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ARIZONA DAILY WILDCAT

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The University of Arizona, Tucson

ABLAZE WITH SPIRIT



Geography senior and ASUA senator Steven Eddy celebrates at the homecoming bonfire celebration in front of Old Main Friday night. The 30-foot blaze commenced after a performance from the UA marching band, homecoming royalty selection and a speech by football head coach Mike Stoops.

EVAN CARAVELLI/Arizona Daily Wildcat

Professors violate politics policy

Teachers have tough time keeping mum near Election Day

By Georgeanne Barrett
ARIZONA DAILY WILDCAT

The presidential election tomorrow has some students feeling pressure from professors and teaching assistants who make their political views and opinions clear to students.

Official policy at the UA states professors should not impose their personal or political views and opinions on students. However, in the politically charged atmosphere of this year's election, some feel

pressure from the political views of professors makes deciding who to vote for more difficult.

William Dixon, head of the political science department, said faculty members try not to influence students on partisan issues.

"I suspect it is difficult for professors to talk about specific issues without their own opinions coming up," Dixon said.

Kim Shorkey, a secondary education sophomore, said she has a class where the teaching assistants have expressed their personal views on the presidential election.

In her political science class, she said the professor has exposed students to each candidate, but the teaching assistants have openly expressed their opposition to President Bush.

"The TAs are pushing Kerry," Shorkey said. "The TAs feel Kerry is the more hip college student candidate."

Dixon said he believes most faculty members in the political science department have encouraged students to vote in this year's elec-

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Wildcat sculpture dedicated to UA president, wife

By Natasha Bhuyan
ARIZONA DAILY WILDCAT

Moments before fireworks electrified the sky above the UA Mall Friday night, the Alumni Association dedicated the new wildcat sculpture on campus to UA President Peter Likins and his wife Pat during the Alumni Plaza dedication ceremony.

Philip "Flip" May, president of the Associated Students of the University of Arizona in 1979-1980 and chair of the Alumni Association in 1999-2000, said Likins was chosen because he embraced the Alumni Plaza from the beginning and has contributed years of tireless work to the university.

This month marks Likins' seventh year as president of the UA.

"People owe him a huge debt of gratitude," May said. "He's the strongest leader I've met."

Likins, who was surprised by the dedication, said the tribute left his wife in tears.

"It means more than I can possibly find words to explain," Likins said. "We are very appreciative of the thoughtful people who dedicated that wonderful sculpture to us."

Titled "The Wildcat Family," the 14-foot-tall sculpture features two full-grown wildcats one perched upon a saguaro branch, the other sitting below guarding two cubs, symbolic of one generation passing on their knowledge, love and experience to another, said Gilbert Chester, chair of the Alumni Association.

Although May pitched the

idea of the Alumni Plaza and a bronzed wildcat statue to Likins in 2000, Likins was the person who came up with the concept for the "picturesque" wildcat family sculpture, May said.

The piece was sculpted by Tubac artist Nicholas Wilson from Likins' vision, and the cost is estimated at \$170,000.

Lynn Cuffari, who graduated from the UA in 1982, said she believes the sculpture is a beautiful representation of what family and community bring the UA. Cuffari said although she graduated years ago, she knows she will always be part of the Wildcat family.

The unveiling of the sculpture followed the dedication of the \$5 million Alumni Plaza, which was funded entirely by alumni and private donors, to the university.

The plaza includes shaded seating, a grassy hill, trees, facts about the UA engraved in granite, the Joseph Wood Krutch cactus garden and the four University Mission Fountains of education, discovery, inspiration and service.

During their speeches, Gilbert said the plaza will be a place for students to "gather, inspire, celebrate, contemplate, rest and dream," while May called the Alumni Plaza a gift from the "grateful sons and daughters" of the university.

"We labored for five years to see this day. It was a labor of love," May said. "Once a student, always an alum."

In his speech, Likins praised the determination of the alumni

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ASUA early voting site draws thousands

By Holly Wells
ARIZONA DAILY WILDCAT

More than 2,300 students voted last week at the early polling site on campus, making it one of the busiest of Tucson's nine early polling sites.

Gov. Janet Napolitano visited the site Friday afternoon, shaking hands with more than 300 students waiting in line to cast their vote.

Alistair Chapman, Associated Students of the University of Arizona president, said about 765 people voted at the early polling site Friday, with 87 provisional ballots dropped off, making Friday's totals alone more than 800.

Chapman said the number of voters at the site exceeded his expectations.

"As far as I know, this was the most heavily used voting site in Tucson last

week," Chapman said. "We definitely had the most people for Friday."

Chapman said Napolitano's visit was a nice surprise.

"We knew she was in Tucson on other business, but we didn't know if she'd have time to stop by, she made it a priority," Chapman said.

Napolitano was impressed with the number of voters and especially impressed with the number of student voters, Chapman said.

"There's been such an aggressive effort to get young voters, and the site showed that that effort was successful," he said.

The site opened at 8 a.m. Oct. 25, and Chapman said the number of voters increased each day as the week went on. Lines at the site on Friday were more than two and a half hours long during some parts of the day.

Chapman said the site, which was scheduled to close at 5 p.m., was actually closed down around 7:30 p.m. Friday.

"We wanted to give everyone in line at five the opportunity to vote so we got them through," he said.

Katie Bailey, psychology freshman, waited in line an hour and 10 minutes to vote Friday.

Bailey said it would have been a lot harder for her to vote Nov. 2.

"A lot of students are too busy. This makes it easier. You can vote on breaks in between classes," she said.

Chapman said there were few complaints throughout the week.

"Even the Recorder's Office commented on how patient everyone was,"

See POLL/6



Finance senior John Dutton stands in line to vote at the ASUA office Thursday afternoon. Thousands of UA students and other Pima county registered voters took advantage of the early polling site on campus.

MATT ROBLES/
Arizona Daily
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