

**The \$10 Gourmet**

**Brinks Crazy Cantina**

BY SCOTT JEFFREY OSBAND  
STAFF WRITER

Are you constantly checking your wallet for money to go out and eat?

Do you feel you deserve more than having to wait in some grungy buffet line or breathing fumes in your car at a drive-up window?

Well, didn't you know that Las Vegas is a poor man's haven! OK... almost. This week I visited Brink's Crazy Cantina, and wow, what a bargain.

Brink's Crazy Cantina has been a destination for UNLV students for years, with unbelievable deals like All-You-Can-Eat Fajitas for \$7.95 and make your own Mexican combo platters from \$5.95.

Brinks is a small, cozy hide-out on Tropicana and Eastern, where drinks are served in mason jars and metal fajita stands decorate each table.

Brinks is a come-as-you-are restaurant; you seat yourself, take some peanuts from the barrel, and if you ordered Sizzling Fajitas, take your butt to the soup & salad bar.

The service was prompt and friendly. The waitress greeted me with chips and salsa before bring me a mixed drink from their quaint but full bar. I wished it was Monday, because of the Monday night football deal, \$1.25 margaritas and bottled beer.

I ordered the two item combo (\$5.95) that includes Mexican rice and refried beans. The choices were difficult: enchiladas, tacos, tostadas, or tamales. And if that was not hard enough, you have your choice of meats or cheese.

After careful consideration, I picked a chicken taco and cheese enchilada to grace my plate. Man, was I surprised! The waitress had to bring an additional plate to hold the generous portions.

**Did You Know**  
Did you know that four ounces or one scoop of guacamole has more saturated fat than two McDonalds Big Macs... This week's "Did you know?" comes from Sean Davidson of North Las Vegas.

Your right Sean, the avocado has about 115 gram of fat and the burgers have 65 grams.

If you have a "Did You Know?" Send it to The \$10 Gourmet c/o The Rebel Yell, 4505 S. Maryland Parkway, L.V., NV 89154-2011.

The flour tortilla soft taco was stuffed with fresh, grilled white-meat chicken, lettuce and grated cheese. That was a meal by itself. My salsa topped cheese enchilada, along with the rice and beans, filled the second plate, screaming for a doggie bag.

The guy next to me got the famous "All-you-can-eat-Sizzling Fajitas" (\$7.95), which comes with your choice of chicken, beef, pork, fish or, for an additional dollar, fresh shrimp. All the selections are sauteed with onions, green peppers and offer corn or flour tortillas. Sorry Kojak, no take-homes. But trust me, you will not leave there hungry.

Brinks offers a host of great Mexican food at more than reasonable prices. On the \$10 Gourmets overall value scale of 1-10, Brinks Crazy Cantina gets a 10! You get prompt and friendly service, a great selection, and a fun atmosphere.

And if that's not enough, they also offer student and faculty discounts. Just show them your UNLV ID, and get \$2.00 off at dinner and \$1.00 off at lunch.

Brinks Crazy Cantina is located at 2850 E. Tropicana (702) 456-3023. Reservations are not required.

**'Bruise' Leaves its Mark**

BY SHARON GERRIE  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Consider a bruise. It's a hurt. It leaves a mark. It stays tender even after the discoloration is gone.

You don't miss work for a bruise. You don't miss life for it. And sometimes it stays with you, hurting, touching everything you do. Such is the case of Kayla, Simone and Jodi, sisters brought together after the death of their mother in Nicole Thomas' *Color of Bruise*.

Thomas' play puts two days in the life of three sisters immediately following a funeral service for their mother under a microscope. We find they are flawed women with a love-hate memory of their mother. The love she withheld from them has kept all three from valuing themselves.

The result is a series of failed relationships between the sisters, their husbands, lovers and children. When Kayla, the oldest, tells her husband, "I love you as much as I'm able," she verbalizes, the check all three have on their feelings.

*Color of Bruise* has a rhythm like a heartbeat, thanks to the talents of the performers, Ginnie Barnson (Kayla), Wendy Bagger (Simone) and Shannon Hammermeister (Jodi). Each is well cast and a strong actress. Their task of making the characters familiar and yet different is ably accomplished.

Supporting the sisters are Steven Fales (Frank), married lover of Jodi and tenant on the family farm, Michael Bunin (Carl), the real estate dynamo husband of Kayla, Tasha Anne James (Elinia, wife to Frank), and Keli Crawford (Beth, teenage daughter of Simone).

Bunin, as Carl, plays the role of realist with humor and savvy. He knows how to cut his losses and move on down the road. Fales and James as the Mexican ten-

ants, Frank and Elinia, have some problems with accent consistency, but in all, they get the job done.

James delivers one of the best lines in the show, "The loss of a friend is greater than the loss of a love." Crawford, as the 15-year-old Beth, steals the show. She plays the child/woman with insight and vulnerability. Crawford takes her character from innocent to urbane in a blink.

*Color of Bruise* was written by Las Vegas Nicole Thomas, now in her third year of the UNLV Playwriting Program. Her play, for the most part, flows easily with conversational dialogue.

However, by the second act,

when all the psychological demons were let out of the closet, we were ready to hear something more than a rehash of the first act. We got the point.

Perhaps moving the food fight that closes the show higher up in the act would have given the characters time to show us what happens when all ones emotional skirts are let down.

The play was directed by Frederick L. Olson, with Katrina Hertfelder as Costume Designer, Nate Santucci as Lighting Designer and Kris Van Ripper as Set Designer.

*Color of Bruise* played through Oct. 23 at the Black Box Theatre in the Alta Ham Fine Arts Hall.

**Recycled Fashion**  
Buy, Sell & Trade

Jonas, lead singer of MJC Recording artist, the skeletones

**Buffalo EXCHANGE**  
new & recycled fashions since 1974

4110 S. Maryland Parkway at Flamingo by Tower Records

a cut above.

haircut includes shampoo & conditioner  
UNLV Special  
**\$5.95**  
thru Dec

Valid Until November 30, 1994

no appointment necessary

Runnin' Rebel Plaza  
4550 S. Maryland Pkwy  
795-3669  
mon-th 9am-9pm  
sat 9am-5pm, sun 10am-6pm

**we care hair**  
QUALITY HAIR CARE - AFFORDABLY PRICED

**ORANGE AND BLACK BALLOON BOUQUETS**  
**\$6.50 DOZ**

**BLACK WITCHES or MULTI-COLORED, CLOWN WIGS from \$7.50 EACH**

**SPIDER WEBBING 69¢**

**TIGHT LEOTARDS 1/2 OFF** Excluding Men's & Fishnets

Capture the **HALLOWEEN SPIRIT**

•Paper & Plastic Plates, Napkins, Centerpieces, Invitations •Party Horns & Hats •Hawaiian Leis & Luau Supplies • Confetti Party Blowouts & Flavors •Doilies •Garlands •Birthday Candles •All Occasion Banners •Pinatas •Party Streamers •Crepe Paper •Tissue Paper

**10% OFF ALL MERCHANDISE**  
(Excluding costume rentals, balloon bouquet items and other advertised specials)

**DISCOUNT PARTY CENTER • MAGIC MANSION**  
4702 Maryland Pkwy • LV • 736-0601 or 732-1714