



UNLV introduces telephone registration

Can't touch this! Or, can you?

by Danielle Allsbrook
Reporter

Students registering for the upcoming Spring semester, will be happy to touch this. UNLV will introduce telephone registration for next semester.

Referred to as TOUCH, this innovative software will allow students to enroll in courses from home, work or the nearest 7-11 by the blessing of a touch-tone telephone. With TOUCH, students may add or drop courses or request a listing of courses in which they are currently enrolled.

Registration by phone isn't

new. Brigham Young University was the first to incorporate this system, but Jeff Halverson of the registrar's office is the one to thank for UNLV succeeding in new heights of technology.

This new system will be open to graduate students on Nov. 21. The following Monday, seniors should have their fingers nimble. Along with a Spring schedule, students will receive starting times that TOUCH will be available to them.

For many students, this convenient form of registration will abolish several long lines. Say goodbye to the lines at Thomas

and Mack for obtaining courses and the add and drop lines at the registrar's office. This will all be done by phone. The advantage for students is that there isn't any added cost. It is a total conversion from the CARS system over to TOUCH.

However, the "even-longer" lines for payment and financial aid will still be alive next Spring. Halverson advises students to mail in their fees and payments to the school to avoid the long lines, but soon students will see several new boxes set up around the UNLV campus. These are

drop boxes for payments pertaining to registration.

Watch out AT&T, here comes UNLV. The university has approved 24 new lines to cover the thousands of calls for registration. TOUCH will also have convenient hours of operation - 8 a.m. to 8 p.m., Monday thru Friday and 12 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Saturday and 12 a.m. to 8 p.m. on Sunday. Also, there isn't a waiting period to register because TOUCH will be available to students through December and most of January. But procrastination is not advised!

The final day to phone in your registration is Jan. 28, with no

exceptions. The likelihood that the lines will become busy increases near the final day.

"There are a few bugs still left in the system so be patient, and please do not wait until the last minute to register," Halverson said.

New touch-tone telephones are being installed at all entrances of Frazier Hall for students' use. Also, each student will receive a worksheet and instructions for using TOUCH. Students are advised to fill out the worksheet before calling.

Amnesty International works for human rights of political prisoners

by Christy McDonald
Staff Reporter

"Amnesty International, a worldwide movement not affiliated with any government, political persuasion or religious creed, has formed a local group on campus that works for individuals' basic human rights," said David Gillespie, group coordinator.

Gillespie said the group works for human rights in three specific areas. They attempt to get the immediate and unconditional release of prisoners of conscience. These are people who are in prison for their beliefs, color, sex, ethnic origin, language or religion, and who have not used or advocated violence.

"The best-known example of a prisoner of conscience would be Khovlo of Czechoslovakia. Mandela was not a prisoner of conscience because he advocated violent overthrow of the South African government," Gillespie said.

"We also work for fair and prompt trials for all political prisoners, whether or not they have used or advocated violence. We also work for the eradication of torture and the death penalty

around the world in all cases," he said.

Gillespie said the local group is currently working for Wei Jingsheng, who was the editor of one of China's unofficial magazines that was banned in 1979. In 1979, he was arrested for passing military secrets to a foreigner and conducting counter-revolutionary agitation and propaganda. At his trial, he was not allowed defense witnesses. It was a closed trial, and he defended himself.

Gillespie said the group in Seattle, Washington, has been working on Wei Jingsheng's case for about three or four years now and at the present moment they are not sure if he is alive. The government of China has not said anything about him since early 1989.

"Right now our efforts are to confirm whether he is alive or dead, what type of condition he is in if he is alive, and where he is being held," he said.

According to Gillespie, as of late 1988, over 27,000 cases out of 30,000 cases of identified prisoners of conscience have been closed, some due to death, but most due to the release of these prisoners.

"Just everyday people writing letters to government officials does have an effect. Because even if just U.S. groups write letters, that's over 400,000 letters that gets sent in a period of a month, regarding one person that may not be that important to the offending government to hold or torture, and so they think twice about doing it. So, write a letter and save a life," Gillespie said.



Yell Photo / Robert Anderson

Easy parking - Crews recently finished smoothing and dieseling the lot on Brussels Road.

Brussels parking lot reduces some safety worries

Although lights are not installed in the lot, curb parking and desert hazards are eliminated

by Gena Atkinson
Reporter

The building site for the future architecture building is being transformed into a temporary parking lot. The construction, to be completed by Nov. 16, will provide close to 500 parking spaces for UNLV's students.

The Department of Public Safety noticed that prior to construction on the new lot, students parked in the undeveloped desert area. As many as 250 to 300 cars were parked daily in the lot, although over 6,000 parking spaces are available in the Thomas and Mack lot.

"The distance to Beam Hall is exactly the same from the Thomas and Mack as from Brussels," said Don Drake, sergeant with the UNLV Department of Public Safety. Drake said the parking lot is not being built for

reasons of convenience or necessity, but for safety.

Before construction began, the Department of Public Safety received many complaints about the Brussels parking area. Many students found their cars blocked in by other cars because of unregulated parking. As a result, arguments and fights disrupted between inconvenienced students. Vehicle damage caused by glass or collision was another safety hazard as was the danger of students tripping over rocks in the desert.

The concern for student safety was the main reason for the construction.

"We had two choices in dealing with the problem," Drake said. One proposal was to block off the entire lot and not allow parking. The other option would be to build a safe, efficient lot that students could safely use. The university's

Department of Public Safety was so concerned with the unsafe area that \$7,500 needed to construct the lot came from the department's own budget to add to the funds provided by Dr. Ackerman's office.

However, lights are not being installed in this area although campus crime is on the rise. Drake suggested students use the other lighted parking lots after dark.

Curbing along Brussels Road is also being installed to delineate the street and to keep cars from being parked along the street.

"The road is too narrow now for parked cars and two-way traffic," Drake said. The new parking lot will provide close to 500 organized, safe spaces, eliminating the need for curb parking and reducing the safety hazards of the prior desert area.

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