



**Nevada
Area
Health
Education
Centers**

January 2, 1990

Ross Hall 209
School of Medicine
University of Nevada
Reno, Nevada 89557
(702) 784-1317
FAX (702) 784-6096

Release: immediately

For more information: Ann Diggins, community relations coordinator, 784-1317

Medical student learns about rural medicine from local doctor

WINNEMUCCA--A senior medical student from the University of Nevada School of Medicine began learning about the practice of medicine in a rural area with Dr. Richard Ingle this month.

Jeff Salomone, 28, a native of Nevada, began his four-week rural rotation Jan. 2 and will be in Winnemucca through Jan. 26. The rotations are coordinated by Area Health Education Centers.

Salomone, who plans to enter a residency for trauma surgery when he graduates this spring, said he believes this rotation will give him a better understanding of medicine in a rural community.

"I will get the chance to understand how rural communities handle major trauma cases and see their limitations which will help me when I receive referrals from rural areas," he said.

Winnemucca, although small, deals with many cases of trauma due to many factors, primarily it's closeness to Interstate 80.

Salomone has always had an interest in emergency medicine and worked as an emergency medical technician before entering medical school. Still certified as an EMT, Salomone plans to provide a training program for local EMT's during his stay here.

It was Salomone's EMT experience that led to his decision to become a trauma surgeon.

"(Being a surgeon) will give me the chance to go in and fix a problem rather than manage it

until the physician arrives," he said.

Trauma surgery is an exciting field, according to Salomone.

"It's a make or break situation," he said. "Decisions made in the first minutes and hours make the difference whether the patient will survive a month down the road."

Salomone said he believes he has been well-prepared at Nevada's School of Medicine for the demanding residency required for trauma surgery specialization.

"This school is small enough to focus on the individual needs of students," he said.

While in Winnemucca, Salomone is staying with a family who volunteered a room in their home for his use. Humboldt General Hospital is providing his meals.

AHEC works in cooperation with the School of Medicine to provide support services for health professionals in rural areas as well as educational opportunities for students.