

## From the Editor's Desk

Richard Crow

Recently we've lost three of our fold here at the university: English professor Dr. Arlen Collier and students Richard Johnson and Steven Piemons.

Our condolences go out to the families and friends of these three men. It's a sad thing to lose a loved one, but you've got to be strong and carry on.

A few things have happened lately that really bite my butt, and I thought I would share them with you.

First of all, the utterly disgusting display of asinine money spending and begging, called Homecoming king and queen elections, really disturbed me. This practice should be called "boobs voting for boobies."

During the election there was a mass of humanity begging for anybody and everybody to vote for them because they would be the best Homecoming representative for UNLV. Yeah, and what does that person do for us after the Homecoming game to justify spending money for the election? Not much.

As far as representing UNLV, we have our student ambassadors who do a great job. The people voted king and queen really do not matter; it's just a popularity and bragging rights contest between certain groups on campus.

If I had heard another "Have you voted for king and queen yet?", I think I would have

thrown up.

I will probably catch a lot of flak for this, but I don't care because to me the king and queen election is a farce and a waste of money and paper. It might be good that so many people (over 2,000) took the time to get out and vote, but next time let's try and put this much effort in the right place. Let's vote for something really important like the Executive elections in the spring.

Another thing that happened that really bothered me was a note we received about the death of the graduate student at the library.

Somebody took the time to send us a note correcting us on our information concerning who found the man on the floor and who called the ambulance, supposedly before the students arrived to assist in CPR.

Basically, to me, somebody out there missed the point of the article. The most important and saddest thing was that a young man died, not who found him or who called the ambulance. The people who sent the note to us seemed to be worried about getting their name in the paper. That's sad and a little hard to swallow.



## Poem for Richard Johnson

*"You Have Made My Life Rich"*  
by Philip Maiorano

My friend is gone  
He left with no goodbye  
Taken from us so young  
Oh Jesus Christ why  
No man should have to leave this world  
In such a tragic way  
I would shed ten years of my life  
For the chance for me to say:

Thank you for the good times  
I can't begin to count them all  
And for all of the favors  
So many large and small  
Now there is a large hole in my heart  
One that can never be stitched  
I will never forget you  
For you have made my life Rich.

You've made so many people proud  
To call you a friend and a TEKE  
Answers from this senseless act  
I question and I seek  
My feelings for drunk drivers  
They should all burn in hell  
And stop taking the lives of innocent people  
They don't always just kill themselves.

My friend is gone  
I hope to see him again  
Somewhere where there is no pain  
And life never ends  
But now there is still this hole in my heart  
One that can never be stitched  
I will never forget you  
For you made my life Rich.

# Editorial: Homecoming candidate coverage

by Tina Crinite

This is in response to the many comments on the two page spread of Homecoming Candidates run in the Oct. 16 issue of the Yellin' Rebel.

QUESTION: Why were there two pages of Homecoming candidates and zero write-ups for the previous election of new Student Government senate members?

This wonderful and yet puzzling phenomenon can be answered in one simple statement. The Yellin' Rebel has once again inherited another "tradition" passed on from year to year.

As touching and school spirited as this "tradition" may seem, it is welcomed by no one on the Yellin' Rebel staff.

Such a fuss was made by the student government to run pictures of these "beauties" along with a short biography that if we didn't run them in the paper we would have probably received more opposition than necessary about our failure to uphold up a long and enduring tradition.

Furthermore, since I was the lucky one chosen to write a short biography on each of the candidates, I was not completely thrilled with having to compile presentable material to the public.

Not only did the candidates

submit, in some cases, three page essays as to why they were qualified to serve as the honorable UNLV Homecoming king or queen for 1990, but I had to condense it into two or three lines making sure to include equal information about candidates so as not to hurt anyone's feelings.

Imagine trying to call candidates to ask them to submit pictures for a deadline, and then having people call you at midnight and 7 a.m. making sure their picture "will be all right," and if they could "change a line or two."

But that was not the end. After gathering all the information and pictures and submitting them for print, a queen candidate's picture failed to run. We then had a teary-eyed young woman up at the office worried that her campaign was ruined. Our apologies go out to that young woman, but mistakes happen. If she thinks that because her picture did not run, her chances for the "queenship" were damaged, we at The Yellin' Rebel are truly sorry.

Well, enough said. To all of you Homecoming winners, we wish you "traditional" congratulations from the Yell'.

To all the senate members who did not get their picture and

biography run before senate elections, better luck next time.

Who knows? Maybe there is another tradition lurking around the corner waiting to attack? Or better yet, maybe the Office of Student Government (OSI page) should have run it in the first place.

### LETTERS POLICY

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.

All submissions must be sent to: The Yellin' Rebel, (care of Letters to the Editor), MSU 302, 4505 S. Maryland Pkwy., Las Vegas, NV

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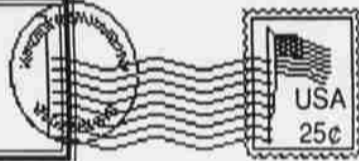
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## Letter to the Editor



Two surveys were put in The Yellin' Rebel a while ago and a total of ten students replied. The questions were fair, nothing earth-shattering, but fair. But who on campus just strolls by The Yellin' Rebel office on the third floor of the Moyer Student Union. It is quite an inconvenient location for a ballot box. If these ballot boxes were located near the cash registers in the food court, I am sure there would have been a few more replies than ten. I did not return this ballot slip, either. I thought about it, but it was too much out of my way. The more inconvenient something is, the easier it is to remain apathetic about it.

I feel a little cheated about the student elections for Senate. Two pages in the last issue of The Yellin' Rebel were devoted to Homecoming candidates. This just happened to be two more pages than the senate candidates had.

I think that's "pretty pathetic." I also feel that it is pretty sad when we have to vote for the best-looking, most popular, or who has the best flyer up around school.

This is how we were supposed to pick the senators. I would do myself an injustice by casting an informed vote. Therefore, I did not vote for a senator.

I have heard about debates and student forums where the candidates speak, but I, as many other students, work right after class, making it very difficult and inconvenient to attend them.

Many students do not know how the senate affects them or their money, who the candidates

are, what they do, what their qualifications are, how they will change the current systems, or how they will help the individual student. The average person wants the benefits to outweigh the cost in every situation. Therefore, people need to know how they will benefit from these candidates before they take time out to vote.

People need a better knowledge and understanding of things before they will act intelligently on them. I feel people are a little more informed about the candidates and how they stand on specific issues on the national level of elections in November (and I do take the time out to vote then, although the press coverage may distort reality).

Apathy has been a problem throughout history. There have always been people who just don't care. Student Government and The Yellin' Rebel need to look at this problem and get people more involved by:

- 1) placing ballots and questionnaires in a more convenient location
- 2) educating the students more about the student government and the candidates who run for office.

I am not saying that these things will cure apathy; it just may help people become a little more involved. Apathy is an on-going problem and no matter how hard we try, it will always exist. I just hope someday it will be on a much smaller scale than we know it today.

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