

UNIVERSITY OF NEVADA SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

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FOR THE GOOD HEALTH OF NEVADA

Match Day Approaches

Lynne Williams, medical school information March 10, 1997

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The most exciting -- and possibly the most nerve-wracking-- day in the life of a medical student is fast approaching. March 19 is Match Day; the day when all graduating medical students in the nation learn where they will be spending the next three to six years of their lives as they pursue advance training in the medical field of their choice.

Fourth-year medical students at the University of Nevada School of Medicine will learn of their matches precisely at 9 a.m. Those students who are doing rotations in the northern part of the state will gather in the school's Savitt Atrium on the Reno campus, and those in the southern part of the state will meet in the sixth floor auditorium of the 2040 Building on West Charleston in Las Vegas.

The "match" is a unique part of the medical education. The successful completion of a residency program in a medical specialty is a requirement in most states before a physician can become licensed to practice medicine. During their fourth year at the medical school, students visit residency programs throughout the country that offer training in the field they have chosen. Students list their preferences, programs list their choices of students, and just before Match Day,

those preference are fed into a computer at the National Residency Match Program, and the matches are made.

Match Day is a festive celebration which is shared by the faculty and staff of the medical school, as well as by the family and friends of the graduating seniors, and always involves colorful decorations and imaginative ways of delivering the matches to the students.

Media representatives: If you would like to do a report on Match Day, please contact Lynne Williams at 784-8059 in Reno, or Bonnie Stuenkel in Las Vegas at 671-2202.