Police crack down on fake IDs

By Holly Wells
ARIZONA DAILY WILDCAT

Tucson Police Department officials say the beginning of the school year is a prime time for fake IDs to be used and that 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.

“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.”

“DUI results in a 10-day suspension, and even then you can get a 30-day restricted license to go to school or work,” said TPD officer Rick Marcias.

Wildblood said most judges think the suspension is too harsh. He said the year’s job is less severe than it may seem and every year the request is turned down by the state.

Friday night, a bouncer at Manoi’s caught at least four UA students trying to get in with fake IDs.

Wildblood said employees at Manoi’s are the best at spotting fake IDs.

See ID's

December graduation ceremony cancelled

By Natasha Bluyan
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 College of Law administration made the university-wide commencement, preferred instead to only hold their own graduation ceremony.

“Other degrees expressed an interest in that kind of model, so we thought it over,” said Likins.

The decision was made by the Commencement Policy Committee, which includes Edith Auslander, vice president and senior associate to the president; Alexis Fernandez, associate dean of students; Amanda Strobot, president of the Graduate and Professional Student Council; Alquistie Chapman, student body president; the Office of Special Events and representatives from colleges and the Alumni Association.

Auslander, who spearheaded the changes, added that the changes, is out of the county and could not be reached for comment.

But Chapman, who is strongly opposed to the changes, said the idea of removing the university diversity is disrespectful.

Territorial-Tlingit 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 2002, there were no off-campus speakers at graduation, andLikins found the toasting tradition disrespectful.

Last year, Territorial Marshal’s tried to prevent graduating students from drinking in the territols.

Chapman said he could have won university convocation ceremonies clearly show the majority of those.

PLANTING FOR THE FUTURE

By Lisa Rich
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 should be arriving in the hands of students who ordered them last year in the next two or three weeks, said Kevin Klaus, Desert editor in chief.

Daniel Scarpino, last year’s yearbook editor in chief and former Wildcat 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,” Scarpino said. “My guess would be that they’ll probably be mailed out by mid-October.

See YEARBOOKS

Last year’s yearbook to be delivered in Oct.

By Zach Collick
ARIZONA DAILY WILDCAT

‘Tailgating for Kerry’ kicks off

By Lisa Rich
ARIZONA DAILY WILDCAT

With the help of local Tucson community members, UA’s new political science professor Alicia Gyulcsk said the new campaign focuses on increasing voter registration and voter participation via out-of-state mail, as well as informing students about the Democratic choice for the November election, Sen. John Kerry.

“Voter registration is important because it’s the first step in the voting process. Students need to be part of the election so the politicians elected will get their promises they can be re-elected,” Gyulcsk said.

UA alumnus Dave Deibel and his wife Kim Pich, who have hosted their own tailgate parties for years on the UA Mall, offered to share space with the UAVD because they support the Democratic Party.

Rental a tailgate spot on the Mall for the football season costs $500, but Deibel let the UAVD share his spot free of charge.

While student turnout at UAYD’s first tailgate was low, a few community members and Kerry supporters stopped by to visit the tailgaters in the rain before the game.

Gyulcsk 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.

Gyulcsk said she has seen the UAAYD is the only chapter of the Young Democrats in Arizona to take part in the Tailgating for Kerry project.

With over 650 registered members, Gyulcsk said the UAAYD also works closely with the Pima County Democratic Party and the UA Movimiento Estudiantil Chico de Azteca (M.E.C.A.) group in areas of increasing voter participation among Hispanics.

With the rise in Hispanic population, Gyulcsk said the UAAYD will be looking into ideas regarding Hispanic voters in the near future.

The UAAYD will be tailgating for Kerry in the Ina E. Gittings building before every home football game.

Gyulcsk said the UAAYD also has a table set up Monday through Thursday on the Mall where students 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 can also get free merchandise like bumper stickers and buttons.