

UNLV has independent newspaper

by Ched Whitney

The students of UNLV now have an independent newspaper. By 14-3 vote the Student Senate passed a proposal that cut *The Yellin' Rebel's* ties with Student Government.

At the senate meeting, prior to their vote, some senators attempted to alter the proposal. The proposal called for 8.75 percent of the annual amount of student fees collected by Student Government to be routed directly to the paper's budget. It also said that there would be a review of this figure in two years.

For a while during the meeting some senators were busy making and then rescinding motions to change the two-year period and to change the percentage to a fixed amount (\$50,000 for instance).

It just so happens that these were two very important parts of the proposal.

By determining the newspaper's budget on a percentage basis, the amount of money received by the paper is directly tied to undergraduate enrollment. This is very necessary so that the paper will be able to expand as the student population grows.

For next year 8.75 percent may very well equal or near \$50,000. Some senators seemed to have visions of reporters rolling in dough in a couple of years if the student body grows substantially. The paper needs to be able to grow right along with it. Any excess funds would be put into production.

Robert Cudlip, one of the three senators casting dissenting votes, said he felt the percentage was actually too small. He felt the paper should get more money for design enhancements.

Indeed, it is conceivable that the paper would expand to be-

come a three-day-a-week or daily publication in the near future.

The reason for the two-year time period was to give the paper time to function on its own. Cutting it to one year would have put it right back in a position similar to what we have now. One student suggested that all colleges on campus have a representative on the new newspaper board. This also would put the paper right back in the position it is now. The paper has been bogged down by the huge bureaucracy that had been created to control it. It didn't need the now-former bureaucracy replaced by a new one. Under the proposal, decisions will be made by people qualified to make them.

The students of UNLV owe the greatest amount of thanks for the independence to Editor in Chief Bonar Tucker. There have been past editors who have toyed with the idea of independence for *The Yellin' Rebel* but none had ever seen it through.

It was Tucker who knew the steps to take to achieve independence. She was able to keep the staff on the right line between over-zealousness and over-cautiousness.

When Tucker got up to address the senate she stressed this proposal should not be weakened by unneeded and unwanted changes—it should simply be, Tucker said, a yes or no vote. The senators who had proposed amendments to the proposal then rescinded them and it passed intact.

It is unfortunate for her that this has finally been achieved only one month before her term as editor ends. But she has left a legacy of freedom for future journalists of UNLV.

Whitney is sports editor

All the fuss was about freedom

Independence exemplifies American ideals

by Thomas Moore

An objective observer; someone, oh let's say from one of George Knapp's UFOs, observing the flap about *The Yellin' Rebel* and its fight for independence might be confused. He, she, possibly it, might wonder what it all means. Why was there such a big fuss about *The Yellin' Rebel's* independence?

The reason is simple—and yet it's not. People care. On this campus, in this state, in this country, people care about freedom. If you look around it's everywhere.

Accompanying every governmental and societal movement, every bill placed before Congress and every topic on the Donahue show, in every city hall meeting and every bar room argument, the debate rages about whether any proposal will make us more or less free. It's the central issue of this country.

That's the simple part. Recognizing that people care and that caring causes debates like the one about the *Yellin' Rebel* is obvious. The not-so-simple part is why.

There are a lot of theories.

A political scientist with a Marxist bent could say the idea of freedom is disinformation from the ruling class; a false freedom that we accept, and that keeps us blind to our exploitation.

There is no doubt that people have been taken advantage of and abused in our country. But look to

has brought us here. But just as a child grows up and becomes aware, realizing what values are proper (honesty, loyalty and courage), our Western society grew. It came to the realization, (in the form of America), that freedom—by its very nature—is right, proper, good and, when compared to the alternative, excellent in every way.

So, if you see George with his extraterrestrial entourage, and one of the little green guys asks you what all the fuss was about, tell him. Don't let the people who pick at freedom—and have no alternative, or the theorists who explain away freedom—and refuse to acknowledge it, cloud you to what you know is right.

Tell him that the fuss surrounding the Yellin' was about freedom. Tell him why you think it's important. Show him why, on this planet at least, any other way is wrong. If he resembles us in any way, he'll understand.

Moore is a staff writer with *The Yellin' Rebel*.

"On this campus, in this state, in this country, people care about freedom. If you look around it's everywhere."

where the proletariat have been in power. Observe the results.

A sociologist might say it's the product of thousands of years of Western history. Our society is ethnocentric. We call certain governmental actions deviant because of our socialization and not because the lack of freedom is intrinsically wrong.

There is no doubt that history

A learning experience?

by Richard Munson

The reason for working at a student newspaper is to gain a learning experience. Take a look at photography. Being a photographer at a Rebel basketball game is an honored experience in itself. But to be a photographer during the NCAA tournament is a dream come true for any budding photographer. But don't even think of this at UNLV.

Due to NCAA rules this year, only one photographer per school or organization is allowed on the floor during the game. There's

nothing wrong with that—it even gets quite congested at Rebel games.

But we are a school of students. We have a team made of students. We have journalists who are students. We have radio talk show hosts who are students. Why not a photographer who is a stu-

Duke University sent two student reporters and a photographer. The only difference between their paper and ours is that they sent a student photographer. The photo pass was given by their sports information department to the school paper, and hence a student photographer was at the game.

Duke stressed that a student is in a learning position and therefore should be the one who is allowed to take photos when the student basketball team plays in the tournament.

Nowhere does it state that education should be chosen over experience, but there may be no reason to pay for an education if you are unable to gain experience in real-life situations.

If we as students are unable to gain this experience, is this really a learning experience?

"There may be no reason to pay for an education if you are unable to gain experience in real-life situations."

UNLV sent a free-lance photographer picked by the sports information director. The decision is left up to the head SID as to whom should take pictures at the games.



Letters to the Editor

CSUN is an embarrassment

Dear Editor,

Most of the faculty will tell you that their number one concern is improving the educational environment at UNLV. We recognize that what we do in the classroom is only a part of this process, what happens outside is at least as important.

For this reason, many of us are troubled by the recent problems within Student Government. Students must be active partners in the development of the university. When their leadership loses its credibility, when they are seen as representing only their own interests, the university as a whole suffers. Those of us with long histo-

ries on this campus take it quite personally when individuals, particularly those in the public eye, act in ways that disrupt what we have helped to build.

It is obvious that CSUN lacks an appropriate system of checks and balances, yet I am told that they are chartered independently, and therefore cannot be restructured by the university administration. Unfortunately, the only people who can create balance are those who appear to be benefiting from its absence.

I will not directly propose changes in CSUN, since doing so could divert attention from the broader perspective. Rather, I would propose that CSUN create a "Blue Ribbon" panel to provide a

forum for open discussion and to make independent recommendations. Pick a chair from the outside and include both faculty and student representatives. There will be no problem getting faculty to serve; indeed the problem will be selecting from among the large number of volunteers.

To the individuals involved, I give the following advice. If you're in the right, prove it. If you've done wrong, have the guts to admit it. You're embarrassing the university and embarrassing yourselves. Put an end to it. Now.

William J. Robinson economics department

Top 10 reasons ARA's food is so greasy

Tricia Goldberg

Top ten reasons ARA's food is so greasy

- 10. Lost recipe for vegetables
- 9. ARA director Don Bell forced to eat healthy foods as a child; now rebelling
- 8. Students look jollier
- 7. It's darn fun to cook with hot grease
- 6. Heard Wessonality was passe
- 5. Children are starving somewhere—now eat your grease
- 4. They offer great value for your grease dollar
- 3. Students study better with a brick in their tummy
- 2. Onion rings are an aphrodisiac
- 1. There was a big sale on grease

