

"Expanding Your Horizons" Comes to UNLV

BY GENA BERLETT
STAFF REPORTER

Approximately 400 girls will come to UNLV for the annual "Expanding Your Horizons" in Science and Math Conference, scheduled for March 11.

Girls in grades six through 12 will attend the conference, designed to meet the specific needs of each age group.

According to Kathy Lauckner, a quality assurance specialist at the Harry Reid Center who co-chairs the event with Joyce Nelson-Leaf, director of the Education Equity Research Center, the goal is to "reach the female population in schools to get them interested in science and math, putting the girls in a forum absent of 'peer pressure.'"

According to the brochure on the event, the aim is not only increasing young women's interest in math and science, but also to foster awareness of career opportunities for women by providing them with an opportunity to meet and form personal contacts with women in nontraditional occupations. It also points out that not all occupations in Las Vegas involve casinos and ho-

tels.

Over 30 workshops are scheduled for the group to help arouse interest in science and math related careers. Some of the workshops are "Romancing the Stone-Geology," "Electric Auto Repair-An Electrifying Career" and "A Business of My Own-Entrepreneurship." All of the workshops have hands-on training available.

"The best thing about the workshops is the hands-on opportunity to see what people really do in that occupation," Lauckner explained, "(from) the tools they use to the experience the job offers."

Organizations that help every year with the conference include groups like: the American Association of Business Women, the Society of Women Engineers and the Professional Black Women's Alliance. These and other sponsors have all volunteered their time to the conference.

Lauckner and her co-chair expects the event to be "a wonderful conference. It is one of the best extracurricular activities a young girl can do, sponsored by UNLV, and should be promoted by the Clark County School District

more than it has. This is also a good opportunity for girls to find out that not all jobs in Las Vegas are hotel-based. We hope that the children come away from the conference with the knowledge that there is more open to them."

Girls regularly stop taking math and science courses at an earlier age than boys, according to a UNLV press release memo. The long-term effect of that sudden disinterest is that girls have less career opportunities open to them.

The "Expanding Your Hori-

zons" Science and Math Conference is an effort by many women to ensure that girls will have more exposure to those areas. According to the press release, minority girls are becoming involved as a result of intensive recruiting efforts to bring them to the conference.

Parents and teachers are also scheduled to attend the adult portion of the conference. Lauckner stated that "parents or guardians are welcome at the conference."

Many local businesses have

helped with the expenses such as: Desert Research Institute, EG&G Energy Measurements, Inc., and Port of Subs. Others include the Dwight D. Eisenhower grants through the Math/Science Act, the Nevada State Department of Education, and the Department of Energy grant through the Nevada Department of Education.

Approximately 60 volunteers are needed for the event, especially math majors. If you would like help out, please call Kathy Lauckner at 895-1423.

Alumni Association Offers Scholarships

BY SHARON GERRIE
STAFF REPORTER

The UNLV Alumni Association offers scholarships to full-time students who meet the requirements for funding.

Last year the alumni association gave \$177,000 to UNLV and its students, bringing the level of contributions to \$350,000 since 1968.

According to Carl Cook, assistant director of alumni relations, the association does several things. "We act as a liaison between the university and the graduates. We help with legislation and development to better fund the university."

Cook also pointed out the association built the amphitheatre

and gives money to various campus organizations.

"We offer 'Skill Search,' Cook continued, "which is one of the alumni benefits. It allows a graduate to get on a computer system for job searching nation wide."

He also mentioned the awarding of scholarships to UNLV students. "This year we awarded \$42,000. Each year the scholarship amounts vary depending on the success of our fund raising."

The scholarships awarded for 1994-95 are as follows:

- Art Scholarship—\$500 per semester.
- Rotating Department Scholarships—20 awarded each year at \$500 per year.
- Graduate Scholarships—two awarded at \$1,000 each year.

- Bilbray Scholarship—amount varies.

- Honors Program—number and amounts vary.

- Graduate Art Scholarship—two awarded each year, \$1,000 per semester.

- Child of Alumni Scholarships—three awarded each year at \$1,000 per year.

- Orange County Scholarship—tuition waiver for applicants from Orange County, Calif.

- Outstanding Thesis—awards \$200 yearly.

- Student Alumni Association Scholarship—awarded \$5,000 yearly.

- Strand Scholarship—one per year of \$1,500.

Students wishing to apply for scholarships for the 1995-96 term should go to the financial aid office. Alumni association scholarships are on the general scholarship application.

For more information on these scholarships, please call Student Financial Services at 895-3424.

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