

NEWS

Faculty Focus: English professor Dr. John Bowers

by Eileen Brady
Reporter

Dr. John Bowers is an Associate Professor of English at UNLV. He teaches two undergraduate courses; Masterpieces of Literature, English 104A and Middle English Language and Literature, 420. In addition, he teaches a more in-depth graduate course about medieval literature.

Bowers also teaches a film course in the summer. While he was teaching at the California Institute of Technology, he met people in the film industry and began working for a production company. He became interested in screenwriting while living in Los Angeles. Bowers said he "never got rich" but learned a lot about the craft of screenwriting. Even though students may not plan on becoming screenwriters, Bowers said "the fact that most of us watch a lot of movies" makes it "useful to know the grammar of the story, what to look for and the elements that almost every movie

will have."

Bowers said his interest in medieval literature is sparked by the "strangeness" of it. Even though it was created up to 800 years ago, it was written by human beings who have a "common denominator" with modern humanity.

"I enjoy the strangeness and remoteness of their human experience. And yet in the classroom, I can always find things that are common experience to all humanity," Bowers said. That is what he said makes ancient literature "teachable today."

He said he also enjoys history. Because he grew up in Virginia with Civil War battlefields "literally in the backyard," he got a vivid sense of the past.

"It was always fascinating to me that there had been people before . . . They did things before any of us were ever born. And you see around you the evidence of what those people did," Bowers said.

Bowers graduated from Duke



Dr. John Bowers

University with a bachelor's degree in English. He received his master's from the University of Virginia. He was awarded a Rhodes Scholarship to attend Oxford University, where he obtained a master of philosophy. He received his Ph. D. from the University of Virginia, with a specialty in medieval literature.

He was awarded 1988-89 "Outstanding Teacher" in the English Department at UNLV. This year Bowers was honored with the Southern Nevada Teachers of English "Distinguished Teacher" award. He is also the recipient of the 1989-90 Rita Deanin Abbey "Teacher of the Year Award" at UNLV.

Funds

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does surface, rest assured the senate will be confronted with it. Before Yellin' Rebel money is spent, it must be first approved by your elected senate members. A review of the Student Government minutes (open to the public) will reveal that this "request" has not happened.

The statement made that you now have two editors-in-chief is true. And quite frankly, we're pleased with that situation. You, the student should be also. Last year there was one editor-in-chief as well as a news editor, and a managing editor, both positions which are vacant this year. So far, this semester, those two titles have been part of my job as editor-in-chief — at a savings to UNLV students of at least \$425. a month.

Comments made in the flier about the size of the newspaper are again inaccurate. Last year, after the computers were stolen, the paper was still printed, all three issues to be exact, with much strain and extreme stress on the one editor. We have put out 22 issues without the facilities that the Yellin' Rebel owned before the theft.

"Concerned student" made

reference to the Yellin' Rebel being 11 and 26 pages in length.

Wrong again. The newspaper is printed in four page increments. This, if you check your division, makes 11 and 26 page papers impossible.

The "concerned student", thinking perhaps a really hot bit of information was being given, told everyone reading the flier that the library is full of computers accessible to us, and that a true journalist fights the odds.

A true journalist also checks the facts before going to press, something "concerned student" failed to do. Had that been done, "concerned student" would know that the library is used by all of us, and often. There is simply no way for a staff of nearly 100 to use the one computer at our office (while the other computer is being used for layout, cartoons, proof sheets, scanning, graphs, and all its other jobs).

All this brings us to "concerned student's" statement that "Two editors-in-chief receive stipends in excess of \$300 monthly plus tuition waivers for up to 42 semester hours per year."

Sorry. I have never received "in excess of \$300 monthly" for

this job, nor have I received a 42 credit tuition waiver. Bless the person who does. He or she would have to take 18 credits each semester with six more in the summer to use it. If he or she tried to do that while being an editor-in-chief at The Yellin' Rebel, it would be tough to live to tell about it.

Since our policy is not to deal in rumor and gossip, I felt it my responsibility to respond with facts. Any student who wants to become involved in the effort to produce a quality newspaper with us is welcomed to do so.

Notice my name on this column. This is something "concerned student" neglected to do. It is my belief that when writers feel strongly about an issue and work hard on an article about it, they owe it to themselves and their readers to stand by it with their name.

"All I Ever Needed to Know I Learned in Kindergarten" is the name of a bestselling book which may just apply here. It was in kindergarten, I believe, that we learned "Sticks and stones may break our bones, but names will never hurt us."

sure how much funding he would ask for to get the new committee started which will seat nine Student Government members.

Some of the committee's duties will be to inform students about security issues and make recommendations to the senate on how to make the campus safer.

Gonzales is one of six senators who will not be returning for the new senate session, beginning next week.

Harsh

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In other business, the senate:
—Voted to spend \$1,368 for 5,000 pencils

—Approved a \$992 alarm security system for the Yellin' Rebel office.

The Student Government Senate established a student safety committee during their Oct. 25 meeting.

Sen. George Gonzales (liberal arts) said he came up with the idea for the committee after five college students were murdered in Gainesville, Fla., in Septem-

ber. "I've been asked why we need a safety program," Gonzales said. "And my reply is we shouldn't wait until we have a problem. I see students walking alone on this campus at night."

Much attention has been focused on campus crime because of the Florida murders, and because some university officials have said publicly that they cannot guarantee their students' safety.

The senator said he wasn't

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

Las Vegas Match offers low-rent living

Individuals living on low income or senior citizens living on fixed incomes have difficulty finding affordable housing in the Vegas Valley, even though Las Vegas overflows with apartments in all rent ranges. For these people, uncomfortable in the apartments that meet their limited rent range, shared housing may be the perfect housing option, offering low rents and great neighborhoods. Las Vegas Match is a local program which specializes in matching people in homesharing arrangements.

Shared housing is defined as two or more unrelated people who pool their personal and financial resources and share a home. Each home shared has her/his own private bedroom and shares common areas such as the living room and kitchen.

Shared housing has some great benefits for the younger individual who shares the home of a senior citizen. Besides the lower rent, younger individuals

report that they appreciate living with a mature individual and the companionship that comes when sharing a home.

Las Vegas Match is a local non-sectarian program sponsored by Jewish Family Service Agency and is designed to promote shared housing by arranging homesharing matches between home or apartment providers with home or apartment seekers. All individuals are carefully screened, including a police check, then "matched" for compatibility. Las Vegas Match arranges for the introduction of potential homesharers and facilitates their agreement on rent and services, and is available for any future mediation or referrals.

Individuals interested in sharing the home of a senior citizen are invited to call Las Vegas Match at 732-0304 for an application and fee schedule. Fees are low and based on an individual's ability to pay.

Opportunity Village receives \$30,000 pool prize

When Opportunity Village, an agency providing services to mentally retarded residents of Las Vegas, launched its \$6 million capital improvements campaign in January, there was a hopeful discussion of building a state-of-the-art, handicapped-accessible swimming pool at the new Las Vegas Campus for the Intellectually Handicapped. After receiving bids in the \$90,000 range, however, plans for the pool dried up.

Today, Opportunity Village suddenly finds itself two-thirds of the way toward the pool of its dreams, thanks to a 12-pack of beer, a generous resident and a group of civic-minded businesspeople.

It all started when Terry Ono, of Las Vegas, purchased a

12-pack of Bud Dry beer at a convenience store. Ono found in the 12-pack carton a certificate worth \$30,000 toward the construction of a custom-built in-ground swimming pool - - the grand prize in the summer-long "Nothing Beats a Bud Summer" sweepstakes.

Ono, who already owns a swimming pool, decided to donate his \$30,000 pool allowance to Opportunity Village.

"I have relatives who are handicapped, so the work that Opportunity Village does is important to me," said Ono.

"I toured the old facility and knew they needed to expand and upgrade. When I won the Budweiser pool, it seemed natural to give it to Opportunity Village."

APPLE BOBBING CONTEST TODAY!

in the MSU Snack bar

Prizes, Food, Drinks, Fun

Everybody Wins Something
just for Trying!

Tuesday, 10/30 from
10a.m. to 2p.m.