

# Opinion

February 27, 1992

THE REBEL YELL

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## Opinion of 'The Yell' did not have the facts

by Mary Elaine Radel

I was very disappointed to see the opinion piece *The Rebel Yell* did on Sarah and Jim Brady's visit to our campus. The person or people who wrote the article were obviously not interested in telling the truth of the situation. *The Yell* said that 200 anti-gun control protestors heckled Jim and Sarah Brady. They did not, however, give Sarah Brady's statement, "95 percent of the American people support gun control," an obvious opinion. This was the point at which the badgering began.

The biggest mistake that *The Rebel Yell* made in its opinion piece, was to indicate that the protestors were a group of anti-gun control activists interested only in their right to keep their guns. *The Rebel Yell* was wrong. Had they bothered to attend the rally beforehand, they would have learned the reason all those people were at Artemus Ham Hall on that rainy night.

They were there to defend the Constitution of the United States of America. In fact, the protestors were told repeatedly by the sponsors of the event not to put down the Brady's or their right to free speech. The Brady's are guaranteed their right to free speech by the First Amendment to the Constitution. I attended the rally. I do

not own a gun, nor will I ever own a gun, yet I drove to Artemus Ham Hall and stood in the rain carrying a picket sign for an hour that Friday night.

Gun control laws violate the Second Amendment to the Constitution of the United States, the right of the people to bear arms. As a person who spent most of her life growing up in other countries and seeing the total control many governments have over their citizens, I have come to realize the importance of our constitution and the need to defend it at all costs. If that involves campaigning against gun control laws, so be it.

*The Rebel Yell* indicated the audience was filled with 30 and 40-year-olds. I am not 30, nor am I 40. Neither were many of the people who attended. The age of the people ranged from 6 to 70. Gun control is not a middle-age issue.

*The Yell* also made the sarcastic comment, "And these people (the rude, immature protestors) want support so their guns are not taken away?" Many of these people, who *The Rebel Yell* put down so harshly, were good enough to have guns when they were sent off to Desert Storm, Vietnam, Korea and even World War II to defend this country.

The opinion continues: "Our student government worked

hard to bring the Brady's here. Our student fees paid for it. And the residents of our city who don't believe in gun control have ruined it." These statements are absurd. Has *The Rebel Yell* forgotten that UNLV is a state funded university? Those residents pay taxes to support this university and make it possible for the students to get an affordable education. This university belongs as much to the residents of our city and our state as it does to the students.

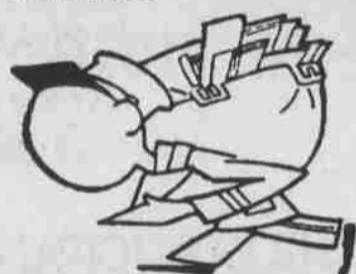
As a student, I am embarrassed by the conduct of *The Rebel Yell*. The writer did not bother to get the facts of the story straight, and they heckled the people of this community and their beliefs. It seems *The Rebel Yell* staffers still have a lot to learn about journalism. If I were to do what they did and judge a group of people on the actions of a few, I would have to say journalists have substandard morals and do not care if their stories contain any correct facts at all. I challenge *The Rebel Yell* to put my opinion piece where they put theirs. At the top of the opinion page in high visibility.

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is a Junior in  
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To write us, address your letter:

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or bring your letter directly to us on the third floor of the Moyer Student Union in room 302.

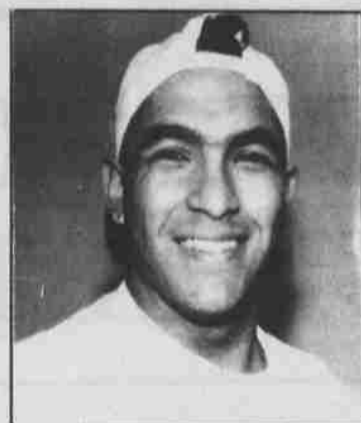


### STUDENT SPOTLIGHT



**Dario Herrera,**  
freshman, political science

"In my personal experiences at the cashier's office, I have found that the professionals have been complacent in helping me in my situations. Still, I believe there could be more communication between the administration and the students."



**Henry Abeyta,**  
sophomore, communications

"I have never had any problems at the cashier's office and they have helped me a great deal. Because I know the system really well and understand it, I don't have to worry about causing a disruption."



**Takovhi Gokcekian,**  
senior, psychology pre med.

"I think they don't handle their duties well. They are slow and unorganized. They have negative attitudes and need to treat students with more respect. They should try to be more helpful."



**Melanie Aiona,**  
freshman, hotel management

"Some ladies are nice, but the service is really slow. They should open more windows."



**Deborah Bailey,**  
sophomore, finance

"It's fine when my money's over there. I think they need to open more windows. And what is that plexiglass for?"

## What impression does the service at the UNLV cashier's office leave?