



The Rebel Yell

April 22, 1993

THURSDAY EDITION

Volume 16, No. 26

Inside:

NEWS:
Student Health Center reports three HIV cases - 2

SPORTS:
Spring alumni football game is Saturday - 5

TEMPEST:
Student filmmaker completes sci-fi project - section 2

Governor tabbed to speak at commencement ceremonies

Faculty Senate approves a plan that will allow foreign students admittance to UNLV.

BY CYNTHIA SALINAS
STAFF WRITER

The Faculty Senate announced Tuesday this year's commencement speaker will be Gov. Bob Miller.

Due to an unprecedented amount of graduating seniors, the Senate commencement committee predicts a lengthy



commencement.

"We expect it to be a long ceremony because so

many people are participating in graduation," said Sen. Don Schmiedel, chair of the commencement committee.

The committee expects between 1,600 and 1,800 students to participate in the ceremony.

Schmiedel also announced at the Senate meeting that students can pick up one to five additional

tickets at the registrar's office now until May 12 with a cap and gown receipt.

On May 13, students can pick up a maximum of four more tickets with a cap and gown receipt.

And on May 14 a maximum of four tickets will be made available to the public if there are any left. Students can pick up tickets

at that time also.

"This is only if there are any left," Schmiedel said. "We don't know what the demand will be."

"No one will be admitted into the ceremony without a ticket. There simply will not be a place for people to sit."

"No one will be admitted into the ceremony without a ticket. There simply will not be a place for people to sit."

Don Schmiedel, commencement committee chair

mony without a ticket. There simply will not be a place for people to sit. There are 10,000 seats and they are all taken.

"Next year this will not be a problem. Half of the colleges will graduate in one ceremony and the other half will graduate in another ceremony. It will cut the attendance in two."

In other business, the Faculty Senate unanimously approved a new plan that will admit foreign students into the English as a Second Language program.

The program, which is an intensive English course, will allow foreign students to enter the program with a minimum 400

see FACULTY SENATE page 4

Kostman miffed over alleged comments

BY THOMAS MOORE
NEWS EDITOR

If Robert Ackerman, vice president for Student Services, takes the advice that Student Body President Joel Kostman offered at last night's Senate meeting, a very strange scene could unfold.

"Tell Ackerman he can kiss my butt," Kostman said, apparently upset over comments he claimed Ackerman made criticizing Student Government's lobbying efforts in Carson City.

After the Student Senate meeting, Kostman said Ackerman had complained that members of Student Government weren't

at a meeting of the state Legislature.

"I have no idea what

Joel is talking about," Ackerman said responding to Kostman's statements. "I don't monitor his attendance at meetings. That's not an interest of mine at all."

Kostman said Ackerman may not realize how Student Government uses its resources.

"We spend our time focusing on key legislators," Kostman said. "I wish if Dr. Ackerman has something derogatory to say about my people he'd have the class to say it to our face."

Ackerman wondered why Kostman did not take his own advice. "I'm amazed," he said. "Joel knows where I am... I guess it's ditto to him."

Ackerman said he had seen Kostman at the faculty awards and again near the Humanities building before last week's Student Senate meeting but Kostman never said a word about it.

Kostman found support for his comments among the senators, who in open discussion praised Kostman and other members of Student Government

"Tell Ackerman he can kiss my butt"

Joel S. Kostman

see MIFFED page 7



PHOTO BY ROB WEIDENFELD

Bill, Hillary and Kermie

The portrait of the three notables above is part of the 1993 Annual Juried Student Exhibit, juried by Alexis Smith. The art will be on display through May 7 at the Donna Beam Fine Art Gallery.

Women's Center gets \$1 million donation

BY THOMAS MOORE
NEWS EDITOR

The UNLV Women's Center received a \$1 million donation Wednesday from Jean Nidetch, the founder of Weight Watchers International.

Half will be used to directly support the center and the other half will be used to create a scholarship both of which will be named after Nidetch.

Nidetch talked about the gift, and her life developing Weight Watchers, Wednesday at a press conference announcing the gift. She said that she was happy to donate the money to the Women's Center, not because men don't deserve it but because women have had it so hard.

Nidetch had a personal example of the kind of problems that women have faced in the past.

see DONATION page 7

Minority affairs hearings yield just one complaint

Committee chair attributes low response to hasty scheduling, lack of advertising and apathy.

BY CAROLYN ROSE
STAFF WRITER

The 3000 UNLV ethnic minority students and faculty are apparently satisfied with the quality of their educational and work experience on campus.

During four scheduled two-hour hearings in the last two weeks, only one minority student appeared before a committee designed by the regents to evaluate minority needs. The 12-member committee is composed of UNLV faculty, students and administrators.

The single complaint heard came from a black graduate stu-

dent who claimed he was told his temporary position as a custodian was terminated because of budget cuts. Later, however, he says he found that several non-minority co-workers were not terminated.

During another session, a part-time faculty member filled out a questionnaire but did not speak before the committee.

John P. Lujan, Ethnic Minority Affairs Committee chair, attributed the low-key response to a combination of factors including minimal advertising and hasty scheduling of the hearings as well as apathy among members of the university community.

"Maybe they're tired of airing their concerns," Lujan said.

Committee member Robert Ackerman, vice president for Student Services, said, "People who are experiencing difficulties

are those who should speak up. We tried to make a good-faith effort to act proactively."

Ackerman said the university could be criticized at some time in the future for not doing enough toward hearing minority complaints.

"It's inevitable that somewhere down the road there's going to be an issue, and the university will be blamed," he said.

Lujan and Ackerman were the only committee members to attend the four sessions, although all were invited. One other member briefly attended the third session, another member attended the fourth, and one member sent word of a scheduling conflict prohibiting his attendance.

Lujan surmised that the general attitude of the committee

see HEARINGS page 7

WE
OUS
TOGETHER

"The question now is, 'Can we build on that?'"