ARIZONA DAILY WILDCAT
Thursday, March 13, 2003
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BENEDICT 50.9% • MANSELL 49.1%

President’s post sealed by 64 votes

Voter turnout highest in more than a decade

By Rebekah Kleinman & Aaron Mackey
News Editor & Staff Writer

Nearly 4,000 students voted online in the ASUA general election, the most since 1991, producing one of the closest elections in UA history with less than 1 percent of the vote separating the winners from the losers in some offices.

President-elect J.P. Benedict maintained his primary election lead over opponent Jered Mansell, winning 50.5 percent of the vote, while his campaign partner Melanie Rainer also came out on top in the executive vice president race, defeating Scott Cheney by only 0.9 percent.

Victoria Roos, who publicly supported Mansell and Cheney, won by the largest margin in any race, coming away with 35.5 percent of the vote to Daniel Sulh’s 44.5 percent in the race for administrative vice president.

Students voting for the office of senator were asked to select 10 of the 19 candidates on the online ballot, creating a tight race, with only 34 votes separating the 10th and 11th place senators.

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Parking costs increase by $50 per year

By Bob Purvis
Staff Writer

A $50 increase in the cost of parking passes and the loss of 800 parking spaces to construction projects could make parking on campus a stressful ordeal in the fall.

Effective this August, people who want parking permits can expect to pay 20 cents more per day, or roughly $50 more per year, parking and Transportation Services said the increase is necessary to offset the cost of a new transportation officials said.

A $50 increase in the cost of parking passes

Parking and Transportation Services said the increase is necessary to offset the cost of a new parking garage is still in the planning phase.

Facilities Design and Management Senior Program Coordinator Melissa Dryden said the parking garage will be built north of East Speedway Boulevard at the North Highland Avenue underpass.

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Nightclub safety a rising concern

By Tessa Hill & Ian Musil
Staff Writers

As Laura Conklin stepped inside Maloney’s on Fourth on a bustling Saturday night, she contemplated not only how long it would take to catch the bartender’s attention, but where the nearest exit was in case of an emergency.

For many UA students, this safety concern has come as a result of a string of recent nightclub disasters.

On Tuesday, 11 people were injured in the ensuing panic after one man opened fire on another man slashed clubgoers in a New York City nightclub.

On Feb. 20, a deadly fire ripped through a Rhode Island nightclub, taking 99 lives.

On Wednesday, a stampede in a Chicago nightclub killed 21.

Although Conklin, a pre-physiological sciences junior, doesn’t think a tragedy like any of those in New York, Chicago and Rhode Island would occur in Tucson, she has taken a mental note of the exits in the establishment complies with local fire codes.

The maximum occupancy of Maloney’s and 8 Traxx is 600, and is typically reached on weekends, Kirchoffner said. She added that the exits would allow a large group of people to free-flow out of the building in case of an emergency.

“We do all sorts of training and, of course, take precautionary measures,” she said.

Local bar managers and Tucson Fire Department officials said the chances that events like those in New York, Chicago and Rhode Island would occur in Tucson are slim.

Kiki Kirchoffner, manager of Maloney’s on Fourth and 8 Traxx, 233 N. Fourth Ave., said that with 13 exits that remain open during business hours, the establishment complies with local fire codes.

The Arizona Daily Wildcat News Editor & Staff Writer

A You Decide

New student senators will face challenges in teamwork

By Stephanie Schwartz
Staff Writer

Ten elected senators will test out the ASUA waters this fall, but after a close election, they will first have to learn to work with each other.

Last night, Freshman Class Council member Jacob Reuben brought in the most votes in the senatorial race with 33.3 percent of the total vote. Kara Harris trailed him by only 14 votes.

The other eight senatorial positions went to Blake Buchanan, Morgan Kuehl, Sara Bimbaum, Nicholas Rajema, Ben Weiss, Kartikay Karwia, Matthew Harris and Soral Karim.

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