

COMMUNITY EVENTS

UNLV calendar of events

May

19 Graduation: Commencement. 1 p.m. Thomas & Mack Center.

Extended Education: "Crime Writing for Television." 9:30 a.m.-5 p.m. Wright Hall 112. \$50.

23-26 Nevada Dance Theatre: "Spring Ballet Collection." Thursday-Saturday, 8 p.m. Sunday, 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. Judy Bayley Theatre. 739-3801.

24-25 Helldorado: College Regional Finals Rodeo. 7:30 p.m. Thomas & Mack Center. \$5. 739-3900.

25 Concert: Bolognini Concert. 7:30 p.m. Artemus Ham Concert Hall. 739-3801.

26-27 Helldorado: Bull Riding '91. 7:30 p.m. Thomas & Mack Center. \$5, \$7 and \$11. 739-3900.

27 Holiday: Memorial Day recess.

28 Helldorado: PRCA Championship Rodeo. (Continues through June 2.) Tuesday-Saturday, 7:30 p.m. Sunday, 1:30 p.m. Thomas & Mack Center. \$3, \$5, \$7 and \$11. 739-3900.

31 University Theatre: "Burlesque At Its Best." May 31, June 1 and 4-8, 7:30 p.m. June 2 and 9, 2 p.m. Judy Bayley Theatre. \$6. 739-3801.

Research gambling at the library

by Deanne Lahr

Gambling is no longer unique to Las Vegas. However, a unique gaming resource center is located right on the campus of UNLV in the special collections department on the fourth floor of the James Dickinson Library. The center contains the largest and most comprehensive collection of material on gambling and related activities in the entire world.

The gaming center is open to all UNLV students, as well as anyone who desires to consult its holdings. It is available for those who wish to learn more about the history of gaming or the risks and probabilities to improve their chances of winning that big jackpot.

The collection, started in 1970, contains volumes dating back to the 17th, 18th and 19th centuries as well as the most current material. The oldest volume is dated 1559.

Studies are available on the moral and religious aspects of gambling. Oral histories of prominent people in the gaming indus-

try are preserved on tape. David Robrock, librarian in special collections, said the collection contains more than 9,000 books starting with the basics of how to play all the way to scholarly journals and dissertations. He said the library tries to obtain every thesis or dissertation written on gambling in the country.

According to Robrock, the special collections is like a library within a library. All purchasing and acquiring of materials is done within the department.

"The library had no problem obtaining rare publications until recently," Robrock said. "Private collecting of gambling memorabilia has become popular, making acquisitions more difficult.

"The collection is mainly used by graduate students and researchers. Market researchers may call for such information as the ratio of slot machines to table games in local casinos."

Robrock said that a roulette buff from New Jersey did use the facilities a few weeks ago to research the odds on the game.

The gaming resource center is

a closed stack collection, which means that patrons may not check out material because of preservation and security reasons. Photocopies can be made by the special collections staff upon request. All materials may be located through the libraries on-line catalog located throughout the library.

The special collection staff actively seeks collections from gam-

ing related businesses and organizations. The International Association of Gambling Attorneys has selected the center for storage of its records.

The Gaming Resource Center hours end at 8 p.m., Monday-Thursday and at 5 p.m. on Friday. Sunday hours are from 1-5 p.m. and the center is closed on Saturday.

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