Bernsen fires 5 ASUA officials

Both sides complain to Dean of Students

By Nick Smith
Arizona Daily Wildcat

Student body president Cade Bernsen fired five student officials Tuesday, including three Arizona Students' Association directors and two cabinet members, sources said.

Bernsen, the Associated Students of the University of Arizona president, sent dismissal letters and e-mails to ASA directors Fernando Ascencio, Andrew Record and Christopher Dang, as well as Breanne Bush, the cabinet coordinator, and Rebecca Rodl, the assistant elections commissioner.

Bernsen said he fired the directors because his lawyer, who researched the situation, told Bernsen that he had the right to fire them based on evidence Bernsen had collected against the students.

PRACTICE MAKES BRILLIANT

By Zack Colick
Arizona Daily Wildcat

Business continued as usual during the ASUA senatorial meeting last night, but no mention of Student Body President Cade Bernsen's possible impeachment from office took place.

There was no official timetable set last semester for when the trial would be to take place against the student body president, and Bernsen's written and oral defense statements have not officially been heard by the ASUA senators, said Sen. Patrick Cook, a pre-education sophomore.

Cook said the impeachment trial could not be heard or discussed during a senate meeting without at least one senator already placing the item on the agenda.

Erin Hertzog, executive vice president, said the case hasn't been brought forward because final examinations were about to start and the ASUA Supreme Court must meet 10 days after an impeachment trial, leaving no time to meet because of the impending winter break.

Hertzog said she doesn't have voting power and wants to stay far away from the proceedings, calling it a conflict of interest.

"I'm letting the senators take care of it," said Hertzog, a journalism junior.

While Cook and Sen. Heather Spencer said they wouldn't bring the item forward, Cook said he was 95 percent sure someone would bring it forward for a vote at next week's meeting.

"It wasn't on the timetable simply because today was the first day of school and everybody was still getting back into the swing of things," Cook said.

Momentum building for Arizona congressman to fill Delay's spot

By Andrew Miller
Arizona Daily Wildcat

Congressman Al Green, along with four other challengers, filed a number of papers to run for the vacant seat in the U.S. House of Representatives, which was vacated after Del. Ron Paul announced his retirement.

According to Green's filing, he was one of the candidates for the Arizona seat who registered a campaign to run for the seat.

Green, a long-time congressman in the state of Texas, said he is seeking to represent the Eighth congressional district of Arizona.

Senators: 5

91st State Senate

- GOP 22, 18%
- Dem 25, 40%
- Ind. 0, 0%
- Other 13, 20%

Assembly: 60

- GOP 29, 23%
- Dem 24, 20%
- Ind. 10, 8%
- Other 7, 6%

In the primary, the candidates will be listed in the following order:

1. Rick Romley (D)
2. Steve Farley (D)
3. Frank Mecham (R)
4. David Montalvo (R)
5. Geneallocation (R)
6. Bob Mathis (R)
7. Robert E. Knauff (R)
8. Mark Wright (R)
9. Peter C. Trumback (R)
10. Ron de la Razo (R)
11. Bill Boyer (R)
12. Richard Hargrave (R)
13. William A. Long (R)
14. Richard L. Rollins (R)
15. Jude Pifer (R)
16. Charles A. Dubois (R)
17. Joseph J. Cooney (R)
18. Richard D. Kapp (R)
19. Frank H. Young (R)
20. John P. Hedges (R)
21. William B. Elder (R)
22. Daniel J. Olson (R)
23. Thomas J. O'Brien (R)
24. David J. Sweeney (R)
25. Robert J. Miller (R)
26. John E. Ball (R)
27. John F. Doherty (R)
28. Richard E. Butter (R)
29. John F. Hargrave (R)
30. Ronald J. Mack (R)
31. Robert J. Coughlin (R)
32. John F. Condon (R)
33. John F. O'Brien (R)
34. John F. Connolly (R)
35. John F. Donoghue (R)
36. John F. Dolan (R)
37. John F. Dolan (R)
38. John F. Donoghue (R)
39. John F. Condon (R)
40. John F. O'Brien (R)
41. John F. Connolly (R)
42. John F. Donoghue (R)
43. John F. Dolan (R)
44. John F. Dolan (R)
45. John F. Condon (R)
46. John F. O'Brien (R)
47. John F. Connolly (R)
48. John F. Donoghue (R)
49. John F. Dolan (R)
50. John F. Dolan (R)
51. John F. Condon (R)
52. John F. O'Brien (R)
53. John F. Connolly (R)
54. John F. Donoghue (R)
55. John F. Dolan (R)
56. John F. Dolan (R)
57. John F. Condon (R)
58. John F. O'Brien (R)
59. John F. Connolly (R)
60. John F. Donoghue (R)

Senate: 30

- GOP 15, 50%
- Dem 6, 20%
- Ind. 2, 6%
- Other 4, 13%

At the Arizona Senate level, the candidates for the 30th district will be listed in the following order:

1. Steve Farley (D)
2. Rick Romley (D)
3. Robert E. Knauff (R)
4. Geneallocation (R)
5. Bob Mathis (R)
6. Robert de la Razo (R)
7. Bill Boyer (R)
8. Richard Hargrave (R)
9. Richard L. Rollins (R)
10. Jude Pifer (R)
11. Charles A. Dubois (R)
12. Joseph J. Cooney (R)
13. Richard D. Kapp (R)
14. Frank H. Young (R)
15. William A. Long (R)
16. Richard E. Butter (R)
17. John P. Hedges (R)
18. William B. Elder (R)
19. Daniel J. Olson (R)
20. Robert J. Miller (R)
21. John E. Ball (R)
22. Thomas J. O'Brien (R)
23. David J. Sweeney (R)
24. Robert J. Coughlin (R)
25. Ronald J. Mack (R)
26. John F. Hargrave (R)
27. John F. Condon (R)
28. John F. O'Brien (R)
29. John F. Connolly (R)
30. John F. Donoghue (R)

At the Arizona House of Representatives level, the candidates for the 72nd district will be listed in the following order:

1. Ron de la Razo (R)
2. Bill Boyer (R)
3. Richard Hargrave (R)
4. William B. Elder (R)
5. Daniel J. Olson (R)
6. Robert J. Miller (R)
7. John E. Ball (R)
8. Thomas J. O'Brien (R)
9. David J. Sweeney (R)
10. Robert J. Coughlin (R)
11. Ronald J. Mack (R)
12. John P. Hedges (R)
13. John F. Hargrave (R)
14. John F. Condon (R)
15. John F. O'Brien (R)
16. John F. Connolly (R)
17. John F. Donoghue (R)
18. John F. Dolan (R)
19. John F. Dolan (R)
20. John F. Condon (R)
21. John F. O'Brien (R)
22. John F. Connolly (R)
23. John F. Donoghue (R)
24. John F. Dolan (R)
25. John F. Dolan (R)
26. John F. Condon (R)
27. John F. O'Brien (R)
28. John F. Connolly (R)
29. John F. Donoghue (R)
30. John F. Dolan (R)
31. John F. Dolan (R)
32. John F. Condon (R)
33. John F. O'Brien (R)
34. John F. Connolly (R)
35. John F. Donoghue (R)
36. John F. Dolan (R)
37. John F. Dolan (R)
38. John F. Condon (R)
39. John F. O'Brien (R)
40. John F. Connolly (R)
41. John F. Donoghue (R)
42. John F. Dolan (R)
43. John F. Dolan (R)
44. John F. Condon (R)
45. John F. O'Brien (R)
46. John F. Connolly (R)
47. John F. Donoghue (R)
48. John F. Dolan (R)
49. John F. Dolan (R)
50. John F. Condon (R)
51. John F. O'Brien (R)
52. John F. Connolly (R)
53. John F. Donoghue (R)
54. John F. Dolan (R)
55. John F. Dolan (R)
56. John F. Condon (R)
57. John F. O'Brien (R)
58. John F. Connolly (R)
59. John F. Donoghue (R)
60. John F. Dolan (R)

White men dominating presidential pool

Demographics of candidates no shock to students, staff; more women wanted

By Nicole Santa Cruz
Arizona Daily Wildcat

UA students and staff aren't shocked to see white men dominating the pool of potential presidential candidates, even though they would like to see more diversity.

Numbers released by the Arizona Board of Regents in late December gave a demographic breakdown of prospects for the replacement for President Peter Likens. Of the 94 applicants to the search committee, 82 percent are men and 18 percent are women. More than 90 percent are white.

Although students would like to see more diversity in the pool, students such as Vlami Lopez, a finance senior, are not surprised by the numbers. "I would like to see more minorities, but in the future it will be more possible," Lopez said. "(The numbers) don't really surprise me, to be honest."

Alma Lucia, a senior majoring in Spanish, said race and sex don't really matter as long as the most qualified person is hired for the position. "I would prefer for it to be a minority, but I would rather have someone qualified," Lucia said.

Lucia said the word "minority" means different things to different people, but she would like to see someone who speaks another language as UA president.

Chris Murphy, a mechanical engineering senior, would like to see more women in the running for the presidential position. "It would be nice to see more female representation," Murphy said.

Murphy also said he thought the number of minorities in the pool was
Former student enters plea in 2004 Coulter pie assault

By Holly Wells
ARIZONA DAILY WILDCAT

One of two men accused of throwing cream pies at political columnist Ann Coulter during an event at Centennial Hall in 2004 pleaded guilty Monday to misdemeanor assault.

Williams Zachary Wolff, 25, was fined $250, but the fine will be suspended as part of the plea agreement if he pays $915 in restitution to the University of Arizona for damage to a backdrop screen, said Deputy Pima County Attorney Noah Van Amburg.

Wolff and Phillip Edgar Smith, a UA student at the time of the incident, were originally charged with assault, disorderly conduct and criminal damage after they threw tofu cream pies at Coulter as she spoke to political activists. He said they were throwing the pies at Coulter’s ideas and not at her.

Smith accepted the same plea agreement in November and will also pay $915 to cover the damage to the backdrop screen, Van Amburg said.

Original charges against Wolff and Smith were dismissed March 18, 2005, after neither the arresting officer nor Coulter appeared to testify against them. UAPD and Coulter said they had not been properly notified by the Pima County Attorney’s Office about the charges.

The case was re-filed in April 2005. As part of the plea agreement if he pays $915 in restitution to the UA for damage to a backdrop screen, Van Amburg.

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Portions of a pie struck Coulter on her face and dress, but the pies mainly hit a black muslin backdrop, causing $1,830 in damage.

After throwing the pies, Smith and Wolff were detained by audience members and arrested by the University of Arizona Police Department.

Shortly after the incident, Wolff claimed he and Smith belonged to Al Qaeda, which he described as a loose network of political activists. He said they were throwing the pies at Coulter’s ideas and not at her.

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Original charges against Wolff and Smith were dismissed March 18, 2005, after neither the arresting officer nor Coulter appeared to testify against them. UAPD and Coulter said they had not been properly notified by the Pima County Attorney’s Office about the trial. The case was re-filed in April 2005.

U, Sonoran cancer centers sign binational agreement

Universities agree to future collaborations

By Ariel Serafin
ARIZONA DAILY WILDCAT

The Arizona Cancer Center has joined forces with the University of Sonora for future cancer research and educational projects marking the beginning of new opportunities for both institutions.

The institutions signed a nonbinding agreement to collaborate on future research cancer projects.

The program is intended to lead the University of Sonora in Mexico in the cancer research and educational programs, said Dr. Maria Elena Martinez, co-director of the Arizona Cancer Center’s Cancer Prevention and Control Program.

The binational collaboration will create an opportunity for students to do research at the University of Sonora.

A group of UA students are in Sonora researching the potentially cancerous effects of long term arsenic exposure by interviewing families about their diets and lifestyles and testing urine and toenail samples.

Martinez was one of the eight members of the Arizona Cancer Center who visited Hermosillo, Sonora to establish the collaboration and attend the Sonora-Arizona Binational Meeting on Cancer Research between Dec. 5 and 6.

Martinez said the idea for the collaboration came about over the summer during a visit to Sonora. As she drove around looking at the hospitals she decided that the country’s infrastructure was fit to accommodate advanced research and education.

“I said, ‘Wouldn’t it be great to form a partnership?’” Martinez said.

Dr. Robin Harris, the principle investigator in a study on the possible connection between arsenic exposure and gastrointestinal cancers in Sonora, said the formal agreement is an extension of a previous collaboration between the Arizona Cancer Center and University of Sonora.

Harris said although the first research collaboration between the two institutions began almost two years ago, it was only in regards to arsenic exposure effects, rather than the entire scope of the cancer-related issue.

Martinez said a primary reason the collaboration was established was to help Sonora establish a cancer registry database similar to the one in Arizona. Without a registry that tracks cases, it is difficult to record cancer-related statistics such as increased prevalence or fatality rate, Martinez said.

The collaboration is also intended to help Sonora begin clinical trials of cancer drugs, which are virtually non-existent in Sonora, where national protocols tend to dictate available treatments.

However, Martinez said the agreement would benefit both parties involved.

Martinez said one of the most obvious benefits Arizona would receive from the collaboration would be the opportunity to explore cancer-related trends in the native country of many Arizonans.

“We have a large Hispanic population (in Arizona),” Martinez said. “Doing research in their country of origin helps our own population.”

Harris agreed that the collaboration would give researchers and opportunity to look at cancer statistics and information with a regional perspective, rather than national.

“(Mexico and Arizona’s) environments and histories are very similar,” Harris said.

Martinez also said the agreement would provide Arizonan students with the rare and exciting opportunity to do medical research in another country.

Martinez said the agreement was made “non-binding” to simplify the collaboration.

“There are no legal issues and no lawyers involved,” Martinez said.
FIRINGS
Bernsen to take 5-day leave of absence
continued from page 1
The officials who were fired cited fear at their sudden dismissal and said they each filed a complaint to the Dean of Student's Office stating that the dismissals were retaliatory and baseless.

"We do feel this is a reactionary act," said Asencio, a political science senior. Bernsen said he turn in formal complaints to the dean of students about the five appointed officials as well as two senators.

Bernsen said the fired employees were instrumental in "spreading lies" concerning the sexual harassment complaints made against him to the Dean of Students office in November. Bernsen has denied the charges.

"It was never about seeking justice," Bernsen said. "They wanted to publicly humiliate me to a point where I would resign or be impeached real swiftly." Melissa Vito, the dean of students, said she could not verify whether complaints had been filed this week by either party, citing federal privacy laws. But the office will investigate the validity of any charges that may have been made, she said.

"One of the staff who works in Judi
cial Affairs in the office will handle the investigations," Vito said. "The length of time that a case can take varies de
dependent upon the complexity of the investigation, the number of witnesses, availability of witnesses, etc." Bernsen said he plans to leave of

for five days as part of an agree
tment he made with the Dean of Stu
dents office.

ASUA adviser Jim Drnek said

students being fired is uncommon but not unheard of. The ASUA constit
tution does not have provisions that cover student dismissals, he said.

"The students fired said in their defense they had done their jobs as well as they could have and were un

aware of any grievances."

"I was confused because we hadn't gotten any prior notice of any of this before," Bush said. "I've always done my job to the best of my ability. (I've) only been told (by Cade) how good of a job I've done. I've never gotten a negative report."

Dung said the letters were entirely unexpected and believed they were unwarranted.

"We've been on our game and on the ball," he said. Record said the firings came at a bad time because the Arizona Board of Regents tuition setting session is approaching.

"By getting rid of us so close to tuition setting, it really puts the students at a disadvantage," Record said. "It's a very dangerous time to get rid of those who know what's going on."

ASA serves as an independent lob
ying advocate for university students, according to the ASUA Web site.

Record thought the dismissals were less about job performance and more about speculation.

"It feels like the firings were com
pletely based on prepositions of conspiracy, which are non-existent," Record said.

Student Regent Ben Graff said the firings might mean a weakened ASA presence on campus.

"We work closely with the ASA team on each campus about student con
cerns," he said. "My main concern will be if there is a strong ASA team on campus." Matt Boopple, an ASUA senator and political science sophomore, said the firings were unfounded.

"I think our directors were doing their jobs," he said.

"If the firings are proven to be a result of retaliation, they would be against the UA Code of Conduct and Bernsen would be subject to universi

ty disciplinary procedures, accord

ing to the UA Web site.

Bernsen hopes the complaints will get sorted and the positions filled in a timely manner.

"I believe in the end, the truth will come out and justice will be served," he said. "We're going to put some good people in those positions and the senate will be involved in the in

terview process."

Bernsen would also invite the executive and administrative vice presi
dents to sit on the interview process.

Anthony D. Arks contributed to this report.

SEARCH
Most resumes already collected
continued from page 1
low, considering the UA's diverse student population and different ethnic and religious groups on campus.

Kendal White, acting director of African-American student affairs, was surprised with the demo

graphic breakdown for the search.

"The lack of female candidates is surprising, but not the lack of minorities," White said.

White said she has heard a de

sire among her female colleagues for a future female UA president, but she also said she would want someone who is qualified for the position, mentioning Likens as an example.

"Even though Likens was a white male, he was very dynamic, and has a lot of women surrounding him," White said. "It's unfortunate that there aren't more women."

Fred Boice, chair of the search committee, said he was very pleased with the number and quality of applications, but ac

nowledged the desire for a great-

er spread of minorities and female applicants.

"As years go by, we are seeing more minorities and women make their way into administrative and executive positions," Boice said.

There isn't a chance of the pool changing much after this point be
cause the committee has already gathered many of the resumes, Boice said.

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Sterling University Villa. A family away from home.
Many UA students and faculty are mourning the death of an electrical and computer engineering professor who taught at the UA for more than 20 years.


He most often taught courses on electronic packaging and circuit design at the UA, as well, he was also the department's director of the center for electronic packaging research, an organization that builds high-speed, reliable and quality computer chips.

"Dr. Prince's death is a huge loss for the department," said Jerzy Rozenblit, UA electrical and computer engineering department head. "On a more personal level, he was a charismatic guy that mentored many junior faculty members who are now researchers in their own right."

According to his students, Prince had a talent of applying humor within his academics to make his classes more active and allow an easier understanding.

"He can explain things very well from the very origin and let us understand them easily and grasp the new concept firmly," said past student Xing Wang, a Ph.D. student majoring in electrical engineering with an interconnect simulation focus. "He put focus on important knowledge and made his class concise and valuable."

According to Wang, Prince's classes, although often times strictly taught, were always very welcoming and well-structured.

"He is a person with tremendous integrity and will not compromise in academics," Wang said. "But he is very kind to us students. He encouraged me before our presentations and would say 'nice job' afterward."

Prince was the principal investigator of the Semiconductor Research Corporation, an association of the world's top research management universities, at the UA since 1984.

In 1991–1992 he became Acting Director of packaging services at SRC while continuing to bring substantial funding to the research program.