

## Senate claims it wants accountability

Last Wednesday the Student Senate adopted Resolution 23-02, which put in motion a five-year weaning process for the students' funding for *The Rebel Yell*.

Under the new resolution, the paper will receive 8.7 percent of student fees allocated to Student Government (about \$45,000 this year); the figure drops to 7 percent in 1994; to 5.25 percent in 1995; to 3.5 percent in 1996; and finally to 1.75 percent in 1997. Assumably, the resolution's intent is to eliminate student funding of the newspaper after the 1997-98 school year. (However, the resolution never states this.)

It was the contention of some senators who spoke during the meeting that the newspaper needs to be more financially accountable to students.

But this cry for financial disclosure is nothing more than another attempt to advance the supposition that there exists some secrecy involving the newspaper's financial matters.

Under the system that had been in place the past two years, *The Rebel Yell* editor and business manager had been accountable to the Rebel Yell Advisory Board.

At the board's open meetings, full financial reports were given by the paper's chief financial officer. The Senate president was the advisory board chair and there was a senator on the board. All records from those meetings, as well as all financial records, have been—by law—open.

So these requests for some new accountability ring hollow. Accountability already exists. It could be that the objective here is something more than accountability.

Sen. David Turner stressed more than once during the meeting that the Senate has no desire to control the paper's content. But Turner, who said he was treated disrespectfully by an editor of *The Rebel Yell*, seems to believe he is entitled to more answers than the average student.

When Sen. Patrick Smith was commissioned by Student Body President Joel Kostman to complete a "report" on the activities and policies of *The Rebel Yell*, the report turned into a search for damaging information.

The failures of the paper documented by Smith included:

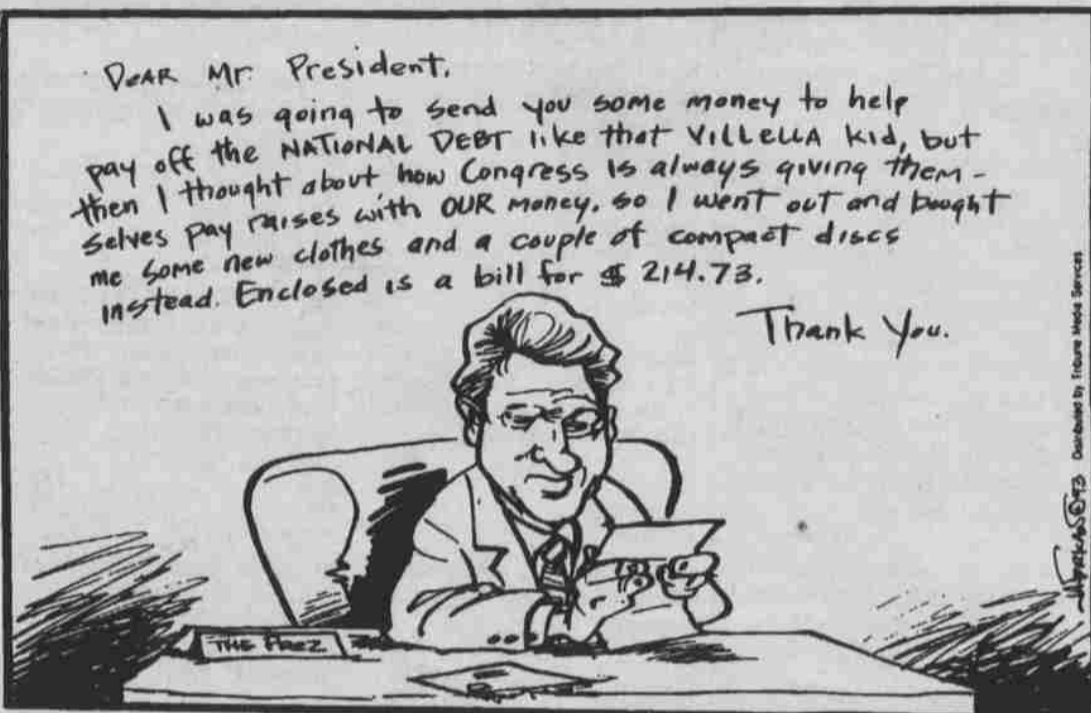
- The problems one advertiser claimed he had had in 1991 and 1992. Smith did not mention that the advertiser in question has a good working relationship with the current advertising staff.
- *The Rebel Yell* received over 5,000 extra copies of one issue earlier this semester. This was a major point of contention with the Senate; the Student Government Organizations Board's newsletter even claims to have pictures of the extra papers—as if to prove some secret conspiracy of *The Rebel Yell* to bilk itself by adding unnecessarily to its own expenses. As it turns out, the extra papers were the result of an error by the printer. The paper—and therefore, students—didn't pay a red cent for the error.

There seems to be a concerted effort by some to advance the theory that *The Rebel Yell* is a cavalier outfit, existing for its own concerns.

*The Rebel Yell* exists now, as it always has, to serve students. It is the students to whom the paper should be accountable, not the misrepresentative Student Senate.

Let's not use accountability as euphemism for regulation.

*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.*



## 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.



## Victim victimized

With regard to Jay Sapovits' sourgrapes "commentary" on the "snub" of UNLV by Mr. J.R. Rider, my family and I have this to offer:

Rider thanked his friends and family for supporting his career because they earned this type of tribute. UNLV earned nothing from him. To the contrary, UNLV placed this fine young man in a totally untenable academic situation, surrounding him with an unethical instructor and tutor.

He was scandalized at a critical moment in his college career and made to suffer national humiliation. You and your kind would have to be stupid, ignorant and crazy to expect Rider to pay homage to his enemies and detractors.

Your diatribe against this gentleman is a classic case of victimizing the victim. Whatever stipend he received for his talents was no more than what he would have received at any other university. You begrudge him the benefits he received under his sports scholarship, even his food. They were not free,

not welfare, but an exchange for his unquestionable, great basketball talents.

Rider doesn't owe anyone at the university a thing. Tarkanian and UNLV owes him, and all of the athletes, an apology for not providing an atmosphere conducive to academic achievement, precluding any non-student status. The administrators have that responsibility, not the students.

UNLV owes Rider and all the basketball players, including Larry Johnson, a big thank you for adding millions of dollars to the campus coffers and causing game sellouts.

Rider was the Junior College Player of the Year before entering UNLV, and no doubt his super talents would have propelled him to success without UNLV. As it is, he is a great success in spite of UNLV putting stumbling blocks in the way of minority students.

Remember, Rider didn't come to UNLV with his hat in his hand, begging for an opportunity. He was recruited. You appear to be a jealous bigot and a poison-pen character assassin completely

devoid of any literary skills.

Although your prejudice is more sub-surface than Marge Schott, you have the same evil essence and are probably jealous of these super "million-dollar niggers."

Your yellow journalism "commentary" on Rider was not only deplorable, it was a disgrace to the university.

Lloyd Wright and Family  
Henderson

## Ladies' night is gentlemen's night

I am writing in regard to Phil Maiorano's opinion piece "Ladies' Night promotes discrimination against men" in the April 15 issue of *The Rebel Yell*.

In his article, Maiorano notes: "There is such a thing as 'ladies' night' but there is no such thing as 'gentlemen's night'."

Think again, Phil, unfortunately in places like that every night is gentlemen's night.

Andrea Fulton  
Junior, civil engineering

## Wild Kingdom

By Anthony Rubino, Jr.

