



The Rebel Yell

April 7, 1992

TUESDAY EDITION

Volume 14, No. 23

Pro-life skinheads interrupt rally

by Karen Splawn

A pro-abortion rights rally held on campus Sunday continued despite noisy protests by an anti-abortion group.

The rally, sponsored by Students for Choice, hadn't been going on for very long when a group of so-called skinheads marched onto the Moyer Student Union Courtyard carrying placards saying "Nazis love babies," and "Hang the baby killers." Almost all of them were dressed in black, and many wore arm bands with the swastika emblem.

Attorney and pro-choice activist Kathleen England told supporters—who began chanting "We are pro-choice" at the skinheads—not to scream at them. "You'll show them you respect their First Amendment rights to protest," she said.

For their part, the skinheads shouted "White power" at rally attendants. "Killing babies is not a good cause," one anti-abortion demonstrator yelled. Hearing this, a woman

retorted, "But killing everyone else is," in reference to the Nazi legacy of genocide.

Although England said the skinheads had a right to protest, Campus Police disagreed, asking the protestors to leave. One officer wouldn't comment when asked why the skinheads could not stay.

While leaving the rally, the skinheads shouted, "Seig heil," and carried Nazi flags in the MSU parking lot. They went across the street to The Warehouse parking lot, where they held up signs and shouted anti-abortion slogans to passing cars.

Skinhead leader John Bangetar said the group represented Jesus Christ. Bangetar jokingly said he and the others "were given a warm reception," by police and that it was unconstitutional for them not being allowed to protest. Asked if a sign reading "Abortion is Jewish" is anti-Semitic, Bangetar responded, "We are Israel."

Eventually, the group left the parking lot, fearing the Las Vegas Metropolitan Police



Nazi pro-lifers march on Maryland, after being kicked off campus, in protest of Sunday's pro-choice rally. photo by Wray Hallerman

would show up; they returned later in the mid afternoon.

After they left, abortion rights activist Judy Corbisino asked, "That was pretty scary, wasn't it?"

"As a lesbian, I know how interested anti-choice forces are in punishing women who (believe) in sexual freedom," she continued.

The rally, said Students for

Choice representative Melanie McEnvoy, was held to kick off the election year and let public officials know that "there's no going back" on abortion rights.

see RALLY page 3

UNLV community affected by crime

by Thomas Moore

Crime, sometimes violent crime, seemed to be surrounding UNLV recently when a depositor was robbed and a security guard was shot at the Pioneer Citizens Bank at 4170 Maryland Parkway, and when the Bank of America, at 4761 Maryland Parkway, was held up.

The two events run contrary to the stereotypical picture of university communities as quiet, peaceful places. Tony Llanos, a junior at UNLV, barely avoided being in the Bank of America robbery. He was making a deposit the day of the robbery.

"It happened two or three seconds after I got out of there," he said.

Just before the robbery Llanos said he sensed something was going to happen. He noticed an agitated customer.

"I saw someone looking suspicious," Llanos said. "I could tell this guy was going to raise hell." He left before the robbery actually happened but his suspicions were confirmed when he returned to use the teller machine. The police were all around the bank.

Llanos' close call merely added to his insecurity about the area.

"It's scary out there," he said. "That's the thing. You feel insecure. I'm definitely going to close out my account."

He said he has noticed a change in the community since he started at UNLV

in 1988. "We had a sense of security," he said. "But it has been deteriorating because of the growth of Las Vegas."

Llanos is not the only one who has seen a change. Dennis, the assistant manager at the Texaco service station at the corner of Maryland Parkway and Flamingo Road, has been living in Las Vegas for 25 years. When he first got here, Flamingo Road had just two lanes.

"It's been steadily going downhill for five years," Dennis said. "But in the last couple of years it got really bad. All the banks are getting hit. It's 10 times worse than it was years ago."

Dennis and his wife Dusty have lived in the small group of apartments between Flamingo and the university for four years. Now they are looking for a house in a different area.

Marti Tsagrinos, the assistant manager at Tower Records, sees it as city-wide problem. "It's the element that's attracted to Las Vegas," Tsagrinos said. She remembered one incident when Tower Records was located directly across from UNLV. "Back at the old location, one guy got killed or severely wounded," she said. "Especially in the last five years, it really changed."

There are reasons why people feel this way about the community. In the last few years the UNLV area has been the scene of

see CRIME page 2

The Web-Slinger



New York's own non-mutant superhero, Spiderman, pays a visit to UNLV Monday at SpringFest '92. photo by Rob Weidenfeld

INSIDE...

OPINION

Is this the typical UNLV student and what does he have to say?

— page 4



ENTERTAINMENT

Finally, The Rebel Yell Poetry Page. Yes, it's in this paper.

— page 8

