

The Rebel Dell

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City Mourns Slain Police Officer

UNLV grad gunned down on NLV street

BY THOMAS K. LACY
STAFF REPORTER

While many people strive to make a difference in the world in which they live, few ever do. Raul Elizondo, a North Las Vegas police officer killed this week is being praised as one who did.

Early Monday morning Elizondo's life was tragically snuffed out by a lone gunman in North Las Vegas. His death has left the city in mourning, and the police community badly shaken by the

lose of one of their own.

Elizondo, who graduated from UNLV in 1991 with a degree in business and marketing, entered the police academy in Carson City shortly after graduation.

Just three years later, Elizondo was named the 1994 North Las Vegas Police Department's Officer of the Year—the department's highest honor—for pursuing, tack-

Faculty Establish Scholarship on Behalf of Former Student

BY THOMAS K. LACY
STAFF REPORTER

The UNLV Marketing Department decided Wednesday to establish a scholarship in memory of slain North Las Vegas police officer, Raul Eli-

zondo.

Elizondo, 27, was a 1991 UNLV business and marketing graduate who will be honored with a scholarship bearing his name beginning next

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Elizondo encountered a man who police described as shouting and making obscene gestures on a quiet, residential street.

After stopping the man, whom police have declined to identify, a struggle ensued. The man

wrestled Elizondo's gun away and shot the police officer, fatally wounding him.

Elizondo was able to radio for

help after being shot and North Las Vegas officers caught up with the man and pursued him. After a running gun battle through the streets of North Las Vegas, the gunman eventually turned the gun on himself, firing a single shot to his head. He died immediately.

Fellow police officers, friends and former teachers have praised Elizondo for his bravery and dedication to his profession.

James Cross, Chairman of the Marketing Department, recalled having Raul Elizondo as a student during the 1989-90 academic year.

"He was a quietly aggressive

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Recent Sexual Assaults Threaten Campus Safety

Staff put on alert over incidents

BY J. HAMILTON
STAFF REPORTER

Within the past week, there have been three incidents of sexual assault in the campus library, according to university sources.

It began with a flasher who revealed himself to a female student. The next day, a young man, carrying an empty backpack, reached under a desk and grabbed another female student. On the third day, a masturbator was caught and expelled from the library.

Melody Polson, student circulation assistant, was upset by what could be perceived as a lack of concern by University Police, other library staff and the student body in general.

Polson and the students assaulted were frustrated by the performance of campus police regarding the incidents. In the case where the woman was groped, Polson says that the offender could have been caught if the officers would have arrived earlier. She even followed the suspect, attempting to delay him. He managed to slip by police, who, depending on the source, arrived 10-15 minutes too late.

"If we don't move to protect,

then are we condoning the behavior on some level?" Polson commented.

Sgt. Rochelle Sax disagrees with Polson. According to the police dispatch log, the first officer arrived on the scene approximately three minutes after receiving the call. The log also showed three officers and UNLV Director of Public Safety David Hollenbeck arriving over the next four minutes. Sax explained why it took longer to get to the victim.

"Because there was no need for medical attention for the victim and the officers were given a description of the assailant, it was necessary to first secure the area and do an ATL (attempt to locate)."

Sax also had a different angle on the recent happenings. The library is a focal point on campus for criminal activity because of the non-students who use the facility, the late hours it is open and the many exits.

"There is cause for concern, but not fear," Sax added, main-

Tips for the Concerned
Recent events suggest there is a cause for concern about personal safety on campus. Here is a list of tips for the student concerned about crime on campus.
Report any suspicious activity by picking up a blue emergency phone, located in most campus locations.
Watch out for yourself and each other.
Walk in groups. Avoid walking alone.
Become familiar with campus surroundings, especially the ones you normally take.
For more information about crime prevention, contact Sgt. Rochelle Sax at University Police.

taining that the most common crimes reported are stolen property, not sexual assault. Student security is there from late afternoon to midnight, although they do not carry anything but a radio. They are considered the "eyes and ears" of the police, calling for help in any threatening situa-

tion, but instructed never to confront any suspects themselves.

Police said this university is either very well protected or very lucky, because in relation to other major colleges in the United States, UNLV has less incidents of sexual harassment or assault reported each semester. But in that case, reporting the crime is the key. Many cases do not even get reported, because the victims realize the unlikelihood of locating and prosecuting suspects.

One female student signed a statement for the authorities in case her assailant was apprehended, but said that it simply is

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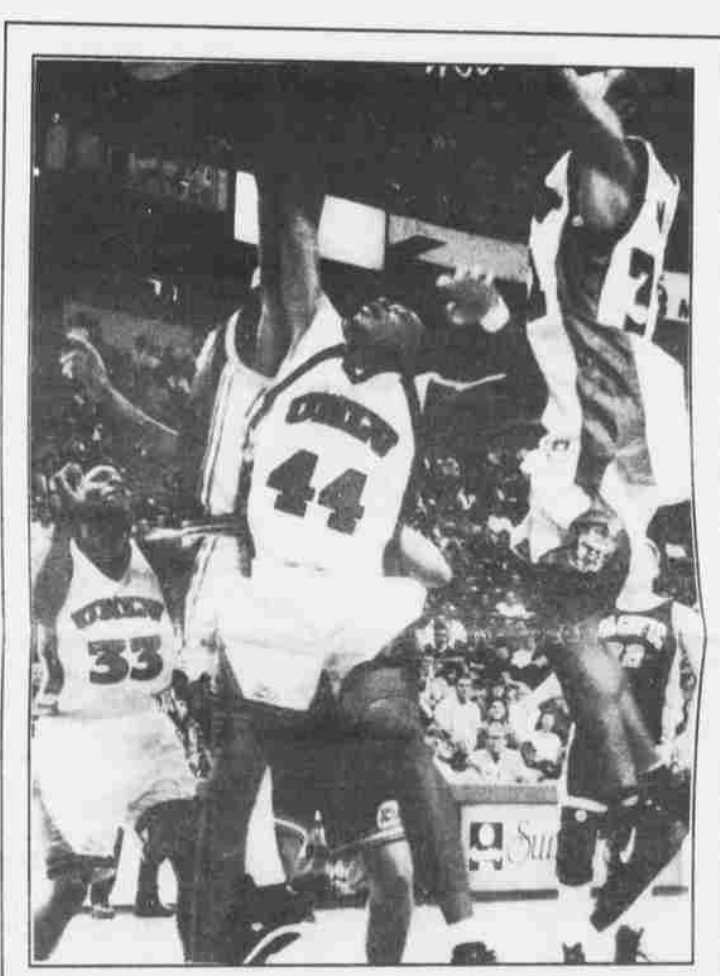


PHOTO BY HYUN-HO HAN
Kebu Stewart is averaging a Big West best 10.7 rebounds per game. The Rebs travel to Southern California this weekend. Please see SPORTS—11

Meet the Presidential Candidate

Students are invited to meet UNLV presidential candidate Carol Harter in a question and answer session Friday morning. Space will be limited to 30 students.

To reserve a seat, please call Stephanie Boixo at 895-3645.

Fed Attorney Calls for Tough Stance on Crime in 1995

Continued support is needed for new crime bills to be effective

BY SHARON GERRIE
STAFF REPORTER

John Schmidt, U.S. Associate Attorney General, spoke to a mixture of UNLV students and local lawyers Thursday.

Schmidt used this speaking arena to encourage continuing support for the Violent Crime and Law Enforcement Act of 1994, of the Crime Act, that became law last year. He was very candid in explaining the new Republican controlled Congress has some concerns about the act as written. Schmidt said a revised edition of

the act is in the process of coming toward the Senate and any watering-down of the language will significantly impact the effectiveness of the law.

One area, however, Schmidt said would invoke an automatic veto from President Clinton would be elimination of the ban on 19 types of assault weapons. "That is one issue where the president has taken an absolutely firm position. It's beyond politics."

The Crime Act, as it is written, has three main components: policing, expansion of prisons and prevention programs.

"The policing phase will expand, enhance and improve policing in this country," Schmidt explained, adding that this section carries a community policing clause that will rekindle the "cop on the beat" program. Schmidt said police shouldn't wait for the calls to come in to respond to a community. They should be

a presence in neighborhoods, get to know the people and give them a chance to know the police. "It is critical that the policing section of the act stand as is. It is the single most important part of the Crime Act."

The second phase of the Crime Act deals with expansion of existing prisons and funding new prisons. The act supports a process called "truth in sentencing." Under this plan convicted felons will be required to fulfill 85 percent of their sentences before becoming eligible for parole or early release.

Third, the Crime Act addresses prevention programs. These programs include Drug Court, a system where persons arrested on drug offenses will be sentenced to treatment programs, half-way houses and continued aftercare instead of prison where the likelihood of drug use would resume.

Also included in this phase are Community Relations Services, a mechanism to mediate potentially violent situations; a program to assist abused women and youth oriented programs to discourage participation in gangs. "Chicago now has a midnight basketball program that helps keep juveniles off the streets," Schmidt offered. "It's a very successful program. We hope with the new funding into this type of thing that other such programs will emerge."

When asked about the "boot camp" programs and possible decriminalization of some now illegal drugs, Schmidt indicated that the Justice Department research did not see "boot camps" as a strong rehabilitation tool and there is no support for the decriminalization of some illegal drugs.

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