Police crack down on fake IDs

By Holly Wells
ARIZONA DAILY WILDCAT

Tucson Police Department officers say the beginning of the school year is a prime time to crack down on fake ID usage, and those who are caught usually don't expect the tough penalties that go with it.

"It's amazing how much of our activity revolves around alcohol," said Officer Chris Wildblood, who is part of TPD's downtown division. "It's a big, hot button, especially this time of year.

Students arrested for using fake IDs could have their driver licenses suspended for six months, making the punishment for fake IDs more severe than penalties for a DUI arrest.

A DUI results in a 90-day suspension, and even then you can get a 45-day restricted license to go to school or work," said TPD officer Rick Marciano, Wildblood's partner.

Wildblood said most judges think the suspension is too high. He said every year judges ask for more leniency and every year the request is turned down by the state.

Friday night, a bouncer at Maloney's caught at least four UA students trying to get in with fake IDs. Wildblood said employees at Maloney's are the best at spotting fake IDs.

PLANTING FOR THE FUTURE

December graduation ceremony cancelled

By Natasha Shayan
ARIZONA DAILY WILDCAT

This December, the university-wide commencement ceremony will only be open to Ph.D. and graduate students, while undergraduate seniors will attend their individual college convocations, university officials said over the weekend.

UA President Peter Likins said discussions began after the College of Law decided to hold its own commencement, prompting interest in only holding their own graduation ceremony.

"Later other deans expressed an interest in that kind of model, so we thought it by," said Likins.

The decision was made by the Commencement Policy Committee, which includes university president and senior associate to the president; Alexis Hernandez, associate dean of students; Armanda Brodie, president of the Graduate and Professional Student Council; Alister Chapman, student body president; the Office of Special Events and representatives from colleges and alumni associations.

Likins said he spearheaded the changes, is out of the country and could not be reached for comment.

But Chapman, who is strongly opposed to the changes, said the decision of flying tortillas dominates CVC discussions.

Tortilla-flying at commencement has been a tradition for UA graduates for years.

However, Likins has tried to stop the practice in recent years because he said it is offensive to the Hispanic and Native American communities.

In 2001 and 2003, there were no off-campus speakers at graduation as Likins found the tortillas losing tradition disrespectful.

Last year, "Tortilla Marshal" tried to prevent graduating students from smuggling in tortillas.

Chapman said videos from previous university commencements clearly show the majority of thrown tortillas.

Last year's yearbook to be delivered in Oct.

By Zach Collic
ARIZONA DAILY WILDCAT

The yearbook signifies the culmination of a school year and is usually delivered to students before they head off campus for the summer.

However, UA's official memory guide, The Desert Yearbook, got a late start and is being rushed to students before they leave.

Kevin Klaus, Desert editor in chief, said students might be wondering where their yearbooks are, but said the yearbook didn't finish production until early June.

Because the yearbook staff wanted to include commencement ceremonies, senior photos and athletic events that continued on past the end of the school year.

"This seems late to people, but it was meant to be a full book," Scarpinato said. "Our guess would be that they'll probably be mailed out by mid-October.

See YEARBOOKS

‘Tailgating for Kerry’ kicks off with help of local Tucson community members, the UA Young Democrats kicked off a new project “Tailgating for Kerry,” before Saturday's football game.

UA President and political science professor Alicia Cylbuski said the new campaign focuses on increasing voter registration and voter participation via out-of-state ballots, as well as informing students about the Democratic choice for the November election.

"Voter registration is important because it's the first step in the voting process," Cylbuski said. "I expect to be at the polls and the politicians elected to speak and promote their issue, they can then be re-elected."

Cylbuski said UA alumna Dave Deibel and his wife Kim Pitch, who hosted their own tailgate parties for years on the UA Mall, offered to share their space with UAAD because they support the Democratic party.

Renting a tailgate spot on the Mall for the football season costs $350, but Deibel let UAAD share his spot for free.

While student turnout at UAAD’s first tailgate was low, a few community members and UAAD supporters showed up to visit the tailgaters in the rain before the game.

Cylbuski said one of the major benefits of the Tailgating for Kerry project is working with Tucson residents to increase ties between the university and community.”

Cylbuski said it is against his principles to host the UAAD in the front of the Inn E. Gilbert, building entry for every home football game.

Cylbuski said the UAAD also has a table set up Monday through Thursday in the lobby where voters can register to vote, obtain information for out-of-state voting and learn more about the Democratic Party.

In addition to voter material and information, students also can get free passes toTUAC student activities like bumper-sticker and button.