tanai since the coup attempt was launched.

Such an alliance would be more one of convenience and opportunism than ideology. Tanai, a Marxist hard-liner, has long advocated a harsh stance against the U.S.-backed guerrillas and opposed Najib's methods of dealing with the war.

At the same time, the radical fundamentalist Hekmatyar has become increasingly estranged from his fellow Moslem guerrilla leaders, rejecting their political leadership and executing some of their followers.

The latest bid to bring down Najib's government began Tuesday afternoon when Afghan air force planes bombed the presidential palace in the heart of Kabul and widespread fighting was reported in the capital.

On Wednesday afternoon, Tanai boarded a military helicopter and flew to a military base inside Pakistan flanked by two fighter jets, guerrilla sources said.

After landing in the northern Pakistan, they said, Tanai talked with several guerrillas engaged in the 11-year war against the Afghan government.

"Later, he returned with them to a point deeper in Afghanistan to continue the struggle against Najib," said Foreign Secretary Tamveer Ahmed of Pakistan.

A Soviet-made transport plane carrying 12 people, including three Afghan brigadier generals, also landed Wednesday near the border town of Parachinar, government and guerrilla sources said.

Among the generals was Gen. Abdul Qadar Akka, a former general commander of air defense who was implicated with Tanai in a coup attempt in December. Neither officer was ever charged, they said. The identities of the other two generals were not immediately disclosed.

Radio Kabul accused another high-ranking party member, Asadullah Sarwari, of involvement in the coup plot. Sarwari was a former interior minister accused of hundreds of killings following the 1978 revolution that installed a Communist government and sparked the civil war.

## Modrow criticizes hasty W. Germany

EAST BERLIN - Premier Hans Modrow said Wednesday that East Germans are ready to sign a border treaty with Poland, and he criticized West Germany for trying to impose a hasty unity plan on his people.

The Communist premier and other top East German officials have lately displayed irritation with West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl and the fast pace of unification sought by their Western neighbor.

In Bonn, opposition Social Democrats, who also charge that Kohl is

pushing too hard for a speedy unification, insisted on a Germany-wide referendum over the issue.

Modrow's concerns over unification echoed those of Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev, who on Tuesday urged a slow and careful approach and said NATO membership for a united Germany was "out of the question."

At the last parliamentary session before East Germans go to the polls on March 18, Modrow sought to assure Poland that his nation lays no

claim to German lands forfeited after the Nazi defeat in 1945.

About one third of modern-day Poland was German land under the Third Reich.

Kohl has been "evasive and ambiguous" in statements on the border, Modrow said.

Kohl on Tuesday agreed to support a West German parliamentary declaration of respect for the current border, but did not make clear whether he thought the two Germanys could jointly recognize the border before they are reunited.

## White House calls for action on Libyan plant

WASHINGTON - The White House said Wednesday that Libya has renewed production of chemical weapons, posing "a major threat" and requiring "vigorous action" to shut down the plant.

White House Press Secretary Marlin Fitzwater refused to exclude the possibility of a military strike to knock out the poison-gas plant.

"We don't rule out anything," he said.

However, Fitzwater also suggested the plant could be closed if foreign suppliers denied it the raw materials needed to produce chemical weapons.

"The international community should step up its efforts to deny Libya the ability to continue operating the plant," he said.

Chemical weapons are considered the poor nations' atom bomb because they are relatively cheap to produce and hard to detect. Libya is one of about two dozen countries considered capable of or actually producing poison gas, which was used by Iran and Iraq in the Persian Gulf war.

The latest U.S. charges underscore the hostile relationship between the United States and Libyan dictator Moammar Gadhafi. Tensions reached

a crisis point in 1986 when the Reagan administration ordered that Tripoli be bombed.

Fitzwater said the United States was consulting with other governments to express serious concern about the facility.

The plant at Rabta, 60 miles south of Tripoli, is producing limited quantities of mustard gas and nerve agents, U.S. officials said.

"Rabta is dangerous and becoming

**The international community should step up its efforts to deny Libya the ability to continue operating the plant.**

type or quantity of weapons being produced.

"Any amount is a major threat," he said.

Gadhafi's regime has "a history of terrorism activities and a history of erratic military behavior," Fitzwater said. "And therefore, that is the most immediate threat."

In 1988, the United States raised concerns about Rabta and persuaded West German companies and other

countries were supplying chemicals to Libya.

"We certainly would urge all countries to survey their internal situation, inventory their chemical production facilities and to make their own judgments that they are not a source for any of these chemicals."

"We don't really know how the chemicals are getting there or where they are coming from," Fitzwater said. "But there are so many routes, again I urge you not to focus on who's giving them chemicals, but to focus on Mr. Gadhafi and Libya."

Gadhafi, who has steadfastly denied Libya was producing chemical weapons, says the plant was designed to produce pharmaceutical drugs.

JANA, the Libyan news agency, said in a dispatch that an unnamed official source at the Libyan foreign ministry "disclaimed" reports that Libya has produced "quantities of chemical weapons in (the) Rabta medicine factory."

The source, according to JANA, contended that "such allegations aired at present by some media circles aim at creating a state of suspicion" in light of efforts by Libya and other Arab African nations toward economic and political unity.

ing more so," Fitzwater said. "This points to the necessity for heightened international vigilance of Libyan procurement activities and for vigorous efforts to stop the operation of Rabta."

Asked what he meant by "vigorous action," Fitzwater said, "We aren't willing to speculate on what specific efforts, but nothing is ruled out."

He would not comment on the

Fitzwater  
White House press secretary

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