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**University Open Forum discusses
nuclear waste in Nevada**

by Matthew Dovel
Reporter

An open forum was held in Flora Dungan Humanities auditorium last Tuesday night for students of English composition. The open forum allowed students the opportunity of hearing the viewpoints of leading experts in the volatile proposed high-level nuclear waste dump at Yucca Mountain.

Senator Harry Reid's son spoke on behalf of the senator who could not make it. He spoke against Yucca Mountain being used for radioactive waste. He said radioactivity will last at least 10,000 years. He also emphasized the fact that Yucca Mountain sits on top of a volcano.

Project Manager Carl Gertz of the Department of Energy (DOE) stressed that the Yucca Mountain project is only to be studied for a 10 year period. He

said that politicians who refused to cooperate with the study did so for fear of losing votes rather than fear of contamination.

Nevada State Senator Dina Titus said that she voted against the Yucca Mountain waste site strictly on the basis of the poor safety record of the DOE.

Hugh Anderson of the Nevada Nuclear Waste Study Committee said that he was just trying to get the facts so he got involved.

Judy Treidel, director of the Nevada Nuclear Waste Task Force, said that she is concerned mostly with long term implications. She, like Titus, is disillusioned with the DOE.

Joe Mills, the chair of the Nevada Nuclear Waste Study Committee, said he sees the need for a storage site immediately but that no state is going to be willing to put it in its own "back yard." Mills said he believes that nuclear power will be more popular as coal

and oil are depleted.

Craig Walton, director of Ethics and Policy Studies said he is concerned with the constitutional implications of the federal government taking rights away from the state. He said that the moral issue of the majority telling the minority what they have to live with must be addressed.

Robert Rucker, a sociologist concerned with the psychological effects placed on people through fear of the deadly substance said that Las Vegas could lose millions of dollars in tourist trade due to this fear.

The debate on where the repository will go and who will finally get the waste might be finally decided in a courtroom instead of an open forum. As long as there are those who view Nevada as a wasteland and those who must live in it, the fight will continue.

Debate

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"CBS and Judas Priest spent a lot of money defending themselves against someone's supposition," he said. He is afraid if this is advocated, soon there will be lawsuits for everything.

Kenneth McKenna was an unpopular candidate. He is in favor of censorship, especially with heavy metal music.

He said, "Heavy metal and rap go over the limit."

He said he felt heavy metal artists "sell death and suicide". They encourage children to be bad and this is morally and socially wrong. Therefore, censorship is a must he said.

As for the Judas Priest trial, McKenna said he believes the

album did contain a subliminal message, which said "do it." The boys involved were highly susceptible.

McKenna said, "Judas Priest didn't make them want to commit suicide. But they came up to the man on the end of the bridge and said 'do it.' This made the difference between walking back and walking forward."

Overall, McKenna said, "The right to speak does not supercede the right to not listen."

Although the audience clearly disagreed with McKenna's views, he said he has been subjected to much worse hostility. He said, "They were wonderful and should be proud of the way they con-

ducted themselves."

Several students of the UNLV attended the debate. Many came due to extra credit offered in their courses, but did express interest in the issue. Others came solely out of interest.

Mary Terzian, a student, said she came, "to gather more facts to form my own opinion. I feel it's a relevant issue."

After the debate, the speakers remained for discussion with students and faculty.

The debate was held in the Moyer Student Union. It was sponsored by the Moyer Student Union Program Council.

Parking

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closed indefinitely. The area has been slated as a staging site for the construction crews scheduled to begin the University of Nevada Computing Center.

Drake suggested that faculty members try the Gym Road/Harmon lot after it reopens, where another row of faculty and staff parking spaces will be added to

the lot.

Another parking area in transition is the Thomas and Mack lot. The lot is the largest on campus with over 6000 spaces. A section of the lot was recently cordoned off for dormitory students.

Drake said that the new lot is only half completed, and that students aren't cooperating on

getting the lot, currently free of space markings, striped. Students "are just parking anywhere," according to Drake. He said that this means less cars are able to fit into the lot.

"We can't get the dorm students to stay out of there long enough to get it properly striped," he said. "We tried to do it on a Saturday, but the students were there. We should (once the lot is marked) be able to get about 250 parking spaces on that lot."

A new lot is already in the works. Across from the Hessel house on Brussels Street will be a new student parking lot with more than 400 spaces. K & S Asphalt Sealing Company was selected as the contractor, and the lot should be completed, according to Raecker of the Physical Plant, within 30 days of groundbreaking.

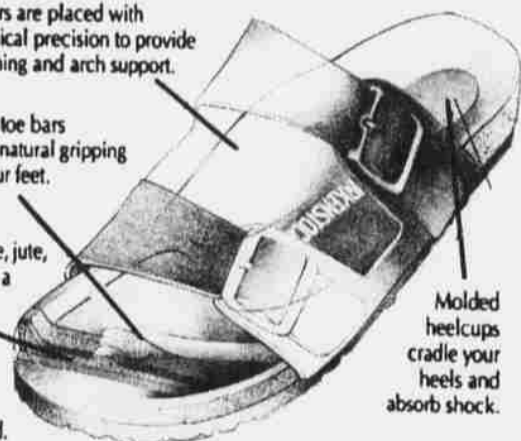
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Clarification

In the story "A tribute to Richard Johnson," run on Tuesday, Oct. 23, some readers felt the story was ambiguous as to whether Johnson was the person who had been drinking.

According to campus police, the driver of the pickup truck was arrested at the scene after failing the field sobriety check. There was no suggestion that Johnson had been drinking.