

Call to reservists might change students' plans

By The College Press Service

As many as 187,000 college students across the country had their fall term plans cast into doubt Aug. 22, when President George Bush said he would soon call up military reservists to support and replace troops already sent to the Middle East.

If and when the call comes, the students would have to leave school abruptly, sometimes unsure if they will have a place when they return or if the tuition money they paid will be wasted.

"I don't know what frame of mind I'll be in for my studies," said Junior Waldron, an Army reservist who is a sophomore engineering major at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in New York.

No one knows exactly how many of the reservists subject to being called to active military duty are college students.

Joe Hanley, spokesman for the U.S. Army Reservist who is a sophomore engineering major at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in New York.

The other branches of the military do not keep figures on how many of their reservists are students.

Colleges themselves typically don't know how many of their students are subject to the military call-up.

To find out, Drexel University in Pennsylvania set up a hotline Aug. 23 for any students or staff who would be affected by the Middle East crisis, but received just four calls — only one from a student reservist — during its first week of operation, reported Vice President for Student Affairs Richard Woodring.

When Iraq invaded Kuwait, its small but oil-rich neighbor, Aug. 2, life became uncertain for both students and their schools.

Soon after, President Bush sent 40,000 U.S. troops to Saudi Arabia to defend against a possible Iraqi invasion of that country.

Originally, Pentagon officials thought only 100,000 soldiers would be needed, but raised the figure to 250,000 a week later.

No law protecting students

On Aug. 22, Bush said he would activate 40,000 reservists to support and replace the troops he had already sent to the Persian Gulf region. It was the first time reservists had been called to active duty since the Tet Offensive in Vietnam in 1968.

Suddenly campuses were forced to ponder a significant number of students and staffers leaving mid-semester to serve. Course sections could lose their instructors. School finances could be disrupted if fewer students were around to pay tuition and dorm fees. Students themselves could have their studies interrupted, without a guarantee of being able to resume them when they returned to civilian life.

Although there is a federal law that protects the jobs of workers who are called to duty, there is no law protecting students, Hanley said.

To ease uncertainty among student reservists, Purdue University published a detailed letter assuring students they would get their fees refunded and earn a certain amount of credit, depending on when they withdraw.

Volunteers increase since Kuwaiti invasion

By College Press Service

Voluntary registration for the military draft has skyrocketed since the Aug. 2 Iraqi invasion of Kuwait, according to the Selective Service.

The number of men signing up has increased 67 percent over the amount who registered before the invasion, said Selective Service spokeswoman Barbie Richardson.

There are no current proposals to reinstate the draft, which would happen only if Congress were to order it.

"Historically," Richardson said, "there have been hikes before conflicts," such as the recent U.S. invasion of Panama.

There could be any number of reasons for the dramatic increase, Richardson said, such as students finishing up tasks before heading off to school.

Federal law, although haphazardly enforced, requires young men to register within 30 days of their 18th birthday. Additionally, students have to certify they've registered before they can receive any federal college aid.

Volunteer

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individuals can help solve problems of society.

Over 86 percent of the volunteers said they feel that cuts in government spending on human services requires an alternate manner of reaching out to those in need.

Another 76 percent believe vol-

unteer work pays off in the nation's interest in terms of sheer people, hours and energy.

The volunteer fair will provide a unique opportunity for Columbia community service agencies to highlight their progressive volunteer opportunities and to introduce

themselves to the Carolina community.

McGrail stressed the role of the fair in "eliminating a lot of the fear from both sides." A student is freed from venturing unknowingly into the world of volunteer service, which can "often be intimidating," she said, whereas the agency can

reciprocate with ease.

The fair will take place in the Russell House Ballroom from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Additional information can be obtained by contacting the Office of Community Service Programs at 777-5780.

Handicapped

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is what most of them use.

"Basically, we wanted people to know that we are ticketing and we are towing," Martain said.

There are 135 parking spaces on campus allotted for the 140 handicapped students.

So far this semester, there have been 32 violations recorded of people parked in handicap places, said Bill Baker, director of Parking and Vehicle Registration.

"There is no real pattern of vio-

lations across campus," Baker said. "It's a pretty diverse set of locations."


In addition to a \$25 fine issued at all hours of the day, violators will have their cars towed, which costs \$30.

Violators should also be aware that if they park their cars in in handicapped spaces, university police will wait for the tow truck, and if violators return while police are waiting, they must still pay the tow truck \$10.

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