Uncovering the Secrets of an Ancient Culture

UNLV anthropology professor
Bernardo Arceaza
The UNLV Alumni Association presents

HOMECOMING 1993

Alumni, students, and those who have helped celebrate Homecoming in years past know that the UNLV Alumni Association plans several days of great events and activities every fall. This year the celebration will be better than ever!

Homecoming Schedule of Events

Tuesday, October 19
Alumni Golf Tournament, noon, four-person scramble
Highland Falls Golf Course

Wednesday, October 20
Variety Show, Student Union

Thursday, October 21
Dinner/ballet event, Cinderella
6 p.m., Richard Tam Alumni Center

Friday, October 22
Rebel Rally, 11 a.m., UNLV's Academic Mall
Free food and drinks; pep rally with football team, cheerleaders, floats, and banner contest; Homecoming Court announced.

The Homecoming Celebration
7 p.m., Richard Tam Alumni Center
Food, drinks, entertainment, 10-, 20-, and 25-year reunions.

Saturday, October 23
Tailgate party, 5 p.m., Alumni Park (SE corner of the Silver Bowl)
UNLV/Utah State Football Game, 7 p.m., Sam Boyd Silver Bowl.

For more information about Homecoming, call the Alumni Relations Office at 895-3621.
UNLV physical anthropologist Bernardo Arriaza in his lab in Wright Hall. Photo by James Romano.

Editor: Suzan Dilcilla
Assistant Editors: Diane Russell, Susie Greene
Art Director: John Hobbes
Contributing Editor: Tom Flagg
Contributing Writer: Barbara Cloud
Illustrator: John Hobbes
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UNLV/School District Program Wins National Award

A unique educational program developed by UNLV’s College of Education and the Clark County School District received first-place honors in a national competition earlier this year. The Cultural Diversity Bridge to Academic Success program—aimed at providing more minority teachers for Southern Nevada schools—was selected by the Association of Teacher Educators as the winner of the 1993 Distinguished Program in Teacher Education Award. The award was presented to UNLV and school district representatives at the association’s annual convention in Los Angeles. "We at UNLV are proud to have received this honor for a program we developed in partnership with the Clark County School District,” UNLV President Robert C. Masson said. “Our College of Education and the school district work closely on many issues of teacher education, and it is gratifying to see these efforts recognized by the National Association of Teacher Educators." A major part of UNLV’s winning program is a cooperative effort through which qualified school district employees interested in becoming elementary school teachers study toward education degrees at UNLV. The participating employees, who include teacher aides and secretaries, come from culturally diverse backgrounds. Other components of the program include a cultural diversity task force, a world-cultures camp, and a program that brings fifth-grade minority students to UNLV to foster their interest in teaching careers. Elaine Jarcho, dean of the College of Education, said this award is the direct result of a major cooperative effort between the university and the school district. “We joined forces to develop a program that would benefit the children of Southern Nevada by providing them with increasing numbers of well-trained teachers from culturally diverse backgrounds,” Jarcho said. “Neither UNLV nor the school district could have done this alone.” The teacher training program focuses on helping school district employees complete their college education. To improve their chances of successfully finishing college while working full-time for the school district, the program was tailored to meet their needs. Classes are offered at night and on weekends at locations convenient for the participants. Also, many of the classes are self-contained to encourage students to form a support network among themselves. Donations from Citizens Nevada, Continental National Bank, Atlantic Richfield Co., First Western Savings Bank, Pioneer Citizen’s Bank, and Silver State Schools Federal Credit Union remitted other financial obstacles for the students by covering the cost of tuition and books.

English Professor Joe McCullough Receives Outstanding Faculty Award

English professor Joe McCullough has been selected as this year’s recipient of the UNLV Alumni Association’s Outstanding Faculty Award. The association’s awards committee selected McCullough based on his teaching, writing, and research, as well as on evaluations from students and alumni.

The award has been an Alumni Association tradition since 1975. Each year, the association’s awards committee selects an outstanding faculty member from a list of nominees provided by university alumni, faculty, staff, and students. “It’s a great honor to receive an award from students and alumni because that’s why we get into this profession—to reach students,” McCullough says.

McCullough, who is acting chair of the English department, has taught at UNLV since 1969.

Alumni Association Establishes New Voting Procedure

The UNLV Alumni Association has instituted a new mail-in voting procedure for the election of association officers. In the past, alumni have been required to come to the Alumni Relations Office to cast their ballots. Now, voting is being conducted by mail. All alumni who are dues-paying members of the association should have received ballots in the mail in August. Completed ballots must be received by the Alumni Relations Office by Sept. 8.

The change was implemented by the association’s board of directors at its April meeting. Alumni Relations Director Fred Albrecht said the change was made to improve the election process. "We wanted to increase the number of votes and make it more representative of the alumni," he said. Alumni association members who did not receive ballots or those who have other questions should call the Alumni Relations Office at 895-3621 or 1-800-829-ALUM.

Women’s Center, Scholarships Funded by Nidetch Gift

The founder of Weight Watchers International has given UNLV $1 million to provide financial support for the UNLV Women’s Center and to establish a scholarship endowment. The gift came through the UNLV Foundation. Jean Nidetch, a Las Vegas resident and founder of the well-known weight control organization, is providing $500,000 to support the Women’s Center and another $500,000 to create the Jean Nidetch Women’s Center Scholarship Endowment. The Women’s Center will also be named for Nidetch.

"It is a privilege and an honor to participate in the activities of a university that I have admired at a distance for many years," Nidetch said. "I look forward to becoming involved with UNLV’s Women’s Center and assisting in furthering the education of women in Nevada." UNLV President Robert C. Masson said that the university is very grateful to Nidetch for choosing to support the Women’s Center. "Her generosity ensures that the center will flourish and become an important resource on our campus. And, of course, we are always pleased when a donor provides funding for scholarships, which enable many students to continue their educations."

The endowment will fund general scholarships, with no restrictions based on gender, residence, scholastic achievement, or course of study. However, preference will be given to those applicants who demonstrate that they have overcome some form of adversity or hardship. The Women’s Center is a new resource on campus that is designed to help empower all women to reach their full potential. Its mission is to enhance the academic and personal development of women in Southern Nevada and across the state.

Building the Future

The following UNLV capital improvement projects have been completed recently, are under construction, or are being planned.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Project Description</th>
<th>Estimated Cost</th>
<th>Estimated Completion Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>White Hall Lab Expansion</td>
<td>$500,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Student Health Addition</td>
<td>$750,000</td>
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<td>Thomas &amp; Mack - Hockey Renovation</td>
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<td>Physics Bldg./Chemistry Renovation</td>
<td>$10 million</td>
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<td>Baseball Stadium Renovation</td>
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<td>Student Services Bldg.</td>
<td>$5.5 million</td>
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<td>Classroom/Office Complex</td>
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<td>Architecture Bldg.</td>
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<td>Beam School of Music</td>
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Task Force Outlines New Policies for UNLV Athletics

BY IOM FLAGG

Last May, UNLV released a report from the Presidential Task Force on the College Student-Athlete at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas that made some 50 recommendations designed to place UNLV in the forefront of the reform movement for student athletes in the United States.

The report's recommendations are in effect this fall semester.

"I'm excited about it," said Chris Hudgins, a UNLV English professor who chaired one of the six subcommittees that contributed to the report and oversaw production of the final document. "Already we are seeing the athletic department and the academic advisors beginning to point their students in the direction of academic achievement.

"I think we are going to see student-athletes who know that they have to perform well during the fall semester if they want to play during the spring. They are going to be much more serious about their school work, because they have to be."

In the past, Hudgins said, athletes have been able to perform poorly in the classroom, then make amends during summer school. That option is no longer open to them.

"That was causing a lot of problems," he said. "I think that the most beneficial recommendation that the president accepted, and that the Intercollegiate Athletic Council will enforce, is the idea of a semester-by-semester grade check for student athletes. There are very few institutions in the country that are doing this."

The new policy means that student-athletes will take at least 24 credits of class work a year, which means they can graduate in five years, Hudgins said. The president endorsed a proposal in the recommendations that fifth-year scholarships for athletes be funded, which "should guarantee that a lot of our student-athletes will graduate," Hudgins said. The task force was established in the fall of 1990, when UNLV President Robert C. Maxson invited faculty, administrators, professional staff, coaching staff, academic athletic advisors, student non-athletes, and student-athletes to participate in a thorough study of the student-athlete at UNLV.

Maxson thought the study was necessary because of the tremendous growth of the university and because, over the years, a number of problems have emerged that raised questions about the relationship between athletics and academics.

"I do not view myself as a reformer in higher education," Maxson said at the time the report was released. "I have just tried to do what is right for my university. The decisions I've made regarding men's basketball at UNLV have made my job as president perilously fragile for the past several years. That situation continues today. I realize my decision to approve this report will not be popular with all boosters . . . But I feel these academic recommendations are the final step in bringing the proper balance between athletics and academics to our campus."

The task force's introduction to its report notes that the document is not simply a response to specific incidents, but rather is "part of the national imperative toward improving the lot of the student-athlete in academe in general and toward reaffirming that the universities in the United States continue to maintain high ethical standards in all areas of their operation."

As part of the effort to study the situation, UNLV joined with some 25 institutions in the College Student-Athlete Project, a program associated with Northeastern University's Center for the Study of Sport in Society (CSSS) in Boston. The Fund for the Improvement of Post-Secondary Education supported this program for three years.

Following CSSS guidelines, six UNLV subcommittees were formed to examine several areas, including presidential responsibilities, chaired by Robert Ackerman, vice president for student services; academics and academic support services, chaired by Hudgins; recruitment and admissions, chaired by Larry Mason, admissions director; athletics, chaired by John Schibrowsky, assistant professor of marketing; race and sports, chaired by Nancy Master, reference librarian; and women in athletics, chaired by John L. Maxson, alternative action director. These subcommittees spent a year collecting data, administering various surveys, conducting interviews, and discussing options for improving programs.

The following is a summary of their recommendations:

- The Presidential Task Force endorses the Knight Commission's report, Keeping Faith with the Student-Athlete, and recommends that UNLV follow policies, in general, which are consistent with that report's recommendations.

- UNLV shall institute a "No Pass, No Pay" policy clearly related to progress toward graduation, which shall be monitored at the end of each semester, rather than at the end of each year.

- UNLV alumni couple Yvonne Atkinson Gates and Lee Gates find the time to juggle their civic responsibilities, busy careers, and family life. But finding time for lunch together can be a different story.

``":

Not quite. Into this already hectic household is born a daughter, Kamina Inman. The new baby may make things a bit more chaotic, but then, this family clearly thrives on activity. County Commissioner Yvonne Atkinson Gates admits that she's addicted to being busy. And, her husband, District Judge Lee Gates, seems to flourish in this hectic environment, too. It doesn't always leave them as much time for each other as they would like. (It's not uncommon for their secretaries to get on the phone with each other, jammed datebooks in hand, to try to find a time when the couple can meet for lunch or dinner.) But both say they thoroughly enjoy their careers and find them rewarding. And, light-hearted
comparisons to sitcoms aside, it is apparent both take their civic responsibilities very seriously. For Lee Gates, the impetus to become a lawyer came at least in part from a brush with racial discrimination he encountered at the hands of a local hotel executive while studying hotel administration at UNLV. He sought and was hired for an internship at the hotel, but when he was sent to meet the hotel’s president, the president suddenly announced that the hiring had been a mistake, that there were no openings.

"I was, of course, humiliated," Gates says, adding that as a result he decided to go to law school so that he would know how to help himself and others combat such discrimination. Gates switched his major to political science and graduated from UNLV with a bachelor’s degree in 1974. From there, he went straight into law school at the University of Colorado, receiving his law degree in 1978. G. Gates, a Western High School graduate, through that plan, children living in primarily black West Las Vegas were bused to schools outside their neighborhood every year except their sixth-grade year. That year, children from other parts of the community were bused to Clark County’s state compensation insurance fund, and as an attorney for the East Texas Legal Foundation before returning to Nevada as a deputy public defender for Clark County. Eventually, he went into private practice, in which he remained until 1991 when Gov. Bob Miller appointed him to the district court bench. He was elected to the post the following year. At district courts, he has found a job he loves. “I wake up in the morning, and I can’t wait to get to work,” he says. “I can’t wait until the time comes so I can get back to the courthouse.” Growing up black in Las Vegas when it was an extremely segregated town, Gates, a Western High School graduate, says he had ample opportunity to observe some of life’s injustices, such as how power often misspells the law fortunate. That experience served as one of his motivations for becoming a judge. He feels he has an understanding of people from different backgrounds and can be fair and just. "I want to try to help not just blacks, but all people, especially the little guy without clout," he says. "I want to try to help, to try to be a positive influence, to try to do what’s right.”

Atkinson Gates says he, too, wants to help people who have not always been treated fairly in the past. That was one of her primary motivations while serving on the Clark County School Board from 1985 until 1992, when she made revamping the school district’s desegregation plan a top priority. At the time, the existing desegregation plan revolved around the sixth-grade-center concept.

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fall out of favor with the black community, which argued persuasively that the plant placed an unfair burden on its youngers. Atkinson Gates was instrumental in establishing a desegregation committee charged with coming up with a new, more equitable plan, but the committee's work was derailed by a lawsuit. As a result, the overhaul of the desegregation plan was not completed by the time she left the school board to become a county commissioner. She says she was disappointed to leave before the work was finished, but believes she was still able to accomplish a great deal. “We didn’t see the kind of action that I wanted to see in terms of coming up with a viable plan, but I would say that if it hadn’t been for a lot of the groundwork that I did, we probably wouldn’t be where we are today,” she says. However, she notes that she is not a fan of the school district’s latest desegregation proposal and fears it will not be successful.

Atkinson Gates says she first began considering the idea of running for public office while in junior high school. After graduating from Clark High School, she enrolled at UNLV, graduating in 1978 with a dual degree in political science and communication studies. During her senior year at UNLV, she began working full-time for the city of Las Vegas as a management analyst trainer. While working in that job, Atkinson Gates realized she would need a master’s degree in order to advance in government administration, so she enrolled at UNLV.

In 1982 she received a master’s degree in public administration. By that time, she was working for Clark County; she was to hold a variety of jobs over the next 13 years. She worked at McCarran International Airport, as well as in the department of personnel, comprehensive planning, and social services before resigning to assume her seat on the county commission in January 1993.

"I am for Lee Gates, UNLV was literally a door to the future. "I opened up a whole new world to me," he says, explaining that his perspective of life before college was that of a student. "I believe in the role of education. I think UNLV had the greatest positive influence in my life," he says. "It changed my whole life. It introduced me to people and ideas that were so foreign, dynamic, and very, very interesting. "To think what it would have been like not to have gone to college and to be an uneducated person . . . life without college would have been death and misery," he says. "When I think about it, I shudder. "I look at UNLV as the only diamond in the city of Las Vegas," Gates says. "Nothing else in Las Vegas can compare to it."

While UNLV did play an important role in the couple’s lives, one thing it failed to do was introduce them to each other. Just missing each other at UNLV, they met later at a Christmas party at the home of one of her former boyfriends. A few years later, Gates proposed to her at the airport. According to Atkinson Gates, he had flown to Las Vegas for a weekend specifically to propose but, of course, he failed to do so. "I think the greatest surprise was Kamira’s birth on May 13, 1993. (Kamira, in case you don’t recognize it, is the name of a city in Zaire. Desperate for a name after four months of debating, the couple turned to a world map for inspiration.) Also, the family will soon be moving to a house requiring extensive remodeling. "And then when they do get a few moments alone, how do these high-powered alums reward themselves? “You know what we do to?” the judge responds. “Nothing. We like to get a video and upload the phone and do nothing. We’re always doing something, so the greatest thing to do is nothing.”
LONG AGO, BEFORE THE FOUNDING of Rome, even before King Tutankhamen was laid in his tomb, people wrested a living from the sea that washes the edge of the Atacama Desert on the west coast of South America.

Life was simple, but death for these people, the Chinchorros, was a complex exercise that represented a remarkable sophistication. Some 3,000 years before the Egyptians first preserved their dead for the voyage into the hereafter, the Chinchorro people of South America practiced artificial mummification.

"We're talking about 8,000 years ago," UNLV physical anthropology professor Bernardo Arriaza says of the Chinchorros, who have been the focus of his attention for more than a decade. "They didn't have ceramics or woven cloth; they didn't have metals, so technologically they were very simple. Yet in preserving the bodies of their dead, they used methods that were very complicated."

Careful examination of the mummies allows researchers to make inferences about the diseases, diet, and day-to-day life of this prehistoric society, he points out. These inferences are of a more personal nature than those that usually come from an examination of artifacts like tools or pots. Arriaza says the Chinchorros buried their mummified dead in cemeteries near their coastal settlements in Peru and northern Chile.

Over the millennia, cities developed in those areas, and, by the early 20th century, excavation for expansion unearthed the first of the mummies. Since then, nearly 200 have been found, most of them in the Arica area of northern Chile.

The Chinchorros lived and fished along this section of coastline for more than 40 centuries. Though their origins have not yet been determined, Arriaza tends to believe theories contending that the Chinchorros moved to the seashore from the nearby Arica highlands, rather than from Peru or the Amazon region. Cave art in the highlands and other archaeological findings offer some support for this notion.

A move by the Chinchorros from a hunter-based society in the highlands to a fishing-based one on the shore could help explain the development of their elaborate preservation methods, Arriaza explains.

"It is possible that drownings were tragedies that contributed to the creation of artificial mummification," he says. "Maintenance and painting of the deceased body, perhaps as a means of relieving grief while avoiding decay, could have led to these complex mortuary practices."

Researchers also hypothesize that the Chinchorros believed, as have many cultures, that the body must be...
preserved for the individual to enter the afterlife successfully. Arriaza says it is also possible that they saw how bodies could be preserved through natural means and decided to improve upon them. Or, perhaps, they turned to the supernatural to explain cataclysmic events, and mumification was part of the accompanying ritual. "The origin is probably multifactorial," says Arriaza, who has collaborated with several colleagues on his re- search of the Chinchorros. "Belief in an afterlife, high mortality rates, natural diseases, and ecological changes may have intertwined to produce this practice."

In any case, he adds, the Chinchorro mummies are unusual because of their extraordinary age. Radiocarbon-dating shows that the earliest and latest of the mummies — 7,000 B.C. and 1,100 B.C. — were preserved naturally by the desiccating desert climate. But in the intervening period, the Chinchorros were not satisfied to leave preservation to chance. By about 6,000 B.C. they had developed an elaborate process of skinning, eviscerating, and reconstructing the body. Curiously, as the centuries passed, the techniques they used became less, rather than more, involved. "Black mummies tend to be the oldest and are the most sophisticated," Arriaza explains. They are called "black" because of the color of the manganese paste with which the bodies were coated after they had been prepared for preservation. Creation of a black mummy involved separation of the head, arms, and legs from the trunk and removal of all organs and flesh, he explains. After the bones were cleaned and dried, the skeleton was reassembled and reinforced with clay, sticks, and ropes. The empty cavities of the skull and trunk were filled with grass, ashes, and animal hair, then the body was covered with a white ash paste and shaped into its original form. For children, this apparently proved difficult, for their mummies tend to be flatter and elongated.

The skin was then replaced, as was the scalp with short black hair. At times, says Arriaza, "the original skin appears so intact as if it were rolled off along the extremities and then skillfully rolled back on again." The final step was to paint the body with black manganese, which was applied more thickly on the face to allow for the modeling of the nose, eyes, and mouth. A breech cloth or a fringed skirt was added, and the body was then ready for the ritual burial, usually with a few simple ornaments and tools used in everyday life. Arriaza calls the black mummies "extraordinary manifestations of the Chinchorros' manual skills, artistic abilities, and devotion to their beliefs."

The techniques used to create the black mummies apparently lasted about 3,000 years; tests indicate that by 2,800 B.C. the Chinchorros' practices were changing. A black mummy with bands of dull yellow and red ochre on the trunk and arms serves as a transition to the next major class of mummies, the red mummies, so named because of their coating of red ochre. Arriaza has identified a number of ways in which the red mummies differed from the black. Although the heads were repositioned, the bodies were otherwise left whole, and the morticians made incisions to remove organs. Cactus needles with human hair or vegetable fiber threads were used to stitch the cuts. As with the black mummies, the body structure was reinforced and stuffed, and the neck, ankles, and wrists were wrapped with cords for further reinforcement. Instead of the natural scalp, a wig, sometimes with hair two feet long, was attached to the head with a manganese paste, creating a helmet-like effect. Everything but the hair and the black facial mask was painted with red ochre.

A variation involved using strips of skin, instead of whole skin, to cover the body. Called "bandage mummies," these are all children; the process may have been developed because the smaller children's bodies were more difficult to handle.

The third major classification is the mud-coated mummy, which was generally created in a simpler process, according to Arriaza. The bodies were smoked or dried and then covered with a thick mud paste which hardened into a gray, cement-like substance. The reinforcements common to the other mummies are absent.

When describing the preparation of the mummies, Arriaza approaches the subject with a mixture of an enthusiasm for the knowledge gleaned from the bodies and the clinical detachment of a scientist. He clearly is not squeamish about what some might consider a gruesome practice. "Every culture has a different approach to death," he says, adding that, to the Chinchorros, mumification was probably a very natural way of dealing with the death of a loved one. The fact that they concentrated so much energy in caring for their dead suggests they held a strong spiritual belief in the afterlife.

But what is most important to Arriaza is that the mummies hold fascinating secrets about the day-to-day lives of people 8,000 years ago — secrets that would be otherwise inaccessible to us.

The head of a red mummy, showing the different layers of manganese used for preservation of the body.
areas would have decreased conflict between groups,” he says.

Although the Chinchorro mummies were first studied in 1999, they are little known in other parts of the world today, largely because most of the literature about them is in Spanish. Arriaza has translated his own earlier writings into English and has submitted a book manuscript to a publisher in an effort to familiarize North American anthropologists with the Chinchorro culture. He is also working on plans for a conference on Chinchorro culture at next year’s meeting of the Society for American Archaeology.

Arriaza, who joined the UNLV faculty last year, became involved in the study of ancient cultures while working toward a bachelor’s degree in electronic communications at the Universidad del Norte in his native Chile. To help support himself, he took a job at the Universidad de Tarapac as a research assistant in archaeology, paleopathology, and physical anthropology.

“I said, ‘Wow! I really like these subjects,’ and I decided to pursue a graduate degree in physical anthropology,” he recalls. That decision took him to Arizona State University, from which he graduated in 1991 with his doctorate. He then worked on an archaeological project in Guam; from there, he took a post-doctoral fellowship at the Smithsonian Institution to study inflammatory arthritis in prehistoric Americans, a project he expects to complete this year. He is also an adjunct researcher in the archaeology department at the Universidad de Tarapac as, as well as the associate editor of the anthropological journals of two South American universities.

A recognized expert in the techniques used for mummification as well as the Chinchorro culture, Arriaza has been invited to participate in the Ice Man Conference this fall in Innsbruck, Austria, where experts in both natural and artificial mummification will exchange information relating to the discovery of a prehistoric man preserved in ice. Conference participants will discuss how best to ensure continued preservation of mummies to provide maximum learning opportunities.

The Ice Man, a 5,000-year-old natural mummy found in the Alps between Austria and Italy, is particularly exciting to scholars because the European climate is not conducive to preservation of bodies. Most mummies have been found in arid zones where nature helps prevent decay. Nevertheless, the practice of artificial mummification has been documented in many parts of the world. Arriaza notes that while artificial mummification is “not quite common,” many cultures have invested the extra energy required for artificial preservation.

“Caring for the dead is a universal feeling,” he says.

Artifacts found at the Chinchorro sites include fishing lines, masks, and nets, a tinged skirt (top right), and harpoons.
September 1993

1-30 Art Exhibit: "UNLV Faculty Exhibish." Weekdays, 8am-5pm. Donna Bean Fine Art Gallery, 895-3893.

6 Holiday: Labor Day recess.

8 Alumni Event: Board elections. 895-3621.

10-12 Soccer: UNLV Coors Light Invitational. Sept. 10, 7 & 9pm; Sept. 12, noon & 2pm. Johan Field, 895-3900.

11 Concert: Nevada Symphony Orchestra. 8pm. Artemus Ham Concert Hall, 895-3801.


18 Football: UNLV vs. San Diego State. 7pm. Sam Boyd Silver Bowl, 895-3900.

29 University Theatre: Jesus Christ Superstar. Sept. 25-27, 8pm; Oct. 3, 2pm. Artemus Ham Concert Hall, 895-3801.

October 1993

5 Chamber Music Southwest: "Yes, Bali arms," with the Desert Chamber Players. 7:30pm. Judy Bayley Theatre, 895-3801.

8 Master Series: Kathleen Battle. 8pm. Artemus Ham Concert Hall, 895-3801.

9 Football: UNLV vs. CS-Northridge. 7pm. Sam Boyd Silver Bowl, 895-3801.

14 Master Series: St. Petersburg Philharmonic. 8pm. Artemus Ham Concert Hall, 895-3801.


16 Concert: Nevada Symphony Orchestra. 8pm. Artemus Ham Concert Hall, 895-3801.

November 1993

1 Holiday: Novad Day recess.

7 Concert: Jazz Ensemble I. 2pm. Judy Bayley Theatre, 895-3801.

10 Concert: UNLV Community Band. 8pm. Artemus Ham Concert Hall, 895-3801.

11 Holiday: Veterans’ Day recess.


20 Concert: Nevada Fine Arts Trio. 7:30pm. Artemus Ham Concert Hall, 895-3801.

21 Alumni Event: Dinner/ballet. 6pm. Tam Alumni Center, 895-3621.

24 Concert: UNLV Wind Ensemble. 8pm. Artemus Ham Concert Hall, 895-3801.

25-28 Holiday: Thanksgiving recess.

December 1993

1-3 University Theatre: "Romeo and Juliet." Dec. 1-3, 8pm. Dec. 5 & 12, 2pm. Judy Bayley Theatre, 895-3801.

3 Concert: University Chorus. 8pm. Artemus Ham Concert Hall, 895-3801.

5-5 University Dance Theatre: "Dance Hall. Dec. 2-3, 8pm. Artemus Ham Concert Hall, 895-3801.

12 Concert: Desert Chorale. 8pm. Artemus Ham Concert Hall, 895-3801.

16 Alumni Event: Dinner/ballet. 6pm. Tam Alumni Center, 895-3801.

20 Nevada Symphony Orchestra: "Messiah." 8pm. Artemus Ham Concert Hall, 895-3801.

24 Concert: UNLV Wind Ensemble. 8pm. Artemus Ham Concert Hall, 895-3801.

25-30 Holiday: Christmas Day recess.

31 Holiday: New Year’s Day recess.

January 1994

15 Chamber Music Southwest: "Klezmer," Klezmer Conservatory Band. 7:30pm. Artemus Ham Concert Hall, 895-3801.

17 Holiday: Martin Luther King Day recess.

18 Spring Semester 1994: Instruction begins.


22 Concert: Nevada Symphony Orchestra. 8pm. Artemus Ham Concert Hall, 895-3801.

25 Master Series I: Musica, 8pm. Artemus Ham Concert Hall, 895-3801.

February 1994

3 Chamber Music Southwest: "Music for Voice and Piano," a concert/workshop with soprano Doris Erenzanti. 7:30pm. Artemus Ham Concert Hall, 895-3801.

13 University Theatre: "A Trojan Woman." Feb. 3-5 & 9-12, 8pm. Feb. 6 & 13, 7pm. Judy Bayley Theatre, 895-3801.

23 University Theatre: "The Trojan Woman." Feb. 17-19, 8pm; Feb. 21-22, 7pm. Judy Bayley Theatre, 895-3801.

24 Performing Arts Center: Ballet Africans. 8pm. Artemus Ham Concert Hall, 895-3801.

25-28 Holiday: Martin Luther King Day recess.

March 1994

2-12 University Theatre: "Romeo and Juliet." Dec. 2-12, 8pm. Artemus Ham Concert Hall, 895-3801.

3 Concert: University Chorus. 8pm. Artemus Ham Concert Hall, 895-3801.

5 University Dance Theatre: "Walnut Tree Festival." Dec. 27-30, 8pm. Artemus Ham Concert Hall, 895-3801.

24 University Theatre: "The Trojan Woman." Feb. 17-19, 8pm. Artemus Ham Concert Hall, 895-3801.

29 Concert: UNLV Wind Ensemble. 8pm. Artemus Ham Concert Hall, 895-3801.

31 Holiday: Washington’s Birthday recess.

April 1994

2-12 University Theatre: "The Trojan Woman." Feb. 24-26 & March 5-8, 8pm. Feb. 27 & March 6, 7pm. Judy Bayley Theatre, 895-3801.

26 Master Series: Principal dancers of the New York City Ballet. 8pm. Artemus Ham Concert Hall, 895-3801.

28 Alumni Event: Career Week. 895-3801.

May 1994


June 1994

15 Concert: UNLV Wind Ensemble. 8pm. Artemus Ham Concert Hall, 895-3801.

17 Holiday: Memorial Day recess.

24 University Theatre: "A Midsummer Night’s Dream." 7:30pm. Artemus Ham Concert Hall, 895-3801.

28 Master Series: "La Traviata." 8pm. Artemus Ham Concert Hall, 895-3801.

July 1994

15 Concert: "Messiah." 8pm. Artemus Ham Concert Hall, 895-3801.

17 Holiday: Independence Day recess.

22 Concert: UNLV Wind Ensemble. 8pm. Artemus Ham Concert Hall, 895-3801.
Counselor and author Jeffrey Kottler was in the mountain jungles of northern Peru a decade ago studying elements of healing as practiced by a village witchdoctor when unexpected wisdom came his way — in an even more unexpected package.

The witchdoctor, a counselor of sorts himself, gave Kottler a small bottle of potion that would protect him, he said, from the evil spirits of his clients.

"The witchdoctor believed that people in pain are polluted with evil spirits, and if you get too close to them, you become vulnerable to their pain in the process," says Kottler, now a UNLV counseling and educational psychology professor who teaches and writes about counseling and therapy. "He felt that we need some form of protection when we try to help people because we are affected by them in profound ways. He was very matter of fact about that."

Though Kottler is still not precisely sure what's in the small bottle, he keeps it on his desk as a reminder of the insights into the therapeutic process that it brought him.

The witchdoctor's potion and words became the metaphor for Kottler's book, On Being a Therapist, and gave rise to a series of books about the inner experiences of being a counselor. More specifically, the series examines how therapists and counselors process their own experiences of being close to people who are hurting so much.

"The seed for the first book was the witchdoctor's acute awareness of how influence and change are reciprocal in relationships between therapists and their clients. The client is not the only one who comes out of the encounter different; the therapist or counselor is profoundly impacted by the experience as well," he says. "And rarely have we talked about that."

Kottler, who joined the UNLV faculty in 1991, asserts that the subject is seldom discussed because therapists and counselors are sanctioned by society to be the gurus, the know-it-alls, who are supposed to be perfect — or at least supremely confident. A therapist's open self-examination is seen to be an admission of self-doubt or failure.

"We're the people other people can come to for answers; we're not supposed to be flawed, which is why we so rarely talk about, even to each other, our failures, doubts, or uncertainties," says Kottler.

This denial of failure naturally piqued his interest and spawned his second book in the series, The Imperfect Therapist: Learning from Failure in Therapeutic Practice. Ironically, his method for researching the book confirmed the prevalence of denial among therapists and counselors.

"I identified the world's most prominent therapists and solicited their participation in this study. I figured that if I could get them to talk about their..."
found the work so depressing that he began his next, more optimistic book, The Compleat Therapist, a study of what all systems of helping have in common. In 1983, during which time he was introduced to the idea of counseling (or help for relatively functioning people) to the country of Peru. At a university seminar in Lima, one of his students, a psychiatrist, invited Kottler to join him on a visitation rounds to a small village in the expressive way healers of the area practiced their craft. Kottler agreed, and they traveled to a village named Salas, considered the center for sovereignty in that part of the world. It was there that he met the master witchdoctor, Don Jose, who invited him to observe his ritual healing techniques.

The treatment session, he says, was a "24-hour ordeal," during which they climbed to the top of a mountain with about 12 patients. "There were indeed quite a number of similarities between what he does and what I do. He sort of runs a therapy group. He preaches medicine, just like a doctor would. There was also a catharsis or release of emotion in that people talked about their problems and what support to one another. He gave advice and prescribed things that he thought they should do."

"In the same way we would use diplomas and books or our shelves to convey our credibility, there were indeed some that are somewhat universal." For example, Kottler points out that the therapeutic relationship — the alliance between the client and the therapist, the student and the teacher, the doctor and the patient — is universal to all of the helping professions.

Another common ingredient is the forceful personality of the therapist or counselor, who sometimes becomes a role model for the client, says Kottler. "There is also the placebo effect, which works in this way: If I believe that you can get better — if I believe that your relationship with your parents will get better, or that you'll become less depressed, or that your marriage will work out — my strong belief becomes contagious, and you'll start to believe it yourself."

Kottler is amused to recall that many of these variables were present in the practice of his friend, the Peruvian witchdoctor. He did have a variety of ailments (including impotence, alcohol addiction, psychosomatic pains, and martial problems) during the treatment session he invited Kottler to observe.

Kottler came to meet the witchdoctor while on a Fulbrightship in 1983, during which time he was introduced to the idea of counseling (or help for relatively functioning people) to the country of Peru. At a university seminar in Lima, one of his students, a psychiatrist, invited Kottler to join him on a visitation rounds to a small village to explore the way healers of the area practiced their craft. Kottler agreed, and they traveled to a village named Salas, considered the center for sovereignty in that part of the world. It was there that he met the master witchdoctor, Don Jose, who invited him to observe his ritual healing techniques.

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understandable appeal. “When people tend to think about their relationships, they give a disproportional amount of time and energy to thinking about the few relationships in their lives that aren’t going very well. And that is true of therapists as well.”

They spend an inordinate amount of time musing about, sometimes obsessing about, the few clients who get feeling stymied and frustrated by about the most. They are the ones who get the few relationships in their lives making them miserable. We blame to somebody else, and we prove it’s not my client’s fault. “We’re the people other people can come to for answers; we’re not supposed to be flawed…”

The concept of taking responsibility for one’s own contribution to conflict is an important theme in all of Kottler’s writings. “Self-responsibility is one of the outcome goals of most helpful efforts. What we’re trying to do is help people who feel powerless take charge of their lives, and the way you do that is to stop focusing on other people and start thinking of what’s in your power to change.

Although self-responsibility is a common topic in his books — as well as thousands of other self-help books — Kottler admits it often isn’t enough for people only to read about it. “One of the reasons I am skeptical about self-help books is that people read them and nothing is different.”

Kottler says, who himself currently completing a book for general audiences titled Beyond Blame: Resolving Conflictual Relationships. “People’s shelves are stocked with books, and they read them, and nothing changes. And the reason is that people look to books to give them answers. But the bottom line is that all the knowledge in the world isn’t going to do you much good unless you’re willing to take some risks and do some things differently.”

Despite this reality, Kottler believes self-help books have hardly peaked in popularity. “About the only thing that can be said is that the self-help books are supplemented with self-help videotapes. And they can be wonderful learning devices, except when people have unrealistic expectations that these books are going to change their lives or save them the time, the energy, and the pain that they know they have to go through anyway. Anything in life that’s worth doing is difficult, and you’re not going to be able to read it in a book and just accomplish it immediately.”

He actually tells his readers in the book Beyond Blame that if they are not prepared to take action, they shouldn’t waste their time continuing to read. “The editor was leery about that,” Kottler muses, acknowledging that the might have felt it would be counterproductive to sales. “But my hope is that it will increase my credibility. If the reader develops a connection with the author, then maybe he or she will think, ‘Gee, if he’s going to be this honest, maybe I can trust what he’s saying and consider what he’s offering.’ A book is a relationship between author and reader. To me it can be almost as personal a relationship as that between a therapist and a student or a counselor and a client.”

Writing, for Kottler, is a form of research and teaching that gives him the opportunity to reach a much larger audience. He acknowledges that he is driven to write, and that drive is complemented by his equally strong passion for researching these issues and practicing as a therapist. To me it can be almost as tedious an occupation as it is about the difficult clients — it is about the difficult therapist as it is about the difficult client,” he says, adding that a common theme in his writing is that conflict in a relationship is never just one person’s fault.

“Whether it’s a client in therapy, or one of your own children, a friend, or a boss, conflict is always interactive. So I ask in the book what is it in us that we find most threatening from these clients? It’s typically a variation of them not meeting our expectations, that they are different from what we are ordinarily used to dealing with. And therapists, like most people, tend to not want to change. So this book is considered to be one of the definitive works on the art and science of working through impasses and blocks in counseling and therapy. It’s about how to look at not only what clients are doing to make themselves difficult, but what we are doing to encourage their obstructiveness.”

He finds it ironic that many therapists are unwilling to examine their part in a struggle. “The most motivating part of my life is watching people do is listen to people tell me that even if they can assign it’s a client in therapy, or sometimes — sometimes — we blame the client for not saving them time, or proving it’s my client’s fault. ‘We’re the people other people can come to for answers; we’re not supposed to be flawed…”

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James "Les" MacFarlane, '71

Joy San Buenaventura Hamú, '80 BS Mathematical Statistics, graduated from the University of California Hastings College of Law in 1982. She is an attorney in Hailey, Idaho, where she also serves as a per diem District Court judge.

Joy San Buenaventura Hamú, '80

Hugh Poplin, '80 BA Criminal Justice, is a corrections lieutenant at the Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department.

Douglass M. Koch, '70 MBA, is the associate provost at Lawrence Technological University in Southfield, Mich. He formerly served as associate dean of the university's College of Management. Before joining Lawrence Tech in 1988, he was on the faculty at Wayne State University. A member of Plymouth, Mich., Koch is a member of the Human Resource Association of Detroit.

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Jeanne M. Pye, '91 BA Communication Studies, is the communication director of a Scottsdale, Ariz., company called Funny Bones, Custom Corporate Comedy. Funny Bones helps corporations communicate their messages at award banquets and sales conferences by writing and producing original music and comedy material.

Jeff Crouse, '88 MA Political Science, is pursuing a doctoral degree in political science at the University of Washington in Seattle. Previously, he spent two years as a humanities instructor at a private school in Nara, Japan.

Mary Lou Foley, '88 BA Political Science, is the executive director of Southern Nevada Class Community, a non-profit organization designed to promote environmental awareness through education and participation.

Dana J. McGowan, '91

Andy Edwards, '90 BA Communication Studies, has formed a video production company, Falcon Productions and Expeditions Inc. One of his ventures was the making of a video about a truck driver that involved the Saudi Arabian royal family. He also worked on the film Harry, I Blow Up the Kids and Cool Windsor.

Michael Stevenson, '90 BA English, received a law degree from California Western School of Law in San Diego. He also interned with U.S. Sen. Harry Reid in Washington, D.C. He has been admitted to the Pennsylvania bar and recently took the Nevada bar exam.

Mary Lou Foley, '88

Charles L. Curti, '93 BS Business Administration, has started a marketing firm known as Tightline Software, which specializes in software for home racers and other sports. He's also a basketball at Harvard.

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Joy San Buenaventura Hamú, '80
Task Force
continued from page 4

than at the end of each academic year. That policy is considerably more stringent than NCAA eligibility requirements.

Efforts will be made to provide fifth-year scholarships to student-athletes whose eligibility has expired and who are making satisfactory progress toward graduation (within the limits of NCAA guidelines).

UNLV shall carefully monitor and control the scheduling of athletic events, including televised athletic events, so as not to detract from the academic experience of its student-athletes.

An important element of any review of coaching personnel shall be the individual's success in promoting academic excellence among his or her student-athletes.

UNLV will not admit student-athletes unless they are likely to graduate, in the judgement of academic officials. Because the student-athlete is an unusually public representative of the institution, recruiters shall also carefully consider issues of character.

Academic advising for student-athletes shall no longer be administered through Intercollegiate Athletics or its coaches but shall be under the direction of the assistant dean for student services, who is in charge of academic advising for student non-athletes, as well.

The number of programs offered for men's and women's sports at UNLV shall be at least equitable in all respects. The athletic director shall establish a Women's Athletics Review Panel to conduct an assessment study and to make recommendations in this and other areas of concern regarding the role of women in intercollegiate athletics on the UNLV campus.

In cooperation with the Affirmative Action Office, the athletic director shall develop affirmative action policies and practices for the department of Intercollegiate Athletics. Working with the coordinator of multicultural affairs, the department of Intercollegiate Athletics shall institute programs or practices designed to make the minority student-athlete's social and academic experience a fulfilling one.

"Of the 50 recommendations made by the task force, there is only one that we will not implement at this time," Maxson said. "That is the one that would change the reporting line for the athletic director. At this stage in UNLV's development, I believe it is important that the athletic director continue to report directly to the president."

In his letter of introduction to the report, Maxson writes, "I am committed to the continuation and expansion of our excellent intercollegiate programs. I am even more committed to our continuing efforts to make the University of Nevada, Las Vegas a truly distinguished institution of higher learning. And I agree with the conclusion reached by the Task Force that there need be no conflict between these goals; the universities I admire most do them both well.

"Academic integrity at UNLV will be an integral part of all our intercollegiate athletic programs, which, I hope, will find new and even greater respect among all segments of our community as the recommendations of this report are realized." ❑

Boulton Bunch
continued from page 13

Dennis Boulton earned a bachelor's degree in geology in 1978. He works as a math teacher at Sparks High School in Sparks, Nev. His wife, Bridgett Givens Boulton, earned a bachelor's degree in English in 1978 and a master's degree in English in 1980.

Matt Boulton earned bachelor's degrees in biology and zoology in 1980. Now a physician, he serves on the faculty of the University of Michigan, where he teaches in the department of public health department. His wife, Linda Blakey, earned a master's degree in mathematics from UNLV in 1982.

Becky Boulton earned a bachelor's degree in sociology and criminal justice in 1982. She is now a full-time homemaker raising two children in Las Vegas. Her husband, Rob Powers, earned a bachelor's degree in communication studies in 1981.

Nancy Boulton-Soberinsky earned bachelor's degrees in criminal justice and political science in 1985 and a master's degree in marriage and family counseling in 1990. She works as a pre-trial services officer for U.S. District Court. Her husband, Charles Soberinsky, earned a bachelor's degree in business administration with an emphasis in finance in 1986. He now works as an accountant at UNLV's Thomas & Mack Center.

Ben Boulton earned a bachelor's degree in interdisciplinary studies in 1992. He works at UNLV as an accounting clerk in the financial accounting office.

Ben may be the last of his siblings to earn a degree from UNLV, but somehow it seems unlikely that he will be the last in his family to do so.

Ken and Barbara Boulton, who so convincingly impressed upon their seven children the importance of a college education, now have the next generation — numbering 11 grandchildren so far — to work on. Odds are that there's at least one Rebel in the bunch.
Here at the Thomas & Mack Center, we don’t have a lot of what you’d call “down time.” If we’re not preparing for championship title fights or Runnin’ Rebel basketball games, we’re busy hosting comedians like Jerry Seinfeld or rock bands like Guns ’n Roses. And those are our calm days! Other times we really raise the roof like when we host the National Finals Rodeo, Las Vegas Thunder ice hockey and the Ringling Bros. Barnum & Bailey Circus. Not that all this is particularly new for us. Nineteen ninety-three marks the 10th year Thomas & Mack has been the center of non-stop fun and feverish action in Las Vegas. So if our first 10 years have been this wild, imagine what our teens will be like!


(Just another day at the Thomas & Mack Center)

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