Rainfall floods UA; drainage a concern

By Mitra Taj

Less than a half-inch of rain fell yesterday, but it was enough to create mini rivers and lakes on campus, annoying students with wet feet and soaked pants.

"Look at my pants; drainage isn’t working," said Erika Trigoso, a geography graduate student who was riding her bike around campus yesterday.

Grant McCormick, a campus planner who has been working on storm water drainage projects for the past 10 years, said two immediate projects addressing the problem are in the works.

Two different areas of campus under construction will escape flooding problems with the aid of detention basins — sunken areas of land where collected water is absorbed and slowly bled out into the street.

These areas include the Arizona Health Sciences Center, where three buildings are being constructed, and the Highland District, where two new residence halls will open next year.

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Women’s lacrosse caught hazing

Team put on probation for banana ‘blow job’

By Jesse Lewis

The women’s lacrosse team was charged with hazing after a team member reported she had to act out a blow job on a banana.

Veda Kowalski, associate dean of students, said a member of the team reported that she thought she had been hazed one month ago, after she was told to demonstrate a blow job on a banana, drink even though she was underage, and eat pudding from its container on the ground.

The five new team members who were hazed by returning members also had to run a relay race and dance.

The team has been put on probation for one calendar year. Members must complete 100 hours of community service, and create an anti-hazing project they will present to the Dean of Students Office.

Although they cannot participate in social activities for club sports, they can practice and compete as of today.

While the team was awaiting its sanction, it was suspended from all privileges, including any access to club sports offices.

The drop in enrollment has also hurt the UA and the Tucson community financially.

He first applied for his visa before Sept. 11. The consulate turned him down, saying he didn’t have the financial means to study in America although he had a full scholarship, Min said.

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The main reason for the drop in international students include stricter visa procedures after Sept. 11, 2001, and increased competition from universities in Australia, New Zealand, Canada and the United Kingdom, Simmons said.

When Min searched for a university, he applied to schools in the United States, Canada, and Japan, but kept his eye on Arizona.

"I really wanted to come to the United States," he said.

300 fewer international students attending UA as U.S. restricts visas

By Walter E. Staton

Thanh Sin Min tried three times to study at the UA, but each time that the UA accepted him, the United States did not.

It wasn’t until his third attempt to get a visa from the U.S. consulate in Burma that Min, a mechanical engineering sophomore, succeeded.

Visa restrictions imposed by the Department of Homeland Security have dramatically impacted the number of international students studying in the United States, said Kirk Simmons, executive director of international affairs.

Last fall, UA had more than 2,900 international students. This spring, the number has dropped by 300, Simmons said. Spring enrollment is usually down by 100 to 150 students, but this semester’s large drop has raised some eyebrows.

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Students say safety a concern in UA library

By Holly Wells

On Jan. 26, Megan Miller was assaulted by another student while she was studying on the fourth floor of the Main Library.

Miller, a senior majoring in Spanish, said the student, whom she didn’t know, grabbed her by the wrists and told Miller he loved her. He had assaulted another student, whom she didn’t know, grabbed her by the wrists and told Miller he loved her.

"There’s no control system over who comes in and out of the library," she said.

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