

# Grad student wins ASEE design award

by Randy Miller

A UNLV graduate student, Robert Kingston was one of five winners of this spring's American Society for Engineering Education's design competition. Kingston designed a sailboat computer system that measures the wind's speed and direction for plotting courses on a boat in motion.

Although this is not a new idea, similar systems on the market cost several thousands of dollars. Kingston's objective was to create an economical system for enthusiasts whose love for sailing is deeper than their pockets.

The system, for which he was awarded \$1,000, was Kingston's senior design project. It took about 15 weeks to do, and cost around \$200.

"Everybody I see in the hallway says 'congratulations, it must be nice' and I say, yeah it's nice to have the certificate and get the recognition, but the school gets the thousand dollars," Kingston said.

The money will go to fund other students who would like to enter their projects in competitions. In doing so the department hopes to bring more recognition



photo by Wray Halterman

Robert Kingston won one of five American Society of Engineering Education design awards.

to the university.

Kingston said that it was his Engineering Design instructors idea for him to enter the contest. "I didn't think I had a chance...I guess I had the luxury that some of the judges were into sailing."

The Idea for the project it-

self stemmed from Kingston's love for boating. He said that he wanted to do something that he could use in the future. "Being a student I can't afford it right now, but I would like to buy a sailboat. I could install it and play around with it. Maybe at that point I might think about

trying to market it."

For now, Kingston is kept busy teaching an engineering lab and attending his first semester as a UNLV graduate student. He says he would like to go all the way through and receive a PhD to become an Engineering professor.

# Christmas comes early for UNLV

by Cynthia Salinas

In the midst of extensive budget cuts, UNLV made a wish and it came true. At a ceremony yesterday in the Richard Tam Alumni Center, President Robert Maxson announced that \$6.6 million, UNLV's largest gift to date largest, was being donated by the Estate of Earl and Hazel Wilson.

The donation will be distributed throughout the university.

"This gift bridges the gap of

academics, research, athletics and scholarships," Maxson said.

The scholarship will be divided as follows:

- Academic scholarships will receiving \$2.1 million.
- Baseball will get \$1.6 million for scholarships, upgrading equipment and building a stadium.
- The Marjorie Barrick Museum will receive \$2 million for its development and research.
- The College of Education will get \$300,000.
- The golf program will re-

ceive \$250,000.

• Student Services will get \$350,000.

Robert Ackerman, vice president for Student Services, said, "UNLV has been working with the trustees of the Wilson Estate for six years."

The Wilsons wanted their estate to be divided up and to be given to charitable groups. UNLV is receiving almost half of the estate. Maxson was appreciative of the gift.

"We are glad they found UNLV to be one of the most

charitable organizations," he said.

Chairperson for the Board of Regent Caroline Sparks said, "Understanding it is getting harder and harder for students to pay for college this gift is the most important. Almost one hundred percent of the donation will go directly to the students."

Maxson closed his acceptance of the gift by saying, "We are on our way to a record shattering year of fund raising. We have already exceeded last years fund raising by \$4 million."

## Threats puzzle UC Davis law school

(CPS) — Four law professors and a staff member received dead fish in the mail and a statue of Martin Luther King Jr. was vandalized in a series of incidents under investigation at the University of California, Davis.

Professor John Poulos, an outspoken opponent of the death penalty, received a dead catfish attached to wire and electric batteries in his mailbox, according to a story in the *California Aggie* student newspaper. An attached card read: "Fish and murderers should fry."

Jim Smith, also a law professor, a critic of U.S. immigration policy, received a striped bass wrapped in a tortilla in his mailbox.

Law professor Rex Perschbacher, acting professor Evelyn Kirkland and career services director Jane Thomason received unadorned fish in their mail boxes.

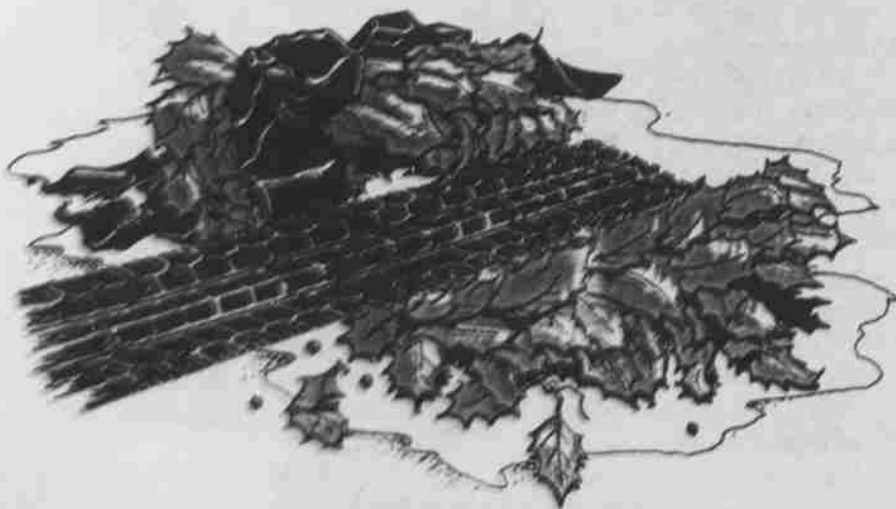
A sculpture of Martin Luther King Jr., which stands in King Hall, was found with a container of alfalfa sprouts placed in the right hand, and on the head. A sign reading "Chia Martin," most likely a reference to "Chia pet," was hung from the statue's neck.

Officials say the vandalism occurred between 6 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. Oct. 6. Only the faculty, staff and students of the law school have keys.

If someone intended the acts to be practical jokes, the law community is not amused, said Antonia Bernard, associate dean of the law school.

Campus police are treating the incidents as hate crimes.

## DRUNK DRIVERS...



...often run into old friends over the Holidays

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