

Troops close in on Baghdad



Marine Sargeant Louis DeMarco of New York, Delta Company of the Second Tank Battalion, fuels a tank as a sandstorm rages in preparation for an advance to the north of Iraq yesterday. The move north has been one of the most aggressive tank road marches in Marine history.

Storms, 150+ Iraqi casualties mark day seven

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

American infantry troops fought off a desert attack by Iraqis yesterday, inflicting heavy casualties in a clash less than 100 miles from Baghdad. British forces battled for control of Basra, a city of 1.3 million sliding toward chaos.

Defense officials said between 150 and 500 Iraqis were killed in the battle near An Najaf, adding there were no immediate reports of American casualties.

Iraqis launched their attack on a day of howling sandstorms — weather bad enough to slow the U.S.-led drive toward the Iraqi capital. After the sandstorm lifted in Baghdad, pre-dawn explosions struck the city.

Warplanes bombed targets in the northern part of the country and briefly knocked government television off the air in the capital. And U.S. troops in control of a vast Iraqi air base sealed 36 bunkers, designated as possible hiding places for weapons of mass destruction.

American officials also issued fresh cautions about the possible use of chemical weapons by Iraqi troops, although none has yet been used in the 6-day-old war — or even found by the invading troops.

As the pace of combat quickened, American and British officials sought to prepare the public for something less than a

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Future students in architecture may face fees

By Jeff Sklar
SENIOR WRITER

Architecture students lead expensive lives.

John Kerbaugh estimates he spent \$1,500 last semester on materials for class projects. Between building materials, tools and pens, he says the program's costs add up fast — and that's before he factors in the required laptop computer.

"Every project is about \$100," said Kerbaugh, whose desk in the architecture studio contains a tackle box full of tools and building materials, all of which he paid for.

Now, future architecture students might have to pay even more.

With the School of Planning and the School of Landscape Architecture facing possible closure under President Pete Likins' Focused Excellence plans, the college's dean has proposed charging future students fees of up to \$500 per semester beginning in 2004.

Richard Eribes, dean of the College of Architecture, Planning and Landscape Architecture, proposed the fees in each of three proposals for sparing the college from at least a portion of the proposed cuts.

The fees would range from \$250 per semester for undergraduate architecture students to \$500 for graduate students in architecture, planning and

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Activists gather in library for 24-7 anti-war demonstration

By Aaron Mackey
STAFF WRITER

Students and local activists spent a second night in three fourth-floor meeting rooms in the UA Main Library last night in protest of the war with Iraq.

Since 8 a.m. Monday, the protesters have occupied the rooms, using them as a 24-hour "information centers" for the war on Iraq. The group has no name, but is composed of members from local activist groups such as the Alliance for Peace and Justice in the Middle East (APJME), UA Young Socialists and Students Against Sweatshops.

The "information centers" are a quiet departure from a 300 person off-campus protest that flooded the downtown area last week, obstructing traffic and forcing more than two dozen police officers in riot gear to control the crowd.

"The goal is to organize and educate," said art education senior Mike Sousa.

But members of the library group, such as Sousa, said that the "information center" had to overcome several obstacles in order to operate.

"The original goal (of the demonstration) was to show solidarity with the



More than two-dozen anti-war protesters took over three study rooms on the fourth floor of the Main Library Monday morning. The group plans to stay in the rooms around the clock.

people who are dying in Iraq," Walsh said.

Originally, the group planned on operating the "information center" on the UA Mall, but members said the Dean of Students office told them this was not possible.

According to APJME member Elias Walsh, the Dean's office would not allow for such a demonstration because around-the-clock security for the pro-

testers could not be assured.

The dean of students office could not be reached for comment yesterday.

The group also claims that at approximately 4 a.m. yesterday six UAPD officers appeared on the fourth floor, telling protesters that they could not have bedding material in the library and that sleeping was not allowed.

UAPD did not return phone calls yesterday.