

# The Yellin' Rebel

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## UNLV expansion eyed by regents

by mary whalen

staff writer

Various departments at UNLV are cautiously viewing recent plans by the University Board of Regents to offer extended degree programs in outlying areas of Nevada, Arizona and Utah.

Primary concerns at this time are a question of quantity vs. quality — will expanding the school's degree seeking programs mean facing accreditation and implications in some colleges?

Dr. John Unrue, Vice President of Academic Affairs explained that although the university is optimistic about the plans, some colleges are still reluctant.

"We've been looking at the possibility of opening a branch of the university in places like Laughlin, Bullhead City, Az. and St. George, Utah," he said, "but we must take into

consideration how this will be viewed by our accrediting body, the Northwest Association of Schools and Colleges.

"Those schools with separate accrediting bodies such as the Business College are still reluctant. Understandably, they don't want to offer programs elsewhere until they get their accreditation here," he said. Norval Pohl, Dean of the College of Business and Economics concurred.

"Since the college is now actively involved in pursuing a higher program accreditation at this time, it will be difficult," he said. "The problem is that we'll have to apply all our standards to those locations, which would mean doctoral, qualified, full-time faculty, not part-time faculty."

"Given the demand we're experiencing on campus right now with



TINY BUBBLES — and big ones too. Joseph Schneider makes blowing bubbles look like an art form.

photo by jon ansok/Rebel photo editor

enrollment swelling, we're having a hard time just keeping our head above water."

The university currently has only one such off-campus program. The

UNLV branch at Nellis Air Force Base is self-sustaining and doing well, but is also burdened with unexpectedly high enrollment figures this term.

"We have just five or six

Business courses offered at Nellis," Pohl said, "and 125 students enrolled. But, we expected only 50 to 60. In my opinion, we may be able to service just this program, but not

others.

"We would like to, but I just don't see how any department can do it at this time, given resource problem."

## Dorms to close Gym road

by gary beaudry

managing editor

The future of heavily-used University Road has once again become an issue, due to the planned construction of new residence halls in that area next year.

Dr. Robert Ackerman, Dean of Student Services, said that school officials would like to see the road, often congested with traffic, closed down.

Opposing that is Dennis Finrock, Executive Director of the Thomas

and Mack, who said that closing the road would "handcuff our facility."

The TMC exits 25-26 percent of its traffic after an event onto University Road, he said.

A final decision on the road will not have to be made until next year.

Ackerman said there are three options for the road, open only for specific TMC events. And the third option is to leave it unchanged.

"My hope is that it will be closed," Ackerman said.

There are a variety of factors for the push to close University road. One of them is safety.

"When the dorms are completed, there will be 500 students walking to classes. We would rather not have a heavily-used traffic road between them and the campus," Ackerman said.

Closing University Road would also mean closing Gym Road, which is used by many non-university motorists to enter Harmon Avenue.

In 1986, a proposal to

close the two roads met with much resistance, and the university instead installed two stop signs on Gym Road.

But Ackerman said the danger still exists.

"Because of the large volume of traffic, it would be in our best interest to close the roads," he said.

Another factor is the physical and psychological look of the campus. "The area that we are building on is not even an original part of the campus. We'd like to connect it to the rest of the

campus, and closing the road will allow us to do that," Ackerman said.

This will give students in the dorm the impression that they are living on campus, and not on an annex of the property, he said.

Ken Worsham of the University Police Department agreed that closing the road would "increase the safety factor."

"Since there is so much non-university traffic through there, closing it would not really affect the university," he said.

Finrock said he supports the idea of a limited use road, specifically for exiting traffic after an event.

"If we could turn the road into two lanes, with one-directional traffic, we could still have the mail effect during school hours," Finrock said.

For now, the fate of University Road remains undecided. But once the dorms are complete, finrock said he expects the road will be eventually closed.