

# National/Regional

## Nation observes King holiday

By The Associated Press

Veterans of civil rights struggles in the United States and South Africa joined to remember Martin Luther King Jr. and his ideals Monday as the nation observed the first federal holiday honoring the black leader.

Vice President George Bush watched as King's son Dexter placed a wreath on his father's grave Monday in an Atlanta ceremony followed by an ecumenical service at Ebenezer Baptist Church, where King was pastor.

"In the name of Martin, we ain't going back," the Rev. Joseph Lowery, who heads the Southern Christian Leadership Conference founded by King, said at the service. "We've come too far, we've worked too strenuously, we've marched too long, we've prayed too hard, we've wept too bitterly; we've bled too profusely and we've died too young."

Attending the service in addition to Bush were Sens. Robert Dole, R-Kan., Edward Kennedy, D-Mass., Bill Bradley, D-N.J., Sam Nunn, D-Ga., and Mack Mattingly, R-Ga.; Atlanta Mayor Andrew Young; Georgia Gov. Joe Frank Harris;

and members of King's family.

Kennedy called King "the founding father of the second American revolution, the revolution of civil rights."

"He disturbed our peace by appealing to our conscience," said Dole, who called the service "one of the proudest moments in my public life."

South African Bishop Desmond Tutu, who received the 1984 Nobel Peace Prize for his opposition to his nation's racial segregation policies, was to be awarded the annual Martin Luther King Jr. Peace Prize at the Atlanta service. Following that presentation, hundreds of former King colleagues and friends planned to march through the city.

"I'm so happy that today... we are celebrating the first national holiday for a black American, which in a sense transcends Martin himself and really gives honor and respect to every black American; to those who struggled so long and so hard to make this country as great as it is," Benjamin Hooks, executive director of the NAACP, said Monday on the "CBS Morning News."

## Cost of college on the rise

WASHINGTON (AP) — The nation's four-year public colleges and universities, traditionally among the best buys in higher education, are getting more expensive. They now charge an average of \$4,587 a year for tuition, room and board.

That is 7 percent more than a year ago, according to a survey released Monday by the American Association of State Colleges and Universities and the National Association of State Universities and Land-Grant Colleges.

Tuition alone jumped by 8 percent for students attending college in their home state and 11 percent for out-of-state students.

The steepest increases, in percentage terms, were in Texas, for years the home of the nation's least expensive public universities. Tuition and fees for state residents jumped 57

percent from \$446 a year to \$701, while out-of-state students saw their bills soar 162 percent from \$1,437 to \$3,764.

The legislature in Texas boosted the colleges' charges amidst a budget crunch brought about largely by depressed oil and gas prices.

Louisiana, another state hit by falling energy prices, had the second highest increase in tuition and fees, 27 percent for residents and non-residents alike. That boosted tuition and fees to \$1,071 for home-state students and to \$2,134 for non-residents.

The average public college bill of \$4,587 is still roughly half what it costs to spend a year at the typical private four-year college. That has led to a surge of applications at many prestigious public universities.

## States deal with last year's budget cuts

WASHINGTON (AP) — After a wave of tax cutting last year, few states are looking for more reductions this year, and legislatures in some states are facing no-growth budgets or spending cuts in the face of economic hard times.

An Associated Press survey of state legislatures convening this month shows that state coffers are reflecting the unevenness of the economy. Booming states like Massachusetts and California are flush with surpluses, while farm-belt, oil-producing and other economically hard-hit states are looking for ways to cut spending.

"It's a very bleak picture. It makes me depressed to review it," said state Sen. Hinton Mitchem of Alabama, where Gov.

George Wallace is proposing a 4.5-percent cut in spending by most state agencies in the budget for fiscal 1987.

"We will lose 10,000 state employees, and that means a blow to services," said Louisiana Gov. Edwin Edwards. "The poor will suffer, the elderly, the mentally ill — all those who can least afford to lose services."

But in California the state's general fund budget is in for a 7-percent increase, prompting Gov. George Deukmejian to boast, "California has gone from IOU to A-OK."

Other issues are also on the front burners. More than a dozen states have proposals to deal with the growing crisis in liability insurance, such as by

limiting damage claims, and many states are considering action on prisons to relieve crowding or otherwise improve conditions.

Money, though, is the overriding issue in the statehouses. Searching for money-raising alternatives to more taxes, Florida, Louisiana and West Virginia are considering allowing gambling casinos. Kansas is considering legalizing betting on horse racing.

Nationwide, the states are projecting at least \$2.8 billion in total surpluses, with California's \$1.16 billion the largest. Others include Massachusetts at \$500 million, Illinois with \$200 million, New Jersey with \$190 million and Virginia with \$302 million.



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