

# Elders Emphasizes Access to Health Care, Education

BY BECKY NORRIS  
STAFF REPORTER

Former Surgeon General Joycelyn Elders focused on preventative solutions to health woes when she spoke Thursday at the CSUN sponsored event.

Elders said she would claim the title of condom queen. "If I thought everyone that needed to use one would use it to prevent AIDS, sexually transmitted diseases, and unplanned pregnancies, I'd put the crown on my head and I'd never take it off."

She chatted amicably with everyone sitting near her prior to her introduction. This down-to-earth, Southern woman manifested her work with and concern for children, especially the poor and the powerless in her concerns for the future of the nation as she spoke about health care into the 21st century.

Pushing for rational, reasonable, and responsible solutions to the problems facing youth today, Elders said, "Our children are out in an ocean surrounded by the sharks of drugs, alcohol, homicide, and suicide. We're out on the beach sipping from our fountains of just say no, morally right, and whose values we're going to teach. We're going to have to get on our canoes, get out, get busy and begin to educate our children."

Elders said the only people in America with a right to health care are prisoners. She said she thinks health care is a problem in the United States. If one doesn't agree, she suggested asking people in working in the fast food industry who don't have health insurance, asking people who lost their jobs and insurance, asking people with a cap on their insurance and asking the 58 million people who don't have insurance sometime during the year if there is a health care crisis.

"The power brokers have got to stop acting like little boys playing marbles and really start dealing with the real problems that are facing people," Elders continued.

Controlling the three Ps, Elders said, would help with prevention. Poverty, population, and pollution are all problems that need to be addressed.

"Children are hungry every night in the richest country in the world. We have three to five million children that go to bed hungry."

She continued by discussing the 5H club that poor children belong to: hungry, helpless, homeless, hugless and hopeless. This adds to increasing social and behavioral problems.

Elaborating on increased issues with AIDS and sexuality, Elders said there are a million HIV positive people in the United States, or one in 250. She adds that in the nation's capitol, one in 77 high school students are HIV positive.

"The train is on the track and it's headed in our direction," Elders stated to emphasize the statistics.

Another problem addressed by Elders was violence and guns among the nation's youth. "We must get the tools of violence out of the hands of children," she said. In a nation of 260 million people, there are 211 million guns.

Elders also says that we have the highest abortion rate and the highest teenage birthrate in the industrial world. She still espouses early childhood education as prevention.

"We are a country who feels that if we tell them about it, they'll do it. Well, they're already doing it. We're trying to legislate morals rather than teaching our young people to be responsible."

Elders outlined a plan for prevention. She feels that everyone should have access to health care, primary preventative rather than emergency care. She emphasizes education, including early childhood education. And, comprehensive health education for K-12th grade is still on her list.

"I want to be the voice and vision of the poor and powerless," Elders said.

She also advised her audience not to "forget where you came from. Don't be afraid to ask for help. Don't be afraid to fail."

"I don't consider my not being your surgeon general the end of the road for me," Elders added in closing. "It was really just a bend in the road." Elders said she would keep on fighting for the things that are important to her.

## Merit

continued from 1 many hours studying the evidence in each applicant's case."

As for the professors' sentiments, responses have varied. Some feel comfortable that the process is fair to everyone involved. They have no problem with the 60 percent limit, saying that if it is all for performance, then the best workers will get the rewards. However, some are even suspicious of the selections.

One associate professor, requesting anonymity, says that the process is questionable. "It is hard to say whether anyone gets merit raises fairly or not. How are some people getting a raise

when everyone knows they did not deserve it over someone else?"

Of course there will be grumbling, but most people agree that there is no real alternate process to go to. Right now, most everyone says that merit raises are not blatantly scandalous.

For the most part, everything is done fairly, and if there are any questions, there is always the appeals process, for anyone who felt slighted by their department. It covers much of the same ground that the original process did. An applicant fills out the forms for the selection committee, the committee confers with the dean, it goes to the provost's office, and there the original decision is either upheld or reversed.

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## News Briefs

### Scholarships for American Indian Tribe Members

The Las Vegas Indian Center is offering \$1,000 scholarships to enrolled members of an American Indian tribe for attendance at UNLV or CCSN for the 1995-96 academic year.

Applicants must be Nevada residents (for tuition purposes), have a high school diploma or GED (45 minimum score) or be currently enrolled with a minimum grade point average of 2.0.

Deadline for applying is May 31. Applications are available at Student Financial Services or the Indian Center at 2300 W. Bonanza Road.

### Grant Writing Workshop Offered

MBE Seminars is offering a grant writing workshop from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Wednesday, May 17 at the Fairfield Inn by the Marriott, 3850 Paradise Road.

Educators, program managers, foundation and non-profit directors that need a strong grant proposal for funding their programs are encouraged to attend. Tuition for the one-day event is \$79.

For more information, please call 367-7330

### Cinco de Mayo Celebration

The UNLV Student Organization of Latinos, MECHA and SHPE, invites the public to enjoy "Noche Cultural," a Cinco de Mayo celebration at 6 p.m. on Friday in the Grand Ballroom of the Moyer Student Union.

Free and open to the public, it will offer food and musical performances by different cultural groups from the Latino community.

### Wild Wing Spring Festival

The Wild Wing Project, Inc. is having a Wild Wing Spring Festival from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Saturday, May 13 and Sunday, May 14 at the Gilcrease Bird Sanctuary, 8103 Racel Road.

Activities include a tour of the sanctuary where birds of prey, game and

### Library Hours for Finals, Summer Session

The library hours during finals will be:

Friday: 7:30 a.m. to midnight  
Saturday: 9 a.m. to midnight  
Sunday: Noon to midnight  
Monday through Thursday: 7:30 a.m. to midnight  
Friday, May 12: 7:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.

For Summer Session, Monday, May 15 through Friday, August 11:  
Monday through Thursday: 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Friday: 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.  
Saturday: 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.  
Sunday: Noon to 8 p.m.

The library will be closed:

Saturday, May 13  
Sunday, May 14  
Monday, May 29  
Saturday, June 3  
Sunday, June 4  
Tuesday, July 4  
Saturday, July 8  
Sunday, July 9

exotic birds and water fowl can be viewed. Live entertainment, food, educational programs and fun are promised to all who attend the weekend's activities.

The Wild Wind Project, Inc. is the only licensed, non-profit organization in Southern Nevada that rehabilitates ill, injured and orphaned wildlife. All proceeds from this activity goes directly to feed, house and purchase medical supplies for the Southern Nevada wildlife.

Donations for admission is \$3 for adults and \$1 for children over five.

For more information, please contact June Mausolf at 876-0387.

### Mini Grand Prix Race for Arthritis

The 3rd annual Mini Grand Prix will start their engines at 10 a.m. and race until 3 p.m. on Saturday in the remote parking lot of the Thomas & Mack Center to help win

the race against Arthritis.

Sponsored by Turtle Stop, local business will race in their miniature Indy-style cars against each other to help the Nevada Chapter of the Arthritis Foundation fight America's most common crippling. They have helped over 123,000 Southern Nevadans through programs, services and research.

The public is invited free of charge to cheer on the participating teams whose participation can help make a difference in the community.

For more information, please call 367-1626.

### Club Foundation Scholarships Available

The Club Foundation Scholarship is open to sophomores who are seeking a managerial career in the private club industry.

The deadline for filing is June 15. Applications are available in Student Financial Services.

### Self-Defense offered by Women's Center

The Jean Nidetch Women's Center is sponsoring a class in self-defense for men and women on Saturday, May 20 from 10:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. in Room 508 of the Paul McDermott Physical Education Complex.

For information or reservations, please call 895-4475.

### CCSN Offers Around-the-Clock Classes

To help Las Vegans with their diverse schedules, Community College of Southern Nevada is offering summer courses to match this 24-hour town's life-style.

Starting as early as 7 a.m., two, four, six, eight and 10-week sessions will be offered at \$33 per credit excluding any special fees.

For more information, please call CCSN at 651-4500.

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