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University of Arizona, Tucson

UA researcher's invention to aid sniper investigation

BY DEVIN SIMMONS
Staff Writer

A computer database designed on campus may be just what investigators need to catch the Washington, D.C., area sniper, said Lt. Jenny Schroeder of the Tucson Police Department.

The database, called COPLINK, was designed by Hsinchun Chen and his staff in the Artificial Intelligence Lab, part of the UA's Department of Management Information Systems.

COPLINK is a Web-based database allowing any police department connected to the system to access information from other police departments at

the click of a button, Chen said.

The Tucson Police Department will be sending Schroeder and Detective Tim Petersen to the Washington, D.C., area today, on the request of the Montgomery County Police Department, to install the program and help train local authorities, according to information from TPD.

In the three years TPD has had COPLINK, police officers have given it rave reviews. The database has several features that may make it an important part of the sniper investigation.

"With COPLINK, when we have little to no information we can take that information and try to establish con-

nections, which actually creates leads for us that were not there before," Schroeder said.

Most importantly, the program enables departments to share information with each other in a much more efficient way, to expedite investigations and hopefully prevent violent crimes from ever happening, Chen said.

The idea behind the program operates on the premise many criminals are repeat offenders, Schroeder said. Those people have already had police contact and most likely are mentioned

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JON HELGASON / Arizona Daily Wildcat

Next month will mark President Pete Likins' fifth year at the UA, since coming from Pennsylvania's Lehigh University in 1997.

5 years with Pete Likins

From weathering a CatCard scandal to revamping campus and defining a new mission, Likins says he's only just begun

BY KEREN G. RAZ
Staff Writer

Maybe you think he's considering slowing down at age 66. You'd be wrong. Most of the time, President Pete Likins works late into the evening, often attending a business dinner engagement with his wife, Pat, of 47 years, as was the case last week, when he attended a dinner for the UA Foundation at the Westin La Paloma Resort.

Before the dinner began, Likins and his wife took a time-out. Relaxing against the pillows in a private lounge area, Pat Likins posed the question that is always on her mind: When will her husband finally retire?

"I probably shouldn't say this, but I'm just looking forward to the time that he finally gets old enough to retire. Well, he's old enough now, but he doesn't think so," she said.

"I told the regents three to five years, and then I'll retire," Likins responded.

Laughing, Pat Likins said, "He told me that five years ago, when we first came here."

Next month marks Likins' fifth year as UA president — a year that may also prove to be a turning point in UA history with his Focused Excellence proposal, which he will present to the Arizona Board of Regents next week. With the opportunity to redirect the mission of the university, Likins doesn't want to step down from the presidency any time soon.

"What you expect of yourself is leaving a university significantly better than it was when you came, having a permanent impact on the university. And right now I have that opportunity," he said. "For me, the biggest challenge is right now."

Likins couldn't fathom turning down the challenge. So despite Pat Likins' wishes, he is pushing back his retirement. As he sees it, his job here at the university has just begun.

Wanted: a CEO type of leader

He was used to 40-degree temperatures in November after living in Bethlehem, Pa., for 15 years.

But when Likins came to Tucson in 1997, he didn't just come for the 70-degree winters.

He came to serve as UA's 18th president, having been unanimously approved by the Arizona Board of Regents over the summer.

At the time, Lehigh University, a private university in

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Building it right



KEVIN KLAUS / Arizona Daily Wildcat

Construction worker Kino Galvez sprays stucco on a wall on the top level of the Student Union Memorial Center yesterday. Slated to be finished in December, it will be the largest student union in North America that does not include an attached hotel.

Candidates surprised to have vote

Hopefuls for superintendent of public instruction job learn the seat includes vote on board of regents



Tom Horne (R) were confused over whether, as an ex-officio board member, the superintendent of public instruction is entitled to vote. John Zajac (L) got the news late last week.

"Well, that's good news," said Horne, when he was told the superintendent does have voting privileges.

Horne said he had always been under the impression that it was a

voting seat before deciding to run for the position, but Blanchard had told Horne it was not a voting seat, leading Horne to believe the superintendent is virtually powerless on the board.

Blanchard said the other candidates should know for themselves what their responsibilities are.

After an inquiry from the *Arizona Daily Wildcat*, Blanchard re-investigated the matter.

Originally, his campaign interpreted the constitution backwards, he said.

Since it does not state specifically

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BY JENNY ROSE
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DANIEL SCARPINATO
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Arizona's superintendent of public instruction has a vote on the Arizona Board of Regents, but two of the candidates for this state office were not aware of their voting responsibility until yesterday.

With only two weeks left until election day, Jay Blanchard (D) and