

From the Editor's Desk

Is there anybody out there?

Richard Crow

Hello, is anybody out there? Where is everybody? There are supposedly 18,216 students on campus and I wonder where they are.

The Yellin' Rebel had two surveys in the paper and I think we received a total of 10 replies to what we thought were some pretty good questions. That's a sad commentary of how involved our student population is.

Do you think your opinion doesn't count, or is it that you just don't care?

If you think your opinion doesn't count, you are mistaken. We, at the newspaper, want to know what you think or what you have on your mind.

In last week's student government senate elections, 231 people took the time to vote. That's pretty pathetic. 1.3 percent of the schools population voted in what I think is an important election.

The student senate is a place where students have a voice as to what happens for the students. They appropriate money for organizations, student projects, programs and decide important issues that effect students and so on.

Heck, we'll probably have more people vote for Homecoming king and queen, which to me, is pretty lame.

Do any of you realize how important it is to vote, not only here on campus but out in the real world?

If you don't take the time to vote, someone like David Duke could make his way into office and bring all his hatred with him.

Everybody's vote is important. Don't think that if you don't vote it won't matter because there are probably thousands of other people out there thinking the same thing and eventually the only ones voting will be the people who want to get elected and their friends.

Stop and think about it. If David Duke and his friends had their way, we would be living back in the 1800's with the whites owning plantations and slaves. Think about it, here we are in the 1990's and there are still people who think they are better than others and that anyone who doesn't agree should be done away with. These people need to be stopped.

People, there are more important things in life than who is the most popular or the best looking, but if that is what interests you, well, I feel for you.

Richard Crow

Let's tell Congress

by Joseph J. Wheeler

Congress has suggested that we cure the deficit with a \$500 billion deficit reduction plan that includes a (gasp!) 10 cent per gallon gasoline tax.

Congress doesn't commute the same way we do. We leave our homes, get into our cars, and head for the nearest self-service gas station where the price of unleaded fuel is still less than \$1.40, but our congresspeople simply climb into a government-owned auto and stop by the motor pool, a sort of "Your-Tax-Dollars-At-Work Gas Station and Car Wash."

This is only taking place when they're not being hauled around the country in jets, that is.

If congresspeople actually drove their own cars, fought their way unto the freeway while a gravel truck pelted the driver's open window with rocks, then they would have a different attitude.

They would have known that the one thing people would like least to see right now is a walloping gas tax imposed by politicians to fix a problem those politicians caused in the first place.

You won't find receipts for a trillion dollars anywhere near my house.

The only Senator to take a stand against the proposed deficit reduction package was Newt Gingrich, Republican whip. His reason was that the plan would impose immediate, and perma-

nent, tax increases while leaving the actual reduction measures to be decided later. This translates into: let's raise more money that we can spend, then tell taxpayers how the budget deficit is getting worse.

One reason Congress is trying to impose this gas tax is that they began negotiating the budget reduction deal four months ago, prior to Iraq's subletting of Kuwait. But didn't these people read the paper, or watch the news? Don't they know what's going on?

What about UNLV's drivers? There are plenty of us. This campus is largely a commuter campus, comprised of people who live in the community and battle traffic to reach class in time.

How far do you travel to get to campus? How much are you spending? Let me know. Call in. Write in. Drive in, if you can still afford it.

I'm going to compile this information and approach our congresspeople with it.

"Are you prepared to vote against the 10 cents per gallon gas tax?" I'll say. "What are you doing to stop gas prices from going up further? Are you alive? Are you listening? Hello—?"

I'll report what happens as it happens.

Contact me. Let me know your daily grind. Do you commute from Boulder City? Green Valley? Pahrump? What have you given up recently to afford the extra \$2

- \$3 it now takes to fill a 20-gallon tank? How have the increases in gas prices affected your weekends, your vacation, your life? Reach out, America. It's time to grab some attention.

Joe Wheeler
c/o The Yellin' Rebel
MSU 301
4505 S. Maryland Pkwy
Las Vegas, Nv. 89154

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All letters must be limited to 400 words—anything more will be considered an opinion piece. The Yellin' Rebel reserves the right to reject submissions and to edit for libel, grammar, spelling errors, length and writing style.

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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