Greek party bus busted, 36 arrested

By Ty Young
Senior Writer

Police arrested 36 people Friday night on minor in possession charges after their bus — traveling from a Gamma Phi Beta party at the Vagabond Hotel — was pulled over.

Three buses were first seen parked in front of the Gamma Phi Beta sorority house, 1535 E. First St. Friday evening. A UAPD officer notified the Tucson Police Department.

Police stopped one of the buses at East Drachman Street and North Stone Avenue, reports stated.

The officers checked identification and allowed those 21 or older to leave. All minors were given Breathalyzer tests.

Gamma Phi Beta President Monica Vasquez said she could not comment on the incident, but did confirm that there were no other Greek organizations involved.

Messages left with theGamma Phi Beta international president were not returned. A receptionist from the Vagabond Hotel said nobody could comment on the incident until today.

This is the second incident where a Gamma Phi Beta party has involved underage drinking.

In November 2001, the sorority held a homecoming event with the Sigma Chi fraternity at the Olive R Twist Cafe, 5305 E. Speedway Blvd. At that party, 23 minors were arrested for underage drinking.

Students pass up opportunity to pop in and visit ASUA senators

By Dana Crudo
Senior Writer

Almost every afternoon, students have the opportunity to voice concerns and questions to ASUA Sen. Morgan Kisler during her office hours.

But Kisler spends many of her afternoons alone because few students come to visit her. Tired of waiting around, Kisler has decided to be more proactive in trying to find out what students have say.

“If we sat around for people to visit, it wouldn’t happen,” Kisler said.

In an attempt to increase awareness, ASUA senators started holding senate meetings all around campus and offering their office hours on the UA Mall once a month.

By increasing awareness, senators hope to eventually get people into their offices.

“We encourage students to come to office hours, but there is not as many people as we want showing up,” Sen. Karikeya Kejriwal said.

Students gave many reasons as to why they don’t visit their senators.

“I haven’t visited them because I haven’t been moved enough to do anything against any UA policy yet,” said Jason Gooding, pre-business sophomore.

However, many other students said they stay away because they don’t know what senators do.

“I have never visited the senators because I really don’t know what they do anymore,” said A.J. Thomas, pre-business sophomore.

Admin commits $2.5M for salaries

Deans to decide who will receive money set aside to supplement faculty salaries

By Andrea Kelly
Staff Writer

UA Administrators announced Friday that they have committed more than $2 million to increase the salaries of faculty, staff and appointed personnel.

For the next two years, administrators will set aside $2.5 million to supplement the money the university receives from the state for salaries.

This fund serves as a backup source for funding salaries in case the state does not have the money to contribute every year, Provost George Davis said.

If the budget gets cut in the future, Davis said he wants to be able to provide the same benefits to faculty as they receive while the state is in good financial shape.

“We have assumed the state would provide a salary package, but there may be years where we get zero dollars. And there may be years where we get very little,” Davis said.

He said the fund would be like an “engine that drives the university year after year after year.” The $2.5 million will be targeted at specific individuals. Deans of colleges will be responsible for selecting who should receive the money.

“If we took this money and spread it across the board, it would not have a big impact,” Davis said.

Administrators also said they have set aside $250,000 in an Equity Fund to try to reduce discrepancies in women and minority salaries.

“It means we have set aside funds to address inequitable salaries,” Davis said. “These can include some women and minority groups.”

In 2001, the Millennium Project, which was started to examine working conditions at the UA, found that women professors make an average of nearly $10,000 less than male professors per year.

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