The Associated Students of the University of Arizona Senate approved offering a bid of $27,000 to The Last Comic Standing Tour to perform Feb. 9 at Centennial Hall during National Sexual Education week. Although the ASUA Senate said it would base the bid on those outside the university, ASUA leaders said they were confident The Last Comic Standing Tour would accept the bid.

Music senior Helene Grotans practices on a violin in a Music building practice room yesterday afternoon.

UMC buys new cancer radiation technology

When David Horner found out he had testicular cancer last year, he braced himself for the worst.

"I thought, 'I'm going to die — am I ready to die?" Horner said. "Everything came to a standstill."

But after two surgeries, a month of chemotherapy and a state-of-the-art radiosurgery treatment, Horner, a 25-year-old doctoral student of pharmacology, is on the road to recovery.

Horner was the fourth patient in Tucson to receive treatment from a new shaped-beam radiotherapy system purchased by University Medical Center last month.

The $3 million Novisal Shaped Beam Surgery system, manufactured by the medical technology company BrainLAB, uses computer-generated images to get an accurate depiction of the patient’s tumor. It then delivers radiation which conforms to the exact shape and size of the tumor.

"We are able to treat patients that otherwise would be difficult to help because it would be too risky," Stea said. "You need a stable machine with precision to the thickness of a paper."

Dr. Baldassare Stoa, head of the radiation oncology department and a clinical medical director for radiation oncology at the UA, said since the radiation is delivered at angles to precisely target the tumor, healthy tissues surrounding the tumor are not damaged, minimizing the chance of side effects.

"We are able to treat patients that otherwise would be difficult to help because it would be too risky," Stea said. "You need a stable machine with precision to the thickness of a paper."

Horner said he opted for the shaped-beam therapy and a state-of-the-art radiosurgery treatment, "I thought, 'I'm going to die — am I ready to die?" Horner said. "Everything came to a standstill."

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