

Editorial

Space to Kill

by carmen zayas-dorchak

Without dragging the subject out too much, I'm proud of UNLV and our community. If you've been reading the editorial page of the *Review-Journal* or the articles by Eric Pappa of the *Sun*, you are probably aware that the Las Vegas community is not taking the recent *Saturday Night Live* remarks lying down.

Currently there is a petition being circulated around CSUN calling for a boycott of SNL — take a few minutes, come down to the CSUN offices, MSU 120, and sign the petition. We'd appreciate it!

On a much graver subject, the recent DUI accident that resulted in the death of one young boy and a twenty-year-old man, has caused me to reflect on several of the issues involved.

The first thing that struck me when I heard about it, was the senselessness of the entire incident. My God, those two little boys were standing on a corner waiting for a school bus. The young man was doing his job. No one was anywhere they shouldn't have been. No one was causing trouble, or committing a crime.

So why did it happen? I don't know, but when I learned that the driver of the car was under the influence of alcohol — I was, and am, furious. And while the tragedy in itself was enough to make anyone stop and think about drinking and driving, when I started to think, geesh, what if that had been my daughter on that street corner? Or my brother? Or my best friend? What if I was that pregnant newlywed whose husband's life had been cut off at such an early age?

If I were under any of these circumstances, I would do what the father of the little boy that was killed, is doing. I would fight, I would speak out against drinking and driving, I would let everyone know about my anger, about the stupidity of it all — my son dy-

ing because someone had a couple of drinks.

But, I am not in that situation. Unfortunately, it is human nature to try to ignore what does not concern us. But, even though, I am not crusading against drunken drivers — I have gained a new respect for people who are devoting their time to educating people on the effects of drinking and driving. Maybe because of their efforts, I will never get in a car again after having a few drinks, even if it was only a few drinks.

And hopefully, because of their efforts, others will also take the time to think, and to overcome the feeling of "I can drive home, I didn't have too much to drink." And that hopefully, will ensure that my child, or my relative or my friend, or yours for that matter, will be safer from drunken drivers.

I am a student and I'm not a prude...but, the possibility of being responsible for the death of someone else is a sobering thought. So next time, please — sleep it off on your friend's sofa, walk home from the bar, call a friend who hasn't been drinking — whatever it takes to stay away from getting your hands on the back of a steering wheel.

I don't know who I feel more sorry for, the two persons whose lives were cut short, or the woman who has to live with that burden the rest of her life...

On a different note, on the editorial page is a proposal from Chancellor Dawson of the UNS, asking for endorsement of his proposed distribution of Question 5 monies...read it over. At first glance it seems very well-thought out and I see no problems with it.

If anyone has any feelings, either pro or con, I would appreciate hearing from them.

Also thanks to the CSUN senate for sending me to Washington, DC — the advertising convention they are sending me to, should give us some really innovative ways to raise the *Yellin' Rebel's* advertising revenues, which have reached an all-time high this year!

Till next week...

Senate Beat

by kurt hildebrand

managing editor

At last week's senate meeting, a new senator joined the CSUN ranks, filling the seat vacated by Harry Fagel.

In a close vote, Todd Romer, a Criminal Justice major, beat out George Chamberlain for the seat.

The senate split its vote seven to seven and Senate President, Ron Zayas cast the deciding vote for Romer.

Romer was sworn in and is the third person to have held that seat.

Nominations for the vacant Academic Advising seats are still being sought. Jamal Allen, who lost his seat, two months ago, withdrew his name from consideration for the seat.

Currently there are only two names in contention for the two seats. Applications are available to members of Academic Advising who have a 2.0 GPA.

In the major money item in this agenda, \$2765 was approved for a computer and print system for the CSUN business office.

This is the second time this item came up before the senate, since it was tabled last meeting with an admonishment to Devin Lussier of the CSUN Business Office to do more research on the purchase of the equipment.

Arguments concerning which system is best for CSUN, the university, the Kremlin, or the mad Moldavians of Mars, aside. I would like to point out as a frequent flyer through the bureaucratic fog on campus, that it really does not matter how much, how big, how good, or who wants it, whatever is purchased through the university purchasing system is whatever the university purchasing system says it is.

You see, the university purchasing system is designed to be student, administrator, faculty-proof. If some crazed professor out there decides he or she requires a particle accelerator, he or she would just have to write up a purchase request which says, "Accelerator, Particle, one."

Then Purchasing will look at the purchase request and make a few calls to find out where a cheap accelerator, particle, one can be found.

This system is fine for people who really don't feel the need to get involved with the actual buying process, but it can be quite frustrating to someone who has taken the time to research a purchase, especially when the item finally received looks like it came in a box of cereal.

Lussier did more research than it was probably a good idea to do. Not because he should not have taken an interest, but because of the disappointment he will undoubtedly suffer when Purchasing glances at his proposal on its way to the "very interesting, but this is a much better deal over here" file.

Meanwhile, back on the senate floor, two senate bills have been introduced. The first requiring directors to make monthly reports to the senate, the second, a bill which says that a senator cannot receive a remuneration (remuneration is not a word, Steve) for their services. I could comment on this bill further, but there is another bill due on the senate floor dealing with the same subject next week, so I will reserve judgement until all the cards are on the table.

On a final note, I would like to thank the senate for approving the money to send Carmen to the advertising conference from April 8-12. She will get to learn some advertising and I will get some peace at last.

Chancellor asks for help with proposal

Dear Editor,

As Chancellor of the University of Nevada System, I recently submitted testimony to the Senate Taxation Committee outlining suggested amendments to SB23, a bill proposed by Senator Don Mello that addresses distribution of Question 5 monies generated from the federal estate tax credit.

Following is a summary of key points I proposed. I am seeking your editorial support of higher education's recommendations:

1. Revenues should be divided equally between public schools and the University of Nevada System. The Board of Regents and the State Board of Education unanimously endorsed equal distribution of funds
2. The funds would be earmarked for enhancement of academic pro-

grams, and spent to meet needs of a "one-shot" nature. Because the amount of money collected could fluctuate greatly from year to year, we propose funding one-time enhancements from the proceeds of the prior fiscal year's collections to provide stability in budgeting. Monies would not be spent to support ongoing programs which belong in the base budget.

3. We propose setting an amount that would be made available each year — such as \$2.5 to \$5 million — and placing additional revenues in a permanent endowment fund. Any interest generated through sound investment practices would remain with the permanent endowment. This endowment would be managed by the UNS endowment director in the manner similar to our highly successful UNS endowed pool. Since its inception

this fund has outperformed the Standard and Poor 500 and Dow Jones Index through productive and prudent investment practices.

4. To prevent this endowment from tying up excessive revenues, a second pre-determined ceiling could be placed on the size of endowment fund. A \$50 million endowment, for example, would be of adequate size to generate interest necessary to cover the minimum annual allocation established. This, too, would provide stability in budgeting in the event the state faces lean years.
5. The Board of Regents could establish an advisory group representative of all concerned constituencies — executive, legislative, and within higher education — to make recommendations regarding priorities. The board could then make annual reports to the interim finance com-

mittee regarding the status of the endowment fund and distributions approved.

6. In the event Nevada is successful in obtaining retroactive collections for 1982 through 1986, as outlined in SB5, monies could be used to establish the endowment. If retroactive monies become available, we also hope the first \$2.5 million will be set aside to fund next year's Question 5 projects and place us in a position to begin budgeting based upon the prior year's revenue collections.

This approach has much to offer. It will serve short-term immediate needs of our seven higher education institutions, while providing a stable source of funds for future generations.

It will take the guesswork out of the

See "Chancellor" pg. 6