

Access is often difficult for the handicapped at UNLV

by Donna Bates

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) was regulated Jan. 26 requiring all public buildings to provide proper access for the disabled.

The ADA committee on this campus meets regularly to ensure these regulations are met. Improvements have been made in the recently renovated Moyer Student Union.

Eric Walters, assistant director of MSU, said MSU's bathroom doors are now 36 inches wide in an effort to accommodate wheelchairs. There are three handicap access doors in the building and the elevator now goes to all three floors.

Despite improvements in the MSU, other complaints have been filed about handicap access on campus. These are directed to Anita Stockbauer, director of Student Support Ser-

vices. Some of the most common complaints she receives are existing wheelchair ramps are steep or hidden, the doors in the engineering building are hard to maneuver and the shuttle, which is handicapped equipped, does not run during the day.

However, other, less-tangible difficulties exist on campus for the handicapped.

"The worst barriers are attitudes," Stockbauer said.

She has been working to educate people about the disabled and would like to get rid of the misconception that disabled people are not as capable.

A slogan on Stockbauer's wall expressed the problem well. It said, "Sometimes the worst thing about having a disability is that people meet it before they meet you."

Christine Moore, a criminal justice major, said in the eight years she has attended

UNLV, the improvements for the handicapped have been slow but sure.

When asked which buildings are the most troublesome, she said, "FDH is a maze in itself." The narrow hallways on the upper floors of the Flora Dungan Humanities Building make it hard for her to maneuver her wheelchair. The doors of the copy center and elevators that are often broken are other problem areas for her.

In humorous manor, Moore said she would like readers to know that she is like everyone else, except she has additional obstacles to overcome on a daily basis.

The combination of public acceptance of the disabled as well as total compliance with ADA's regulations would make things such as getting an education much easier for students like Christine Moore.



Fulghum makes 'em laugh and think

by Richard Munson

Best-selling author Robert Fulghum spoke at Artemus W. Ham Concert Hall Tuesday night before a near sellout crowd. Fulghum spoke with a message that really made the crowd think.

Fulghum has written, *All I really need to know I learned in Kindergarten*, *It was on fire when I lay down on it* and current best-seller *UH-OH*. He is working on his fourth book, *Maybe, Maybe not*.

Fulghum has spent his life working various jobs including newspaper boy, ditch-digger, rodeo boy, folk singer and IBM consultant. He related this to each person finding their own place in life.

Fulghum began the lecture while sitting in the crowd in order to draw attention to the stage and what was on it. On the stage was a rubber chicken, which his wife had given him so he could do a serious thing with a little light-heart comedy.

"I hope you go away and say, 'he didn't say anything I already didn't know,'" Fulghum said.

It was a very good thing, he stated, going away and knowing what he had said.

Fulghum began by doing something really dumb—he

sang. But even dumber, he sang without words.

He coaxed the crowd into a rendition of "Eensy-Teensy Spider." The crowd joined along and did only the visual part, also.

"Those of you who didn't know that, when you get home tonight show them what you know," Fulghum joked.

The next twist he added to the spider song was a "Beethoven beat." He and the crowd added a "la-la-la-la-lalaaa...", with the visual movements. After combining the two, Fulghum said laughter was essential to humanity and to never miss that.

Fulghum said his reason for the Beethoven addition was because he had been invited to conduct the Minneapolis Symphony.

"Well, I assumed they knew what they were doing—you just go up there and wave your hands, everybody's had this dream," he said.

The director of the orchestra asked him how well he read symphonic scores and Fulghum replied, "I don't even read music." Fulghum wanted to say what it was they were in deep about, but the crowd already knew.

He said the first night he conducted it was unbelievable.



Robert Fulghum.

"We got through it and it was one of the fastest Beethovens...I saw the faster beats coming up and my adrenaline went up and we were two beats faster (than they should have been)."

Fulghum said he knew it was a religious experience because he saw the first Cellist turn to the first violinist and say, "Jesus Christ."

Fulghum then became serious and even said the turmoil that is taking place on our campus is good for us. He said students have a wonderful learning opportunity with this situation.

As the crowd left the building, Fulghum had them thinking about the university, life, being alone, what they don't know, what they do know and what they know that others might want to know.

YAEGER

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Yaeger responds, "I am less concerned with the perception than with the reality."

Reality for some *Las Vegas Review-Journal* readers is the now famous photos linking Richard "The Fixer" Perry to Rebel basketball players in a hot tub. Reality is the front page story from the same newspaper reporting on an investigation of point shaving by the Runnin' Rebels.

But Yaeger has another opinion.

"The *Review-Journal*," he said, "had a responsibility to Maxson and to Tark and to the players to show those photos before printing them. They should have asked them what was going on. Otherwise, it was an ambush."

As for the point shaving story, Yaeger said a reporter from Channel 3 news has told him point shaving is not the focus of the investigation. According to him, Richard Perry's financial dealings are the central focus.

"The rumors of point shaving were floating around a year ago. The timing of that story's release is interesting," he said.

Still, Yaeger said, as a journalist, both incidents were news and he would not have been against printing either one.

"But there was more to it," he said. "Leaks from a reporter's standpoint are not bad. But when an adminis-

tration in charge of a university is leaking the information, that is horrendous public policy. To use reporters to gain a personal goal you couldn't achieve yourself is wrong."

Yaeger said Maxson and his administration tried to portray Tarkanian as "someone who would do anything to win."

"In trying to achieve that goal," he said, "there was the videotaping and the opening of mail and the leaks to the media. Those people were doing just what they were trying to portray Tarkanian as doing."

Yaeger said both Tarkanian and Maxson knew what was coming with the publishing of his book.

"I interviewed both of them several times and asked every pertaining question," he said. "I did not attempt to surprise anyone when the book was released."

As for the outcome of the controversy, Yaeger predicts that Tarkanian won't coach again at UNLV. He said he doesn't feel Maxson will remain as president much longer. And he said the real shame is that there is a great potential for this sort of thing to happen with any high-profile coach and a university president.

"It's a very volatile situation," Yaeger said. "And it has weakened the leadership of UNLV."

UP AND COMING

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very closely right now and they are eager to find out if the university will maintain institutional control. the outcome of this issue is absolutely critical to the of this school. If those people who are trying to bring down the president and UNLV are successful, a message will have been sent to every institution across the nation that UNLV is not an academic institution and our reputation will have

been severely blighted and is not likely to recover for some time."

One of our own experts and long time faculty member, Distinguished Professor of biological sciences James Deacon, has seen this campus grow in all educational aspects.

"There is no comparison between when we started and now," Deacon said. "We are adding new buildings and programs all the time. The progress

we have made is especially apparent since Robert Maxson took over. There is no doubt he has done the most of all of UNLV's presidents."

Unrue added that, "this is not a fight between two powerful individuals, (Maxson and Tarkanian) it is a struggle over who is going to control this university, the presidents office and administration or the basketball program and athletics."



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