

OPINION/EDITORIAL

# Politics of abortion different

When the U.S. Supreme Court ruled in July in favor of the state of Missouri in the abortion case Webster vs. Reproductive Health Services, stating that abortion could be further restricted by state legislatures if they chose to do so, Florida Gov. Bob Martinez decided to call a special session of his state legislature. Martinez, who is anti-abortion, seemed to think that the law makers were on his side.

Martinez got a shock just last week when the state rejected all of his pro-life proposals. Needless to say, he and the pro-life forces that converged on the state capital were not happy with the outcome.

To the further dismay of pro-life forces, the U.S. House and Senate just recently passed legislation that would allow federal funding of abortions for poor women who victims of rape or incest, or whose lives were threatened by a pregnancy.

Many anti-abortion groups were jubilant after the court's July decision. A few of them believed that every state in the country would act immediately to further restrict or outright ban abortion.

The decision would now be returned to the voters, said Susan Smith, a prominent pro-lifer in Washington, D.C.

For pro-choice groups, it now meant no guarantees.

Well, in the strange realm of politics, not even the seemingly predictable is predictable. Both

the pro-life and pro-choice groups have been frustrated by the foot dragging of politicians, now forced to really choose a side.

In the end, both sides will have to accept the fact that abortion is up to the states. For pro-choicers, that means understanding that states like Missouri and Utah will probably ban abortion.

Pro-lifers will have to realize that states such as Hawaii and New York will no doubt choose to keep the procedure legal.

For lawmakers, it means there is no politically safe zone when it comes to this issue any longer.

## STAFF BOX THE YELLIN' REBEL

"I'd rather see newspapers with no government than a government with no newspapers." - Thomas Jefferson

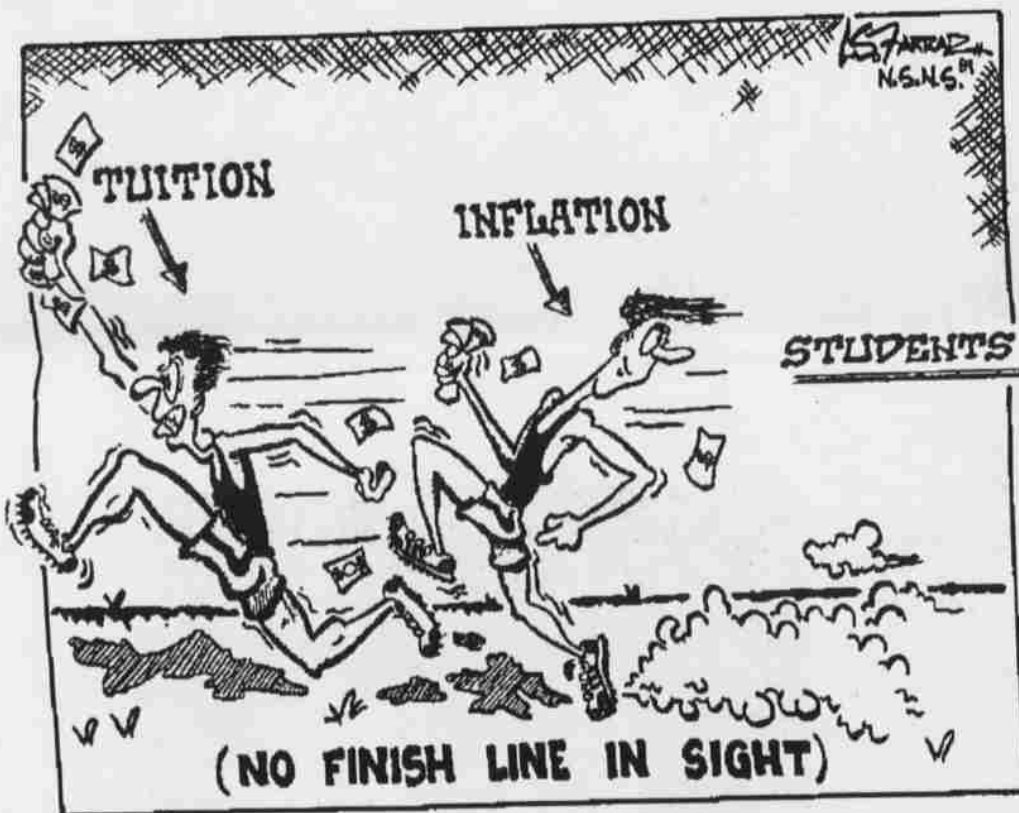
- KAREN SPLAWN - Editor-in-Chief
- STEPHANIE ALDERETTE - News Editor
- ANDREA REITAN - Sports Editor
- ROBERT ANDERSON - Photography Editor
- ANTHONY CIULLA - Advertising Manager
- LORI GALLINGER - Art & Entertainment Editor
- ANN EHRENBURG - Faculty Advisor
- DEAN ZIYAD KANAAN - Typesetter

The Yellin' Rebel is a publication of the University of Nevada, Las Vegas. The opinions reflected in The Yellin' Rebel are those of the authors stated, and do not necessarily represent, in whole or in part, the views of the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, its students, administration, faculty or staff.

The Yellin' Rebel is printed by the Nifty Nickel on a twice weekly basis. Not published holidays, weekends or when UNLV is not in session. The Yellin' Rebel is a member of the Intercollegiate Press Association, the California Intercollegiate Press Association, and the Rocky Mountain Press Association.

Telephone Numbers: Editor's Desk - 739-3878; Display Advertising - 739-3889; Classified Advertising - 739-3478; General Information - 739-3478 or 739-3479.

©1989 Yellin' Rebel Newspaper



# Greed to blame for strike

by Aletra Hart

It seems we are unable to escape politics. What a shame. Big business is driven by greed, and no matter who suffers as a result of their dealings, those big business owners don't lose one minute of dream time.

Maybe "The Art of Selfishness" is a required course for hotel administration majors.

How sad that professional musicians, people who have spent years on end learning and perfecting a skill, are victimized and penalized because some hotel owner wants to expand his wallet. How utterly selfish!

Luckily, live musicians are receiving tremendous support (from everyone but the hotels, that is). Out

of town residents are actually writing letters to the editor of the "Review-Journal", saying that they will come visit our town when live musicians are back in the showrooms; until then, they will cancel their Las Vegas vacations.

So what if our economy is so dependent upon tourism? Something has to open the eyes of these hotel executives...maybe a showroom-casino boycott? (Tourists can gamble in the grocery stores if they must gamble.)

This situation is actually a morbid game of follow-the-leader. The Tropicana Hotel decided to fire the house band and incorporate pre-recorded music into Folies Bergere. Other major hotels decided to fol-

low suit; hence a percentage of Las Vegas's skilled, talented citizens are striking to save their profession as they know it.

What amazes me is that hotels think they can fool tourists by presenting an alternative to live music for the same high price. How long will the hotels charge guests the high price for sub-standard performances? (I guess they are trying to get rid of the napkins with the prices printed on them.) The shows aren't worth half-price without live music; if you have seen one long-legged woman dancing in a G-string and heels, you have seen them all.

I don't know. If I were a hotel owner, I'd feel pretty small if I were compromising a city's image

for my own personal financial gain.

The Las Vegas hotels hate the unions. After the culinary strike of 1984, the Boyd Group (specifically Sam's Town) went non-union. In the hotels' effort to eliminate unions, they are beginning with the small guys (i.e. the musicians union) and conditioning themselves for a game with the big boys (i.e. the culinary union). The game of elimination doesn't work with unions, especially when the small musicians union has the support of star entertainers; performers won't come near the hotels during the strike.

Considering the rejection the hotels have been experiencing from big name performers since the

strike, it looks as though the hotels might be at the mercy of the union. Englebert Humperdinck's musicians walked out on him, and I would suspect he's not welcomed in many places considering his attempt to cross the picket lines. Personal musicians or not, Englebert learned the hard way what happens when you cross that line.

The essence of Las Vegas entertainment is live music. Without live music, hotel owners profit from others' misfortunes and Las Vegas entertainment becomes sub-standard.

If that happens, Las Vegas will need a different attraction; maybe the Runnin' Rebels can win the NCAA title this season.

"Just a Comment or Two"