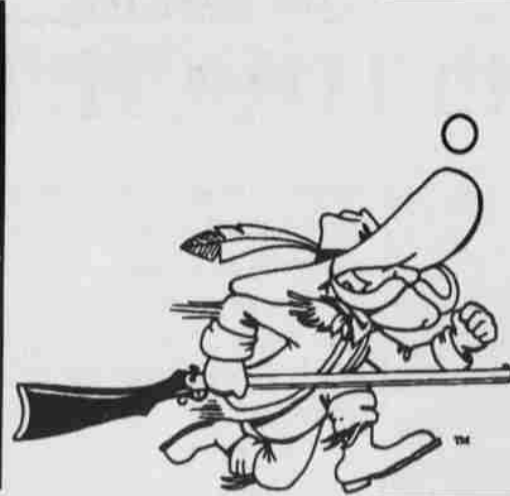


# PERSPECTIVE

REBEL  
YELL



“Never say  
never to a crazy  
man.”  
- Bill Consolacion

## Faceless Chirikuri, sad but true tragedy

From The Sap

By Jay Sapovits



It used to be the NCAA was the only national organization interested in UNLV. Now it's the FBI. And despite the University Police and Metro concluding the death of 23-year-old Srinivas Chirikuri was accidental, questions and bitter thoughts about UNLV remain.

At least that's what the FBI says.

First the questions about the death.

Chirikuri (pronounced exactly as it's spelled) was missing personal items when he was found outside the laboratory on July 22. Chirikuri's wallet and gold chain weren't with him.

There were also strange chemical's on Chirikuri's clothing. Even though Chirikuri was said to have been working with those same chemicals, that has yet

to be proven.

Also, why would he lie? Wouldn't Chirikuri have diminished his chance to live by not telling doctors what chemicals he had spilled on himself? Does anyone believe Chirikuri let pride stand in the way of life? Put yourself in Chirikuri's shoes. Would you be in a face-saving state of mind or more worried about living?

Unfortunately putting yourself in Chirikuri's shoes is very difficult. As gruesome as this incident was, it's difficult to relate to Chirikuri.

Chirikuri's facelessness is unmatched by any other UNLV student, especially in death. Even in the *R-J* the next day, after murder was the only theory, Chirikuri merited only the front page of the second section.

Chirikuri was a graduate student. Most of the UNLV student body are undergraduates and a good portion are part-timers.

Chirikuri came from India to get an education. Most of the enrollment at UNLV hasn't travelled 20 miles for an education.

Chirikuri was not a name on campus. He wasn't Joe Fraternity or Jane Sorority, always hanging out in the Moyer Student Union. If he hadn't been burned, only a handful of students would know him.

Chirikuri worked with lasers and chemicals. Most UNLV students take the core chemistry requirement and sprint away from the "far" side of campus.

Chirikuri's cause has been taken up by the Indian community. But they're hardly loud enough to affect public opinion, especially about someone few of us can associate with, Srinivas Chirikuri.

It's unknown what the FBI will conclude. Any suggestion as to what should be done in either case, accident or murder, would be premature.

Jay Sapovits is the Perspective Editor of the *Rebel Yell*. His column appears every Tuesday and Thursday.

## Lots of parking, but not for free

To The Point

By Nick Haley



Would you like to park closer to campus? Sure we all would, but it could never happen, could it? UNLV is, after all, 90 percent commuting students out of a total population of 20,000. No matter how efficiently our available space is used, most of us will have to park a long distance from the classrooms.

With this in mind, I still can't shake the feeling that our current arrangement for parking is the best one possible. Last Tuesday, I arrived on campus at 8:40 a.m. Walking a third of a mile to class didn't bother me—it was my own fault for arriving late.

And besides, that isn't particularly far to walk on a campus anyway. Compared with other Southwestern universities, UNLV has

rather abundant parking.

Due to limited space, students at the University of Texas and Arizona State park as far as a half mile or more from campus. Students at UCLA, a campus resembling a country club with buildings, walk enormous distances just strolling between classes. For its size, UNLV is relatively compact and easy to traverse.

Finding a spot wasn't that difficult, either. Sure, I was right across the street from Von's, but it didn't take long to find and I was confident there would be a spot. A guaranteed spot is more than many schools like Texas and the University of Southern California can offer.

And the price (free) of parking at UNLV is certainly not a problem. At ASU, parking for a year costs students anywhere from \$45 to \$105, and is divided into nine color-coded lots, all requiring a different sticker. At USC, residents and commuters must pay over \$230

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## Peace in West Bank touchy issue for Israelis, Palestinians

Maryanne Dawicki  
Staff Columnist

The current peace talks between the Israelis and the Palestinians leave most with mixed feelings; while the prospect of peace breeds optimism, the notion of peace in the Middle East seems an impossibility. Members on both sides fear that the secretive nature of the talks will leave them in a vulnerable position.

Represented by Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres, and a high ranking PLO officer, the two sides are debating the prospects for mutual recognition and Palestinian self-rule.

The first agreement, involving the PLO's and Israel's recognition of each other, is essential to the suc-

cessful resolution of the second issue involving the Palestinian autonomy package.

The second agreement, if reached, would allow Palestinians "political authority" over the Gaza Strip and the city of Jericho on the West Bank. Within each area, the self-ruling authority would have control over education, health, and criminal justice, with a police force to deal with internal security.

For the optimistic, the current peace talks represent efforts towards a peaceful co-existence. If the current talks conclude successfully, this could restart the entire peace process. A whole new relationship between Israel and the Palestinians now seems possible.

However, such optimism is accompanied by pes-

simism. Not surprisingly, there have been numerous protests by Jews living in Israel and the United States. There is the fear among Israeli hardliners that, if Palestinians are allowed a foothold, it is only a matter of time before they capture all of Israel.

A.M. Rosenthal in the *Wall Street Journal*, exemplifies this position when he questions the rationality behind an independent Palestine "run by a terrorist organization that has slaughtered Israelis at home and abroad." I doubt Israel has much to fear. Their forces will maintain security in the area. In fact, the Israelis have much to gain from the current agreement.

Despite claims of autonomy and self-rule, there

is no question that Israel will remain in control of the two areas. Palestinian laws will be subject to Israeli law, and Israeli forces will maintain a military presence, even if they leave the areas in question. By allowing Palestinian self-rule, Israel gains domestic peace. In addition, by assigning Palestinians to the two regions, Israel gains a greater degree of security.

Obviously, the current agreement does little to ease the fears of those who have lived with the Israeli threat for years. They have a right to question the motives behind the current negotiations. While Arafat seeks Arab support in the form of full economic and political cooperation, it is unlikely he will receive full Arab backing. In fact, many view the recognition of Israel as

"treachery". Going beyond the issue of Israeli recognition, others argue that Arafat has settled for too little from Israel.

The current agreement represents a small and symbolic set of concessions. The fact that self-rule on the West Bank is limited to the small town of Jericho is indicative of this point. It is very much in Israel's self-interest to grant Palestinians self-rule. In exchange for peace and security, Israel loses nothing. They have little need for the regions in question. In exchange for autonomy, larger Palestinian goals are being undermined; this will inevitably serve the interests of Israel.

Maryanne Dawicki is a political science major and *Rebel Yell* columnist.