UNLV Magazine

Fall 1994

UNLV Magazine

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A New Birdman at the Barrick Museum

David Parmelee, research curator of ornithology
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**

**WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 5**  
Dinner/Theater Event, “The Mikado,” 6 p.m., Richard Tam Alumni Center

**THURSDAY, OCTOBER 6**  
Special Class Reunion for 1984-94 Graduates of the College of Business and Economics and the Greenspun School of Communication

**FRIDAY, OCTOBER 7**  
Homecoming Picnic and Announcement of Homecoming King and Queen Finalists, 11 a.m., Alumni Amphitheater  
Homecoming Celebration and Class Reunions featuring the UNLV Men’s Glee Club. $10 per person, 6 p.m., Richard Tam Alumni Center

**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 8**  
The Great Alumni Homecoming Tailgate Party, 5 p.m., Alumni Park  
UNLV/Louisiana Tech Football Game, 7 p.m., Sam Boyd Stadium

**MONDAY, OCTOBER 10**  
Alumni Golf Tournament, Noon, Canyon Gate Country Club, $100 entry fee

For more information about Homecoming, call the Alumni Relations Office at 895-3621 or 1-800-829-ALUM.

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UNLV Magazine is published twice each academic year in September and March by the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, 4505 Maryland Parkway, Box 451012, Las Vegas, NV 89154-1012. UNLV is an AA/EEO institution.
Businessman Kenny Guinn Appointed Interim President

Longtime Las Vegas businessman Kenny Guinn is currently serving as interim UNLV president, replacing former president Robert C. Maxson, who left UNLV after 10 years to assume the presidency of California State University, Long Beach.

Currently chairman of the boards and formerly president of both Southwest Gas Corp. and PriMort Bank of Nevada, Guinn served as superintendent of the Clark County School District from 1969 to 1978.

Guinn, who received his bachelor's and master's degrees in public administration from the University of Colorado, has served as university president since 1988, served as an interim dean at the University of Colorado, and was associate professor of criminal justice at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas.

He is expected to continue as interim president of UNLV through the 1993-94 academic year.

New Graduate Programs Offered

UNLV will offer two new graduate degree programs—Ph.D. in engineering and a master's degree in criminal justice—beginning this fall.

The new doctoral program in engineering, which will provide concentrations in civil, electrical, mechanical, and environmental engineering, can be viewed as the capstone of a 10-year drive to develop a strong engineering program at UNLV.

Over the past decade, engineering education in Southern Nevada has grown from a small, department-based program to one of the smallest buildings on the campus to a college that offers terminal degrees and one of the largest buildings on campus.

This is an exciting period for engineering education in Southern Nevada, but it is only part of the story, according to William Wells, dean of the college.

"Having the Ph.D. gives us an advantage in obtaining research funding and in recruiting faculty," Wells said. "It also gives our students the chance to stay around after they finish their master's work, by which time we have them trained to the point where they are ready to go on to the next level and do some very good work in collaboration with our faculty."

The new Ph.D. program in criminal justice will prepare students to pursue careers in criminal justice research, policy making, administration, and teaching. It will focus on training doctoral students to conduct criminal justice research in behavioral sciences.

"It is critical that we develop research that emphasizes the development and implementation of laws designed to deal with crime," said criminal justice professor Donald Farrell, director of the graduate program.

"An understanding of these issues is essential to sound social policy in criminal justice," he said, adding that the program will place a strong emphasis on criminal justice theory and research methods.

For more information on UNLV's new Ph.D. program in engineering, call the Howard Hughes College of Engineering at 895-3731.

Three New Buildings Opening on University Campus

UNLV's new Student Services Complex was dedicated in May, and two more major campus buildings—Olds Hall, a new student center, and the Robert Bigelow Physics Building—are expected to be dedicated this fall.

Located just west of the Dining Commons and Student Health Center, the three-building complex will bring together a wide variety of programs designed to help serve the needs of UNLV students.

"It is the perfect time for this new complex to open," said William Wells, dean of the college.

"The three travels of offices will be in Student Financial Services, Personal Counseling, and the Burse's Office, and they will be in the same building, which will provide a more efficient way to serve the students."

The new Student Services Complex will bring together in a variety of offices designed to serve the needs of UNLV students.

Goodall Receives Top Faculty Award

Public administration professor Leonard "Pat" Goodall has been selected as the 1994 recipient of the UNLV Alumni Association's Outstanding Faculty Award.

Goodall has a distinctive record of service to UNLV both as an administrator and as a faculty member. He served as university president from 1976 to 1983. He then joined the College of Business and Economics as a professor of public administration.

"Goodall consistently earned outstanding teaching evaluations from public administration students."

Goodall has authored seven books and has written many articles and monographs. His newest book, Government and Politics of Nevada, co-authored by Donald Driggs of UNLV, will be published in 1995. The association's awards committee selected Goodall based on his teaching, writing, and research record, as well as on his accomplishments as a faculty member.
UNLV to Receive $10 Million Donation for New Library

In what will be the largest gift ever to UNLV or the university system, the Lied Foundation Trust has agreed to provide $10 million toward construction of a new library on the UNLV campus.

The gift will come to the university through the UNLV Foundation, as part of an agreement between the foundation and Christina Hixson, trustee of the Lied Foundation Trust.

The donation will be used as a catalyst for securing the balance of funds needed for constructing and equipping a library estimated to cost a total of $40 million.

"The university greatly appreciates Christina Hixson's willingness to help fund a new campus library," said Interim UNLV President Kenny Guinn. "It will help us meet our greatest need - building a new library.

"For this university to fulfill its academic function and keep up with the explosion of knowledge and the growth of its student body and faculty, it must have a library that is on the leading edge of information technology," Guinn said. "I believe that the Lied Foundation Trust donation will enable us to put together a funding package that will make such a library possible.

According to the agreement, the funds will become available to the university if the Nevada Legislature approves UNLV or the university system, the needed for constructing and equipping a library.

$40 million. The Lied Foundation Trust has given $2.5 million to UNLV.  

Golf Tournament Set for Nov. 18

Alumni from UNLV and UNR will tee off for a good cause during the Fourth Annual Sand Blast Open golf tournament Nov. 18.

The tournament - a fund-raiser for scholarships for UNLV and UNR students - will take place at 8 a.m. at the golf course at Angel Park. The entrance fee is $200 per person.

Participation by UNLV alumni is especially encouraged this year because many UNR alumni who are in town for the UNLV-UNR football game that weekend are expected to play in the tournament. So far, UNLV has won the Sand Blast Open two out of three years.

Following the tournament, a luncheon and awards ceremony are scheduled. And, with a nod to the UNLV-UNR football tradition, the winner of the tournament will be awarded a replica of the cannon.

All proceeds from the tournament will be equally divided between scholarship funds at UNLV and UNR. So far, the annual event has raised more than $55,000 in scholarship funds for the two universities.

For more information or to make reservations, call the UNLV Alumni Relations Office at 895-3621 or (800) 829-ALUM.

Membership Drive Now Underway

Don't forget to add your name to the growing list of graduates who have become members of the UNLV Alumni Association.

For only $25 per year, any UNLV graduate can join the association. All membership money is used to support student and alumni programs at UNLV.

Last year, for instance, the Alumni Association gave more than $77,000 to UNLV students and programs.

Association membership packets were mailed to all alumni in June, providing complete instructions on how to become a member.

Once dues are paid, alumni become eligible to vote in the annual election for members of the UNLV Alumni Association Board of Directors. The 18-member board makes decisions concerning association finances, programs, and goals.

Ballots for this year's election, which is now underway, must be received by the UNLV Alumni Relations Office by Sept. 14.  

Read Your Teachers Well

UNLV education professor Linda Quinn prepares experienced teachers to serve as mentors to those new to the profession.

BY DIANE RUSSELL

WHEN TARA LATRONICA showed up in Sarah Quiggie's classroom a few days before the start of the school year bearing a bag full of small gifts, a special relationship was born between the two young teachers.

It wasn't so much the handy items contained in the bag - a box of Kleenex, a list of suggested activities for students, a Las Vegas apartment guide - that gave rise to their special bond; it was LaTronica's offer to provide support, guidance, and friendship to Quiggie during her first year of teaching.

In short, LaTronica was volunteering to be Quiggie's mentor.

LaTronica's desire to be a mentor grew out of a graduate-level class she took at UNLV from education professor Linda Quinn — a modern-day advocate of the ancient Greek concept of mentoring.

In class, The Mentor Teacher, Quinn, an assistant professor of instructional and curricular studies in the College of Education, prepares experienced teachers to serve as mentors to those new to the profession.

Her students are reminded what it is like to be a new teacher and are taught communication skills necessary to put their often-younger colleagues at ease. "Many first-year teachers don't want to ask for help because they're afraid it just means they don't know what they're doing. That's how they see it," Quinn says. LaTronica was one of the teachers.
who took Quinn's class during the summer of 1993. Now, she and the others are back at their schools, Quinn means that they have taught the school year to get taught into their mentoring experiences. Her plan is to publish a guide that is free of charge detailing the mentorship experience from the mentor's point of view. Quinn's goal is to encourage the spread of mentoring programs, both locally and further afield. As Quinn sees it, such programs can be aeline for young teachers who might otherwise quickly burn out and leave the profession as a result of the myriad demands facing them.

"Teachers' work is very complex. It's physically demanding, and it's emotionally draining," Quinn says. "And very often beginning teachers don't receive the kind of support they need from the community and the administration.

Furthermore, first-year teachers across America are put in the toughest situations — with the most challenging classes, the most demanding schools, and the least experienced roommates, Quinn says. And, too often, these new teachers receive little sympathy from the more experienced teachers, whose response frequently is, "Well, that's what I had to do. They're going to have to go through the same problems that I did because that's what new teachers do."

And, with each passing year, the challenges facing teachers only increase in number and variety, Quinn points out. Two or three decades ago teachers in most communities could assume that most of their students were from stable homes and came to school prepared to learn, but that is no longer the case, she says. Today, teachers have to cope with issues such as child abuse, hunger, and violence in the schools along with their teaching duties.

If experienced teachers sometimes find it difficult to juggle all these tasks, new teachers can easily crumble under the weight, she reasons. In fact, Quinn says, statistics from one study show that as many as 30 percent of new teachers abandon their teaching careers within the first two years.

It was the recognition of this burnout drop-out factor in education circles that began to give rise to the teacher mentoring programs in the 1980s, Quinn says.

"There were a lot of movements to support first-year teachers — to somehow get them hooked into this profession in a way that they couldn't, or wouldn't want to, turn around and leave it.

Still, a decade later, such programs are not as common as she would like.

Quinn firmly believes that if each new teacher had a journeywoman teacher willing to show her the ropes, it could make all the difference.

Just ask Sarah Quiggle and Shannon Detweiler, both of whom were first-year teachers during the 1993-94 school year and both of whom had mentors trained by Quinn at UNLV.

Quiggle arrived at Herr Elementary School in northeastern Las Vegas fresh from Ohio. She was assigned to teach in a multigrade classroom that combines students in the first and second grades. She had done student teaching as part of her college training, of course, but she still found the thought of having her own classroom a little daunting.

One of her fondest memories of the start of the school year is LaTronica showing up with that bag of goodies and offering to help her.

LaTronica offered tips on teaching at Herr, on teaching in a multiage classroom, and on coping in the huge Clark County School District. But, most importantly, according to Quiggle, she offered to listen.

"It was good to have someone who I knew it was OK to ask, and she wouldn't think I was stupid," Quiggle says.

And, she adds, LaTronica fostered the mentor-mentee relationship by repeatedly initiating casual conversations.

Some teachers, LaTronica says, think that it's up to the mentees to seek out the mentors when they have a question or just want to talk.

"And believe me," Quiggle says, "it isn't going to happen. If it weren't for Tara coming down to my room so much, and saying, 'Hey, how are things going? I wouldn't have been apt to go down to her room."

LaTronica says she learned in Quinn's class that it's important for the mentor to seek out her first-year teacher again and again, so that the newer teacher doesn't feel as if she's a nuisance or as if she's inadequate because she has so many questions.

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The Creative Risk

UNLV professors Jerry Crawford and Hart Wegner know that the creative endeavor is both risky and rewarding. They've taken the risks; now it's time for the rewards.

BY DONNA MCALEER

Those who think of the creative process of writing as a serene, solitary task don't often consider the risks writers take. As part of the creative endeavor, they must transform parts of their own lives — shards of memory, years of research, and a heart full of emotion — into characters coming to life on a once-blank page for others to see, judge, or ignore.

Creative writers, as Ferlinghetti wrote, continually balance on a tightrope, trying to create meaning and beauty, performing for their audience, risking the false step, the pain of the fall. When the risk is taken, but the fall doesn't come — and recognition doesn't follow — it's especially sweet for the writer. And so it is for two members of the UNLV faculty, Jerry Crawford of the theatre arts department, and Hart Wegner of film studies, both of whom were recently recognized for their creative accomplishments as the winners of the 1994 Nevada Regents' Award for Creative Activity. They received medals, shared a $5,000 award, and were honored at receptions in both Las Vegas and Reno.

"It meant a lot to me," says Crawford, a playwright who has taught at UNLV for 32 years. "It’s one of the most esteemed awards given by the Regents, and it extends the competition throughout the entire [university and community college] system. More than one career is involved."

"You’re judged by your peers. It’s an especially high honor for me coming at the time it does," says Crawford, who recently retired and gained the title of emeritus professor. "It indicates I’ve made some mark in the professional world of theatre. As I make this transition, it says to me, ‘Job well done. Now, go on and do what we awarded you for on a full-time basis.’"

For Wegner, the director of the film studies program who was recently named interim dean of the College of Liberal Arts, this is not the first time he has been honored by the state. In 1990 he was named to the Nevada Writers Hall of Fame for his literary successes, notably his short stories, which have received widespread critical acclaim.

"These are rewards I cherish deeply. Universities don’t all that often give creativity awards. Being honored like this encourages me to work hard by validating what I’ve done before."

And, he says, that encouragement is important because "writing is a constant struggle.

"The lack of response is like throwing a rock down an endless well, never hearing it land. There’s no sound. No reply. I still get rejection slips — preprinted ones — after 20, 30, 40 years. You keep doing this and you get published, but you still get rejections."

The pain of those rejections is still present in his voice. Wegner is, after all, a writer whose collection of short fiction in Flowers of Ivy has been called "absolutely superb" by the novelist John Gardner, whose own work, October Light, won the National Book Critics Award in 1976.

Wegner continues to write, however, despite the heartache. He has a novel in progress, The Second Angel.

"The need to write is something strong," says Wegner, who is perplexed, but undeterred by the “business side” of writing, the publishing journey, and the tight market for short fiction.

But writing is not the only risk he has taken over the years. He immigrated to the United States as a young German man from Silesia (now considered part of Poland) shortly after World War II. His fiction often focuses on Europe before and after the war.

"When you used to do everything possible to get rid of your foreignness. You changed the way you talked, even the way you ate. There was no movement — as there is now — to preserve your culture. You did not preserve your roots, you destroyed them so you would fit in."

Yet, Wegner’s stories “capture the human spirit in a European world that can no longer be found on our maps and exists in the memories of only a few,” according to Richard Wiley, a novelist and professor in UNLV’s English department. "His stories have the magic and texture and rhythm of centuries gone by, combined with a sophisticated modern sense of the English language. It is an accomplishment — and a risk — all the more impressive given the fact that English is not his native language. "First, I had to learn English," he says. "Then I had to learn to use it creatively."

The demands of writing for the theatre pose a different set of risks for Crawford. "Plays are very collaborative productions. Everyone puts their two cents in — the actors, set designer, stage manager, as well as the director. It’s very stressful," says Crawford, who is not only an accomplished playwright, but also a teacher, actor, textbook author, dramaturge, theatre adjudicator, and last, but not least, a phenomenally loyal Cleveland Indians fan.

He says the play he carries around in his head for three to five years might look quite different when it’s produced in a regional, university, or off-Broadway theatre, if it gets produced at all.

"And when you see your play with a live audience, you refuel the experience each time," he says. Crawford has learned to live with the stress. "I had a heart attack when I was
time recipient of the National Gold Medal for Distinguished Service to the American College Theatre Festival. In addition to the numerous awards that both Wegner and Crawford received for their artistic achievements, they have been honored for their performance in the classroom as well. Wegner received the William Morris Award for Excellence in Teaching, and Crawford received the Theatre Arts Outstanding Teacher Award twice. Both have served as advisors and mentors to many students, guiding both their academic and career decisions.

Crawford and Wegner share another kind of creativity that often goes unrecognized. It’s the creative energy they’ve devoted to building the university. When Crawford arrived in Las Vegas in 1962, there was no UNLV. He came to teach at the fledgling Southern Regional Division of the University of Nevada. There was no Performing Arts Center. No Judy Bayley Theatre. Sets for plays were stored on the breezeway of Grant Hall. People sat on them when it got windy so they wouldn’t blow away.

In the years that followed, Crawford shaped much of the curriculum for the theatre arts major and later built the MFA playwriting program. “I’ve been on every committee known at a university,” Crawford said, including those to plan new buildings, open the hotel college, select several university presidents, choose athletic coaches, and hire new faculty (including Hart Wegner in 1968). He also served as dean of faculty and president of the Faculty Senate.

At one time his administrative and teaching load was in danger of eclipsing his writing—which is, until his mentor, Howard Stein, an internationally renowned educator and theatre critic, reminded him that he had a future as a playwright, as well as a teacher. Writing in a log every day and becoming a director of literary seminars at the Utah Shakespearean Festival each summer helped save him. In the relative cool of Cedar City afternoons, he would write the plays he had planned during the academic year.

Like Crawford, Wegner was an instrumental force in creating his program. He has shaped the interdisciplinary film studies program and served on innumerable committees during his 26 years at UNLV. It is his newest mission, serving as interim dean for the College of Liberal Arts, that makes Wegner excited, yet wary of its challenges and the impact it will have on his writing.

“I have to learn this dean thing,” Wegner says earnestly, acknowledging the bittersweet reality. “By the details of her murder unfold simply enough. It was the evening of Friday, May 21, 1993, which began as just an ordinary girls’ night out. Sara Halsey and her friends were in the Shark Club parking lot on East Harmon shortly before midnight. A black Camaro or Firebird with two women inside pulled in front of the group. The passenger asked Sara for a cigarette. When she opened her purse, the passenger tried to take it from her, and in a struggle over the handbag, Sara was shot once in the chest.

The car sped away west on Har­mon Avenue toward the details of the service were being survey the scores of floral arrangements honoring the memory of her sister’s 22-year-old fiance who had died of cancer.

“Why is everyone buying flowers?” she pondered aloud to members of her family. “If something like this happened to me, I would like the money to help college students...”

As the service began, her off-handed comment was forgotten. But her words were vividly recalled by her family and friends soon afterward as they gathered to say goodbye to her as well. Just three months later, the 20-year-old Halsey became the victim of a robbery and murder outside a Las Vegas nightclub.

Sara Lynne Halsey took a moment before the funeral service to survey the scores of floral arrangements honoring the memory of her sister’s 22-year-old fiance who had died of cancer.

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Our fascination with the topic seems to know no bounds. Perhaps it’s because, as UNLV anthropologist William Jankowiak has found, romantic love not only makes the world go ’round. It goes around the world.

Jankowiak, who has authored books and journal articles on various topics, still muses over the tremendous attention the media have paid to a subject that has been discounted as somewhat frivolous by the scholarly community since before Romeo courted Juliet. But looking back, he says, it’s not too tough to figure what gave rise to the immense popularity of the story among the media.

“First, when the New York Times piece hit, it legitimized the story,” he says. “When the Times said it was important, everyone else immediately had to do the story.”

But that was just the mechanics of it, he points out. Why the subject seemed to capture the imagination of both the media and the public so thoroughly is another matter entirely.

“In our culture, romantic love has become a formal ideal value. What I mean by that is, in many cultures, if you ask what’s one of the great values, very
few cultures would list romantic love. It is indeed a universal experience, but it's not a universal value. But in our culture, it's a value — a national value. It's a national treasure.

"I think it's an extremely important value. But we've been taught that it's a value that wouldn't exist if it weren't for the French. In many ways, it's been seen as a debased emotion that is our disease, and we have to put up with it."

"Then when this study comes out finding that it has such wide distribution, it means that it's not necessarily our disease; in fact, it's not a disease at all. If everyone else has it, how can you call it a disease? I think people found affirmation in this study. They found scientific validation of an important value."

Jankowiak, who has been analyzing romantic love in a scholarly context since his early college days, acknowledges that he arrived at his current understanding of the subject by a circuitous route.

"I was always interested as an undergraduate in questions of what human nature is; What is normal and what is socially constructed. It's like when you're 18 or 19 years old, you're wondering what is normal, what are the boundaries of human behavior," he says. His questions found fertile ground in graduate school at the University of California, Santa Barbara, where "everyone was asking questions of human universals," including questions relating to human relationships and sexuality.

Oddly enough, however, Jankowiak's earliest and perhaps greatest revelations about romantic love came to him half way around the world, in all places, Inner Mongolia.

"I was in graduate school in Santa Barbara when one of my mentors said, 'How would you like to go to Inner Mongolia to do some field research?' And I said, 'Fine. Where is it?' And with Mongolia to do some field research?'

"And when they talked about marriage or mate selection, they were the most ruthless and coldly pragmatic people. They would say, 'She's too old. She's ugly. She won't get anybody.' Or they would say, 'He's worthless. He has no money. Who would want him?'

"But their talk of love was quite a different matter. When they talked about their first love or how they listened to their mothers and dropped someone they had loved, there was a great deal of lamentation. When they talked that way, they weren't using the really strong instrumental language that they used when they talked about mate selection criteria. While talk of marriage seemed to be much more pragmatic, there was nothing pragmatic about love at all. It was highly expressive.

"When people in China were talking to me about romantic love, sometimes I thought they were talking to me in English because the wording, the sound, and the rhythm were exactly the same. Then I wanted to write, 'My God, what do we have here?"

"The revelation hit him that if romantic love was this prevalent in the Far East, it could be common worldwide. He began contacting fellow anthropologists to see if they had witnessed similar occurrences of romantic love in other cultures. Initially, they denied having witnessed it, according to Jankowiak, because they had been taught, as he had, that romantic love was a Euro-American contribution to the world. However, when pressed, many of his colleagues acknowledged that they had witnessed powerful displays of passionate love from wide-ranging groups — from pygmies to Eskimos. The question for Jankowiak then became how to document what had been heretofore presented only in anecdotal form.

"There's never really done any 20th-century research. So I started reading ethnographies just to find confirmation. And then I realized that I would have to spend the rest of my life reading 10,000 ethnographies, and that was ridiculous. So I looked around and found out that anthropologists had used Murdock and White's Standard Cross-Cultural Sample, which is a representative sample of the cultures in the world.

"Using this sample, he and a colleague analyzed ethnographies and folklore of 186 cultures worldwide, including tribes, kingdoms, states, and both agricultural and hunting and gathering societies that represented all of the various lifestyles, kinship relationships, and subsistence orientations to be found.

"To complicate matters, romantic love had not even been defined by past researchers, they discovered. So, they developed their own strict criteria for what constituted the existence of romantic love — distinguishing it from both lust and from companionship love — and then "spent five weeks reading the books and arguing back and forth" about which cultures offered proof of romantic love.

"Their findings, in short, indicated 90 percent of the cultures showed evidence of romantic love. They concluded that the remaining 10 percent probably experienced romantic love, but just didn't talk about it.

"Through his continuing analysis of romantic love in different cultures, he came to the opinion that not only do all cultures experience romantic love in similar ways, but both genders experience it similarly as well. The differences in each gender experience on matters of love and loving relationships are associated more with sex than with romantic love, he asserts.

"What if it's the logic of etymology that really separates us? It seems that in the logic of love, men and women really share a similar calculus. When we talk about sex, we are really speaking with two different voices, but when we talk of love, we speak with the same voice. It seems to me that this has tremendous theoretical implications. What if humans have evolved with multiple motivations, which they obviously have, and what if they're cross-purpose? That would account for a great deal of the conflict."

"And it is the conflict that love produces that is of interest to him now as he focuses his research on the new area — the dangerous aspects of romantic love.

"I'm putting together a draft for a book titled Romantic Passion, Sexual Desire: A Culture's Dialogue. What it will attempt to expose is the tension between the two. In some senses, it is what makes romantic love dangerous."

"He argues that romantic love is dangerous to the social structure of most cultures because people experiencing it will often throw away everything — kinship ties, sense of duty, economic gains — to perpetuate it."

"You can see this in this sense, romantic love becomes powelfully dangerous because it allows the couple to create a microsociety of their own. And it's done on an ad hoc basis. It's not something where the revolutions sit down and talk about creating the world in a new way. It really arises out of a spontaneous feeling-state. And people experiencing it don't even know it, but it's so powerful that they'll run away, even though they know everyone disapproves of them.

"Romantic passion is dangerous because it can disrupt the scheme of other groups. It's hard for us in America to understand that, unless we look at cases involving teenagers or people having extra-marital affairs. We are reminded by those cases that it can be dangerous."

"One of the other reasons Jankowiak says it's difficult for Americans to understand the dangers of romantic love to any given culture is that we place such high value on achieving it. In our society, romantic love is viewed as the primary way for an individual to become complete, he adds.

"In America, since collectivity and membership in group organizations has less emotional meaning for us, romantic passion is one of the ways we achieve a sense of completion, of transcendence. And, therefore, it's valued because it's one of the primary ways in which we complete the self. In that sense, it's not just love for love's sake; it's love as a way of completing a union, of belonging.

"And when love takes on such lofty proportions, he points out, it's a bit easier to comprehend why the media and the public seem so captivated by his research."

"Suddenly, Valentine's Day doesn't seem so special to him anymore."

"Romantic passion doesn't become just our day for commercialization of something silly, it becomes our day to commercialize a noble idea. I think what my research did was hit on positive notions. People were able to feel good about something that's important to them."

"In our culture, romantic love has become a formal ideal value . . .

It's a national treasure.

— UNLV anthropologist William Jankowiak"
UNLV ornithologist David Parmelee has discovered a tremendous opportunity for study in the virtually uncharted and untouched birding grounds of the Lake Mead National Recreation Area.

BY TOM FLAGG

Ornithologist David Parmelee had been telling his wife for years that he was born a century too late. If only he had come to believe that no such place existed. He had visited all of the continents and the oceans of the world as an ornithologist and expert on polar birds. It seemed there was nowhere untouched that hadn’t been studied.

That was before he came to Southern Nevada in 1992 to rejoin an old friend and colleague and to take the position of research curator of ornithology at UNLV’s Marjorie Barrick Museum of Natural History.

Now that he has spent more than a year participating in a long-term study of the vast Lake Mead National Recreation Area, the distinguished ornithologist and artist says he has found his untouched birding ground. "I came here for a number of reasons," says Parmelee, former curator of birds at the University of Minnesota’s Bell Museum of Natural History. "But mainly it was because of Donald [Baepler, director of the Barrick Museum]. I knew what he was doing here, and of his interests, and that was all important to me."

Baepler, a friend of Parmelee’s from graduate school at the University of Oklahoma and a fellow ornithologist, was in the process of building a fine collection of bird specimens at UNLV. He was also remodeling and expanding the Barrick Museum and extending its research efforts.

Parmelee brought to UNLV his collection of thousands of birds’ nests and eggs from all over the world, particularly the Arctic and Antarctic, as well as a significant collection of more than 1,000 stuffed birds. Added to Baepler’s collection, which was strong in tropical birds, Parmelee’s contribution makes for an important collection indeed — one that Baepler says few people would expect to find in a small museum in Southern Nevada.

Parmelee and Baepler are continually adding to the collection. They gather specimen birds from the Lake Mead area, from the university campus, and from surrounding areas.

"In order to document the distribution of birds, to identify subspecies, and so on, ornithologists are always collecting specimens," Baepler explains. "We don’t collect rare or endangered species, but we do document them."

Although there are mounted birds on display in the museum, the main collection is stored in special metal cases, away from damaging light and insects.

"The collection is for scientific study," Baepler says. "We may display some of the nests and eggs occasionally, but not for long periods of time."

There are, however, frequent private showings. Just recently, for instance, a father and son were visiting the museum, and the father wanted his son to see some of the birds. Parmelee took them back to the collection room and slid open drawers in some of the large steel cabinets.

The drawers contain row after row of stuffed birds, stiff and straight, but soft to the touch. All of them, even the big owls, eagles, penguins, gulls, and falcons, are extremely light; the little hummingbirds and finches seem weightless. Because they are stored away from damaging light, they have all retained their natural colors, and they will for many years to come.

Visitors who see part of the collection are thrilled. "That sort of thing goes over really big," Parmelee says, adding that the collection is shown to high school classes, to people who have seen a bird in the wild and come in to find out what it was, and to other ornithologists who are interested in particular groups of birds. Parmelee and Baepler come by specimens in several ways. They have the numerous state and federal permits required to shoot individual birds they want to add to the collection. And many are salvaged from accidents. Many of the big birds of prey in the collection — such as hawks and owls — were road kills.

"Just today someone from the campus brought us one that had flown against a window," Baepler said. "We take every dead bird we can find."

The challenge now is to build up the collection of Nevada birds. The two ornithologists spend several days each week gathering in the breeding grounds of the main island of South Georgia. This photo was also taken by Parmelee.
in the Lake Mead National Recreation Area, particularly in the southern and northern extremes.

“The area is enormous,” Parmelee says. “One needs to go by foot, by car, and by boat. Possibly even an aircraft flight over some of the colonies would be helpful.”

With 1.5 million acres and a wealth of bird species, the recreation area is much larger than one or two scientists can cover alone. Parmelee and Baepler use volunteers and students. A Ph.D. candidate who is writing her doctoral dissertation on certain aspects of the Lake Mead National Recreation Area, particularly in the southern and northern plains: those who do it for a hobby and those who do it for a living.

Parmelee is particularly interested in the Overton Wildlife Management Area. Because of the numerous ponds and marshes in the area, a variety of aquatic birds pass through it.

“It has taken a year for the people in the area to become accustomed to us,” he says. “At first they were very suspicious that we were going to spoil things in their duck-hunting paradise. But I have gotten the idea across that that’s not my purpose; now, they are quite helpful. They have even approached us to establish more nature trails and observation blinds in the area.”

Parmelee and Baepler encourage birds to nest in certain areas by setting up artificial nesting sites — large bird houses that are appropriate to the size of the birds for which they are intended. In the Overton area they established several nesting platforms atop tall poles in hopes of attracting ospreys, large fish hawks that are very rare in the Lake Mead area. Much of their time in the field involves watching birds. There are two kinds of bird watchers, Parmelee explains: those who do it for a hobby and those who do it for a living.

“The typical person who is doing it for fun is constantly looking for the unusual, he says. “They will pass up a lot of common stuff to look for the rarity. The South Africans call them ‘tikers,’ because they are always tucking birds off their lists, once they have seen them.”

The professional, on the other hand, is interested in the abundant species in a particular area, and in relative abundance (how often you might expect to see a particular species in a particular area). “Sure, it’s fun to see a frigate bird that has come up from the Gulf of Mexico to Lake Mead. Everybody gets excited about that,” Parmelee says. “But I’m out with a group of bird watchers, and I see something interesting, no matter how common the bird might be, I’ll sit down and watch. So I’ll come back with five birds, and they might come back with 50, and I’ll look like a dweeb.”

Parmelee’s and Baepler’s field work will ultimately result in a book about the birds of the Lake Mead National Recreation Area. It will also become part of the massive database being compiled by researchers in the Barrick Museum, who are conducting an extensive five-year study of the area with a $500,000 donation from resort developer Kirk Kerkorian’s LINCY Foundation.

The Southern Nevada desert and Lake Mead are a long way from Iron Mountain, Mich., where Parmelee grew up and developed his lifelong interest in birds. And they are half a world away from the Arctic and Antarctic regions, where he has done much of his work and developed his reputation as one of the leading experts in polar birds. But Parmelee is excited about his work here and his collaboration with Baepler, of whom he says, “Not only is he a tremendous colleague from the standpoint of professional ornithology, but his administrative ability is beyond belief.”

Perhaps it is a measure of his adaptation to Southern Nevada that he is ready to paint local birds. “People often ask me about my painting,” he says. “First of all, I have to have the experience. If I were asked to paint a bird that I had not seen in the wild, I would have a really tough time. I wouldn’t be stimulated.”

“I’ve been struggling with that. It has taken me a year to get the feel of them and get in the mood. But now I’m getting the urge to paint Southern Nevada birds.”

When Parmelee first came to UNLV, he was not fully aware of how vast the Lake Mead National Recreation Area is, nor of how little is known about its biological and archaeological resources. But as he helps Baepler and others at the Barrick Museum study and document the area, he is inspired by the discovery of its uncharted land.
Dracula Dancing Eve Oct. 27-30

November 1944

3 Chamber Music Southwest: "Music of Dutille, Arc Hagen." 7:30pm. Artemus Ham Concert Hall. 895-3801.

5 Concert: Jazz Ensemble I. 8pm. Judy Bayley Theatre. 895-3801.

December 1944

1 Alumni Event: Dinner/theatre event. 6pm. Richard Tam Alumni Center. 895-3821.


February 1995


2 Concert: Winter Choral Celebration. 8pm. Artemus Ham Concert Hall. 895-3801.

2-7 Rodeo: National Finals Rodeo. Dec. 2-10, 6-9pm; Dec. 11, 11-11:45am. Thomas & Mack Centre. 895-3900.

4 Concert: Jazz Ensemble II. 2pm. Black Box Theatre. 895-3801.


6 Concert: Collegium Wassilak. 8pm. Black Box Theatre. 895-3801.

11 Concert: Desert Chorale. 7:30pm. Artemus Ham Concert Hall. 895-3801.

15 Alumni Event: Dinner/ballet event. 6pm. Richard Tam Alumni Center. 895-3821.

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

January 1995

9-13 Senior Theatre: Senior Theatre Festival. Details TBA. Judy Bayley Theatre. 895-3801.

11 Community Concert: Terrence Freer. 8pm. Artemus Ham Concert Hall. 895-3801.

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

21 Concert: Marinella Dream Concert. 1pm. Sam Boyd Stadium. 895-3900.

23 Community Concert: Artemas Ham. 8pm. Artemus Ham Concert Hall. 895-3801.


17 Spring Semester 1995: Instruction begins.


April 1995

5-6 Concert: Nevada Symphony Orchestra. 8pm. Artemus Ham Concert Hall. 895-3801.


23 Concert: Nevada Symphony Orchestra. 8pm. Artemus Ham Concert Hall. 895-3801.
**Class Notes**

**60s**

Patricia L. Dillingham, '68 BS Education, '70 Master of Education, retired in May from the departments of health education and sport in-vig-m-nent after 27 years of service at UNLV. She now holds the title of professor emeritus.

Joe de Beauchamp, '72 BS Education, '76 Master of Administration at Seattle's City University. He also teaches business administration, is principal of Adobe Education, and working his way up through the ranks. He has also spent 29 years as a special agent with the office of Police Department.

Joe de Beauchamp, '72

Duncan de Beauchamp, '78 BA Arizona + emeritus. L. Dillingham, '68 Arizona + emeritus. Duncan de Beauchamp, '78 BA Arizona + emeritus. He is a co-author of three recent books, *Sexual Aggression in Society*, *Managing and Resolving Conflict*, and *Dana Happy*.

DeAnn Burns Mitchell, '74 AA Nursing, is an associate professor of nursing at Tarleton County Junior College in Fort Worth, Texas, and is a licensed commissioner in the nursing corps of the U.S. Naval Reserve. She obtained her bachelor's and master's degrees in nursing from the University of Texas, Arlington, and is now pursuing a doctoral degree at the University of Arizona.

John Z. Fagan, '75 BA Political Science, has a private law practice that emphasizes family law based on a biblical foundation. He lives in The Dalles, Ore.

Alan J. Nielsen, '77 BA Criminal Justice, is a deputy chief of the North Las Vegas Police Department. He has been with the department 23 years, beginning as a police officer and working his way up through the ranks. He has also spent 29 years with the U.S. Air Force, first on active duty and later as a reservist. He lives in Salt Lake City, Utah.

Rae Goldhast, '80 BS Hotel Administration, is the director of sales at the Universal City Hilton in Cali­for­nia. Previously, she was named the March of Dimes Nurse of the Year in maternity nursing. She lives in Twin Falls, Idaho.

Susan Bechler-Bowmer, '82

Gary J. Leno, '81 BS Management Information Systems, '83 MBA, a sales agent for RE/MAX Zim, an Atlanta real estate company. His wife, Jennifer Olsen Leno, '83 AA Nursing, is also a real estate agent. They live in Roswell, Ga.

Sal Scalisti, '81 BS Hotel Administration, is the assistant curator manager of the Reno Hilton. He also teaches the gaming management series at the University of Nevada, Reno. Previously, he served as director of casino operations for Silver Eagle Casino Cruise in Lake Tahoe, Nev.

Susan Bechler-Bowmer, '82 AA Nursing, is the unit manager of the gerontological ward at Valley Hospital. She previously worked in the postoperative unit at Humbana Hospital. In 1992, she was named the March of Dimes Nurse of the Year in maternity nursing. She received a bachelor's degree in health admin from the College of St. Francis in Illinois.

Kimberly Cox Burton, '88 BS Hotel Administration, works for United Airlines in management development at Stapleton International Airport in Denver. She lives in Lakewood, Colo.

Robert W. Nimmo, '88 BA Political Science, is assistant field officer for the U.S. General Services Administration in Tuscon, Ariz. He works in the agency's public buildings services division.

Ramin Oskanian Seleskyny, '82 BS Hotel Administration, operates the Twin Mountain County Resort located in the heart of New Hampshire's White Mountains. She lives in Twin Mountain, N.H.

**80s**

Ron Goebel, '90 BS Hotel Administration, is the director of sales at the Universal City Hilton in California. Previously, he was named the March of Dimes Nurse of the Year in maternity nursing. He lives in Twin Falls, Idaho.

Steven R. Dauserman, '83 BS Hotel Administration, is the creator and general manager of Raley's — The Only Place for Ribs, a restaurant located in New Brunswick, N.J. He lives in Hasbrouck, N.J.

Lee S. Beren, '94 BS Hotel Administration, is a project coordinator for Raytheon Co. in Lexington, Mass. He has been with the company for seven years. He lives in Nashua, N.H.

Valerie Michael Coplin, '85 BA Communication Studies, owns and operates 20th Century Entertainment International Inc., a destination management company that plans small events for conventions.

Mitchell A. Wolf, '85 BS Biology, is a physician practicing in a primary care setting, multi-specialty group in Oklahoma City. He received his medical degree from the University of Nevada School of Medicine.


Cindy Ward, '86 BS Hotel Administration, works for United Airlines as a hotel services manager. She is in charge of the corporate travel depart­ment, training center facility, and hotel. Previously, she served as a supervisor in the airline's flight de­part­ment at O'Hare International Airport.

**90s**

Teresa Gettor, '90 BA Communication Studies, received a master's degree in library science from St. John's University in New York and is now working as a children's librarian in Port Chester, N.Y. She also performs in community theater and has recently appeared in productions of *Lead Me a Tenor* and *Six Degrees of Separation*. She lives in Willowbrook, N.J.

Sherry E. Fick, '91

Karen T. Thomas, '91 BA Education, is a 6th grade teacher at Sevier Elementary School in Maryville, Tenn.

**We'd Like To Hear From You!**

We would like to invite all UNLV alumni to submit information about themselves to UNLV Magazine for inclusion in the Class Notes section. Please fill out the form below completely, type or print clearly, and avoid abbreviations. Also, please supply home and office telephone numbers so we can reach you if there is a question about your entry. We encourage you to submit a black and white photograph of yourself to accompany your Class Notes entry.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Year Graduated</th>
<th>Major</th>
<th>Type of Degree(s)</th>
<th>Address</th>
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<th>Career or Personal Information</th>
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Entries should be mailed to: UNLV Class Notes, University News and Publications, 4000 Maryland Parkway, Box 50102, Las Vegas, NV 89154-1012

**Attention Alumni** — The UNLV Alumni Association offers a variety of social and cultural activities. For more information or to join the association, call 895-3621. Please be patient because of the popularity of the Class Notes section. We may not be able to answer every entry as soon as you submit it. If the information you submit for a Class Notes entry becomes outdated, please submit a new entry and indicate in the box below if it is a new entry or indicate in the lower left corner if it is a new entry and indicate in the box below if it is a new entry.
Halsey
Continued from page 11

mentor to me during my years at UNLV and encouraged me to stay in school. We have stayed in touch over the years.”

John Halsey completed three years at UNLV before earning his bachelor’s degree at the University of Nevada, Reno; he returned to UNLV to obtain his MBA in 1975.

“Sara expressed a desire to do ‘something with math,’” Halsey says. “Herb Wells took the time to talk with her, look over her test results, and discuss what she might want to do with her life. She was excited.”

After her death, the notes, phone calls, and letters her family members received helped them remember her spirit and warmth. Sara’s employer enclosed a note with her final paycheck, complimenting her enthusiasm, work ethic, and “stand-out personality.” Words of comfort and support came from Sara’s circle of friends, as well as from people who knew of her only through conversations with her family.

As the family let Sara’s wishes be known, support also came in the form of contributions. Nearly $11,000 has been raised for the endowed scholarship fund in Sara’s name.

The first scholarship award of $680 will be made to a UNLV student this fall. As the endowment grows each year, so will the amount to be awarded. Full-time students from Nye, Lincoln, or Clark County with a declared major in mathematics or engineering, a solid academic standing, and a demonstrated need are eligible to apply for the scholarship.

Those close to Sara are somewhat comforted that they have paved the way for other students to fulfill Sara’s dreams.

“The day of Sara’s funeral service we came to UNLV to establish the scholarship endowment,” her father recalls. “I don’t think I’ve ever done anything harder than that, but it was something I just had to do. We hope this will encourage people to contribute to Sara’s scholarship fund or establish one on behalf of someone they love.”

Despite their efforts to build something positive out the tragedy, there is no sense of resolution for her family as Sara’s killers have not been apprehended.

“We are getting more and more frustrated because there’s been no progress,” says Halsey. “There were very few witnesses. We feel we may never reach these people, but we are hoping that maybe someone, somewhere along the way, may hear or remember anything that might help us find the women that took Sara’s life.”

The family has not given up. Sara’s mother and stepfather created informational fliers about the crime, which the management at Video Tyme distributed to their customers. The Rio Suite Hotel and Casino, Sara’s mother’s employer, also agreed to help by displaying the fliers at the employment offices of the Rio and their other hotel properties for a week last spring.

Despite these efforts, no additional information in the case has surfaced. But the victim’s family and friends hold tight to the belief that her killers will be found and brought to justice.

In the meantime, Sara is more than a faceless victim of a senseless crime. She’s the young woman who inspired the Sara Lynne Halsey Endowed Scholarship Fund.

Her family will never forget her. And now, neither will those who achieve their goals through the scholarship fund that bears her name.

Creative Risk
Continued from page 10

Keep his footing.

Balancing on the high wire without the safety net of a full-time job seems to exhilarate Crawford as he makes the transition into early retirement. “I think I’m still young and dynamic enough to do something. My agent would love to see me live in New York, but Las Vegas will still be my base for a while.”

Crawford plans to devote much of his time to writing, but he’s already fielding offers to lecture, consult, review programs, and judge at theatre festivals. And, he must save time to travel with the Cleveland Indians during spring training to gather material on one of his great loves — baseball — and pal around some of his ballplayer friends. He says he might even make a run at being a sports journalist. But friends have warned him that he’ll have to guard his time.

Both Crawford and Wegner agree that being robbed of time is another risk they face. After all, they must continue to find time to attract an audience and develop ideas, then climb up the ropes, as Ferlinghetti put it, “Toward that still higher perch/where Beauty stands and waits . . . to start her death-defying leap.” Then they still have to catch her — the Beauty of the written word — for all to read.
The Charles Vanda Master Series
UNLV's World Renowned Performing Arts Series
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Shlomo Mintz, Conductor and Soloist
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featuring ABT's Julio Bocca
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30th Anniversary Tour
November 17, 1994

Royal Philharmonic Orchestra
Yuri Temirkanov, Conductor
February 9, 1995

Itzhak Perlman
in recital
March 2, 1995

BBC Philharmonic Orchestra
Peter Maxwell Davies, Conductor
March 23, 1995

Gilbert & Sullivan's *H.M.S. Pinafore*
Opera a la Carte, with full orchestra
March 29, 1995

For tickets or information, call 895-3801
Dates and artists are subject to change
The Lee Pascal Memorial Rose Garden, seen here in full bloom, is located just south of the UNLV Performing Arts Center. At the top of the stairs, the 38-foot-tall steel sculpture “Flashlight” serves as a campus landmark.