

Lame for a
Game
Wildchairs beat
'Cats 72-70

PAGE 3



Pop Science Theatre

Mat Bevel's 'Love Lab'

PAGE 11

Patriotic fever
Is the war causing
unreasonable fear?

PAGE 5

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Spring Fling arrives

By Cara O'Connor
STAFF WRITER

After more than week of setting up carnival booths, rides and other attractions, the gates are finally ready to open.

Today marks the first day of ASUA's 29th annual Spring Fling, the largest student-run carnival in the nation.

The carnival, which features more than 30 rides and 48 food and game booths, will run through Sunday at the Rillito River Park, 4502 N. First Ave. The booths are sponsored by more than 70 campus clubs and organizations, organizers said.

This year's newest attraction is the deep-fried candy bar booth run by the Management Information Systems Association and the Business and Public Administration Student Council, said Morgan Rose, director of Public Relations for Spring Fling. The candy bars (or Twinkies) are dipped in batter, deep-fried and served with powdered sugar.

Other popular carnival treats include roasted corn and Krispy Kreme donuts, she said.

Organizers expect that the Mega Drop ride, as in previous years, will be a fair-goer favorite this year. Mega Drop riders experience a 10-story free fall in five seconds, Rose said.

Planners expect about 40,000 people to attend Spring Fling, grossing more than half a million dollars,

See SPRING/10



DAVID HARDEN/Arizona Daily Wildcat

Carnival workers Rick Grissom and Clement Jones, both from Texas, put together the Mega Drop ride, which is one of 20 rides at this year's Spring Fling at Rillito Downs on North First Avenue.

Plan changes released today

By Jeff Sklar
SENIOR WRITER

Some of the programs targeted under President Pete Likins' plan to narrow UA's mission could learn today that they have been spared.

Likins and Provost George Davis plan to release today final recommendations on whether to go forward with most of about 40 plans to cut, merge and reorganize university programs, UA spokeswoman Sharon Kha said yesterday.

Earlier this week, Davis would not discuss specifics of those recommendations, but he and Likins have said they might protect some areas they targeted when they released initial plans in January under Focused Excellence, the president's plan for narrowing the university's mission to deal with years of dwindling state funding.

For people involved in the programs, which range from information resources and library sciences to planning, today's announcement will mark the end of a two-month wait that many of them have spent arguing to save their programs.

In the School of Information Resources and Library Sciences, the attitude is one of optimism. After arguing on behalf of the program, the only of its kind in the Rocky Mountain region, the school's director likes her chances of hearing good news today.

"My expectations are very high," said

See FOCUSED/10

Saddam statue, regime collapse



THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Kurdish children chant "George Bush we love you" during celebrations in the streets of Sulaymaniyah, Northern Iraq yesterday.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

BAGHDAD, Iraq — Their hour of freedom at hand, jubilant Iraqis celebrated the collapse of Saddam Hussein's murderous regime yesterday, beheading a toppled statue of their longtime ruler in downtown Baghdad and embracing American troops as liberators.

"I'm 49, but I never lived a single day. Only now will I start living," said Yussuf Abed Kazim, a mosque preacher. A young Iraqi spat on a portrait of Saddam. Men hugged Americans in full combat gear, and women held up babies so soldiers riding on tanks could kiss them.

Iraqis released decades of pent-up fury as U.S. forces solidified their grip on the capital. Marine tanks

See PAGE 6

Prof said he was unfairly stopped

Professor plans to tell the community his side of the story

By Arek Sarkissian II
STAFF WRITER

Police detained UA Professor Julian Kunnie last Sunday shortly after a man threatened a campus-area restaurant employee. Now, Kunnie plans to take action against what he called "a violation of his rights as a citizen."

Kunnie, director of the African-American studies department, was released 10 minutes after being detained

when the threatened employee told police in a drive-by line-up that he was not the suspect.

Kunnie was standing at East First Street and North Tyndall Avenue when a University of Arizona Police officer stopped him because he fit the description of the man who pulled a knife on an employee at Subway, 914 E. Speedway Blvd., reports stated.

The officer reportedly had his gun drawn at his side when he confronted Kunnie because the suspect was reported to have a knife.

"Clearly the first black man

See DETAINMENT/26