

# The Rebel Bell

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## Mass Exodus: Who's Next?

**Athletics: Weaver joins Massimino with resignation. Guinn slights Grgurich, goes interim coach route**

BY PAUL GUTIERREZ  
SPORTS EDITOR

In a bombshell announcement Wednesday evening, UNLV Director of Athletics Jim Weaver announced his intention to resign from his post, effective December 31.

According to President Kenny Guinn, Weaver's resignation prompted Guinn to seek a men's basketball coach on an interim basis rather than hire former Rebel assistant Tim Grgurich.

"In no way would I want to be a part to give the perception that because Jim Weaver has not made a recommendation for Tim Grgurich, that he is no longer serving in his capacity (as athletic director)," Guinn said. "That is just not the case. We will move for an interim coach in some form. We owe it to the young people who are student-athletes here to get somebody and move quickly, and we will do that with great dispatch."

Guinn said Weaver will help in the selection process of an interim coach.

"Hopefully, an interim coach will be here for four or five months and we'll be able to bring in a coach by next March, give him some recruiting time and at least our student-athletes will have a coach on the floor with them and be the same as all the other stu-



A media crush surrounds President Kenny Guinn (L.) and Athletic Director Jim Weaver at a press conference held in the Flora Dungan Humanities Building lobby Wednesday night to announce Weaver's resignation, which will be effective Dec. 31. PHOTO BY HYUN-HO HAN

dent-athletes in America."

According to sources, Grgurich had accepted the job and addressed the team in the afternoon before Weaver delivered his resignation to Guinn.

Guinn said Weaver's resigning forced him to not hire Grgurich. His reasoning? The perception would be that Grgurich's hiring prompted Weaver's resign-

ation.

"That changes everything at this particular point," Guinn said of the resignation. "Now if we sit down and talk tomorrow with people, that's a different story. We've first got to get ourselves restructured. This has all happened in the last two hours.

"Five months is not going to kill this community or kill our

program at this university."

Earlier in the day, Guinn was expected to present the Board of Regents with a contract for approval for Grgurich's hiring after the board's approval of the \$1.88 million buyout of former coach Rollie Massimino.

But Guinn said there was a lack of "chemistry" between Weaver and Grgurich, and that

was why no contract had been signed by the time of the Regents' meeting.

Weaver said the inability to hire a coach had nothing to do with his decision to step down.

"In no way, shape or form did this action have anything to do with the Tim Grgurich situation,"

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## Sheriff Candidate Keller Targets Violent Crimes

BY SEAN DEFRANK  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

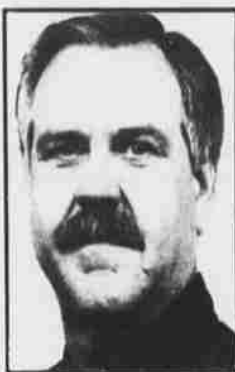
According to sheriff candidate Jerry Keller, if he is elected on Nov. 8, his top priority will be to remove violent crime from the streets of Clark County.

This was one of the issues he discussed last week as he addressed a Greenspun School of Communications newswriting class.

Keller, who has met thousands of people on the campaign trail, said that "what they're afraid of is going to the store at night (and) stopping to get gas at a self-service gas station. They're afraid of sending their kids to school because they don't know who they're going to be confronted by. And we've got to turn that fear around."

One of the ways Keller said he plans to turn this fear around is the combining of intelligence, gang-unit and SWAT-unit resources in combating violent crime.

"We have to go after gang crime, not gangs," Keller said. "There are kids in this community who join gangs for survival. But the ones who commit crimes



Jerry Keller

cannot be tolerated."

Keller said cracking down on juvenile crime will help prevent against future crime. Keller believes juveniles who use guns in the commission of crimes should be prosecuted as adults, regardless if they shot someone or not.

"Sometimes kids don't know where to turn," Keller said. "We have to make sure that those kids who don't have parental structure, don't have a family environment, at least have a positive path. We don't have to grab them and put them on it, but we have to make sure it's there for them once we take out the leadership of the gang crimes."

The path Keller referred to is Youth Diversion, a plan to identify first-time, non-violent juvenile offenders. This program puts the juveniles in counseling and involves getting the child re-established in school and with their parents. According to Keller, only five of the 461 juveniles in the program the first year were found

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## UNLV Settles With Former Women's Athletic Director

**University will pay \$121,000 to avoid legal battle**

BY JEFF DUGAN  
STAFF WRITER

UNLV and former Senior Women's Athletic Director Christina Kunzer-Murphy agreed last week to an out-of-court settlement of her discrimination and breach of contract lawsuit.

In a document signed Oct. 10, Kunzer-Murphy released UNLV from all claims in her lawsuit, in exchange for a payment of \$121,000. She also released the university from all claims related to UNLV's attempt to disqualify her attorney, Kathleen England.

Kunzer-Murphy, now director of marketing for the Las Vegas Stars and Thunder, said "I'm very relieved this is over. It's been the hardest time of my life, other than leaving UNLV."

"I love UNLV," she added, "I

feel horrible that the university has to pay. And believe me, after lawyers fees and other expenses, I will not even see what I would have been paid under my contract."

"Basically the case was settled and dismissed," UCCSN Assistant General Counsel Marc Cardinalli said. "We're just happy it's settled."

Both a UNLV graduate and lifelong Nevada resident, Kunzer-Murphy alleged the athletic department engaged in discriminatory employment practices, particularly when employees were dismissed. She maintained that other male staff members, such as former assistant basketball coach Mark Warkentien and former head football Coach Jim Strong, received considerations not extended to her.

After her salary was made comparable to other male athletic department employees in 1992, Kunzer-Murphy alleged she was pressured into signing a one-year, non-renewable contract. Such a contract customarily signals a termination of employment, providing transition to another job. She said, however, that no explanations were given.

"The crux of the lawsuit is that I felt I was treated differently than male members of the athletic department in the same situation," Kunzer-Murphy said.

She also accused UNLV of breach of contract, citing a stop-payment on the remainder of her one-year contract, when she moved to California's University of the Pacific.

England, who is also chair of the Las Vegas Ethics Review Board, added that Kunzer-Murphy's contract contained a clause specifically stating no other provisions existed. She said UNLV's refusal to pay the remainder of Kunzer-Murphy's salary suggested undisclosed secret conditions not set forth in the contract, and was clearly at variance with the clause.

Kunzer-Murphy remains puzzled by the behavior of Athletic Director Jim Weaver and former UCCSN General Counsel Brad Booke. "To this day, no one has sat down with me and explained the

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