Cancellations lead to dorm vacancies

By Alexis Blue

Students looking for on-campus housing have another shot at finding space. 

Thanks to an unusually high number of late cancellations and no-shows there are nearly 100 open spaces in residence halls across campus, said Jim Van Arsdale, director of Residence Life.

While Residence Life received about 400 more housing applications this year than last, they also had about 400 more late cancellations and no-shows.

This year, 2,340 of the nearly 8,000 students who applied for on-campus housing either cancelled their applications at the last minute or didn’t show up during move-in week.

The openings come as a surprise to those at Residence Life who were planning to inform students that space was sparse.

“Our numbers were so far ahead of last year that we were convinced that if we had a problem we wouldn’t have enough housing for everyone we committed to,” Van Arsdale said.

By early July, Residence Life had a waiting list of about 300 students who applied for housing after the May 1 deadline.

Van Arsdale said Residence Life had been calling students on the waiting list to inform them that possibilities for housing had been filled.

But due to the amount of cancellations and no-shows, everyone who remained on the list was offered housing in time.

See HOUSING/11

Coronado weekend security increased

By Ty Young

Residence Life tightened security in the Coronado Residence Hall Friday, forcing guests to sign-in and provide two forms of identification in order to visit their friends.

Although a report surfaced concerning a Coronado resident who was sexually assaulted on Aug. 30, Jim Van Arsdale, director of Residence Life, said the timing of the increased security was coincidental.

Arsdale said the heightened security came after staff members noticed an unusual amount of non-residents milling about the building.

“This has nothing to do with the sexual assault,” he said. “Whatever information we have does not suggest that was carried out by someone outside the building. Truly, there is no relationship at all, it’s just a matter of coincidence.”

On Tuesday, UAPD spokesman Sgt. Eugene Mejia said the case was under investigation, but preliminary findings determined that the claim was “unfounded,” and that it would not be labeled a sexual assault.

As of Friday the case was still under investigation.

In a letter distributed Friday to Coronado residents and staff, Van Arsdale wrote that if administrators in the Eller College of Business and Public Administration got their way, business students will soon be eating, breathing, and sleeping integrity.

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The Eller College has begun a new “E-tegrity” program in an attempt to help students become more sensitive to issues of ethical and academic integrity.

“We just want to flood students with integrity and keep it at the forefront of their minds,” said Larry Ruzza, business economics senior and coordinator of the E-tegrity student board.

E-tegrity, short for Eller Integrity, is a response to data from the Center for Academic Integrity which indicates that 75 percent of all U.S. college students have admitted to cheating, said Paul Melendez, Eller College director of undergraduate programs.

According to records from the Dean of Students office, there were 311 academic integrity cases at the UA during 2002-2003.

The relatively small number of reported cases worries Melendez who wonders whether a large number of cases might be going unreported.

“That shows we either have no problem or we have a very big problem,” he said.

Regardless of the size of UA’s numbers, Melendez expressed concern about the percentage of violations that occurred in the Eller College.

Eighty-five of these students —