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The University of Arizona, Tucson

Union's AC breaks, will cost \$5,000 to repair

By Anthony D. Ávila
ARIZONA DAILY WILDCAT

An 800-pound air conditioning unit that burned out Wednesday kept the student union about 8 degrees hotter the last two days, a problem that should be fixed by the end of today.

One of the six 100-horsepower motors on the roof of the Student Union Memorial Center stopped working around noon Wednesday, affecting parts of the food court, the Cactus Grill and other areas for the last two days, said Dave Parker, associate director of Facilities Management and operations of the student union.

A new air conditioner has already been ordered as a replacement, but students can still expect the building to be warmer than usual because installing the unit will probably take all day, Parker said.

"It's not unbearable, but it's uncomfortable," Parker said. "Today during lunchtime, it will be a little warmer than usual."

The building temperature yesterday afternoon was measured at 80 degrees, though the student union usually keeps it at 72 degrees, Parker said.

To compensate for the downed unit, the temperature in the Main Ballroom was lowered yesterday, and evaporative cooling fans were set up to pull cooler air into the affected areas, Parker said.

Fans have also been set up in various spots around the Cactus Grill so employees and students to feel more comfortable until the problem is fixed.

"We're doing everything we can," Parker said. "But there's no way to completely compensate for it when you lose one of

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CATFEST '05



Josh Fields/Arizona Daily Wildcat

The Southern California punk rock foursome Rufio performed yesterday evening in the Student Union Memorial Center Grand Ballroom. The University Activities Board and ASUA collaborated to bring the concert to campus for CatFest.

Rufio draws 1,000 fans

By Anthony D. Ávila
ARIZONA DAILY WILDCAT

The annual kickoff concert CatFest rocked the UA last night after 1,000 students showed to see Rufio and other bands, doubling last year's attendance.

The event, organized by the University Activities Board and the Associated Students of the University of Arizona,

featured punk bands Rufio, The Spill Canvas and Your Name in Lights.

The Student Union Memorial Center Grand Ballroom was crowded with standing students who simply listened, or, for the more enthusiastic fans, danced, crowd-surfed or shouted the cheer "Ru-fi-ooooo!"

Rufio guitar player Clark Domae said he expected no more than 100 people to come to the show, adding that it was

"amazing" that so many people came.

"It's a good crowd, and they seem pretty rowdy," said Domae just before taking the stage. "It will probably be one of the best shows of the tour."

Kristen Maryn, the UAB concert director, said the possibility of future performances depended on the success of this year's CatFest because she would need

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Student union fee would help pay off debt

By Zach Colick
ARIZONA DAILY WILDCAT

Students may have to pay a \$20 student union fee next year if regents approve the proposal.

Proposed by the UA Dining Services, the fee would be an alternative to the mandatory meal plan suggested at the end of last semester.

If approved, the fee will expand services, cover maintenance costs, and finance the debt and bonds the Student Union Memorial Center was constructed with, among other intentions, said Dan Adams, director of the Arizona Student Unions, in an e-mail.

Adams said a student union fee requires less of a financial commitment from on-campus students

and would create more revenue for the student union to use, whereas the meal plan would generate fractions of every dollar spent on food and labor expenses.

The Residence Hall Association and the three governing greek councils, Interfraternity Council, Panhellenic, and the National Panhellenic councils proposed the idea for the fee at the end of last semester, Adams said.

These student groups comprise more than 8,000 students on the UA campus, and Adams said it made sense to continue a dialogue that examined their recommendations.

"After listening to the rationale put forth by the various student groups across the UA campus, I agree that the fee is the better (choice)," Adams said. "Since both

unions' services are used by all students, in their mind it makes more sense to collect a small fee from all students than a much larger amount from on-campus students only."

Adams said greeks favored this idea over a mandatory meal plan because many chapters already have some form of a meal plan, and they expressed concerns that another might unfairly burden their membership.

Student Regent Ben Graff, a third-year law student, said his role as a regent is to observe and look at what kind of impact the student union fee and mandatory meal plan would have at the UA.

The UA is the only school in the Pacific 10 Conference that does not have a mandatory meal plan or a student union fee. The Arizona Board of Regents recently approved

the mandate at Arizona State and Northern Arizona universities for a mandatory meal plan.

Graff said he's reached out and communicated with students, RHA and Greek Life in making sure he "gets the pulse of the student body very accurately" on the matter before it ultimately rests in the regents' hands. He said he wouldn't support the fee if students didn't benefit from it or if their best interests weren't met.

"ABOR is very cautious about mandatory fees because a fee of any type adds to the overall price of education," said Graff, adding that regents suspended adding more fees in colleges across the UA in the spring semester to determine

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Josh Fields/Arizona Daily Wildcat

Psychology freshman Andrew Apodaca sits down for a meal outside of Panda Express at the Park Student Union yesterday afternoon. The Arizona Board of Regents is considering a \$20 student fee as an alternative to a mandatory meal plan.