

Yell Photo / Rico Dimarzio

New classrooms Classroom space at UNLV has become so sparse that the University is turning to portable classrooms.

Portable classrooms alleviate overcrowding: But not a final solution

By Bonar Tucker
News Editor

University officials have planned to spend more than \$500,000 on portable classrooms for the fall semester due to overcrowding at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas campus.

The 1989 Legislature had promised UNLV a new health sciences classroom building but it has not yet been started and will take 12-18 months to build.

As a result of the delay, and because of the constantly growing population, UNLV is forced to lease modular buildings to house the students.

President Robert Maxson expressed his regrets about having to spend such a large amount of money to lease the buildings. He said to lease classrooms is a costly way to do business.

"We are asking you for a half a million dollars

here for stop gap (measures)," he said to the Board of Regents.

Admissions are running about 20 percent ahead of last year's figures. Last fall, the university had record enrollment.

The Board of Regents approved the request to spend \$564,000 from the capital improvement fund for the lease of the 24 modulars.

University Regent Shelley Berkley, when questioned about the growing university, said, "We have certain critical needs driven by increased enrollment and our desire to expand the quality of education. As a regent, I perceive my role to be setting forth the needs of the University of Nevada System."

Maxson asked for the regents' help in finding out from other state officials what the holdup is on the classroom building.

Dr. Pasterk: full recovery expected

By Shawn Snider
Staff Reporter

Dr. Cyril Pasterk returns to school this week after spending over a month in the burn unit at University Medical Center (UMC).

Pasterk, who is an assistant professor in the philosophy department, sustained second degree burns over 50 percent of his body June 2, when a propane tank he was trying to hook up exploded.

"I am feeling much better now and expect to heal completely and without any disfiguring scars," said Pasterk. "I would very much like to commend the excellent staff at the burn center. Because of their competence and knowledge regarding the physiology of the body and its healing processes, they are able to save the lives of countless people every day."

A faulty hookup valve was responsible for a leakage of fuel which ignited and burst the tank

into flames said Pasterk.

There is an ongoing effort state wide, which is supported by the fire department, to regulate the too liberal access of propane and also to standardize the hook-ups, said Pasterk.

"These tanks are volatile and can go off at anytime. They really should be handled and installed by trained professionals. I saw first-hand how much damage they can do."

A spokesman from the burn center advises caution to anyone around gas or flames, as burns are extraordinarily painful and can cause the body to go into shock and cardiac arrest. Speed and proper handling of burns are essential.

"I am very lucky to be alive," said Pasterk. "I have a renewed respect for life and for all the courageous people I met. Though many are not as lucky as myself, they showed me what is involved in the 'courage to be.'"

Bidding war over banking services continues

By Debbie Tubbesing
Reporter

The University of Nevada Board of Regents voted during their meeting of June 29 to rescind their earlier decision concerning the bids on banking services.

Originally, the Board of Regents voted to reject the two previously accepted bids received from Security Pacific Bank of Nevada and First Interstate Bank and reopen the bidding process.

On the advice of counsel, as well as pressure from the two banks, the Board voted to accept the sealed bid from Valley Bank of Nevada on consideration.

Counsel for the university has advised the board about possible lawsuits and litigation stemming from the vote to accept Valley Bank's bid.

Valley Bank was originally disqualified from entering the bidding process when it failed to send a representative to a mandatory pre-proposal meeting.

During the two hour Board of Regents meeting, by a vote of 5-3, the regents determined that Valley Bank should still be allowed to compete in the bidding process and that its sealed bid should be accepted. The three regents who voted against accepting Valley Bank's bid were: Shelley Berkley, James Eardley, and Joseph Foley.

When contacted, Foley stated that he was always in favor of "starting the bidding process over again since the original bidding process was faulted."

"According to regulation," said Foley, "the regents are charged with the management of funds. However, the chancellor took another route by allowing the staff to put out the bids for banking services and then accepting them."

Foley said that because of problems with the Valley Bank bid, the regents voted to disregard the bidding processing and reopen bids. "It is up to the regents to accept or deny them," he said.

Foley added that during the June 29 meeting, several motions

about the bidding were presented to the board. He said that the regents voted against the first motion. Foley then stated that June Whitley placed a motion on the table to accept the original Valley Bank bid.

Foley said, "I wanted the motion to be amended so that it is not the staff who makes the decisions, but the regents are allowed to review the bids and vote on them as the code requires."

According to Foley, Whitley would not amend the motion.

Foley said that he always wanted Valley Bank to be included in the bidding, but that he wanted "the regents to do the job they were elected to do."

Foley stated that he voted against the motion in order to deny Whitley's motion, planning to place an amended one for consideration. He said he felt there were enough votes against the Whitley's motion.

However, the motion was carried.

After the June 29 meeting, the three bids were presented to the board staff and chancellor for consideration and review.

On July 11, the investment committee unanimously voted to recommend Security Pacific Bank to the Board. Even with the addition of Valley Bank's bid, the staff will recommend accepting the Security Pacific bid over the other two banks' bids because of stability, experience, resources, and its technological capabilities.

Valley Bank has had the university account since 1984. Although possible conflict of interest allegations arose during bidding because of a gift from Valley Bank to the university, all involved have stated that the gift had no bearing on the bidding process or subsequent events.

If the board votes to accept Security Pacific's bid, the length of the contract runs five years and the funds will be transferred from Valley Bank to Security Pacific around September 30.

The Board of Regents will be expected to vote on the recommendation and contract during their July 30 meeting in Reno.

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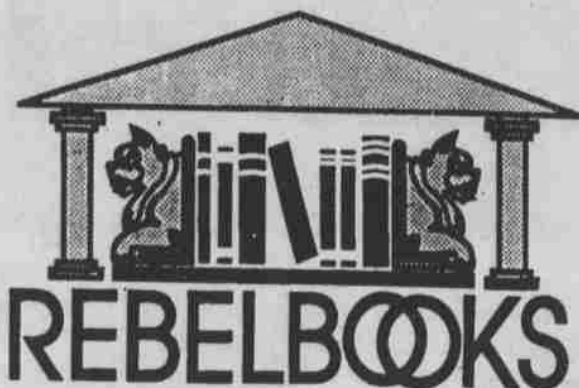
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