



# CLASS!

October 1995

## HAPPY HALLOWEEN!

A monthly publication by, for and about the high school students of Las Vegas, Henderson and Boulder City

Digging up dirt at ATTC  
(page 22)

Media: if you can't beat 'em join 'em  
(page 12)

Juvie laws get tougher  
(page 15)

Discovery!  
(page 23)

## Nominate your teacher for communication award

The Desert Sands Chapter of the Public Relations Society of America (PRSA) is inviting applications for its second annual Communications Teacher of the Year Award. Teachers can enter themselves or students can send in nominations.

The prize is \$1,000—\$500 to the winner and \$500 to his or her school. The competition is open to teachers in Las Vegas, Boulder City or Henderson, who teach English, speech or journalism, and to teachers who advise debate teams, yearbooks or student newspaper staffs.

Applications are available from your English teacher and must reach PRSA by Friday, Oct. 20. The award will be presented at the PRSA luncheon on Dec. 1. Candidates will be judged on teaching excellence; creativity; professional development and recognition; tutoring and mentoring; community involvement; and special interests.

For more details about applying for this award, call Susie Black at 386-2677 or Colleen Griego at 295-0045.



## UNLV freshman talk about first days at college

### College dorm: a building full of cool new friends

By Brook Brayman

I must say that, even though I've been doing this college thing for [a very short time], I'm enjoying it. It's this whole new environment. The people are cool, the professors are very different from high school teachers, and there is always something going on for anyone who doesn't want to sit still. Combine all that with sleep deprivation, and you've got college life.

Some people say that living in the dorms provides a better living experience than living off-campus, and I agree. I'm living with a cool guy, and my whole building is full of people my age who have common goals, dreams and interests.

I've made new friends quite rapidly, and even people I don't know from other parts of the building smile and nod. There is a sense of community here. You develop a network of acquaintances faster by living in the [residence] halls than if you just go to class and leave.

There is also a different relationship between the students and the staff and faculty on campus. Working on the school newspaper, I interact with many people in the course of generating information for a story, and in these interactions I get a feeling of being more of an adult, more on an even level with these "adults" that I deal with. The teachers also give the same feeling of being a peer.

If you like being a busy person, then college is the place for you. There are opportunities for everyone to do something with his or her time. I've found that there are too many things that I want to do and not enough time to do them all.

Generally, my day starts at 8:00 and doesn't stop until midnight. During these hours, I'm absolutely non-stop (class, interviews for the paper, work, traveling). I guess that's what my college experience is: the feeling of moving towards something...a daily goal or the pursuit of knowledge and a good grade.

[Brayman is a Las Vegas native who spent the last eight years in Seattle, WA.]

## WIN A \$500 BOND!

### Design a logo for racial justice group

How would YOU express yourself on the issue of race and justice?

The Nevada Supreme Court has formed a task force to study the state's justice system and how it relates to minorities and poor people. The task force is looking for a logo design that symbolizes what the group does.

Along with your logo design, you'll need to write a brief explanation of why your design is appropriate for the project, and give a short biography of yourself. Deadline for sending in your entry is December 1.

For more details, call Danny Gonzales, who heads the task force, at 471-1400.

## RECRUITING NOW!

Would you like to be a volunteer at the Lied Discovery Children's Museum? Here are the benefits:

You learn a ton of job skills, you have lots of fun with the exhibits, you explain things to little kids, you deal with the public, you meet other great teens, and...YOU CAN EARN SCHOOL CREDITS!

Read the story on the back page about local high school kids who are already volunteering or working for the Museum.

The people at the Discovery Museum are recruiting right now! Call Marie Bernardi (382-3445) for an application form. She will mail it to you.

Then attend the Open House at the Museum, 3:00 p.m. Monday, October 23. Parents are welcome, too, of course.

The Museum is part of the downtown Las Vegas Library, 833 Las Vegas Blvd. North.

## Are you ready for college? Ask yourself the hard questions.

[Adapted from an editorial by Eric Toliver, an academic advisor at UNLV who works with more than 1,500 first- and second-year students and teaches a College Experience course for incoming freshmen]

How do you know if you are ready for college? What will it do for you? How much will it cost and what will you major in? These and other questions are asked by high school students who are thinking about college. The following

(Continued on Page 20)

College is not for everyone!

**SHORT-TERM TRAINING**  
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## Cast out fears, make new friends

By Andrea Eppolito  
1995 Durango High School Graduate



I approached my first college class with all the fear and trepidation of a preschooler leaving Mommy for the first time.

"What if my teacher is mean and ugly and yells at me," I wondered. "And what if I look stupid? And what if nobody likes me?"

For a second I thought of running to my car and spending the day somewhere, anywhere, while I thought of a way to get out of it all. But no, I chose to face it squarely and feign confidence as I tiptoed up to my first class and opened the door...

And moments later, there she was, my teacher. Luckily, she wasn't mean or ugly, and she laughed more than anything else. And I didn't look any stupider than the other thousand freshmen who were searching desperately for their classes, their friends, and their sanity.

One hour of introductions, an assignment from the syllabus, and that was it! Class dismissed. I breathed a sigh of relief.

Then the fear set in again. Maybe I'd just gotten lucky with that first class. Could it be that I'd gotten a break before the real terror begins? Class two is in session and once again I smile to myself as I begin to think that the whole "college thing" won't really be that bad.

Each new class was approached with the same set of fears as I'd had the class before. Each time I was pleasantly surprised. My professors, while all tough and demanding in their own way, showed a real concern for the class as a whole.

The assignments were long and hard, but it wasn't hard to find help if I needed it. And, luckily, I realized that most, if not all, of the other students felt the way I did. Together we managed to get through it.

The girl to my right was a friend from Durango...and the guy sitting a row up and to the left happened to be at the student union at the same time I was, so we ate together.

Within the first week, I felt as though I really had control of the situation, and now I think I'm going to like it here.

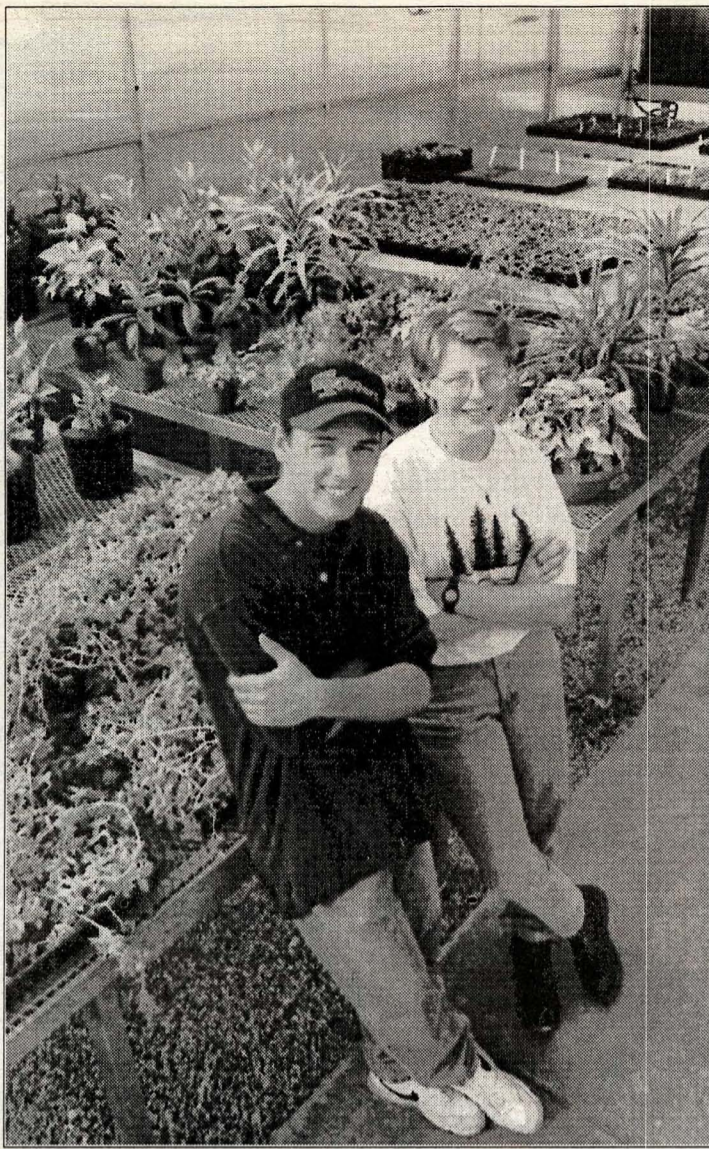
## INSIDE CLASS!

### COVER

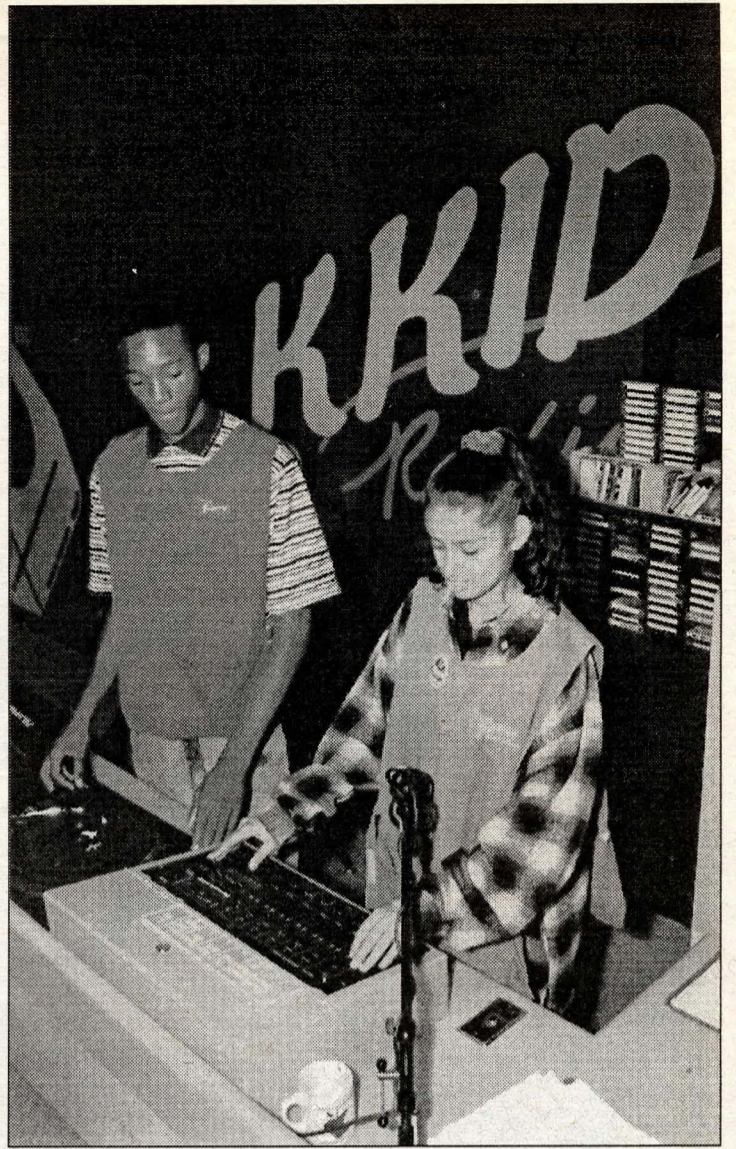
Outrageous masks from **HALLOWE'EN EXPERIENCE**—with three stores in the Las Vegas area: Meadows and Decatur next to Home Express; at the Boulevard next to Dillards; and Sunset at Green Valley Parkway in the Lucky Center.

Everyone's favorite dress-up holiday is Hallowe'en! (Do you remember to put the ' between the e's?) The masks on the cover are just a few that are featured at **HALLOWE'EN EXPERIENCE**. There's a full array of wigs, fangs, make-up, props, hats, whatever you need to be the most bizarre kid on the block. Also a full line of costumes for your younger brother or sister, such as Pocahontas, Batman, Spiderman and, of course, all the Power Rangers.

Photo by David Phillips



**Growing Green Thumbs at school.** Mike Hinton and Stacey Apple are studying horticulture at ATTC (Area Trade and Technical Center). This program prepares students for a variety of careers such as landscaping, golf course maintenance and design—or just tending a backyard garden patch. See page 22 to learn what lights up their lives every day.



**Nothing musty about these museum volunteers.** The Lied Discovery Museum in downtown Las Vegas is now recruiting volunteers. It's fun, it's good experience, and it's a GREAT way to get credits at school! Shown here: J. R. Smith (Las Vegas Academy sophomore) and Virginia Toscano (a 1995 Rancho grad) run the museum's KKID radio station. See page 23.

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### CLASS!

#### Publications

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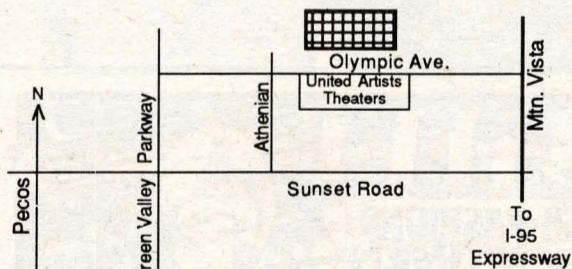
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**LEFT:** Belinda sports a 1970s funky jumpsuit. A well-spent \$18 at *The Haight*

**RIGHT:** A late '70s definitely-Disco dress, just \$30.

By the way, does anyone in high school know what *The Haight* refers to? Does "flower child" ring a bell? Lovebeads? Well, then, how about "hippies"?



**retro!  
vintage!**

ALL fashions are recycled. Some are reincarnated in Paris and end up in *Vogue* magazine at other-worldly prices. Stores such as *The Haight* sell the same hot styles, different fabrics, and a whole lot less expensive.

**RIGHT:** Belinda wears an early 1970s go-go dress. \$14. Can you believe it?



**BELOW:** In the '60s, it was surf wear! We don't have surf in Southern Nevada, but who writes the rules, anyway? Belinda's top is a Hawaiian surfer, just \$10. Under it, she wears Izod shorts, a thrifty six bucks.

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**MODEL:**  
Belinda Bergloff,  
Sophomore,  
Bonanza  
High School

**Photos by**  
Mark Lewis.

**Fashions**  
provided by  
*The Haight*

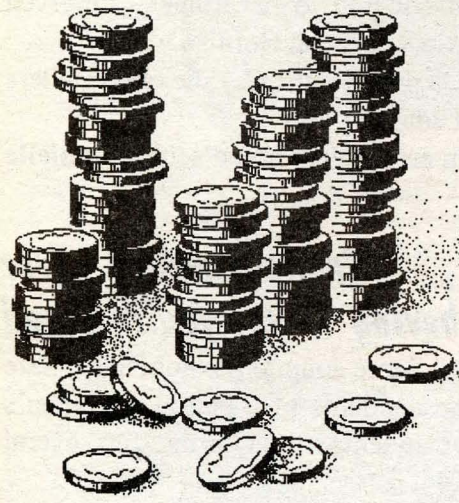


## Money, money, money! Teacher captures grant

By Kelly Hampton

Rancho always needs money. Many students have heard teachers say at one time or another that some program at Rancho needs more money.

One teacher—Alicia Logan—took the problem into her own hands after coming across an application for grants from Household Bank. The application asked what impact would be made in the area surrounding Rancho. Logan believed that Rancho students need to gain experience in dealing with the real world—and the real world involves computers.



Ten pages of application were filled out, requesting enough money to try to make a difference. Logan planned to buy Macintosh computers if she received the grant, but, instead, Logan's special education classroom received new IBM computers and software, thanks to Household Bank.

She was flabbergasted when she was notified about the \$15,000 Impact Grant. Four teachers from other schools were also awarded grants; hers was the largest.

The money is a great asset to the school because of the opportunities it provides for students.

## EDITORIAL

By John Sweet

Crowds rush to the vending machines to get their share of the new 15-minute nutrition break. Many stand in line to buy food...By the time they get to the front of the line, the bell rings for class, leaving the remaining students hungry for three more hours.

Frustrating things occur, from the machine taking your money to empty machines, sometimes leaving you broke and hungry, even tardy.

Fifteen minutes is not enough time to go to lockers, to the bathroom, wait in line for lunch and talk to friends.

It's a joke! The school wants students to be happy, yet putting lunch at the end of the day makes everything worse. When third hour ends, everyone wants to take a long break to rest from class, not go back to another class hungry.

After school, those who live away from the school have to stick around and wait for the bus another half hour. These students don't want to wait around on campus for the bus; many want to go home and rest. But they have no choice unless they find other means of transportation.

So whose idea was this anyway?

## Writers gain insight into journalism

By Holly Alford

Three Rancho High students attended journalism camp in Malibu, Calif. They joined students from all over California and Nevada, for a total of 80 campers.

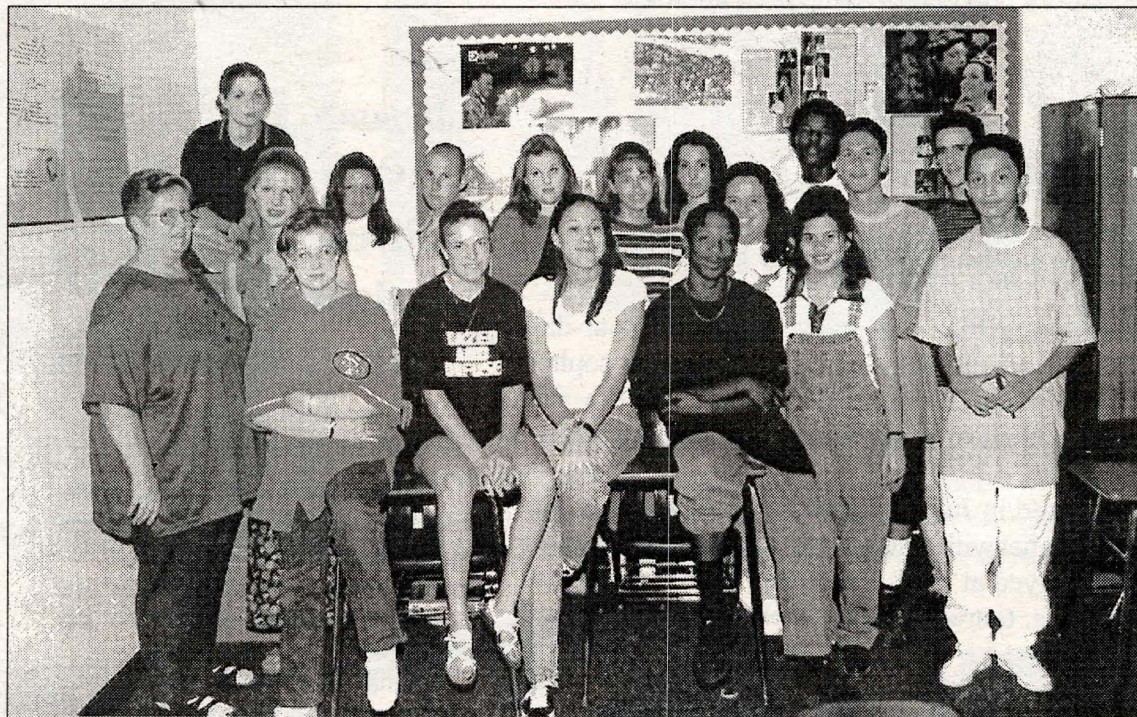
Leslie Nino, Anna Blackburn and this reporter attended a one-week camp on the Pepperdine College campus. The camp is for newspaper staffs to be evaluated by camp instructors and professional journalists. Los Angeles Times staff critiqued each school's paper.

Campers attended seminars ranging from sensitive issues to graphics, reporting all over the campus, writing, competing, and in a few cases leading sessions.

Campers were divided into four teams. Each organized a staff and competed in competitions for press conference, leadership, reporting and page layout.

After all the day's work, students were permitted to use the college facilities. The campus has an Olympic-sized swimming pool, nine tennis courts, and plenty for campers to do. We all left with a better in-depth understanding of journalism. (*Editor's Note: Alford was one of seven chosen to lead a seminar; she led discussions on frustrations, perks and solutions of being on a newspaper staff. This was her second year at Journalism Camp.*)

Alford



## JOURNALISM STAFF

Top (in corner) Amber Fraley; Standing at left, advisor Sheryl Brewer; back row (l-r) Amanda LaPointe, Audra Ray, John Sweet, Jessica Brigham, Carrie Thompson, Holly Alford, Heidi Casio, Darrick Lewis, Paul Sanchez, Joe Hare; front row (l-r) Hattie Ramos, Anna Blackburn, Leslie Nino, Johnny Williams, Mina Calaunan and Frederick Ramirez.

## New ROTC leader

The new commander of Rancho's Air Force Junior ROTC is Major James Benson. A retired Air Force officer, he teaches aerospace science for the NV-031st.

"I'm proud to be at Rancho," Benson says, "because the program is recognized as one of the best in the country."

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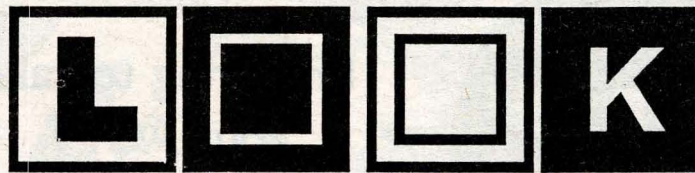
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## Mom and Dad get taste of their kids' medicine

Parents turned out in satisfying numbers for Parents' Night at Bishop Gorman. They were about to experience some of the realities their sons and daughters face every day.

For example, several had trouble moving between classes in the five-minute passing period. Others complained about lack of parking. And there were the expected numbers who couldn't find the classrooms without help.

For some parents, it is a yearly event. Linda Mundy has attended for four years, because "it's very important to...demonstrate support and interest in your child's activities.

"I want to meet the teachers...and you get an idea of where your students spend their days."

George Wara, parent of a sophomore, returned to Parents' Night because "the first year I came late and was all mixed up. So, for the second year, I came to do it right."

To help parents NOT get mixed up, student ambassadors were posted at various key spots on the campus to direct parents to their rooms.

Andy Sahno says he was thrilled to meet parents "and help them become more aware of the Gorman community."

Student ambassador David Ecker laughed as parents tried to find their way to their student's classes within the passing period. Parents could be heard complaining that the five minutes was impossible...there just wasn't enough time to get from one end of campus to another.

## Leadership skills lead Keating to Boston

Adapted from a report by M.C. Samuels

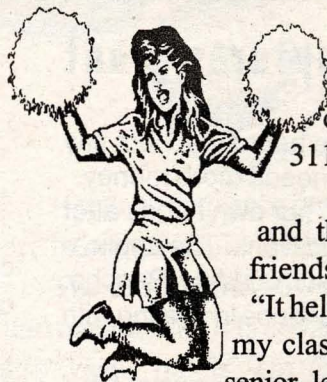
Steve Wynn, Jan Jones, Anne Keating. What do they have in common? Leadership.

Keating was chosen to represent Gorman twice: first at a four-day leadership conference at UNLV—which included one outstanding sophomore from every high school in Nevada. From this conference, one boy and one girl were chosen to represent Nevada at the World Leadership Conference in Boston.

Again Keating was selected and in July she jetted to Boston for an all-expense-paid nine days. There she met with students representing all 50 states and 37 different countries. She stayed at Tufts University with a roommate from Taiwan. They heard lectures, toured the city, looked at colleges and shopped, Keating says.

What did she get from the experience?

"It was fun and I will probably go to college in Boston now."



## 311-Day at Gorman

The largest class in the history of Gorman set foot on campus August 15th...the first day of high school for 311 freshmen.

The entire day was dedicated to helping new students and their parents...a day packed with fun, food and new friendships.

"It helped me get a better perspective of what the teachers and my classes will be like," said freshman Chris Manno. "The senior leaders were helpful and fun to be around," observed

freshman Beth Helm. "They made me feel welcome at Gorman.

The day ended with a pep assembly, a performance by the cheerleaders and an introduction to the Gorman fight song.

"We never had ice-breakers or a pep assembly," noted senior Danielle Storey of her Gorman orientation.

## Summer means never having to say you're bored

Build a house for a family in poverty. Serve soup to the homeless. Care for kids in an orphanage. Talk with the residents of a battered women's shelter. All this and more was in store for students from Gorman and several California schools this summer.

After checking in at a San Diego high school, the Gorman participants received their work schedules: either help at a building site run by Habitat for Humanity (a project started by former President Jimmy Carter) or help at an orphanage. The assignments were in Tijuana, Mexico.

Much of this work was difficult and done in intense heat, but most students did not mind. Davis says, "I've never worked so hard in my life, but I've also never felt so valued, either."

On the other hand, when the students discovered there was no hot water in the showers, Bennett laughed, "There's nothing like a dip in the polar ice cap before breakfast to get your blood pumping."

After an hour on the freeway, the Gorman students reached their worksites. The builders worked with stucco, insulation and drywall, framing the houses, even pouring cement for foundations.

Others went on to a Tijuana orphanage, doing much-needed house and yard work, but also spending precious time helping and comforting the children.

Evenings were spent sharing their thoughts with fellow students. One girl related her feelings when she met a battered woman who had been beaten beyond recognition. Other free time included basketball, volleyball and other games.

These "Young Neighbors in Action" gave their hearts and minds to the spirit of community service. In return they found new friends and had experiences that will stay with them forever.

## Mufasa? Sheriff delivers straight talk



Condensed from a report by Leigh Ann Caldwell

Sheriff Jerry Keller recently visited two Bishop Gorman government classes to talk about law enforcement in our community and about his personal passion for police work.

Keller resembles the strong, confident and concerned Mufasa in *The Lion King*.

The sheriff quoted statistics comparing our city with others and claimed to know every police officer by first name.

A Las Vegas native, Keller graduated from Western High and received his B.A. degree in Education at UNLV. Now, 25 years later, he is the law enforcement leader of the fastest-growing city in the United States.

Keller is the man credited for securing funds to create the Police Employers Assistance Program. PEAP helps officers "deal with the wear and tear of being a cop in Las Vegas," he says.

Lately, Metro officers have taken some heat from the media. But Keller insists that the media are "the great educators." Without the media, the community would have no trust in the police. Gaining that trust is part of Keller's passion.

Help is here!

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## Magnet School Busing It took a while but now we know where we're going

By Michele Badgwell



A new busing system was created for this school year...This was done because magnet schools had too many buses and routes. This way, there will be more buses for the district than there were in the past two years.

With this new method, students get picked up at a school in their area, then go to a "hub" at another school...where they transfer to another bus that brings them to the Academy. Some students have more than an hour ride in the morning and after school, and still have to walk a mile or more just to get to their bus stop or to get home.

"As has been the case at the beginning of each school year, the busing situation caused confusion," says Rosemary Murphy.

However, after the first two weeks, most problems were worked out, students became familiar with their new routes, and things seem to be running smoothly at this time.

## Senior reveals sad experience

By Sybrina Bernabei



Sybrina Bernabei

Robert Lusk, senior, visited Romania over the summer for two weeks as part of a project to assist and visit less fortunate people there. He went with a group called the AIM Team" (Ambassadors in Mission), a Pentecostal organization.

"This was...a lot of hard work," says Lusk. His work included entertaining the children, donating clothes, caring for them and just loving them.

"It was very sad there. A lot of the children were very sick. Most are victims of the AIDS virus," Lusk says.

Among the gifts he gave them was the gift of entertainment...he presented the drama "El Shadda" for them.

Lusk, who has also been to South America to help people, plans to visit Israel and Russia in the future.

"For the children I would do anything" he says. "After all, [these places] don't need me, I need them. I pray I'll be a giver, not a taker."

## CCSD considers spending

By Destiny Bakken



As Clark County schools have become the tenth largest district in the nation...the funds earmarked for education by the state do not meet all the needs of educators.

A wish list of \$14.8 million has been created for all the schools in the district. Input from employee unions, parents and teachers were also accepted. Lawmakers have directed that all the money must be used to aid teachers and students in the classroom.

The \$14.8 million must be used for things such as textbooks, library books, computer software, and other instructional equipment. Other things the money must be used for are personal training, repairs and improvements to buildings, or any other purpose that district officials feel would "better" the schools.

As reported in the *Review-Journal*, some of the funding requests were \$2.18 million to computerize student record-keeping, \$196,000 for subscription to the JASON Project, \$532,201 for instruction and portable classrooms for the Alternative Education Division, and just \$3.15 million for textbooks and instructional materials.

## STUDENT COUNCIL TIDBITS

- Among the dozens of new clubs proposed by the Council are Ski Club, Italian Club, Advanced Chemistry Club, Human Relations, and Pre-Professional Anatomy/Physiology.
- A raffle for senior parking has been mixed by the administration. How it would have worked: each senior pays \$20 for a choice spot in the student parking lot.
- Fundraising by LVA clubs range from candy sales to social outings. One of the more ambitious goals is a trip to Italy by the Visual Arts Dept.
- Hallowe'en Haunting Dance (a masquerade) is set for Oct. 27, 7:00-10:30pm in the LVA cafeteria.

## READ!

Book Review by  
Brian Wilson

The  
Rainmaker

By John Grisham



There aren't many books you can pick up...and not put down until you're finished with the last page. *The Rainmaker* is one of those rare books.

Set in Memphis, a city full of law firms, *The Rainmaker* focuses on the life of Rudy Baylor, a young attorney trying to get started in his career. During a "field trip to a senior citizens' home, Rudy meets Dot and Buddy Black. Their son has leukemia and is denied a life-saving bone marrow transplant by their insurance company.

Rudy soon finds himself entangled in one of the biggest insurance fraud cases ever. The case turns out to be a landmark event, setting the stage for Rudy's heroic courtroom debut.

Along the way, Rudy falls in love with Kelly, a battered wife, and befriends Dick, a hapless attorney who simply cannot pass the bar exam.

Those who have read Grisham's works—including *The Pelican Brief*, *The Firm*, and *A Time to Kill*—know that his novels move quickly and are full of excitement. *The Rainmaker* is possibly his best yet.

## LISTEN!

Music Review by Monica Taylor  
*Off the Hook*

Are you thinking about the next R&B album to buy? Look no further than X-scape's *Off the Hook*. Everything is great about it, from the CD cover, which resembles a phone book, to the inside package, which is in the shape of a phone. All 12 cuts are sweet and sensuous. The words are honest, and the beat just makes your body want to move.

Compared to their last CD, (*Hummin Comin' at Cha*), *Off the Hook* is slow and sexy whereas the other was fast and freaky.

The four women who make up X-scape—Kandi Burruss, Tameka "Tiny" Cottle, Baretha Tamika Scott, and LaTocha Scott—have changed their image, just as most female R&B artists are doing. They have gone from roughneck *sista* to desirable women.

If you like songs that help you deal with heartbreak or crushes, then you will like "Feels So Good," "Who Can I Run To," and "Hard to Say Goodbye," all on this album.

Next time you're in a record store, ask the clerk for the *Off the Hook* album. You won't be disappointed.



Monica Taylor

## PUBLIC INVITED

The Academy will present *Leader of the Pack*, a lively musical, Nov. 2-4 and 7-9 in the main auditorium, 9th and Clark. The performance will be accompanied by a full student orchestra. Tickets are \$6 and \$8.

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## Lack of funding cuts late buses

By Rachael Fish

A new school year means new clubs, sports and after-school activities. However, for some students, participating in these activities is made impossible by the lack of school funding ... after-school activity buses are no longer available to students who want to participate in clubs and sports.

Sophomore **Kristine Karol** was very involved in school activities last year, but this year she cannot join any clubs because she has no ride home.

"I was going to try out for the play," says Karol, "but I couldn't because I didn't have a ride. My house is four miles away, so I can't walk."

She is not the only student with this problem. Every day, numerous students wait in front of the school for parents and friends to take pity on them and give them a ride home.

According to Mike Alastuey, the Clark County School District assistant superintendent for business, over \$33 million is spent totally on transportation costs per year.

"We [CCSD] did have a very liberal after-school bus progra. However, in general, it was found that our transportation costs ran much higher than other large school districts," says Alastuey.

Since our school district owns its buses, at least students will have a ride to and from school at the regular time.

"Some school districts don't even own their buses and have to rely on systems such as the CAT buses," says Alastuey. "At a cost of \$85,000 to \$90,000 apiece, school buses can get pretty expensive."

Because of Nevada's low property tax and the lack of a state income tax, schools get approximately \$4,100 per student per year, which, according to Alastuey, is relatively low.

"That includes the cost of teachers, staff, supplies and transportation," he says, "basically, everything down to the floor wax. The more money we save in transportation, the more money schools get."

Ron Dispensa, CCSD director of transportation, has a different approach to the matter of after-school buses.

"In years past, and even as recent as last year, we would transport very low numbers of students. After-school buses would make stops at schools where no one would get on. It was a total waste of taxpayers' money."

Sophomore **William Davis** says the lack of buses prevents him from participating in the sport of his choice. "It's hard finding a ride after football practice...that's one of the main reasons I can't stay after now."

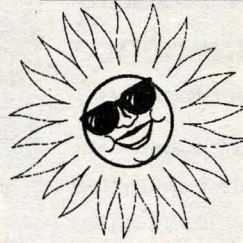
According to Durango Assistant Principal Larry McKay, there have been concerns from parents about the lack of after-school buses. However, he says, sports aren't suffering because of the lack of buses.

McKay says, "We have relatively the same number of students in sports as we have had in years past. The only difference is that parents have to carpool and students have to find other ways home."

In the past, when athletes had competitions at other sites, buses would take them to the competition, bring them back to school to pick up their clothes and books, then drop them off close to their home.

## INSIGHTS

By Irene Goya



## "Rise and shine, it's time to go to school!"

I can't speak for the rest of you, but my mornings have just been impossible! My noon awakenings during the summer have crippled my ability to even say "Just five more minutes!"

Keeping my eyes open while I mess with the curling iron is no longer part of the hair-fixing process. Anyhow, I'm going to have to find some sort of alertness-causing stimulant to survive our early school schedule.

One that comes to mind is bean broth. You know, java, cup of joe, cup of caffeine...yes, coffee. Some people wouldn't be able to remember their name without the stuff. My only fear is that I might turn into one of those beaniks who loiter around coffee cafes listening to bad poetry.

It's doubtful that coffee would work anyhow. At my rate, I'll probably have to start drinking gallons every morning. I'd have a better chance with not going to sleep at all.

When I finally got to school, the first thing I heard in first period was, "Starting tomorrow, class will begin at 6:55." I would have had a heart attack, but I was too bewildered to react. The initial shock did die down a bit and an overwhelming emotion of self-pity came over me.

Then I remembered that I was a Durango Trailblazer and not even sleep deprivation would stop me from coming to my beloved school. Yeah, right. There is only one thing that can effectively get students to school, and it's the student him/herself.

Alarm clocks and parents can scream...but the responsibility of being conscious lies on our shoulders. There is one incentive for seniors, though: just one more year! Sorry, freshmen, but you're young, you'll probably survive.

## Blazers have dinner with Shakespeare

By Karen Cover

"I am not who I am," whispered Iago, the evil character in Shakespeare's "Othello." But the Durango students who *were* who they are (from Cheryl Noreen's AP English) experienced this play and others during a two-day trip to the Utah Shakespearean Festival at Cedar City.

Students who attended the event are **Dorothy Beals, Mat Beals, Karen Cover, Matthew Feinberg, Diem Ila, Craig Huck, Tawney Noreen, Michelle Quincy, Deneb Ranciato, Laura Schurley, Ann Simone** and **Tyler Wesson**.

After seeing "Othello," the group rushed to a festival dinner where they ate with their hands and banged the table with their goblets. Following dinner, the Blazers saw "Henry VIII" in a theater built as a replica of Shakespeare's Old Globe Theater.

Quincy, a senior, says "This was a hard play to understand, but the beautiful costumes managed to keep it interesting."

On the second day, the Blazers went backstage and learned how the wigs were made. After this tour, "A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum" left the students roaring. "It was a play that kept me in fits of laughter," comments Feinberg.

The last play of the day was "The Tempest," with the lead played by Harold Gould, a long-time television and movie actor.

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## Durango junior crowned Miss Teen Nevada

Condensed from a report by Rachael Fish

For someone who hasn't competed in many beauty pageants, Cerina Vincent sure knows how to win. This Durango junior now holds the title of Miss Teen Nevada.

"I competed in a couple pageants in 1991, but this is my first pageant since then," says Vincent. In 1991, she competed for the Miss Cinderella Nevada pageant and the Miss American Starlet pageant, in which she made the finals, although she didn't win.

More than 35 teens competed for the Miss Teen Nevada title. Others representing Durango included **Shoshana Martel**, freshman; **Denise Oliver**, junior; **Jamie Rasmus**, junior; **Kaci Thompson**, junior; and **Sarah Weldon**, junior.

Vincent says the hardest part of competing was the on-stage interview. "Even though the questions are not really difficult, it's hard to think of an answer because you're up there on stage and your emotions are running," she explains. "I was so nervous."

### Women's Varsity Volleyball

## Lady Blazers prepare for tough opponents

From a report by Amanda Krueger

"Go beyond limits" is what the Womens' Varsity Volleyball team is striving to do this year, and coach Bob Kelly predicts that the Lady Blazers will compete in this year's zone competition.

Key players who returned to this year's team include **Jennie Schlauder**, **Jessica Wirth**, **Shannon Chase**, **Sarah Gubler**, **Blair Wilkes** and **Jesica Connell**. The team is training hard to meet their toughest opponents: Chaparral, Green Valley, Gorman and Bonanza.

Kelly notes that nearly everyone on the team plays year-round (yes, even during the summer) and some of the best players are the youngest. "Younger players make the older players better and the older players show the maturity and experience the younger need," Kelly says.

## Chains may cure parking lot chaos

From a report by Amy Meyer

In the interest of providing a safe environment at Durango, chains have been installed at all entrances to the student parking lot. This results in parents and others not being allowed to enter the parking lot to pick up children or friends. Concrete barricades and road barriers will also be placed to assist students departing from school and allow buses to enter without having to wait.

October 18-21

Drama Mama and

Durango students present

*Arsenic & Old Lace*

By Lisa Landino

Colleen Brown, Durango Theater's "Drama Mama," has many plans for this year's theater productions.

The first play, to be presented Oct. 18-21, is "Arsenic and Old Lace," a tale of...two sweet old ladies who bury old men in their basement for "charity reasons." They simply feed the old men a little wine, a little arsenic, and a little strychnine.

Admission is \$4 in advance, \$5 at the door, and \$3 for senior citizens. Children five and under are free. Everyone is invited—just as every student is invited to audition for other upcoming plays.

Brown says she is "issuing a challenge for all staff" when it comes to the Second Annual student Variety Show scheduled for November. This is a music-filled event with lip-syncing by the staff, students strutting their talent, and

all of them entertaining in the process.

On Dec. 13 and 14, seniors will show their directing skills when they present *One-Act Plays*. The theater-seasoned seniors will decide which plays to produce, which actors to cast, and every move made in these plays.

There are BIG plans for a BIG play coming in February. The to-be-announced play will feature a large cast due to the overwhiling interest by Durango students.

A Renaissance Fair will take place at Durango on Feb. 10, when campus organizations step back into the Age of Chivalry.

Last but not least, the spring musical this year, May 6-9, will be "Kiss Me, Kate," which will feature a large cast and music ensemble, as well as the Durango band.

## Welcome Week packed with action

A dunked freshman, athletic musical chairs, gender-bending duds and a big game win marked Welcome Week at Durango.

Students showed their spirit in stripes, beads and buttons as they took part in dress-up days and crazy lunchtime activities.

An assembly featured a short comic skit that included the dunking of freshman **Nick Namba**, and a game of musical chairs between the fall athletes. It was no surprise that the football players won.

The highlight of the assembly was the surprise visit of some "motorcycle mamas"—Durango teachers Curtis Pilgreen, Rob Nielson and David Campopiano—who appeared in some gender-bending attire, causing the audience to roar along with the motorcycles.

The grand finale to Durango's third annual Welcome Week was a win against Silverado on the football field followed by a "Hello Dance" attended by more than 200 students.

## DURANGO CONSIDERS CLOSED CAMPUS

Condensed from a report by Rachael Fish

Lunchtime at Durango may soon change. The administration is considering a closed-campus policy ... students will no longer be allowed to leave campus until after their last class for the day.

Parents have voiced concerns about the safety of their children who take off-campus lunches...[and they] discussed the traffic congestion caused by Durango's swelling population. With over 3,000 students, and more expected, the parking lot and areas around the school are traffic battle zones.

Although **Paul Sweeney**, junior, doesn't agree with this new lunch policy, he understands the logic behind it. "It takes 10 minutes to get out of the parking lot. Then when you get to your destination after driving for 10 more minutes, you wait in line for another five. Because it takes another 10 minutes

to get back, you have to scarf down your lunch."

Students, however, will not go hungry. According to Durango Principal Allen Coles, there will be a 15-minute *nutrition break* between classes when students can grab a bite to eat. Cole is looking to have such products as juice boxes, fruits and granola bars available in the courtyards. "Messier foods" would stay in the cafeteria.

Since there would no longer be a 35-minute lunch period, school will end earlier: a 1pm rather than 1:31pm as it is now.

Buses will still pick up students at 1:31. While waiting for buses, students can go to the cafeteria for a regular lunch, get study help, or attend a club meeting.

Other schools on this system include Basic, Eldorado, Green Valley, Rancho and Valley.

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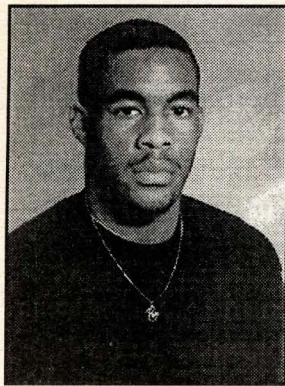
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## Leadership Conference selects LVHS senior for Washington meeting



A Las Vegas High School senior has been selected to attend the National Young Leaders Conference in the nation's capital this December.

**Glen Banks II** is one of 350 outstanding National Scholars who will experience six days of conferences, meetings with national leaders, and tours of Washington, D.C.

The conference theme is "The Leaders of Tomorrow Meeting the Leaders of Today" and participants will meet with leading politicians, prominent journalists at the National Press Club, and newsmakers from all three branches of government. The group will also visit foreign embassies and take part in a "Mock Congress," during which they act as members of Congress, debating, amending and voting on proposed crime legislation.

Banks, a scholar with special interest in math and computer science, is also involved in the Rotary Youth Leadership Program, Upward Bound, taekwon-do and athletics. He lettered for four years, is captain of the football team, has won ribbons in track, and is listed in *Who's Who Among American High School Students*.

### BE AWARE!

## Environmental nightmare ahead



By Kate Martin

Here are some environmental issues that could endanger us in the near future.



Martin

● **President Clinton** recently placed a moratorium on all nuclear tests at the Nevada Test Site. All the world except China agreed to

uphold this moratorium, but France has just broken that agreement. Below a remote island near Tahiti, France tested a nuclear bomb almost equal in magnitude to the one that destroyed Hiroshima.

● The Clark County Commission has allowed Strip resorts to construct lakes, lagoons and other sort of aesthetic water features. If they choose to do so, the resorts will have to comply with specific water-conserving regu-

lations. However, the Commission has delayed its vote on restrictions that involve landscaping for new homes and businesses. If this vote is rejected, it may affect Las Vegas permanently.

● The air you breathe is diminishing in quality. A possible explanation is the dust released into the surrounding atmosphere from trucks that transport dirt and gravel. Researchers are still investigating this and other possible causes.

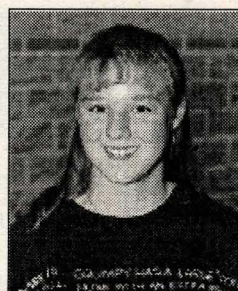
### CONCENTRATE!

"We need to be there mentally, not just physically, to get the job done," says **Annamarie Olenslager**, the Varsity Volleyball team's setter.

Wildcats place 6th out of 20 teams at the Invitational Sept. 8-9. The team hopes to advance to state this year.

"We need to get motivated to reach our peak," says outside hitter **Rhiannon Hubbard**. The league started Sept. 13.

Pender



## LVHS Performing Arts Department announces great fall schedule

By Jenessa Pender

Las Vegas High School's performing arts department feels very positive about the year. Following are highlights of the fall season. The public is invited.

### THEATRE

"The Curious Savage," the department's fall play, premieres November 3 and 4, 7:00 each evening. Tickets go on sale Oct. 23, \$3 for students and \$4 for adults. This play is about a woman who is widowed and left with a great sum of money. She begins spending the money in strange ways. She even buys a theatre so she can become an actress. She has three stepchildren who want to get their hands on the money. They commit her to an asylum for the insane. What the children don't know is that she converted most of the money into bonds and hid them. She sends the children on wild goose chases in search of the money.

"The Curious Savage" features five male and six female roles. The cast consists of Audrey Zemp, Bryan Severance, Isela Guitierrez, Adam Rushfield, Rachel Cram, Bryan Todd, Brian Peterson, Somer Arehart, Tiffany Hammer, Rena Taxopolus and Ethan Ruff.

### VARSITY BAND

It's Fiesta Time! The LVHS band is celebrating the new school year with a show that features a Latin style in everything from costumes to music. Director Phil Haines says they are performing "the most difficult music in town." You can hear them at every home football game.

A concert is planned for October 18 in conjunction with the concert choirs, jazz band, and the orchestra. On October 21, the band will participate in the Western High School Silver State Band Festival.

### CHORUS

"I'm so excited! There's no stopping these choirs! It's going to be an amazing year," says choral director Anne Stephen.

In addition to the October 18 concert, the Madrigals and Concert Choir will participate in the first-ever Multicultural Music Festival in North Las Vegas on Nov. 18.

Other plans for the season include performances at the Excalibur Hotel, Sam's Town and the Santa Fe Hotel, as well as appearances for various community groups.

### FUNDRAISER

Prior to the October 18 concert, a fundraising spaghetti dinner will be held in the LVHS student activity center. Proceeds will help pay for the varsity band, orchestra and chorus to attend workshops and concerts in Vancouver, Canada, in May.

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## A PIECE OF MY MIND

## The Tardy Policy—Ridiculous

By Gina Vaughan

According to the Clark County School District folder, tardies are an unacceptable disturbance of the teaching process and will not be tolerated.

As of the 1995-96 school year, Basic's tardy policy states that on the first tardy the student will be given a warning; the second tardy will result in RPC (Required Parent Conference); the third, Dean's Detention; the fourth, suspension of field trips or extracurricular activities; the fifth, three-day suspension; the sixth will lead to suspension of all extracurricular activities for the remainder of the year.

The idea of having such a strict policy is ridiculous. One reason would be the overcrowded hallways. Once you get stuck in them you may not get to class on time. And even though all the lockers are not being used, people still linger around them.

Senior **Sara Lavarna** thought that the overcrowded halls caused tardies because people just stand around and you have to push yourself through. Sometimes that won't even work. Junior **Adrienne Weiss** says, "You practically have to run to make it to class on time." But then, running is not allowed.

Both Lavarna and Weiss agreed that the passing period was not long enough. "We should be given a five-minute time limit on being late to class," Weiss says. Lavarna adds, "You shouldn't be marked tardy if you're only a few minutes late."

## The Tardy Policy—Good Control

By Rikki Skadoski

A lot of students may disagree with Basic's way to cut down on continually late students...it does have good points. The tardy policy proves you were in class even if you were late and marked absent, because the tardy sheet will have your signature.

**Nadine Finn**, sophomore, says "It sucks, but if you sign in they can't turn around and say you weren't there."

For non-compliance, you will be referred to the dean's office for insubordination. (The dean's progressive discipline plan is outlined by Gina Vaughan at left.)

Kay Jay, grandmother of a Basic sophomore says of the policy that it's "good because...it they want to do anything, they'll work hard not to lose their extra-curricular activities."

The loss of participation points in some classes will affect those repeatedly late, especially if they need the points.

Sophomore **Teresa Clark** says, "More people will decide to come to class because they know they'll get in trouble if they are late all the time. Robin Skadoski, mother of a sophomore, says, "...it will teach the students to work on a tight schedule and not be late."

The new policy also cuts down on those who will stop in the halls to chill out and chat with friends. CCSD hall monitor David Corona says, "Now, by the one-minute bell, most students are in class, unlike last year when a lot of students were still in the halls."

For those who are always late, next time you look at your grade and get made, just remember that you did it yourself. The tardy policy is an ongoing process...it runs for the entire school year.

## BASIC SOCCER HAS WINNING POTENTIAL

By Misty Windholz

This year's varsity soccer team is the best the school has seen since the early 1980s, according to fullback **Kenneth Lamb**. Coach Tamathy Larned believes the team has the capability to go to Zone and do well. Half the Varsity team are seniors; the rest are sophomore and a few juniors.

"We'll miss the seniors next year, but we have the potential to fill in the gaps."

Sweeper **Jon Myers** says, "This team has...many strong players and almost all of us have at least another year to play."

Center halfback John Kennedy says, "If we continue our skills and play like a team, we could win more games and do a lot better."

Fullback Robert Bowman comments, "This season is going to be the best season this school has ever seen in a long time. We even have a good chance to go to State."

## Students sizzle in sun, not in electrical fire

By Brenda Feldhouse

Basic High School recently had a small electrical fire. After fourth period, people thought there was something wrong with the bell [when the alarm sounded]. There was a lot of smoke and a bad smell, according to the teacher who pulled the fire alarm. It took the fire truck seven minutes to get to the school.

No one was injured. However, **Krystin Bunch** commented on the half-hour wait in the sun, saying "I was burning up outside, I almost left school."



LEFT: JOURNALISM TEAM. Brenda Feldhouse, Christine Reyes, Gina Vaughan, Billie Rasmussen, Rikki Skadoski, Misty Windholz, Steve Zyla, Chris Loff, Jessica Evans, Lindy Buckles, and advisor Jennifer Williamson.



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## Women's Golf

With only four members returning, Head Coach Jim Purtil doesn't know what to expect from the team. The top five include seniors Christine Guinn and Katie Kreutzer, junior Sarah Anderson, sophomore Carly Lucas, and freshman Tarah Badger. Anderson took up golf three months ago; Badger has played for eight years. (Reporter, Steve Zyla)

## Varsity Football

The '95 Varsity football team has set goals for the season. Seniors **Jose Ortiz** and **Grant Howard** want to win State. Coach Frazier's goals are to improve each game and develop the team's confidence. From the fans' point of view, senior **Angie Norrbom** and **Amber LaCosse** plan to attend more games. (Reporter, Brenda Feldhouse)



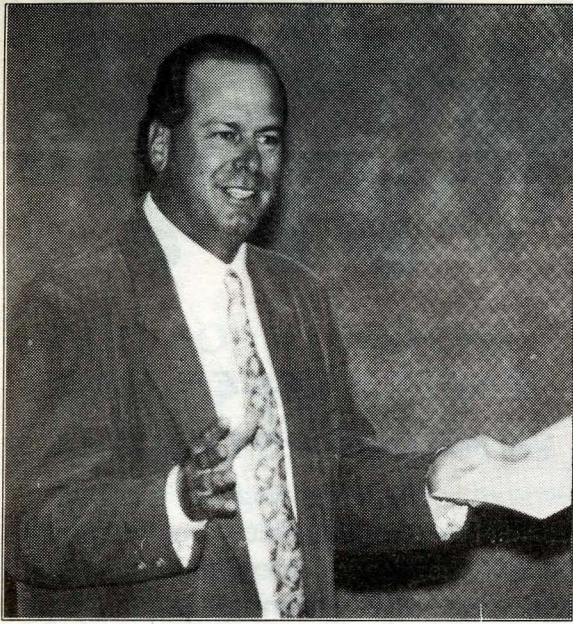
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**SUN SPEAKERS,**

Journalists who presented workshop sessions include Brian Greenspun, president of the *Las Vegas Sun*, seen in the photo at left. His session focused on editorial writing. Other reporters and writers from the *Sun* were Steve Sebelius, Marilyn Potters, Lisa Sciortino and Bryan Allison. During the lunch-time roundtable discussions, Debra Bass (*Sun* education reporter) and Scott Dickensheets (*Sun* feature writer) joined the students for box lunches and shared wisdom.



**Journalism Workshop**

Las Vegas journalists and educators presented a workshop Sept. 22 for some 125 Clark County high school journalism students and their advisers.

The first of an annual series of journalism workshops, this event was presented at the UNLV Student Union. Co-sponsors of the event were CLASS! newspaper, the UNLV Division of Continuing Education and the Greenspun School of Communication.

Students attended sessions on writing news, features, sports and editorials; interviewing; page layouts; developing story ideas; photography; and the use of PageMaker for computer-designed pages.

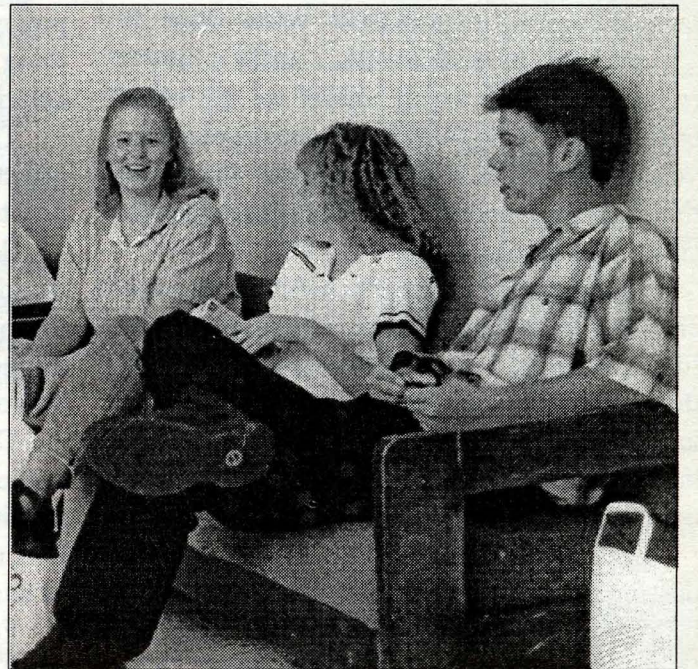
An advanced PageMaker session was taught by R-J copy editor Ched Whitney on Friday; a Saturday session for beginners was taught by math teacher Carl Spendlove of the Advanced Technology Academy.

Charles Zobell, Managing Editor of the *Las Vegas Review-Journal*, spoke to the students on newswriting. Natalie Patton, *Review-Journal* education reporter, joined the students for informal lunchtime discussions.

Workshops on interviewing and feature writing were led by Beth Rusiecki, former news reporter and now a P.R. specialist for Henderson Parks and Recreation and the Thomas & Mack Center.

**PHOTO WORKSHOP.**

Students who took the photography track, returned the next day (Saturday) to get hands-on training in the darkroom, processing and printing the photos they took at UNLV on Friday. David Phillips, president of CLASS! Publications and a professional photographer, led this two-day workshop. Phillips is shown above, talking with a student. Right: between afternoon workshop sessions. (Photos by a student photographer who did not identify himself.)



**COMBINED**  
Mary Hausch (right), assistant professor of print journalism at UNLV's Greenspun School, offered a combined workshop in sports-writing and generating story ideas.



**GENEROUS DONATIONS.**

Funding was provided by grants from Barbara Greenspun and the Greenspun Family, and by the Clark County Public Education Foundation (Judi Steele, Executive Director). Other funding by CLASS! Publications, a non-profit organization.



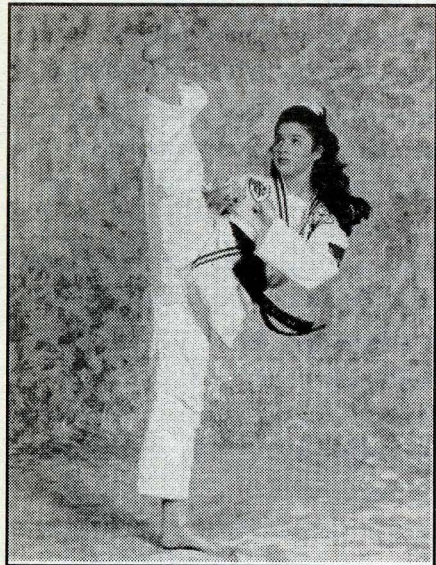
**Advisors**  
Right: Daphne Grabevoi, Silverado.  
Far Right: Jennifer Williamson, Basic



## Fiona earns her black belt in record time

By Lauren Walsh

Ten thousand people gathered to watch the Tai Kwon Do World Championships in a stadium in Little Rock, Ark. The pressure was intense; video screens exaggerated every move the two women made.



Finally, the score was settled: Fiona de Gorostiza earned a silver medal in the Women's Division.

A senior cheerleader and member of Student Council, Fiona says, "There's nothing like Tai Kwon Do in the world!"

She got her first-degree black belt in only a year and four months, while it takes the average person more than two years to earn one. Today, Fiona is the only teenage third-degree black belt in the state.

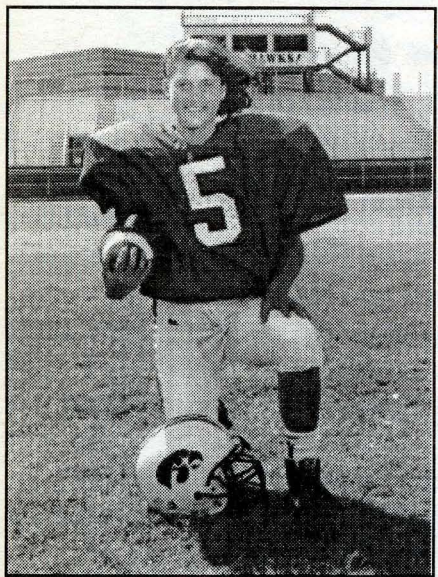
As reigning Tai Kwon Do State Champion she works as a karate instructor at Karate for Kids.

During the five years that she has practiced Tae Kwon Do, Fiona participated in the World Championships twice and won two medals. In all, she has received over 200 medals and earned 52 perfect scores in tournaments.

## First female joins Silverado football team

By Elbert Reed

The Skyhawks have a new football team member this year: Amanda Verba. After five years of Pop Warner football, Verba decided to try out for Silverado and is now on starting defense for the B-team.



"I think our football team is 100 percent better than last year," she says. Last year she was a cheerleader for a while but says cheerleading just wasn't her. Her twin brother, Joe, also a football player, encouraged her to try out for Silverado.

Verba's teammates treat her as a sister or a friend and are happy she is starting. "I think she's great," comments Tony Wagner.

Although Verba's parents want her to stop playing football after this year, she hopes to play varsity if she stays in the program.



## Jansen, Singer make their mark in Silverado sports

Reported by Chris McDonald

A pair of Silverado athletes are making waves: Sara Jansen, sophomore volleyball player, and Shana Singer, senior softball whiz.

Jansen is an outside hitter for Silverado's Varsity Volleyball Team. She has been playing volleyball since eighth grade and she spiked the team to victory early in the season.

Although she doesn't think a scholarship is realistic, Jansen plans to make the All Conference Volleyball Team by her senior year.

Singer is on her way to becoming one of the first Silverado students to get a scholarship for softball. Although softball is where her heart is, she says, "Volleyball has given me some self discipline and it's a great sport." She has played volleyball for five years, both on club teams and for Silverado.

## What's going on?

Condensed from an Editorial by Jason Le Jeune

Why is it taking so long for the School District to build the new wing at Silverado? It only takes 120 days to build a McDonald's restaurant and about six months to build a home in Green Valley.

So why should it take over a year to build a wing onto an already existing school? Why didn't they put the wing on when the original school was built?

When the CCSD built Silverado, they didn't have enough money to finish the school, so they just left off the wing that will now house the auxiliary gym, auto shop, classrooms and computer room.

Last November, voters passed a \$605 million bond issue for new construction and remodeling. Of this amount, \$22 million was used to hire a company, PFT, that combines architects, contractors and laborers. Its only purpose is to oversee the construction.

One reason PFT gives for the long delay in building Silverado's wing is that there was a greater focus on the elementary schools because that is where the demand is.

Parents complain about the educational environment. When you cram this many students into a classroom, the environment is disturbing. Teacher Daphne Grabovoi says, "The sound of 45 kids taking out a sheet of paper is deafening."

Students should attend school board meetings and be heard; get involved with the process and speak your mind. Write to your school board trustee, Jeffrey Burr, and tell him how you feel and what changes you want to see. It's your future; play your cards right.

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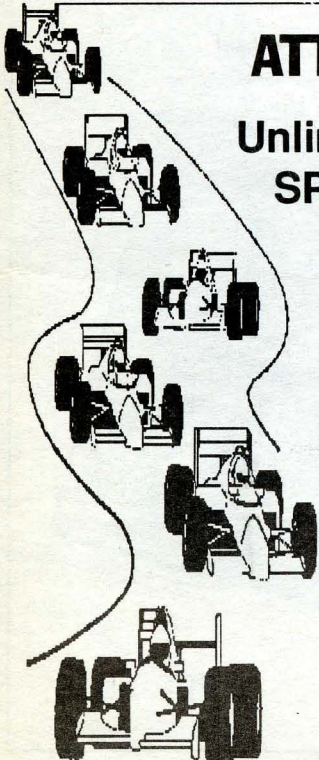
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## Add some cultcha to your life, oui?

This year's Le Cercle Francais (French Club) is creating its own tradition by scheduling a variety of exciting activities. More than 30 people showed up for the club's annual crepes-making bash. Other activities on the fire include ice skating, bowling, and trips to Magic Mountain and to see the musical Beauty and the Beast.

Officers are **Jimmy Cavaretta**, president; **Celine Gottle**, VP (an exchange student from France); **Edwina Registre**, secretary; and **Samara Dayani**, treasurer. They invite other students to join and add a little culture to after-school activities.

## Doogie Howser, eat your heart out!



Would you like to play Doogie Howser for a week? Just join Interact. The Rotary Club, which sponsors Interact, sends five students each year on a weekend trip to Mexico, to assist doctors in charity work. This involves all facets of health care, including surgery.

Interact is Bonanza's largest club, with over 50 members. Other community service planned by members are volunteering at St. Vincent's shelter, entertaining children who have AIDS, and teaching personal hygiene and other basic skills to students in the "At Risk" program in other schools.

Officers are **Carla Hubay**, president; **Sha'anna Conley**, VP; **Jennifer Farrar**, secretary; and **Andrea Garner**, historian/treasurer.

## Opening October 25 Crime, injustice, pain— and audience participation



By **Laura Gubbins**

If you think the football players and cheerleaders have it rough, practicing every day after school, then you wouldn't want to be an actor.

*Twelve Angry Jurors*, the fall play at Bonanza, has begun rehearsals. Every day, 2-5 pm, cast members rehearse, memorize, and generally polish up the production for its Oct. 25 opening.

This show is unlike any other Bonanza has seen. It was originally titled *Twelve Angry Men*, but theater director Carol Lommen changed the name and altered the play to include girls. Set in a 1950s courtroom, the intense drama deals with crime, injustice, and the difficulty of standing up for opinions.

Previews will be an interesting experience, too. Students will get a chance to participate in the action... audience members will be called up on stage to be interrogated by real life lawyers.

The cast includes **Doug Soule**, **Tim Holt**, **Laura Gubbins**, **Leslie Norvell**, **Michelle Rushforth**, **Shannon Furman**, **Elena Calderone**, **Miriam Campana**, **Jennifer Marsala**, and **Chris Doing**. **Summer Ostlund** makes her directorial debut as Lommen's assistant.

## What's a DONKEY TAIL to a Key Club member?

After kicking off the school year by operating a "Pin-the-Tail-on-the-Donkey" game at the annual Down Syndrome picnic, members of Bonanza's Key Club lined up a long list of service projects.

The students will serve lunch to the homeless at St. Vincent's once a month and will participate in the "Helping You, Helping Me" program that provides tutoring to elementary students.

New officers are **Jaime Mudd**, president; **Rick Jost**, VP; **Annie Ho**, treasurer; **Max Cadji**, secretary; **Robin Rhees**, historian; and **Shino Magaki**, sergeant-at-arms.

## Student club 'fills hole in history books'

By **Robin Rhees**

During the last school year, students **Shan O-Yuan** and **Lloyd Bansil** founded the Asian Culture Club at Bonanza in an effort to increase the student body's awareness of the Asian heritage.

The idea is to talk about situations and ideas that relate to Asians and, as Bansil puts it, "to fill up that hole that our school history books leave."

The first meeting of the Club filled every seat in the room with old and new members—and representatives from the Asian Culture Club at Durango.

Officers elected for this year are **Stephanie Lee**, president; **Cecille Lee**, VP; **Karen Frayre**, secretary; **Nino Escolar-Chua**, treasurer, and **Jocelyn De La Cruz**, historian.

The Bonanza and Durango Asian clubs will sponsor a picnic Oct. 21, which will include a five-on-five basketball tournament.

Goals for this year are visits to Chinatown and Little Tokyo in Los Angeles; to perform cultural dances and martial arts exhibitions; and to interact with Asian clubs in other schools.

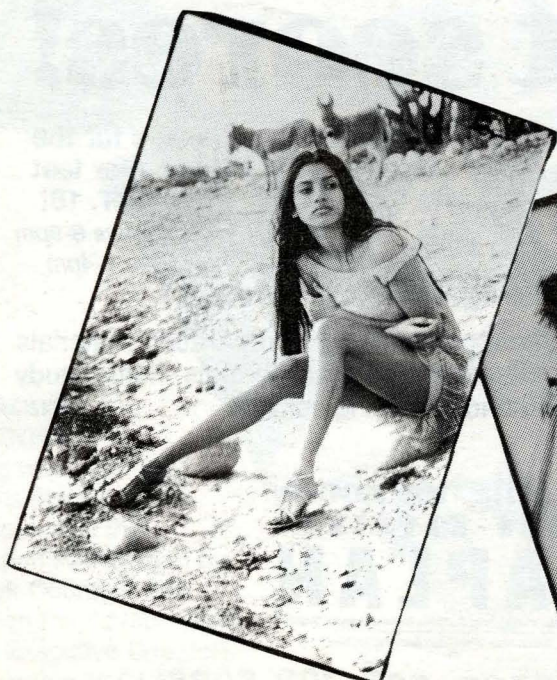
## NHS: community service can be fun, too

By **Summer Ostlund**

The National Honor Society's goal is "to give back to the community, but have fun while we're doing it," says president **Hila Yerushalmi**. Other officers for this year are **Suzanne Collins**, VP; **Eric Johnson**, treasurer; and **MaryAnn Reeder**, secretary.

In their first project, NHS members worked at the Jaycee State Fair, in the Names Project booth. The Names Project is the assemblance of quilts made by family members of AIDS victims. This service was followed by a fundraising walk for the American Heart Association and the City of Hope's Loren's Run at the Discovery Zone.

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## Nevada's juvenile laws tough—and getting tougher

By Jannie Meyer

Governor Bob Miller's Chief Legal Counselor, Margaret Springate, spoke to CHS students recently about the myriad of legal changes affecting teenagers in Nevada.

"They are some of the toughest laws that you'll find," Springate said. She also said stricter laws concerning juveniles were becoming a trend across the country.

### How old is a juvenile?

In our court system, it used to be you were considered a juvenile as long as you were under 18 years of age, but as of July first, many restrictions apply to staying within the juvenile system. Now, depending on the severity of the crime, an adolescent as young as 14 can be incarcerated with adults.

Until last July, if you were 16-18 years of age, and were adjudicated as a delinquent, and if you commit a felony—for example battery, or assault with a deadly weapon—you started out in district court. But as of July, anyone 14 or older who commits such a felony goes to district court.

(As of Oct. 1, any instrument used in a way intended to cause serious injury or death is considered a deadly weapon.)

### Print and mug 'em!

These changes also do not protect juveniles in the system as well as they used to be. Now, on any arrest, the system has the right to take a juvenile's fingerprints and mugshots. Regardless of adjudication, these will be saved in the system and will not be sealed when the adolescent reaches 18.

### Alternatives possible

These stricter consequences are there for the purpose of punishing repeat offenders and, though it's possible for first-time offenders to be convicted, many will be given less severe alternatives that are available in the juvenile system.

These alternatives include probation, sentencing to Elko or Spring Mountain, and community service—which are not usually available in the adult system. So, even if juveniles are processed through the adult system, the courts still have these alternatives for juveniles being prosecuted.

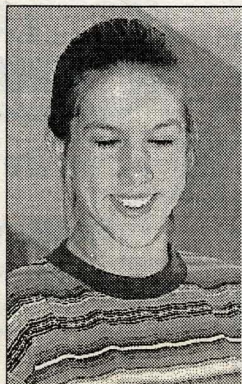
### Lose your driver's license?

Another change affects students charged with drinking alcohol, using or possessing controlled substances, or violating the Juvenile Gun Bill. Now the court must take away the juvenile's driver's license for up to two years, whereas before it was only an alternative punishment.

"The whole reason for juvenile court is to help kids so they don't get into more trouble," Springate says.

### REPORTERS--

Laura Henderson (left) and Heather Tucker wrote the story on the new schedules. Unfortunately, Laura seems to have fallen asleep for the photo. Watch future editions of CLASS to see Laura's eyes!



Meyer

## Students, staff adjust to new schedules, rules

By Laura Henderson and Heather Tucker

Chaparral seems to agree with Arby's slogan that change is good, different is better.

We've seen a few changes...with our switch to block scheduling and, this year, a new bell schedule, changes in locker distribution, and even the appearance of mountain bikes on campus. But some of the changes were beyond the school's control.

One of the issues Principal Mike West had to deal with this year was lockers, which have been around as long as the school has (22 years) and are starting to show their age. The school district was not able to fund the \$200 each for Chaparral's 2,500 lockers.

A survey taken last spring of 1,400 students showed that only 65% actually use their lockers. The first idea was to charge students \$10 for each locker, but \$5 was decided to be more reasonable. The money raised will buy new locks or replace one section of lockers at a time.

"We're not trying to make money off people or to grind them," West says.

The staff and administration initiated changes in the bell system. The goal was to make life at Chaparral reflect the real world. During the first few weeks of school, this new system bewildered students and staff—including West.

Now there is a bell at 7:15 to begin school and one at 11:44 to end lunch, warning students they have five minutes to get to class. Bells to start class remain the same, but there are no dismissal bells. Students are dismissed by the teachers.

West says that if this new system does not work, then the bell schedule from last year will be put back in place.

### Peacekeepers on wheels.

You may also be wondering why the school police are now on bikes. It enables them to cover more area in less time than is possible on foot. After many hours of training over the summer, these officers are able to go up and down stairs. But, since Chaparral's steps are so steep, West prefers not to see that happen here. All high schools are trying out police bike patrols this year.



## BRIGHT NEW IDEAS MARK HOMECOMING

Adapted from a feature by Nicole Christian

From grass skirts and coconuts to suits and ties, Chaparral's Spirit Week had it all. The theme was "Break on Through to the Other Side."

It started with Aloha Day and its after-school Hawaiian assembly. Next came Sixties Day when "polyester is back...but for a limited time only." Wednesday was Pattern Day, demonstrating class pride. Freshmen wore polka-dots, sophomores wore solids, it was stripes for juniors and plaid for seniors.

Thursday's GQ Dressy-Dress Day gave us a chance to strut our best threads, and Friday was Spirit Day. That night featured the game against the Eldorado Sundevils. (See comments below.)

Saturday's Homecoming Dance was held at the Lied Discovery Museum.



Christian

### Hot Homecoming Game!

When Chaparral and Eldorado ended the fourth quarter, they were tied, 9-9, throwing the game into overtime. OVERTIME? Think TRIPLE overtime!

The teams scored a few more touchdowns, but Eldorado missed one of the extra points. That did it. The Cowboys' scored again with a great pass, made the extra point and brought the score to a 28-27 win for Chaparral.

Thanks to Cowboys wide receiver LeVar Maxwell for this report.

## Is your hair in the wrong place?

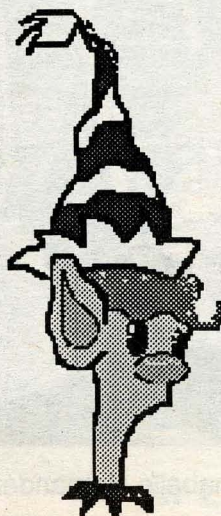
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**Tot alert!**  
**C-M makes room  
 for kids under 4**

*By Aaron McKinnon, CLASS! Staff Writer and Editor of the Clark Charger*

Cimarron-Memorial students may be rubbing elbows (if they really get down!) with children between the ages of six weeks and four years. These are the little ones who attend the daycare center on campus where C-M students have signed up for Child Development classes.

This is one of only three schools in the city that offer Child Development I and II. Under the direction of Pam Fecchino, instructor, some very state-of-the-art features will be added to the department.

Child Development II is already run like a genuine daycare, where students have the chance to display the skills they learned in Child Development I. Students in this class have the chance to work with special kids who have speech impediments and others with hearing problems.

**BECOMING CHILD CARE PROFESSIONALS**

C-M students make lesson plans and learn job skills relating to a daycare. They will soon have access to a computer program that teaches them how to manage a daycare, which includes budgeting, first aid, timecards and lesson plans.

A student must pass Child Development I with a "C" or better to get into the advanced section. If the student passes section II with a "C" or better, he or she may take a semester of child development in Community College, receiving three credits upon completion of the course.

**WHO SHOULD TAKE THIS CLASS?**

One may ask (especially if he is male), "Is this class for me?" Fecchino says "Yes," adding "Ninety percent of all the people in the world will be parents. It's much better to learn the skills [of parenting] earlier on."

Some students go into the course because of an interest in psychology, physiology, or sociology.

**DOLLY NEEDS A HUG...NOW!**

Next year, the department will receive three "Baby Think-It-Over" dolls—one Spanish, one African-American, and one Caucasian. These are very advanced dolls that cry every four hours and can be quieted only by being held for a length of time, much like an actual baby.

Students get to borrow the doll for a 24-hour period. Cimarron-Memorial is one of ten schools that will receive this valuable tool, which gives high school students a taste of how demanding (and exhausting) life as a parent will be.

Fecchino chose the field of family and consumer sciences (home economics) because she "wanted to make something I like my career, and share my skills."

**RIGHT:** Kentabius Traylor, 6 months old, and a client of CMHS's day care center.



**PREPARING FOR THE REAL WORLD**—Senior Annabelle Hernandez, a child care aide, holds 3-month-old Nitalya.



**A LITTLE TENDERNESS GOES A LONG WAY**—CMHS sophomore Derek Wallace learns the nurturing skills with day-care client Nitalya Phillips, three months old.

**Women scientists  
 provide grants  
 for female students**

The goal of the Women in Science and Mathematics (WSM) organization is to introduce young women to career opportunities available in these fields.

Christine Mayo, C-M senior, was one of 22 outstanding students who received a grant to attend the four-day WSM Workshop at the College of Mount St. Joseph in Cincinnati, Ohio.

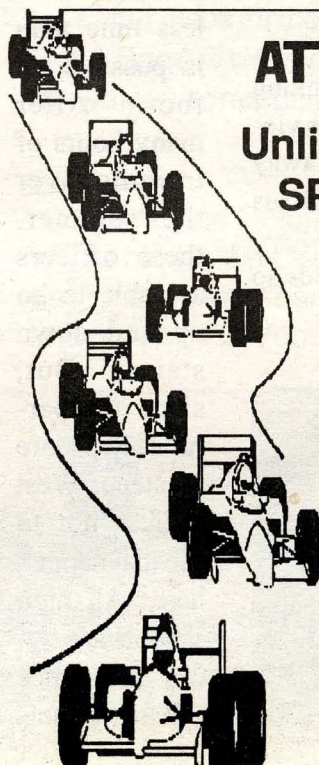
Speakers included women scientists from the areas of industry, medicine, education and small business, as well as doctors, veterinarians, biologists, geologists and mathematicians.

**C-M fools  
 crystal-ball readers**

Thanks to the Las Vegas population explosion, Cimarron-Memorial's enrollment for this school year reached 3,300, with the ninth and tenth grades being the largest.

**Wood aims for  
 life of leadership**

Junior Chad Wood represented CMHS at the annual Nevada Leadership Conference held at UNLV and was chosen as an alternate for the National conference in Boston.



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## What wears PJs, sheets, grass? Clark High kids!

By Tasha Pittman

Enormous smiles, hearts filled with pride, attitudes gleaming with spirit. That was Homecoming Week...last Monday through Saturday.

Monday was Pajama Day, when students were told to just get out of bed and come to school as you are in your PJs. On Tuesday, the guys got to show off their muscular legs and girls to show off a moustache—it was Gender Bender Day.

Toga Day came on Wednesday, and students were asked to grab an old sheet and get into that toga spirit. On Thursday, students broke out their grass skirts and flowered shirts for Hawaiian Day.

And Friday called for the wearing of the red, white and blue for Spirit Day. That was also the night of the Homecoming game between the Vikings and Las Vegas High.

Finally, on Saturday night it was the formal Homecoming Dance, with a *Lost in Paradise* theme.

## WHAT A FOOT!

By Chucky Earl

Have you noticed anything different at our Varsity football games this season? If you look in the right place, you'll see we have a girl out there!

It's Amy Scala, a senior, playing the extra-point/field goal kicker position.

Coach Murphy is the man to thank for bringing Amy into the world of football. He called Amy to ask if she would be interested in playing for the Vikings. When asked how she felt about the invitation, Amy replies, "I felt privileged when he asked."

Every day after school, Amy suits up and practices with the guys. She goes through the warm-ups with everyone, then does her kicking drills. In practice, Amy has kicked a field goal as far as 45 yards away. Now that's an amazing foot!

So far this season, Amy has made seven out of eight extra point attempts. She still has a zero in the field goal column but hopes to eliminate that stat.

## My Life as an Urban High School

By Justin Howe

Well, here goes another crazy year of people invading my halls and trampling my floors. I've been here 30 years and a lot has changed since my doors opened in 1963.

I remember back in the days when my floors were *not* carpeted. All I had was bright white tile for everyone to walk on. I felt naked until one day they started to cover my floors with beautiful burbur carpet. But even after they were covered, I still felt naked.

Then, in 1969, a group of students painted a mural on my cafeteria wall. The big Viking still stands on the wall. Since then, the tradition has carried on and my walls are filled with paintings showing school spirit and promoting Valley pride.

I remember when hazing was allowed. Once, in 1971, a senior made a freshman push a penny up the ramp with his nose. Some had to carry tons of books to class for the seniors. I felt sorry for the little freshmen, but I

knew that in a few years, I'd be watching them do the same thing.

I don't think I'll ever be able to forget how students' way of dressing has changed over the years. Pants used to be worn very tight and flared out at the bottom of the legs. These were "bell bottoms." Another popular item was the tie-dyed t-shirt...so popular that, on some days, the halls looked like a collage of color.

Hair styles were also a big thing, and BIG is the best way to describe them. Many students tried to see how large and round they could get their hair. I believe these monstrous hair styles were called Afros.

My life has been memorable. At one point in the past, there was a large student riot. I'm not sure what caused it. The riot lasted a short time but the intensity blazed for days to come. Another incident that shocked everyone: a teacher named Mr. Piggot was shot by a student. We may never know what was in that student's mind. Our football stadium was named after the teacher.

I'd like to say good luck to all the seniors. Make this the best year of your life.

## A little law experience is helpful

At the start of this semester, 12 A-Tech students were sworn in as peer counselors for Trial by Peers. This program helps pre-law students gain valuable first-hand experience dealing with the law.

During the summer, the 12 students attended classes taught by local attorneys and judges. After they completed the course, the students had to pass a "bar exam" before being eligible to serve as a peer counselor.

As a peer counselor, the students prosecute and defend first-time juvenile offenders charged with misdemeanors. Trial by Peers also provides the opportunity for students to serve in the jury to hear cases.

This program, sponsored by the Clark County Bar Association has handled 158 cases by peer counselors since 1994.

## Magazine spotlights A-Tech teacher

By Mike Smith

The *Family PC Magazine*, in a recent special supplement, did an article on Advanced Technology Academy. Photos of teachers and students were seen throughout the magazine.

John Snyder, an A-Tech computer teacher was interviewed. The focus of the interview was how A-Tech is not a technical training school...but uses technology to enhance the education of students.

## SPEAKING MY MIND

### Busing is a problem for A-Tech students

By Gabe Fisk

Most of the student body notices a slight problem with busing. Students living in the Northwest have to wait as much as an hour for the bus, while students in other areas of the Valley ride to "hubs" (transfer sites) and board other buses.

This creates a major problem for the students' social lives and study times. Many are not able to be home before 3:30 and sometimes as late as 5:30pm. To make matters worse, some of these same students have to be at their bus stops as early as 5:05 in the morning.

It seems no one can be satisfied. The School District came up with this plan to save transportation costs, but it has actually "cost" some students the chance to attend magnet schools.

A-Tech students were spared the original plan that meant a three-hour wait (thanks to some hard work by Principal Mike Kinnard), but the current situation is still not satisfactory.

It is time the School District start viewing magnet schools as equals and start giving them a decent bus system.

Kinnard feels many improvements have been made in the morning schedule, but the afternoon schedule is still atrocious.

There are plans for more afternoon buses in the Southeast routes because the switch to Standard Time would create problems with students being out at night.

Nothing can be done about adding buses to the Northwest routes because these buses are tied to hubs and some of the schools that *are* the hubs don't get out until 2:30.

Those who attended A-Tech last year may remember complaining about getting home between 3:00 and 3:30. Now it appears that most students are getting home even later.

Unless the School District can put together something better soon, A-Tech and other magnet schools may be doomed.



Justin Howe



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## GVHS math teacher featured in 'TIME'

By Kelly Clark

Poole



Have you ever dreamed of having a page dedicated to you in one of your favorite magazines? Well, dreams can come true. Bobbie Poole, Green Valley math teacher, was one of 100 teachers across the U.S. given the Tandy Technology Scholars "Champion of the Classroom" award. She received a \$2,500 prize and was featured in the Sept. 4 issue of *Time* magazine. Page 12 was dedicated to her.

"I was surprised and grateful because there are so many different people who could have won," she says. "I'm so glad they selected me."

Tandy Technology Scholars also honor and awarded \$1,000 scholarships to 100 high school students across the country. Casey Cornwell, a 1995 graduate, was the GVHS student recognized. Green Valley was one of only six high schools in the U.S. to have both a teacher and a student awarded this special acclaim.

Poole was also inducted into the Clark County School District Educator's Hall of Fame, along with Carroll Johnston, principal, and Pam Salazar, dean. Currently, Poole is the Green Valley High School *Teacher of the Month*.

After an "exciting and challenging" 30 years of educating in Las Vegas, the math teacher will enter "the great world of retirement" at the end of this school year. She plans to kick back with her husband (whom she met in a two-room schoolhouse in Goodsprings, NV) and travel across the U.S. in their motor home.

"I am really going to miss teaching," says Poole, who also coaches the GVHS bowling team and was once a cheerleading advisor. "It's very exciting watching kids learn. I have enjoyed it so much."



Kelly Clark, reporter



Nicole Brende, reporter



Jamie Lee Foster, above, is a member of the Gator women's tennis team. Both the men's and the lady Gators teams captured first place in the Sunrise Division, with an 8-0 record in the zone.



The Credit Union Gang

## Work-day or school-day? Both.

By Nicole Brende

It's not often students get a chance to work at a real job during the school day. This year, several students work in the Silver State Schools Federal Credit Union executive branch housed in Green Valley High School. The students dedicated two weeks of their summer to receiving teller training at the main branch.

Workers include Laura Agan, Nicole Brende, Tonya Fleck, Sean Forbush, Shawnese Hollimon, Mark Kennoy, Matt Mullin, Dustin Topiccolo and Heather Wallace.

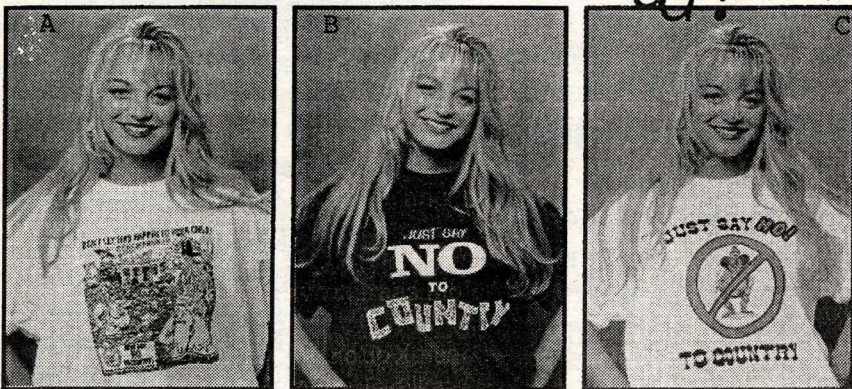
These students gain work experience and social skills. Pleased with the success that the credit union has brought to former GVHS students, branch advisor Donna Fitzgerald states, "It's the best thing that has ever happened to us." She points out that all but two former students who have worked in the credit union landed jobs with banks. One student sharpened his business skills enough to purchase his own travel agency.

SSSFCU partnered with Green Valley High School to open the first school branch in Nevada three years ago, pioneering this concept for the entire West Coast.

"It's great to walk into the school credit union and be greeted by friendly students who do their best to offer fast and efficient service," says English teacher Jackie Carducci. "It sure beats driving to a bank and waiting in long lines."

Roger Jacquot, head of the GVHS business department, says "Teaching kids how to handle money before graduation is very important; if students are able to handle money before college, the transition from high school will not be as tough."

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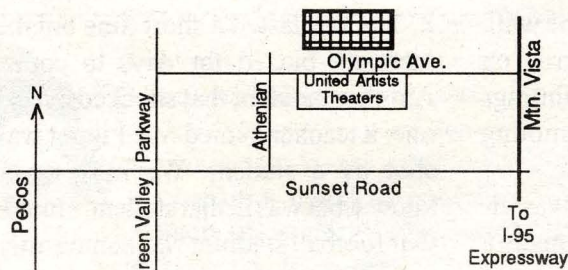
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## Winning teacher credits students for NAWIC award

By Nicole Brende

"It isn't me...it's the kids," said John Lawrence, Green Valley's VICA advisor and drafting instructor, when he was honored by the National Association of Women in Construction (NAWIC).

For five years, GVHS has participated in the NAWIC drawing contest, and Lawrence notes, "For the past five years, GVHS students have won two out of three places in the drawing contest." Chris Thoman and Christie Stewart, 1995 graduates, won first and third in the NAWIC competition.

This year's contest is to design a park. Students have until April 1996 to complete the task. Entries are evaluated for detail, accuracy and originality. The competition creates an awareness of job opportunities in the construction industry. It provides recognition to students who prove to be creative in design, and successful in problem solving and craftsmanship.



**NATIONAL MERIT SEMIFINALISTS.** Back row (l-r) Catherine Fenoglio, Michelle Velardo, Ryan Stofferahn, Wilfredo Escobar, Nathan Donald. Front row (l-r) David Sommer, Val Tramonte, and Joene Yukes. Also commended in the 1996 National Merit program, but not pictured here, are Ryan Bayley, Ifang Chen, Sarah Dunn, Robert Handsfield, Stephen Mangapit, Adam Miller, Matthew Seaton, Samantha Slade and Adam Weber.



**ABOVE: CHEERS!**

The GVHS varsity cheerleading squad received the TEAM award for excellence in teamwork at the National Cheerleading Association's summer camp. The JV and freshman squads added to their honors at a similar camp at UNLV.



**ROYALTY.** Student body president Manus Edwards and track star Carron Allen were crowned as GVHS Homecoming king and queen for 1995-96. The court included queen candidates Stacy VanSweringen, Connie Vento, Kristin Villamor and Amber Zockell. The king's court consisted of Jeff Carter, Nick Day, Jose Estrada and Trevor Jensen.

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## Get your head ready for college

(Continued from Page 2)

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### WHAT IS THE REAL WORLD?

2. Decide on your goals—what you hope to learn in college and do in the “real world” afterwards.

### DON'T LEAP TOO SOON

3. Maybe choose your major, even though you might change it during your college years. (Two out of three will change their majors at least once by the time they graduate...some change six times or more.) You might do well to start college as an undecided “Exploring Major,” which gives you time to figure out what you want to do with the rest of your life.

### GET REAL

4. Make sure your goals are realistic. For example, if you are weak in math and science, is electrical engineering a practical degree for you to go for? (But know this: just because you have a particular academic weakness, it does not mean you are not able to achieve this goal.)

### IT'S YOUR LIFE!

5. Ask yourself WHOSE goal you are pursuing. Are you going to college because your parents insist on it? If you are not going for your reasons, your chance of success in college may be low. Remember, your parents will not be taking your notes, doing your homework, or taking your tests. Give this serious thought.

### CHECK 'EM OUT CAREFULLY

6. Start looking for a college as soon as possible—best during your junior year in high school—so you have plenty of time to meet entrance requirements. Research as many colleges and universities as you can to get a better perspective of what each one has to offer you. (Your counsellor can be great help with this.)

### ENTRY-LEVEL JITTERS

What should you expect during your freshman year?

1. Expect to be lost and confused—it happens to nearly all first-year students. Where are my classes? What's a blue book...a core class...an “incomplete”? Why are there 400 students in my Psych 101 class? College is nothing like high school!

### THIS IS SERIOUS

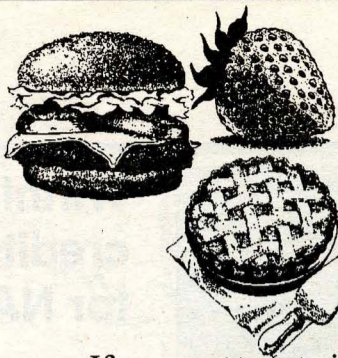
2. Expect to read a lot—80% of your homework will be reading. The general rule is this: for every credit hour you take, you should study at least two hours a week for that credit. If you sign up for 12 credits, plan to study at least 24 hours a week.

### BUT HELP IS THERE

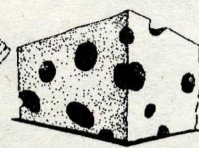
3. Expect to have an academic advisor, who can help you select courses, write letters of recommendation, or just be a friendly ear.

### BABY STEPS

4. Expect to develop certain skills during this critical year: how to use the library, develop study habits, manage time and money, “decode” your professors, study just about anywhere, make decisions on your own, stand up for yourself without stepping on others, and—most important—become a leader.



## Culinary Training Center offers high school students chance for 'jump start'



If you want to get a jump-start in the culinary industry—even while you are in high school—you can apply to the Culinary Union Training Center.

The Center provides education and job skills related to work in hotels and restaurants. It is sponsored by the Culinary Union and dozens of major Las Vegas hotels. Up to 150 students are training at any given time, according to Executive Director Mark Solomon.

One of the advantages, he explains, is that the Culinary Union accepts this training as work experience when graduates register at the Union and then are placed on the “A” list for job referral.

Minimum age to get into the program is 16 and your only cost is to register at the Culinary union (\$22.50) and get on their out-of-work list. If money is a problem, the Training Center can help you with this fee.

Classes are scheduled so that you can continue to attend high school while learning skills that the hotels require for employment. If you already have some limited experience, the Training Center can help you upgrade your skills for higher-level positions.

For example, if you have no experience and want an entry-level job, you may train as a bus person or kitchen worker. One class meets after school hours, from 3:30 to 9pm. With only 10 students per class, this 2-week session gives you lots of individual attention.

However, if you already have experience as a bus person, you can train for the higher-paying job of food server in a six-week course. Same hours, same limited class size for both of these sessions.

The Training Center operates a restaurant in the Day's Inn, Fremont at 7th Street, downtown. Serving breakfast, lunch and dinner, the restaurant provides the hands-on experience that students need. They learn about customer service, kitchen equipment, standard restaurant practices, culinary “language,” and a variety of skills that will make them more valuable employees.

Other classes include cook's helper, prep/fry cook, porter, even guest room attendant. The program also offers GED classes and English as a Second Language.

For more information, call 385-2131.

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## Block scheduling is fine... but what's my next class?!

By Lee Tone

He walked through the halls, his face in an Eldorado folder. Time was ticking away the four-minute passing period. His eyes traced the new schedule...still no answer to his question: "What class do I go to this period?"

Eldorado students were greeted with a "Unique School Plan" designed to give extra time in class periods for hands-on and interactive learning.

"It gives teachers an opportunity for closure," says principal Gail Dixon, adding that it allows for interaction in classes other than the usual science labs. Dixon sees the new plan as an advantage to students, pointing up that classes are less note-taking and more active student involvement.

### FOOD FOR THOUGHT

A key part of the schedule is the 20-minute nutrition break mid-day. This break was instituted because having time to move around, eat, drink and refresh the body makes it easier to learn.

Dixon talks about some of the problems. "Some teachers haven't changed their teaching style," she says. "They haven't adapted to the longer periods." She also notes that new ways to learn take longer to get used to. "We assume students know how to learn and they don't. We aren't teaching you very well."

The principal plans to work with teachers on this issue of new ways to learn. "Some are not aware of the current teaching methods that newer teachers learned when they went to school."

### FACE THE MUSIC AND DASH!

Plans are underway for additions and changes in Eldorado. The school will be put back together after five years of retrofit and a new bell system will be worked out. Instead of bells during the passing period, music will be used to let students know that it is time to go to class.

"When the music ends it's time to be in class," Dixon explains.

A Student Bill of Rights is planned, to give students guidance in standing up and correcting things that are unfair to the student. Students throughout the school will be consulted on the writing of this document.

At various times during the year, studies will be done to see how block scheduling affects learning at Eldorado. Until then, we have to use the new system...and give it an opportunity to work to our advantage.

## NJROTC: national honors—again!

By Jim Hurley

In 1995, the Eldorado NJROTC reached national status by winning the CNET (Chief of Naval Education and Training) Award. This makes it 12 consecutive years that Eldorado has reached National Honor Status.

The award was the fourth CNET the unit has won, and the third in the last four years. Eldorado has continued to be one of the top NJROTC units in the country.

"The hard work of the cadets and the enormous support we get from our great principal, Gail Dixon, are the reasons we are so successful," says Cmdr. Bill Thomas, the unit's senior Naval Science instructor.

## Soccer team looking at top-four finish

By Mark Kohut

Hard work and dedication. That's what you'll see on the playing field of the Eldorado soccer team, last year's zone champions. This year's team is led by returning senior captain **Jeff Alexander** and captain **Jace Jones**.

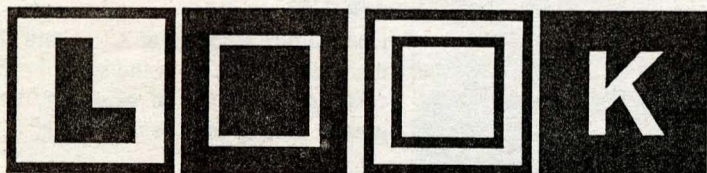
Even with the loss of eight starting seniors, Alexander says, "the team has more confidence than ever."

Eldorado started the season with a win over the Las Vegas Wildcats. At the Chino Valley Invitational Tournament, the Devils beat Sedona (AZ) High 5-0, and after losing a hotly-contested game to Desert Christian, the Devils came out in a rage, won the next two games, and

ended the tourney with a 3-0-1 record.

This year's team (six seniors, eight juniors, three sophomores) is expected to finish in the top four, according to Jones. That would make Eldorado eligible for another zone appearance.

With a young defense consisting of one returning starter, **Tyler Skaery** (better known as *Psycho*) is expected to be a great asset. Goalie **Leo Amador** is determined to give Sunrise Division teams a run for their money. Offense is the key to the Devils' strategy, with the deadly foot of **Jared Alexander** and the sweet, dazzling moves of **Rob Grimshaw**.



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## ATTC teaches 'green thumb' skills

By Aaron McKinnon CLASS! Staff Writer and Editor of the Clark Charger

There's an art you may be unaware of all around you. This art turns the bleak desert into an attractive environment. It turns a boring yard into a lush garden.

This art is horticulture, which is landscape design and maintenance, floral design, and the study of plants and how they are grown. Few plants are native to the Las Vegas area that most would consider attractive—and even they are sparse.



Aaron McKinnon

The Horticulture Program at ATTC, instructed by Amber Drabant and Robert Stropky, prepares students to work in an industry in which they add color and lushness to the Las Vegas valley.

"What students learn are skills that they can use their entire life," says Stropky, who developed the program in 1977, "even if they never get into the horticulture industry."

He points out that "We're all consumers of plant products and what's needed to grow them—we have yards, we mow, fertilize, grow flowers—it's a truly useful education."

The program has even worked to give ATTC, itself, a more decorative look.

"It's awesome...I know no other way to describe it," says Drabant, in reference to the greenhouse at the school. Last year, the horticulture program grew close to 6,000 bedding plants and sold them to local nurseries.

Drabant and Stropky prepare their students to work in industry, private enterprise, floral shops, or greenhouses. According to Drabant, all hotels in Las Vegas have horticulture departments...ample job opportunities for ATTC graduates.

After completing this two-year course, the student has the option to take a test and receive three credits from the Community College. In addition, the student also receives a vocational certificate.

Students in the program take part in field trips and internships at local businesses. The field trips include water conservation parks, succulent gardens, and local businesses such as nurseries and florists.

Guest speakers have included rangers and fire department officials.

Former student **Shawn Watt** started as a carry-out employee at Star Nursery, Stropky reports, and today Watt is the manager of the company's Cheyenne store, supervising 43 employees.

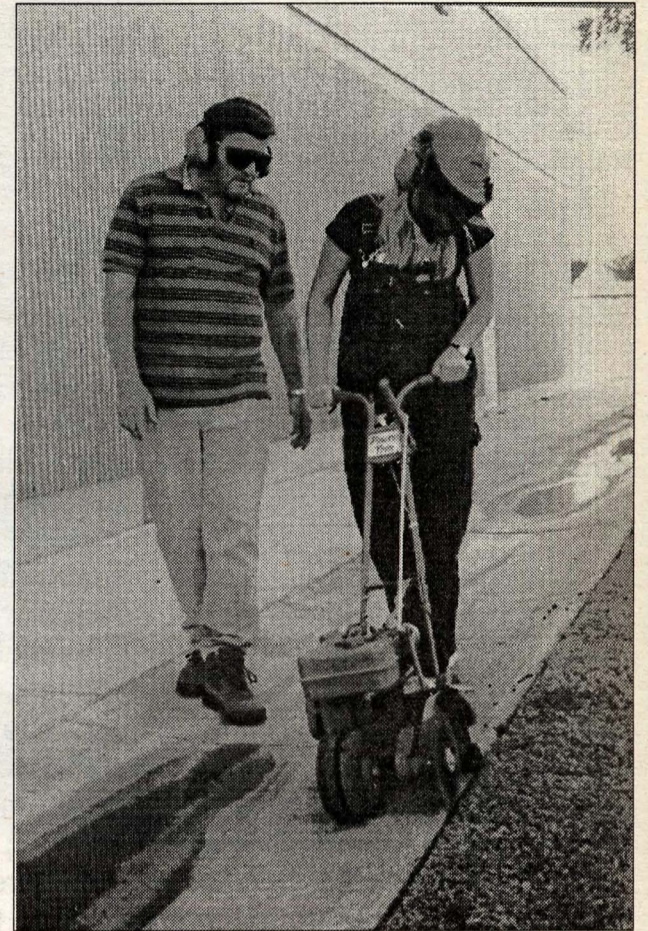
Another student, **Bobby Rivera**, works in golf course maintenance at the very upscale Tournament Players Club in Summerlin. **David Lacey**, an ATTC grad, is going to college fulltime and is earning \$7 an hour working at the Desert Demonstration Gardens.

Drabant describes ATTC as a "positive, clean, exciting environment. It's exciting to teach kids who demand to learn."

She says her reason for going into horticulture is "I fell in love with making things grow and watching them develop."



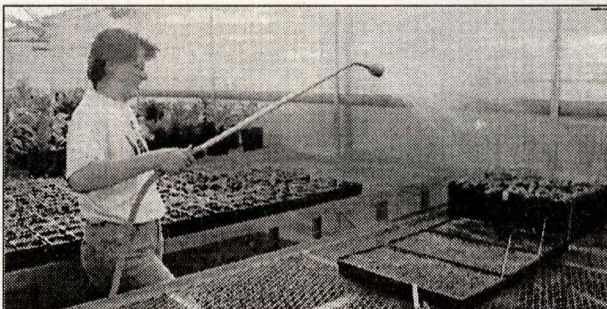
ABOVE: Mike Hinton, a Boulder City High School junior, re-arranges ATTC's display of house plants.



RIGHT: Instructor Robert Stropky teaches Shelly Free how to edge lawns. Free's home school is Western High.



ABOVE: Horticulture students at ATTC are cleaning out the dead growth from the school property. The cost-cutting reduction of water use caused a greater than usual loss of foliage.



LEFT: Stacey Apple, a senior also attending Las Vegas High, is watering pansy plugs.

PHOTOS by David Phillips

High school students...  
**Help is here!**

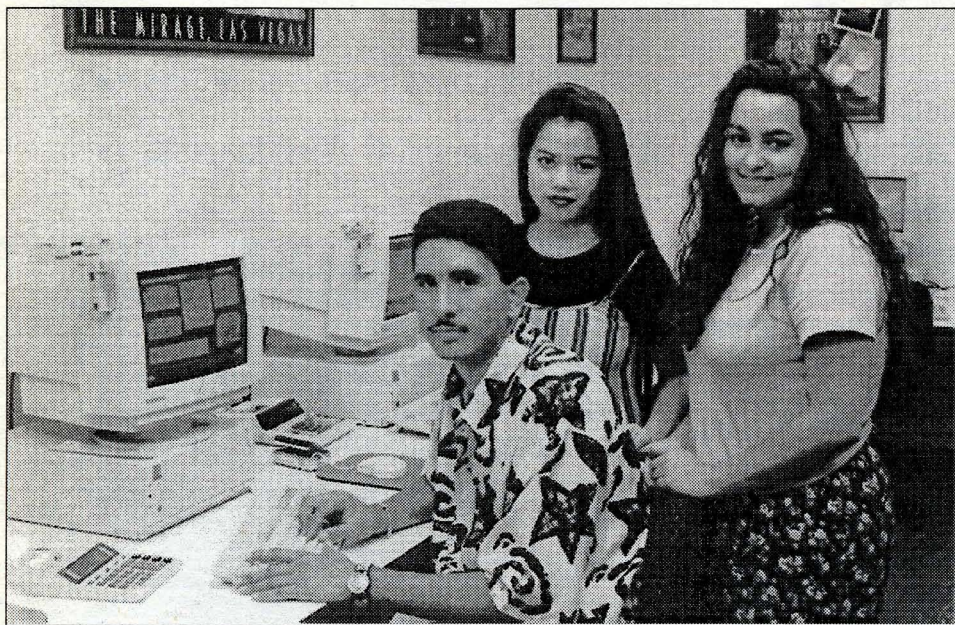
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## Students prepare for good jobs in Hotel Front Desk



### LOCAL CAREER SCHOOL FILLS WAITING POSITIONS

The Career Training Institute provides training that prepares students for entry-level jobs as hotel front desk employees. These positions include room reservations, front desk or rack clerk, night auditor, and others.

"We have many more jobs available in the community than we have graduates to send," says Bob Schneider, director of admissions for the Career Training Institute in Las Vegas. "So we lowered our price to attract more students and added another daytime class."

#### Fast track to a career

Each course takes four weeks to complete at a rate of four hours a day, Monday-Friday. High school students can get a head-start on their future careers by taking the afternoon sessions that don't conflict with school schedules. Classes are limited to seven so each student gets maximum personalized attention from the instructor.

At the end of the course, students receive a certificate of completion and a package of credentials. Before graduation, the Institute arranges job interviews for each student.

#### A hotel system in your hand

Training takes a hands-on approach with exercises in each task required of front desk employees. Each student has his or her own fully-computerized hotel system. The program also traces the relationships among hotel, food and beverage, and casino operations so that students have a complete overview of today's sophisticated hotel industry.

The program also includes 18 hours devoted to the hiring process and helping the student adapt to the workplace. Other topics include stress management, guest services, mock interviews and resume writing.

An introduction to hotel law, sales, human resources, and discussions of union and non-union jobs are covered, along with an intensive introduction to the hotel/accounts receivable computer system.

**LEFT: PEOPLE YOU KNOW.** Three 1995 grads from area high schools are currently enrolled in the Hotel Front Desk program at Career Training Institute.

**Raquel Rodriguez** (Las Vegas High School) wants to prepare for a hotel job that will help her work her way through the Community College

dental hygiene program.

**Victor Alarcon** (Rancho High) sees this as a good start to get into the hotel management field. He appreciates the small-enrollment classes.

**Nittaya Keosavang** (Eldorado High) remembers walking through hotels as a little girl and wishing she could have a job at the front desk.

### YouthWorks thrive at Lied Discovery Museum

## Volunteers discover their own talents and earn school credits while donating time for fun

"I used to be really shy," says Alicia Morales, who graduated from Rancho High in May. "But after working here for a while, I got accustomed to speaking before large groups."

The groups are usually elementary school children and teachers; the "here" is the Lied Discovery Children's Museum in downtown Las Vegas; and the "speaking" is Alicia's demonstrations of the Museum's exhibits.

"My favorite is Stuffed," she says of the doll that is used to teach anatomy, including internal organs.

Alicia first became a volunteer at the Museum 18 months ago, in the Teen Leader program, and, after graduation, was hired to work part-time as an exhibit assistant. She recommends the experience to her friends—not only for the paycheck, but because she learned so much.

"I learned to be a responsible person, to be on time for a job, and I learned how important it is to give my time to help others," Alicia says. She is now a business major at UNLV.

#### From volunteer to paid position

High school students—male and female—are part of the Teen Leader staff at the Lied Discovery Children's Museum.

The Clark County School District gives credits for volunteer service, which is great for students who are credit-deficient. A volunteer can earn a half-credit for 60 hours in a semester, or one full credit for 120 hours during the school year. In addition, high school marketing students can earn work experience credits.

#### Commitment required.

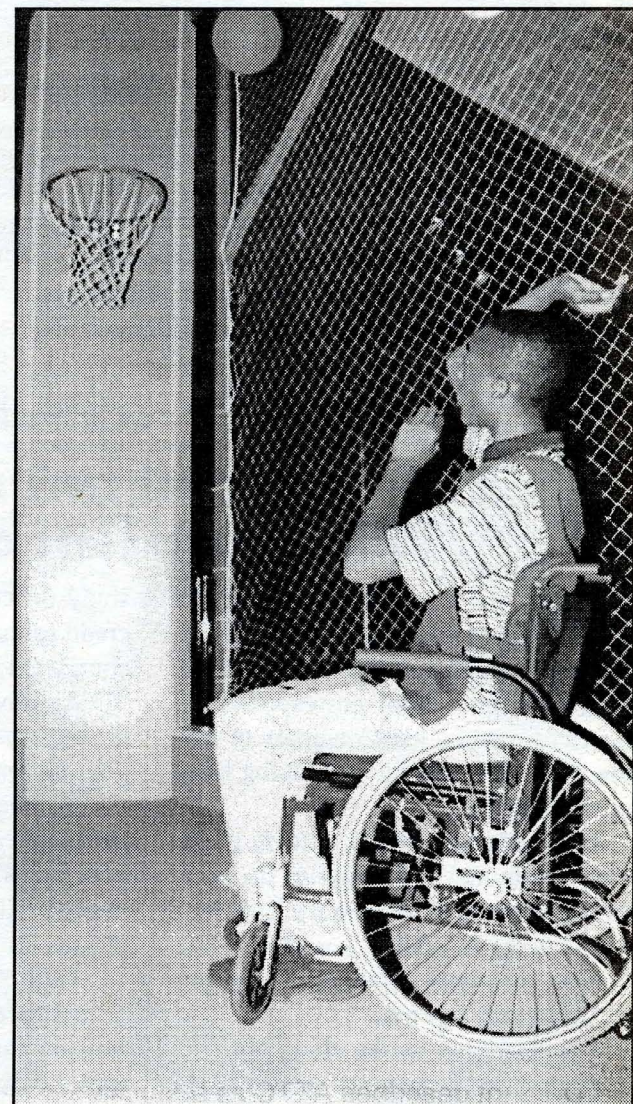
The only requirements for joining the program are that students attend school, and that they show up at the Museum for all weekly meetings. (Miss a meeting and no work that week!) Once accepted, the volunteers receive training at the exhibits.

Right now, there are about 15 teens working at the Museum, either as volunteers or part-time employees—all in high school. The staff hopes to recruit 20 more during the school year and perhaps 30 for summer work.

#### Safe haven—alternative to gangs

"This program is set up for young people to succeed," says Marie Bernardi, YouthWorks Coordinator. "It's a safe place for kids to be."

(Continued on the next page)



**Show and Tell.** J.R. Smith demonstrates the skills needed to play wheelchair basketball. Children are invited to give this exhibit a try to better understand the disabled.

## Careers in Fashion

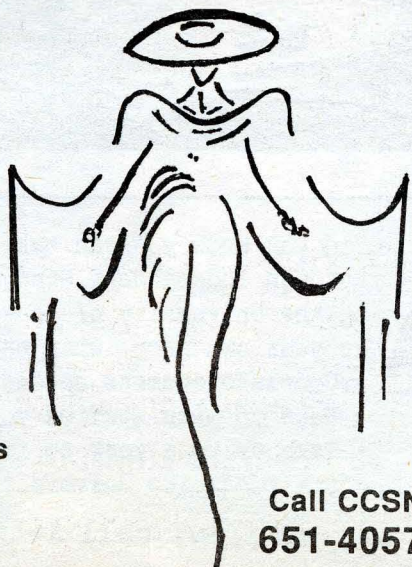
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# THE LAST WORD

## Teens find safe haven, friendship, self-confidence at Discovery Museum

(Continued from page 23)

### An alternative to gangs

"This program is set up for young people to succeed," says Marie Bernardi, YouthWorks Coordinator. "It's a safe place for kids to be."

Her observation is loaded with meaning. Several volunteers are former gang members who find safety, friendship, hope and opportunity in the program.

Jason (not his real name) says he used to come only for the money, but admits that volunteering at the Museum "is a lot better than staying at home and getting in trouble." He is no longer involved in a neighborhood gang and is playing football for his high school.

"I learned not to tell people to f-off," says another former gang member who recalls how he used to react when people gave him orders or a reprimand. He attended night school so he could graduate on time.

"Joanne" had a baby at age 15 and quit school. She later returned, was graduated, and is splitting her time between college classes and working part-time at the Lied Discovery Museum.

Another teen mother stuck with her Museum job throughout her pregnancy, but had to resign when she quit school. She is considering a return to school so she can graduate—and again work at the exhibits.

### Learning life's little skills

"This is an educational institution," Bernardi explains. "We're here to teach kids how to be employees. The days are long gone when you could get along

without an education. Today you must have a marketable skill." She notes that one of her motivated volunteers is the first one in her family to graduate from high school.

Of the first 10 Teen Leaders, Bernardi says, five are working elsewhere, four still volunteer at the Museum, and one (who started as a volunteer when she was 14) works and attends college part-time.

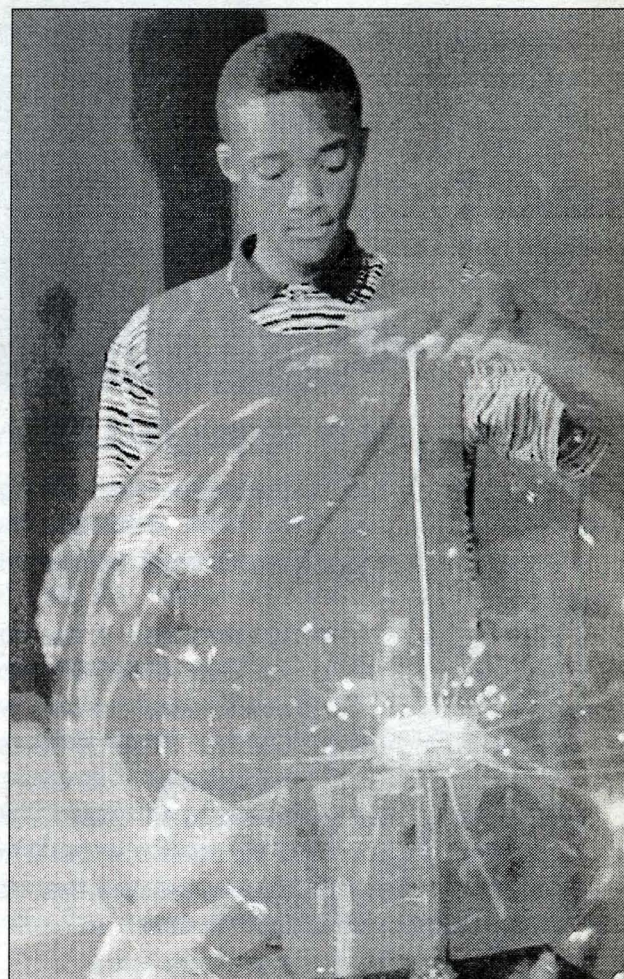
"A support group develops among the teens in this program," explains Bernardi. "A physically disabled volunteer is helped by other kids; the older volunteers give advice and become role models for the younger ones."

(YouthWorks includes a modified program for junior high school students.)

Patty (not her real name) joined the program with an attitude: "I do dumb classes because that's all I can do." She left the first meeting crying. Just two months later, Patty was handling demonstrations to explain viscosity, confident that she not only *could* do them, but she *enjoyed* it.

"Matt" is a trumpet player attending the Las Vegas Academy. He started as a volunteer at age 12 and now, at 15, is a role model for the younger boys.

"One of the really neat things about the program," says Bernardi, "is how the kids interact and cooperate, no matter what their social or economic status. Honor students work with gang members ... it doesn't matter ... it all works out."



ABOVE: J.R. Smith (Las Vegas Academy student) demonstrates the static electricity ball. BELOW: Alicia Morales (1995 Rancho grad) works the main desk at the Lied Discovery Museum, part of her rotating duties throughout the facility. Here, Alicia gives an information brochure to Silvia Samon.

### The "write" way to graduate

## Earn high school credits with UNR correspondence courses

Photos by David Phillips

Clark County students may earn up to five credits toward graduation outside the traditional school setting. One popular choice is high school correspondence courses offered by the University of Nevada, Reno, through its Continuing Education Division.

This program offers credits in 26 different courses in computer literacy, world literature, world history, U.S. history, U.S. government, sociology, life sciences, physical science, contemporary math and algebra.

### Cut your time in the classroom

High School students interested in earning credits through correspondence study must complete an application form available in the counselor's office or directly through UNR's correspondence

study office. The cost is \$70 per half-credit (plus books) and the work must be completed within 12 months.

Approval by your principal is required if you want to apply the credits toward your diploma.

You can accelerate your graduation, take interesting courses not available at your school, study at home if you are dealing with an illness, or just take some classes for your own pleasure.

High School correspondence classes are approved by the State Board of Education and taught by state-certified Nevada high school teachers.

UNR's Independent Study of Correspondence staff can help you with any questions you may have. Call toll-free, 1-800-233-8928.



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