

Man (still) on fire:
Stoudamire drops 25
in Cats' win at OSU
PAGE 11



King of late night
Johnny Carson
dies at 79
PAGE 6

Students work to
bring Free Trade
coffee to UA
PAGE 8

Weird News	2
Datebook	2
Opinions	4
Nation/World	6
Sports	11

ARIZONA DAILY WILDCAT

wildcat.arizona.edu Monday, January 24, 2005 The University of Arizona, Tucson

Bank robbery locks down Babcock



VIDEO STILL COURTESY TUCSON POLICE DEPARTMENT
A video captured from security cameras shows the robbery suspect after entering the Wells Fargo Bank located at 1701 E. Speedway Blvd. He is described as 25-30 years of age, 5-foot-6 to 5-foot-8, 160-165 pounds, and was last seen leaving the area on foot wearing a camouflage military uniform.

Police check hall after failed attempt at Wells Fargo Bank

By Jennifer Amsler
ARIZONA DAILY WILDCAT

A bank robbery forced Babcock Inn Residence Hall residents to go into lockdown Saturday afternoon after a man threatened to bomb the bank and was suspected to possibly be hiding somewhere in the residence hall.

A man entered Wells Fargo Bank, 1701 E. Speedway Blvd., at about 1 p.m. and attempted to rob the bank with a note demanding money but was unsuccessful, a media release from the Tucson Police Department

stated.

Lana Abu Shaheen, a resident assistant at Babcock Inn, said police called the front desk and asked all RAs to go door-to-door and inform residents not to leave their rooms or open their doors for any visitors while police searched the premises.

Since Babcock Inn is located next door, police notified Abu Shaheen that the man could be hiding somewhere in the residence hall.

Abu Shaheen said police informed her that the man who attempted to rob the bank also threatened employees with a bomb, which was another reason residents were instructed to stay inside their rooms.

Residents remained in lockdown for more than an hour while police searched the premises.

Will Hollis, an undeclared freshman, was in his room at the time of the robbery and said both police and an RA told him to not leave.

"I wasn't worried in the least bit; it seemed like they had everything under control," Hollis said.

Hollis said it would be difficult to hide in Babcock Inn because residents keep their rooms closed.

Although an attempted robbery and a bomb threat happened next door, Hollis said he still feels safe and does not think the residence hall needs increased security.

"We live next door to a bank; these things happen," he said.

Hilary Rees, a nursing freshman, was not in her Babcock Inn room

See BABCOCK/8

Former UA student unfit to stand trial

By Jennifer Amsler
ARIZONA DAILY WILDCAT

A Pima County judge ruled a former UA student, who is being charged with first-degree murder and attempted murder, is incompetent to stand trial, a ruling that came as a shock to the victim's family Jan. 6.

Sebastian T. Walas, 29, suffered from gunshot wounds to the head but survived in 2002 from what police believe to be an attempted suicide-murder involving his girlfriend and her 9-year-old son.

Walas suffered from head injuries after police suspect he shot and killed his girlfriend and turned the gun on himself.

The 9-year-old boy called police on the morning of Feb. 15, 2002, and said his mother's boyfriend was shooting a gun in their home on the 1400 block of East Elm Street.

When police entered, they found Karla Hackeborn dead from gunshot wounds and Walas suffering from life-threatening wounds. The 9-year-old boy did not sustain any injuries.

Neither Hackeborn nor Walas were students at the time of the shootings. Walas was, however, a UA student in 1998, said Evelyn Coral, an administrative assistant in the Dean of Students Office. No other information about Walas' status as a former student could be released.

According to Arizona Rules of Criminal Procedure, being incompetent to stand trial entails that "a person shall not be tried, convicted, sentenced or punished for a public offense ... while as a result of a mental illness, defect, or disability, the person is unable to understand the proceeding against him or her or to assist in his or her own defense."

See TRIAL/10

CONCERT PRELUDE



People mill about outside Centennial Hall last night before the Ladysmith Black Mambazo performance. Centennial Hall will feature the Moscow Philharmonic Orchestra and Ani DiFranco in the coming weeks.

AURORA HIGGINSON/
Arizona Daily Wildcat

Student-regent to be confirmed after wait

By Natasha Bhuyan
ARIZONA DAILY WILDCAT

After months of pressure from student leaders, a member of the State Legislature agreed to pursue a measure to give college students a stronger voice on the Arizona Board of Regents.

Last week, Sen. Linda Gray, D-Phoenix, told student leaders from the three state universities that she would push for the confirmation of a student regent, Ben Graff, to the board of regents.

Graff, a second-year UA law student, was appointed to the board of regents by Gov. Janet Napolitano last May, but has since been waiting for official confirmation from the Senate Higher Education

Committee.

If confirmed, Graff would have the opportunity to sit in the board's executive session, a closed meeting in which legal matters are discussed.

Alistair Chapman, student body president, said Graff's confirmation is imperative because Graff's participation in executive session would give students an additional voice when the regents discuss important legal issues.

"Eliminating the opportunity for him to participate in executive session makes his position naïve, essentially limiting his potential to fairly represent students," Chapman wrote in a letter to Gray. "For students, this position represents hope, a chance for our voices to be brought to the board."

Since July, student body presidents from the three state universities have been trying to push forward Graff's confirmation, even asking for a special session of the Arizona State Senate to be called, said Maceo Brown, executive director of the Arizona Students' Association.

Graff said that although he is not confirmed, he has tried to represent students in every capacity for the last seven months at open meetings and discussions.

However, because executive session meetings are private and cannot be legally discussed with the public, Graff said that not knowing certain issues shortsighted him.

"(Voting Student Regent) Wes McCalley

See REGENT/3