

Letters to the Editor

Vending machine problem common on campus

Dear Editor:

While reading your September 29th edition of *The Rebel Yell*, an article caught my eye. On page five, which was the opinion section, Jan Williams wrote a column regarding the problems with the vending machines around campus.

I am a three-year resident of UNLV's residence halls. Vending machine problems in the halls is not a new problem. Every vending machine in the residence halls have been empty since June.

I've talked to Status Vending, who provides the snacks, and got very little changed. Within two weeks, some of the machines had been filled. I have spoken up and not much has changed. I have contacted everyone and cannot get a straight answer. Maybe *The Rebel Yell* can help.

I would think working vending machines are not too much to ask for. Many students study at odd hours and should have snacks, via a vending machine, available to them.

What I don't understand is why we continue to do business with a company that is obviously not providing the service they are supposed to. Let's put the pressure on by contacting Joan Davis or Bill

Glass at UNLV purchasing at 895-0864 or 895-0859.

Keith Curtin
Junior

Oozeball Tournament big success

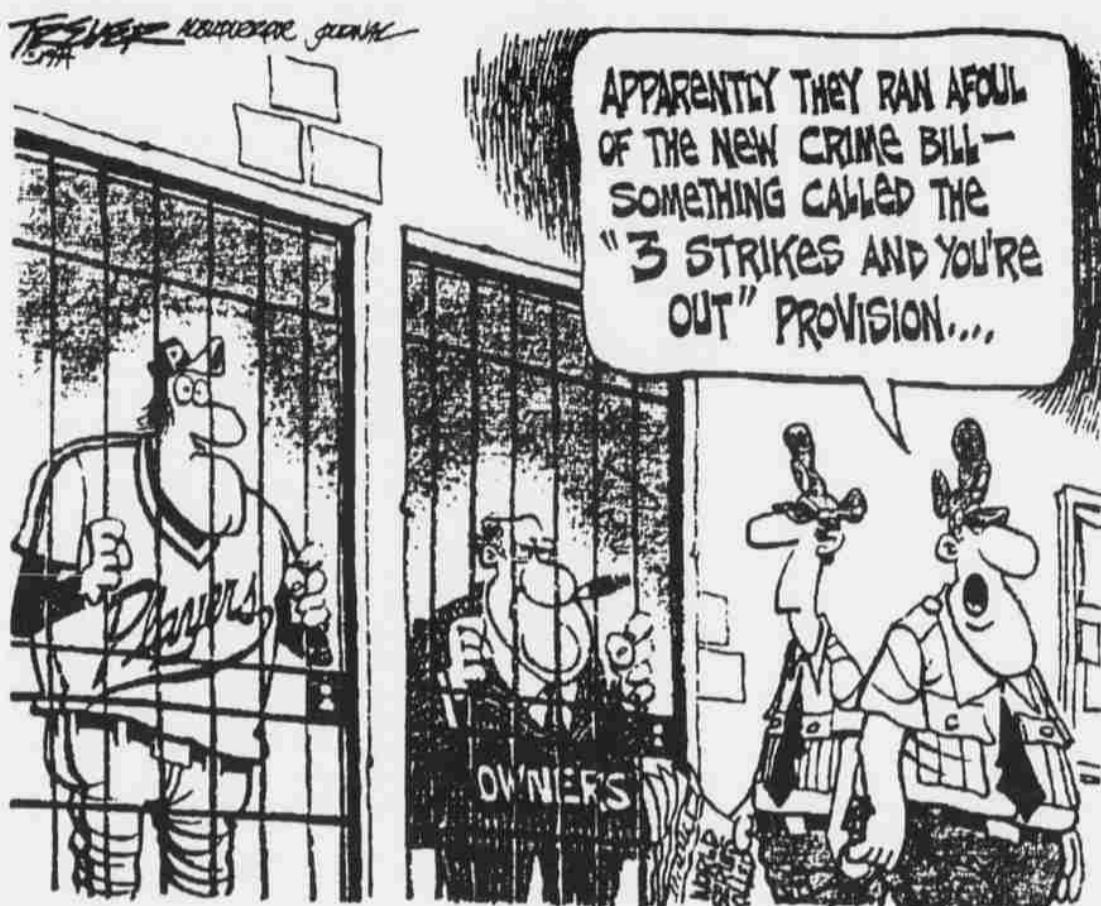
Dear Editor:

I would like to congratulate the UNLV Intramural Department and the UNLV Student Alumni Association for continuing, in grand style, the annual oozeball tournament. To my knowledge, UNLV has never had a more successful event to bring students from all walks of life together on to the friendly confines of campus.

I'm sure the participants from all 64 teams and the approximately 1,000 spectators will have a very special memory indelibly imprinted in their mind, clothes and body. These are the memories that make college the best time of our lives.

A job well done by B.J., Jeff and Carrie, and the rest of the intramural staff. Finally, a large "well done" to the Student Alumni Association volunteers who donated their time and energy to establishing and maintaining traditions at UNLV.

Carl D. Cook
Class of 1988
Assistant Director
Alumni Relations



From Capitalism to O.J.—My Thoughts

People across the land, from defense attorneys to laymen, have been concerned that O.J. Simpson will not get a fair trial due to his popularity and the media coverage of the event.



Column Right

DONOVAN STELTZNER

I disagree. With lawyers like Robert Shapiro and other attorneys, investigators, and support staff, O.J. will get justice. But some hapless soul who could not afford the Shapiros or the Abramsons to defend him probably won't even get close to the same quality of defense....

Like it or not, capitalism is the form of economic systems which gives all within it the opportunity to attain monetary success. In all other systems, there exists no middle classes—just the hyper-rich and the hyper-poor.

In the latter scenario, the hyper-rich tend not to reproduce as much, only enough to stabilize the size of the family, and the hyper-poor reproduce like rabbits, because wealth is defined in that cultural niche by the number of children that they have. Low and behold, the specter of most of the countries that are experiencing so-called "population problems".

Capitalist countries tend to have lower birth rates simply because people tend to have children only when they are financially comfortable enough to have them. They tend to conserve as much as possible, weighing possible gains against possible risk.

In non-capitalist nations, children are either subsidized by the government or are simply ignored, allowing malnutrition, disease, and famine to continue when it is not necessary, especially when the financial resource-

are there to aid in such problems....

At the UN. Population Conference, the vast majority of the media coverage focused on abortion and the debate that ensued surrounding a so-called 'universal' right to abortion. How strange.

Even if I were pro-choice, this is certainly not the first universal right that I would create. After all, if you think about it, the right to an abortion is meaningless without the right to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness—all of which we in the west consider to be "natural laws"....

People often wonder why professional sports players make so much money, while starting teachers barely squeak by on measly salaries. The answer, my friends, is simple. Professional sports players are few and far between. You can get teachers for a dime a dozen.

This is not intended to insult teachers, but simply to say that the role of sports players is so highly specialized that only a few can qualify. Compare over 3 million-plus teachers with about 700 professional basketball players and you get the picture....

It is curious that everyone I have met from outside of town thinks that Bob Stupak's Stratosphere Tower is a wonderful edifice that will compliment the Las Vegas skyline well. It is even more curious that every local that I have talked to thinks that it is a piece of trash.

I think I know why. The name "Bob Stupak" has a slightly unsavory connotation attached to it. If it were "Steve Wynn's Stratosphere Tower",

locals and the press alike would be worshipping the concrete structure on bended knee....

Why are African-Americans, when it comes to political matters, almost unified? This is quite strange, considering the cultural experiences and socio-economic levels of blacks are as varied as any other racial group in America.

Ninety-two percent of blacks in America vote Democratic as a matter of habit; no other racial group in the country is so heavily weighed in favor of one party. Out of the 39 members of the Congressional Black Caucus, only one—Congressman Gary Franks of Connecticut—is a Republican.

If I didn't know better, I might say that blacks were genetically predisposed to act in unanimity.

When the civil rights movement of the 1950s and 1960s culminated with the passage of civil rights legislation in 1964, Democrats capitalized on their ability to pass the bill, thus drawing the vast majority of blacks from the Republican Party.

This is where most were and had been since the days of reconstruction, despite the fact that blacks and other minorities were, for all intents and purposes, ignored and impugned by either party.

Only recently has the tide begun to turn to the "right." Is this a potential national trend, a sign of things to come?

I don't know, but what I can deduce is that, with the advent of such programs as Project 21, a primarily black conservative organization based in Washington, D.C., and the rising notoriety of black conservatives such as radio talk-show hosts and columnists Ken Hamblin and Armstrong Williams, economist Dr. Walter Williams of George Mason University, economist Dr. Thomas Sowell, fellow of the Hoover Institute at Stanford University, and Kay James, board member of the Colorado-based Focus on the Family, the foundation is being laid for a return of many blacks to the conservative fold—and, perhaps, to the Republican Party.

—Donovan Steltzner is an opinion columnist at *The Rebel Yell*.

Irsfeld

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one. Irsfeld has ties to Maxson, who is unpopular in basketball circles. So, blame it on Irsfeld. This way, Maxson's guilt is implied and you have your sacrificial lamb. With Irsfeld banished to the English department, "Contractgate" is closed. At least that is what the other principal players hope.

Massimino and Weaver still have to await the ethics commission's findings. The way things have gone, the commission will probably blame Irsfeld. They will proclaim that there wasn't a conspiracy—Irsfeld was the lone gunman.

If justice is to be served, everyone should receive the same punishment Irsfeld, a very minor

player in the scandal, has received. That would mean demotions for everybody. Weaver should be demoted from athletic director to chair of the physical education department. Massimino should be demoted from head coach of the men's basketball team to head coach of an intramural basketball squad.

That is ridiculous you say. Well, so is Irsfeld's demotion. Don't hold your breath waiting for anyone else involved in the scandal to suffer any consequences. And don't expect to see Irsfeld at any basketball games in the near future.

Behind this door, John Irsfeld got a raw deal.

—Christopher Mitchell is an opinion columnist at *The Rebel Yell*.

Dorms

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the opposite sex in the room and don't want pass interference in their game plan.

Each suite is responsible for keeping the bathroom clean, and when one walks into the bathroom, it's obvious how successful the suite was at keeping it clean, whether it's pubic hair around the toilet, or a layer of scum that Mr. Bubbles took one look at and ran for cover down the drain.

The most important relationship inside the dorm is between roommates. These two people have to live with each other for a long time. That means putting up with odd habits (like playing music really loud) to downright strange behavior.

One guy liked to leave his computer on all night. It was monochrome and created a dull green glare in the middle of the night that turned the room into

the Emerald City. Eventually, he was asked to turn it off when not in use.

With all the interaction going on in the dorm, everyone has to try it. Ultimately, it may not be the home for everyone, but there's something invaluable about the time spent there.

—Andrew Marx is an opinion columnist at *The Rebel Yell*.

'The Rebel Yell' Encourages Government Participation

The Rebel Yell encourages all students to take an active part in student government.

A part of your student fees goes to student government every semester.

Use your voice and attend the weekly student senate meetings. They are held in room 202 on the second floor of the Moyer Student Union.

It's your money UNLV—make sure it is spent correctly.

UNLV Student Senate Meeting Schedule

Oct. 10, 1994	6 p.m.	Room 202	MSU
Oct. 17, 1994	6 p.m.	Room 202	MSU
Oct. 24, 1994	6 p.m.	Room 202	MSU
Nov. 7, 1994	6 p.m.	Room 202	MSU