

**Marine speaks
out about war
with Iraq**

Page 5



Hanging on

**Basketball struggles to close
out Sun Devils**

Page 22

**Making
Contact**

Page 11



Thursday, January 23, 2003

ARIZONA DAILY WILDCAT

SERVING THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA SINCE 1899

FOCUSED EXCELLENCE

New college may be on the horizon

Media arts may move from
College of Fine Arts to join
journalism, communication

By **Keren G. Raz**
CAMPUS EDITOR

When Michael Dues, head of the communication department, read the list of proposed mergers and reconstructions, he saw exactly what he wanted.

Not only was the department of communication spared from a merger, but it was also included in a proposal to create a new college focused on "communication, journalism, and the media."

No immediate action will be taken to combine communication and journalism because President Pete Likins said too little is known about the complexities.

"You're not going to have a president and a provost go into a dark room and come out with an idea," he said.

However, Likins and Provost George Davis have asked the dean of Social and Behavioral Sciences to examine the viability of a new college with the help of faculty members from across campus.

"I see everything as an opportunity for us to develop a cutting-edge curriculum, to do some very aggressive fundraising, and make this college one of the leaders in this area," said Jacqueline Sharkey, head of the journalism department.

Although administrators focused mainly on communication and journalism as the

See COLLEGE/9

Rebuilding academia

Likins and Davis propose
extensive changes in form
of mergers, reorganization

By **Jeff Sklar**
SENIOR WRITER

Administrators released yesterday seven preliminary proposals to merge university programs and 19 proposals to structurally alter a variety of university areas.

The plans include two proposals for merging entire academic departments, and

See Inside ...

More coverage
of proposed
changes

Page 9

also call for the renaming of two colleges and the elimination of several administrative positions, including the dean of the Graduate College.

The proposals call for the elimination of one undergraduate degree, in geological engineering, but spare other academic degree programs in potentially merged departments.

Yesterday's announcement marked the second time this month that President Pete Likins and Provost George Davis released plans detailing their initial proposals for restructuring the UA under Focused Excellence, Likins' sweeping plan to turn the university into a more financially independent, top-flight research institution.

Likins reiterated the fact the idea that some job cuts will likely result from the mergers that survive a long review process.

"There will be jobs lost, inevitably, but which ones, we're totally unable to say," he said.

Tenured faculty members' jobs will be



UA Provost George Davis, seen announcing program cuts at a press conference last week, will announce proposals today outlining the specifics for planned mergers.

protected, though some department heads warn that retaining faculty in a merged department could prove challenging. Other faculty members and staff in affected departments will have their jobs reviewed by administrators on a case-by-case basis, Likins and Davis said in the document outlining their proposals.

Since unveiling Focused Excellence early last semester, Likins and Davis have said the changes they propose will impact the lives of many employees. But they call the changes necessary if the university is to survive in a financial climate where the percentage of the university budget coming from the state has shrunk nearly 25 percent

in the last 15 years.

"If we do nothing and simply try to keep every (program) alive, we will drain the reservoir from everything and ultimately damage the core strength of the university," Likins said.

The proposals call for the merger of the aerospace engineering doctoral program with a similar program at ASU. The Arizona Board of Regents recently labeled that program as demonstrating "low productivity" because it has only awarded three doctorates in eight years. However, Likins and Davis said keeping it open is

See MERGER/9



Like many peers, economics junior Chris Travis stays close to his family.

Baby Boomer parents seen as cool by students

By **Tessa Hill**
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

The generation gap that once separated Generation X and the baby boomers is becoming narrower, and some UA students are finding out that their parents are a lot cooler than they thought.

Maya Pri-Tal, an undecided freshman, said she talks to her parents every day, while Sean Brandt said he talks to his parents at least 10 times a

week.

More students are following the same trend, buying calling cards or extra minutes on their cell phones to check in with their parents throughout the week.

"There is a generation gap, but it's not significant," said Pri-Tal, an undecided freshman. "We can talk to each other about anything because, surprisingly, we've gone through similar things."

"I think now it's more

natural to realize your parents are awesome and admit it," she added.

Pri-Tal says she visits her mom often and they hang out like she does with her friends, going to see a movie or going to lunch.

"They're mom, dad and friends," said Brandt, an undecided sophomore, who was raised with the belief that a family should be based on not only familial bonds, but friendships as well.

See GENERATION/27

Roe v. Wade hits 30, UA speaks out

By **Bob Purvis**
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

More than 200 students, faculty and community activists lined East Speedway Boulevard yesterday afternoon, waving picket signs and chanting pro-choice slogans to commemorate the 30th anniversary of Roe v. Wade.

The demonstration, organized by UA's Students for Choice, capped off a day of campus activities commemorating the 1973 Supreme Court case that gave women the right to choose.

Demonstrators flooded the corners of

See ABORTION/3