



Change the name of 'Convict Park' back to Tule Springs

by La Rae Bringham

Politicians wonder why the public has such negative views of them. They go their merry way doing those things they need to do to make themselves a lot of money, get power and be part of the 'old boy' network. What the public wants does not count a lot with them, although they all give lip service to the idea that they really do want to know what the public wants.

Terri Robertson has headed a committee for over three

years now to change the name of Floyd Lamb State Park back to Tule Springs. In that time she has gotten 6,000 names on petitions to have the name changed. The politicians ignored her. She tried many times to convince the state to change the name, but the best response she got was from Gov. Miller who said that Las Vegas had given the name to the park and unless someone in this part of the state indicated they wanted the state to change the name, he could do nothing.

She also went to the city council to try to get the name changed and was treated shamefully. She tried again to open it after a year had passed but the council refused to put it on the agenda.

Last week I went before the city council to express my reasons for changing the park's name.

Floyd Lamb is an ex-convict. He was caught red-handed taking bribes and was sent to prison.

This naming of the park for Floyd Lamb set a bad precedent and keeping it on the park sets a worse precedent. How many times has it been expressed at this university that students should not steal, lie or cheat to get a degree. If they do these things, something bad will happen to them. What happened to Floyd Lamb is that he has a state park named for him.

How can potential leaders of the state and nation believe that honesty is rewarded when

it is so glaringly obvious that being dishonest pays, in both money and in having a state park named after you?

Some people say this is a small thing, and maybe it is. But how can parents teach children to be honest and do the right thing if the example before them shows that it does not matter. The message this name sends to other people is that it does not pay to be honest. As a state and as a nation we can no longer afford this image.

are most effective in tandem. And yet, that isn't all we need to do.

Education is a major part of the solution. Our children need to learn alternative ways of solving conflicts — that simply reaching for a gun isn't the easy answer. We need to educate Americans about the responsibilities — and the risks — of handgun ownership, especially when small children are present. And I strongly believe that mandatory safety training for handgun purchasers is essential to reducing needless death and injury. We all must take driver's education before getting licenses to drive. Shouldn't we at least require that handgun owners understand how to safely operate their weapons?

The only obstacle to a safer nation is an extremist, vocal minority — like those who disrupted our presentation. It's time that the silent majority was heard.

Sarah Brady
Chair of Handgun Control

Dear editor,

I would like to thank Vince Roberts, Nicole Shaul, Heidi Nagel, Dean Koch and Lisa Yao for their comments in the "Student Spotlight" section of the February 13 issue of *The Rebel Yell*. It made us realize that we have to inform stu-

dents of the vast amount of things that we deal with on campus.

During this past semester, Student Government has done many things in the interest of the general student body and the university as a whole. For instance, from May of 1991, we have done the following:

- Remodeled the student government office complex, providing a new typing room for students and new mailboxes for all recognized student organizations, and a lecture note service.
- Provided budget support for a 24-hour hotline for drug, health and alcohol information, Multicultural Student Affairs, the UNLV/CSUN Preschool and KUNV Community/Campus Radio.
- Provided free scantrons, exam books and pencils for exam taking.
- Funded Career Day (opportunities/interviews for job-seeking students), the library for the extension of hours during finals week(s), the student shuttle service and jump-start battery service.
- Provided free legal council, free notary public service, and a free student phone.
- Provided current issue speakers, such as Jim and Sarah Brady on gun control, Helen Caldicott on nuclear testing, and Dr. Jawanza Kunjufu on Africa-American survival in the 21st century.
- Provided festivities for Homecoming week (dance, king/queen elections, float contests), sponsored dances for Back-

To-School, Homecoming, Halloween, Scavenger Hunt and Valentines Day. —Sponsored football tailgate parties, scavenger hunts, talent contests, comedy showcases, etc.

These are only a few of many services and support that Student Government has accomplished in less than one year. Please feel free to visit the Student Government offices in your student union. Keep in mind that your university experience depends on you and your involvement. Get involved in any way that you can. We are here for you!

Roderick Colebrook, President
UNLV Student Government

Dear editor,

After attending the "academic rally," I have a few questions. First, for those holding up the signs "Take back our university," who has taken the university and where did it go?

Did the Japanese buy the university? I don't think so! Education at UNLV has been a constant for several years while my tuition, on the other hand, has grown exponentially and parking has decreased in the same manner.

These "academics" who rally for Maxson (mostly people who work for him) are supporting a man who, after the Runnin' Rebs slaughtered Duke a couple of years ago, stated "We done

good." I'm not an English major, but I know that this is not a comment from an intelligent man. I would expect such language from some backwood hillbilly but not from a college president.

Another thing to ponder. Mr. Deacon states that basketball has only hindered UNLV in academics and reputation. I suppose that Deacon's department has turned down any money that was earned for UNLV by the basketball team in 9 consecutive NCAA tournament appearances as well as TV money from ABC and CBS.

I don't think so. This money, besides helping the education at UNLV, supports all of the remaining athletic programs. The profit from Runnin' Rebel basketball allows us to afford a football coach like Jim Strong as well as the new physical education projects currently underway.

Why is it such a sin to have a good basketball program? I don't see Duke, Arkansas, Georgetown, or UCLA worrying about it. They're enjoying the benefits of it.

So, to those who think that the Runnin' Rebels are the source of all our problems, come back to reality and have some fun once in a while. UNLV, go, fight, win.

Troy J. Miller
Senior, secondary education