

Senate passes crime bill

WASHINGTON — Capping a ferocious six-year debate, Congress handed President Clinton a critical victory Thursday night with Senate passage of a \$30 billion, crime bill.

The vote was 61-38. Hours earlier, a handful of Republicans joined Democrats in narrowly blocking a GOP effort that would have derailed the bill.

The legislation authorizes thousands of prison cells, establishes new crime-prevention programs, bans assault-style weapons, creates more than 50 new death penalties and is intended to help hire 100,000 new police officers.

It also fulfills one of Clinton's

campaign pledges two years ago. The House passed the measure last Sunday. It now goes to Clinton for his signature.

Senate Judiciary Committee Chairman Joseph Biden, D-Del., called the package "a tough bill, a straightforward bill that the cops want, the prosecutors want and the people need."

But Senate Republican Leader Bob Dole countered that the measure was unduly expensive and loaded with "pork."

"When the people wake up tomorrow morning, it's going to be sticker shock," Dole said Thursday night.

Kerrey, Exon vote for bill

U.S. Sens. Bob Kerrey and Jim Exon voted with the majority Thursday as the Senate passed a \$30 billion crime bill.

Exon said it was time for people in Washington to stop "just wringing their hands in dismay about the crime epidemic engulfing the nation."

Kerrey has said he supported the bill because its provisions for more police and jails and its ban on 19 assault weapons.

South Korean officials insist on inspections

SEOUL, South Korea — South Korea said Thursday it won't provide North Korea with a modern nuclear reactor until the Pyongyang government opens all its nuclear sites for inspection.

The South said the North can't expect improved relations with South Korea and the United States without inspections of the two sites at Yongbyon, 65 miles north of Pyongyang.

South Korea has offered the North the \$4 billion reactor as part of a U.S.-North Korean deal to have international inspectors confirm the reclusive communist state isn't making nuclear weapons.

Top security officials, meeting to

discuss the North's refusal Saturday to allow inspections, affirmed the North must clear up nuclear suspicions before discussing receiving the reactor, said government spokesman Kim Kyong-wong.

"The North must take some concrete steps, including allowing special inspections (of the two sites)," Kim said.

"Our unswerving policy is that those special inspections must be a precondition for improving ties with South Korea and the United States."

Western analysts say inspections of the two Yongbyon sites are crucial to clarifying whether North Korea has diverted plutonium from its reactors to make nuclear bombs.

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Magazine rates U.S. college buys

TRENTON, N.J. — Trenton State College, the every man's school of the Garden State, rates as one of the nation's best buys in higher education, Money Magazine says.

The personal finance monthly ranked Trenton State No. 3 in its fifth annual evaluation, saying it has an "upper crust feel, but it comes at a commoner's price." It has been in the magazine's Top 10 each year.

The survey, appearing in the issue that hits newsstands Sept. 6, used 16 factors relating to cost and academic quality in ranking America's 100 best college buys.

New College of the University of South Florida, in Sarasota, topped the list for the second year in a row. Rice University in Houston was No. 2 for the second straight year.

Trenton State charges \$4,012 per

year in tuition and fees for New Jersey residents, who make up 91 percent of the student body, and \$6,287 for out-of-staters. Room and board cost \$5,400.

The 139-year-old school sits on 250 wooded acres between two lakes and has 5,000 full-time students. The magazine cited its 15-to-1 student-faculty ratio and relatively small classes, most with fewer than 35 students. All are taught by professors, never graduate students.

The magazine determined that out of the 78 schools in the country that charge more than \$17,500 per year, 16 are worth the money. Princeton, with tuition and fees totalling \$20,210, ranked 12th.

Trenton State ranked first in Money magazine's breakdown of schools that are "highly selective" - that is, most

students were in the top 40 percent of their high school classes with average grades of B or better and SAT scores of 1,100 or above or ACT scores of at least 27.

"When I talk with people about higher education, central to virtually every conversation is the concern about both the cost and the quality," said Harold W. Eickhoff, the college's president. "When these rankings show us in the company of very fine institutions as an example of both quality and affordability, that suggests to us that we're on the right track."

Factors determining Money's rankings included entrance exam results, graduation rates, faculty resources and deployment, budgets for instruction and student services, and default ratios on graduates' student loans. The magazine then compared those figures with each college's tuition and fees.

Top-rated colleges in the United States

Money magazine's annual Money Guide lists the 100 best college buys in the nation, based on costs and academic quality. The magazine also divides the country into six regions to highlight the top-rated schools for each.

West

1. California Institute of Technology
2. University of Washington
3. Pomona College (Calif.)
4. Claremont McKenna College (Calif.)
5. Harvey Mudd College (Calif.)

Midwest

1. Northeast Missouri State U.
2. Hanover College (Ind.)
3. U. of Illinois-Urbana/Champaign
4. Hillsdale College (Mich.)
5. Wabash University (Ind.)

Mid-Atlantic

1. Trenton State College (N.J.)
2. Rutgers U.-New Brunswick (N.J.)
3. St. Mary's College of Maryland
4. Grove City College (Pa.)
5. Washington and Lee (Va.)

Southwest and Mountain states

1. Rice University (Texas)
2. University of Texas-Austin
3. Trinity University (Texas)
4. Baylor University (Texas)
5. Austin College (Texas)

Southeast

1. New College of the U. of South Fla.
2. Spelman College (Ga.)
3. University of N.C.-Chapel Hill
4. Wake Forest University (N.C.)
5. University of Georgia

Top five overall

1. New College of the U. of South Fla.
2. Rice University
3. Trenton State College
4. State U. of N.Y.-Binghamton
5. Northeast Missouri State U.

Source: Money magazine

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