



UNLV campus not immune to rape

by Kelly Hansen

Four rapes were reported by UNLV students to University Police in September.

"Three were on campus and classified as date rape and one was off-campus involving a UNLV student," said Public Safety Sgt. Rochelle Sax.

A committee, headed by Liz Baldizan, assistant to the vice president of Student Affairs, is looking into the problem by using a coordinated effort between Student Services, the Student Health Center, Affirmative Action, Public Safety, Residential Life, the Student Develop-

ment Center and other on- and off-campus committees.

This committee is taking steps to eliminate the problem. Students are being informed that any unwanted sex is rape, whether by a stranger or an acquaintance. Victims are being informed to report it rather than deny it.

"The better educated the students are, the better they can defend themselves. A lot of the educational process takes place on an informal basis, one on one, which we call teachable moments. We want to give the message that this is unacceptable behavior," said Karen Strong, assistant director for

Student Development. Programs recently went on in the UNLV residence halls called "Acquaintance Rape Awareness Week."

Although UNLV has no more of a problem than other universities, the state of Nevada does. In 1989, Nevada was the fourth highest state in the country in numbers of sexual assault according to Renata Cirri of Community Action Against Rape.

A recent student opinion poll was taken at UNLV and was compared to a poll by Time Magazine (May 8). The question posed: "Is it rape if a man uses emotional pressure, but no

physical force, to get a woman to have sex?"

The results of the Time poll were 39 percent of the females and 33 percent of the males said 'yes'. In the UNLV poll, 43 percent of the females and 41 percent of the males said 'yes.' Of women polled, 18 percent had been in a situation with a man in which they said 'no' but ended up

having sex anyway.

The Student Health Center has protocol written for sexual assault procedures and will collect evidence and treat students in the event of a sexual assault on or off campus. They also offer free services for sexual assault victims.

Students are employed by the Public Safety Depart-

ment to escort you to your cars. For information call 739-3668.

If you become a victim of sexual assault, contact one of these agencies or call the University Police at 739-3668 or the Las Vegas Rape Crisis Center's 24-hour hotline 366-1640.

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Rules vary about class attendance

by Gwen McWhorter

Opinions differ on campus whether or not attendance in classes should be obligatory. Some professors require students to come to class regardless of illness and some could care less what students do. Other professors allow a certain number of absences with consequences of dropping points or even a letter grade.

Most departments on campus do not have an attendance policy.

"The department leaves it up to the faculty members. There isn't a set policy," said Robert Tracy, chair of the art department.

The English department does not have an attendance policy for 104 classes and up. However, freshman English students are only allowed an equivalent of three weeks of absences before failing the course.

"It is so important in a writing class to attend because there aren't any tests. So much work goes on with the students reading each other's works. It is important to write everyday," said Mike Stitt, head of freshman

composition.

The department of foreign languages leaves it up to each faculty member in enforcing an attendance policy. The students are informed about attendance on the syllabus.

"The classroom is like a laboratory training session used to develop speaking skills that can't be done with

justice, has a strict attendance policy. Students who miss six classes will have their grade reduced by one letter grade no matter what test and brief scores reflect.

An art class that meets twice a week, allows three absences. If a student exceeds the limit, the grade will be dropped one letter grade.

Some students wonder why others would pay for a class and not show up.

"Going to class helps your grade. The professor takes attendance into account, it will benefit the student," said Stacy Edgar, a sophomore elementary education major.

"As long as you are self motivated, you will attend class. If you aren't, it is good motivation to attend class," said Richard Schlegel, a junior English major.

Not all opinions are for mandatory attendance. Chris Nelms, an undeclared sophomore, doesn't agree. "We pay for classes. We need to be responsible for our own actions. We are old enough, aren't we?"

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just a book," said Catherine Bellver, chair of the foreign language department. "Attendance is very important in learning a language, whereas, in a History of Nevada class, you can cram in facts. You just can't do that in a foreign language class."

Faculty members who have large classes do not take attendance, but ask students to attend, leaving the responsibility to the students. Professors with large classes do not have time to take roll or pass a sign-in sheet around the room causing a distraction.

John Horvath, assistant professor of criminal



Some UNLV faculty find office space in trailers

by William Holt

As a result of lacking work space for faculty and staff, 24 trailers located behind the engineering complex in the Artemus Ham Hall parking lot have been set up for use by faculty of various departments.

This "colony" of portable trailers is thought of

as a village by some occupants and is jokingly referred to as "Caliche Estates" by occupant Craig Walton, professor of philosophy and director of the Institute for Ethics and Policy Studies (EPS).

Walton represents one of many faculty and staff forced to find obscure office space for their departments.

He said that his de-

partment is the only one of its kind and that this department only began after being approved by the Board of Regents in June 1987. He tried to move into the Humanities building for operation. He said that his secretary and his files were on one

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Senate votes to pay for election

by Karen Splawn

The Senate voted 12-0, Sept. 26 to spend \$2,750 on the elections.

Students will be allowed to vote for senatorial candidates and on ballot question No. 1, which if passed, would mandate a \$20 per semester fee for undergraduates.

Director of the Elections Board

Kershaw said because of the ballot question, "We're expecting a big voter turnout."

Voting booths will be in Tonopah Hall, Flora Frank and Estella Beam Hall, the Thomas T. Beam Engineering Complex and the James R. Dickinson Library.

By a 9-0 vote, senators approved junior Kim Jami Nalder, to fill a va-

cant hotel administration seat.

In other business, the Senate voted to appoint three people as members of the Elections Board. They are Senators Mike Bunin (business and economics), Chris Lee (engineering) and Lee Whitney, a senior majoring in computer science.