

# rebel intelligencer

UNIVERSITY OF NEVADA, LAS VEGAS

NOVEMBER 1983

11-year hiatus

## Debate team manages good start despite time, money constraints

by Mark Gentile  
staff writer

An 11-year forensics drought has been broken and UNLV is off and debating in fine style.

Coached by graduate students Robert Glenn and Jim Reppert, the 1983 debate squad came home from its first debate tournament recently bearing prizes.

The squad's two-man team of James Ohriner and Doug Arone took first place in the novice team competition at the D.L. Miller Invitational Tournament held at California Polytechnic, Pomona, in October.

Ohriner and Arone defeated an Arizona State University team 3-0, to win the event.

Ohriner, a senior in Communication Studies, also took first place in novice extemporaneous speaking, third in persuasive speaking and third in the novice individual division.

Other students competing for UNLV were Keith Korsz, Alfred Tryferis, Karl Wyncoop,

Veronica Moody and Laurie DeMichelle. DeMichelle also helped judge the competitions.

The team did not fare so well at its second outing, the Aztec Invitational at San Diego State University, barely missing getting into a prize category, but Coach Glenn is proud of his neophyte debaters.

In the early national rankings for this season, UNLV was 33rd out of 100, not bad for first timers.

Glenn started the UNLV debate team because, he said, he believes every major university should have a debate team.

"It's one of the best places for experience in public speaking," he said, "especially for those students going on to law school."

He said that scholarships are sometimes available for debaters and it "looks good on a resume."

The purpose of the squad, Glenn said, is to engage students in an examination of a significant social, political or

economic issue.

"A debate encourages and develops critical thinking ability, as well as teaches students to have a clear, yet lively and forceful speaking manner," Glenn said.

Despite the enthusiasm of prospective debaters, getting the program started has not been easy. Glenn has had to cope with two familiar problems: the lack of time and money.

Both coaches are teaching assistants in communication studies.

"Between school and jobs, I find myself picking the tournaments on the basis of the number of days away from school," Glenn said.

Glenn has also had to chase funding. A grant from the academic vice president's office got the ball rolling and Glenn has developed support through CSUN.

At the moment they work out of the TA's office in Grant Hall, but hope to have a debate squad office in Humanities when the faculty of the College of Business and Economics moves to Beam Hall.

Several UNLV faculty and departments have given moral support to the program, but have been able to commit little else. Communication Studies, the traditional home of university debate, has declined to get directly involved because of inadequate resources. The department sponsored the debate team in the early 1970s but gave it up because the necessary funding was not available.

Travel to debates is the major cost. In addition, there are entry fees. Ideally, given the time involved, some remuneration should be available for the coach. At present, Glenn and Reppert are volunteering their time.

Glenn suggested that a graduate assistant assigned to debate could give the program more stability and help ensure its survival.

Meanwhile, Glenn is seeking funding wherever he can find it, as well as volunteers to help with the organizational aspects of the program, which include arrangements for a tournament at UNLV in the spring.

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### UNLV DEBATE AND FORENSICS SQUAD

Two UNLV debaters in their first-ever tournament captured the top prize at the California State University, Long Beach Novice Debate Tournament last weekend.

The team of Lance Stringham and Jeannette Merryman won first place in the beginner division. Neither had previously competed in university debate.

Stringham, a sophomore, and Merryman, a freshman, defeated a team from Mount San Antonio Junior College on a 2-1 decision in the final round.

Stringham was also named third best speaker in the beginner division.

Accompanying the winners to the tournament were UNLV coaches Robert Glenn and Jim Reppert, who judged preliminary, semifinal and final rounds in the competition.

UNLV's next competition will be January 2-4 at the UCLA National College Forensics Tournament.

6B/Las Vegas Review-Journal/Sunday, March 25, 1984



Jim Laurie/Review-Journal

**TOP DEBATERS** - Like the Runnin' Rebels, UNLV's debate and forensics team is earning a national reputation for excellence. From left are

members Lance Stringham, Steve Creason, Joe Bunin, Jim Reppert, forensics director Robert Glenn and Sheryl Chenin.

# Debaters host tourney of Orwell's classic, 1984

by Ron Zayas

The George Orwell Invitational Forensics Tournament, the first such event sponsored by the UNLV debate team, allowed top rated universities nationwide to vie for trophies and copies of Orwell's classic, 1984.

The three-day tournament, last Friday, Saturday and Sunday, pitted UNLV against much larger and better funded debate teams. However, UNLV gave a strong overall showing.

While a "host rule" does not allow the host school's team to enter into the finals of their own tournament, some of the performances of individual debaters deserved recognition nevertheless.

Sheryl Chenin, would have placed in the dramatic interpretation and in the poetry interpretation categories had it not been for the host rule.

Louis Clemens also gave a top rated performance in the oratory interpretation category, but received no award by virtue of the fact that UNLV was ineligible.

The University Of California at Berkeley, and Biola University both have top ranked teams that excelled in the tournament. Both teams finished first and second in the sweepstakes category (in which the teams with the most points overall in the tournament are recognized), with Berkeley taking the first place honors.

California State University at Fullerton took third place overall and placed many individual debaters in top positions in most events, including first in the after dinner speaking division.

The Orwell debate was the first chance that UNLV's debate team had had to be the host of a debate, and it has brought a professional luster to the infant debate team.

Robert Glenn and Jim Reppert, organizers

of the Tournament and the driving force behind the team's existence, feel that the tournament will give the team and the university a better academic image throughout the academic community.

The importance of the tourney is also monumental when it is considered that UNLV is in the running for the Brady Lee Garrison Newcomers Award, and UNLV's showing in the tournament has increased the team's chances of receiving the award.

While UNLV is presently ranked first among first-year programs in the nation (the criteria on which the award is given), Florida State University is running a close second and will close in if UNLV falters in an upcoming UCLA sponsored debate.

UNLV's rating overall in the nation (56 in a field of 262 schools) is *incredible* considering the low participation rate for the team, and the fact that financial restraints have made participation in some tournaments impossible.

"Usually we have four people, two debate teams, and a number of IEs (individual events), yet we still managed to win second place sweepstakes (at the Pacific Southwest Collegiate Forensics Association Spring Championship)," said Reppert. He also adds that schools like UNR will have as many as 40-50 persons in their team.

The tournament, which was both complicated to arrange and expensive to produce, received funds from the competing schools. Fees ranged from \$40 for an event that requires a UNLV judge to \$4 for entering an individual in an event.

The Orwell Tournament is the only UNLV sponsored event on the forensic calendar, yet the successful outcome of the tournament (both to the schools that participated and to the image of UNLV) will inevitably lead to other tournaments hosted by the debate team in future years.



# 1984 debate tournament to honor Orwell

by Mary Beth Nitzschke  
r-i staff writer

It's somehow appropriate, the desert being known for its hot air, that UNLV should host a debate tournament.

But in frontier Nevada, the tournament's dedication to George Orwell and "1984" seems somewhat incongruous.

Nevertheless, March 9 - 11, UNLV will host the 1984 George Orwell Forensics Invitational.

UNLV's neophyte debate squad,

which in less than a year has accumulated a caseful of trophies, will host the tournament.

Interest in attending has been expressed by schools throughout the West and from several Mid-western colleges.

Jim Reppert, associate director of forensics, said UCLA, University of Southern California and Pepperdine were among the schools expected. Southwest College of Kansas has said it will send a team, and Harvard, For-

dham and Dartmouth have inquired about plans for the tournament.

Reppert estimated that 20 - 25 teams would be on hand for the event.

Bob Glenn, director, and Reppert have made all the local arrangements for the tournament which will include 10 individual events as well as team debate.

Students will compete in poetry and prose interpretation, persuasive speaking, rhetorical criticism and extemporaneous speaking.

Other events include dramatic interpretation, after-dinner speaking, dramatic duo, impromptu speaking and expository speaking.

The tournament will begin Friday, March 9, at 1:30 p.m. and continue into the evening. Competitions will be held all day Saturday and end about noon on Sunday.

Awards will vary from trophies to George Orwell books. The school with the greatest number of points at the end of competition will win the sweepstakes award.

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FEBRUARY 1984



Jim Laurie/Review-Journal

**TOP DEBATERS**  
UNLV's debate and  
national reputation

like the Runnin' Rebels, the  
forensics team is earning a  
reputation for excellence. From left are

members Lance Stringham, Steve Creason, Joe  
Runin, Jim Reppert, forensics director Robert  
Glenn and Sheryl Chenin.

## UNLV's debate team's No. 1

By Carol Cling  
Review-Journal

Whatever the fate of UNLV's much ballyhooed basketball team, there's one squad on campus with a clear shot at a national championship.

They score, not on the playing field, but on the gymnasium floor, but on the stage and in the classroom.

UNLV's debate and forensics team has done it. With a shoestring budget. With no home-court advantage. In its first year of competition.

The school's previous forensics program died about 10 years ago.

But teaching assistant Bob Glenn resurrected it during the current school year — in part, to earn wider recognition for UNLV.

As an undergraduate of the University of Southern California during its domination of collegiate debate, Glenn was impressed by "the national recognition the university received for being the No. 1 debate and forensics program in the nation. It represents the academic side of the university."

As a teaching assistant at UNLV now earning his master's degree, Glenn acknowledges "from the outside looking in, there's not

to earn more points and move in front of UNLV in the standings.

"But we're still No. 1," Glenn noted after receiving the latest rankings. The Nebraska trip, however, "shows how serious they are" about winning the championship, Glenn said.

The UNLV team now is "trying desperately" to obtain \$5,000 to finance a trip to the Towner Invitational Tournament next weekend at the University of Richmond, Virginia, Glenn said.

The Richmond tournament give them even more going into the next month.

That competition, the Towner Invitational, is like the one at the University of Southern California, said Leppert, UNLV's associate director of forensics.

Winning the championship "would be a real feather in our cap," Leppert added. "It's something positive in an academic function."

Glenn and Leppert maintain a winning attitude despite the pressure, as evidenced by "Bob's Blurbs," scrawled on a memo board in the UNLV office that serves as team headquarters.

man Joe Runin for interpretation and debate. Senior James Ohriner and sophomore Lance Stringham also have captured a number of individual awards.

But finishing out the season, no matter what the final standings, will more than exhaust the team's \$4,300 budget.

The squad even staged its own tournament this month — the George Orwell Invitational, which attracted teams from as far away as Kansas — to raise money for the program.

By contrast, UNR's forensics budget is \$20,000, Glenn said.

He and Leppert, also a teaching assistant, coach in what he describes as "the Mother Teresa tradition."

Leppert takes a more graphic approach to illustrate their compensation, shaping his thumb and forefinger to form a zero.

"It takes a lot of hours, a lot of time, but the students make it all worth it," Glenn said. "If the students don't care, the coaches aren't going to care. But the students have worked very, very hard. We get absolutely no recognition on campus and the debaters work as hard or harder than the basketball players."

"Sometimes, with different schools, they haven't heard of you and they think, 'They're in their first year; how good can they be?'" Leppert said. "We go in and take other schools by surprise," he said.

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*Cindy Kelly opposed new standards for hiring UNLV's president*

## Students oppose easing of UNLV hiring standards

By LISA RILEY  
SUN Staff Writer

University Regent Joan Kenney said Friday she would ask the board to reconsider its decision to ease the qualifications for the job of UNLV president.

After listening to about a dozen UNLV students protest regents labeling an earned doctorate and experience in university administration desirable rather than mandatory, Kenney said would pass along their comments to the other eight regents.

"I'm going to write to the regents and try to change their minds if I can," Kenney told a reporter at the afternoon rally on the UNLV campus. She said she plans to ask for another vote on the job requirements at the board's next meeting, scheduled April 5-6 in Las Vegas.

Only Kenney and Regents Frankie Sue Del Papa and Daniel Klaich voted against lowering the requirements at an emergency meeting held Monday. The 5-3 vote overturned the recommendations of the UNLV Faculty Senate and the campus and regent presidential search committees. Regent Lilly Fong was absent.

The organizer of Friday's rally, Laura James, a graduate student in criminal justice, said she represented a group of about 30 students who disagreed with the regents decision.

"We feel they didn't pay attention to

the ramifications of their decision on what students will have to put up with," James said. She said UNLV's academic reputation, already suffering because of the attention focused on athletics, would be furthered damaged as a result of lessening the requirements for the campus presidency.

Student James Ohriner, who as a member of the campus presidential search committee supported changing the job requirements, told the audience of about 100 in the campus courtyard he was more concerned with the personal qualities of candidates than their academic credentials.

But Ohriner said the regents showed a lack of respect for not accepting the decision of the regent and presidential search committees to leave the requirements as they were.

Ohriner was asked by a student why the rules of the search were being changed to enable former Gov. Mike O'Callaghan to qualify for the post.

O'Callaghan, now a newspaper executive, does not have an earned doctorate nor experience as a university administrator. He has reportedly been asked to apply for the UNLV presidency by several regents, but has said he is not seeking another job.

"Mike O'Callaghan has not applied for this position," Ohriner said. "I've talked to him and he suggested other candidates for me to look at."



May 1, 1984

Brady L. Larson

Bob Jim



Lance  
Keith

me

Joe

off to Sacramento

'UNLV deserves recognition for its successes as well as its problems, which are a natural outgrowth of its fast-paced development as a true academic institution.'

deserve some degree of refutation.

UNLV, while a young university, is a regionally and nationally competitive in a wide variety of disciplines including communication studies, computer science, music, theatre arts, biology, chemistry, political science, hotel administration, business, philosophy, English and forensics. The students, staff and faculty at UNLV have endured a number of unfounded attacks against the university's academic image.

It is obvious that many people, including Dr. Mandel, do not understand that UNLV has already achieved its goal to maintain a decided balance between academics and athletics.

Recently, two teams from UNLV competed successfully at several national tournaments for computer programming and intercollegiate debate, respectively. In fact, UNLV has just received the Brady Lee Garrison Newcomers Award for being the top-ranked first-year Cross-Examination Debate Association debate program in the nation, while the university's computer programming team, the Rammin' Rebels, placed second at a tournament in Los Angeles, beating out such established academic powers as Caltech and MIT.

UNLV deserves recognition for its successes as well as its problems, which are a natural outgrowth of its fast-paced development as a true academic institution. Unfortunately, many people find it easier to pigeon-hole UNLV as an "ugly duckling" simply because the media has, over the last decade, primarily focused on the university's athletic activities.

It is our hope that this correspon-

dence can function as an initial step toward changing the university's image so that, in the future, no student or faculty member will feel the need to apologize for choosing UNLV as his or her academic home.

It appears that Mandel's comments were designed solely to serve as an excuse to his colleagues at San Diego State for his own lackluster performance as an administrator at UNLV.

Robert Glenn, Jim Reppert, Mike Fiotti, Joe Bunin, Steve Creason, Lance Stringham, Lewis Clemmens

5-4-84

## Refutation

To the editor:

Recently, Dr. Jerry Mandel issued several derogatory comments about UNLV and its operations. In the process, he showered a great deal of praise upon San Diego State University, his former and future employer.

One wonders why Mandel ever left SDSU, which he termed "the best state university in California." While at UNLV, Mandel received a more than generous paycheck to serve the university, and yet some dark urge compelled him to malign it as a "barely adequate academic institution." As students and active participants in the university community, we feel that Dr. Mandel's comments

# New UNLV debate team wins national trophy

UNLV's debate and forensics team has won the Brady Lee Garrison Newcomers Trophy awarded by the Cross Examination Debate Association (CEDA).

The national award is given annually to the new debate and forensics team which scores the most CEDA points at tournaments throughout the year, according to Robert Glenn, UNLV's debate coach.

The traveling trophy was established in 1981 in honor of Brady Lee Garrison, former debate coach at the University of Southern California, who was killed in an automobile accident. The award is especially significant to UNLV's debate squad because Garrison coached Glenn at USC.

Teams from Florida State University and North Dakota State University placed second

and third behind UNLV in the trophy competition.

At the recent Great Western CEDA Debate Tournament, where the national honor was awarded to the squad, only three UNLV team members and the two coaches, Glenn and Jim Reppert, attended because of limited funding.

Keith Korcz and Joe Bunin participated in debate while Sheryl Chenin

competed in oral interpretation and impromptu speaking.

"Although we did not break into the finals, we held our own against the best in the nation," Chenin said.

UNLV's forensics team finished the year in the top 15 percent nationwide, competing against schools like UCLA, which placed first overall among the 273

colleges and universities that participated in CEDA debate this year. She added that the team will compete next year, but funding, a major problem for the debate squad this year, is still uncertain.

"We did better than anyone expected," Chenin said about the

team's first-year success.



## UNLV debate team captures second in collegiate contest

A solid performance in individual events competition propelled the UNLV Debate and Forensics Squad to a second place team sweepstakes trophy last weekend at the Pacific Southwest Collegiate Forensics Association Spring Championships at Cal Poly Pomona.

First place award winners went to senior Sheryl Chenin and junior Steve Creason in novice duo interpretation, sophomore Lance Stringham in communication analysis, and senior James Ohriner in extemporaneous speaking.

Chenin also took second place in oral interpretation and fourth place in poetry interpretation. Stringham won second place in im-

promptu speaking, and Creason took third place in extemporaneous speaking and fourth place in impromptu speaking.

Freshman Joe Bunin won second place in communication analysis and third place in impromptu speaking.

Advancing to semifinal rounds of competition but not breaking into finals were Ohriner in impromptu speaking and persuasive speaking, freshman Keith Korcz in impromptu speaking, and Bunin in extemporaneous speaking.

The team of Stringham and Korcz took fifth place

in novice CEDA debate. They posted a 5-1 win-loss record in preliminary rounds, and then lost in a quarterfinal round.

Thirty-six colleges and universities competed at the PSCFA Championships.

Accompanying team members were UNLV coaches Robert Glenn and Jim Reppert, who judged preliminary, semifinal and final rounds in debate and individual events.

UNLV's next tournament is March 9-11, when it hosts the inaugural George Orwell Forensics Invitational on campus.



COLLEGE OF ARTS AND LETTERS  
DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNICATION STUDIES

Three first place awards by junior Steve Creason led the UNLV Debate and Forensics Squad to its best showing of the year last weekend at the Steve Collins Invitational Forensics Tournament at Modesto Junior College.

Creason took first place in novice extemporaneous speaking, communication analysis, and the pentathlon, an award given to the contestant with the highest point totals in five or more events. He also won third place in oratory on the American presidency and sixth place in impromptu speaking.

The debate team of Creason and freshman Joe Bunin took second place in novice CEDA debate. They posted a 5-1 win-loss record in preliminary rounds, won their semifinal round against the University of California at Berkeley, and lost in the final round. Bunin was also named the third best speaker in his division.

Sophomore Lance Stringham won second place in novice pentathlon and communication analysis. Freshman Keith Korcz took fourth place in argumentation analysis, and Bunin won fifth place in impromptu speaking.

The novice debate team of Stringham and Korcz posted a 4-2 win-loss record in preliminary rounds, but did not advance to the semifinals.

UNLV's next tournament is February 25-26 at the PSCFA Spring Championships at Cal Poly Pomona.

## Debate squad takes second at Gov.'s Cup

A strong overall performance boosted the UNLV Debate and Forensics Squad to a second-place team sweepstakes trophy last weekend at the Governor's Cup Speech and Debate Tournament at Sacramento City College.

Special trophies for tournament excellence were awarded to universities bringing fewer than 15 contestants. UNLV won second place by bringing only three people to compete.

Junior Steve Creason and freshman Joe Bunin won third place in novice CEDA debate. It was Bunin's first university debate. Creason and Bunin were also named third and fifth best speakers in their division, respectively. They posted a 7-2 win-loss record in preliminary rounds, and then lost in a semifinal round.

Creason also won fifth place in novice impromptu

speaking and sixth place in extemporaneous speaking. Senior Sheryl Chenin took sixth place in dramatic interpretation. The team of Creason and Chenin won fourth place in duo interpretation.

Thirty-nine colleges and universities attended this year's Governor's Cup, which is one of the largest tournaments in the West.

Accompanying team members were UNLV coaches Robert Glenn and Jim Reppert, who judged preliminary, semifinal, and final rounds in debate and individual events.

UNLV's next tournament is February 4-5 at Cal Poly Pomona.



## Debate team hawking \$\$\$

"Establishing a new beginning . . ."  
That's the motto of the UNLV Debate and Forensics Squad, a group not so new to UNLV.

According to Bob Glenn, director of forensics, there was a team about 10 years ago at UNLV. The team was coached by Dr. Larry Kokkeler, who has since left UNLV.

This year Glenn and Jim Reppert, associate director of forensics, started the team up again.

And they have had a successful season thus far.

Right now the team is ranked 55th in the nation, out of 253 teams.

But they've run into the same type of problem many organizations run into: money.

"We want UNLV to become a nationally recognized forensics program, but it's difficult without proper funding," Reppert said.

The team has been competing with a "shoestring budget" of \$4,300 this year.

Glenn said that there must be funding for payroll to continue the program. He added that the team must also be able to offer some type of incentive such as scholarships to members of the team, but is unable to do so at the present time.

"We travel to every tournament we go to, and have to pay for lodging, traveling, and entry fees. I'm only able to buy team members one meal per trip, and I think they deserve more," Glenn said.

Glenn said he feels that the team represents the academic side of the university, a different side that's not always seen, and has been successful in doing this.

The team has trophied in seven of the eight tournaments they have participated in.

They recently entered a tournament with three members and wound up bringing home 10 trophies.

The team also has four members who have qualified for national competition in six events.

Sheryl Chenin has qualified for competition in Duo Interpretation, Poetry Interpretation and Dramatic Interpretation; Steve Creason has qualified for Duo Interpretation, Extemporaneous Speaking and Impromptu Speaking; James Ohriner has qualified for Extemporaneous Speaking, Impromptu Speaking and Persuasive Speaking; and Lance Stringham has qualified for Extemporaneous Speaking.

Glenn said that the team must compete in 10-12 tournaments a year to be nationally recognized and competitive, but again that costs money.

*by Jennifer Kruse*

## Debate team still top-ranked squad

UNLV's debate and forensics team held onto its top ranking for the Brady Lee Garrison Newcomers Trophy after an outstanding performance at the UCLA National College Invitational Tournament recently.

The Garrison Newcomers Trophy is a traveling award given annually by the Cross-Examination Debate Association (CEDA) to the new debate team that scores the most points throughout the year. UNLV has 67 points, followed closely by Florida State University with 65 points. In third place is North Dakota State University with 48 points.

At the UCLA tournament,

UNLV team members Steve Creason and Joe Bunin placed second in novice CEDA debate by posting a 7-1 win-loss record in preliminary rounds, but they lost to Cal State-Northridge by a 2-1 decision in the final round.

Placing third in novice CEDA debate were Lance Stringham and Keith Korcz. They posted a 6-2 record in preliminary competition and then lost in a semifinal round.

UNLV debate team members won five of the 10 speakers awards in the novice division. Bunin, Korcz, Creason, Stringham and Lewis Clemens were named fourth, fifth, sixth, seventh and tenth, respectively.

UNLV also received a fifth place sweepstakes trophy, finishing behind such established debate programs as UCLA and Southern Illinois University.

Accompanying team members to Richmond were UNLV coaches Robert Glenn and Jim Reppert, who judged preliminary, octafinal, quarterfinal and semifinal rounds in debate.

Reppert was named runner-up at the awards assembly as the outstanding judge of the tournament.

UNLV's next competition takes place this weekend at the Great Western Debate Tour at the University of Nevada-Reno.



## UNLV DEBATE AND FORENSICS SQUAD

The UNLV Debate and Forensics Squad has increased its lead as the top-ranked first-year program in the nation as a result of its performance last weekend at the Spider Invitational at the University of Richmond (Va.).

First and third place finishes at Richmond boosted UNLV's point total in CEDA (Cross-Examination Debate Association) debate to 79, ahead of second place Florida State University (65) and third place North Dakota State University (48). Overall, UNLV is ranked 37th in the nation among 273 colleges and universities competing in CEDA this year.

If UNLV hangs on to the top spot, it will win the Brady Lee Garrison Newcomers Award, given yearly to the first-year debate program accumulating the most CEDA points. The award will be presented this weekend at the University of Nevada-Reno.

The team of sophomore Lance Stringham and freshman Lewis Clemmens won first place in novice CEDA debate at Richmond. They posted a 7-1 win-loss record in preliminary rounds, won their semifinal round against the University of Richmond, and then won the final round on a 2-1 decision against Morehouse College (Atlanta).

Junior Steve Creason and freshman Joe Bunin took third place in novice CEDA. They posted a 7-1 win-loss record in preliminary rounds, and then lost in a semifinal round.

UNLV won four of the top 10 speaker awards in novice division. Bunin, Stringham, Creason and Clemmens were named second, fourth, sixth and ninth best speakers in their division, respectively.

## UNLV DEBATE AND FORENSICS SQUAD

The UNLV Debate and Forensics Squad is a national champion in its first year of existence.

It received the Brady Lee Garrison Newcomers Award for being the top-ranked first-year CEDA (Cross-Examination Debate Association) debate program in the nation last weekend at the Great Western Debate Tour at the University of Nevada-Reno.

Accepting the award were UNLV coaches Robert Glenn and Jim Reppert, both teaching assistants in the Department of Communication Studies.

Previous winners of the Garrison Newcomers Award were Southern Illinois University in 1981, Loyola University of Chicago in 1982, and Southwest Missouri State University in 1983.

UNLV finished the 1983-84 season with 79 CEDA points, ahead of second place Florida State University (65) and third place North Dakota State University (53). Overall, UNLV placed 37th among 273 colleges and universities competing in CEDA debate this year.

The UNLV teams posted a combined 99-55 win-loss record in debates participated in this year, for a 64 percent winning mark.

In individual events competition at the UNR tournament, freshman Keith Korcz took fourth place in argument analysis.

The Garrison Newcomers Award topped the list of achievements for the squad, which came into existence last fall after being disbanded 11 years ago due to time and money constraints.

The money constraints were still apparent this year, as Reppert and Glenn received no salaries for their coaching services. Funding for travel and entry fees came from the university administration, CSUN, and the office of Dr. John Unrue, Vice President for Academic Affairs.

UNLV won 72 awards at the 12 tournaments it participated in this year in debate and individual events.

Highlights of the season included first place debate awards at Cal Poly Pomona, Cal State Long Beach and the University of Richmond (Va.), and seven first place awards in individual events during the year.

Other highlights were second place sweepstakes awards at the Pacific Southwest Collegiate Forensics Association Spring Championships and the Governor's Cup at Sacramento City College, and second and third place finishes in debate at UCLA.

Priorities for next year include scholarship funding for forensics, a larger budget for travel and entry fees, salaries for the debate coaches, and a continuation of the success the squad had this year in debate and individual events.

Tentative plans have been made for UNLV to compete at one final tournament this year, the PSCFA "Cool Off" Championships, to be held at Rio Hondo College in Whittier, California on May 12 and 13.

Those interested in joining the squad or contributing to it financially for next year should call the UNLV Forensics Office at 739-3455.





Wayne Koday/Review-Journal

**ANYBODY WANT TO ARGUE?** - Top members of UNLV's debate team, front, left to right, Charles Lybarger and Dan Bunin, and back, left to right, Greg Koppe, Cedric Kerns, Steve Creason, Joe Bunin and Paul Perkins, take a tough stand. The team, which has made a strong showing this year, is trying to raise money to compete in a national contest.

## More support one thing they won't argue with

By Patricia Morgan  
Review-Journal

The team with the competitive edge at UNLV is open to debate.

The obvious choice would be the Runnin' Rebels. They're the ones with the snappy uniforms, a stadium that seats more than 18,000 and a cadre of faithful fans who would follow them to the ends of the NCAA basketball tournament.

In the shadow of this — pardon the expression — hoopla, is a team that argues it deserves consideration as a major competitor for UNLV.

Of course, the debate team will

argue anything.

The Debate and Forensic Squad of UNLV, as it is called, is ninth in its region, which includes 46 schools. It is rated 43rd out of 318 schools nationally. The team finished in 30th place last year.

Finishing in the top 40 in debate is about the equivalent of finishing in the top 20 in athletics, says Steve Creason, director of the group.

Two debate pairs have qualified for the Cross Examination Debate Association National Tournament scheduled for April 5-7 in Wichita, Kan.

Squad captain Joe Bunin and Paul Perkins eliminated such teams as the University of Southern Cali-

fornia, University of California-Irvine and San Diego State University for the Pacific Southwest Conference Fall Championship.

The pair has beaten squads from Brigham Young University, Arizona State University and Weber State, last year's national champion, in other contests.

Greg Koppe and Cedric Kerns also qualified for national competition by finishing second at the fall championships, the Berkely Invitational and the University of California-Pamona Invitational, and third in the Sacramento State Governor's Cup Tournament.

A third pair composed of Dan Bunin and Chuck Lybarger also

could attend the national contest if money is available.

There's the rub.

The estimated cost of the trip is \$1,131.85. The squad is trying to raise the money by seeking sponsors and holding a fund-raising party. Students are not charged to compete or belong to the organization so that anyone may join.

The team could do even better if more money was available. Certainly, the interest is there. The team has grown from four members to about 20 in the past three years.

Some members have not had many opportunities to compete simply because of the group's financial

Please see DEBATE/8E



# Debate

## From 1E

woes. The only way to advance in the rankings is to get out and debate.

The UNLV debate squad has competed in eight tournaments this school year; many more contests are available during the September through April season.

This is not the first debate program at UNLV. Another team operated in the early '70s but interest diminished. Bob Glenn, a former teaching assistant in the university's communications department, revitalized the program three years ago when Creason and Joe Bunin were fresh recruits.

The team got off to a great start by winning the Garrison Award, a prize given for the most impressive performance by a first-year program.

"(The award) gave us a lot of recognition and potential for recruitment," Creason says. "We've done well considering the financial constraints."

The team received some money from the university and eventually became a part of the communications department. Fund-raising events also are held to boost the budget.

Still, it is a shoestring operation. The \$10,000 plus "whatever we can raise" budget is half the size of the program at UNR. The squad at

Southern Utah State University operates on \$36,000 a year.

And, while UNR has a full-time staff person to serve as coach, judge and organizer, Creason handles the job on a part-time basis by virtue of his being in graduate school at UNLV. He is assisted by volunteers Joe Bunin and Perkins.

With all its advantages, UNR has been unable to outpace its sister school's squad.

Debate team members compete in pairs and do not have to face each other. They are assigned a position to take on a topic that has been researched in advance. For instance, this year the question is whether membership in the United Nations is beneficial to the U.S.

"It's a middle-of-the-road topic," Perkins says. "It's better than the election and education but not as good as censorship or the military."

In addition to debate, squad members compete in individual events, such as impromptu speaking, dramatic interpretation, extemporaneous speaking and current events.

Perkins is the distinguished member of the squad in individual events as well as in debate. In the area of current events, his secret is choosing the offbeat topic less prepared competitors would not have the confidence to tackle.

A debater is only as good as his or her preparation.

"It's like an athletic event. You have to constantly prepare," Creason explains.

The team is as enthusiastic as any other when it comes to representing its school.

"(Our performance) proves the academic excellence and reputation of UNLV," Creason says.

"When we started we used to be kidded about basketball a lot — until we started to win," Joe Bunin adds.

The squad provides another outlet for students besides sports, club members say.

"It's not just a club. This is something you can participate in," Joe Bunin says.

Skills debaters learn and practice also help in studies for classes, Creason says, noting most members plan to become lawyers someday.

Although it has been a struggle to survive, Creason says the team has received encouragement even if money has been scarce.

"We're like any other new teams," he says.

"We've gotten a lot of verbal support," Joe Bunin says. "We need a permanent program. We need to find a way to survive. The students can handle most of it."