

ARIZONA DAILY WILDCAT

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The University of Arizona, Tucson

UAPD adds bomb-sniffing K-9

By Holly Wells
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Campus police will soon welcome a bomb-sniffing Labrador retriever to its family.

The dog will be trained to sniff out explosives, including bombs and materials used to make bombs.

"The dogs are trained to detect over 19,000 different types of explosives through scent recognition," said Mike

Conto, a member of the Tucson Police Department bomb squad and partner of Bliss, a black Labrador retriever.

UAPD is getting the dog through a governmental agreement with the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms.

ATF will provide the canine and 10 weeks of training for officer Kyle Morrison. Sgt. Eugene Mejia, UAPD spokesman, said this is the first time ATF has assigned an explosives detection canine to a

university.

"With this explosive detection canine, we will have a total of six dogs at UAPD," he said.

Mejia said four of the dogs are trained in patrol, search and rescue. They are at Mount Graham. The other dog is a drug detection dog, which is assigned to the Counter Narcotics Alliance. Morrison said although the dog will be assigned to the UA campus, it will be at ATF's disposal.

"After training, I will be a

certified federal officer," he said. "(The dog and I) will be able to be deployed to anywhere in the world."

Mejia said the dog will help UAPD watch out for potential terrorist attacks.

"The importance of having this canine is the potential of us being a target," he said.

He said the UA could be a possible target for terrorists because of the large-scale, highly populated events that take

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Activity fee likely in March election

Study finds students would support \$25 fee

By Dana Crudo
STAFF WRITER

A student activity fee between \$25 and \$30 will likely appear on the March ASUA elections ballot.

Preliminary survey results released yesterday show that students would support a fee to bring big-name concerts and speakers to campus.

In the survey conducted by an independent marketing group, 84 percent of students supported a \$25 fee and 23 percent supported a \$50 fee.

Forty-four percent of students said they would want the money to go toward more concerts, while 26 percent wanted more speakers.

The idea for a student activity fee came from the Collaboration Board, which includes representatives from the Associated Students of the University of Arizona, the University Activities Board, the Panhellenic Council, the Interfraternity Council, the Residence Housing Association and the Graduate and Professional Student Council.

ASUA Sen. Nick Bajema, who is on the Collaboration Board, said the idea for the fee came after students told him they wanted more events on campus.

Even though elections are less than one month away, details regarding the structure and amount of the fee have yet to be determined.

Greg Billings, University Activities Board president, said the size of the fee depends on programming and student support expenses.

But Bajema said it's not likely the fee would be higher than \$25 to \$30 per year.

If a \$25 fee were approved, more than \$1 million would go into a fund for campus programming that

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WHO WANTS A FOOT MASSAGE?



EVAN CARAVELLI/Arizona Daily Wildcat

Brent Causey, a finance senior, receives a free foot massage at the Rec Fest from reflexologist Traute Witlox Wednesday at the Student Recreation Center. The Rec Fest ends today and includes free events such as acupuncture, foot massages and other physical fitness activities to promote physical wellness.

New position created to help recruitment

By Andrea Kelly
STAFF WRITER

Top UA officials have created two positions and formed a new committee as part of their effort to recruit minority students and improve retention.

Lynette Cook Francis has been appointed assistant vice president for multicultural affairs and student success. Lynne Tronsdal has been appointed assistant vice president for student retention.

The committee, called the Undergraduate Retention Coordinating group, is co-chaired by Francis and Tronsdal. Both say retention requires

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UA employee claims whistle-blowing on alcohol storage led to her pink slip

By Jessica Lee
STAFF WRITER

A university employee said she was fired after reporting to administrators that alcohol was stored in the Office of International Student Programs and Services.

On Jan. 26, Rawya Hafez, office specialist for ISPS, e-mailed Provost George Davis, saying alcohol had been stored in an adviser's office for more than two months.

At least one box of wine and multiple packs of beer had been sitting in the closet.

Davis replied to Hafez Tuesday in an e-mail, writing that the alcohol had been removed.

Hafez was fired the next day.

Joanne Lagassé-Long, the director of ISPS, said in a letter that Hafez was laid off because budget cuts forced the center to reorganize and eliminate Hafez's position.

"We've gotten a double-edged sword with a series of state budget cuts and the change in legislation from the federal government that affects international students," said Kirk Simmons,

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Rawya Hafez, former office specialist in the Office of International Student Programs and Services, claims she was fired after reporting that directors in her office stored alcohol in the International Center. The directors say Hafez was let go because of budget cuts.

KEVIN B. KLAUS
/Arizona Daily Wildcat

Students spread international message

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Women upend Stanford

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Living life as a test lab mouse

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