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Campus ready for crises

By Aaron Mackey Staff Writer

When the United States government heightened its terrorist threat level last week, the University of Arizona was ready for the higher level, as procedures had already been put in place to deal with any campus emergency.

The Campus Emergency Response Team is responsible for dealing with most campus emergencies and establishing procedures and protocol for the university to follow during an emergency.

However, since Sept. 11 and the College of Nursing shootings, CERT has increased its planning and has redefined how UA would handle emergencies where student lives could be in danger.

While no official action has been taken to increase campus security in light of the higher threat level, Facilities and Risk Management Director Steve Holland said there is "a heightened sense of awareness across campus."

"When the nation is in the state of high alert everyone in the university is a little more vigilant than they might normally be," said university spokesperson Sharon Kha.

Meeting weekly, CERT discusses possible scenarios and how different departments would act in response to specific emergencies.

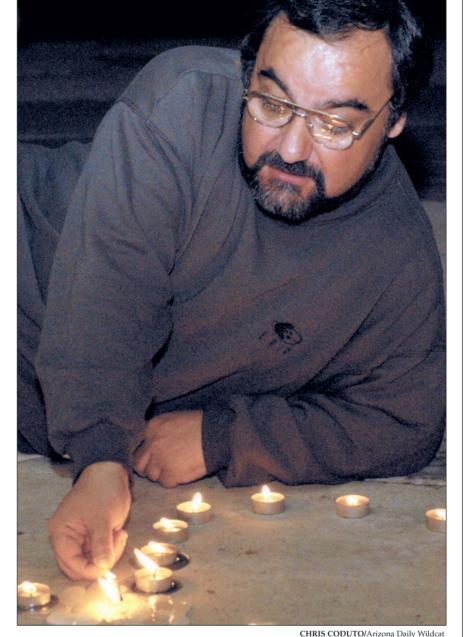
In all of the scenarios discussed by the team, preservation of life is always the main focus of any action taken, Kha said.

The most difficult part of the planning is that any scenario discussed is based solely on speculation, as no one is certain as to what type of emergency may occur on campus.

CERT must also dictate to all campus

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PRAYING FOR PEACE



Moji Agha, founder of the Universal Coalition for Interfaith and Intercultural Knowledge and Action, lights a candle Sunday night during an around-the-clock vigil for peace at the Islamic Center of Tucson on East Second Street. The vigil started Friday, and is running until the end of the war with Iraq.

Ground troops approach Baghdad

The Associated Press

Aiming for Saddam Hussein's seat of power, U.S.-led warplanes and helicopters attacked Republican Guard units defending Baghdad on Monday while ground troops advanced to within 50 miles of the Iraqi capital. President Bush put a \$75 billion price tag on a down payment for the war.

The helicopter assault marked the first

known engagement between forces in central Iraq, and many of the American craft were hit by Iraqi groundfire. One went down behind enemy lines — the cause was

Go Inside: For more coverage of Operation Iraqi Freedom PAGE 6

unknown — and the Pentagon said the two-person crew had been taken prisoner.

Five days into Operation Iraqi Freedom, resistance prevented American and British forces from securing the southern cities of Basra and An Nasiriyah and thwarted efforts to extinguish burning oil wells.

"These things are never easy," conceded British Prime Minister Tony Blair, on the day his country suffered its first combat casualty of the war. "There will be some difficult times ahead but (the war) is going to plan despite the tragedies."

Saddam sought to rally his own country in a televised appearance. "Be patient, brothers, because God's victory will be ours soon," he said, appearing in full military garb and seeming more composed than in a taped appearance broadcast last week.

Kappa Sigma cleans up "A"

By Kristina Dunham & Cara O'Connor Assistant News Editor & Staff Writer

Several members of Kappa Sigma fraternity set out last night on a mission to restore the "A" on "A" Mountain to its original color after it



Campus Health treats break ills

Many students get sick because of lack of sleep, excessive drinking

Mountain to its original color after it was painted black during spring break.

However, the plans of the 17 men were inter-

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were interrupted when the Tucson P o l i c e Department arrived at the scene just before 11:00 p.m. "The cops

paid us a little

visit," said member Charlie Hall, who helped organize the event.

The group went to the mountain under the assumption that they had permission from UAPD Commander Brain Seastone and Greek Life coordinator Chris Bullins to paint the letter.

Cmdr. Seastone said, however,

CHRIS CODUTO/Arizona Daily Wildcat

Pre-business sophomore Ryan Chapa pours a bucket of white paint onto the "A" on "A" mountain last night. Chapa was among 17 Kappa Sigma fraternity members on the mountain to repaint the "A" to its normal color when police arrived.

that he was unaware of the group's plans, and that he did not given his consent.

He added that even if he had talked with fraternity members, he could not have given them permission because the mountain in Sentinel Peak Park, 1000 S. Sentinel

Peak Road, is not under UAPD's jurisdiction.

Bullins said that he spoke with Brett Gerson, Kappa Sigma president, earlier in the evening after

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By Arek Sarkissian II Staff Writer

Students returning from Spring Break aren't complaining of the normal aches and pains Campus Health is used to. In fact, the number of students coming into the clinic yesterday was about average for normal Monday traffic.

Rather than common injuries or illnesses related to spring break, more students visited the clinic yesterday to treat a respiratory virus that began sweeping the campus more than one month ago.

According to Carrie Torrington, nursing coordinator for Campus Health, the respiratory virus starts as congestion in the chest, then leads to irritation of the throat and congestion in the sinuses.

The virus was escalated by students who indulged in immune system killing activities, like drinking, during the week off, Torrington said. Students also tend to lose their normal hygienic habits on spring break, neglecting to do things like washing their hands or getting proper sleep, she said.

"Basically, the only thing you could do to prevent this is to do what your mother always told you to do," she said.

The weakening of the immune system from partying

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