

# ARIZONA DAILY WILDCAT

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The University of Arizona, Tucson

## UA seeks approval to build garage

By Jeff Sklar  
SENIOR WRITER

An \$18 million parking garage could open at the northern edge of campus by the beginning of the 2005-2006 school year, if regents approve funding for its planning when they meet today and tomorrow.

The 1,500-space garage, which would be built at the northern end of North Highland Avenue, between East Helen Street and East Mabel Street, is among the proposals the Arizona Board of Regents will address. The garage would replace about 750 surface parking spots that will be lost to construction within the next few years.

It would also increase the total number of campus parking spaces by 750.

Once complete, the garage would temporarily be the most convenient parking structure for students and employees at the Arizona Health Sciences Center, said Parking and Transportation Services Director Patrick Kass.

Though regents' approval is not guaranteed, they have repeatedly voiced support for the UA's Comprehensive Campus Plan, which outlines long-term construction plans and emphasizes more garage construction on the borders of campus.

The \$18 million will come largely from a funding source similar to bonds, but about \$5 million will come from a fund

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## RENAISSANCE MEN



CLAIRE C. LAURENCE/Arizona Daily Wildcat  
Business junior Tyler Morgan and fine arts senior Robert Rutherford get medieval on each other during an outdoor club demonstration by mocking a battle on the UA Mall. These knights are members of the Empire Chivalry and Steel (ECS), an organization that specializes in the general recreation and culture of the Middle Ages. The ECS is part of the College of Medieval Arts and Combat, and will have its first club meeting Feb. 12 at 7 p.m. in the Palo Verde Room of the Student Union Memorial Center.

## ResLife lifts cap on dorm housing

Temporary lift possible because of new dorms

By Jesse Lewis  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Residence Life will temporarily lift a housing cap this year that prevents students who have lived in the residence halls for four semesters from returning another year.

Because new residence halls will be opening, Posada San Pedro and Puebla de la Cienega, there will be 550 extra spaces to fill, said Director of Residence Life Jim Van Arsdel.

"We should be able to accommodate all freshmen that apply by a reasonable time and more return residents than we have in the past," Van Arsdel said.

Residence Life will offer housing to those who have been ineligible because of the four-semester housing cap.

"Action is being taken to get a sufficient number of people to fill housing," said Dan Tuttle, president of the Residence Hall Association.

After freshmen receive housing and 50 percent of the halls are filled with students who have not lived in dorms for four semesters, an estimated 300 spaces will still be vacant, Van Arsdel said.

But Van Arsdel stressed that the housing cap will remain in place and that this year's lifting is only an exception.

"We have no intention of walking away from

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## PSU celebrates opening with Block Party

By Natasha Bhuyan  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

The Park Student Union celebrated its grand opening last night with music, prizes, games and, of course, free food.

Tamara DeStefanis, director of PSU, said the Block Party was thrown as a thank-you to students who have had to deal with construction and delays.

"Although we've had a few problems in the past, I know that the students understand we are here to serve them," she said.

The free food was provided by Panda Express, Domino's Pizza and Bruegger's Bagels — all businesses that have yet to open in PSU.

Li Tsou, area manager for Panda Express in Tucson, attended the event and was pleased with the experience. He is hopeful that the new Panda Express will open next week.

"Even though we are delayed, I look forward to the success of this location," he said.

Domino's Pizza, also still under construction, has been operating a cart

outside the food court and will continue to do so for a few more weeks, according to DeStefanis.

Across the courtyard, James Lusk, undeclared junior and vice president of programming for Residence Life, ran the game room filled with billiards and free casino games.

"Our organization wanted to provide this opportunity to students as a nonalcoholic alternative," he said. "They should always have a place to come to."

In addition to the games, KAMP Student Radio, which is part of Arizona Student Media, entertained students with music outside. But an unexpected rainfall sent most students inside to listen to the live jazz band.

"We have some people walking by," said David Cavanaugh, a mobile DJ director of KAMP. "Still, the rain has certainly cut down our crowd size."

Despite the delays and construction, most students admitted they were ready to forgive PSU.

"As long as there's free food, I'm

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## Students ready for Chinese New Year ceremonies

By Walter E. Staton  
STAFF WRITER

Say goodbye to the horse and hello to the monkey — today is the first day of the Chinese New Year.

New Year's has different meanings throughout Asia, but some of the common customs involve receiving money from elders and cleaning the house.

"I need to do my laundry," said Kim Wah, a health and human services senior. She said cleaning is important to ensure a fresh start to the new year.

Wah, along with her friend Hien Truong, a visual communication senior, visited a Buddhist temple last night for a New Year's Eve ceremony.

It is a very superstitious time because many believe whatever people do on New Year's Day repeats itself throughout the year.

"You can't cuss or break anything," Wah said.

Tra Pham, a junior majoring in Spanish and

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WILL SEBERGER/Arizona Daily Wildcat  
Arizona Jazz Academy student Lucas Gillan plays at the Park Student Union Block Party last night.

Students get ready for Spring Break at the Rec

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'Holy Land' love story comes to Tucson

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Men's hoops battle Oregon State tonight

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