Booze leads to frat bust
University suspends Pi Kappa Alpha’s recognition for recent alcohol violation

By Cara O’Connor
Contributing Writer

More than 20 Pi Kappa Alpha members are awaiting a decision from the dean of students and their national chapter as to the future of the fraternity on the UA campus.

The UA temporarily withdrew its recognition of the fraternity yesterday in response to a September violation of its probation.

The fraternity, also known as “Pike,” was originally placed on social probation in fall 2001 when a number of fights involving fraternity members were reported.

Most recently, though, Greeks Advocating Mature Management of Alcohol (GAMMA) officials found bottled alcohol at a “dry” (non-alcohol) bid night party at the fraternity.

Alcohol is forbidden at all open-campus events at fraternities, according to the Intra-Fraternity Council, Pan-Hellenic and GAMMA student risk management policy.

According to Pike President Drew Baxter, however, no members of the fraternity were involved in the most recent GAMMA violation because a group of girls brought alcohol with them to the party.

The girls were required to leave, but the fraternity was still disciplined, Baxter said.

Pike members appealed the initial disciplinary decision, but in December it was still found in violation of the policy. Hernandez

Teacher shortage solutions

Programs like ‘Teach for Tucson’ give education majors practical experience

By Tacie Holyoak
Contributing Writer

Psychology freshman Hillary Bender practices signing in her American Sign Language I class yesterday afternoon as professor Samuel J. Sulpia, Ph.D looks on.

For the 800 students enrolled in the undergraduate education program and another 800 enrolled at the graduate level, a more hands-on approach is intended to help them better understand their future roles as educators.

“(Working in the classroom) has given me a tool box almost,” she said. “Being in the classroom has helped to figure out what they’ve been talking about.”

Upon completion of the Teach for Tucson program, Kruse will be eligible for certification, and then plans to enter a career in elementary education, where

Merger possibilities will be announced today

By Jeff Sklar
Senior Writer

Top administrators will announce today their initial plans for merging and reorganizing UA programs, the second in a series of announcements outlining their proposals for restructuring the UA’s mission.

Today’s announcement by President Pete Likins and Provost George Davis will mark the second time in just over a week that they give specific plans for altering the university’s goals under Likins’ Focused Excellence plan, which seeks to make UA a research powerhouse.

The proposals will include preliminary plans for merging some programs, and ideas for reorganizing others so they function more smoothly or efficiently, Davis said.

He would not discuss specifics of the plan yesterday, but said the proposed changes would impact a broad range of departments.

Department heads across the university expect the merger proposals to meet with some dissent from faculty, many of whom have worked in the same department with many of the same colleagues for decades.

Davis also expects some opposition, and said he and Likins backed away from some merger proposals, fearing political fallout or other “collateral damage” could offset the benefits of the merger.

“The challenging part of … programs includes the uncertainties that are always surrounding what happens when two or more units are brought together,” he said.

“Whether it works or not depends so much on the people, the culture