

ARIZONA DAILY WILDCAT

wildcat.arizona.edu

Friday, March 12, 2004

The University of Arizona, Tucson

Regents approve \$490 tuition hike

Nonresident tuition increased by \$700

By Jeff Sklar
SENIOR WRITER

Arizona residents will pay another \$490 in tuition next year, and nonresidents will see their bills rise by \$700.

The Arizona Board of Regents approved those increases, which were proposed by President Peter Likins, by an 8-1 vote yesterday. In doing so, they rejected a

student lobbyist proposal asking for a \$400 increase for residents.

The regents also approved a \$25 fee for all resident undergraduate applicants, a move that should raise a little more than \$250,000 to assist in student recruitment.

The tuition hike marked the second year in a row that the cost of a UA education has been raised at unprecedented rates, and will propel tuition to 35th in the country among comparable public universities, based on rates for this school year.

"I do believe we're doing the right thing," Likins said. "We've repositioned the university ... and I think frankly, we're long overdue."

This year's increase and last year's \$1,000 hike wouldn't have been necessary, he said, had tuition been raised more gradually over the years and had state funding not shrunk to levels that forced the university to cut classes and lay off workers.

The revenue from the tuition hike will likely be used to cover costs like faculty salaries and class availability, in addition to financial aid.

The pool of money set aside for financial aid will grow, and resident undergraduate Pell Grant recipients, who are federally defined as the university's neediest stu-



EVAN CARAVELLI/Arizona Daily Wildcat
President Peter Likins' proposal to raise tuition was passed yesterday during the Arizona Board of Regents' meeting. "I do believe we're doing the right thing," Likins said.

See TUITION/6

TERROR STRIKES SPAIN



THE ASSOCIATED PRESS
Firefighters carry out a body on a stretcher from a bomb-damaged passenger train, following a number of explosions on trains in Madrid yesterday just three days before Spain's general elections, killing more than 190 rush-hour commuters and wounding more than 1,400.

UA students in Spain stayed safe in country's worst-ever terror attack

By Holly Wells
STAFF WRITER

Lauren Stevenson is no stranger to the Cercanias commuter train, which travels from Alcalá de Henares, Spain, to Madrid.

She has been on the train with her friends more times than they can count.

But Stevenson, who is studying abroad in Spain this semester, decided not to take the train to Madrid yesterday morning, opting to travel today instead.

That decision may have saved her life.

Ten backpack bombs exploded during morning rush hour in three Madrid

train stations yesterday. One of the bombs detonated on the train UA students studying in Spain use to travel to Madrid.

The explosions killed more than 190 people and left more than 1,400 injured.

Stevenson, a history junior and a former *Arizona Daily Wildcat* employee, said if the train had been attacked 24 hours later, she would have been riding one of the trains that was ripped apart by a bomb.

Stevenson is one of 27 UA students studying abroad in Alcalá de Henares, a half-hour train ride from Madrid. None of the UA students was harmed in what

is being called the worst terrorist attack in Spanish history.

Go Inside:
► Terror hits Spain

PAGE 7

safe.

Melissa Eddy's roommate was on the 7 a.m. train to Madrid. Eddy, a UA junior majoring in English, said she was wor-

See SPAIN/10

Online letter against Bush speech at graduation

275 faculty, staff, graduate students sign petition

By Nate Buchik
ASSISTANT FEATURES EDITOR

An open letter opposing the invitation for President Bush to speak at the spring commencement ceremony has garnered more than 275 signatures from faculty, staff and graduate students.

The 372-word letter, which began circulating through university e-mail accounts March 5, states, "President Bush's speech would represent a political misuse of a public university in an election year."

The letter also calls for John Kerry to get equal time if Bush accepts the invitation.

"It seems like it would be an unfair advantage for one candidate to come and give an address to a large group of people while the other candidate didn't have the same opportunity," said Dyer Lytle, a lunar and planetary laboratory engineer.

President Peter Likins maintained that it's unlikely that Bush will even come to the May 15 ceremony, which was

See PETITION/9

Lawmakers raise state DUI fines

By Bob Purvis
LEGISLATIVE CORRESPONDENT

PHOENIX — Students kicking off spring break with cocktails will have another reason to reconsider getting behind the wheel when stiffer penalties for drunken driving kick in tomorrow.

State lawmakers hope that bigger fines will dissuade drunks from taking to the road, and save the state money by reducing the 9,000 Arizonans jailed for DUI each year.

The new fines are tacked onto the current ones, raising the cost of a first-time DUI from \$450 to \$950. Drivers con-

See DUI/10

Worried about life after college?

PAGE 5



Buzzer beater

PAGE 11

Shakur's 3 pushes Cats on to face Huskies

New regent lone dissenter on tuition hike

PAGE 9