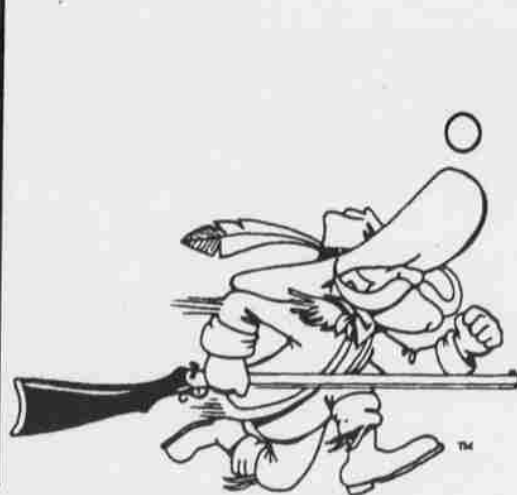


# PERSPECTIVE

REBEL  
YELL



"Oh yeah! We did it!"  
- Bill Consolacion  
Phillies 4, Braves 3  
(10 inn)

## Old and new issues updated and addressed

### FROM THE SAP

JAY SAPOVITS

Many issues need to be addressed. The timeliness of these stories doesn't allow for elongated columns. So, for the first time this semester, read my perspective on major issues of the world, the states, and UNLV.

...

There are no more innocent people in Somalia.

For whatever the reason the United States went there—feeding starving kids isn't believable anymore—a decision must be made.

Either the United States—not the United Nations—pull out, or attack vehemently and kill Somalis—no exceptions.

Yes, the United States wants to find warlord Mohamed Farrah Aidid, but at what cost.

To allow the desecration of an American soldier, and even

more the attitude of triumph by the Somali people, is a national disgrace.

Ask the family of the soldier whose body appeared on the cover of the *USA TODAY* last Tuesday, what America should do. The soldier, pale from death, was tied at the hands, bloodied, and caravanned around the streets of Mogadishu by Somalis.

He was dead. As Americans, we must feel his pain.

Six American soldiers are being held hostage. And if once America had no mission in Somalia, now we do.

That mission is not "feed the world."

Nor should it be.

...

Tammy Faye Bakker got remarried last Sunday to a Kansas developer. Just the thought of her (you fill in the blank). I guess some guys have all the luck.

...

On October 12 the two most famous police officers in the world will go to jail, Laurence Powell

and Stacey Koon. For the next two and a half years, their families and friends can think about all the what-ifs....What if Rodney King just pulled over and complied with police procedure...What if they hadn't been tried in double jeopardy...What if the media didn't show the filmed footage thousands of times on television...What if they didn't use the brutal force they said the L.A.P.D. trained them to use?

...

If Joey Buttafuoco pleads guilty to one count of statutory rape of Amy Fisher, do they get to share a cell?

She must like him a lot, as evident by a bullet in Joey's wife Mary Jo's head.

Also, she is 19 now, so any consensual sex they have would be legal.

Interesting.

...

James Porter, once a Roman Catholic priest, pleaded guilty to molesting 28 children—boys and girls—while in a Massachusetts

parish.

Funny, I don't recall the Pope addressing this issue when he was in the States.

...

On a lighter note, and on the homefront, the following thoughts have spun through my head. Enjoy my thoughts, as they are me, and I wouldn't be complete if I wasn't enjoyed.

...

A few issues back I criticized teachers for not going into the real world and taking chances in life. My belief remains the same, however I did get interesting feedback from the education students at UNLV.

One in particular issued me a threat. His name is Wesley Allison.

Allison wrote: "If I shall ever meet Mr. Sapovits he shall require a steak for his blackened eye, a bandage for his nose and quite possibly a truss."

Harsh words, yes.

Action, hardly.

So when I found out Allison was running for the Student Sen-

ate, I became impressed. Not only did he put in the effort to voice his opinion to the student newspaper, but now he wants to do something to change the course of history at UNLV.

In Tuesday's *Yell* Allison said, "I ran because I didn't think there was enough thought being put into the way Student Government is spending its money."

Well it's time someone with harsh words gets into the student senate. Assuming Allison votes for himself, he'll at least get two votes.

...

A horrific mistake was made by the *Yell* last Tuesday. Listed under the Homecoming Kings was Shane Weiss. Unfortunately, Ms. Weiss is running for Homecoming Queen.

Trust me, she is definitely a woman, and to make up for the error we made, I will be casting my ballot for her today.

It's a difficult decision since I've known both Jennifer Cole and Nicole Lucas my entire college career. But they'll get over it.

## UNLV professor offers view on university politics

BY EVAN BLYTHIN

I have been working at UNLV for a quarter of a century. Every once in a while I step out of my particular niche, put on presidential airs and take a walk toward the presidency of the campus. I say, in essence, "If I were president...."

I'd say it's time for a change. It doesn't take a pointy-headed industrialist to see that things are not going well for us: the legislature has battered higher education, the Regents are often belligerent and silly, and the faculty seem incapable of bettering the situation.

The first concern of the president should be the legislature. The legislature must be moved to a more fair assessment of the economy and must move toward a fair funding of this state's educational system. We can't afford to take another major hit from irked, ignored and ignorant legislators.

In the last legislative session, the Governor and the legislature told us that Nevada was poor. They lied. According to the economically-conservative newspaper, the *Las Vegas Re-*

*view-Journal*, Nevada had a thriving economy in 1992. While gold and silver prices were nothing to brag about, gold production increased 14% and silver production went up by 10% (*R-J*, 1/2/93); 16 of Nevada's banks were profitable and third quarter bank profits hit \$253 million—the fifth strongest increase among U.S. banks (*R-J*, 1/29/93); in December, statewide taxable sales were up 10% over the same month in the previous year and profits for the last eight months of 1992 were better than for the last eight months of 1991 (*R-J*, 2/19/93). To finish the picture, Nevada's major hotel-casinos showed a large gain in net profits in 1992 and pocketed \$848.6 million (*R-J*, 2/24/93).

This state's business and political interests cannot very well go into other states arguing that gambling is good for educational and social programs when the educational and social programs of Nevada suffer in periods of state wealth. Whatever board positions or economic vested interests he may hold, the president should be educating and moving the legislators of this state regarding the need for and the needs of higher education.

If we're going to make solid advances toward the 21st century,

we also need to make changes in the selection of Regents. Over the years, the Regents of this university system have demonstrated a remarkable variance. Some Regents have worked and fought hard for the university. Lilly Fong, for example, not only gave her time, but she and her husband, Wing, gave as much as they could from their own personal resources. We've also had some real bananas for Regents. Some have been outright buffoons, others made money through their public office and yet others used the office of Regent in order to obtain political position.

We could offer our Regent positions to the highest bidders, with a minimum bid of \$1 million. Such a proposal guarantees that the Regents would not be the sort who needed to make money off the public system of higher education.

Such a proposal will not guarantee the demise of political interest, but at least such interest would have to pay dearly for its position: no matter how bad a Regent might be, at least the system would have some benefit—\$12 million for each full complement of Regents. If we set terms of office at five years, then every five years the system could count on a \$12 million influx of funding. The

Regent fund could be used to supply endowed chairs for the university system. Such endowments would help support lower student/faculty ratios and facilitate a higher level of research and recognition.

The faculty are also a problem. In a recent message to the faculty senate, a colleague noted that the faculty seemed to be becoming increasingly bovine. I agree. For example, as we entered the fall of 1993, the higher educational systems in Nevada had an important decision to make: Do we curtail enrollments because we don't have the money for faculty?

The junior college followed the formula for teacher/student loads and, because of legislative parsimony, many students were unable to get classes. At UNLV, the doors were opened, a course of action that led to over-crowded classes and faculty who are unable to give the kind of time they should to their students. What we've done is exhibit the ability to be cheap.

As we all know, UNLV is known as one of the best bargains in higher education. That means we are cheap. The faculty are overworked, the students are not given individual care. Do we really want to be known as a cheap university?

The faculty are expected to research and publish in order to obtain their positions, to obtain promotion and to receive merit—and yet they receive virtually no state supported research funds. While the faculty are expected to go to scholarly conventions to share information, the UNR system gives its faculty about \$50 each, per year, for travel. No public-sector industry would engage in such a foolhardy practice. In the real world, if you want something, you pay for it. The situation persists because the faculty are busy wading through overloaded classrooms, undersupported research tasks and rhetoric about how cheap we are.

The faculty are undersupported, tired, and bovine. The Regents and legislators are economically and politically suspect. We've had a bad economic biennium and morale is low. We can't afford another two years like the last two years.

We need a caucus of the shakers and movers. Administrators, faculty, Regents, legislators and students need to come together and make some decisions about our future course. We need to rise above our particular interests and see Faculty Member p.4