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on UA Mall**
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ARIZONA DAILY WILDCAT

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Friday, January 13, 2006

The University of Arizona, Tucson

Today's Weather

Mostly sunny
High: 75°
Low: 48°



QUICK HITS

School of Art exhibit opens today

The art exhibit "Material Terrain: A Sculptural Exploration of Landscape and Place" by the UA School of Art opens today.

The UA Museum of Art is one of the 10 museums in the United States to present the 26 sculptures, which were created by 11 artists.

The art pieces will be placed in the UA Museum of Art, 1031 N. Olive Road, the UA School of Art's Joseph Gross Gallery and seven outdoor campus locations.

The indoor sculpture exhibit will close on March 18, but the outdoor sculptures will be on view until April 2.

The museum is open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday and noon to 5 p.m. on Saturdays.

Ashlee Simpson to play benefit concert at TOC

Ashlee Simpson will be performing a benefit concert Saturday night at the Tucson Convention Center, 205 S. Church Ave.

Local bands Jetty, Three and Five Veritas will open for the pop star, and the money raised from the event will go toward helping homeless teenagers in Pima County.

TEAM Tucson, a local nonprofit organization founded and run by local high school students, organized the concert.

The show starts at 6 p.m., and tickets are still available through www.teamtucson.com for \$30.

UA stargazer finds rare star clusters

A UA astronomy student recently helped discover star clusters located in places where stars usually don't exist.

Karen Kriemler, an astronomy graduate student and NASA Space Grant Fellow, worked with Tucson astronomer Patricia Kestel to find the young stars located 111 million light years away from Earth. They seem to have formed in the midst of a galaxy collision, where stars aren't known to form.

They presented their finding at the American Astronomical Society meeting yesterday in Washington, D.C.

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ASUA officials reinstated

By Zach Collick
ARIZONA DAILY WILDCAT

Five student officials were reinstated to their positions by acting Student Body President Erin Hertzog yesterday, just two days after being fired by Cade Bensen, the student body president who is on leave.

The reinstatements are in accordance with the university policy, which allows fired officials to retain their positions while the Dean of Students Office conducts an official investigation, said Fernando Ascencio,

one of the Arizona Students' Association directors who was fired Tuesday.

Ascencio and fellow ASA director Andrew Recrod and Christopher Dang resumed their jobs, along with cabinet coordinator Beatae Busha and assistant elections commissioner Rebecca Rodl.

Hertzog did not return messages left on her office phone and cell phone yesterday.

Melissa Vito, the dean of students, said in an e-mail yesterday she is "unable to comment on any individual cases."

Bensen said he fired the appointed officials because his personal attorney said to fire them in light of evidence that he claims proves the officials had spread lies concerning the sexual harassment complaints made against Bensen in November. Bensen has denied the charges.

Bensen agreed Wednesday to leave office for five days while the Dean of Students Office investigates complaints made by both Bensen

and the officials he fired.

Bensen said yesterday that he would be willing to remain on leave longer if it would help the Dean of Students Office conduct its investigation.

Ascencio said there is a clause that protects individuals on campus whose employers unfairly terminate their employment and who use retaliation efforts to remedy a situation.



Erin Hertzog

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MONKEYING AROUND FOR ART



Andrew Walker, a freestanding exhibit installation for the UA Museum of Art, places pieces of artist Ming Cyle's 'Merrin' piece 'Monkey Fat.' Cyle's exhibit is one of the 26 that can be seen along North Park Avenue and is slated to be on display until April.

Candidates' identities to remain secret

By Nicole Santa Cruz
ARIZONA DAILY WILDCAT

The Arizona Board of Regents will release on Tuesday the names of final candidates for the UA presidency but cannot release any other information until then, an official said.

Fred Boice, chair and spokesman of the search committee, said although no information will be released about the candidates, UA students will have the opportunity to ask the candidates questions when they visit campus next week.

Aside from attending closed executive session interviews next Wednesday and Thursday, each candidate will also have a specified time reserved for answering questions from the UA community, Boice said.

"It is a very open deal like it has been," Boice said, although he would not give an approximate schedule of the meetings. "I think it's still being set," Boice said. "It is being done as quickly as we can."

Boice said that at the present moment, "Everybody seems to be on station to come."

The candidates will be made finalists once the search committee interviews them and presents the names to the board of regents, at which point the committee will disclose, Boice said.

Benjamin Geff, a student regent and committee member, said he is unable to confirm or deny that there are four finalists in the running for the UA presidency.

The final candidates are going to get the opportunity to be involved with the process, Geff said.

"I would strongly encourage the student body to get involved and get to know the candidates and their qualifications and to convey that to ASUA or directly to me," said Geff, who represents all Arizona students on the board of regents. "It is my responsibility to make sure students know about this opportunity."

Even though students will be given short notice about when to meet with candidates, Geff said that is normal for any search process.

"It has to be a short timeline, it's kind of the nature of the beast," Geff said, adding that the candidates are as eager as students are to know who will get the position.

Bill may increase costs for students

By LAUREA O'RY
ARIZONA DAILY WILDCAT

Students and their parents receiving loans from the federal government to pay for college may soon face higher interest rates and fees.

The U.S. Congress will soon vote on the budget reconciliation bill, which will increase interest rates for Parent Loans for Undergraduate Students in an effort to decrease federal spending.

The bill would save the federal government \$2.7 billion dollars over time by increasing interest rates and fees on federal financial aid for students and their parents, said Hassan Hijiari, assistant director of federal relations at the UA.

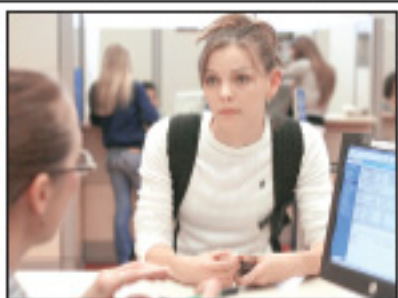
The bill would increase interest rates for PLUS loans from 7.9 percent to 8.5 percent, said Sarina Urwin, associate executive director of the Arizona Students' Association.

The bill would also strain the wallets of students and their parents by using exis-

ting subsidy payments from students and their parents for tax cuts for the wealthy.

The federal government would save \$2.2 billion by cutting the mandatory federal loan delivery funds, and they would save an additional \$1.4 billion by charging guarantee agencies a one percent insurance fee on all loans, according to Student Aid Action, a higher education project of the State Public Interest Group.

This means that lenders may end up



Students in economics major Jennifer Yule is asked to deliver at the UA Board of All Department. The Arizona Students' Association has announced an "Action Alert" to "Stop the raid on student aid" after the Senate announced possibly cutting away several aid programs.

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