Budget crisis fading away
By Tim Lake
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

After two years of budget woes, administrators are saying that the university is emerging from the budget crisis, and as a result students might soon have an easier time getting the classes they need.

This year the university’s budget increased by 54.9 million dollars, with $20.1 million of that increase coming from last year’s record-setting $1,000 tuition hike, said Dick Roberts, budget director.

To help students out administrators have decided to hire new faculty with $4 million of the revenue generated by last year’s tuition increase, said Roberts.

The faculty hires are not because of a hiring freeze that was lifted on Wednesday, said Beth Mitchneck, interim vice provost. The end of the hiring freeze only affected staff and appointed personnel hires.

She said the hope is that students will have a greater selection of classes in the near future.

The lifting of new faculty and the lifting of the freeze send a clear signal that the university is emerging from the budget crisis, and as a result students might soon have an easier time getting the classes they need.

See FACULTY/13

Calling in crimes daunting, but vital
By Ty Young
STAFF WRITER

A simple walk between classes became a lesson in sexual harassment for three UA students Friday.

As they were walking south toward the Highland Tunnel underpass, a man standing at the bus stop above unzipped his pants and started grabbing his crotch yelling, “I want to fuck you,” and other obscenities.

One of those students, who requested to be identified as Mimi because the suspect is still at large, was later confronted by the man three hours later in the parking lot next to the same bus stop, 1395 E. Speedway Blvd. Just as earlier in the day, the man grabbed his crotch and yelled obscenities.

“I have the imprint of his face in my mind, unfortunately,” she said. “I will always know what he looks like if he’s caught.”

With more than 25 reports of suspicious activity such as this one in the past week alone, UAPD is calling out to students to be alert while on campus.

Sgt. Eugene Mejia, UAPD spokesman, said filing reports of suspicious activity is an integral part of the police department’s efforts to make campus safe.

See HARASSMENT/12

Financial aid finally in most students’ hands
By Andrea Kelly
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Nearly all the students who have been awaiting millions of dollars in aid since early August have finally received it.

At the beginning of the school year, the financial aid office had yet to distribute over $8 million in aid. By the end of next week, the Office of Financial Aid will have caught up to the amount it gave out to students by mid-September last year, said John Nametz, director of financial aid.

“We are at 100 percent on grants compared to last year, and 95 percent on loans compared to last year,” Nametz said.

Not all of the available aid has been given out because students can apply for loans until the end of the year.

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