

From the Editor's Desk

End of the semester

Richard Crow

It's the end of the semester and the last Yellin' Rebel of the semester.

Boy, do we need the rest; not only we at the paper but all students on campus.

For me, the semester went fast and it was filled with satisfaction, frustration, pride, tiredness and an all-around feeling of "What am I doing here?"

As our first semester as a newspaper team comes to an end, I want to thank everybody who worked hard to get the paper out. Thanks to those people who stopped me in the hall and said, "Hey, you and your staff are doing a great job on the paper." And of course, thanks to those few who think we don't do such a good job because it just makes us work harder to change your mind.

Lately we've been hearing from a few readers that all we do up here is print the bad things that go on on campus.

I beg to differ.

If anybody wishes (we have copies of all our past issues), they can come up here and show me all this negative press we've been printing.

If you check, you'll see that 90 percent of what we print is about different departments and what they have coming up or what they have done.

If we print a story it is not meant to be negative. It is news and we are going to print it, whether it be good, bad or indifferent and it will be as factual as we know it to be.

It's a matter of, "You can make some of the people happy some of the time, but you can't make all the people happy all the time."

We are not here to be a propagandist machine for anybody, we are here to do our best to be a newspaper and print the news, good or bad, no matter what.

If you look at our stories you will find no bias or one-sidedness. What you will find is an attempt to tell what has happened.

We have some of the best writers I've seen, along with some of the best editors this paper has ever had. We also have a great faculty advisor who spends her time, at our request, to make sure we are right in

printing a story.

When somebody says, "You're nothing but a rag," they are saying that everybody involved is not doing their job. I take offense to that and ask you to take a long look into the paper and see the whole paper, not just one story.

As an editor, I found that everybody is a critic. But I doubt anyone could do better or take the time, as my co-editor and I have, to make this the best UNLV newspaper this campus has seen in years.

Now, a few words about Saudi Arabia.

Why are we in Saudi Arabia? What are we actually protecting? How can Bush send all those troops over there without Congress declaring any kind of action, which they have to do before any shots are fired?

The simple answer is, we are in Saudi Arabia because it is convenient. Now Bush doesn't have to cut the military budget and he keeps the generals happy.

The oil industry loves it because from day one they began raising the price of gasoline without any reason except that there was a conflict in the oil fields. It didn't affect production at all but they felt it might, so they had to make their profits while they could.

I was under the impression that a U.S. president had to go to Congress to be able to send troops into war. Or is this going to be another police action like Korea?

It seems Bush is trying to follow in Reagan's footsteps and do what he wants without asking or telling Congress of his plans, which is against the law.

We as taxpaying citizens should be angry with Bush's actions because when he snubs Congress, he also is snubbing us and saying that he is not accountable to us for anything.

Think about it and join me in a letter writing campaign to Bush, telling him he should ask us before he does anything. Remember, those are our friends and family he is sending to fight for oil.

Richard Crow

Merry Christmas, happy New Year, and good-bye!

by Kelcey West

As we watch the year 1990 become a part of history, it is appropriate to say good-bye to all the people, events, places, and things we don't want to see in 1991.

1. Milli Vanilli
2. Arsenio Hall's played out, tired haircut.
3. Bill Cosby's perfect family. Give us a break, Bill!
5. Rosanne singing the Star Spangled Banner. Please, Rosanne, concentrate on what you do best: television and eating.
6. Prince starring in another movie.
7. Fat boxers named "Buster." Mike must have taken a dive.
8. People who spot Elvis.
9. "Bo-Knows" stuff.
10. Michael Jackson. Michael, please don't turn up in 1991 with more cosmetic surgery, and pass the word to your sister, Janet.
11. Censorship.
12. Sequels to the following movies — "Friday the Thirteenth," "Police Academy," "Jaws" and "Rocky." Yes, Rocky! Rocky Balboa has been fighting since 1977, the guy has got to be at least 55 years old! Talk about "time to retire."
13. The dances "Running Man" and "Electric Slide."
14. People with Attitudes.
15. The price of gas going up.

If the price keeps going up, people riding bicycles had better get stronger chains!

16. Coupons in the mail for things we either cannot, or will not, use.
17. James Brown singing "Get Up" behind prison bars.
18. M.C. Hammer wearing those diaper baggies.
19. Our brothers and sister over in Saudi Arabia. Instead of America spending so much time trying to stop the 2 Live Crew from being "Horny As They Wanna Be," we could use our time and efforts in preventing war!

Peace and Love over the holidays.

Tenacity in requirements may cost school some support

by Tom Daniels

As a senior citizen who returned to school in attempt to complete my education, I find the staunch, rigid requirement to complete the freshman course, English 102, and its lab completely deplorable.

The requirement leaves no avenue to circumvent this course. Many of the mature students (not only senior citizens) have, through work experience and the necessities of life, learned more than can be achieved through classes and assignments.

There are probably many other students in the university system who are as knowledgeable about the English language as some of the instructors. But they are required to complete this particular course if a degree in any department is sought.

In my case, I graduated from the College of San Mateo (California) in 1960. I shortly there-

after began working for Internal Revenue Service where it was necessary to compile reports, compose personal letters, as well as selecting appropriate form letters.

While in the Air Force Reserve, part of my duties was to

"The reading and writing necessary to complete English 102 would have left me completely blind."

write articles for the base newspaper and take photographs to go with the articles.

I have appealed to the English Department, the Board of Regents, the president of UNLV and others to try to avoid this course due to the necessary time requirement and my medical his-

tory, which includes glaucoma, the beginning of cataracts and keratitis (commonly called dry-eye). The reading and writing necessary to complete English 102 would have me completely blind before the course was completed.

It was recommended that I talk to Anita Stockbauer about getting a reader to assist with reading assignments, but this would not achieve the goal, since I could not assimilate the material from another person reading to me.

Such a rigid requirement should be relaxed by allowing for a test to determine the level of knowledge, just as in math or other fields. But it appears that this requirement was established many years ago and today's regents and faculty are either afraid or unable to find a way to disturb the "status quo."

Brava to Ellis

Dear Editor,

Brava! Brava to Nonja Ellis for her letter to the editor, Dec. 4, "A Case for Dignity." I commend her courage to speak out and express her opinion.

As a veteran, I can confidently say that few, if any, young men and women enlist or re-enlist in the military solely to kill. Personally, the service offered me independence, a chance for self-discovery, educational benefits and the opportunity to experience foreign cultures. If this sounds like an advertising slogan, that's because it is.

It's not until you're "in," and the nightmarish culture shock has subsided, that you realize you are at the mercy of any "Swinging George" looking to shake a wimpy image.

I was once told that the life expectancy of a soldier, performing the duties for which I was trained during actual combat, was less than an hour. We have, as it stands, less than a month to better the odds of our soldiers' survival.

We have to start asking ourselves what we can do. I don't mind paying extra for gas or driving less if it means saving the life of one American.

We must invent and explore alternatives and if, as they say, "the balloon goes up," we must remember the persons and events responsible so that credit or blame be directed accordingly.

Ellis hopes Americans return

to, "an understanding nation." I hope, and believe that many Americans soldiers hope for the same thing; that they return to not only an understanding nation, but an involved one as well.

Here's a little extra credit assignment. The credit you'll receive, as always, is based on the effort you put out.

Make a list of friends and relatives serving in the military. Take a few moments on each name and reflect on your relationship with that person. If you can think of one reason why they should return alive, act on it.

If no one comes to mind, write a friend of mine:

American Service Member
Operation: Desert Shield
A.P.O. New York, N.Y.

D. Bradley,
junior, engineering

Flabbergasted by Arizona situation

Dear editor,

I was flabbergasted by your opinion column on Tuesday Nov. 27 about Arizona, the NFL and the Martin Luther King holiday. Even if there has never been a black coach or general manager in the NFL, I don't think anyone has ever heard of a team without players.

From a recent poll of the number of black players, about 55 percent of all players are black. "Nothing goes for nothing." Arizonians obviously love football and people like Jerry

Rice who make miracles happen on the field. You have to respect the people that the people you respect, respect.

Until you realize this, you are just going to be continue arguing blindly!

Adejoke Adenle,
freshman, architecture

The point of The Yellin' Rebel editorial was: The NFL has no right to act high-handed in this matter with their sorry record of promoting blacks to management positions.

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.

