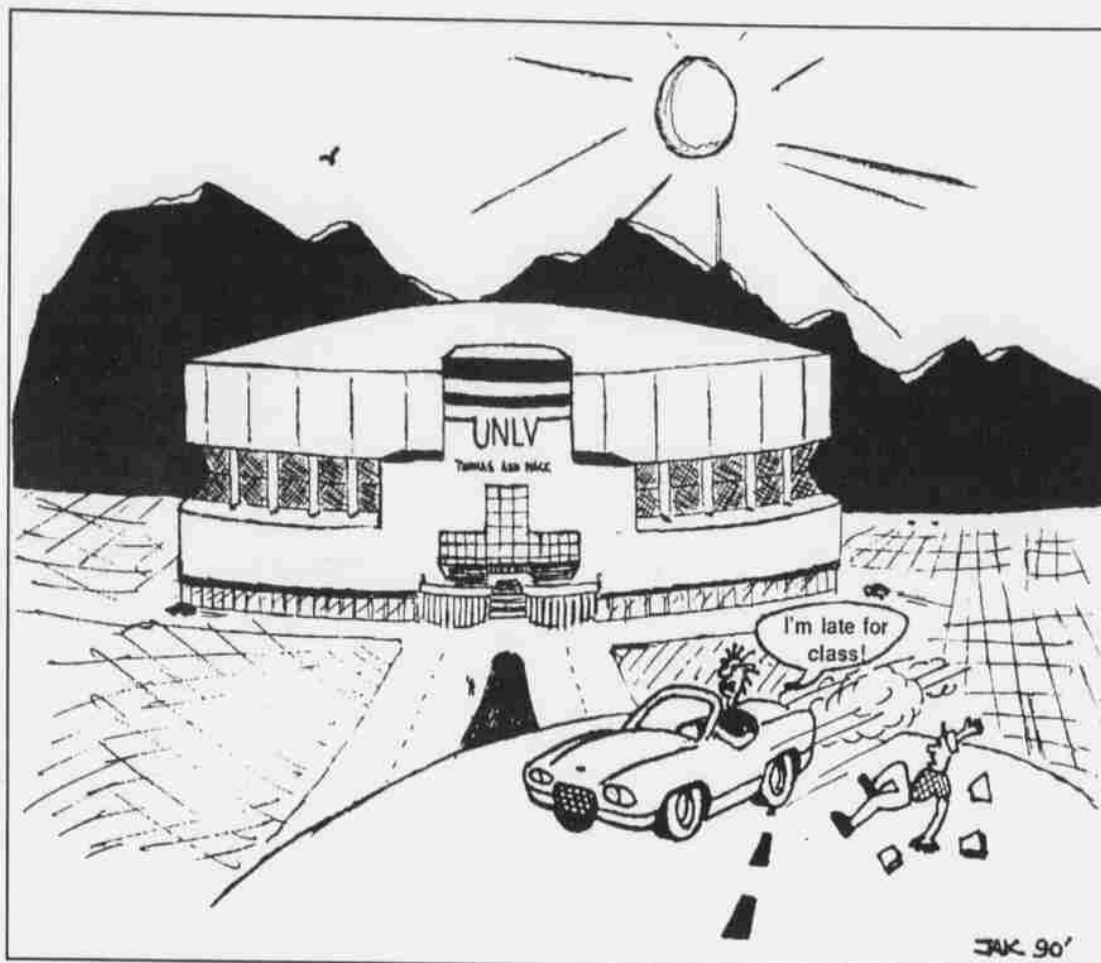


# Going to Class: An art of dodging cars by Melissa Forester



The parking problem at UNLV is no longer just one of not being able to find a space but also one of potential accidents.

David Hollenbeck, the University police chief, is the person in charge of the movement of traffic on campus. Even though he is in charge of traffic, he does not control what the Thomas and Mack Center does with its parking lot, and T&M is not interested in spending any extra money to put in such safety measures as speed bumps or curb blocks.

To help ensure safety for the students who use the lot, the Department of Traffic and Parking has already spent part of its own budget to install speed bumps and curb blocks in the lot west of Tonopah Hall. An improvement in the channeling of parking is being made so that it is less hazardous to students. A separate entrance for dorm residents has been created into the lot from Tropicana Ave. The entrances are better marked, and now there are

two exits onto Tropicana Ave.

I observed the parking lot first-hand to see how well the channeling of parking works. It seems that these measures are not going to solve the problem. Some routes through the lot have been blocked off by small cement walls that are so far apart that cars just go through them anyway. And the speed bumps are so small that it is hardly necessary to slow down to go over them. Besides, drivers can simply go through the empty spaces to avoid these obstacles because there are no curb blocks.

Most of the students I talked to do not want speed bumps because they are an annoyance, but they do want to be able to drive through the lot without the worry of being hit by another driver. Even though no accidents have occurred yet, it is likely that there will be one soon unless people drive more carefully in the parking lot. I didn't even feel safe just walking through the lot.

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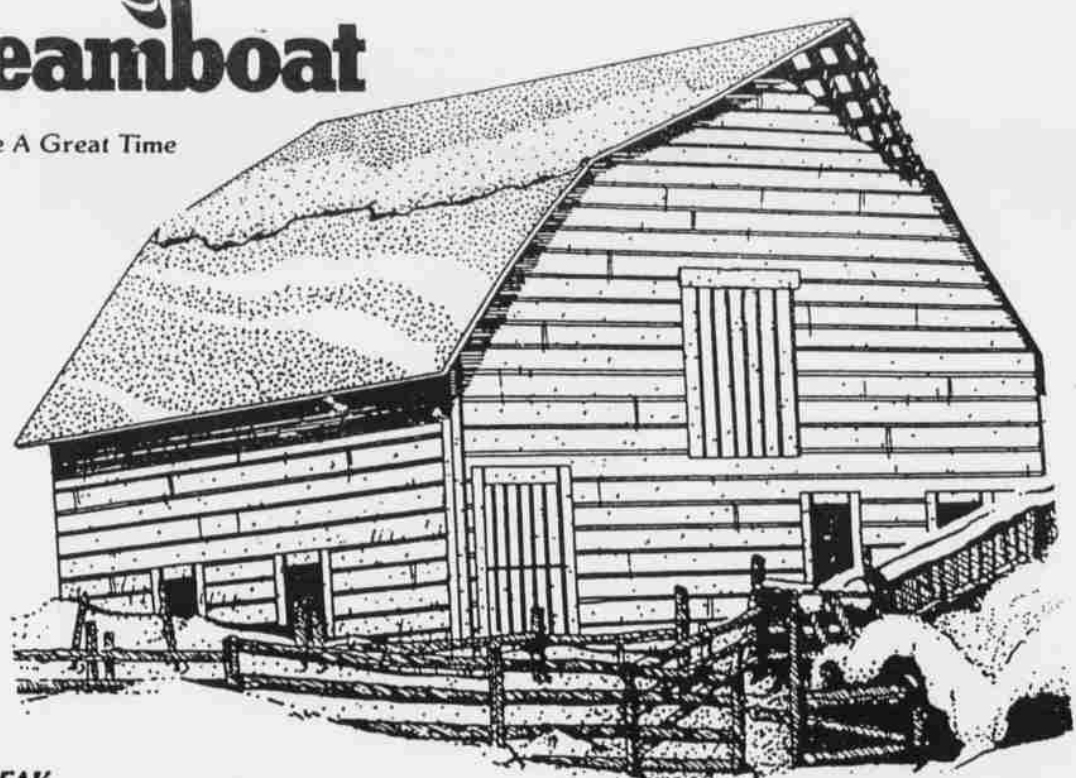
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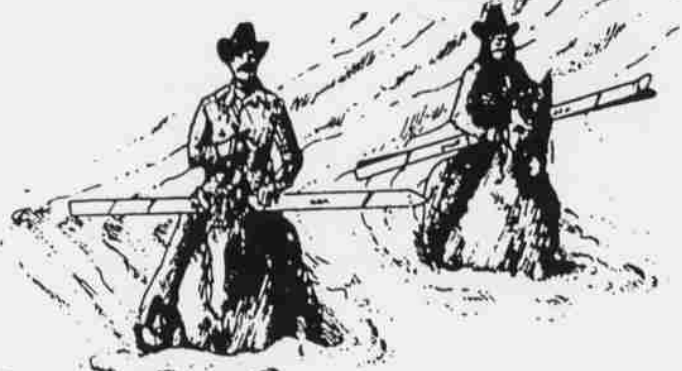


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