



MSU opens (finally) to the handicapped

by Bonar Tucker

The grand re-opening of the Moyer Student Union which took place nearly two weeks ago gave students a reason to celebrate by coming in out of the cold and using coupons for free food—all students, that is, except the handicapped.

Apparently, the plans were to include the handicapped but since the special doors didn't arrive in time, the decision to open without the necessary access was made.

"We debated about

keeping the student center closed since the doors were not yet installed but decided against that," said Robert Ackerman, vice president for Student Services. "The new doors should be installed by Tuesday providing accessibility."

Debbie Simmer, whose motor development was impaired due to an early childhood inflammation, said she felt a "little resentful" when she had to ask for assistance to get into the newly remodeled student union.

"It wasn't really such a big deal," Simmer said, "but

it was just one more thing to make me realize that the world doesn't see things through handicapped eyes."

The Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 designates that handicapped students be offered the same access to facilities as other students. An "awareness walk-through" was taken on campus during the spring of that year to mark areas needing attention to meet the compliance regulations. By the fall of 1990, John Amend, director of UNLV's physical plant admitted, "From that (walk through),

we haven't taken much action."

With the recently enacted budget cut-backs, access for the handicapped will drop even lower in priority listings.

"The university has been covered under Code 504 stating that buildings constructed before a certain date will need to make changes as they are remodeled," Ackerman said. "The construction of MSU was a good time to install the new doors."

According to Eric
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Rebels top LSU, 76-55

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photo by Greg Klund

The Runnin' Rebels appeared to not have lost a step as they shocked ninth-ranked LSU 76-55 Saturday night at the Thomas & Mack. Newcomer J.R. Rider (#34) led UNLV with 21

'Cult-like' activities practiced by local church group at UNLV

by Bonar Tucker

University administrators are voicing concern over tactics used by a new group on campus who call themselves The Las Vegas Metropolitan Church of Christ. Thirty members came to UNLV from California to begin recruiting in August and over 100 are now registered.

"The techniques used by this group," said Gretchen Stamos, protestant chaplain for The University Center for Religion and Life, "are documented as those used by

Moonies, Hare Krishnas and other cult groups. They are using what society deems as unacceptable practices."

Stamos made clear that theology doctrine or philosophical beliefs are a matter of subjective interpretation. What she disagrees with is the Metropolitan Church of Christ's recruitment and retaining policies.

The church is an off-shoot from the Boston Church of Christ which began in the late '70s. It stretches from one university to the next, changing its name in each new city.

It has acquired a history of cult-like activities on college campuses across the nation. According to *The Indianapolis Sagamore* newspaper, the group has been "booted off" a number of private college campuses for deception in their recruiting approaches and for constantly pursuing prospects to the point of harassment.

Normally, public universities, like UNLV, could not ban such a group from practicing their beliefs and organizing on campus.

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University Police jurisdiction restricted

by Tricia Ciaravino

When University Police tried to stretch their powers past campus boundaries during the last legislative session, they were denied. As it stands right now, University Police have jurisdiction halfway across Maryland Parkway, where Las Vegas Metropolitan Police take over.

The expansion would have taken place in the form of modifying the statute which created University Police. It would have allowed them to interact with Metro during disturbances close to campus.

O. C. Lee, a member of the police protective association, lobbied for Metro police officers against Uni-

versity Police expansion.

"We are opposed to expanding police authority to any more agencies in Nevada," Lee said. "There are 80 types of police officers in our state. We believe that's absolutely ludicrous."

Lee said that he doesn't think University Police has the manpower or equipment to support more authority.

"They have a police department by statute," he said. "They don't fund it, they have no expertise, they have no crime labs. University Police only wanted to expand powers."

University Police Chief David Hollenbeck said that any accusation that Univer-

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