



ARIZONA DAILY WILDCAT

Wednesday, March 5, 2003

SERVING THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA SINCE 1899

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Race for student offices heats up

By Rebekah Kleinman & Aaron Mackey
NEWS EDITOR & STAFF WRITER

Presidential candidates Jered Mansell and J.P. Benedict advanced through the Associated Students of the University of Arizona primary last night, defeating Senator Travis Pritchett.



Student Elections 2003

Benedict, director of the Freshman Class Council led the candidates, garnering 40.22 percent of the vote, while Mansell was

close behind, acquiring 37.45 percent. Pritchett finished with 21.33 percent of the total vote.

"I knew it was going to be really close. I wasn't sure where Travis was going to be, he was kind of a dark horse," said Mansell, current administrative vice president.

Benedict commended Pritchett for his efforts, and now hopes that Pritchett's

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Student found murdered

Autopsy results show law student didn't die naturally

By Devin Simmons
STAFF WRITER

A UA law student was found dead in her house at 2426 N. Fremont Ave., Monday afternoon, according to Tucson Police reports.

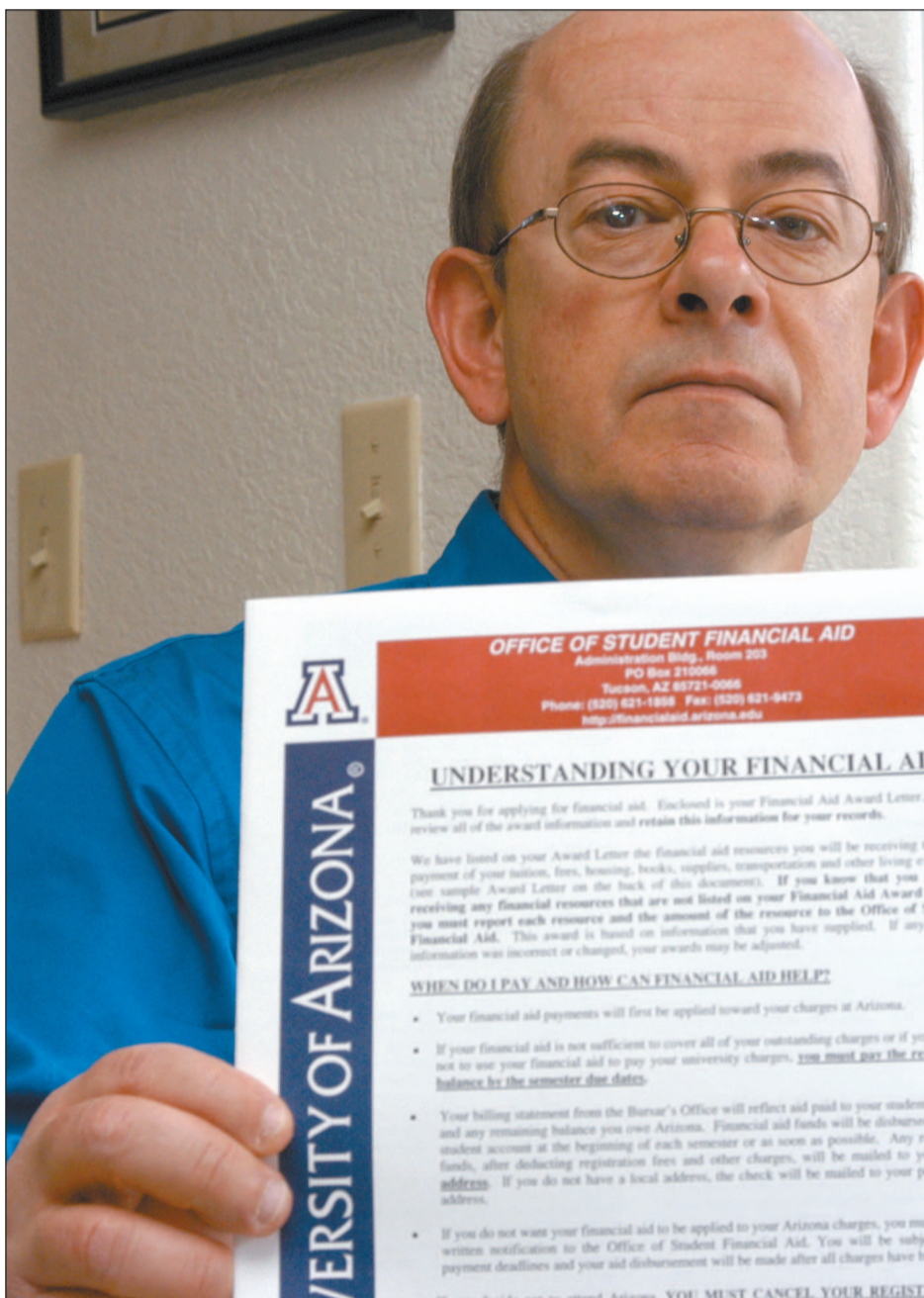
Police have called the death of Susan Barber, 27, a homicide after an autopsy completed yesterday showed that she did not die from natural causes, the report stated.

Police discovered Barber's body during a welfare check requested by the victim's parents. The university initially contacted Barber's parents after she did not show up to her classes, reports stated.

"We are not exactly sure when she died," said Sgt. Marco Borboa of the Tucson Police Department. "But it appears she could have been there up to three days."

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PAYING THE PRICE



WILL SEBERGER/Arizona Daily Wildcat
Mario Vassallo, father of UA business sophomore Rebecca Vassallo, holds up a financial aid statement from UA. Vassallo's family is one of many dealing with a potential tuition hike.

Parents brace for impact of higher tuition next year

By Keren G. Raz
CAMPUS EDITOR

When Mario Vassallo moved to Arizona from New York three years ago, he couldn't believe how little it would cost to send his daughter to the UA.

"When I came here, I said, 'Wow, this is great! This is cheap,'" he said.

But when Vassallo sends his youngest daughter to the UA in two years, that bargain price may no longer exist.

Tomorrow President Pete Likins will ask the Arizona Board of Regents to approve a \$1,000 tuition increase, the largest in UA history, and almost all the regents, including Gov. Janet

Napolitano, have said they support the tuition increase.

Although most of the focus of this year's tuition debate has been on administrators, students and regents, many parents will end up disbursing the extra

“My reason for support for any tuition hike is that the money's going into programs and not going into financial aid...”

— Betsy Woolf, UA parent

\$1,000 to pay for their children's education.

Likins has said that he wants those parents who can afford their children's education to pay more than \$2,500 for tuition.

Over 50 percent of incoming freshmen in 2001-2002 said that their parents earn more than \$65,000, according to an assessment and enrollment research survey.

But still, some parents say the increase is a small price to pay to ensure that their children receive college degrees from a reputable institution.

"My major interest (in a tuition increase) is to see the university system here in

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Likins acts as captain of UA

By Jeff Sklar
SENIOR WRITER

When President Pete Likins unveiled in September his goal of transforming the UA into a leading research institution, he established a plan for reshaping the university through program cuts, mergers and reorganizations.

The process, he said, would be "transparent but not democratic."

In other words, Likins would welcome input from across the university, although he would ultimately decide what would survive, what would be cut and what would be changed.

About a month ago, Likins and Provost George Davis released more than 50 proposals for narrowing the UA's mission under their comprehensive Focused Excellence plan. As the semester unfolds, a variety of committees with extensive faculty representation will review the plans, offer suggestions and return them to Likins and Davis, who will make the final decisions.

Likins and Davis have emphasized that no decisions will be made without extensive consultation with faculty, students and staff. And while many faculty members seem satisfied with their role, some accuse the administration's approach of being too heavy-handed, saying faculty should have a direct, policy-making role in running the university.

Guiding the ship

As Marv Waterstone began his speech at last month's Faculty Senate meeting, Likins chuckled. Waterstone, an associate professor of geography, referred to a local newspaper article in which Likins said his job wouldn't be so difficult if more people were criticizing his Focused Excellence proposals.

"I'm here to make Pete Likins' day a little easier," Waterstone said.

Waterstone argued that administrators were ignoring faculty not just in the Focused Excellence process, but in university governance in general.

Waterstone believes administrators are out of touch with the needs of the faculty, and think of themselves as CEOs rather than educators. Focused Excellence, he said, is clouded in the "truncated vocabulary and vision of bureaucrats."

He wants professors to run the university, and believes administrators should come from the faculty and return once their terms expire. Only two of the approximately 50 faculty senators at that meeting

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