

Football Preview Issue

THURSDAY EDITION

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The Student Newspaper of the University of Nevada, Las Vegas

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No news is bad news for UNLV-TV

BY BROOK BRAYMAN
STAFF WRITER

Class cancellations are no big occurrence this time of year, but one may have a major impact on UNLV-TV and the Greenspun School of Communication.

Erika Engstrom's broadcast production class, "Television News Production," COS 441, which is aired live on cable Channel 4, provides a vehicle for broadcast majors to gain hands-on experience.

Due to lack of enrollment, the Thursday night news broadcast has been canceled. The program, which provided students an opportunity to practice serving as reporters, anchors and producers, focused on campus news and reported stories not otherwise featured in the local news media.

This comes at a time when UNLV-TV is under pressure to relinquish broadcast time on its cable carrier, Prime Cable Channel 4, which could result in loss of use by the department.

Prime Cable grants the use of Channel 4 to UNLV and to Clark County in accordance

with FCC rules regarding government access channels. UNLV-TV shares its programming with C-SPAN 2 and local government affairs cable access.

Recently, Clark County has been vying for more airtime and has been pressuring UNLV-TV to relinquish the station.

Associate Director of the Greenspun School of Communication Stephen Nielsen stated he had optimism for the future of the television station.

Nielsen explained that Prime Cable has proposed expanding its number of stations which would alleviate the problem.

Engstrom's class requires at least 12 students to fill all of the necessary positions to produce the newscast. At cancellation time the enrollment was two. The television news production class requires a series of prerequisites that range between 200 and 300 level courses as well as the consent of the instructor.

"Personally I'd rather have fewer students in the class who are qualified than to have more people who don't have



Lights, camera, no action: UNLV-TV production equipment in the Greenspun School. PHOTO: HYUN-HO HAN

the prerequisites," Engstrom said. She also indicated that last spring's graduation hurt the news broadcast staff because it is a senior level class.

Nielsen was disappointed about the cancellation of the class. "This is an opportunity

that students should have," Nielsen said.

Both Engstrom and Nielsen expressed optimism that enough students will complete the class prerequisites this semester so that registration will be high enough in the

spring to resume the broadcast.

UNLV-TV General Manager Laurie Fruth said that the newscast would be replaced with temporary programming pending next year's registration for the class.

Administration announces budget cuts, hiring freeze

BY WILLIE PUCHERT
NEWS EDITOR

Provost Ron Smith announced to the Faculty Senate Aug. 21 changes in the university's biennial budget. He also announced a hiring freeze and a modification in the evaluation of administrators.

Smith announced a \$3 million cut to the original \$5.5 million equipment purchases budget for the college. University system officials concede that the Nevada Legislature does not understand that increased equipment requests stem from the high obsolescence rate of new technology.

According to vice president for academic budgeting and Facilities, Ken Hanlon, the equipment budget will fund a new on-line system for UNLV. "Our office expects \$2.3 million to be given out to the various departments on campus that are involved in instruction, \$1 million will fund set-

ting up a computer network which is virtually going to connect everything on campus," Hanlon said.

He said the remaining money left in the budget will buy things as new utility trucks, lawn mowers and help student services fund programs.

Hanlon also noted that Gov. Bob Miller's budget office decided that they could not bring figures into line to produce new taxes.

"Because state agencies are not supposed to use operating equipment to buy equipment, the governor looked at how each agency was spending to buy equipment in this manner, and decided to take that sum of money back from each institution," Hanlon said. He added that UNLV gave the state over \$500,000 last year.

Hanlon said that potential drop in student enrollment could also reduce the operating budget of UNLV. As of

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Football's back...



The Runnin' Rebels have a new look and are ready to run past the rest of the league to defend their Las Vegas Bowl crown. Can they hold off the rest of the Conference?

See Sports—Page 11

"We do have a lot of new guys, but our goals still are to win the league and to defend our championship in the Las Vegas Bowl."

—UNLV Head Football Coach Jeff Horton



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