

When it comes to AIDS, is anybody really listening?

by Karen Splawn

Recently, I was listening to a special health program on AIDS, broadcast on radio station KUNV.

The program featured Rick Reich, the AIDS expert for the Clark County Health District; Lori Winchell, director of the Student Health Center and Vicki Carwein and Ken To-

mory, members of the Campus Committee on AIDS. Listeners were encouraged to call in with questions or comments. During the entire one-hour show, the guests received one call. One.

Maybe some listeners didn't call in because they know all about acquired immune deficiency syndrome and its spread. Others may have been too scared to ask questions. Or maybe enough people didn't call in, or even tune in to the show, because they just didn't give a damn.

Not caring is exactly what this nation's attitude is all about when it comes to AIDS and just who it affects. The lack of callers is another example of the apathy toward a crisis that is far from over.

The time for pointing fingers and pious gloating is over.

AIDS is very troubling, and not just because of the scary statistics you read about (like one in a Dr. Ken Landow article stating that, in some areas in the eastern United States, one in five men is HIV-positive).

Ultimately, AIDS isn't about numbers. Like any disease, it's about human suffering.

Media coverage of the disease tends to run in cycles. New information will pop up. It's dutifully reported. Boom. Done. When the next big discovery happens, the cycle begins again.

Right now there is a crisis in

Kuwait, and an election. There's a good chance that Saddam Hussein's megalomania will be defeated, and the same batch of dunderheads will return to congress and the state legislatures. The immediate concerns are over.

But AIDS is different—more infections, more deaths. No new vaccine (yet), no wonder cure. It's not a quick and easy story for our instant gratification society. It's certainly not a happy one.

Americans probably don't deal with AIDS for the same reason they don't deal with other serious, long-term problems that can't be solved by passing a bill in Congress or a demonstration. The horrifying consequences of the disease are much like the famines in the Sudan, or the extinction of so many species: too ghastly to comprehend, too saddening to contemplate.

Having a doomsday attitude toward the disease won't help, but

ignoring the problem won't work, either.

It's especially frustrating to read editorials calling for spending cuts in AIDS research, because there are so many more important problems to be dealt with, and, after all, isn't the disease just a problem of gays and junkies? Groups whose behavior brought this on themselves?

The time for pointing fingers and pious gloating is over. There must be a full assault on this disease, to stop it from infecting another 1.5 million people. AIDS isn't just in San Francisco. It's in rural Georgia, too. The last thing that Congress should be doing is cutting funds from a \$600 million AIDS bill (passed in honor of Ryan White).

Hopefully, the next time KUNV has a program on AIDS, more people will tune in.

Letters Box:

Write Us!

The Yellin' Rebel wants your opinions.

Letters should be approximately 300 words, and have name, address, phone number, major and year in school. Send to:

The Yellin' Rebel
c/o Letters to the Editor
MSU 302
4505 Maryland Pkwy.
Las Vegas, NV 89154

To accommodate as many letters as possible, The Yellin' Rebel reserves the right to edit all letters for space and clarity.

THE YELLIN' REBEL STAFF BOX

Richard Crow Editor-in-Chief/
Business Bonar Tucker Editor-in-Chief/
News

Steve Ciulla
Advertising Manager

Robert Anderson
Photography Editor

Debbie Tubbesing
Entertainment Editor

Billy Naftaly
Acting Sports Editor

Brad Palmer/Eileen Brady
Office Managers/Classified Ads

Marc Baruch
Distribution

Raymond R. Frankulin
Typesetting/Production

Joseph J. Wheeler Assistant Editor /News
Tina Crinite Assistant Editor /News
Philip DaQuino Assist. Editor /Business
Jason Birmingham Comic Page Editor
Gary Puckett Copy Editor
Connie Laudeman Copy Editor
Ched Whitney Copy Editor
Eileen Brady Copy Editor
Dawn Melby Proofreader
Tom Daniels Proofreader
Barbara Cloud Faculty Advisor

Staff Writers

Russell Williams, Angela Desmonci, Julie Wolf, William Holt, Michelle Padillo, Marc Sperberg, Adejoke Adenle, Audrey Conway, Jennifer Elledge, Maria Migliore, Roy Theiss, Thomas Moore, Kara Kelley, Jack Poleski, Sherri Thomas, Rebecca Deering, Tricia Ci-aravino, Karlene Edwards, Tracy Clark, Lisa Sutherland, Christy McDonald, Tina Lytle, Angela Ramsey, John Glynn, Aletra Lopez, Kimberly Richardson, Victor Ingram, Shawn Black Snider, Lou Parolisi, Chris Donovan, Michael Bunin, Tom Daniels, Sean Higgins, Karen Splawn, Kathleen Patrick, Susan Caruso

Photographers

Matt Dovel, Channing Perkaquanard, Jennifer Elledge, Margaret Freebain, Maureen Miller, Shane Roth, Lisa Sutherland, Marc Baruch

Cartoonists

Adejoke Adenle, Jason Birmingham, Justin Caramanica, Robert Spezzano, Jack Poleski

Typists

Charlene Phillips, Erik Stieringer, Eileen Brady

THE YELLIN' REBEL—The Yellin' Rebel is a publication of the University of Nevada, Las Vegas. The opinions reflected in *The Yellin' Rebel* are those of the authors stated, and do not necessarily represent, in whole or in part, the views of the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, its students, administration, faculty or staff.
The Yellin' Rebel is printed by the Nifty Nickel on a twice weekly basis. Not published holidays, weekends or when UNLV is not in session. The Yellin' Rebel is a member of the Intercollegiate Press Association, the California Intercollegiate Press Association, and the Rocky Mountain Press Association.
Telephone Numbers: Editor's Desk - 739-3878; Display Advertising - 739-3889; Classified Advertising - 739-3479; General Information - 739-3478. All inquiries should be sent to *The Yellin' Rebel*, MSU 302, 4505 S. Maryland Pkwy, Las Vegas, NV 89154.

Operation: "Contemporary"

by William Holt

One might ask, why write about music in the opinion/editorial section of the newspaper when we have subjects like abortion, crime, war, drugs, and poverty?

A good argument for the question would be that art, such as music, is a break we all take from reality. But, better yet, I answer that art, such as music, is not something that we live for, but rather the living itself with occasional sicknesses such as attention to the above political issues.

I, myself, am disappointed about contemporary music. There are plenty of good things in today's music, but many of the pieces that I've heard released since about 1950 have a certain amount of confusion.

That confusion lies in the split between the personality of the music itself and the personalities that have nothing to do with music.

Any arrangement of music has its own personality which is produced in large by the writer's style and his resulting use of compositional means. I believe that when the personality of messages in music, words, or the personality of the performer are

added to a piece, they can only confuse and split the appearance of this art and essentially make less of the music.

It's not so much that there are two or more conflicting personalities; it is more so that today's writers are relying more and more on other personalities for their music instead of giving their music its own style. Non-musical elements, such as emotional whining from the singer, have replaced the fundamentals of composition.

In hard and metal rock, including groups like Black Sabbath, Guns 'n Roses, and Motley Crue, most writers rely on the general personality of evil and vulgarity and try to make their musical ideas correspond to it. One obvious effect is the lack of dynamic (loudness) variety. (Dynamic variation is used to emphasize passages of music and indicate things like transition.) All of these songs begin extra loud, remain extra loud, and end extra loud. Also, these songs generally lack melody, among other things. It is very painstaking to come up with the right melody that will cater to evil, violence, and vulgarity.

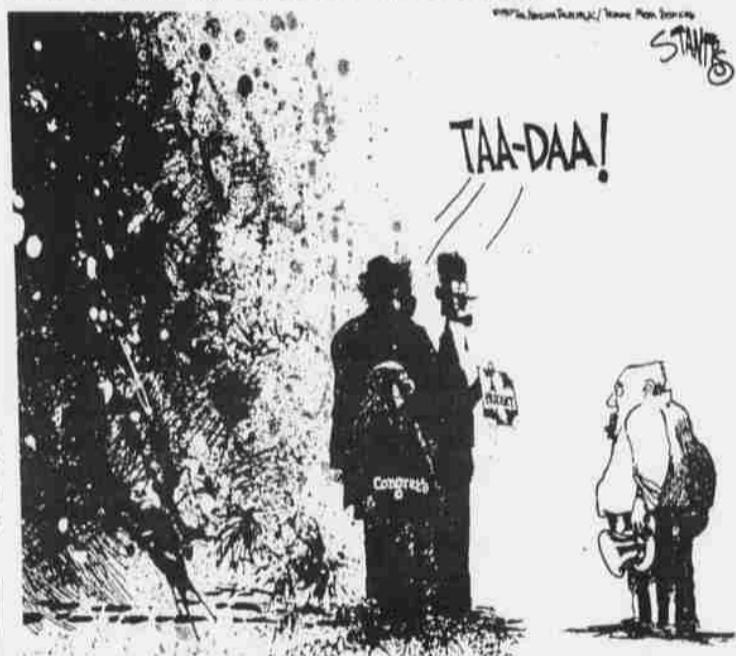
Popular songs and songs of the top 40 like Duran Duran and Paula Abdul, have a similar dilemma, the writers rely on the personality of the performer and what he or she has to say. Many people seem to think that having different words to say makes for variety in music. Two genres of music that take this fault even further are rap music and country music.

Many genres such as reggae and Christian, and music categorized by ethnic group like Indian or tribal music, rely on the per-

sonality of a group or of tradition.

I've tried to become more involved with one or more genres of contemporary music, but after a little listening, I long for music with a personality — instead of a personality with an instrumental background.

Wayne Newton as a character in the recent film "The Adventures of Ford Fairlane" once said, "There's more to this business than just music. If you want to listen to music, I suggest Wagner and Stravinsky."



Letters to the Editor

Dear editor,

Twelve ways to increase gang activity in Las Vegas:

- 1) Reduce taxes for millionaires.
- 2) Adopt a trickle down monetary policy.
- 3) Oppose attempts to reduce teenage pregnancy.
- 4) Decrease federal funds for education.
- 5) Increase homelessness.
- 6) Allow drugs to proliferate.

- 7) Oppose increases in the minimum wage.
- 8) Encourage racism.
- 9) Oppose greater gun control measures.
- 10) Permit uncontrolled growth.
- 11) Allow excessive salaries for athletes.
- 12) Support the Republican Party, for they support the above positions.

Dean Wilson

Request for Student Correspondence

I'm currently the acting company gunnery sergeant for approximately 260 hard charging combat-ready Marines, who at this time, are participating in exercise Desert Shield. One of my responsibilities is to oversee all things encompassing their morale and welfare.

Currently, these Marines have been overwhelmed with correspondence initiated by children and adolescent individuals. Though these Marines answer the correspondence, they feel they're being burdened. In a discussion/debate with their squad leader, the general desires and expectations were brought out in the open.

First, they desired correspondence with adults in order to express themselves freely without censorship.

Secondly, they wanted personal addresses from the writers so they could answer their mail on more personal terms.

Third, the majority particularly desired letters from women. These Marines come from all walks of life. They're indiscriminate and thrive on companionship. I have Marines with all types of interests and skills who request correspondence from your students.

I ensure those letters received will be indiscriminately distributed throughout my company. For those students who wish to correspond with certain age groups, ethnic backgrounds or whatever, please so indicate on the back of the letter.

Address: c/o SSGT John D. Underhill
A Co, LSB Det, 1st FSSG (Deployed)
FPO San Fran, CA 96608-5702