Finance director ruffling feathers as he addresses budget overruns

BY PAT MURPHY STAFF WRITER

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FATF WARTE:

As Oakland County's new director of management and budget sees it, plucking a chicken means rudiling a few feathers.

But that doesn't necessarily win friends, at least not at first. As a matter of fact, Robert J. Daddow — appointed to the county's top financial post by Executive L. Brooks Patterson — and his approach to the job is starting to irritate a few county commissioners.

"He's the David Stockman of Oakland County," said commissioner Ruel E. McPherson, D-Hazel Park, referring to President Reagan's budget director with the brasive personality and, according to many, questionable policies.

McPherson questioned Dadwie approach to the job during the during the during the control of the county of the c

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In reported remarks, Daddow said he'd been able to trim \$600,000 from the county's Medi-cal Care Facility in a few months, white Aaron, as a commissioner for more than 20 years, had not been able to affect similar budget-

for more than 20 years, had not been able to affect similar budget-cutting measures.

"Where's he been all this time?" Daddow asked of Aaron.

McPherson said Daddow's remarks about Aaron should have been made in private, if at all.

"Who does he think he is? Dennis Aaron has been holding the line on the budget for 20 years. He (Daddow) is on board for a few months and think's he has all the answers."

Commissioner Lawrence Remitted the spreaders the job Daddow is trying to do. "But there are some problems.

"When he (Daddow) was in the private sector, he could tell people what to do. In government that approach won't necessarily work. You've got to convince people, not order them around."

Commissioner Larry Crake, Rudetford and chairman of the chairman of

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Lawrence R. Pernick Southfield Democrat

board, seemed to agree, although he generally approves of Daddow and the job he's doing, "I have a great respect for his (Daddow's) ability. But he's not politically astute. But wo're trying to work on that."

No action was taken. Crake said, however, Daddow could benefit from some political savvy that will enable him to understand government and political setter.

In private conversations, for example, Daddow said he was going to bring a business approach to

government, "or he'd take his ball and go home," Crake said.
"He (Daddow) doesn't understand. We own the ball. He may go home, but the ball steys here."
Daddow, who lives in Rochester, was vice president of the Public Sector Group of Gordon and Company, which specializes in audite and consulting projects. An accountant by training, he has an undergraduate and a master's degree from Central Michigan University.
Asked about criticism that might not be politically assute, Daddow said the current budget crisis requires straight and, at times, critical discussion.
Officials, including commissioners, may get offended in the process, he said, but it couldn't be helped.

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Aaron, Fernick, Nucroaron under other Democrats have repeatedly accused Republicans of hypocrisi in their approach to government. Democrats, currently out-numbered 18 to 7, have been in the minority for at least a decade. Thus any budget overruns are at-tributable to them.

OU research refutes cult stereotypes

Allegations made this spring by U.S. media that the Montanabased Church Universal and Triumphant is "the next Waco waiting to happen" are false, two Oakland University researchers claim. The possession of weapons does not constitute a community threat, according to psychologist Larry Lilliaton and sociologist Gary Shepherd, following on-site Observations made in July. They also refute International charges of child abuse brought against members of a second religious movement called The Family (formerly known as The Children of God).

Family member homes have been raided by authorities in sev-eral countries, on the basis of trumped-up charges, and children have been forcibly taken away from their parents. All of these charges have subsequently been dismissed and the children re-turned.

dismissed and the children re-turned. However, just this spring, 90 children were removed from their homes in France, and most still remain in government custody. Several California homes have also been recently harassed by de-tractors and professional "cult hunters."

Lilliston and Shepherd were

among a dozen scholars from universities all over the country who were given unprecedented access to study the Church Universal and Triumphant.
Lilliston and Shepherd spent three weeks at the church head-quarters in Montana (longest of any of the research team). Ilving with members, observing social practices, conducting interviews, etc. They were also the only team members who went on to spend a week living with members of The Family in California, where they conducted similar observations, testing of children, etc.

Lilliston earned a doctorate

from Temple University and is currently chairman of the psychology department at Oakland University. He has conducted a number of previous studies of new religious movements with a particular emphasis on socialization of Hare Krishna children.

Shepherd was awarded his doctorate from Michigan State University and has also carried out much previous research on contemporary religious movements, particularly Mormonism.

The recent tragedy in Waco, Texas, and the subsequent wave of public "cult" hysteris gave special impetus to their studies.



His girlfriend just left him. Now Tom is going to get even.

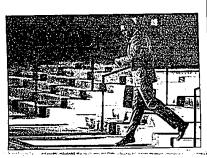
The door opens, the stairs creak, and down below Sparky happily awaits his owner. When Tom's girlfriend left, she unfortunately left Sparky behind. Now Tom is going to take it out on someone who can't raise a hand to stop him.

But you can. By contributing to the Michigan Anti-Cruelty Society, you can help nail animal abusers like Tom. Our Cruelty Investigation Unit goes after people like him, and with a conviction rate of 99.8% you know your money's well spent.



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