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No cuts needed in Mackovic buyout

By Tim Lake
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

The UA athletics department does not need to make budget cuts in order to pay the buyout of former head football coach John Mackovic by next week's deadline.

The athletics department, which has been financially self-sufficient since July, has until Oct. 28 to pay Mackovic the entire \$910,000.

According to John Perrin, senior associate athletics director for business affairs, the money for the buyout will come from the department's general budget, and it will be paid on time.

Although no fundraising has been done so far to pay for the buyout, the department will continue to raise money through corporate sponsors, donations and ticket sales, Perrin said.

Mackovic was fired on Sept. 28 following Arizona's 13-10, overtime loss to TCU — its fourth straight defeat. He was in the third season of a five-year, \$4 million contract.

The committee searching for a permanent replacement for Mackovic already has a list of over 100 names, said Rocky LaRose, senior associate director of athletics and head of the search committee.

LaRose said the committee is looking at coaches at other institutions who cannot publicly throw their hats into the ring. LaRose said she was unable to release any of the names at this time.

The committee is now talking with some of these coaches' representatives,

See COACH/10

CAMPUS CHAMPS



MALLORY LORING/Arizona Daily Wildcat
Political science senior Andrew Weidinger gets ready to throw a pass while accounting junior Jeff Welter aims to take his flag. Weidinger's team, Full Monkey!, won the 2003 Elite-Eight All-Campus Tournament for both the men's and co-recreational divisions.

ASUA will mediate resident conflicts

By Dana Crudo
STAFF WRITER

Students and residents who are tired of fighting over noise levels and late night parties are ready for ASUA to intervene in the conflict.

After receiving the go ahead from students, ASUA will follow through on plans to mediate the conflict between students and residents.

Last week, ASUA polled 120 students, asking them questions about the conflict between students and the community. One-hundred students said they would support ASUA becoming more active in the conflict.

Of those 100 students, 88 said they would show up to the forum to help represent the student body.

"I might go, anything that lets students talk to the neighbors rather than have the cops be called," said Jacob Drzymala, pre-business freshman. "I don't know why students wouldn't want to support it."

This support from students shocked ASUA senator Sara Birnbaum, who is now organizing a forum for Nov. 18.

"I was blown away by the support for it, I didn't think people would be willing to put in the effort," Birnbaum said. "The numbers are very good."

Students are not the only ones who want ASUA to intervene. Residents of neighborhoods around the UA said it is about time.

"I'm sure people from the neighborhoods will be coming to the forum," said Colette Endrizzi, Samos Association member. "It's a great idea, people can hear back and forth."

The Samos Association is bounded by East Glenn Rd. on the north, North Campbell Ave. on

See NEIGHBORS/24

High-tech Multimedia Zone opens in ILC

By Julie Wetmore
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

The Multimedia Zone, a high tech computer lab in the ILC, officially opened yesterday with a dedication ceremony.

People mingled throughout the Zone, viewed demonstrations of software, and talked to Psymbiote, a woman with technology implanted in her body.

Sally Jackson, vice president and chief information officer, and Carla Stoffle, dean of university libraries, sliced through the large red satin ribbon stretched across the Zone's entrance, officially dedicating and opening the area for use.

"The Zone stands for UA's distinctive approach to technological learning. It also has a deep, deep sense of cool," Jackson said.

Karen White, associate professor in the School of Art, said that the technology will be a huge benefit for students.

"It's really exciting and thrilling to see it come together. Everyone's very enthusiastic about it. Students now have another opportunity to use technology to go from the idea stage to realization of their goals,"

she said.

The Multimedia Zone is opening up two years after the ILC was completed because budget cuts delayed the project and then forced the Zone to open with only eight workstations instead of the 40 originally planned for.

Regardless, administrators and students were excited.

"It's scaled down, but it's here!" Stoffle said.

Guillermo Uribe, director of the University Learning Center, said he hopes that the Zone will be able to expand in the future.

"It's my hope that high demand will justify expansion of the project," he said. "So far, it's been great. I'm keeping my fingers crossed that it stays successful."

Psymbiote, the Human Cyborg-Zygote, also known as Isa Gordon, was hard to miss as she walked around covered in leather and various apparatuses. During the event Psymbiote put in her thoughts about technology and the trends that the UA is setting in terms of development.

"Technology has become integral to our daily lives," she said.

The UA has created a center in this space that is pretty magical and fantastic. This is an example of how

the university is trying to shrink the gap between the haves and have-nots in terms of giving technology to the community as a whole, she said.

"She's pretty cute," said John Neilson, a pre-pharmacy sophomore. "I also like her large shoes. They're nice."

A few bewildered students, faculty, and staff passing through the ILC noticed the growing crowd outside of the Multimedia Zone.

A family from Fountain Hills was on its way to a tour when it came across the Zone.

Grant Laten, a sophomore at Fountain Hills High School, and his parents Judy and Don and Grandma Joan Edwards commented on the quality of the UA's computer lab.

"This is awesome. Everything is considered to be state of the art technology. My son was also excited to see so many Macs. I don't think we'll be able to drag him out," said Don Laten.

With \$1,000 given away just about every hour, the Zone sparked interest in students who said they have no multimedia expertise.

"I have no background at all in this area," said Aaron Huber, a psychology senior. "The free stuff sparked my interest because I have an old junker computer at home,



JACOB KONST/Arizona Daily Wildcat
Isa Gordon, a.k.a. Psymbiote, explains the functions of her many technological attachments to Ari Lerner, an undecided sophomore. Gordon was one of the speakers at the opening of the Multimedia Zone, a high-tech computer lab in the ILC.

and I'd like to win something new."

He ran out of luck in the first giveaway group, as Sol Cunningham, an Architecture senior, won the 40 gigabyte firewall hard drive.

"I saw they were giving away really cool stuff today," he said. "I already use the Zone for architecture projects. It's pretty exciting because

you can create realistic looking structures."

Other students said they came not only to win prizes but also to satisfy their curiosity.

"They were definitely an incentive to come," said Chuong Tran, an electrical engineering freshman. "I also just wanted to see what was here."