



photo by Ilana Fiorenza

## Message of UNLV Theatre productions questioned

by Ilana L. Fiorenza

The UNLV productions of "Kiss Me Kate" and "The Taming of the Shrew" have elicited interesting and opposing viewpoints regarding their 1991 political correctness. Wandralee Lindtzie, a UNLV communications major, held a one-woman protest outside of Judy Bailey Theater while the plays were being performed inside.

Lindtzie carried a sign which read, "Does this production legitimize violence against women? Think about it."

Lindtzie claimed her objective with the protest was mainly to get people to stop and perhaps look at things differently. In an attitude reminiscent of the 1960s Berkeley protests where students demanded input in deciding on university classes and faculty, she said, "We need to question what the established authorities want us to study and see. We need to start revisionist thinking."

Robert Brewer, associate professor of theater and director of "Kiss Me Kate", commented that he did not feel the production legitimized violence against women. He said he was surprised by Lindtzie's re-

sponse, especially since the female lead in the play hits the male lead first.

"It should be an issue of 'Does a man have a right to defend himself?'," said Brewer. He pointed out the slapstick aspect of the performance and said the entire play was presented in a comic mode. "I do agree that she (Lindtzie) is bringing up a very important issue. But I don't think that it fits in this case," Brewer said.

Lindtzie was quick to note that her protest was not about censorship, but instead, it had to do with a calling for awareness about how women are portrayed "especially in 1991, when violence against women is escalating," Lindtzie said.

"The real issue here seems to be the relationship between art and society. It's just like television violence on Saturday mornings resulting in 3-year-olds wanting toy guns," said Evelyn Gajowski, associate professor of English at UNLV. "What is interesting here is that it goes both ways. Culture shapes art, but also art is responsible for shaping culture."

If one could have been a fly on the wall in 1948 when Cole Porter wrote "Kiss Me Kate", what might we have

heard? Would he have thought about his play perpetuating or legitimizing physical violence against women or was it just a stage ploy to help keep the audience alert? Perhaps Porter was trying to show the absurdity in stereotypical gender roles by portraying them in such obvious comical archetypes.

Did he consider the fact that violence is still violence, even in a comic context? We can't really know what his intent was, just as we can't know how Shakespeare intended his plays to be done and why. We can only attempt to view and interpret them by where we stand today in history.

According to Brewer, the essence of "Kiss Me Kate" and the "The Taming of the Shrew" done within it was comedy, with the male character an "Archie Bunker of male chauvinist pigs", and additionally one of the best musical scores ever.

Lindtzie perhaps has seen enough between stage and real life of chauvinistic attitudes being accepted and laughed at or of. "Why is this still going on?" she questioned, "What kind of message are we sending?"

## New shuttle program a success

by Tricia Ciaravino

The new shuttle program is running smoothly, according to Heidi Smith, Student Government vice president pro-tempore.

The program, which started Oct. 14, was developed to transport students safely from campus to their cars.

"So far it has been a total success," Smith said. "We haven't had any complaints. I think both Student Government and Public Safety are doing a good job."

Smith said the student

drivers cover all areas of the campus. Two shuttles meet every 15 minutes at the James R. Dickinson Library. One shuttle covers the area between the library and the dorms. The other covers areas toward the Thomas Beam Engineering Complex.

Smith said students who need a ride don't have to walk all the way to the library to get one. Drivers pick up students along designated routes.

"The drivers pretty much stick to the patterns but they will go off to meet student's needs," Smith said.

The committee is purchasing signs which will let students know where and when they can meet the shuttles.

Shuttles run from 6:30 p.m. to midnight, Sunday through Thursday. These hours are subject to change pending daylight hours.

## New graduate teacher training program at UNLV

A new, non-traditional graduate program for people wishing to become teachers will be offered at UNLV beginning next summer. Called "Teachers as Inquirers," the program is intended for people who received their undergraduate degrees in fields other than education, but who are now interested in going into teaching.

"The program is particularly suited to people wishing to switch careers," said professor Richard Powell, who is in charge of the new program. "The intense course of study, which will take one calendar year to complete, will enable participants to earn their teaching licenses more quickly than traditional programs," he said.

The "Teachers as Inquirers" program, which is offered through the department of instructional and curricular studies in the College of Education, takes its name from the program's emphasis on encouraging participants to continually re-assess and improve their teaching skills.

Powell said he expects competition for admittance to the program, which is limited to 25 people per year, to be stiff. He encouraged people interested in the program to apply as soon as possible.

Persons wishing more information on the program may contact Powell at 597-4218.

## New course gives students TV time

by Kelly Hansen

A new communications course, Broadcast Practicum, is in the works for the spring semester. It is a course in which students will actually broadcast a 15- to 30-minute news show once a week on cable channel 31.

The three credit upper division course will be held on Tuesday and Thursday nights from 6 to 7:30 p.m. Admittance to this class will be limited to 15 students to give everyone a fair chance to broadcast.

Mary Ruth Carleton, instructor of Broadcast

News, proposed the idea of hands-on experience for students.

"One of the things you need when you go look for a broadcasting job is a video tape of your work. This course will provide that," said Carleton. Students will actually go out and shoot stories and do live in-studio interviews.

"Our main idea is to focus on news of the campus. We have a good faculty with experts on almost everything," she said.

The pre-requisite for the course will be broadcast news writing and other writing courses.

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