



## Mary Ruth Carleton makes a difference at UNLV

by Tracy L. Bower

"The most rewarding thing about being a journalist is that you meet a lot of people and you can make a difference."

After 17 years in the broadcast industry, KTNV news anchor and UNLV communication studies lecturer Mary Ruth Carleton has met a lot of people and definitely "made a difference."

An undergraduate degree in political science and a masters degree in journalism, both with honors, from the University of California, Berkeley led to a job in Dallas-Fort Worth, an unheard of first job in the broadcast industry.

"I was from California and that was weird," Carleton said. "I was also a woman who wanted to do sports. I was weird enough so they hired me."

Being "weird" and tal-

ented led to subsequent jobs in Seattle, Oklahoma City, Los Angeles and, finally, Las Vegas.

These jobs allowed her to conduct such "notable interviews" as Dan Rather, Gerald Ford and Nancy Reagan as well as travel to Peru, Italy and Kenya.

**"You give up your personal life when you're at the beck and call of news events."**

— Mary Ruth Carleton

When Carleton first moved to Las Vegas in 1987 she anchored at KLAS (channel 8) where she earned three UPI awards, including one national award for investigative/documentary work and the 1990 Women in Communication Best TV Newscaster in Las Vegas award.

Carleton credits success

in journalism to a well established writing style.

"Grammar," she said, "is extremely important. Use basic English and active verbs. It's annoying to hear 'there is' and 'there are' all the time. Be conversational. Act as though you were telling a story to a friend."

Writing skills are exactly what Carleton will try to teach in the Communications 424 course she is teaching this semester.

Carleton also said that style is as important as grammar, but "style can't be taught, it's something you develop over time."

She said developing a good rapport with those she

interviewed also helped.

"It helps to adapt to your subjects, develop an accent or twang like they have," Carleton said. "It makes them feel more comfortable."

Sometimes, though, it was Carleton who felt uncomfortable. While in Los Angeles as a general assignment reporter she was preparing for a dinner party when she received a telephone call that instructed her to cover the Cerritos, Calif., plane crash in 1986.

"You give up your personal life when you're in this business," she said. "You're at the beck and call of news events."

While covering the crash Carleton said she was careful not to trouble grieving family members or survivors.

"It's the worst stuff television does and it's disgusting," she said with a



Mary Ruth Carlton in action—broadcasting the morning news.

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## UNLV students travel around the world

by Jason Bermingham

Most students feel relatively familiar with UNLV's campus. We have all walked down the shady paths that lead from the MSU to the library. Many of us have enjoyed the tranquility of the reflecting pond or pondered over the large flashlight near the theatre. But how many of us have really seen all of UNLV? How many of us have strolled along the sandy beaches of San Sebastian, Spain, or driven through the beautiful country side of Pau, France, or even indulged in the rich culture of Turin, Italy? UNLV is no longer a single city university. In fact, today a walk along campus can take a student half way around the world.

"It surprises me that more students don't participate in UNLV's International Programs," said Susan Thompson, head of the International Programs office on campus. "College is an ideal time to travel, because a student can fulfill his/her scholastic requirements and enjoy the experience of living in a different country all at once."

All the courses offered

in these programs are transferable to UNLV and the curriculum is not limited to language study. In fact, classes are offered on everything from foreign cuisine to international politics.

Carmen Medina, a UNLV student majoring in Education, recently spent a semester in the Spanish Basque Country. "The program is fantastic," she said. "You'll definitely grow as an American." Carmen lived and studied in San Sebastian, but she pointed out that the Basque people were not the only ones she learned from. "Through the program I met people from Spain, France, England, Kenya and Sweden." Carmen returned to the United States last June, but she hopes to one day revisit the Basque Country.

Along with San Sebastian, Spain, there are programs offered to Pau, France; Turin, Italy; Santiago, Chili; Cambridge, England; and various parts of Mexico. The length of these programs can vary anywhere from a few weeks to several semesters. The cost is dependent on the place visited and the length of stay, but usually it is very

affordable and there are scholarships available. A semester abroad is roughly equivalent to two years of language study, but it should be noted that these programs are not limited strictly to language majors. In fact, business programs taught in English are available in Mexico City and international summer courses are offered in Cambridge. Many of the courses in Spain, France, Italy and Chili are also taught in English.

For more information about international programs contact Susan Thompson at 739-3896 or talk to her personally at the International Programs office on the bottom floor of the Humanities building.



## Parent-convenient pre-school is available on campus



photo by Arthur V. Chivis

Pre-schoolers at the UNLV College of Education/CSUN pre-school

by Kellie J. Adan

Anyone with children knows that finding a baby-sitter, especially one that won't sell their children to the highest bidder or eat them while the parents are away, can be a trying task. For UNLV students and faculty, the trouble of finding a baby-sitter during their class hours is doubled. That's why UNLV's education department has a day care center.

Students or faculty members in need of this type of service, "are more than welcome to observe," said Michelle Lansing, director of the UNLV College of Education/CSUN Pre-school. If they are interested in enrolling their children in this program, however, they had better make their intentions known, and fast. "There's a very long waiting list," said Robert Ackerman, vice-president for student services. He also

said the program is helpful and educational to both parents and children and "probably ought to be expanded."

The center, funded by student government, contains various learning programs and even a playground.

The pre-school is very involved in education. Lansing said that a parent won't just be getting a baby-sitter, see PRE-SCHOOL page 7