

# Rebelbooks offers option for textbook purchases

*new bookstore geared toward students*

By Shawn Black Snider  
Staff Reporter

The customer is number one. We want you to save money. Tell us what you need and we will respond.

Do these slogans sound familiar to you as a consumer? Do they sound like illusions only to be hoped for but never to be found?

If you don't believe that these things are possible from a retail store, Rich Field, owner of Rebelbooks Book Store, said that he will make a believer of you. He

stated that not only is this something that you should hope for, but it is something that you are entitled to and will receive at his store.

"I am here for the students and because of the students," Field said. "I don't think anyone should be treated like a number in a cash register and my goal here is to see that we all come out ahead."

Rebelbooks which opened officially on June 5, is the only competitive school book store in the state, which means that, for

the first time, students will be offered a choice of where to buy their school texts. This, said Field, will hopefully relate to lower prices and more availability of used books.

Field's passion for students comes from his 15 year association with Barnes and Noble, UNLV's on-campus book store.

He started with the company while going to Adelphi University in Long Island. After receiving a degree in journalism in 1977, he stayed with the company and moved into management

Four and a half years ago he was chosen to come to Las Vegas to open up and manage their first store west of the Mississippi.

"We fell in love with Las Vegas," said Field. "The quality of life here is tremendous. My wife and I are very happy to be raising our children in this kind of environment."

It's his enthusiasm for Las Vegas, its people, and the encouragement from his wife, Field said, that prompted his decision to finally leave Barnes and Noble and open his own store.

His desire was for a more service-oriented establishment that could deal with the flexibility and unique needs that a university student has. Field stated that in the past, it wasn't deemed necessary to have a lot of used books on hand at the campus book store since students had nowhere else to go and new ones were more profitable.

"I believe that competition, which was what this country was founded on, will help eliminate this practice while at the same

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Sound engineering - Blind pedestrians are now helped across Maryland Parkway by a system of chirps and beeps.

## Crossing signal installed for blind pedestrians

By William Holt  
Reporter

This summer the University of Nevada, Las Vegas received a gift from the city of Las Vegas. It can't be seen by those who use it, but it can be heard by all who go near it.

At the intersection of Maryland Parkway and Harmon Ave., an experimental signal system was installed in July that enables blind students to hear when it is safe to cross the street.

Chief Traffic Engineer Bill Siromen said that the audible signals are directly coordinated with the visual "walk" signals. From any corner, the pedestrian will know that it is safe to cross Maryland Parkway upon hearing a distinct beeping, and that it is safe to cross Harmon upon hearing a distinct chirping, or cuckoo sound.

The two sounds will only be activated after someone has pressed the signal button used for both the visual and audible signals. The moment the visual "walk" signal begins to flash, indicating a set time left for travel, the chirping or the beeping sound ceases. At that point, pedestrians crossing Maryland Prkwy. have ten seconds before the traffic light changes, and pedestrians crossing Harmon Ave. have eight seconds.

The system was borrowed from the City of Las Vegas and was installed by the County. Rich Romer, traffic manager, said he borrowed the equipment instead of buying it because it is only an experimental system to be used on a trial basis.

Some may think that the system was installed as a result of pressure from organizations for the blind or as a result of an acci-

dent about eight years ago involving the death of a blind student. It was neither.

Romer said a blind female student simply called him and suggested that such a unit would be useful. Romer had the means and is now trying the system.

However, the system is by no means new. Cities such as San Diego, California and Salt Lake City, Utah have been using it for some time.

Sergeant Don Drake of the public safety department at UNLV witnessed the orientation of the system and said jokingly, "The people who work out there hear it all the time, and it drives them nuts."

Up to now, there has been no input, good or bad, as to the success of the system in Las Vegas, according to Romer.

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Letters must be typed and include the name of the writer (unless anonymity is requested for a valid reason), as well as the writer's telephone number, major and year in school.

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