

Three alumni memorialized on AIDS quilt

By Shawna Snider
YELLIN' REBEL

Three UNLV graduates have been memorialized on panels that will be sent to San Francisco to become part of a national quilt honoring the victims of AIDS.

James Salas, a former cheerleader, Craig Vincent, a lawyer in San Diego and Philip Riccobuono, a theater arts major who was the winner of the Devos Scholarship and went on to play in "A Chorus Line" will have their panels placed among the 11,000 that make up the quilt now, said Ken Tomory, co-chair of Southern Nevada Names Project.

"These students have been remembered and honored because of their life and their courageous battle with death," he said.

The Names Project/AIDS Memorial Quilt, as its goals state, is an organization designed to promote AIDS awareness, research and funding, and to express in a positive and meaningful way the life of someone who has died from the devastating disease.

Ellis Pryce Jones, a professor in the theater arts department, designed and made the panels which measure six by three feet.

"It's a grieving process," Tomory said. "People come together to make these panels and work out their sadness in a positive and helpful way."

Ryan White, the young hemophiliac AIDS victim, will have ten panels in the quilt since his story touched so many lives.

Tomory explained the frightening thing about AIDS is it doesn't discriminate and reaches all facets of society.

"The hope of the quilt is to use it as a vehicle to promote education about AIDS and stop its ever increasing spread," he added.

The quilt went on display on the Capital Mall in Washington, D.C. in 1987 with 1,920 panels.

It became a part of a HBO documentary called "Common Threads" which won an award for best documentary.

The quilt will be on display again in Los Angeles next fall.

QUILTS FOR AIDS



Yell Photo / Robert Anderson

- SYMBOL OF HOPE Section of quilts made for UNLV students who have died from AIDS.

Lato bids for Regent position

Educator Anthony Lato, Jr announced his candidacy for Board of Regents, Sub-District C.

Lato, who is a teacher with the Clark County School District at Helen C. Cannon Junior High School, would like to be a liaison between the university system and the school district.

He has been in the field of public education for 18 years.

Lato, 43, decided to run for the regents position because he would like to guide the university into the challenging 1990s.

A Vietnam veteran, Lato received his masters degree from UNLV in educational administration in December of 1988. He would pursue a program in which veterans, who have not pursued a college degree, would be recruited. "Since my arrival to Las Vegas from Rhode Island in 1982, I have never had anybody from the university representing veterans contact me," commented Lato.

Lato is a member of the Nevada State Athletic Commission. he has been active school representative for the Silver State Schools Federal Credit Union since coming to Las Vegas.

With the current rapid growth of the university system in Nevada, Lato feels a need to work with the

legislature to get more and much needed economic support. "The University of Nevada System is the fastest growing university system in the country and economic issues have to be addressed now," Lato said.

As a supervisor at the Thomas and Mack Center/Sam Boyd's Silver Bowl, Lato works closely with Dennis Finrock, executive director, and Pat Christenson, assistant director, in staffing personnel for special events.

Lato said he wants to work with the athletic department on having full seating sections designated for students during university events.

Many problems are caused at section being shared by season ticket holders and students. "Students want to stand during athletic events while season ticket holders like to sit down," Lato said. He said he would stress the importance of good accountability in the athletic departments of Nevada's universities.

Lato said he would like to provide input on having world renowned academic programs, and he would highly encourage recruitment and selection of additional top-notch faculty to go along with their present excellent staff.



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