

There's still time—vote

Student Government claims it is a representative group of the student body. If so, students must start choosing their representatives. Otherwise every student is responsible for allowing an elite class to breed among itself.

This incestuous relationship could create a system in which senators are allowed to bypass public elections, being appointed by their predecessors. Instead of campaign races we are left with a relay race in which positions are passed around like batons.

Because Student Government is supposed to represent us and because we let our sole voice get away with its inbreeding, there is only one group of people to blame: the students of this campus! We are apathetic and pathetic.

Only 593 students voted Wednesday—the first day of the primary election; that's appalling considering that probably five times as many students passed by the polling places between classes. The entire student body population is 18,000-plus—a meager 3 percent took the time to fill out a ballot electing a Senate president.

Students continue to complain about parking, tuition, health issues...the list goes on and on. Perhaps if students would bother to vote for someone who'll represent their concerns, they would then have a valid reason to complain.

So, you didn't know anything about the candidates. Ask. Students need to take some responsibility for learning about the candidates. Student Government is our voice.

If we were to count ballots after Wednesday's voting, fewer than 600 students would be represented.

But there's still hope—the election continues today. Get out and vote!

Next year, let 'em stand

At the final Runnin' Rebel home game Saturday, members of the Delta Sigma Chi fraternity were ejected from the Thomas & Mack for standing up and cheering their team on to victory because boosters behind them couldn't see.

Basically, they were kicked out of a game for having school spirit—sometimes a rare quality at UNLV.

How can we compare to schools like Duke or Indiana when we don't even allow our students to express their support for the basketball team?

"Down in front," an article which appeared earlier this semester in *The Rebel Yell*, was actually a call for students to rise up in unity and stand to support the Runnin' Rebels. However, it was misinterpreted by many as a plea to sit down and remain subdued.

That is nonsense; in reality, would these boosters have a team or a university to contribute to if it weren't for the students?

Since the home season is over, this issue will blow over until next year, but will things change?

Maybe the seating structure should be adjusted so that students all sit in one section rather than at either end of the T&M.

Above and beyond that, there is a simple solution. If you can't see because someone in front of you is standing or if you love the Runnin' Rebels, **STAND UP.**

The above is the opinion of The Rebel Yell. All other articles appearing on these pages reflect the opinions of the author.



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Schools should provide discipline

BY PHIL MAIORANO

Every night on the news there are stories about violent crimes being committed in our high schools across the country. What used to be a simple high school rivalry between two schools that was settled on the athletic field is now settled with gunfire. Not only is this violence directed towards the other school, but it is also directed towards the faculty and other students.

These crimes are appalling and it's hard to believe that teenagers are actually committing them. Four teenagers from Glen Ridge High School in New Jersey were indicted for sexually assaulting a retarded girl with a baseball bat and a broomstick. Audry Chasen a teacher at Junior High School 22 in New York City died from getting caught in the crossfire of students. And two high school students from Charleston, West Virginia were slain over buying beer.

This epidemic doesn't seem to be getting better by any means. Each year 150,000 crimes are committed in the nation's schools. In 1988, hostages were taken in 18 classrooms around the country. These are supposed to be the best years of one's life. To go to a place where a student must worry about their lives being put in jeopardy resembles a war zone more than a high school.

The key element of this ongoing dilemma is the lack of respect the students have for all forms of authority. The students do anything that they please because they know the teacher's hands are tied with bureaucratic restrictions that do not allow the teacher to apply proper discipline. If a student is caught cheating on a test, the parents do not discipline the child. Instead, they accuse the teacher of negligent behavior. The only lesson that is learned in school is that anarchy is tolerated.

The role models these kids have to look up to are

also a source for this juvenile delinquency. I asked several junior high students who their role models were and their answers shocked me. Several of them named Ice Cube, Ice-T and Axl Rose, two self-proclaimed gang members and an admitted heroine addict. It makes me wonder how these kids will ever live up to their heroes' standards. Not one teen said it was their father or mother who inspired them to work hard and be successful in life. One witless kid actually said, "Marky Mark is my idol." I responded with, "Yes, I could tell that by the way your pants sag, showing all the girls your interesting butt cleavage." I gave him a dollar and told him to buy a belt.

The way a child acts at school reflects the way that child is raised at home. I'm not condoning child abuse, but long gone are the days when a child would get in trouble at school because of fighting. Now, teenagers are shot, stabbed and killed over petty argument. I say let the teachers do what they see fit to retain an orderly classroom and teach the kids who are there to learn. The kids who are there causing all of the trouble should be dealt with accordingly. It is obvious that they are not being disciplined at home. There is one more point to make on this issue. Any student who threatens a teacher or brandishes a weapon on school property should be arrested and held accountable to the fullest extent of the law. If the laws are not strict enough, let's make them more severe for juveniles.

Schools should be a safe places for our children to go and learn the main aspects of life. When these aspects are "how to survive lunch period," the learning process is altered. The school system has got to clean out the trash that plagues these institutions, or our future generations will be farther behind intellectually than any of us could ever possible imagine.

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.



Money shouldn't be an educational motivator

As a baby boomer bumping 40, I enjoyed the article Tuesday about the baby buster generation—children of my contemporaries, children now entering their 20s.

It is true this generation will have to deal with problems left by previous generations and may be faced with being college graduates who work at low-paying, unrewarding McJobs. Though these are threats that my generation also faced to a certain extent, many of the hip-

pies of the '60s traded in their high ideals for a Rolex watch and a BMW.

This is where this new generation must make changes if our society is to develop into a safe, sane and secure civilization. We must stop equating growth with prosperity and stop equating prosperity with happiness. Growth is an increase in quantity, development is an increase in quality.

When economists finally learn the laws of physics, that nothing can expand indefinitely, then perhaps businesses will start recognizing that there is a line beyond the bottom line, that there are values greater than making a buck. We have glori-

fied material acquisition beyond all proportion.

There is nothing inherently wrong with wanting things, but that should not be the primary motivation for our existence. Nor should it be the primary motivation for getting a college degree. If one wants only to make a lot of money, he or she might just as well go to vocational school. Our college educations should make us more insightful, compassionate, generous, tolerant and capable of dealing with the myriad of problems confronting our civilization. If it merely trains us for a job, it has failed whether we get the job or not.

Gabrielle Renshaw