

# Latest developments in the UNLV Senate

by Karen Splawn

The Student Government Senate Feb. 28 voted 18-0 for \$6,000 to be spent on recognized organizations.

All funding will be coming from the Organizations Board account, which will have, after a \$2,000 transfer—also approved by the senate from the contingency and Publications Board accounts—over \$7,000.

Sen. Ken Tomory (business and economics) voted against the transfer of \$2,000 into the Organizations Board account, and abstained on the funding of 19 organizations, such as Kappa Sigma and the Orthodox Christian Fellowship. Tomory said better budgeting is needed, and added that it wasn't fair for some organizations to take a cut in funding.

Senators Monica Ricci (liberal arts) and Maxi Maultsby (engineering) joined Tomory in voting

against a \$1,000 transfer into the organizations

Sen. Kyle Kannenburg (health and science) announced he is resigning due to time constraints.

Kannenburg was criticized by the Rules Committee earlier in the day for not performing required speeches, not attending a senate retreat and failure to attend committees of which he is a member. He added that he hopes to run for reelection next fall.

Only Senate President Gina Polovina wished Kannenburg well during open discussion.

Student Government is also looking for someone to fill a health sciences seat vacated by Marie Bernardi, who resigned recently.

Very few had any comments about the controversial Tuesday edition of The Yellin' Rebel. President Joe Bunin, who was the focus of several articles, including an editorial which called for him to step down, criticized The Yell' staff

for contradicting themselves.

"I don't understand how The Yell' can scream and yell about their First Amendment rights being trampled, and yet, knock my exercising my Fifth and Fourteenth amendment rights of due process," he said.

Eighteen students, some of them Yellin' Rebel members and former Sen. Kyle Kannenburg, filed a complaint against Bunin, questioning his eligibility to hold office. As of this writing, Bunin has not yet produced a report card or transcripts proving that he is in good standing.

The Judicial Council recently granted Bunin a 21-day extension to investigate whether or not information on his eligibility was obtained illegally.

"Any person in this country, whether they're guilty or not, is entitled to a lawyer," he said. "I don't see why I should be tried and hung by The Yell' without the

benefit of a jury."

Bunin added he didn't understand why the postponement, which he said will allow him time to get his case together, was wrong.

He also criticized the decision of the editorial staff to place a story about a murdered hotel major on page three of the Feb. 26 issue, and several pieces on him on the front page.

On that same issue, Sen. Bud Benneman (business and economics) said that Senate Bill 5, which would give the duty of checking grade point average forms to one person, was almost ready for senate approval.

Sen. Joel Kostman (physical education) said that it should not be up to "randomly chosen individuals or The Yellin' Rebel" to check the grades of Student Government members.

President Bunin announced that Traci Smith, the former Office of Student Information direc-

tor who is currently serving in the Middle East, is doing fine and will remain in Saudi Arabia for 8 to 10 months.

Sen. Crystal Ortega (performing arts) chastised senators for not showing up to the recent Snow Spectacular. Ortega had mentioned the event during each previous Senate meeting, urging people to participate. Only Sen. Mike Young (liberal arts) showed up, she said.

"You publicly embarrassed me," Ortega said. "You publicly embarrassed the Senate, (Student Government) and UNLV. And I thank you for that. I appreciate that."

Ortega added she won't ask senators to volunteer again for any events. Polovina apologized to Ortega on behalf of the Senate. "Hopefully, next time it will work out," Polovina said.

## CENSORSHIP

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publish the Yell themselves?

One function of the editorial staff of a newspaper is to make those exact judgments. Such judgments should not be the result of political perceptions on the part of CSUN, rather they should be based on the journalism experience of the editors. For this reason, the editor of a university newspaper should be a student with significant journalism background.

Given the preceding, I would close with two points. First, if CSUN desires to maintain the Yell, it should choose the editor and leave that person the h-ll alone and be willing to accept the consequences. Second, and the better solution, the Yell should be re-

moved from Student Government and placed elsewhere in the university. This would ensure that the persons "reviewing" the paper, such as a faculty advisor, would be reviewing for spelling errors rather than political errors.

I have been impressed by the Yell this year. Rather than give in, the editors have chosen to fulfill their obligation to the UNLV community. The unseen result of this has been an increase in the accountability of Student Government at UNLV. Keep up the good work!

Thomas L. Murphy Lecturer, Greenspun School of Communication.



Wet weather gave the UNLV campus a complete wash-down on Thursday and Friday.

photo by Morgan Fisher



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