

Race for regent offers two possibilities

by Shawn Black Snider
Staff Reporter

With the race for university regent fast approaching, voters will soon need to decide whether a businessman or a politician would best be suited for this position.

Madison Graves II and Shelley Berkley are two such people vying for that title. Both candidates have stated their commitment to Las Vegas and University of Nevada, Las Vegas (UNLV) but their approach to the job of regent is somewhat different.

"I'm not a politician, I'm a businessman. Good planning and adequate budgeting are imperative to good business and no less important to UNLV," said Graves.

University Nevada System's (UNS) budget for the next two years will be over \$500 million. This, Graves said is 19.3 percent

of the entire state budget.

With a budget of that magnitude, Graves stressed the importance of regents who not only can understand such large budgets but who are familiar with their breakdowns and how to live within the confines they express.

"We need to streamline the whole process in order to keep up with our growth and deal more swiftly with the problems that are currently plaguing our university."

Berkley, who served on the Nevada Legislature in 1982, said she sees the role of the politician as an important one toward achieving the goals the regents lay out in their budget requests. She claimed that it was the lack of proper lobbying which has caused the funding and budget inequities.

"Where we get hurt every two years," said Berkley, "is in the legislature. We need effective lob-

bing to get our budgets through. I am committed to protecting our interests."

Graves stated that the problem is not in the legislature but internally within the UNS itself. He proposed that the budget be prepared during the off year of the legislature so there is plenty of time for each institution to review it and change it if necessary.

Berkley, who is currently a regent, said that her lobbying efforts with the regents resulted in bringing attention to these built-in inequities which have existed between UNLV and University of Nevada, Reno (UNR) for many years.

This historical underfunding of UNLV is an issue that both candidates agree is a major concern for the regents office.

Graves said, "65 percent of all the students in the state are in Southern Nevada. Yet last year



Shelley Berkley



Madison Graves II

UNR received over \$3 million and UNLV only \$400 thousand. That's unacceptable, and could be helped by better budget proposals and additional outside funding."

Berkley said that with effective

lobbying the disparity of funding could be eventually reduced.

"We should push for everything we can get to assure the best possible education for our kids."

UNLV fights sexual exploitation on campus

by Christy McDonald
Reporter

The University of Nevada, Las Vegas (UNLV) is committed to the elimination of sexual exploitation on campus. In an effort to combat the problem, the university's Health Issues Task Force (HIT) recently distributed a handbook throughout campus called "Sexual Exploitation" to act as an educational and preventative tool for all students and faculty, said Liz Baldizan, chair of HIT.

"It isn't like we had a huge incident and we (HIT) said 'Okay, we better do something; we aren't blind.' We know there is a subtle level and there are a minority of incidents that are bizarre. Even though they aren't what stimu-

lated this, we need to be productive," Baldizan said.

Baldizan said the idea of implementing a booklet like this arose, because like many campuses, UNLV doesn't have a women's center where this type of concern can be addressed. HIT now provides everyone with a tool to assist people with resources, phone numbers, and crisis hotlines on and off campus.

She said the booklet also briefly defines subjects related to sexual exploitation such as sexual harassment, rape, and AIDS.

Baldizan said she called many campuses and asked them what they were doing with regard to sexual exploitation, and that is when the University of Florida in Gainesville sent her a packet of information. That became the

publication and program UNLV's was modeled after.

Baldizan said, "HIT is not an ongoing committee, but it has brought together professionals from areas on campus such as education, nursing, public safety, and student health."

The implementation of this booklet was a grass roots issue.

"The overall purpose is to educate and to make aware. If something does happen to a student or faculty/staff member, they know where to go," she said.

"My bottom line is, I want it to be usable. We don't want lip service, we want it to be at the fingertips and hopefully it won't have to be used, but it's there as a safeguard," Baldizan said.

Candidates have impressive backgrounds

by Shawn Black Snider
Staff Reporter

Berkley was appointed by Governor Miller last April to fill the position of University Regent vacated by Sig Rogich who resigned after he was selected by President Bush as an advisor.

Berkley is a graduate of University of Nevada, Las Vegas (UNLV) with a degree in political science. She then went on to the University of San Diego School of Law from which she graduated in 1976.

Berkley cited her long association with UNLV, beginning with student body president in 1971, to UNLV's Student Government legal advisor for the past four years, as an indication of her commitment to making UNLV "the best possible school".

Graves is a native Nevadan. He went to UNLV in 1966 and 1967. He left to join the U.S.

Navy and then returned to University of Nevada, Reno where he graduated in 1972 with a bachelor of arts degree in political science.

Graves stressed his 18 years experience here in the business community. As president/owner of Flamingo Realty Inc. and partner in Falcon Developments, he said he knows what it takes to handle large corporate budgets and make them work.

"I think the university," said Graves, "is one place where we can improve our quality of life here in Las Vegas."

The need for expediency in getting buildings up and addressing the parking problem are some of the other issues he said he'll be zeroing in on also, if elected.

Berkley also stressed the need to address the parking problem and the understaffing and lack of resources at our library.

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