

# ARIZONA DAILY WILDCAT

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The University of Arizona, Tucson

## Dorm is home for the holiday

By Alexis Blue  
STAFF WRITER

This holiday weekend, residence halls will be a little quieter and a lot emptier, as many dorm dwellers head out of town in pursuit of turkey, stuffing and quality family time.

But there are some students who will stay in their residence halls this weekend, and for many of them it will be their first Thanksgiving spent away from home.

Marlene Yafuso, an architecture

freshman and resident of Villa del Puente, came to the UA this year from Hawaii.

Yafuso won't be making the long trip home for Thanksgiving, and this will be her first Thanksgiving away from her family.

"I'm sad. I wish I could go home," she said. "But it's too far away."

Yafuso said she'll miss the Hawaiian dishes that have always accompanied her holiday feast at home.

"I already miss all the food," she said.

Yafuso said she plans on going to a friend's house for Thanksgiving dinner.

Richard Chesney, a pre-architecture freshman from Grosse Point, Mich., will also dine with a friend on Thursday, and he plans to spend the rest of the weekend enjoying the peace and quiet of his residence hall.

Chesney said while he'd like to see his mom, dad and brother, he said a \$500 plane ticket and an 11 hour flight home just for the weekend would only put a damper on his holiday spirit.

"If I went home, it would just be a

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## Graduate students want fee waiver

By Julie Wetmore  
STAFF WRITER

Last week, graduate students gathered at the Arizona Board of Regents meeting to fight for 100 percent tuition waivers. But top administrators say they won't get what they want for another few years.

With teaching, research, class work, and second jobs on top of that, not paying to go to school would ease the stress that graduates face, said Jani Radebaugh, Graduate and Professional Student Council president.

Sami Sansevere, graduate student, said she is considered the envy of her peers because she ends up with a negative \$1 for her monthly budget.

Many other students take out extensive loans and second jobs just to make ends meet, Sansevere said.

Out-of-state tuition waivers have always been granted to students from other states.

But, both out-of-state and in-state graduates must pay in-state tuition. This "fee," appearing on their bursar statement, is over \$1,200 and is often unexpected when graduates arrive at the UA.

"The fees come as a big surprise to graduates who have to give back 15 percent of their paycheck as a result," Radebaugh said. "This affects which students decide to come here in the end."

The UA administration is sympathetic to these issues and is working to improve the situation, but the need for funding is hindering immediate progress.

"It's a little too early to tell how much time this will take. I'd like to say we can achieve 100 percent remission in one to two years," said Dick Powell, vice president for research. "But that

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## THANKS FOR GIVING



MELISSA HALTERMAN/Arizona Daily Wildcat  
Second year pharmacy student Lindsey Chillion loads groceries into a Jeep to take to a donation center last night. Chillion is a member of Mortar Board senior honorary which, along with other honoraries across campus, raised \$2,600 to feed Thanksgiving dinner to about 50 needy families in Tucson.

## Cuts forcing campus clubs to collaborate

By Dana Crudo  
STAFF WRITER

Smaller amounts of money for campus organizations are forcing the collaboration board to actually collaborate for the first time.

The collaboration board is a project that started years ago, but hasn't done anything until this year.

"It's been in the making, off and on, with successes and failures for six to 10 years," said Greg Billings, University Activities Board president.

Sara Birnbaum, an ASUA senator who is in charge of the project, said it has been able to succeed this year because recent budget cuts have forced organizations to combine their funds.

Less money makes it easier to motivate people because, if organizations combine, there is more money for larger projects, Birnbaum said.

"We all came to an understanding that we

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## Students say drug legalization in Mexico could have pros, cons

By Greg Holt  
STAFF WRITER

The international trend toward the decriminalization of drugs has begun to take root in Mexico, and many UA students have said they support the movement.

A little over a week ago, Mexico City Attorney General Bernardo Batiz stated publicly that he believes Mexico should consider a gradual legalization of drugs in order to reduce the influence and power of drug traffickers, according to *The Associated Press*.

"Drugs are big business because they're prohibited, and there are a lot of addicts," Batiz said. "If you give addicts what they need, together with treatment, the market prices will fall and

trafficking will decline."

Batiz's statements have made headlines largely because his boss, Mexico City Mayor Andres Manuel Lopez Obrador, is seen as the leading contender in the 2006 presidential race in Mexico.

If Lopez Obrador were to win, it would be in his power to change Mexico's drug policy.

Some UA students are enthusiastic about the possibility of drugs becoming legal within an hour's drive of Tucson.

"I'd be for Mexico legalizing marijuana, it would take a lot of stress off me when I go down there," said Danny Aceto, a communication senior. "Further down the road, if Mexico and Canada are doing this, then the U.S. might follow."

Lindsay Blaum, a senior



Photo illustration by MELISSA HALTERMAN/Arizona Daily Wildcat  
A supporter of the Mexico City Attorney General's proposal that Mexico gradually legalize drugs, including marijuana, rolls a marijuana cigarette in his living room.

majoring in English, said she supports the legalization of marijuana in Mexico as well as the U.S.

"I think it's okay to

legalize pot, but I don't think they should legalize all drugs. But there is a lot of wasted

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