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The University of Arizona, Tucson

Pres. Likins: No pain, no gain

President looks to better days in State of University address

By Natasha Bhuyan
ARIZONA DAILY WILDCAT

Although university employees may be feeling "pain" now due to budget cuts and program eliminations, the UA has a promising future because of bold visions and higher standards of excellence, said UA President Peter Likins yesterday.

In his State of the University address, Likins spoke about the UA's national future to a crowd of more than 500, including U.S. Congressman Jim Kolbe (R-Ariz.), former U.S. Congressman Jim McNulty, Tucson Mayor Bob Walkup, and three past UA presidents: John Schaefer, Henry Koffler, and Manuel T. Pacheco.

During his speech, Likins discussed the progress of Focused Excellence, a plan that re-allocates funds to strengthen specific programs, which was introduced two years ago in response to limited resources for "routine performance."

Likins said Focused Excellence is difficult to implement because any time there is program restructuring, it hurts university members. However, Likins said if the university spreads its limited resources among all programs that are perceived to be good, the UA will never be great.

"People are feeling pain now, (but) the gain comes later," Likins said. "Focused Excellence is hard work today for the rewards that come only tomorrow."

Likins said the universi-



President Likins delivers his state of the university address yesterday afternoon in the Grand Ballroom of the Student Union Memorial Center.

ty is in a situation where it is dramatically repositioning itself, and bold initiatives will launch the UA higher into the national university ranks.

Referring to the UA College of Medicine's expansion into Phoenix and the Rio Nuevo downtown revitalization project, Likins said these visions require "thinking beyond the moment," but will amount to national success.

Although monetary resources are limited for routine performance, Likins said there is no inherent shortage of money for American universities,

despite the public perception. However, these funds only go to universities with bold ideas — universities who demonstrate exceptional performance in world-class ways, Likins said.

For example, although it remains uncertain how the UA College of Medicine will be funded, Likins said the creation of a superior institute will later attract outside investors.

"You have to think expansively," Likins said during a press conference prior to the address. "You don't get there by counting your money — you get

there with a compelling vision."

The UA Science Center, which will house UA's Flandrau Science Center as part of the Rio Nuevo downtown revitalization project, is also a "boldly creative" vision that will catapult the UA and city of Tucson into the national spotlight.

Rafael Viñoly Architects, an international award-winning firm, came up with the idea to build the center along a bridge suspended from a rainbow arch. Likins said the dramatic design

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Serial rapist Selby found hanging from cell window

By Jesse Lewis
ARIZONA DAILY WILDCAT

Convicted serial rapist James Allen Selby was found dead in his cell yesterday at Pima County Jail, after apparently hanging himself, authorities said.

His death occurred the day he was scheduled to be sentenced for sexually assaulting five Tucson women and a 13-year-old girl between October 2001 and November 2002. One of the women was a UA student at the time. Selby could have faced life in prison.

A corrections officer at the jail found Selby, 38, hanging from the window of his cell by sheets from his bed at 7 a.m. yesterday, said Deputy Dawn Barkman, Pima County Sheriff's Department spokeswoman.

CPR and medical care were immediately initiated and paramedics were called to the scene, according to the Pima County Sheriff's Department press release.

"He was pronounced dead 30 minutes later," Barkman said.

The sheriff's department's Homicide Unit is investigating the incident in order to rule out homicide as the cause.

"They are investigating to ensure it was a suicide," Barkman said.

The sentencing was cancelled when news of Selby's death was received, said David Ricker, community relation coordinator at Pima County Superior Court.

Judge Howard Fell, the judge in Selby's case, is only commenting on the death through Ricker.

He spoke with Ricker yesterday morning when the sentencing was cancelled.

"Suffice it to say, Mr. Selby would have received a sentence that would ensure he never again would endanger this community," Ricker said on Fell's behalf.

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UA's Cassini team to probe Titan, Saturn's largest moon

By Kris Cabulong
ARIZONA DAILY WILDCAT

The Cassini-Huygens spacecraft orbiting Titan, Saturn's largest moon, will release a lunar probe on Christmas day that will penetrate the mysterious moon's thick atmosphere and be the first to land on a world in the outer solar system.

UA professor Jonathan Lunine, one of the interdisciplinary scientists working on the mission, described Titan as, "the last unexplored Earth-like environment."

"I think it will be an incredibly exciting and rewarding world to study," Lunine said.

NASA, along with several UA

scientists and the European Space Agency, are communicating with the Cassini orbiter from a distance of a little more than 2 billion miles to ensure the release of its piggy-backing Huygens probe is properly timed.

The probe will plunge into Titan's atmosphere at 14,000 miles per hour on Jan. 14, 2005, and will use parachutes to slow its descent to the surface, said Jean-Pierre Lebreton, Huygens project manager at the European Space Agency.

There have never been any high-resolution images of Titan's surface due to a thick photochemical fog which makes the moon appear reddish-orange to the naked eye. Even the Cassini

orbiter's instruments, including radar, the UA-created Visual and Infrared Mapping Spectrometer and its camera, have trouble getting an image resolution tighter than a kilometer, said Martin Tomasko, research professor at the UA Lunar and Planetary Laboratory.

The Cassini-Huygens team hopes the probe will survive the landing, which Tomasko, who has worked with the Cassini-Huygens team since 1987, likens to "riding your bicycle into a brick wall."

Lunine, a theoretician, said data collected by the Huygens probe would likely provide more clues

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Martin Tomasko of the UA's Lunar and Planetary Laboratory discusses the Huygens probe that will parachute to the surface of Saturn's largest moon, Titan, next month, during a news conference Friday at the UA Lunar and Planetary Laboratory's Phoenix Center.

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