

The Review-Journal is short-sighted in calling for increased tuition at UNLV

The Las Vegas Review-Journal recently called for the Nevada legislature to reject a proposed payroll tax, the proceeds of which were geared toward "The reduction of class sizes in the early grades, expansion of the university system's budget and prison construction."

The R-J rejects the tax as being harmful to the economy and punitive toward business. The R-J feels that other measures should be taken to deal with educational issues and the ever-present need for prisons. Measures such as dumping the class-size reduction program, foregoing building new prisons and raising tuition coupled with a tougher admissions policy to allow "controlling (of) soaring enrollment and allowing the universities to pay more of their own way" are the

Review-Journal's answers to the complex question of taxes and hard choices.

To that end, it mixed the issues of schools and prisons as if they equated equally into a "money pit" into which taxpayers toss dollars.

Something is wrong with that picture.

A school is not a prison. The university system is not an institution solely on the public dole, existing only on taxpayer's money with nothing given back to the community from which the money came. Private donors and alumni contribute to the system. Students pay for their classes. Indeed, the tuition at UNLV has increased three times in five years. Yes, the numbers are huge and much of the cost must be picked up by the state. But it is not money

lost. It is money well spent. Education pays dividends. In the long term, the value of education is an increase in economic growth, a more competent nation and a higher standard of living for all. Education is not a money pit.

Yes, the numbers are huge, and much of the cost must be picked up by the state. But it is not money lost. It is money well spent.

It is an investment in the future. A prison is payment for the past. Offenders are cared for with public money, housed on public property and "rehabilitated" until far too many of them commit an-

other crime and begin the process all over again.

Students attend school, graduate, expand their opportunities and wage-earning capability, and pay back the system through taxes for 10, 20, or even 30 years. The power an educated person has in determining their future, bettering their conditions and making more money over their lifetime, (money with which they pay taxes), makes the dollars spent on schooling a sound investment.

Likewise, the class-size reduction program is worthwhile. Perhaps the R-J is right—that no definite evidence exists to prove that smaller classes mean better performance—but giving up before the evidence has been compiled is no solution. It is defeatist and lackluster. As Americans seek solutions to the nation's declining

educational system in general, the R-J would give up on what solutions are being attempted. Las Vegas' largest newspaper is guilty of looking at the shortest of terms and ignoring the long range implications at stake.

Raising admission requirements and (not again!) tuition will not only lead to fewer students taking advantage of the opportunity that education represents, but will have an adverse effect on the state as a whole. With minorities already fighting the admissions requirement being raised and calling for the university system to do more to aid minorities in school, the idea of raising tuition and admission requirements as a purely money-saving tactic is repugnant.

The above is the opinion of The Yellin' Rebel.

A tribute to a year at UNLV

by Rick Nielson

As we quickly approach the close of the 90-91 school year, I have come to the realization that someone (I elected myself) owes the faculty, staff, administration, and to some degree the students, a well deserved pat on the back.

I came here last fall as a lost and bewildered enrolling freshman, who for lack of direction had procrastinated long enough to earn three degrees. Learning the ropes and the ins and outs was not the easiest task to achieve alone and unguided.

I have since discovered by means of my participation in many campus events and organizations that I am not alone and help is just a question away.

As an ARA Services (on the campus) employee I have had the pleasure to meet and interact with numerous faculty and administration during the year. They are not the untouchable, larger than life dictators of students futures that I had pre-supposed. On the contrary, they are friendly, accessible, down to earth, everyday

people, who are former students and relate extraordinarily well.

As a new addition to *The Yellin' Rebel*, I have met or interviewed or photographed a wide range of university folk, from President Maxson right down to children in UNLV preschool, and found every encounter to be extremely enjoyable.

With all the focus of attention typically aimed at the negative side of the story and the problems, perhaps unintentionally the positive things and hard work sometimes slip into the cracks unnoticed and unheralded.

It is time that someone recognize the fact that there will always be problems and controversy here and everywhere, that is how life works. But what makes the problems solvable and keeps the light at the end of the tunnel is the people around and entwined in them. The great spectrum of positive and talented minds assembled here at UNLV gives us all the insight to understand that, in essence, there are no problems, only solutions.

In one short year I have gone

from no direction at all to being vacuumed into the revolving door of education which is a vortex of choice to any direction desirable. I feel compelled to express my gratitude to any and all of the people associated with UNLV who contribute to this university's growing popularity and respectability.

As Las Vegas and UNLV rapidly continue to grow and explode with activity, UNLV will be a superb place to be a student. We will continue to grow and gain respectability as each year passes. But whatever new programs or buildings we acquire, in my mind we will never be any better than the people who make university life their own, people aspire to inspire, people who motivate toward learning and make education their dedication. UNLV abounds in these people, and though the list is long and too numerous to mention, they know who they are, and I sincerely hope that by the time I leave this university with a degree, I know every one of them personally.

Thank you all for a great year!

Letters to the Editor



Wondering why

Dear Editor,

I wonder why a university in the United States of America employs faculty who are unable to communicate effectively in the American version of English.

I wonder if the person purchasing the desks is 5 feet 2 inches, with eyes of blue—because I'm six foot two, eyes of hazel, and my 250-pound frame does not fit.

I wonder why we don't have a better directory system on campus so that visitors, new students, and even older students can find the buildings.

I wonder why the buildings have doors close to the parking lots, as most of them are locked!

I wonder why the instructors have to steal erasers and chalk from other classrooms.

I wonder how much of the university budget was used to purchase yellow and black

paint for the staff parking spots.

I wonder why the president doesn't set an example and park in the Thomas & Mack parking lot.

I wondered why the handicapped parking and staff parking were closest to the buildings until I interviewed two staff members and found out that they were handicapped. Now I know the answer!

I wonder why the very people who are the "paying customers" of the university are forced to park the farthest away. I bet this doesn't happen at Wal-Mart!

I wonder why the instructor evaluations are not published in *The Yellin' Rebel*.

The definition of "tenure" is the top most pyramidal shaped block on the "Peter Principle Pyramid."

Chad Avery
senior
social work

Seeking pen pals

Dear Editor,

language as soon as I can.

I am Spanish, 20 years old, and study computers at the "Universidad Politecnica de Valencia." My name is Francisco (Frank) and I would like to begin a correspondence with an American youth. I write you to get a directorate for writing.

My English teacher told me your address. My level is low, but I expect to learn your

My address is:

Francisco Jose Millan
Santacreu
c/ Carteros 3, pta. 9
Valencia 46007
Spain

I say goodbye to you. I expect your letter.

Francisco Jose
Millan



Good luck with finals

and have a terrific summer!