



# THE YELLIN' REBEL

THE UNIVERSITY OF NEVADA, LAS VEGAS

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## Cheating in college becoming a way of life

By Kelly Domingo  
YELLIN' REBEL

Cheating at universities has become almost a way of life, according to a nationwide survey conducted by the American Council on Education and the Higher Education Institute at UCLA.

More than 200,000 freshmen around the country were surveyed, and more than 36 percent said they cheated in college.

At UNLV several students interviewed by the Yellin' Rebel admitted cheating on numerous occasions, but administrators said cheating is not rampant.

Linus, a freshman at UNLV, said "I have cheated on a wide number of my homework assignments by exchanging or copying answers from other students in my class, but I never cheat on examinations."

Dr. Robert Ackerman, UNLV vice president of student services, said cheating at UNLV "has not been a rampant problem, and if it has, it has not been apparent. But we are aware it does exist in universities everywhere."

Ackerman continued, "In the three and a half years I have been at UNLV, I have only been confronted with three cases which were brought to a disciplinary review."

He said he had discussed cheating with faculty and students. "I have heard stories about students who use crib-notes or open textbooks on exams, cases where a student actually took a test for another student, and I have heard that plagiarism is one of the most widely practiced forms of cheating."

Lucy, a UNLV student, admitted, "Almost every paper I have written for college has included

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## THE "PERFECT" TREE



Steve Spataro

Gary Smith and Dennis Swartzell begin planting a 15 foot Wilson Fruitless Olive tree in front of the Moyer Student Union Thursday morning. This virtually pollen-free tree will benefit local residents with allergies.

## No positive AIDS tests found yet

By Kimberly Creel  
YELLIN' REBEL

Nearly 30 students, faculty and staff have been tested for the AIDS-related Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) at UNLV. All results have been negative.

The Student Health Center has held two HIV testing clinics so far this semester.

A third clinic was scheduled for Wednesday.

Lori Winchell, director of the Student Health Center, explained that the negative results mean that none of those tested had the AIDS virus.

Still, she added, the turnout has been very small.

"There is no limit to how many students, faculty and staff we can accommodate," she said. "If it gets too busy, then we'll call in more help."

No appointment is needed and testing is anonymous, said health

officials.

Those tested are given a number to protect their confidentiality. The person brings the number back a week later to obtain results of the HIV test.

The HIV tests are conducted at UNLV by the Clark County Health Department Staff.

HIV is the AIDS antibody test that determines whether or not a person has been infected by the AIDS virus.

However, a positive result on the test does not mean the patient actually has AIDS.

The average time between infection with HIV and development of AIDS is between 6 months and 10 years.

Preliminary results from a study of college students in the United States showed that three students in 1,000 had the AIDS virus.

U.S. campuses are especially vulnerable to AIDS infection. Surveys show that 80 percent of col-

lege students have had at least one sexual experience by graduation time.

Another study done at Oregon State University found that even when students knew condoms could help prevent the spread of AIDS, 60 to 70 percent of them continued to have sex without them.

Other risky conduct includes the sharing of needles by athletes who may use steroids.

The Student Health Center has responded to the seriousness of the AIDS epidemic in young people and in others by doing the HIV testing on campus.

The extent of AIDS infection among teenagers "is going to be the next crisis," said Dr. Gary R. Strokash, director of Adolescent Medicine at Rush Presbyterian St. Luke's Medical Center in Chicago.

The number of AIDS cases in teenagers has had a 40 percent increase in the last two years.

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## How the AIDS test works

How do students know for sure that their AIDS-related test at UNLV will be strictly confidential?

Can they be sure that, if the test is positive, they won't face embarrassment and discrimination?

Officials at the Clark County Health Department explained the confidentiality like this:

When an individual goes into the Student Health Center, or to the health department offices and signs a paper giving permission for blood to be drawn, identification does not have to be shown. After the blood test is taken, the individual is given a pink card bearing a number. This number, without a name, is also attached to the blood sample. A week after the test, the person returns to the testing location for the results. The pink card with the number must be shown to obtain the results of the test.

The name and the number on the test will not be connected in any way. Results of the AIDS testing will be kept on file at the Clark County Health Department. The results are used to determine the number of people in the county who have tested positive for the virus.

If a person tests positive for AIDS, it is up to him or her to decide what to do about his or her health. The process is strictly anonymous, and individual results will not be given to anyone - not a doctor, not parents.

In fact, if an employer or anyone else calls the health department to ask if someone has been tested, the health department will not divulge any information.

"We're here to protect you, not to hassle you," said one Clark County Health Department employee.

Also, all AIDS testing is done in private.