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by Angela Ramsey

Official grand opening ceremonies were held Thursday for the newly-constructed Desert Research Institute (DRI), located on Swenson and Flamingo.

DRI opens

In honor of the DRI building, which represents its first permanent structure, many gathered to pay tribute to the efforts that went into the project.

A few hundred guests, including prominent local citizens, enjoyed self-guided tours through the establishment and festivities outside in a tent pitched for the occasion.

The DRI is an equal division of the Desert Research Institute University and Community College System of Nevada. Although the center is a unique and separate entity for the most part, it is considered a campus in the university system-its major difference being the lack of teaching facilities.

DRI does employ, however, 30 to 50 graduate students every year and allows DRI faculty to teach courses at UNLV and Community College of Southern Nevada.

The new structure, which is 42,000 square feet and cost \$5.9 million, constitutes only the first of three planned con-

The newly-constructed Desert Research Institute had its grand opening ceremonies Thursday. struction phases totaling

320,000 square feet. More than 100 faculty, staff and students now occupy the facility.

Speakers that evening praised DRI for its endurance over a 30-year period and its

world-renowned status.

Lt. Gov. Sue Wagner said DRI has been responsible for attracting science and technology-oriented businesses to Nevada. Clark County Commission Chair Jay Bingham agreed,

by adding, "technology should parallel the growth of a community."

Gov. Robert Miller said DRI "makes us look at the

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File Photo



Don't rush to pay off that zero balance

by Tricia Ciaravino

Don't panic! The collection agency will not come knocking on the door of students who have received a bill stating their records will be held because they owe the registrar's office nothing.

Mike Sauer, executive assistant to the Vice President of Administration and Finance, said, "Students who don't owe anything have no reason to pay."

Sauer said several students, who still have outstanding balances, needed to be billed. "We wanted to let every

student see what their final schedule is," he said.

Telephone registration has caused some problems, and sometimes students think they are registered for a class when they're not, he added. The office wanted to inform them of problems before the end of the semester.

"We only have the ability to put one statement on (the form)," he said. "I know it's an easily misunderstood statement. If it says amount owed is zero, disregard it."

Local area becomes another Lebanon

shots by Rob Weidenfeld

Entertainment & Programming brought A.J. Brown to the MSU Friday night.

Budget cuts take toll on students

by Tricia Ciaravino

The recent budget cuts have put UNLV in dire straits. The following is a description of how recent budget cuts have affected the university.

The undergraduate fee has been raised by \$6.50. Undergrads will now pay \$55.50 per credit hour. A \$2 increase had already been implemented into the fall budget and \$4.50 was added due to a drop in enrollment and an effort to save faculty positions.

Graduate students will now pay \$77.50 per credit hour.

Non-resident tuition has been increased to \$2,025 per semester.

The good-neighbor fee, which allows students who live in counties bordering Nevada a fee-discount, has not been changed. The Board of Regents may consider an increase at a later time.

"By raising tuition we will be able to offer 650 additional courses," said Buster Neel, vice president of Administration and Finance. "Without the tuition increase, we would have kept those (faculty) positions frozen and the 650 classes would not be offered. We put the dollars into teaching positions. We did what we could to provide access to students."

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by Mike Del Genio

Car fires happen in Lebanon, and other parts of the world, but not here in the good ol' United States. Right?

Recently that has changed, with a rash of car torchings happening in the campus area.

On Feb. 29, Kelly Best, a UNLV student who lives in the Rochelle Regency apartments, had his 1981 Toyota pick-up set aflame. Another student, Sherri Lynn Norton, who lives in the Tamarus Royale apartments, had her 1981 Volkswagen Kharman Ghia set on fire.

These students both live in complexes with no security and both own foreign cars.

According to Captain Michael Patterson of Clark **County Fire Investigation there** is no pattern. There is also no time pattern. The burnings have happened in daylight, at night and the early hours of the morning.

Best said because his insurance didn't cover fire, in addition to being jobless, he will have to ask his parents to cosign a loan for another vehicle.

Doris Brown, leasing agent for Tamarus Royale, said they will be doing everything they can to try to prevent another such incident.

All vehicle owners should

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