



## Sexual assaults increasing on campuses

by Maxine Lantz  
Contributing Reporter

Campus sexual assault is increasing, according to the Federal Bureau of Investigations, a 33 percent increase was reported by the University of California, Irvine in 1989 alone.

It is estimated that only one-fifth of the 3200 campuses in the United States report their statistics to the FBI and only one in 10 assaults are reported to campus police.

Only a fraction of all rape is actually reported to authorities and only a few of those go to court.

Renata Cirri, executive director of Community Action Against Rape (CAAR) explained, "You need to have a definition to report. The social pressure is tremendous to not define it (rape) that way. The victim will say

things like 'He was drunk or angry,' or anything rather than he raped."

This denial leads to future psychological problems for the victim.

*"If they tell a friend, they're asked, 'What did you do to lead him on?'"*

Cirri continued, "There are those who don't know when it happens or deny it. It causes turmoil in their lives by never acknowledging it was rape."

Laura A. Hammond, psychologist in the Student Development Center, at UNLV, confirms the problem of definition. Hammond cited three current hypotheses on why women don't report:

"First, women are not always aware that they have been assaulted; they feel that their date just took advantage of them. Second, most don't want to tell anyone because they blame themselves. If they tell a friend, they're asked 'What did you do to lead him on?' or the victim will just want to forget about it. Third, and pertaining to UNLV, there seems to be a feeling that the University Police are 'play cops' and nothing is going to happen if the victim reports."

Sergeant Rochelle J. Sax of the University Police assured, "We are a full police force the same as Metro."

Sax acknowledged a lack of sexual assault reports and said, "Only a fraction will report and usually only a stranger rape. I suspect that it has been happening off campus at the male resi-

dence. We may see a change now with the new dormitories."

"We need to get to these women and get them to report," Patricia Palmer, the volunteer coordinator and statistician for CAAR, said. "It is rare to have a one time offender. The guy will continue to rape until stopped."

"We (UNLV Student Services) know sexual assault hap-

*"The president and administration as a whole would like to pretend there are no problems."*

pens. We hear it through the grapevine. The president and administration as a whole would like to pretend there are no problems. They are not taking a strong

stance on violence, especially (violence) against women, (drawing on the recent problem with one of the Rebel ball players as an example). It is hard to know how much the students feel this," Hammond said.

Palmer stated, "The impact on the victim is tremendous. Women of this age group, after being raped, tend not to associate with men. Relationships break up. If she (the victim) has a tendency to drink, it will increase. That includes substance abuse. Sometimes eating problems arise because the victim wants to be unattractive."

Counseling for the victim is vital. Many times the victims think they don't need it and later wish they had had it. Things like reporting and prosecuting help the victim take control of her life and

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## Students fall into credit card trap

Students are targets of credit card companies.

by Kara Kelley  
Staff Reporter

With the holiday season approaching, the availability of cash can become a rare commodity. Many people turn to using their credit cards rather than going without a purchase.

According to a New York University (NYU) survey, Americans spend \$3.3 trillion a year for personal expenses; 95 percent of what we have left after taxes. The NYU study said, "Our total card debt is now about \$152 billion." This is "more than 100 times that of 1940."

And the debt keeps growing. AT&T said they were giving new Visa cards to 27,000 people a day. After 140 days of operation, the card had incurred \$750 mil-

lion in charges, said Michele Johnson, executive director of the Consumer Credit Counseling Service of Nevada.

The growing dependence on credit had affected students as well. Some are finding the reality of debt a little more than they can handle.

*"We see some students in trouble to the point of dropping out."*

State University. She said she believes the availability of credit offered to students, coupled with their lack of knowledge, contributes to the number of students in trouble.

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Yell Photo / Jennifer Elledge

UNLV Debate Team - headed by Tom Murphy is currently ranked fifth in the nation.

## UNLV Debate Team ranked number five in nation

by Kim Anderson  
Reporter

The young forensic and debate team at UNLV has a promising future in store for them. Currently, the team is ranked fifth in the nation by the Cross Examination Debate Association (CEDA).

According to Tom Murphy, director of the Intercollegiate Debate and Forensics team at UNLV, the current ranking of UNLV's debate team is misleading. Teams are ranked according to points accumulated over six tournaments. The lowest scores are replaced by higher scores made after the initial six tournaments. Therefore, schools who have either not participated in six tournaments or who attain higher scores in future tournaments will change the ranking.

Because of the way CEDA ranks the schools, Murphy doesn't expect the team to rise in the ranks.

"I expect the team to finish within the top 20 schools," Murphy said. However, he said he is extremely proud of a top

20 rating considering that nearly 300 schools participate in his division. He claimed that as the season progresses fluctuations in the ranks will begin to even out.

According to Murphy, the debate and forensic team has been built basically from scratch over the last two years.

"If you would have told me in the beginning of the year the team would be ranked as high as it is right now, I would have laughed," Murphy said.

He said he feels confident that within the next few years, UNLV's forensic team will be one of the best in the nation. Most members of the debate and forensic team are freshmen and sophomores.

"These members are working extremely hard," Murphy said. Some members are participating at junior levels of competition even though they are only freshmen and sophomores. "I think that this young team will be very good and will make the debate team one of the top five in the nation within the

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### Happy Thanksgiving

#### Facts du jour

#### Thanksgiving for the troops

U.S. Army has sent nearly 260,000 Thanksgiving meals to Saudi Arabia to feed U.S. troops, relatives and the news media. What they'll be eating:

- Turkey roll 45,000 pounds
- Shrimp 21,600 pounds
- Fruit cake 18,000 pounds
- Nuts 250 pounds

Turkey rations:  
72,000 modules (each module feeds 36 people)

Cranberry sauce  
7,200 cans

- Potatoes 7,200 cans
- Stuffing 7,200 cans

#### Poem By Me

by Tina Crinite  
Lifestyles Editor

We waited and waited  
and waited,  
Like a thirst about to be  
sated.  
They're on their way,  
everyone would say,  
but our balloon was quickly  
deflated.  
Our pleas became shouting,  
and our concerns were  
mounting.  
But we kept on striving  
until the day of their  
arriving,  
And now they're here  
...no lying!  
So serve up the cheer  
and have another beer.  
I'm ready to pour  
for the computers we  
adore,  
And the days "without them"  
are at last no  
more.