



Go Wild with art all around: students, MOCA showcase work

PAGE 11

Cats, Cowboys clash in Chicago tonight for Elite 8 berth

PAGE 23



Datebook	2
Opinions	4
Nation/World	6
GoWild	11
Sports	23

ARIZONA DAILY WILDCAT

wildcat.arizona.edu

Thursday, March 24, 2005

The University of Arizona, Tucson

ASUA, Marshall Foundation look at alternate meal plans



JOSH FIELDS/Arizona Daily Wildcat

Civil engineering freshman Rachel Popp serves a freshly-brewed Indian coffee at Sinbad's Restaurant on University Boulevard. Sinbad's, owned by the Marshall Foundation, is one of the many restaurants that could be affected by implementing a mandatory meal plan.

By Jennifer Amsler
ARIZONA DAILY WILDCAT

The Associated Students of the University of Arizona are working with the Marshall Foundation, which owns most of the restaurants on East University Boulevard, to develop an alternative to a mandatory meal plan.

Dan Adams, director of the Student Union Memorial Center, said he is working to create and finalize a propos-

al that would require freshmen living on campus to purchase several meals each week from the unions.

Adams said in an interview last month that the proposal, which is still in its initial stages, is dynamic, but he said the cost for freshmen would amount to about \$1,800 for the year.

Adams said the student unions need a fixed revenue each year to cover operational costs. A mandatory meal plan for students living in residence halls would give them various options, possibly

including unlimited eating and a debit amount on CatCards.

The proposal, which would have to be approved by the Arizona Board of Regents, has generated attention from different student organizations that said a mandatory plan would not work for UA students, even though other Arizona and Pacific 10 Conference universities have gone that route.

Former ASUA administrative vice

See MEAL PLAN/8

Admin to cut budget in 2006

By Natasha Bhuyan
ARIZONA DAILY WILDCAT

The UA will see a half-percent budget cut next fiscal year along with eight other budget reallocation methods, which will bring in \$6 million to central administration, administrators announced yesterday.

The decision comes after months of deliberation among administrators, who said the university must reassess the way it manages money during a time of decreased state funding.

According to a financial bulletin released by President Peter Likins, Provost George Davis and Joel Valdez, senior vice president of business affairs, general funds have fallen by \$47 million in the past two years.

"It is no longer possible to absorb this loss by the use of central reserves or the use of funds only temporarily available," Likins said in the bulletin. "We need a new strategy to restore the capacity of this university to make the investments required to achieve the goals of focused excellence."

The half-percent cut, which will save the UA \$1.7 million, will also come with a 10 percent tax on carry-forward funds, leftover money in departments at the end of the fiscal year.

However, deans and department heads said last month that the carry-forward tax could incite financial mismanagement in departments that do not want to see their funding go to central administration.

"It's complicated for every college," said Jim Shockey, associate dean for instruction in the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences. "A 10 percent tax on one might be a nuisance, on another it might be critical."

Some colleges will also reduce in size because the provost will sweep faculty lines this spring for fiscal year 2007, saving the UA \$2 million as vacated faculty positions may not be filled.

Tuition during summer session will increase to cover higher utility costs, a plan expected to bring in \$650,000, while a half-percent increase in the administrative service charge on auxiliary programs will centralize \$660,000.

In addition, a 6 percent tax on gifts and donations will

See BUDGET/30

Mall evangelist touts reasoning of religion

By Kristoffer R. Cabulong
ARIZONA DAILY WILDCAT

Religion was again the topic of discussion on the UA Mall yesterday when about 100 students gathered around a Christian apologist who was reasoning how Jesus was the son of God.

Cliffe Knechtle, campus evangelist, has been involved in campus outreach ministry for the last 29 years and said he has been invited to the UA every spring for the past 19 years.

He began yesterday's discussion with a dialogue:

"A student stepped out of the crowd and said, 'I believe in God, but I don't believe in Christ.' I said, 'Well that's great, tell me about the

God you believe in,'" Knechtle said.

Labeled as a Christian apologist, Knechtle's campus outreach ministry focuses on engaging intellectual debate with students defending the logical validity of an omniscient and omnipotent God, and from there, that Jesus is the son of that God.

Eddy Pearson, director of the Baptist Collegiate Ministry at the Refuge, 901 N. Tyndall Ave., said his and other Christian groups invited Knechtle to counteract the more controversial, confrontational Mall preachers.

"In light of Brother Jed," Pearson said, "we want to bring someone who can intellectually challenge students' belief systems in a respectful way."

Like the evangelist preacher Jed Smock, who spoke on campus a month ago, Knechtle was openly fielding questions from the crowd. However, Knechtle's manner did not attract jeers, taunts or the attention of errant cream pies.

"The crowd applauds him," Pearson said. "Who does that for a Mall preacher?"

Half an hour into the forum, Deborah Frisch, professor and adjunct lecturer in psychology, jumped into the discussion by asking Knechtle, "Why do you think God's a he?"

From there, a heated debate began, ranging from ideas such as the ideals and failings of a utilitarianism society, the objectivity and subjectivity of good and evil, the deity of Jesus, the validity of the

Gospel record, Pascal's Wager and President Bush.

While believing Jesus was a "very nice guy," Frisch said she doesn't believe the historical Jesus rose from the dead.

Despite Knechtle's reasoning, the issue resulted in a fundamental disagreement.

"There's no way in hell, pardon the pun, sir, that you're going to convince me that Jesus rose from the dead," Frisch said.

But Knechtle and Frisch reached a common ground, agreeing that it is part of mankind's purpose to make "this messed up world better," as Frisch put it.

"I think it's clear that God created us to love and worship God, and

See SPEAKER/8



CASSIE TOMLIN/Arizona Daily Wildcat
Christian apologist Cliffe Knechtle heatedly discusses religion with chemical engineering graduate student Rohit Tripathi on the UA Mall yesterday afternoon.