

INSIDE !variety!



John Malkovich

THE INDEPENDENT CAMPUS VOICE

THE REBEL YELL



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Isalah Rlder, Jr.

TUESDAY AUGUST 31, 1993

THE UNIVERSITY OF NEVADA, LAS VEGAS

FREE

Graduate student remembered

By GREGORY QUINN
NEWS EDITOR

The UNLV community is still reeling from the tragic death of Srinivas Chirukuri, a graduate student from India.

The 23-year-old student suffered burns in a laboratory accident on the UNLV campus. He was admitted to University Medical Center July 22. He passed away on July 26 at 9:15 a.m.

Chirukuri, of Hyderabad, India, was working at 2 a.m. in the heat transfer lab on an experiment that involved the movement of liq-

uid through porous materials. He was using a laser.

The night custodians found Chirukuri in shock outside the lab. Moments later he collapsed.

Damage to the lab was under \$100.

University Police Chief David Hollenbeck initially investigated the case as a possible homicide.

According to Hollenbeck, Chirukuri claimed he was working alone in the lab when he heard a knock on the door. He said two men pushed him inside the lab. The men said they didn't like foreign students. One threw a liquid

on him while the other set him on fire with a lighter.

Metro's crime lab reported that Chirukuri's clothing contained denatured alcohol and acetone, both flammable substances that were present in the lab where Chirukuri was working. Chirukuri had third degree burns covering sixty percent of his body.

Based on evidence gathered by the Clark County Fire Dept. and the Las Vegas Coroner's office, the incident was downgraded to accidental death.

The FBI, reviewing any possible civil rights violations in the

case, have yet to issue a statement.

Hollenbeck said that in the opinion of the arson unit, "the patterns found in the fire scene were not splatter patterns that would be consistent with a liquid being thrown on you. They were indicative of a spill.

Said Hollenbeck: "The coroner's evidence indicated that the burn damage to the body was also inconsistent with a liquid being splattered because it was too even. It was absolutely symmetrical.

UNLV Police Detective Lonnie Barret said the fire dept.

made the initial determination as to the cause and nature of the fire. Then the coroner's office, in conjunction with the Metro crime lab and fire dept., investigated the manner of Chirukuri's death, whether accidental, intentional or homicidal.

Barret said the amount of work put into the case by the various agencies has been mind boggling. He claimed, "the FBI agents were stunned at how much work was put into the case at this point. I personally have put over 200 hours into the case, 36 of which were

see Accident page 5

Parking changed without notification

By TONYA LOMEQ
STAFF WRITER

Without notification, the Department of Public Safety re-allocated 45 student parking spaces adjacent to Tonopah Hall to faculty parking last week. David Hollenbeck stated the designation change was made "in anticipation of staff parking lost in the dining commons parking lot because of construction on the Student Health Center" which should begin in early September.

The discovery was made accidentally by two members of the University Parking and Traffic Committee, a special committee appointed by UNLV President Robert Maxson to oversee parking regulations and parking related appeals. Committee members Willie Romero and Bud Benneman, who expressed their annoyance at this change which did not go through the committee, noticed the re-allocation while driving through the parking area last week.

According to the Board of Regents Handbook on the establishment of parking zones, classification of parking areas shall be made by university police "after consultation with the parking and traffic committee."

In addition, the Board of Regents Handbook also states that parking changes "may be made and enforced after publication in the student newspaper, campus and faculty staff newsletter, and other communication devices in use on the campus ten days after the first date of notification."

Benneman, student senate president, explained his dissatisfaction, saying although university police were aware of the regulation concerning notification, "the

guidelines were not followed."

David Hollenbeck, director of public safety, defended the action taken to re-allocate the spaces saying that public safety only must consult with the parking and traffic committee, which does not meet over the summer, and "don't need the approval of the committee." He added that publication in the *Rebel Yell* could not happen because the campus newspaper is not published over the summer.

The change came suddenly, Hollenbeck explained, due to the short notice of the necessity. He added that it needed to be done before classes resumed because "it would be harder to change once classes began and students get use to parking in the area."

Benneman criticized Hollenbeck's explanation saying "they knew a long time ago about the construction on the Student Health Center." He also pointed out that a similar incident happened when meters were installed in the circles in front the Donald C. Moyer Student Union and Judy Bailey Theater/Artemus Ham Hall. Again, the parking and traffic committee had no knowledge of those areas being designated to metered parking.

Romero, student senate president pro-tempore, also indicated that faculty are allowed to park in any student area without being ticketed.

Student parking is being pushed further from access to campus buildings while all faculty parking is close, explained Benneman.

Hollenbeck conceded that parking will be more difficult for students because of all the con-

see Parking p. 4

UNLV's Fall line-up...



Our UNLV student body is expected to exceed 20,000 this fall semester.

Last minute lines for both registration and book buying extend far beyond most students patience.

Openings announced for Student Government

By PAUL STUHFF
STAFF WRITER

The Student Government announced openings for over 20 positions at the meeting of the Student Senate last Wednesday. The senate was unable to take up any other business because of the lack of a quorum. Senate President Bud Benneman announced that filing for the 24th Student Senate and the newly-established Rebel Yell Advisory Board would begin on September 1 and end on September 14.

Benneman noted that the seats of the 21-member senate have not yet been re-apportioned among the colleges by student population. The result is that students will be

"filing blind" for the seats, not knowing how many seats will be available for each college. The Senate President said he will meet with officials from the Registrar's office and will "hopefully" apportion the seats by this week.

The Rebel Yell Advisory Board elections will run concurrently with the Student Senate elections. The board was established to oversee the Rebel Yell as an entity independent of the Student Government or the university administration, consequently persons applying for the five-member board must not be affiliated with Student Government or the Rebel Yell.

According to Benneman, the Senate Secretary Chrisie Winkles,

see Openings p. 5

INSIDE:

NEWS: P. 1-5

PERSPECTIVE: P. 6,7

COMICS: P. 8

COUPONS: P. 9

CLASSIFIEDS: P.10

!variety!: P.11-14

SPORTS: P.15-18