



The Rebel Yell

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Hopes of university budget restoration draw mixed reviews

It won't be known until May if the UNS budget will be restored to its previous 20.4 percent.

BY CAROLYN ROSE
STAFF WRITER

The first round of Nevada State Legislature hearings on higher education are now closed, and lawmakers will soon make decisions affecting the university system's share of the state budget.

Student Body President Joel Kostman arrived home late Friday night from Carson City



and said, concerning the budget, "We're very confident that we're in a much better position than when the governor first introduced the budget."

Kostman said, although there is not much money left over from other areas, the legislators are looking favorably on the university.

Board of Regents Chair Carolyn Sparks shares Kostman's optimism.

"If money becomes available, we (the university system) are the first in line to get any of the new money," Sparks said.

There is concern over getting ahold of any new money in the budget because the university system's share of the state budget, formerly 20.4 percent, had been cut down to 17.6 percent.

"Our request is to restore the base budget, to get back to 20.4 percent," Sparks said. "We will keep the pressure on for every nickel we can get."

Sen. Bob Coffin, D-Las Vegas,

and Regent Shelley Berkley sounded less optimistic in their recent comments.

Referring to the current legislative session as a "tough year," Berkley said it will take time to recover from its effects.

"The governor dealt us a harsh blow when he presented his budget to the Legislature with the drop to 17.6 percent," Berkley said. "In my analysis, it will take us years to recover this difference because the lost money will be reallocated and will then be very difficult to get away from other entities."

Coffin, a member of the Senate Finance Committee, called

the Friday casino revenue report for February, "real discouraging" which in turn may effect the allocation to the education budget.

"We saw a decline statewide. That's unfortunate," said Coffin, referring to the fact that Nevada is not taking in as much money as last year.

Coffin said the state's sales tax revenue report for February will be out at the end of this week, and the March results will be known in May.

"We'll have to wait until mid May to determine of revenue projections are different," Coffin said.

Athletes must make the grade

Beginning next fall, student athletes will have to maintain a 2.0 GPA to remain eligible.

BY ERIN HIMES
STAFF WRITER

When students enter the athletic program at UNLV they are given specific academic guidelines to follow, but sometimes a student can get by.

"UNLV has performed adequately in following guidelines," said James Kitchen, associate dean of Student Development. "But we have to become more consistent as a whole."

Currently, the NCAA does not have grade point average guidelines set for athletes. Kitchen said it is up to each athletic department to set the requirements for its players.

According to NCAA compliance officer Jaina Preston, the Intercollegiate Athletic Council is just now setting up new guidelines for student athletes. As of fall 1993 athletes will have to retain a cumulative GPA of 2.0 to stay eligible.

UNLV's golf coach Dwaine Knight has a 2.75 GPA set for his players. "It is a matter of accountability," Knight said. "As a coach I provide my players with a solid foundation to work on. I provide them with a list of guidelines to follow and if they don't, there are penalties imposed."

Assistant Sports Information Director Tommy Shepherd said he agreed with Knight.

"The students need to be held responsible," Shepherd said. "A coach and his assistants can do everything short of attending class for them, but if they're not going to make progress toward their degree then they won't play,

and that is what happened to J.R. Rider.

"When athletes come to UNLV they are given academic criteria to follow. And if they don't abide by these rules and keep their grades up, then we will provide them with the means necessary to stay eligible, but it is up to them to get their degree."

Knight's program follows the same principle. If one of his eight players does not attend class or keep his grades up-to-par then they do not play. "It is as simple as that," Knight said. "I will not tolerate lack of performance in my players."

Despite the alleged lack of control over Rider, Shepherd said Basketball coach Rollie Masimino is very sincere in stressing the importance of academics.

"Just look at his record at Villanova," he said. "His graduation rate was 62 out of 62 players; that is a very reputable figure. What it all comes down to is the dedication and goals of the students."

Women's assistant basketball coach Howie Landa, who is responsible for 13 players, said women are more inclined to study and abide by rules because there are no women's professional basketball leagues for them to pursue out of college.

"It's not because the women's program is better," Landa said. "It's just that women are more disciplined in their study habits. In our program we have a 95 percent graduation rate—that's incredible."

Additionally, Landa is very adamant about the women attending class and study hall. Landa talked of an episode where the coaches decided to keep two of their starters out of the NIT

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PHOTO BY ROB WEIDENFELD

Hoppy Easter

Children from St. Jude's Ranch receive free candy from the Easter Bunny Saturday at an Easter egg hunt sponsored by Sigma Chi.

Architecture students are leaving

Lack of accreditation is causing many to seek other universities.

BY STEPHANIE PENNER
COPY EDITOR

Architecture students are frustrated—so frustrated many have decided to leave UNLV.

They're leaving because the architecture program isn't accredited and won't be until it overcomes its major obstacle—it must be housed in its own building.

Planning of the building was postponed because of a ruling that said the professors who won the design contract should not have participated in the competition because of inherent conflicts of interest.

The deadlock the architecture program now finds itself in has caused six graduate students to leave UNLV, according to Odeh

Program doesn't meet standards

BY STEPHANIE PENNER
COPY EDITOR

Accreditation of the architecture building has hit a brick wall.

In order for the program to become accredited it must meet certain criteria set by the National Architectural Accrediting Board. Currently, the program doesn't meet at least three of those criteria.

The architecture program must become its own college—as of now it is listed under the College of Engineering. Senior Vice President and Provost John Unrue said the architecture program will become autonomous sometime within the next academic year.

There must be 5,000 volumes in the program's library. According to one student, there are about 3,000 books. Unrue also confirmed this fact.

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Kheir, a graduate student.

Kheir said there were eight graduate students—four have stopped coming to school, two

transferred to Oregon University, one will graduate in December.

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