Professor speaks to women’s group on ‘Hidden U.S. Policy’ toward Iraq

BY JESSE GREENSPAN
Staff Writer

The Bush administration is pushing toward war with Iraq not because of problems with Saddam Hussein but because they are trying to justify their foreign power, a UA professor told a UA women's group. Associate professor of political science David Gibbs, an associate professor of political science, discussed his view on U.S. motivations for attacking Iraq.

However, Gibbs expressed confidence that the United States could detect weapons of mass destruction, and brought up the government's lack of evidence in the matter. He called Scott Ritter, the former chief U.N. weapons inspector who has said Hussein's weapons of mass destruction have been largely destroyed.

Though Gibbs admitted Hussein ran a "bloodthirsty regime," he said that should not be a pretext for war because the United States gave aid to Hussein when they knew he was using poisonous gas against the Kurds.

"Establishing and reestablishing military threats allows for a greater justification of military spending," he said.

The U.S. military budget is already larger than the closest 15 military budgets combined, he said.

"Generally, in the academic world we see issues in complexity, and not in black and white," Dunford said. "I am convinced Saddam Hussein is a thug, a military dictator."

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Gun incident prompts frat to ID partiers

BY DEVIN SIMMONS
Staff Writer

After a Bid Night incident in which a partgoer pulled a gun on three security guards hired for the event, a UA fraternity president said his house will begin checking identification at the door for parties.

"If Saddam didn't exist, we would have to create him," he said. Gibbs said the administration has offered two distinct justifications for going to war.

As passengers get off planes at Tucson International Airport, a sign with a picture of mayor Bob Walkup reads, "Welcome to Optics Valley," and the latest campus construction prospect reinforces that local motto. Yesterday, the UA broke ground on a $17.2 million expansion of the Meinel Optical Sciences Center.

Ground is broken for the expansion of the Meinel Optical Sciences Center yesterday. The parking lot next to the Main Library is slated to become the location for the expansion, which will double the center’s size. Construction is scheduled to begin in November.

As of Friday, the University of Arizona Police Department had not found the individual suspected in this incident, said Cmdr. Brian Ryan.

"I felt like security did its job," he said.

Ryan said that as a result of the event, his fraternity will begin checking IDs at the door during parties.

Kevin Ward, one of the other security guards, said that the one of the three men "had him to "go to hell." Police responded to the scene after the man suspected of pulling the gun and his friends had left the party, running southeast on North First Avenue.

The police got a description from witnesses and searched the area, but were unable to find the man.

In the morning, Tucson Police Department received a call of a reported break-in at a house on 632 E. Fourth St. The suspect matched the description of the individual from the party, and police were able to get a license plate number from the vehicle he fled in.

Reports compiled from witnesses described the suspect carrying the gun as approximately 5-foot-4-inch and wearing a blue Hawaiian shirt, a white baseball cap, and blue pants.

Sean Ryan, president of the fraternity, said no one at the party knew the three men. He added that security at the fraternity had the situation under control.

"I felt like security did its job," he said.

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