

Presidential hopefuls face off

ALEXANDRIA, Va. (AP) — Presidential hopefuls courted conservative activists Thursday by attacking the early GOP front-runner, George W. Bush, and "mushy moderates" in the establishment wing of the party.

"Mealy-mouthed rhetoric and poll-tested cliches are no substitute for a muscular, substantive agenda," millionaire businessman Steve Forbes told the Conservative Political Action Conference.

Though he did not mention Bush by name, Forbes clearly was referring to the Texas governor and his "compassionate conservative" ideology.

With Elizabeth Dole and former vice president, Dan Quayle, considering presidential bids of their own, Forbes said the fledgling 2000 field includes names that "sound familiar. But, my friends, we have been down that electoral cul-de-sac twice before. I suggest we try something new for a change — like winning."

Forbes was soon joined by other GOP hopefuls, including former Tennessee Gov. Lamar Alexander and activist Gary Bauer, in drawing the

"I've wanted to be president for a long time, and the year 2000 is looking like my opportunity."

DAN QUAYLE
former vice president

battle lines between the party's conservative and establishment wings.

The sniping, coming a year before the first primary votes will be cast, was part of a busy day in GOP politics.

Quayle said Thursday night he will file a formal statement of candidacy next week, the first step in his bid for the presidency.

"I've thought about this for a long time. I've wanted to be president for a long time, and the year 2000 is looking like my opportunity," he said on CNN's "Larry King Live."

Former New York Sen. Alfonse D'Amato said he doesn't believe

New York Gov. George Pataki has any plans to enter the presidential primaries, but, D'Amato told an Albany radio station, "if the leaders stumble along the way, he could then move to run for president or certainly be selected as the vice presidential nominee."

Alexander, Bauer and Forbes compared Bush's "compassionate conservative" slogan to his father's promise to be a "kinder and gentler" Republican. They want the conservative activists, many of whom are still angry at President Bush for raising taxes, to punish the son for the father's missteps.

Bauer didn't criticize the younger Bush in his speech, but told reporters that conservatives "need to know that the last Bush talked about kinder and gentler, and that resulted in an election loss."

Forbes' rhetoric was the toughest. "If we allow ourselves to be seduced by the siren song of these mushy moderates, make no mistake: They will take us down to defeat once again," he said.

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German shepherds help cops take bite out of crime

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grew up around them," Simpson said. "But last year was the first opening since I joined the force."

On a daily basis, the K-9 teams work a shift from 7:30 p.m. to 3:30 a.m. like any other patrol officer, K-9 Officer Tyler Dean said. The night shift is the prime time for the dogs.

The K-9 teams patrol in a specially equipped Ford Explorer. The rear passenger door is controlled by an electronic opener, so the dogs can be released from a distance.

A little over a week ago Dean and his new partner Kimbo conducted their first successful narcotics search on a traffic stop.

Dean, who has been on the force for more than five years, was selected to be a K-9 officer when the position opened this fall.

"This is something I've always wanted to do," Dean said.

On Dec. 7 Dean went to Elkhart, Ind., for two weeks of training with his new partner, Kimbo.

But for Kimbo, the training started when he was about eight weeks old in a German town.

Both Kimbo and Unny received their initial training in Germany before coming to America, which is why they respond only to German commands.

But the use of the German language can also help on the streets of America.

"If we're on the street, we don't want other people to be able to yell something out and interfere with the commands," Dean said.

Kimbo, whose full name is Kimbo Vom Höchstader Wappen, was purchased with an \$8,000 donation from one Lincoln family.

Committee approves ASUN, Lied budgets

BY KIM SWEET
Staff writer

The Committee for Fees Allocation passed two budgets that were up for deliberation on Thursday night.

The committee voted to pass the budgets of the Lied Center for Performing Arts and the Association of Students of the University of Nebraska.

In his budget presentation on Tuesday night, Lied Center director Charles Bethea asked for no increase in the budget for the next fiscal year.

The budget will give the Lied Center \$99,120 in student fees for the 1999-2000 fiscal year.

The fees are used to subsidize dis-

counts for student tickets. University Program and Facilities Fees fund 90 percent of the subsidy, while the Lied center funds 10 percent.

The programming portion of the University Program Council's budget, which is what the Lied Center falls under, was tabled until a later date.

CFA voted to pass the ASUN budget with a \$4,149 increase for 1999-2000.

Amy Rol, a member of the subcommittee that recommended the fee increase, said the extra money garnered by student fees will go to replace money ASUN used from the contingency fund. The money was used to hire a staff member to work full-time in student legal services, a branch of ASUN.

Fewer crimes committed on campus in past year

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tough to get information on them," Bushing said, "especially when they are reported to crisis centers."

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Alcohol violations dropped to 54 last year after jumping to 80 in 1997. Prior to 1997, the highest reported number in recent years was 13 in 1992.

In 1997, the residence halls implemented a tougher policy on alcohol. Bushing said the policy may have influenced the number of alcohol violations because people became more vigilant and reported it more often.


Drug offenses were also down to 14 last year after peaking at 24 in 1997.

Overall, University Police were called for help more often last year. The number of calls was 49,208 — up from 43,593 in 1997 — but only 2,472 of those calls resulted in criminal cases.

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