

# Catch a Wave and Surf the 'Net

BY THOMAS K. LACY  
STAFF REPORTER

While most UNLV students are stuck attending classes on campus, one group regularly takes excursions to the United Kingdom, Italy and Taiwan.

No, they don't actually go to these countries. Their passport to travel is "INFO-TECH-Gophers, Wizards, W.O.R.M.'s & More," an Honors seminar designed to teach students about Internet by having them complete assignments that take them to destinations both here and abroad.

While the primary focus of the newest addition to the program is exploring a variety of information technologies, professor Leslie Cummings said using the Internet is an important part of the class.

Assignments for this cutting-edge class range from E-mailing assignments to Cummings, to developing the skills enabling successful navigation on the Internet.

Additionally, students are required to take Internet "excursions." The following are some sample excursions: sending E-mail to Rome; reading news groups from Chile; searching for jobs in South Africa or checking out the University of Innsbruck in Austria.

Cummings said developing the structure for the innovative class was difficult because she wanted to introduce students to so many new technologies.

To aid in the scaling down of the class to a workable schedule, Cummings asked herself, "what is something students can take with them, what would have meaning in both their professional and student lives, and what would be something that I, as an educator, would like to learn?" This is where the idea for using the Internet came to her.

While some in class are regular "Internet surfers," a few had never used the 'Net before enrolling in Cummings' class.

The timing appears to be right for the introduction of a class dealing with the Internet at UNLV. Last year, roughly 2,500 students and faculty had accounts with UNLV System Computing Services. This year that figure has reached approximately 4,500, said Jason Watson, a user liaison for SCS.

The increasing number of computer accounts at UNLV appears to be consistent with a nationwide trend of computer usage in higher education.

According to a recent *Newsweek* poll, 75 percent of Cornell students and 60 percent of Penn State students reported owning PCs by the time they went to



PHOTO BY STEVE HOBBS

Leslie Cummings watches while Brian Heinz navigates the Internet.

college.

It is becoming increasingly common for college dorms to be equipped with hookups for student computers as well as the traditional phone and cable television jacks. Some universities, including Dartmouth, require incoming freshman to own personal computers.

A growing number of universities are embracing the new technology, and in doing so, are charting new areas for other schools to follow.

A case in point: Northwestern University library has begun a project called the "Electronic Reserve." In this program, images, past examinations, text and other information are made available through a computer network which students may access using their personal computers.

Asked to account for the surge in popularity of the Internet, Watson surmised the barrage of media coverage of the information superhighway is the primary factor.

Watson felt that more students are aware of the advantages of having a computer account. "One of the main uses is if you have a computer at home you can ac-

cess the library system 'Neon,'" Watson said. "By using 'Neon,' students can do most of their research at home and then only go to the library to pick up the final materials they decide on."

Watson, who specializes in working on Macintosh computers, said he often gets information about the systems by going on-line and accessing some of the many newsgroups on the 'Net.

It is common for commercial carriers to charge users \$20 or more per month, Watson explained, indicating that additional fees incur after a designated number of hours has been used on the Internet. Students and faculty, however, are not charged a user fee because the UCCSN pays for the on-line time.

All students and faculty of UCCSN are able to open computer accounts free of charge. Additionally, Watson said training sessions on the Internet as well as several other computer related areas are offered at no cost to students by SCS.

For more information on Internet or how to obtain an account, please call User Liaison at 895-4585.

## Noted Russian Scholar to Speak at UNLV

Arthur Chilingarov, noted Russian scholar and member of the Russian Legislature, will discuss "America and Russia: Partners for Peace or Rivals" during a presentation at UNLV on March 2.

The talk, which is free and open to the public, is scheduled for 4:30 p.m. in the auditorium of the Marjorie Barick Museum of Natural History. A reception will follow Chilingarov's presentation.

Chilingarov is the author of numerous books in the field of Arctic and Antarctic studies. He was elected to the Russian Legislature (DUMA) in 1994 and serves as vice speaker of the parliament.

Chilingarov's presentation at UNLV is sponsored by the First Interstate Bank Center for International Business and by area Rotary Clubs.

For more information, please call 895-0270.

## Fees

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done about it," he said. "If we don't, 10 years from now there will be not parking on campus."

If Guinn is successful in getting the additional funds and the parking garage is built, it will hold 1,000 vehicles. The garage itself will sit on 400 spaces so there will be a net gain of 600 parking spaces.

Golding said he realizes that students who are seniors this year will not reap the benefits of the \$30 that they will have to pay. "I just hope we're all mature enough now to accept the fact that we have to be proactive and not wait until it's so bad we have to be reactive," he said.

If you have any questions or comments about the parking fee, you can contact Golding at 895-3766 or Student Government at 895-3477.



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## News Briefs

### Forum Lecture: "At Play in the Killing Fields"

The Forum Lecture series continues with feminist scholar Lillian Robinson, who presents "At Play in the Killing Fields: A Guide to Sex Tourism in Thailand" at 7:30 p.m. in Classroom Building Complex A-110 on Tuesday. The lecture is free and open to the public.

Currently a visiting senior scholar in the Women's Research Institute at Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, Robinson is one of the founders of women's studies and feminist criticism in the U.S.

The lecture will cover everything from girlie bars to international banking, looking at the sex tourism phenomenon from a cultural and economic angle.

The College of Liberal Arts sponsors this event, which is underwritten by the UNLV Provost's Office.

For more information on this lecture, please call 895-0837.

### American Cancer Society Sponsors Mardi Gras Benefit

The Foothills Lounge will sponsor the second annual Mardi Gras Benefit to support the American Cancer Society's fight against breast cancer on Saturday at 8 p.m.

Live music and the sights, sounds and tastes of the French Quarter in New Orleans will be the party's theme. Doctor Vortex and the Hurricanes, one of the bands playing, is made up of Foothills Lounge employees.

Foothills Lounge is located at 6125 Tropicana, corner of Jones and Trop. For more information on the benefit, please call the Foothills Lounge at 871-8302. For information on the American Cancer Society, call 798-6877.

### President Kenny Guinn to Speak

The Nevada Faculty Alliance, UNLV chapter, sponsors President Kenny Guinn in a forum on Wednesday at 12 noon in Artemus W. Ham Concert Hall.

The event is open to the public and free of charge. Refreshments will be served. For more information, please call 898-2830.

### Communication Scholarships now available for '95-96

Communications majors, pre-majors and graduate students can now apply for a share of the \$25,000 in scholarships available through the Greenspun School of Communication.

Students must have a cumulative GPA of 3.0 (as of fall semester, 1994) and attend UNLV full-time for both fall and spring semesters.

To apply, students must submit one original plus one copy of the following:  
• Scholarship application form  
• Current UNLV transcript  
• One-page statement of academic and professional goals  
• Optional: class papers, creative projects and resume.

Applications and instructions are available in FDH 452. The deadline for all materials is 5 p.m. on Monday, March 6. Award decisions are made within five weeks.

For more information, please call Erika Engstrom at 895-3639.

### Dealing with Depression Group

Student Psychological Services offers a therapy group every Tuesday from 3 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

The groups is designed to help students learn about depression, how to deal with it and to offer mutual support from others.

For more information, call Jamie Davidson or Alexa Elkington at 895-3627.

### Metro Applications Available

Applications for Police Officer I, Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department will be available on Saturday, March 11.

For Las Vegas Valley applicants: Application available at Cashman Field Complex location, 7 a.m. to 3 p.m., the Southeast Area Command, 2300 E. St. Louis or City of Las Vegas Neighborhood Service Center, 914 W. Owens, from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

For out-of-town applicants: Applications will be available at Cashman Field Complex, 850 N. Las Vegas Blvd., 7 a.m. to 3 p.m.

NOTE: This is the only date, time and locations applications will be handed out. All candidates must meet the following qualifications:

- High school diploma or GED Certificate
- Be 21 years of age by March 11, 1995
- Good health, vision correctable to 20/20
- No criminal conviction that requires registration
- Must be U.S. citizen
- Must have a valid Nevada Class three drivers license at time of hire

For more information, contact the Recruiting Section in the Personnel Bureau at 229-cops.

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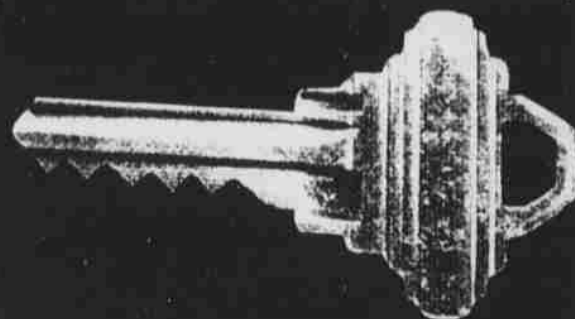
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