

Elections director questioned about ballot items

Senators question elections director for not revealing ballot items prior to the Senate primary. Director says students don't care.

BY THOMAS MOORE
NEWS EDITOR

While the winner of the primary election is the Student Senate's major concern this week, a related election controversy has captured the Senate's attention.

Becky Jo Spray, the Elections Board director, came under fire during Wednesday's Senate meeting for not revealing all of the survey questions on the ballot prior to the election.

Spray was questioned repeatedly by Sen. James Yohe, business and economics, about why the questions were not released. "Why was the ballot such a mystery two days before the election?" asked Yohe.

After the meeting Yohe continued to criticize the way the

questions were handled. "I talked to her two days before and a day before the election and she wouldn't tell me. She wouldn't show me," Yohe said.

Sen. Scott Fisher, business and economics, echoed Yohe's opinion: "I think that there should have been a copy of the ballot at least two days before the election," Fisher said.

The political row was noteworthy in light of comments made Monday by Uri Clinton, one of the candidates for Senate president. Clinton was asked if he knew what the questions were or if he knew why they had not been released.

Clinton replied by describing a meeting of the Young Democrats—a group that supplied at least part of the questions—at which the nature of the questions was known to all present.

"From my understanding it was common knowledge what the questions were and what would be on the ballot," Clinton said. "She (Spray) knew, everyone

knew. They were rough questions but she knew what the areas were."

On Monday, Senate President Bud Benneman, responded to a request by *The Rebel Yell* for a copy of the questions by writing Spray a memo asking that she release them.

The Rebel Yell had repeatedly asked Spray for the ballot questions starting the week before the election but received only an incomplete list one hour before the deadline for Tuesday's issue.

Spray responded to the questioning and said that if the paper had wanted the questions they could have come and gotten them.

"I don't have to give them to *The Rebel Yell*," Spray said.

As to whether other people on campus would be interested in the questions, Spray said people were largely apathetic.

"People know they don't care," Spraysaid. "They don't care. Why Bother?"

Faculty implores governor to save higher education

BY CAROLYN ROSE
STAFF WRITER

The threat of more cuts at UNLV has prompted a letter-writing campaign aimed at the state government.

"Keep the governor from cutting the heart out of UNLV," mandated a flier handed to potential letter writers. The letter writers were being solicited in the Moyer Student Union and were given free stamped envelopes and the names and addresses of their state representatives.

When John J. Swetnam, Faculty Senate chair-elect, announced he would pay for the letter-writing campaign his colleagues passed the hat and volunteered their time to man the table in the MSU lobby.

As a result, at least 300 students and faculty wrote letters to their representatives in the Nevada Legislature to protest UNLV budget cuts.

"To cut back on education now is suicidal. Nevada has relied in the past on sales tax and gambling revenue. Now California can't support us anymore"

Robert Skaggs,
Faculty Senate chair

"We're giving the students and faculty the opportunity to contact their assemblyman or senator and tell them how the budget cuts are affecting them," said Robert L. Skaggs, current Faculty Senate chair.

"To cut back on education now is suicidal," said Skaggs. "Nevada has relied in the past on sales tax and gambling revenue. Now California can't support us anymore."

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issues. She said not a lot was done by the candidates before election day.

Candidate Uri Clinton was positive about the first-day proceedings.

"I think there will be a nice turn-out, better than last election, and possibly as good as

Homecoming, judging from the first day," Clinton said. "I think people are looking for a change in Student Government—new faces and new ideas."

Candidate Bud Benneman said it was "hard to tell" just exactly how the election would turn out.

A campaigner for Willie Romero said a lot of students were voting in this election and the outlook for Romero was good.

Womyn's Festival this weekend

BY CYNTHIA SALINAS
STAFF WRITER

UNLV will host the "Womyn's Festival" Saturday at the Valerie Pida Plaza.

The opening ceremony for the festival begins at 9 a.m. with Yolanda King scheduled as the keynote speaker.

Some of the activities scheduled include workshops covering topics like writing poetry

and becoming autonomous in the '90s.

Shellie Michael, of the Womyn's Festival organizing committee, described the festival as an exciting opportunity for the community to come together with the university students and staff to celebrate women.

Although Michael said the festival will recognize the contributions women have made to society and to present informa-

tion and entertainment of particular interest to women.

"Everyone is welcome this is not just for women," Michael said.

All-day children's activities are also scheduled in the child care tent.

The festival is scheduled to end at 5:30 pm on Saturday.

The Rebel Yell

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UnityFest draws students and faculty

BY CAROLYN ROSE
STAFF WRITER

Hundreds of UNLV students were drawn to Wednesday's UnityFest in the Valerie Pida Plaza attracted by international foods, crafts and music.

Sponsored by the MSU Student Program Council, campus international service groups and UNLV Residential Life, the second annual UnityFest was a multicultural celebration that featured 20 display tables and seven performing groups.

Students and faculty strolled through the plaza in front of MSU sampling Navajo sweetbreads, Indian curry, Filipino pansit (noodles), Hawaiian teriyaki chicken, Belgian waffles, and German kirschtorte, as well as many more familiar international dishes.

Members of the Student Organization of Latinos displayed steaming enchiladas. Ricardo Reyna said SOL's proceeds from the sale would help the group with recruitment of area Latino high school students.

The Native American Students Association sold jewelry and tickets for a Navajo rug raffle. For them, UnityFest was a fundraiser for the Native American Spirit Award banquet to be held in April.

Members of the Nihongo Club, selling chicken and vegetables, typified the multicultural mood of the festival because they are American students learning Japanese. However, six members are Japanese natives. "We help them with English, and they help us with Japanese," said Tom Stewart, president of the club.

Members of social several so-

rarities sold Italian, French and American lunches.

The Korean Students Association volunteers were barbecuing beef strips on wooden sticks. According to John Yoon, spokesman for the group, about 60 percent of Korean students at UNLV are in the College of Hotel Administration and are interested in international travel.

Three members of the Las Vegas Scots Pipe Band played Amazing Grace before an enthusiastic audience at the festival's 10 a.m. opening. One of the group's members, John Santolucito, works in environmental research at UNLV.

The pipes were followed by mariachi and Dixieland bands. Filipino, Indian, Native American and Polynesian dancers performed throughout the festival.



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Monday: 6 - 8 p.m. (Open)
8 p.m. - 12 a.m. (Intramurals)

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Monday: 1 - 3 p.m. (Open)

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