Minority students find UA support

Native American students moving from reservations to college face a variety of challenges, but a center on campus is working to ease the transition.

Native American Student Affairs provides academic services to students, but also supplies a positive social atmosphere. "I am not really social, so the more times I went there I got to meet more and more people," said Ryan Chee, an aerospace engineering freshman, from the Navajo reservation.

Chee is one of 28 Native American students that live in the O’Odham Ki wing of Graham-Greenlee residence hall. "The purpose of the wing is to target incoming freshmen or transfer students, students that aren’t necessarily familiar with the campus. And it creates a community base for them," said Monica Nuvamsa, senior coordinator of NASA.

Chee’s fraternity, Beta Sigma Epsilon, the first Native American fraternity in the western United States, uses the lounge of the NASA Wassaja Student Center for its meetings.

It was in this lounge that Chee met fraternity president Josh Lucio and became involved in the group of which

ASUA looking for new faces

By Aaron Mackey

When the application deadline for student government appointed positions arrives at noon Friday, the recently elected officers will immediately begin the search for new ASUA blood.

“We’re looking for the people who are going to be really involved,” said Executive Vice President-elect Melanie Rainer.

President-elect J.P. Benedict also hopes to bring in fresh energy to the Associated Students of the University of Arizona with the appointment of 28 new cabinet members.

“Basically I’m looking for the best people possible; someone who’s creative, hard-working, and responsible,” he said.

Next year’s appointed positions will see some turnover, as many of the people currently holding positions will be graduating, said ASUA Adviser Claudia Davila.

“We have a lot of upperclassmen leaving this year, so I’m not sure what our application pool will be,” Davila said.

However, some will presumably be appointed. Positions. With the possibility of

Professor speaks out about arrest

By Arak Sarkissian II

The director of the Department of African-American Studies spoke out yesterday at the Islamic Center of Tucson at East First Street and North Tyndall Avenue. He was confronted by UAPD officers at the same intersection earlier this month as a suspect who threatened a sandwich shop employee with a knife.

Professor Julian Kunnie told about 60 supporters and local media that a change needs to be made in how black people are viewed in the community, which NAACP Tucson President Clarence Boykins said could only be made with a change in society’s attitude.

“It’ll take time, but we’ll get it,” Boykins said.

Kunnie said he was leaving a 24-hour

Spring Fling attendance down

5,000 fewer people than last year attended UA’s student-run carnival

By Cara O’Connor

Last weekend’s weather was sunny and warm, but that was not enough to keep the clouds away from Spring Fling success.

Organizers estimated that just under 30,000 people attended the 29th annual event, 5,000 fewer than last year and more than 10,000 short of the organizers’ goal.

Spring Fling, the largest student-run carnival in the nation, grossed between $250,000 and $300,000, according to estimates from organizers. Last year, the event grossed $315,000.

“We actually didn’t meet our expectations. Our numbers were noticeably low,” said Pedro Contreras, executive director of Spring Fling.

Even though the clubs manning booths at the event did not meet their goal of $100,000, they still brought in more money than in the last few years, Contreras said.

The “Yo-Yo” ride spins Saturday night during Spring Fling at Rillito Park. The ride puts patrons in swings and it twists them around until they are parallel to the ground.

Treading Water

Weight training helps keep women’s water polo afloat

By Cara O’Connor

Pre-physiological sciences sophomore Jackie Slowtalker works on her homework in the Native American Student Affairs center on the second floor of the Nugent building yesterday afternoon.

Randy Metcalf/Arizona Daily Wildcat

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