



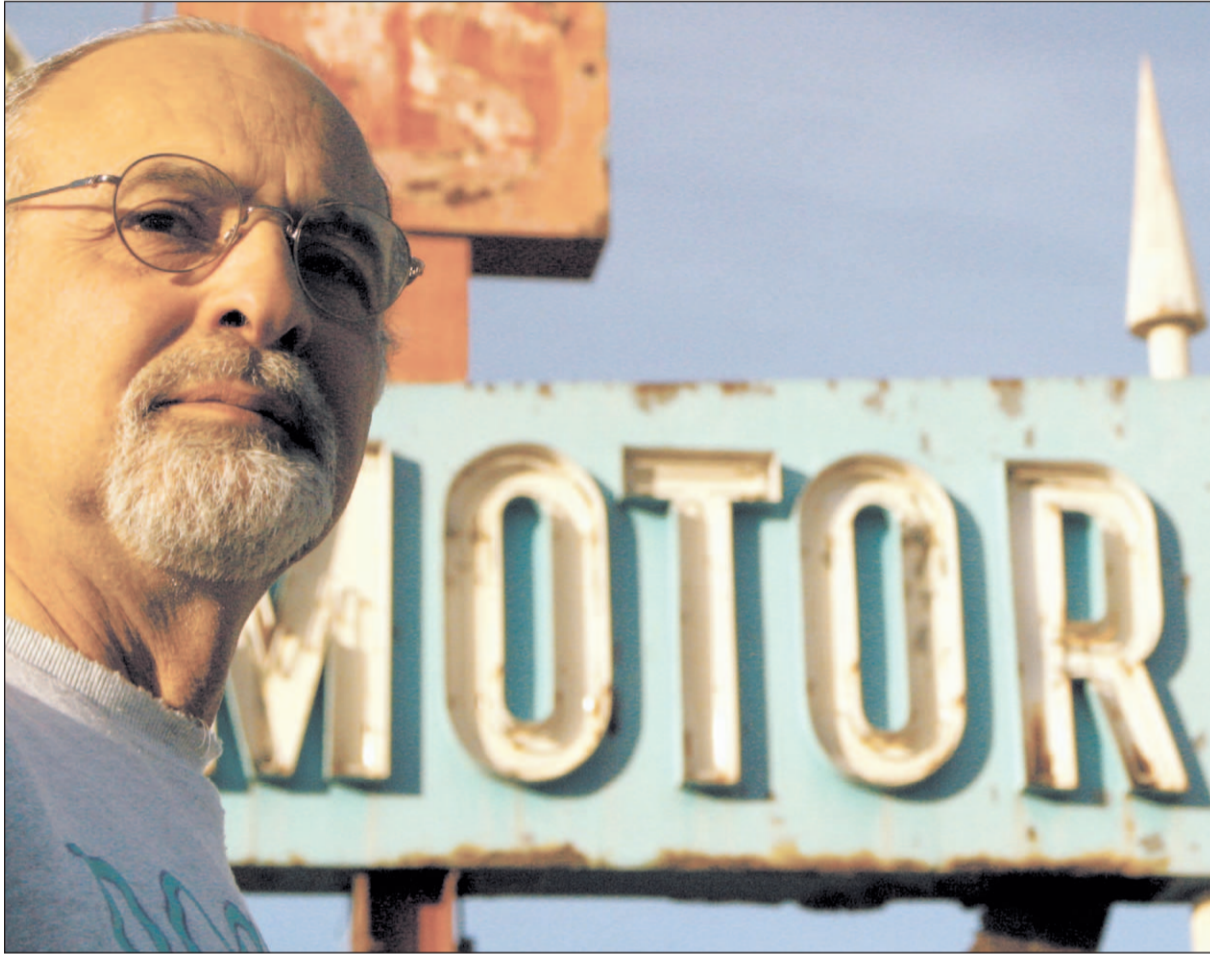
Friday, January 17, 2003

# ARIZONA DAILY WILDCAT

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## STUDENT HOUSING



EMILY REID/Arizona Daily Wildcat

Developer Ted Maher surveys the gutted remains of the old Sahara Motel on North Stone Avenue yesterday afternoon. Maher is currently renovating the motel, which will become a dormitory for Pima and UA students.

## Old Sahara Motel will be a private residence hall

By Kristian Ramos  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Take an old run down motel, add refrigerators, Internet connections and over 600 hundred college students, and what do you get? The Sahara: a new option for students who like the residence hall lifestyle but who may not be able to get

housing on campus due to recent housing problems.

The Sahara, located near North Stone Avenue and East Sixth Street, are built to resemble the atmosphere in which students in residence halls on campus live. Residence Life-like personnel such as resident assistants and hall directors will live on the premises.

In the past couple years, obtain-

ing a room on campus has become harder for many students, as housing overflows first forced some students to live in study lounges and hotels, and the housing cap forced upperclassmen out of the residence halls.

"It became apparent that the university did not have the ability

See HOUSING/10

## Librarians pressed to save school

By Keren G. Raz  
CAMPUS EDITOR

With the country facing a librarian shortage, and the looming possibility of the School of Information Resources and Library Science being eliminated, director Brook Sheldon is already organizing students, alumni, and community members to support her school.

Yesterday she sent out a letter to Congressman Raul Grijalva, the state librarian, and the Hispanic coalition, asking for their support.

But she knows community support alone won't save her school.

In a climate of budget cuts and financial struggles,

Sheldon said the key to survival is money.

"I think the administration sees an opportunity in a sense to get rid of one if its fiscal demands by making us more self-sufficient," she said.

As SIRLS is threatened with elimination, students, alumni and administrators at the school are focusing on plans to prove to President Pete Likins and Provost George Davis that the school can find its own funds.

In a memo released on Tuesday, Likins and Davis identified SIRLS as one of the 16 programs they may eliminate in June.

SIRLS's existence within the

See FOCUSED/3

## Graduate students reject tuition hike

By Tacie Holyoak  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

The Graduate and Professional Student Council said they oppose an administration plan that will try to reduce the effects of a tuition increase by raising the minimum credit requirement from six to nine units for all graduate students.

Under the administration's

proposal, current students would not have to pay for the additional three units.

The administration's plan to keep graduate-level tuition down has been colored by serious doubt since it was released Tuesday. The GPSC announced their opposition to the plan yesterday in an emergency meeting.

While tuition increase

See TUITION/3

## Park Union closure inconvenient

By Kristina Dunham  
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

Carrying a McDonald's bag, Chris Coleman returned home to Coronado Residence Hall yesterday afternoon after walking halfway across campus from the Student Union Memorial Center.

Coleman, an engineering freshman, and residents of the three halls near the Park Student Union, had their convenient food stop on campus closed last month when a renovation and expansion project on the PSU began.

The project, which is expected to last until October, will bring additional eateries, retail shops and meeting areas to the PSU, according to union administrators.

But for the next nine months, students on the west side of campus will have to adjust their daily routines to

deal with the union's closure.

"I think it's a hassle," Coleman said.

Coleman said he misses the convenience store in the PSU that he visited almost every day.

Jason Shontz, a pre-business freshman and resident of Kaibab-Huachuca Residence Hall, used to buy all of his groceries next door, but has been forced to find another place to shop.

"It had everything that I needed," Shontz said. "One of the biggest things of the union was that the store was in it. Now you have to walk over to the main union to get stuff like milk. I think it had very good stuff in it already."

Jessie Singer, a Spanish sophomore and Kaibab-Huachuca resident, said that since the union was closed,

See UNION/9



Park Student Union is closed for the next nine months for construction. Students living in nearby dorms now need to walk to the Student Union Memorial Center.

KEVIN  
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