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Ashe decries state of AIDS education

by Randy Miller

Former tennis great Arthur Ashe spoke on the topic of AIDS awareness and bias last night at Artemus Ham Concert Hall as part of the World AIDS Day.

Although Ashe tested positive for AIDS in 1988, he didn't reveal that he was HIV positive until April of this year. Knowing that his condition had been leaked to the press, he chose to come forward personally.

He has now become an AIDS advocate: his Arthur Ashe Foundation for the Defeat of AIDS was established earlier this year.

He said the initial interest is to raise money to support the international research of AIDS, and to provide services for those afflicted with the disease.

"Knowing the facts does not positive people. necessarily make you act appropriately," Ashe said.

He went on to say even though AIDS education and prevention may be taught in schools, what really matters is whether or not people are practicing what they have learned.

Several problems associated with AIDS were discussed: the moral and cynical scrutiny of HIV-positive individuals, doctors' reluctance to treat AIDS patients, the controversy of condom distribution in schools, and America's quandary on how to pay for medical treatment.

Ashe talked about the politics of AIDS. It's people's psychological mindset, Ashe said, that sets AIDS apart from other terminal diseases. This is reflected in their approach to HIV-

After the speech he summed up his feelings: "AIDS scares the hell out of people.

"When my dentist treats me, it looks like he's going to war," he said.

Ashe related statistics that drew gasps from the crowd-"today, 80 percent of hemophiliacs 15 years of age or older ar HIV positive," "(public studies) show that by the year 2000, 44 million people will be HIV positive...some private researchers put the figure at 110 million"-but his main message was certainly about the need for education.

He strongly disagrees with those who feel "condoning condom usage (among teenagers) will create a more promiscuous lifestyle." He said relying on



photo by Wray Halterman

Arthur Ashe spoke on AIDS awareness at Ham Hall Wednesday as part of the Barrick Lecture series.

abstinence (as a choice among high school-aged kids) is unre-

Ashe was quick to point out that he is a layperson-not an expert in the field. He hoped his influence could be personal.

I hope in the future that private decisions you make to associate with an HIV-positive person will not be based on...fears

- Arthur Ashe

"I hope in the future, that private decisions you make to associate with-or even to play basketball with-an HIV-positive person will not be based on...fears."

For more information on the Arthur Ashe Foundation for the Defeat of AIDS, write to: 100 Park Ave., 10th Floor, New York, 10017, or call 212-922-0096.

Senators escape hot water over cold beer incident

by Cynthia Salinas and Paul Stuhff

The Senate Rules Committee decided Wednesday not to reprimand Sens. Jami Nalder, hotel administration, and Brad Jackson, business and economics, on charges of unbecoming conduct during a UNLV football game.

The incident came before a Student Government committee for a second time Wednesday have charges brought against after a memorandum from Nevada Student Affairs Director Mike Kennedy asked the Rules Committee to look into events that occurred during the UNLV-UNR football game on Oct. 17.

The memorandum did not allege any specific wrongdoing by the senators.

Kennedy said he saw Nalder throw a half cup of beer on a UNLV football player and Jackson throw his cup and hit a University of Nevada, Reno football player in the face while sitting in Student Government seats. Jackson reportedly threw projectiles onto the field.

The issue was first raised in a closed-door personnel session on Oct. 28. In that meeting the Executive Board reprimanded the senators by denying them CSUN football tickets for the remainder of the season. In addition, the senators were required to apologize to UNLV President Robert Maxson and the athletic department.

Mike Bunin, Office of Student Information director, said he also wanted to file a charge against Nalder and Jackson.

"Any student that would throw a cup of beer on any football team, especially their own, is a disgrace to Student Government and is an embarrassment to the Senate. Nalder has been nothing but trouble," Bunin said.

"Even if it were a student who was not in Student Government that person could still them," said Student Body President Joel Kostman. "The fact that they were members of Student Government, people who are under oath and who are supposed to be the leaders of the student body, are the main reasons why charges need to be filed."

Kostman approached Nalder and Jackson in the parking lot after the game to discuss their behavior.

"After talking to them for a few minutes I decided they were not in a condition to rationally discuss what happened," Kostman said.

Kostman took responsibility for their behavior.

"Everyone knew about it," he said. "Remember the announcement at the game, 'Please refrain from throwing things on the field' they were talking about Jami and Brad.

"I was on the phone with Dr. Maxson for two hours the next day apologizing for Jami and

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Graduate student Joe Malone played drums with the UNLV jazz sextet Wednesday. Performances and exhibits observing World AIDS Day (Tuesday) culminate with tonight's Candlelight March at 8:45 p.m.