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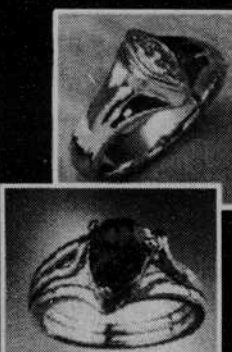
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Online

continued from page 1

term of his freshman year, mostly to keep in contact with his long-distance girlfriend of the time.

"That term, I was joined at the hip with my computer," he said.

But Carlson also admits to using minutes online to communicate with people that didn't necessarily have a different zip code.

"I'd 'I-M' people down the hall because I was so lazy," he said.

But long chatting sessions and hours of e-mailing are only a part of the Internet faze. The Web also offers free music from Napster, news groups and search engines such as Yahoo! that eat up the time of students who have easy Internet access from their rooms.

Brian Matson, a sophomore multimedia major who has lived in the residence halls for two years, said the Ethernet hook-up makes it twice as easy to quickly download music and movie clips and search for in-

formation. He added that because the access is so fast in comparison to dial-up modems, it also serves as a tempting distraction from other tasks such as homework.

Students also find the fast access convenient for classes. About 59 percent of all college courses now utilize e-mail, up from 20 percent in 1995, according to the 2000 Campus Computing Survey. Similarly, almost 43 percent of college courses now use Web resources as a component of the syllabus, up from 10.9 percent in 1995.

Besides the residence halls, other common forms of access are granted through the library, computer lab, or free dial-in connection.

Kenneth Green, founder of the Campus Computing Survey, said many institutions offer students free and fast Internet access because the Web has evolved from a luxury to a necessity in recent years.

"This trend just parallels what's going on all over the world," he said. "Students can communicate with other students, faculty members and

researchers, and they have access that would be impossible years ago."

But although the majority of freshmen live in the residence halls their first year and are introduced to the wonders of the Ethernet connection, moving out brings the challenge of satisfying the Internet hunger by other means.

Sophomore history major Jordan McDaniels who now dials-in through the University, said she sometimes misses the fast Internet service she had when she lived in the residence halls. She added that last year, she spent about 2-3 hours a day online, and now barely spends an hour a day.

Carlson had a high-speed connection sophomore year when he lived in Ducks Village, and currently stays connected through a commercial provider. He said he probably spends about an hour a day online to quickly do research for classes and trips, download music, e-mail and chat.

"I'm just an Internet junkie," he said.

Budget

continued from page 1

getting less services.

He said both the budget proposals include a tuition hike, but only for the purpose of filling holes in other areas of the state budget. Wykoff supported an idea of a tuition increase, but only for improving higher education. The current

plans, he said, only used students' money as a cash cow for floating other state programs.

"Are students going to be paying to be subsidizing another state budget?" he asked, in regard to the current budget proposals.

Tim Young, a student representative on the State Board of Higher Education, said he has been consistently displeased with the bud-

et process. He said the state needs to commit resources to higher education, or it will face losing its best and brightest to other states. While Young did not specifically criticize the budget decisions, he did say there needs to be a greater emphasis on funding the OUS.

"If the state doesn't give enough resources, the whole system will collapse," he said.

Calendar

Monday, Feb. 5

Exhibition: "Boss of the Waterfront: Wayne Morse and Labor Arbitration." Circulation Lobby and Corridors, Knight Library. Free. Opening ceremony and lecture by labor historian Nelson Lichtenstein at 7 p.m. Feb. 5 in the library's Browsing Room. Through April 20.

Exhibition: The Fibers Group Show, ers. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. LaVerne Krause Gallery, Lawrence Hall. Free. Through Feb. 9.

Food for Thought Video Series: "Asian Americans, Emergent Minorities and Reinventing Our American Dreams." Pre-register. Noon-1:30 p.m. Board Room, EMU. Free.

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