

## 25 YEARS LATER



Composite photo by WILL SEBERGER and CLAIRE C. LAURENCE



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CLAIRE C. LAURENCE/ Arizona Daily Wildcat

Today traffic marks the intersection at East Sixth Street and North Highland Avenue. But it was a different picture 25 years ago on Oct. 26, 1978, after a military plane crashed near the site of the present day Recreation Center, killing two students. The bottom left photo depicts the crash scene in 1978. The bottom right photo shows the intersection today.

## JET TRAGEDY MEMORIES RELIVED

By Elizabeth Thompson  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

It was 74 degrees on Oct. 26, 1978. It seemed like the perfect day to be outside.

Anne Padias, who was a post-doctoral chemistry associate at the time, went outside to eat her lunch on one of the Mall's sprawling lawns.

As she enjoyed her lunch, she noticed something flying low overhead.

It wasn't uncommon for military jets to fly low as they crossed over the campus on their approach to Davis Monthan Air Force Base, but this jet was flying too low, said Padias, who is now an assistant chemist at the UA.

"There was this loud pop," Padias said. "It was the pilot getting ejected and then a boom."

Twenty-five years ago Sunday, a U.S. Air Force jet crashed into the intersection of East Sixth Street and North Highland Avenue, killing two students and injuring six others.

This was the second time a military jet crashed in Tucson. In 1967, an air force jet crashed into a supermarket in southeast Tucson, killing four people.

The 1978 crash, which put a crater in the middle of Sixth, has been imprinted on the memory of those who witnessed the tragedy. Twenty-five years later, they still can't shake off the fear they feel when a jet flies above.

"Now every time a plane flies over it makes you wonder, said Padias.

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## Light rail proposal could impact UA

By Greg Holt  
STAFF WRITER

Transportation initiatives on the upcoming election ballot could have a direct impact on the UA and the Rio Nuevo project.

About 50 people attended a forum last night in the ILC to discuss the impact propositions 200 and 201 could have on the UA and the city of Tucson.

Proposition 201 calls for a number of measures to improve transportation systems in Tucson, including

vast improvements to the Sun Tran bus service, the construction of a light rail system in central Tucson, and the extension of the Old Pueblo Trolley from the UA through downtown.

Proposition 200 concerns measures to fund these programs, including increasing the city sales tax a third of a percent and increasing the sales tax on construction contracts by four percent.

Both of these propositions must pass for the programs to be implemented.

"Rio Nuevo can't work without this plan. Not a

single downtown in this country has been revitalized through the car, you need a good transportation system," said Stephen Farley of Tucsonans for a Sensible Transportation Solution.

"It needs the extension of the trolley and the light rail. This plan will be an enormous economic generator for Rio Nuevo," Farley said.

Rio Nuevo is a proposed downtown revitalization project.

John Dougherty of the Tucson Chamber of Commerce, who opposes the initiatives, said he is

concerned that construction costs needed to install the light rail system on East Broadway Avenue would eat up the funding for Rio Nuevo.

"Because of the amount of money need to make changes to Broadway, and if federal funding falls through, there will be no money for Rio Nuevo," Dougherty said.

Farley said that the light rail system, which has planned stops along East Sixth Street, would relieve traffic congestion in the uni-

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## Nursing college to remember professors

By Erin Schmidt  
STAFF WRITER

For one day next week, nursing studies will cease, doors will close, and hearts will open, as students, faculty and staff remember an event that shook their lives one year ago.

On Oct. 28, 2002, Barbara S. Monroe, Robin E. Rogers and Cheryl M. McGaffic were gunned down by Robert S. Flores Jr. in the College of Nursing before he killed himself.

"We will never forget these women," said Ki Moore, chair of the faculty for the College of Nursing.

Nobody from outside the college, except for family of the slain professors, will be allowed to take part in what is seen as an opportunity for a tight knit community to support one another, said Dean Marjorie Isenberg.

"This is a time to celebrate the healing process," Isenberg said. "It will be a celebration of nursing."

During hard times like the anniversary of the Oct 28 shootings, Ken Marsh, director of Counseling and Psychological Services, said surrounding yourself with people who support you is a healthy and necessary thing to do.

"The 28th will be a day many of us wake up a bit earlier than usual, we will be a little more stressed than usual," Marsh said. "It is a tough time."

Governor Janet Napolitano will be on hand to honor the professors and to say a few words, said Paul Allvin, the governor's director of communications.

"She wanted to be there to pay her respects," Allvin said.

Other speakers will include several nurses from around the country, speaking on what it means to do the job they do.

"It was a challenge to figure out how to address this anniversary in a meaningful way," Isenberg said. "We wanted it to be an educational experience for students."

Dr. Betty Ferrell, a nursing researcher from the City of Hope in California will be speaking about grief, res-olution and coping, Moore said.

"She will be speaking on how to move forward after you experience a loss," she added.

Although a courtyard that will honor the professors is still under construction, administrators hope it will be finished for the dedication on Tuesday.

Five donated benches and two tables will be unveiled in honor of the three women, as will a mural donated by the class of 2003.

The olive tree mural titled "tree of life" will be installed on an outside wall of the college.

"We always wanted to create an open and more

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Photo courtesy of Citizens For A Sensible Transportation Solution  
Tucsonans had the opportunity over the summer to preview a full-scale model of the vehicles being proposed as part of the light rail initiative in downtown Tucson.