

ARIZONA DAILY WILDCAT

wildcat.arizona.edu

Wednesday, February 4, 2004

The University of Arizona, Tucson

2004 ARIZONA PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY

UA reaction mixed as students see final results

By **Natasha Bhuyan**
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

While more than 220,000 Arizona Democrats went to the polls yesterday to vote for presidential candidates, political activity on campus remained low.

Early yesterday morning, a John Edwards for President table was out on the Mall, but once the rain started falling, all signs of a presidential primary election disappeared.

"I didn't even know today was election day," said Jeff Riggs, a philosophy sophomore.

Lindsay Love, a pre-business freshman, said she couldn't vote, as she is registered in Maricopa County and forgot to request a mail-in ballot.

But last night, a few of the more politically dedicated students gathered in a corner of Old Chicago, 2960 N. Campbell Ave., to watch the elections results come in.

Chris Marino, a political science senior and vice president of Pi Sigma Alpha political science honorary, was one of 15 students from the honorary and the Undergraduate Political Science Association who gathered last night.

"We're a nonpartisan group, so we're just here to watch politics at its best," Marino said.

Sen. John Kerry of Massachusetts was the overall winner of the night, taking five states, including Arizona. Sen. John Edwards of North Carolina won South Carolina. General Wesley Clark and Edwards were in a dead heat for Oklahoma.

Although members of PSA and UPSA each supported their own political candidates, they didn't hesitate to give their opinion.

"I'm excited about Kerry's win, since he has the best chance at beating Bush," said Martin Gurch, a political science junior and president of UPSA. "Bush is fiscally irresponsible."

Brad Hibsman, a political science senior and avid Bush supporter, joked, "Well, I'm a Bush

See ELECTIONS/23

Kerry wins Arizona Democratic primary



Democratic presidential hopeful Sen. John Kerry, Mass., is swarmed by supporters after jumping into the crowd during an election night party in Seattle yesterday.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

PHOENIX — John Kerry, riding the momentum of wins in Iowa and New Hampshire, yesterday won the Arizona primary — a race considered critical in determining the direction of Western states and Hispanic voters.

"I am stunned by the results and truly honored and

humbled by the confidence that is resonating, he said.

so many voters in Arizona have shown me today," Kerry said in a statement released after the polls closed.

The results show his campaign is uniting Americans and his message of more jobs, affordable health care and a voice for common Americans

Kerry also won contests in New Mexico, Delaware, Missouri and North Dakota yesterday. North Carolina Sen. John Edwards won in South Carolina, while retired Gen. Wesley Clark won

in Oklahoma. "It's a statement by Democrats across the country

that I am the candidate who can take on George Bush and beat him," Kerry said.

The Massachusetts senator campaigned heavily in Arizona early in the race but turned his focus to Iowa in advance of that state's Jan. 19 caucus.

With nearly all Arizona precincts reporting, Kerry had more than 42 percent, Clark had

See PRIMARY/23



MELISSA HALTERMAN/Arizona Daily Wildcat
Jake Watts, a geography junior, was assaulted Jan. 24 while walking to his car on East Linden Street near East Tyndall Avenue. Watts suffered severe injuries from an attack and now has a metal plate in his head.

Male student almost killed in 'random' attack near campus

By **Holly Wells**
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

A UA student was nearly killed last week after three men assaulted him near campus, fracturing his skull.

Jake Watts, a geography junior, was attacked by three men at North Euclid Avenue and East Linden Street after he left his friend's house on Jan. 25 around 1 a.m. to walk to his truck a block away. Watts said he had been in that neighborhood several times since coming to the UA his freshman year.

"I thought it was a safe neighborhood; I never worried about being assaulted," Watts said.

While Watts walked down Euclid, between East Grant Road and East

Speedway Boulevard, a car pulled up beside him and three men jumped out. Watts said one of the men immediately started hitting him.

"I ran, but I tripped on a curb, and they were right behind me," Watts said.

Watts wasn't sure of the details that followed because he said he might have passed out.

"I don't remember them taking my wallet or cell phone," he said.

But Watts eventually woke up and drove home.

"I was so scared, I just raced to my truck," he said.

When Watts got home, his head was bleeding profusely and he realized he had to call an ambulance.

Watts' mother, Paula Johnson, said

there was blood everywhere when she went to clean up his apartment a few days later.

"It looked like someone had been murdered," she said.

Watts' skull was fractured in the assault, and he had blood clots in his brain. His family said if he had suffered a blow just a fraction of an inch in any direction on his skull, he would have died.

Watts had to have brain surgery, and although he was released from UMC Sunday, he is still recovering.

Watts and his family don't know the motive behind his assault.

"It appears to be totally random," Johnson said.

See ASSAULT/11

Students get creative with e-mail

PAGE 3



Swing

Meet the 2004 UA baseball team
for the fences

PAGE 16

Should the GRO pass or fail?

PAGE 5