



The Rebel Yell

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Employees subject to mandatory drug tests

by Thomas Moore

Starting April 6, classified state employees in public safety positions will be required to take a mandatory pre-employment drug test and all classified employees could be asked to take post-employment drug and alcohol tests.

On campus only University Police would be subject to the

pre-employment testing while all classified employees could be tested if suspected of being impaired. Classified employees are clerical and service workers not faculty.

The program, the result of a new law requested by the State of Nevada Employees Association and the federal Drug-Free Work Place and Drug-Free Communities and

Schools acts, is described by a Nevada Department of Personnel memo as meant to give assistance and not to be punitive.

According to the memo "the law does not allow for random testing nor permit testing to be used to harass employees."

Mitch Brust, chief of technical services for the Nevada

Department of Personnel, echoed that by saying "we want to help" employees as opposed to punishing them.

Employees who receive two notices within five years or refuse to be tested will be punished, Brust said. Punishment could range from suspension to dismissal. All notices will remain confidential and within the department that they oc-

cured.

Brust said that while the exact procedures of the program have not been worked out it will take one other witness besides a supervisor to observe the impaired behavior. The employee would then get a written description of the incident and be requested to report for testing.

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Unusual rate of theft over the holidays

by William Holt

During the period of Dec. 10 through Jan. 13, winter break, there has been an unusually high amount of theft on campus according to Detective Sgt. Lonnie Barrett of University Police.

Approximately 55 items of equipment and materials in buildings around the campus have been stolen with losses totaling close to \$12,400. "We're off to a start that's unbelievable, and the semester hasn't even begun," Barrett said.

Many of these crimes committed were calculated burglaries by persons who had obtained keys to a building. Barrett warns UNLV staff that lost or stolen keys should be reported immediately to Public Safety.

There were at least five separate thefts in the James R. Dickinson Library alone. University Police have a suspect which they believe is responsible for all the library thefts.

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Harry Reid Center for Environmental Studies.

Ground broken for the Harry Reid Center for Environmental Studies

A symbolic ground breaking was held Thursday for the Harry Reid Center for Environmental Studies, a \$4 million remodeling and addition project at the Marjorie Barrick Museum of Natural History. The project will turn one of UNLV's oldest buildings into a modern facility for research, meetings and education.

"In naming this important research center for U.S. Sen. Harry Reid, we are honoring a man who has been a great friend of UNLV, and who has long taken personal interest in our research programs," said President Robert C. Maxson.

"The Harry Reid Center for Environmental Studies and the Marjorie Barrick Museum of Natural History occupy the only building on campus that is totally devoted to research," Maxson said.

Formerly the Environmental Research Center, the newly named complex will stand out from a dozen or so environmental research centers around the country Maxson said.

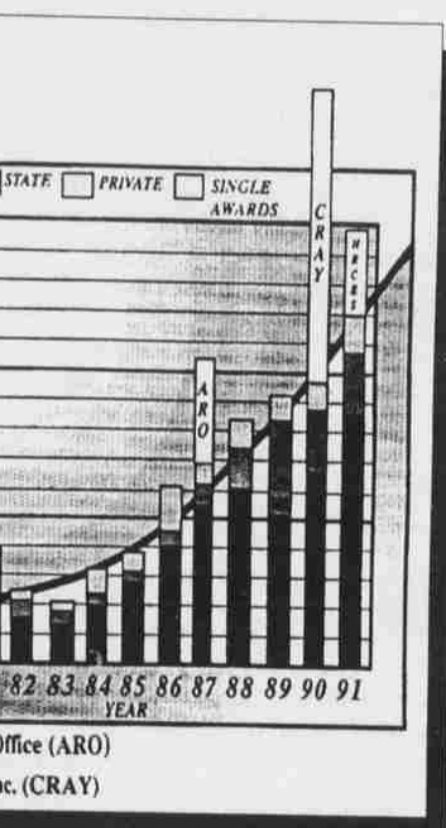
The building was originally the university gymnasium, built in 1960, when the campus was only three years old. In 1981, the Environmental Research Center opened for business, converting what had once been locker rooms into laboratories. In 1989, the museum was named in honor of

UNLV donor Marjorie Barrick.

Now, thanks in a large part to a \$3 million grant from the Environmental Protection Agency, the building will get a total face-lift. Virtually everything other than the main exhibit area will be remodeled.

"On the northeast corner we will have a new theater for international, national and regional conferences, institutes and meetings," said Donald Baepler, director of the museum. "We have turned down many conferences and institutes in the past because they can't get a room anywhere on campus. I'm sure our conference center will be booked up."

"We started the Environmental Research Center in a physical education building," Baepler added. "We moved into the museum in 1981, and by 1982, we were putting people up in temporary space. Now we are renting commercial



space. We have people in Wright and Beam Halls and some of our people are in makeshift offices in the museum building."

The problem is not only overcrowding, but space that is inappropriate to the function for which it is being used Baepler said.

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EL SOBRANTE

A special entertainment section of 'The Rebel Yell' — section B

El Sobrante

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Guns N' Roses and Soundgarden plunder Las Vegas