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ARIZONA DAILY WILDCAT

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Wednesday, April 13, 2005

The University of Arizona, Tucson

DUDE WALKS LIKE A LADY

Men walk in heels for sex abuse awareness

By Cassie Tomlin
ARIZONA DAILY WILDCAT

Some high-heeled prancers welcomed the stares they got on the UA Mall yesterday — they were men donning ladies' pumps, sandals and platforms for a good cause.

In observance of Sexual Abuse Awareness Month, Residence Life's El Mundo Diversity Committee sponsored the first annual Walk to Stop Sexual Violence at noon on the Mall.

About 30 women and men, some donning ladies' shoes, walked a mile in laps around the south portion of the Mall, sporting a banner asking campus-millers to "put yourself in her shoes."

Brian Shimamoto, assistant director of multicultural education and advocacy for Residence Life, said El Mundo held the walk to raise awareness of violence against women, and asked men to wear heels to grab the attention of passers-by.

"It's symbolic because we don't really know what its like to be a woman, but we wanted to promote awareness and have a little fun," said Shimamoto, who admitted his fluorescent-striped kitten heels were bothering his feet even before the mile walk began.

Shimamoto said the group hopes to integrate the walk into their spectrum of yearly diversity workshops and events, which include the Tunnel of Oppression in February and the Hunger Banquet, which was held this

See AWARENESS/16



Anthony Skevakis, judicial affairs program coordinator, walked a mile around the Mall in high heels at noon yesterday for Residence Life's El Mundo Diversity Council's first Annual Walk to Stop Sexual Violence. Skevakis said the event was beneficial in promoting awareness on campus.

CASSIE TOMLIN/
Arizona Daily Wildcat

Student alleges rape

Police investigating reported rape at Sigma Pi fraternity

By Jennifer Amsler
ARIZONA DAILY WILDCAT

Police are investigating allegations of a rape at the Sigma Pi Fraternity House, 1525 E. Drachman St., reported early Saturday morning.

A UA student contacted police and said a man had sex with her against her will at the house, said Sgt. Eugene Mejia, University of Arizona Police Department spokesman. Mejia said he could not release names or say if the man was a UA student or a fraternity member.

The investigation is still underway so police could not release any more information.

The UAPD daily report stated that an alleged rape was reported at the fraternity and a follow-up is required.

"Our main interest is fully investigating the matter to make sure all witnesses come forward and all of the evidence is gathered," Mejia said. "Any premature release of the information could interfere with the investigation."

Sigma Pi Fraternity president and members would not comment on the allegations.

UA rooftop crops yield gene secrets

By Djamila Noelle Grossman
ARIZONA DAILY WILDCAT

Sometimes it takes a very close look at a corn plant to find out why some people have diabetes or cancer.

Corn plants are growing on top of a UA parking garage and are supervised by Vicky Chandler, UA director of the Bio 5 institute, who said in very basic terms, she uses the plants as model organisms to figure out how their genes work. Gene regulation determines why certain genes are active at a certain time and how the plant shows it.

"Understanding how genes are turned on and off in the appropriate manner is applicable to every area of biology," Chandler said. "It's a very tightly controlled, orchestrated script for which genes come on and which genes don't."

Chandler said she primarily uses corn, which has a DNA that is very close to most of the world's cereals, because a lot of research has been done on the plant and it is economically relevant.

See GREENHOUSE/16

Art exhibit tackles body issues

By Alexis Blue
ARIZONA DAILY WILDCAT

Tall, curvy, short, thin, round, narrow, muscular and lean — the human body in its many shapes and forms is on display on the UA Mall to reveal the naked truth about body image.

The plaster casts of 20 male and female bodies, taken from volunteers across the country, are the work of Kansas City, Mo., artist Larry Kirkwood, who will lecture this afternoon about the sculptures in his collection and on body image issues and notions of beauty in society.

"There are a lot of people that are just hurting out there," Kirkwood said. "People don't know how to look at themselves."

Kirkwood said unrealistic messages in advertising about what is "beautiful" lead not only to self-image problems in men and women but also to social inequalities and prejudices in everyday life.

"We're judging people on the wrong things," he said.

Since Kirkwood began making plaster casts of people in 1993, his work has been displayed at more than 60 universities, museums and other venues nationwide.

His main message to viewers of his work: "I just want people to stop judging each other on really stupid things that don't matter."

It's a message Ela Cudilo, director of the

See BODY/17



Artist Larry Kirkwood presents his sculptures of cast men and women on the UA Mall yesterday afternoon. The exhibit, sponsored by the ASUA's Women's Resource Center, will also be displayed tomorrow on the Mall from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

JOSH FIELDS/Arizona Daily Wildcat