

# ARIZONA DAILY WILDCAT

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## State cuts another \$18M from budget

BY RYAN GABRIELSON  
Contributing Writer

In a special session Monday, the state Legislature removed nearly \$18 million of the UA's funding in a package of budget cuts that eliminates about \$220 million of the state's sprawling deficit.

Though it is too early to know the exact effects this cut will have, a memo from President Pete Likins to the Arizona Board of Regents last week said the reduction will be felt in everything from the loss of jobs to faculty having to remove some garbage themselves to keep their work environments clean.

The UA has been preparing for a 5 percent cut to its budget since Gov. Jane Hull announced in September that was what she intended to propose. The final cuts are slightly larger, 5.4 percent, due to additional cuts in money budgeted for travel, and newspaper and magazine subscriptions, said UA lobbyist Greg Fahey.

The remaining \$280 million gap between the state's expenses and its dwindling revenues must wait until January when the Legislature — with its newly elected members — reconvenes.

Though \$44.5 million has now been cut from the university's revenue since July, \$26.7

million of that before the classes began, UA budget director Dick Roberts said this is just the beginning.

"The other shoe will hit the deck in early January. This story is not going away," Roberts said.

Even when the deficit for 2003 is filled in, next year's budget is expected to bring another \$1 billion deficit, said Tim Everill, revenue section chief for the Joint Legislative Budget Committee.

Though many analysts have said the nation has pulled out of its recession, Everill said Arizona is still stuck.

According to documents from the governor's office, Arizona's sales tax revenue — the state's main source of revenue — continued to decrease through the summer. State income tax revenues have also continued to spiral, down nearly 50 percent this year from last year.

Everill said the solution to this year's budget problems "could go a zillion different directions."

"When (the state's economy) does turn around there is going to be some time before there is revenue," as sales tax takes longer to produce, Everill said.

Two legislative subcommittees created in

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## Thanksgiving break transforms campus

BY REBEKAH JAMPOLE  
Staff Writer

Students have approximately 96 hours to get home, eat turkey, watch a few football games and give their cousins swirlies before returning to campus for the final eight days of class.

A look around campus shows that many students have already left for an extended holiday. But some aren't so fortunate and will remain on campus for the entire Thanksgiving break.

Work, lack of transportation and money are the primary factors keeping many students in Tucson.

"I am staying here and working. I'm a college student, so we all know I need the money," said art history senior Angela Bonano.

Most of campus will be shut down for the holiday, but residence halls will stay open.

Some will offer dinner for people who are unable to leave for the weekend.

An Apache-Santa Cruz Residence Hall resident will be making a full dinner for 20 residents and resident assistants Thursday evening, said hall director Ed Gilhool.

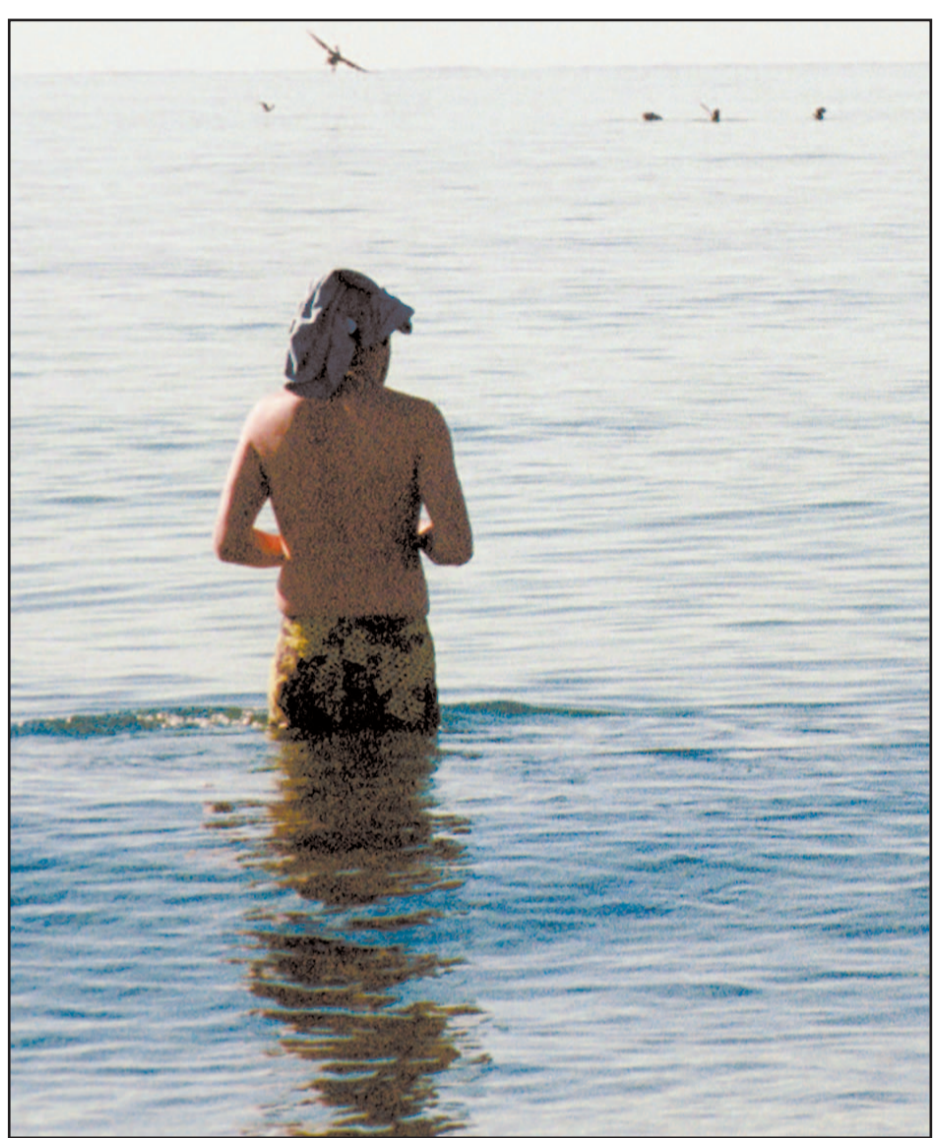
Each dorm will have a resident assistant on duty during the four-day break.

Dinner in Yuma Residence Hall will be provided by an on-duty RA and his family, however, no one has signed up for the "feast" yet, said Jennifer Anderson, a Yuma desk assistant.

Many students are looking forward to time with their families over Thanksgiving, especially those who haven't seen their families in years.

"This year, we have a lot of family flying from all over the country. It will be the first time we've been together in a long time," said

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RANDY METCALF/Arizona Daily Wildcat

Peter Gaube, the vice president of the Marine Awareness Conservation Society, wades in the water off the beach in Rocky Point, Mexico, Sunday morning. Ten club members went to Rocky Point to study the marine life in the Sea of Cortez. See **Page 8** for a photography feature on their trip.

## Not a usual Mexico trip

Marine biology club members cherish hands-on experience

BY KRISTINA DUNHAM  
Staff Writer

Katrina Aleksa has wanted to be a marine biologist since she was in third grade.

But for Aleksa, a biology sophomore, one of the only ways she could participate in marine biology after the UA's ecology department cut two marine biology classes this fall was by joining a new club formed for marine enthusiasts.

Aleksa joined the Marine Awareness and Conservation Society, she said, "to keep up with things that are going on in marine biology and to keep involved in (its) study."

She gained some hands-on experience

last weekend, when she and nine other MACS members traveled to the Intercultural Center for the Study of Deserts and Oceans (CEDO) in Puerto Peñasco, Mexico, to explore the ins and outs of the Mexican coastline.

When the tide was out Friday night, Aleksa and other club members went tide-pooling, with the help of flashlights and the stars, looking in puddles of water and turning over rocks to find sea creatures around the rocky shore near CEDO.

Just after reaching the shore, club vice-president Peter Gaube turned over a half-submerged rock and pointed out patches of bryozoan and tunicates to the others, explaining how the tunicates, which looked like a glob of slime on the rock, are in the

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Construction worker Ray Salcido works on the Student Union Memorial Center Friday afternoon. The current deadline for completion is Dec. 15, but officials say construction may not be finished by winter break.



KEVIN B. KLAUS/Arizona Daily Wildcat

## Union might miss deadline

BY JAMES KELLEY  
Staff Writer

The Student Union Memorial Center may miss its Dec. 15 deadline for completion, though the project's finish date has already been pushed back from April to July to December.

The student union's construction, which started during the summer of 1999, may not be completely finished by the beginning of winter break, but parts essential to services and business in the union will be, officials said.

"I think the majority will be (done). Some areas will be behind. Landscaping is a major area

behind," said Dan Adams, Arizona Student Unions director. "Our goal is to have all programs and services for the beginning of second semester. We fully expect it to be 99 percent operational (by the beginning of the second semester)."

Mostly just landscaping and the sidewalks are the areas that still need to be done, said Chris Kraft, Facilities Design and Construction project manager for the union.

Once it is finished, staples of the old Memorial Student Union like lounge spaces; Union Club; a sit down restaurant; the Cellar, which was a dark lounge that hosted performances; Sam's Place, a gaming room; a ballroom; an art gallery;

and the Gallagher Theater will return.

"The substantial completion date is Dec. 15," Kraft said. "The exterior work may not be 100 percent completed."

The groundbreaking for construction of the current union occurred in late July 1999, and in November of that year, the demolition of the old Memorial Student Union began. The new union was built where the old union once stood.

"It's taken a long time and I wish they would finish it, but they're working hard and you've

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