

ARIZONA DAILY WILDCAT

wildcat.arizona.edu

Monday, February 2, 2004

The University of Arizona, Tucson

Likins to release tuition plan today

\$500 hike likely for in-state undergrads; student lobbyists to propose less

By Jeff Sklar
SENIOR WRITER

President Peter Likins will officially release today his proposal for next year's tuition, a plan he has repeatedly said would be highlighted by a \$500 hike for resident undergraduates.

The proposal will also include recommendations for non-resident and graduate tuition, though Likins has declined to release those numbers before today.

If proposed and approved, the \$500 hike would raise resident undergraduate tuition to \$4,008.

Likins announced the \$500 proposal over winter break, but

wouldn't say Friday how large an increase he would propose for nonresidents and graduate students.

Last year, when he called for a \$1,000 resident undergraduate increase, Likins asked for a \$1,250 increase for nonresident undergraduates and resident graduate students, and a \$1,500 increase for out-of-state graduate students.

Student lobbyists today will also release their tuition counterproposal, and though they would-

n't say yesterday what it would be, they promised a lower number than \$500.

They hope their proposal would lay the foundation for a more gradual series of tuition increases that would put less of an immediate stress on students' pocketbooks.

"We didn't want to overburden the students this year," said lobbyist Nick Green.

Likins' proposal would drive the UA's tuition to the 33rd per-

centile nationally, a benchmark he'd like to see the university keep pace with in the future. He thinks that level is fair because it's still below average, though not so low that it unreasonably limits income.

But in a meeting with *Wildcat* staff Friday, Likins also said he wasn't overly concerned whether the board of regents accepts his \$500 proposal this year, saying he's far more concerned about reaching

See TUITION/10

DESERT SLEIGH RIDE



KEVIN B. KLAUS/Arizona Daily Wildcat

From front, Krista Grinney, a sophomore majoring in special education, ASU elementary education senior Troy Walter, and Catalina Foothills High School students Emily Starmoe and Jared Grinney enjoy Saturday afternoon on Mount Lemmon. With up to a 20-inch base for sledding, people of all ages trekked up Mount Lemmon to enjoy the day in the snow.

Legislators want to push back last call

By Bob Purvis
LEGISLATIVE CORRESPONDENT

PHOENIX — Waking up for class might be a little harder next year if a group of state legislators succeed in pushing back bar closing time.

With the support of 36 Republican and Democratic legislators, it looks as though a bill that would push last call to 2 a.m., and closing time to 2:30 a.m., might have enough kick to make it to the governor's desk.

The bill's sponsor, Rep. Michele Reagan, R-Scottsdale, said the current 1 a.m. cutoff is "goofy."

Reagan said extending the bar time could help bolster Arizona's tourist economy, which has lost large business conventions to nearby states with later last calls.

"We have actually heard people say, 'You know we love Arizona, but it just doesn't have the entertainment,'" Reagan said.

Of the 50 largest cities in the United States, only Tucson, Phoenix, Mesa and Omaha have a 1 a.m. last call. San Diego, Seattle, Salt Lake City and Los Angeles all have a 2 a.m. last call.

Last call is currently at 1 a.m. and closing time is at 1:15 a.m. Giving patrons more time between last call and closing time will actually decrease the number of drunken drivers by giving them time to call a cab or

See BARS/11

Go Inside:

► End to drive-thru liquor stores?

PAGE 3

Bid-bashers concerned about police presence

By Holly Wells
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Although bid night went off Friday without any major police busts, the memories of last semester's underage drinking raids had partygoers more afraid of police than in previous years.

Bid nights are celebrations for students who have been selected as fraternity members. The parties are known as some of the biggest of the year for UA students.

Tyler Benson, a business senior and a member of the Beta Theta Pi

fraternity, has been to several bid bashes in his UA career. He said he noticed only one major difference this year.

"There's a lot more people worried about police," he said.

Benson said this is the first year he has seen such strict police involvement.

"They needed to crackdown on something, so they picked this," he said.

UAPD Cmdr. Kevin Haywood would not respond to calls over the weekend requesting information

See BID/9

UA recruits National Merit Scholars

By Andrea Kelly
STAFF WRITER

The number of National Merit Scholars at the UA has decreased over the past three years, and to reverse that trend, the UA is stepping up its recruitment efforts.

UA officials flew in 19 National Merit Scholars from Western states Thursday and Friday to entice them to enroll at the UA.

The 19 students who flew to Tucson Thursday morning were treated to a lunch with administrators and honors students, a campus tour and an informational meeting about the Honors College.

The scholars also spent some time at the club fair on the UA Mall, ate pizza while listening to the pep band in Wilbur's Underground during the basketball game, and

See RECRUIT/22



Kristian Melby, a National Merit Scholar from Seattle, eats dinner provided by the university with 18 other high school students Thursday night at Wilbur's Underground. The university hosted the students to encourage them to attend the UA.

WILL SEBERGER/
ARIZONA DAILY
WILDCAT

Prison hostage
standoff ends
peacefully

PAGE 6

Standing Pats

New England wins Super Bowl XXXVIII

PAGE 15



Opera contest
takes center
stage

PAGE 3