



The Rebel Yell

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Senate president seat contested

Candidate Uri Clinton said Student Government thinks and votes the same, forgetting students in the process.

BY TONYA LOMELO
STAFF WRITER

Students will be asked to vote in the Student Government Senate president primary election Wednesday and Thursday.

Three candidates are vying for the position: Bud Benneman, Willie Romero and Uri Clinton. Benneman and Romero currently hold positions in Student Government while Clinton is new to Student Government.

Benneman is the current Senate president. Beyond holding this position, he previously held positions as Senate president pro-tempore, senator for business and economics and is a registered lobbyist for UNLV.

Benneman, said he believes in "limited government." He assisted *The Rebel Yell* in achieving independence from Student Government and is currently working on KUNV's "divorce." In addition, he has worked on "legislation for accountability" to check grades and the enrollment status of Student Government workers.

As for his lobbying efforts, Benneman is working against the "K-12 versus Higher Education War" which would cut money to the university to fund primary education.

Benneman said he would like to see Student Government involved more with the general student population, possibly through hosting smaller events, like concerts and barbecues in the courtyard, that

Ballot questions seek student involvement

BY THOMAS MOORE
NEWS EDITOR

A new, if not clearly defined, policy will go into effect during this week's CSUN executive elections that will let students voice their opinions.

The policy allows student groups to place survey questions on the ballot to find out what students think, if anything at all, about issues those same groups care about.

The policy is a response to a request from the Young Democrats to help them find topics for a debate they plan on holding later in the semester.

There is no formal procedure for deciding, in case of a conflict between groups, who can get questions on the ballot or what questions will be allowed, but Becky Jo Spray, the elections board director, said the elec-

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used to be put on by Student Government.

"I'd like to see us get back to the basics," he said. He added he would like to see more multicultural events to create awareness among students.

Romero is the current Senate president pro-tempore—Benneman's assistant. He

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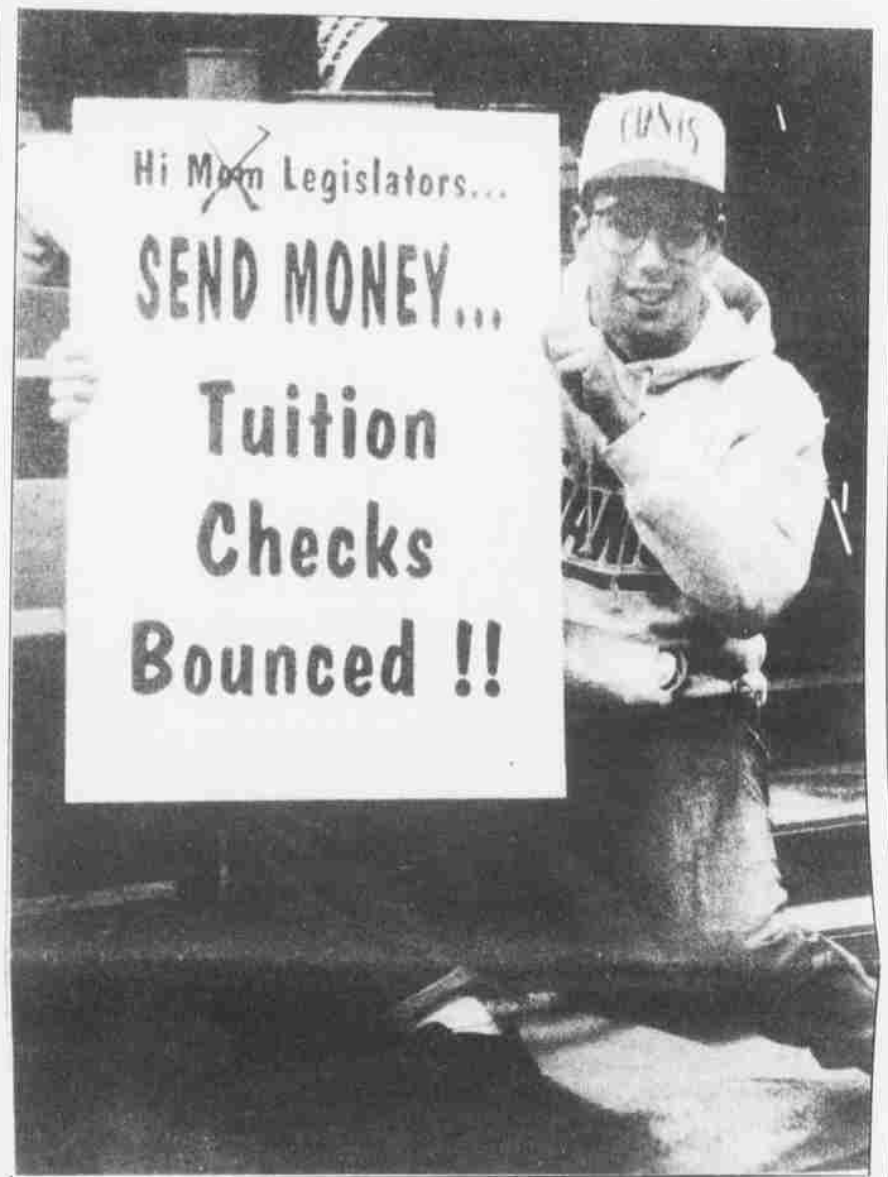


PHOTO BY WRAY HALTERMAN

Anybody listening?

UNLV student Paul Mangual sends a message up north during the UNLV-UNR basketball game Thursday at the Thomas & Mack.

Less than 50 percent of Student Senate actually elected

BY ERIN HIMES
STAFF WRITER

Over 50 percent of students senators have been appointed rather than elected.

Of the 21 senators currently serving, just nine were actually elected. Those nine selected the other 12; the Senate will appoint four more in the coming weeks.

The high percentage is of some concern because it is seen by some as a reflection of student apathy.

Few students run for Senate seats during the election despite the fact the Senate controls a

budget of over half a million dollars and the money for that budget comes directly out of student fees.

Senators are chosen by their respective colleges but seats become vacant when no one runs for them or if a senator leaves the Senate.

Although the most democratic method of replacing a senator would be to hold another election, Student Senate President Bud Benneman said holding an election every time a seat becomes vacant is not feasible.

He said the expenses involved, such as printing and staffing

costs, are far too great.

According to Benneman, there are many reasons why a seat may become vacant, two of which are: a large percentage of the senators work and their Senate duties conflict with their class schedules.

Benneman also said some colleges don't have people that want to get involved. The engineering college has two seats in the Senate and no one ran in the elections, he said.

Brian Allen, president of the engineering honor society, said the lack of student participation is due in part to hectic schedules

many students have.

"The students that we have had in Senate seats in the past have had good intentions," Allen said. "But as they move into their upper-level classes they realize there is a lot of academic pressure."

However Benneman said he believes many students just do not care about getting involved.

"UNLV has become a commuter college, where the students are full of apathy," Benneman said.

Others excused the lack of involvement to an ignorance of what is at stake and a lack of

information.

"Unless something effects you directly, you tend not to get involved," said Eddie Fryatt, a marketing major.

Fryatt said there is not enough material circulated throughout the campus informing the students about the issues being discussed by the Senate.

But according to Benneman there is more than enough notice. Benneman said that the Senate posts its weekly agendas in the humanities and engineering buildings as well as the

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Sparks could fly if recall effort is rekindled

The group trying to recall Regent Carolyn Sparks says its constitutional rights have been violated.

BY CYNTHIA SALINAS
STAFF WRITER

The most recent recall battle may have been lost, but the war to oust Regent Carolyn Sparks is by no means over, according to Gerard Fitzgerald, an organizer of the faction to oust the regent.

Fitzgerald said his group plans to file a writ of mandamus as soon as the proceedings have been transcribed. The writ asks the judge to reconsider his decision.

Fitzgerald, a local businessman, said his interest in removing Sparks is based on the academic policies of UNLV and the way in which students are treated.

President Robert Maxson disagreed. He said Fitzgerald is a Tarkanian supporter and has

been persistent about trying to discredit the academics of UNLV.

Fitzgerald's motivation to oust Sparks has increased since Judge William Beko ruled the third petition invalid. "It is a question of constitutional rights," Fitzgerald said.

"We filed our petition Nov. 2," he said. "We applied the 25 percent formula to the amount of people that voted in the 1990 election. That is how we came up with the number of signatures needed as 10,301. What is cru-

cial is the date. They (Beko) are saying that number is incorrect because we needed to go by the 1992 election. How can we if we filed on Nov. 2? The 1992 election hadn't occurred.

"It takes several weeks for the 1992 ballots to be recorded and validated. If they won't accept 1990 election percentages because we need the 1992 ballots, we ultimately have a period of time we cannot file for a recall which is taking away our constitutional rights."

Regents meeting rescheduled

The University Board of Regents will meet in the Tam Alumni Center Friday and Saturday.

The original meeting, Feb. 18 and 19, was cancelled because of a snowstorm that kept many of the regents, President Robert Maxson and UNR President Joseph Crowley from attending.