



# The Rebel Yell

April 29, 1993

THURSDAY EDITION

Volume 16, No. 28

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## Student insurance rates could rise next year

Health Committee is working with Blue Cross to determine the amount of next year's increase.

BY CYNTHIA SALINAS  
STAFF WRITER

Though students have begun registering for the fall semester, the question of how much next year's insurance will cost is still unresolved.

The university currently car-

ries Blue Cross Blue Shield which services over 1,000 students, who pay \$192 a semester or \$384 a year for coverage. However, if Blue Cross remains the insurance company of choice, those amounts will change.

"There is going to be an increase in the rate," said Mike Kennedy, a member of the Health Services Committee. "We're working with them on how much the increase will be."

Blue Cross is the fifth insurance carrier UNLV has used in the past seven years.

"When we take bids from companies for the first time their bids are very competitive with one another," Kennedy said. "What usually happens is after that first year with the company they end up paying out more than they make in profits from their premiums, so then they want to drastically increase their rates."

"We have been able to get lower rates because of the turnover and because UNLV, the University of Maryland and a few other schools share a policy. The more

people in the plan, the cheaper the rate. If we wanted a policy only for UNLV the cost for students would be a lot higher."

Many may think the problem could be solved by simply continuing to switch companies.

"It's not that easy," Kennedy said. "Eventually no one will want to bid. Not only that, but a bidder may ask to see the previous year's records. When they see the previous insurance company was in the negative they may not want to put in a bid."

In reducing the turnover rate,

the Student Health Committee has proposed that UNLV switch to a two-year contract instead of a one-year contract.

"This could keep the rates lower, because the bids may be more competitive knowing they will have a two-year agreement with an increase incorporated into the contract," Kennedy said.

The Health Services Committee is trying to have things wrapped up by next Friday. The Board of Regents will make the final decision on who the insurance carrier will be for students.



PHOTO BY ROB WEIDENFELD

### Kill who?

Local attorney Ed Bernstein (third from left) leads the debate "Let's Kill all the Lawyers" during the Town Hall meeting Tuesday night.

## Debate team members cover various topics at forensics night

MTV's depiction of women and rhetoric of Hillary Clinton were among the speeches presented by the team.

BY CAROLYN ROSE  
STAFF WRITER

Four members of the UNLV forensics team and a Communication Studies 101 student presented speeches Tuesday night in Wright Hall before an audience of about 50 students and faculty.

Forensics team captain Cynthia Salinas presented her national award-winning communication analysis focusing on Sut Jhally's "Dream World," an educational documentary concerning MTV's depersonalization of women. Salinas, a senior, attended 15 tournaments this year and won 20 awards.

In her presentation, which placed second in the American Forensic Association National Individual Events Tournament recently, Salinas examined the effects of MTV on male viewers in the 12-34 age group.

Gerry Lynn Hardcastle, who won fifth place in the Delta Sigma Ro-Tau Kappa Alpha national tournament this year, spoke on the rhetoric of Hillary Rodham Clinton.

Hardcastle said, "Clinton has been called everything from the most powerful woman on earth to 'Hell in a headband.'"

She said the press has termed Clinton a "superwoman" and "trailblazer," and that Clinton is more than the first lady. "She is on an equal level with Bill," said Hardcastle.

Calling her a hero, Hardcastle listed Clinton's traditional values, her patriotic vision and her love for America as defining characteristics.

A dramatic interpretation based on Cynthia Heimel's "A Girls Guide To Chaos" was presented by Diana Pop. In her humorous presentation, Pop examined dating, calling it "a time of panic and pretentiousness." Aspects of dating including hand holding, choice of clothes, hair-styling, make-up, small talk and falling in love were examined.

Sarah Mason's prose interpretation centered around "A Bad Man is Easy to Find" by M. J. Verlaine. The performance portrayed a girl's evolving expectations about men, set against an aunt's humorous admonitions.

Brooke Lancaster, the only speaker not a member of the UNLV forensics team, gave a persuasive speech on the subject of rape. Lancaster, who was chosen for the program because of her performance in the Communication Studies 101 Speechfest, discussed facts and myths about rape.

## Maxson supports funding of 'Yell'

Amid accusations of sexism, Senate approves funding for designated driver program.

BY THOMAS MOORE  
NEWS EDITOR

President Robert Maxson promised *The Rebel Yell* money and freedom when he made a surprise visit to the Student Senate meeting Wednesday.

His visit was sparked by the recent approval of a resolution that reduces the funding for *The Rebel Yell* over a five-year period. Maxson said the paper would not lack in funding.

"It is my understanding that the student newspaper may have trouble making it without money," Maxson said. "I am absolutely convinced that you cannot have a major university without a strong independent newspaper."

There was some question as to where the new funding would come from. Current funding for *The Rebel Yell* comes from student fees that are funneled through Student Government.

Sen. Jamie Nalder, hotel administration, was concerned about whether any new funding would affect academics.

"One of the concerns some of the students had was that funding would come out of faculty salaries," Nalder said.

Maxson said that it would not happen that way.

"I've got knots all over my head from defending academics," Maxson said. "Not one penny will come from areas like faculty or books for students. I think we have to look at non-state, non-academic funds."

"Well find some stable funding source. And we'll come back and report to you."

In an interview after the meeting Maxson was unsure exactly where the "stable funding source"



would come from.

He said he would oppose funding from the administration, increases in fees or academics.

Maxson did not rule out a proposal that was floated by Sen. Scott Fisher, business and economics, during the Senate meeting when the current resolution was passed.

The proposal would ask the Board of Regents to permanently allocate funds *The Rebel Yell* currently gets from Student Government to the paper.

In other Senate business, 16 requests of funding for various student organizations were debated. Most passed with little discussion, but one request passed only after extended debate.

The funding proposal was for the approval of \$300 for the fraternity Alpha Tau Omega to provide a service that would offer designated drivers for students who overindulged in alcohol.

The point of contention arose when it was asked whether the fraternity was being sexist by originally targeting sororities for its program. There were other concerns about the need for training for the drivers and possible legal problems.

Despite the debate, the item passed with 15 for, two against and one abstention.

During open discussion Sen. James Yohe, business and economics, said the university was suffering from a lack of diversity and that tenure is being decided on the basis of a professor's political correctness.

"My main gripe is academic freedom on campus," Yohe said.

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