Students protest PC disposal

By Natasha Bhuyan

Students decked out in Hazmat suits on the Mall yesterday had a mission: to show that their peers that computers could kill.

The students, who wore the Hazmat suits to protest themselves from “toxic computer parts” on a nearby table, were members of the Arizona Student Recycling Association, and the suits were used to attract attention to the national Computer Takeback Campaign.

Rob Wild, president of ASRA and a physics senior, said many students aren’t aware of how toxic discarded computers are to the environment.

Emily Kara, an environmental science senior, said the restrictions on computer disposal are not as stringent in developing countries, and various toxins end up in the water supply.

As a result, Laura Showalter, vice president of ASRA and biology sophomore, said citizens of other countries are dying.

She said “We don’t want students to vote on a work in progress,” he said. “We want it to be perfect and solid.”

Bajema said it is important to get the fee passed this semester because next year’s student leaders may not have the dedication to continue with the project. The idea of a student fee has been discussed for the past decade, and students this year have the initiative to do something about it, he said.

“Student leaders are together now. If it is going to happen, it’s going to be this year,” he said. “If students, Panhellenic Council, Interfraternity Council, Residence Association and Graduate and Professional Student Council.

Activity fee taken off March ballot

Student leaders say too many loopholes in plan

By Dana Crudo

Student leaders decided yesterday not to ask students to vote on the activity fee until April, saying they need more time to determine the fee’s structure.

The Associated Students of the University of Arizona Senate was going to vote on whether to put the student activity fee on the March ballot, but the initiative was struck down.

Instead, a special election will be held for the fee in April. Student leaders on the Collaboration Board originally proposed that the fee be between $5 and $15 per semester.

ASUA Sen. Nick Bajema, who worked on the proposal, said there were too many loopholes and that they did not want to rush the fee only to see it fail down the road.

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‘Passion’ debuts to mixed reviews

By Mitra Taj

The most controversial film of the year, “The Passion of the Christ,” debuted yesterday to long lines of moviegoers, including UA students and religious scholars, who had mixed reviews.

Ed Wright, the head of the Judaic studies department saw the film yesterday and criticized it for offering a literalist interpretation of the film that neither Christians nor Jews would agree with.

“The Passion of the Christ,” a film directed by Mel Gibson, depicts the last 12 hours of Jesus’ life.

Wright, a Christian, originally did not want to see the movie, calling it “completely unappropiate.”

“Violence is the whole movie. The story of the passion itself is only a fraction of it,” he said. “Gibson’s forcing one view on the community.”

But many Christian students, who saw the film last night said they believed the portrayal was historically accurate.

“It was very violent and bloody, but it was just telling it as it was; the portrayal was no more than that,” said Jennifer Anderson, a math and education junior who left the movie theater tearful last night. “It was very realistic; very heart touching.”

Other Christian moviegoers found the film to be an emotional and spiritual experience.

“It made me cry,” said Patrick Klein, a physiology science sophomore. “The beatings scenes — which were like 90 percent of the movie — were unbearable.”

Klein said he hopes the film will inspire others to share his beliefs.

“Hopefully it will open people up,” he said. “Maybe they’ll see this and then seek the next step.”

More UA students supported than opposed a possible tuition hike, according to a UA Student Senate survey of students, 53.6 percent favored an increase in tuition.

Students back tuition hike, want more aid

By Jeff Sklar

More UA students supported than opposed a possible tuition hike during a forum with regents yesterday, and most agreed that tuition hikes must be accompanied with financial aid increases.

Students from a variety of backgrounds told regents they’d support a tuition increase, which would likely be between $40 and $491, as long as it’s combined with better financial aid for undergraduates and graduate students.

“You can’t be willing to support these efforts in a financially bold manner,” said Graduate and Professional Student Council President Jami Raddbaugh, speaking about the need to grant free

Director tries for Oscar gold

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