

## TUESDAY EDITION

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# THE REBEL YELL

## SPORTS

Rebel students enjoy a Thunder victory at Thomas & Mack UNLV night.

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## FEATURES



"I wasn't really good at (writing) because I didn't know how to express myself. I was a little afraid of it." See "Periodicals & poetry" in Features pg. 5

October 17, 1995

Volume 19 No. 15

## Gingrich tells students to come out of the closet

*'Your brother doesn't have to be Speaker to have your voice heard in America'*

BY ERIN NIEMEYER  
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AND  
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STAFF WRITER

Candace Gingrich, lesbian half-sister of House Speaker Newt Gingrich encouraged a crowd of nearly 300 to go public with their sexual orientation Thursday at UNLV.

The event was sponsored by the Women's Studies Program, the Lesbian Gay Bisexual Association, the Office of Campus Community Development, and CSUN.

"Each year on Oct. 11, National Coming Out Day reminds us of the importance of being open and honest with friends and family members and co-workers," said Gingrich whose visit was in conjunction with UNLV's celebration of the event.

Gingrich, who said the tour's purpose is to educate the public about discrimination



PHOTO BY VASNA WILSON

"We all have the opportunity to make a difference by educating the people around us," Gingrich says.

against homosexuals added, "We all have the opportunity to make a difference by educating the people around us."

Gingrich was working as a package sorter for United Parcel Service when she was recruited by The Human Rights Campaign Fund, the nation's largest gay and lesbian politi-

cal organization. The group, whose membership exceeds 110,000, hired Gingrich as spokesperson for the 52-city tour across the nation.

Gingrich expressed dismay that gays and lesbians can lose their jobs in 41 states based on sexual orientation because there are no federal laws pro-

hibiting this. She noted that 64 percent of Americans who say they don't know someone gay, favor preventing job discrimination against gay people. That figure jumps to 80 percent for those who do know someone gay.

"Americans are way ahead of Congress on this issue," said

the former Indiana University graduate.

Gingrich spoke out against "religious political extremists" saying, "They distort the issues and undermine policies that really should be driving public policy." She called the Nevada Citizen's Alliance a "traveling hatred show."

Gingrich attempted to dispel the belief that homosexuals come from dysfunctional families and said, "I represent the truth to the United States that we are very much a part of the American family."

The 29-year-old was thrown into the spotlight last November when an Associated Press reporter made presumptions about her appearance and asked her if she was a lesbian.

"I realized I had a unique opportunity and an obligation to have my voice heard across the country in a way that a lot of other people didn't," Gingrich said.

When asked if her national campaign has affected her relationship with half-brother Newt, the avid rugby player noted that their 23-year age gap has always precluded a closeness. The two have never lived under the same roof.

According to Gingrich, her family members including Newt, have known for years of

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## Fall enrollment shows mixed results

BY WILLIE PUCHERT  
STAFF WRITER

UNLV enrollment has slightly decreased this semester, however, new students are on the rise.

The number of students has decreased by 470 from last fall's head count of 20,239. Additionally, UNLV's full-time equivalency, a measure of number of credits taken, has decreased from last fall's 13,211 to 13,166.

University officials have attributed this fall's decrease to a drop in special students, who have not been formerly admitted to the college and who are enrolled in six credits or less.

According to Jeff Halverson, dean of admissions and records, the drop of the special students accounts for most of the drop in the total headcount.

Halverson also believes the drop is due to a new university system policy that demands stricter residency requirements. This fall, non-admitted students who have not met residency requirements must pay a higher fee.

"Our new freshman and undergraduate transfer students have increased by 4.64 percent to 3,316. Graduate students enrollment is up 1.7 percent, and graduate-level full-time equivalency is up 6.3 percent," President Carol Harter stated.

"The increase in admitted undergraduates, combined with the drop in part-time, non-admitted students, indicates that we have a larger proportion of degree-seeking students, which is something we would like to see," Harter said.

## T&M, Sam Boyd up for expansion

*Plans for domed stadium puts expansions on hold*

BY CATINA HAVERLOCK  
STAFF WRITER

The addition of a domed stadium to Las Vegas could mean both good and bad news for UNLV.

UNLV officials have developed plans to expand both the Thomas & Mack Center and Sam Boyd Stadium. If a domed stadium comes to Las Vegas, there will be no expansion for the T&M, and only minor upgrades for SBS, according to Pat Christenson, director of the T&M.

The National Finals Rodeo is driving the need for an expansion of the T&M, Christenson said. The expansion would include the addition of 8,000 seats.

Every year the T&M must turn away requests for 5,000 NFR seats, Christenson said.

"With 8,000 more seats, there's no question we'd sell them out."

The NFR, which is the T&M's biggest money maker, brings in \$1 million every year for the center. In addition, the rodeo brings \$25 million every year to the Las Vegas economy. Christenson said with the expansion of 8,000 seats, Las Vegas could see an additional \$10 to \$12 million every year.

"If the university can do its part to help both itself and the city, then to me that's a very win-win situation," Christenson said.

The bad news is that if a domed stadium comes to Las Vegas, the rodeo will probably switch location from the T&M to the new stadium.

The good news is that Rebel football, which will move to the Western Athletic Conference in 1996, will have a "state of play, Christenson said. In addition, it would be cheaper than expanding SBS and the T&M.

While Christenson admits

the need for an expanded stadium does not currently exist, he says the WAC will bring better competition and will require a larger, more modern stadium.

Plans to expand SBS were drawn in 1993 and include the addition of 24,000 new seats, raising its capacity to 55,000. This would make the stadium eligible under NCAA guidelines to host a bowl game. The Las Vegas Bowl currently has an exemption from the rule requiring stadiums to have a minimum capacity of 50,000.

If the domed stadium never materializes, plans for expansion of the university facilities will probably move forward.

Funding for the projects remains questionable, however, in view of recent layoffs and the loss of the Grateful Dead concerts and Mickey Thompson Off-Road Racing.

"The only way it (the expansion) would work is if the debt is picked up with a tax of some kind or an appropriation

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