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University of Nevada, Las Vegas

Religious cult responds to possible expulsion

BY GREGORY QUINN
NEWS EDITOR

A representative of the Christian student organization known as Campus Advance said they will continue proselytizing students whether or not the group is recognized by the Student Government Organizations Board.

As reported in Tuesday's *Rebel Yell*, the motion to remove Campus Advance will take place at today's board meeting. The Organizations Board oversees all recognized student groups.

In a phone interview, Michael May, a student representative for Campus Advance, said "we'd like to be recognized as a club, but if they choose not to recognize us,

then that's what the school decides to do. We're still going to do what we believe in."

May described Campus Advance as a "a non-denominational Christian group," that tries to "spread the truth of the gospel...(and) the word of Christ across campus. We spread it from person to person on an individual basis as well as a group basis."

He said the group, made up of around 20 UNLV students, is affiliated with the 150-member Greater Las Vegas Church of Christ.

According to some, it is not the group's theology which they question, but the emotional pain inflicted on members who wish to leave.

Gretchen Stamos, Protestant

chaplain at the University Center of Religion and Life, said the group tries to "control who you date, how many hours you sleep, how much time you study, how much time you work; whatever you do the whole day is answerable."

"That's just flat out lies," May said. "Personally, nothing has ever been controlled in my life."

According to Stamos, the psychological manipulation of the group cripples the individual, and those who eventually drop out are in dire need of therapy. She counsels former members who suffer emotional problems after leaving Campus Advance.

"It's very hard to pick people up from that kind of devasta-

tion," Stamos said.

May contended that student members of Campus Advance have adequate in-house counseling for whatever problems they have.

"I don't know who the people are that have come to her," he said. "We have a guy who counsels the members of our group. I know (Stamos) has never contacted him. If she has a concern about the students and how they're counseled...maybe she should talk to him."

May said Campus Advance differs from other groups because of its strict adherence to the teachings of Christ.

"As a Christian group," May said, "I guess we try to iron out a lot of the hypocrisy that has come up through watered down Christianity."

"Basically, instead of just living (from) the bible alone, (we try to) live on other things as well. Man-made teachings. We try to live from Jesus' teachings."

Before the vote to remove is taken today, Campus Advance and those opposed to the group will each get three four-minute sessions to speak. Then the entire board will have an open discussion on the issue for approximately six minutes.

May said he was unfazed by the impending vote. "I'm not worried about it," he said. "We will continue to evangelize the campus."

As for the publicity, May said: "Pretty much everybody knows who I am and who we are already. If they didn't, they'll know now."

UNLV hosts debate tournament

BY TONYA LOMEO
STAFF WRITER

Debate teams from 20 schools nationwide were on the UNLV campus last weekend for the Las Vegas Debates, a NDT (National Debate Topic) tournament, hosted by the UNLV forensics program.

"The attendance at the 1993 Las Vegas Debates—20 schools and 41 teams—is indicative that UNLV is now recognized as a viable NDT program," Barbara Pickering, director of UNLV Forensics, said.

Although UNLV has hosted other tournaments, this is only the second time it has hosted this type of tournament, Rosie Mays, assistant director of Forensics, said. This is also the only tournament the

forensics program will host this year.

In previous years, UNLV had participated in an alternate form of debate called CEDA (Cross-Examination Debate Association). When Pickering took over the program three years ago, she decided to change to NDT, Mays explained.

The two, she said, differ in their resolutions. A plan must be supplied for the NDT debate, and CEDA is mainly a values issue. The transition, seen as successful by Pickering, meant a change in how a debater uses argumentative skills, Mays added.

"Even with the difficulties in changing our program," Pickering commented, "we have received nationwide recognition. In addition, widespread support from other NDT programs is evident with the

size of this tournament."

Attendance for the event is "on par with well established tournaments," Mays said. UNLV's tournament was comparable to a well-known tournament at the University of Kentucky held over the weekend which had 50 teams registered.

NDT tournaments are growing more popular in the west, Mays said. Its popularity in part she attributed to UNLV.

Pickering stated, "People enjoy coming to Las Vegas, both for our tournament and for the entertainment found in this city."

The tournament, which began Saturday and ended Monday, was split into three divisions: senior, junior, and novice.

In the senior division, *Trin-see Forensics pg. 2*



HYUN-HO HAN/ REBEL YELL

Jason Gordon argues his point at the UNLV Debates held last weekend.

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Former hostage to speak at UNLV

STAFF REPORTS

Terry Waite, the Anglican Church envoy who spent almost five years as a hostage in Lebanon, will speak at UNLV on Oct. 25 as part of the Barrick Lecture Series.

Waite will speak on the topic, "The Test of Humanity: Resolving Conflict," at 7:30 p.m. in Artemus Ham Concert Hall.

The event is free, but tickets are required. Tickets will be available at the Performing Arts Center box office at Ham Concert Hall beginning Oct. 16. For more information, call the box office at 895-3801.

Waite, who previously had successfully negotiated the release of hostages on behalf of the Church of England, was himself taken hostage by Shiite Muslims in Beirut on Jan. 20, 1987. He had gone to

Beirut on yet another mission to work toward the release of hostages.

For three and a half years, there was no word on whether Waite was dead or alive. He had simply vanished in Beirut after dismissing his bodyguard to meet a hostage-taking group. The first word of Waite's fate came in September 1990 when hostage Brian Keenan was released and said he believed that the envoy was alive.

Waite remained in captivity until Nov. 18, 1991.

Until recently, Waite was at Cambridge University working on a book about his experience as a hostage. That book, *Taken on Trust*, has just been released by Harcourt Brace & Company.

Waite was born May 31, 1939, in Styal, Cheshire, in

see Waite pg. 2

Ballot results released

The following are the results to last week's ballot questions in the Fall CSUN elections

SHOULD THE UNIVERSITY OF NEVADA SYSTEM RETAIN THE CURRENT GRADE DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM?

YES • 823

NO • 502

ARE YOU IN FAVOR OF A \$40 A YEAR PARKING FEE?

YES • 479

NO • 848

WOULD YOU FAVOR TOTAL DEREGULATION OF CAMPUS PARKING?

YES • 780

NO • 478