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Club flies to new heights



DAVID HARDEN/Arizona Daily Wildcat

Business management senior and flying club president Scott Levitt controls a Cessna at 6,500 feet over Tucson on Saturday. The club allows students to get hands-on experience flying small aircraft.

BY REBEKAH JAMPOLE
Staff Writer

Fifteen UA students are part of a club founded on doing what many children dream of — flying.

The Flying Club, in its second semester after a three-year disappearance, has the opportunity to see parts of Tucson and surrounding areas that can't be found from the ground.

"The members are amazed by the good scenery around Tucson," said club president Scott Lavitt. "It gives us a chance to see it all."

Not all of the members hold pilot's licenses — the majority are just students interested in aviation. However, those who are certified pilots spent a lot of time and money getting their wings.

In general, student pilots fly two to three times a week for two months, and then pay \$4,000 to \$6,000 for their license.

"It's worth it," Lavitt said.

Many of the members fly only as a hobby and don't plan to make a career out of it. The Cessna 172, a single engine plane that licensed members fly, seats only four passengers but gives them a perspective on flying that they can't get from larger aircraft.

The plane allows for closer views of areas jets can't see, like the north side of the Rincon Mountains or large canyons in Oracle.

"I think that there is this misconception that flying is just something that people who want to be pilots do, or old people with a lot of money," Lavitt said.

However, it is a great place to network with people who have the same interests, said club vice president Brandon Hawley.

The Flying Club doesn't spend all its time in the air.

They have toured the control

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tower at Tucson International

Plans may help crisis response

BY REBEKAH JAMPOLE & BRITTANY MANSON
Staff Writers

The UA is developing emergency response measures that will help students and faculty better assess and cope with violent situations, said a panel of administrators at town halls Friday and Monday.

In the far-ranging discussions, which were billed as forums on making connections across campus in a time of crisis, the panel talked about response to threats, classroom discipline and continued fallout from last month's shootings at the College of Nursing.

Plans to deal with threats include an assessment team that will determine levels of threats made on campus, as well as how individual situations should be handled.

An emergency response team is mobilized whenever there is a high-level crisis, said Patti Ota, vice president for executive affairs and university initiatives.

That team is made up of officials from many of the departments represented on the panel. Attendees at the forums included representatives from the dean of students office, university police, human resources, risk management, counseling and psychological services, executive affairs and university initiatives, life and work connections, communication and news services, as well as President Pete Likins and Provost George Davis.

It is critical to report any direct threat immediately, said University of Arizona Police Department Cmdr. Brian Seastone. No one should be fearful of calling 911.

UA students expressed concerns as to whether safety can ever be guaranteed when there are no definite warnings of this type of behavior.

Panel members had no definitive response.

Unity and communication remained a dominant theme in plans for making the campus safer, and Likins encouraged students, faculty and staff to become comfortable asking for help.

The panel also expressed its admiration to the UA community for its strength after the shootings at the College of Nursing.

"The healing process continues. I understand that

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UA student receives fewer than 30 governor votes

BY JESSE GREENSPAN
Staff Writer

When student Carlton Rahmani decided to run for governor less than two months ago, he vowed to stick out his campaign to the end.

And although history senior garnered only 29 votes, or 0.0027 percent of the total, he did get only one vote less than all four of the other write-in candidates' votes combined.

In comparison, write-in candidate L.D. Talbow received only a single vote, according to official results released last Thursday.

"I came in fifth place out of (nine) candidates and I relish in that fact," Rahmani said. "The way I see it, Matt Salmon might have gotten a half-million more votes than me, but we both lost."

The 28-year-old Rahmani began his campaign after becoming disillusioned with Arizona politics.

Rahmani, who pledged to support mom and pop businesses and small

companies, but describes himself as a Republican, decided to run on a platform he calls a combination of progressivism and conservatism, with education and the environment also playing key roles.

One of his main ideas involved a "beer-or-a-brain tax," which would have helped fund higher education in Arizona by taxing citizens the price of one beer per month.

Solar power was also an important part of Rahmani's campaign, as he proposed giving low-interest loans to any homeowner who agreed to use solar power.

However, it was not enough to propel him to victory, though Rahmani did say he supported the election of Democratic candidate Janet Napolitano.

"At one point, I was hoping Mahoney was the favorite," he said, adding that he now believes Napolitano to be the best choice.

In fact, Rahmani even encouraged his supporters to vote for Napolitano,

although he eventually ended up voting for himself a few weeks after he seriously considered ending his campaign.

"I really didn't want Matt Salmon to win," he said.

Jerry Diaz, who estimated he spent 10 to 12 hours a week working on the Rahmani campaign, also voted for his friend, despite the fact that he supported Napolitano over Salmon.

"We were very unhappy with Salmon's views and issues," Diaz said. "I like to think we helped (Napolitano) a little."

Diaz said he did not regret his decision to act as a sort of campaign manager for Rahmani.

"I learned a lot about the political process itself," he said.

Rahmani agreed.

"There are things I wish I had done differently, but I don't regret the decision to run," he said. "If you want to learn about politics, then run for office."

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DAVID HARDEN/Arizona Daily Wildcat

Senior Carl Rahmani made a run at governor but lost the race this November to Janet Napolitano. Rahmani received 29 votes in the election.