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UA Dems unite for primary
By Natasha Bhuyan
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

As polls open for the Democratic primary today, the UA Young Democrats are divided on which candidate to support, but united in beating President Bush.

Despite endorsing different candidates, members said they would fully support the nominated Democrat after the primaries.

The husband and wife team of Jeff and Kathleen Hale, a business graduate student and law student respectively, chair the UA Young Democrats. They support Kerry because they say he is electable and like his stance on taxes will affect young people. But they both say the primary will not divide the Democratic Party during the November election.

"The Democratic Party benefits from having a variety of perspectives in the primary and many Democrats realize that," said Kathleen Hale, a UA law student and member of the UA Young Democrats. "Josh Silverstein, political science senior and director of campus affairs for the Young Democrats, said the essential goal of the primaries is to elect the best candidate to beat Bush. "Even though we support different people now, in the end, it's ABB: anybody but Bush," he said.

Nonetheless, club unity hasn't prevented the UA Young Democrats from putting determined energy into their individual candidates' campaigns.

Rachel Fukuda, a history senior, spent hours on the UA Mall encouraging students to attend Howard Dean's rally on Saturday at Reid Park.

"I really like what he stands for," she said. "I hope students who go to the rally will agree with me."

After months of sponsoring tables on the Mall, registering voters, making phone calls, sending e-mails, working with student media groups and hosting rallies, members of Young Democrats hope their efforts will at least draw UA students to the polls.

Joanna Lopez, a women's studies senior and UA coordinator for the Howard Dean campaign, agrees students need to get involved and know the candidates.

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OF MICE AND MENOPAUSE
By Patricia Hoyrer

E ven though Dr. Patricia Hoyrer has been conducting research on mice at the UA for more than 15 years, she has a surprising claim: "If I saw a mouse in my kitchen, I would still run and scream."

But the same mouse that she would run away from could offer insight into menopause, if Hoyrer pioneers a new procedure in which mice undergo menopause.

Hoyrer has been studying menopause at the UA since 1989 and has been working on a new technique that better models how females progress into menopause using mice as test subjects.

"Many researchers just remove the ovaries, when 94 percent of people go through natural menopause," said Hoyrer. "Our model much more closely mimics the natural process."

The model Hoyrer is working on can also study the stage leading up to menopause called peri-menopause, an option not available with previous procedures.

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See MICE/19

MICE FACE MENOPAUSE FOR SAKE OF WOMANKIND
By Andy Chang

President Peter Likins will recommend that regents approve the second-largest tuition increase in UA history, a $490 hike for nonresident undergraduates that would bring next year’s rate to $3,998.

Likins backed off slightly on plan to increase resident tuition by $500 after other administrators pointed out that the UA could have a pricing advantage over other universities by keeping the cost below $4,800.

A $490 increase would leave UA tuition just short of the top of the bottom third of senior public universities, a level Likins wants to match in the long term.

His plan would also push resident graduate tuition to $4,248, while nudging nonresident undergraduate tuition to $12,978 and nonresident graduate tuition to $13,229.

He emphasized that his proposal this year, especially for nonresidents, were more cautious than last year, when tuition for some students rose as much as $1,500.

"Last year, we pushed that issue," Likins said.

See TUITION/9

By Walter E. Staton
SENIOR WRITER

Because of the loss of funding, the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Student Center will only be able to offer two programs this semester to celebrate Black History Month.

Alex Wright, director of African American Student Affairs, said UA budget cuts and the loss of key members in a fund-raising committee contributed to the center’s lack of money.

Wright said $12,200 was raised two years ago by the Dr. Martin Luther King Celebration Committee. That money was used to bring entertainers, movie producers and art exhibits to the university throughout the year. The money is now gone, and the committee that raised it needs to be revived.

This year, Wright can only fund a drum performance and a semester-long film series.

The Celebration Committee consisted of 14 faculty and community members. Since 2002, half of the members have left the university, and the others said Wright grew burnt-out.

"We just lost the people power," Wright said, adding that he will reorganize the committee.

Saundra Taylor, the vice president for Campus Life, oversees the funding for the four multicultural centers on campus. The MLK Center, along with the other culture centers, lost 4 percent of its funding two years ago.

"Taylor said she is making it a high priority to direct more resources back to the centers in the future.

"As disappointing as I think it is, we don't have (multicultural) programming. We still have the centers," Taylor said.

The all-funds budget process is where money is allocated to the culture centers. This year, said Taylor, there was no money to be allocated.

"We put the info out there for those who are interested," Wright said. But the UA doesn’t have the community to support that interest, Wright said, because people take their civil rights for granted.

"Black History Month is about recognizing the accomplishments and achievements of black Americans," Wright said. "But it's about a much greater thing than black people's struggles — it’s about progress for everyone. Civil rights benefited everyone."

Derrick Copeland, a microbiology junior,