

## For the new year resolve to recycle

It's a new year and time to make all of those wonderful new year's resolutions—lose 20 pounds, establish peace on earth, become a millionaire. But unfortunately, like rules, resolutions are made to be broken.

So, if you keep but one resolution this year contribute to the recycling drive once a week. Just drop your soda can into the recycling bins located around campus. It's simple, easily attainable, personally gratifying, and no push-ups are required.

By contributing to the national effort to renew our natural resources, we're encouraging the university to become more involved in the recycling effort.

Currently, there are three bins located around campus in the most well-traveled areas—between the Moyer Student Union and the humanities building, between the library and alumni building and between the engineering complex and life sciences building—so that students won't have to go out of their way to recycle.

The bins are made from 100-percent recycled materials and because of the rarity, such items cost \$900 each. The units are specially designed so they can be secured at night to prevent vagrants from stealing the aluminum cans and cashing them in. At present, aluminum is the most valuable recycling commodity.

Since the units were put in place a year ago, less than \$400 has been raised according to the grounds maintenance department. This is sad considering that daily soda sales on campus generally exceed that amount.

The school is giving the recycling bins a trial run. The objective being that the units will pay for themselves in time and any additional funds will be used to purchase more bins. The present recycling collection units are also capable of collecting glass, plastic and paper, but those commodities are not as lucrative as aluminum.

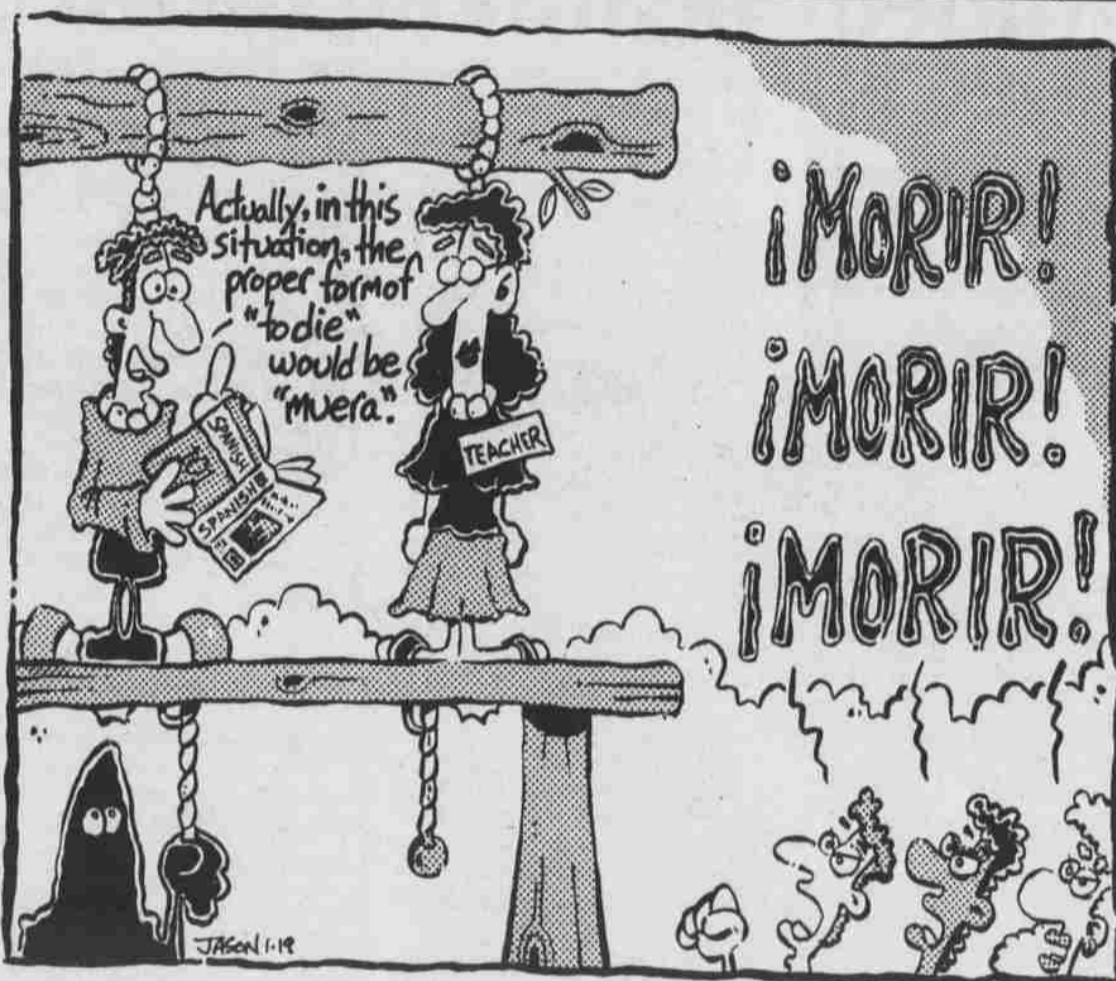
Besides, some students are having trouble distinguishing the aluminium container from the trash container; additional bins might cause further confusion. Despite the fact that both containers are clearly labeled "TRASH" and "CANS" -- pictures are even provided to further get the point across.

Red totes are located in department offices on each floor of every building at UNLV, which collect paper and aluminum. The totes were donated to the university by Silver State Disposal, which funds two full-time scholarships for the environmental studies department in exchange for the contents.

Even MSU is championing the recycling effort. The Christmas tree which adorned Valerie Pida Plaza in December was sent to the water district which collected a number of decapitated holiday trees and chopped them up for mulch, which in turn is used to fertilize the soil. The mulch was given free to the public.

Recycling not only pays, it helps those who help themselves. So do yourself a favor and toss your empty soda cans in with the "CANS".

*The above is the opinion of The Rebel Yell. All other inclusions on the opinion page reflect the opinions of the author or artist indicated and do not necessarily reflect the opinion of The Rebel Yell staff.*



## Stop whining and start studying

BY DANIEL W. DUFFY  
MANAGING EDITOR

On what used to be called "Dead Day," I had the pleasant experience of nearly being lynched by an angry mob from my Spanish class who won't take responsibility for their education. These malcontents tested the noose on a sack of potatoes, but I was lucky enough to flee and escape the ugly scene unscathed.

Several students were griping that the course advanced too rapidly and they couldn't keep up. A lot of good that does 15 weeks into the semester.

If a student is having trouble with a class, it is up to them to meet with the professor outside class for extra help and, if necessary, seek out a tutor. Several students in our class did just this and I applaud them for their efforts. However, there was a

larger contingency who wanted to blame the professor (and possibly me) for their shortcomings.

It was obvious these students didn't come to class prepared because the answers to the majority of the questions they would ask in class were right in the book. Foreign language courses on the college level are difficult and those students who don't study only compound the problem and slow the rest of the class down. These are the type of people who camp out in the fast lane of I-95 doing 50 mph, impeding the progress of others. If this were any other university (or prep school for that matter), these students would have been laughed right off campus for such needless bellyaching.

When I spoke up and told these students they had to take responsibility for their own education and stop shirking it off on

the professor, they acted very negatively toward me. I can't imagine why. They said I was too advanced to be in Spanish I. Sorry folks, I haven't taken any kind of foreign language course in four years. I've since forgotten most of what I learned way back when. The only reason I do well is I do the readings, study, and consult a tutor when necessary. Put it this way, last semester, I sold my soul for Español. If I fail, it is not the professor's fault, it is my own.

It's not like I want a ribbon or a box of Girl Scout Cookies for my efforts, I just refuse to be slighted by ignorance.

UNLV is not a day-care center where everything is spoon fed to the students; it is an institution of higher learning where supposed "adults" come to learn.

Excuse me for trying to get the most out of my education.

## Letters to the Editor

Letters to the editor submitted to *The Rebel Yell* should be 250 words or less in length.

*The Rebel Yell* strives to publish all student submissions. However, we reserve the right to edit letters as necessary.

Please send letters to:

The Rebel Yell-STS  
4505 S. Maryland Pkwy.  
Las Vegas NV 89154

Or stop by MSU Room 302.



Dear Students,

On Aug. 28, 1963, Dr. Martin Luther King stood in the shadow of the Lincoln Memorial in Washington, D.C. and delivered his famous "I Have a Dream" speech to approximately a quarter of a million freedom marchers assembled before him. That speech, which took Dr. King just about 16 minutes, has continued to sound in the minds and hearts of right thinking people for more than 30 years now.

On the occasion of our nation's celebration of Dr. King's birth, I wish to add my solemn voice to the chorus of those who agree with his admonition that we must make manifest the promise this great country has made to all its citizens, no matter what their color or cultural origin. For it is not these surface things, but rather the contents of one's character that truly matters, as Dr. King so eloquently noted.

Had Dr. King not been assassinated in 1968, he would have been 64 years old this past Fri-

day. Still, though he is gone in body, his indomitable spirit remains. It is for us still living to derive from that spirit those same lessons he taught us when he was alive, again and again and again, until we know them by heart. And we must cherish as a talisman that stone of hope of which Dr. King spoke in his famous speech, carved out of the mountain of misery, to remind us always of what we can be, if we only will it so, and where we can go, if we only have the courage to go there.

As this new year begins, I pledge herewith to rededicate myself to the spirit of brotherhood and to the proposition that all human beings are created equal and endowed with those unalienable rights of which the founders of our country spoke. I encourage all who read this to do the same, for until everyone of us is truly free, truly none of us is free.

Happy New Year!

Robert C. Maxson  
President

The Rebel Yell

OPINION COLUMNIST

The Rebel Yell is now accepting applications for columnists for the spring semester. Applicants should have writing experience and be eager to explore topics that effect the UNLV campus.

Interested students should submit writing samples to Debra Bass in Room 302 on the third floor of the MSU.