

# InterVarsity Christian Fellowship

## Where your success comes from God

by Tina Crinite

One of the most important things that UNLV graduate Shawn Young has learned is: "The best thing you can invest your life in is people. Buildings and stocks and bonds don't last but people are permanent." Young learned this from Hollis Kim, the first staffer of UNLV's InterVarsity Christian Fellowship from 1980-86.

Currently Young is the campus staff minister in UNLV's InterVarsity Christian Fellowship and says that through his teaching there is nothing he would like better than to invest his life in students.

InterVarsity Christian Fellowship was first started in the United States in 1941, but actually dates back to the 1800s with its origin at Cambridge University. The chapter was started at UNLV in 1980 and is a CSUN-recognized organization with approximately 40 members.

The Fellowship is not a substitute for a church but is called a "para-church organization" meant

to complement church. The InterVarsity's main aspects or Biblical values include evangelism, missions (worldwide), discipleship, the church, vocational stewardship, relationships and righteousness.

Bible studies are a regular part of the organization's activities whether it be in a large group surrounding or in a small Bible study group.

"We take an objective point of view in studying the Bible and try to let it speak for itself, not imposing our culture's values," Young said.

In March the organization took a survey of more than 200 people on campus asking their opinions of the Bible and what they believed about God. Two things learned in the survey were 1) almost everyone had some belief in God, and 2) almost everyone had some apprehension regarding organized religion and thus had a

"bad taste in their mouth."

"People definitely believe there is something other than the material things, but they are just not sure what," Young said. "The problem that they have with organized religion is that they say they hate hypocrites, but I try to direct students' attention to the person of Jesus and not to the hypocritical so-called Christians. Jesus doesn't

cease to exist because there are hypocrites and therefore the person of Jesus needs to be considered."

Young said he sees a university such as UNLV stressing its own gospel: "(The university) is your own source of self-worth, you need (it) to be successful, and you need (it) to achieve that success."

Young's response to this teaching is that a person's success is based on something more stable and meaningful than success in

the business world, and that success stems from God.

The group meets every Friday night at 6 p.m. in the Moyer Student Union Fireside Lounge. There is music, Bible study, and fellowship with other Christians. People are encouraged to join the group and investigate it for themselves.

"The first thing that we want to do is be their friend, and not pushy in being religious," Young said. "We take a look at who Jesus is, and the relevance he has in their life. A decision for Christ is up to them and cannot be forced."

The group also keeps a social aspect with its members and has parties, guest speakers, banquets and trips. These activities give the group time to know each other. The group is funded by local churches, individuals who want to support InterVarsity, as well as fund-raisers.

The next meeting of InterVarsity Fellowship is on April 26 at 6 p.m. in the MSU Fireside Lounge. There will be a guest



Shawn Young, Campus staff minister of InterVarsity Christian Fellowship

speaker, Dr. Francis Beckwith, philosophy instructor at UNLV, who will speak on the topic of Relativism. This is a common thought that two people can believe in opposite ideas, yet both can be true.

For more information regarding InterVarsity Christian Fellowship, call Shawn Young at 736-6566.

**"We take an objective point of view in studying the Bible and try to let it speak for itself, not imposing our culture's values"**

# Alcohol deaths top advanced degrees

As many college students eventually will die of alcohol-related causes—often based on habits begun in college—as will receive their master's and doctoral degrees. This is one of the facts released by the Office for Substance Abuse Prevention (OSAP) in its innovative prevention program, "Put On The Brakes."

In releasing this data, OSAP Director Elaine M. Johnson, Ph.D., said, "Besides its long-range effects, alcohol consumption is the leading cause of death among young adults." She said among those currently in college, between 240,000 and 360,000 eventually will lose their lives due to drinking.

"This equals the entire undergraduate student body of the Big Ten universities," she said. The program is designed to raise awareness about alcohol problems on college campuses and to call for action among college presidents, governing boards, faculty, administrators and students. It is designed to challenge the myths and misconceptions related to drinking by college students.

Some of the facts being released include:

- Students attending college get drunk more often than do their counterparts who do not attend college—41 percent versus 34 percent.

- Nearly 4 percent of college students, or nearly one-half mil-

lion, drink everyday.

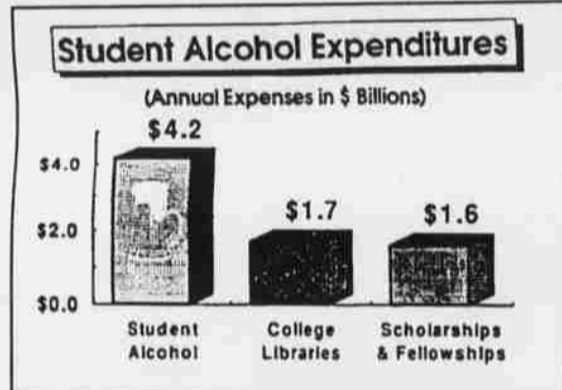
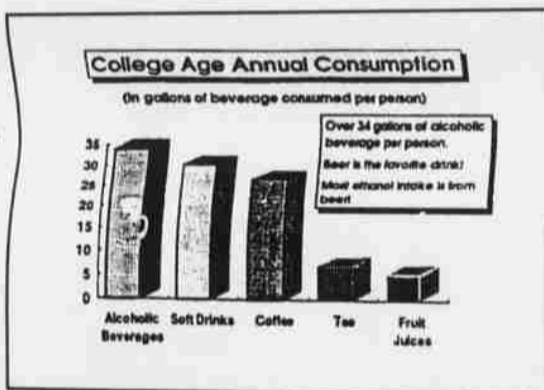
- College students will spend about \$4.2 billion yearly for alcoholic beverages—which is more than is spent on operating campus libraries and college scholarships and fellowships combined throughout the United States.

- Nearly 7 percent of college freshmen dropouts do so as a result of drinking.

"College students are targeted by sophisticated media campaigns that encourage alcohol consumption, sexism and the abuse of others and themselves," said David Burns, vice president of the American College Health Association. "In all of this, the victims on our campuses suffer the consequences of violence in relationships, unwanted and unplanned sex, pregnancy, and sexually transmitted diseases."

Johnson said they want to "put on the brakes" and take a look at the college drinking environment in relation to trauma, injury and death, and also examine it in terms of date rape, property damage, vandalism, and dropping out of school.

"The facts we're releasing today should help policy makers and opinion leaders take a new look at drinking of alcoholic beverages by college students and determine what programming should be planned to address the problem," she said.



# Cafe Espresso Roma

- Espresso
- Cappuccino
- Fresh: Pastries
- Salads
- Soup
- Quiche

• Sorry, no fried, greasy stuff here!

4440 S. Maryland Parkway  
Across from UNLV  
In the Promenade  
369-1540

**LUNCH SPECIAL FOR \$3.75**

## WHAT A WOMAN!

# Happy Birthday, Tasha Hill