

Editorial

Higher Education Trip: Waste of Student Funds

Several weeks ago, the UNLV student senate passed a resolution set forth by Student Body President Stephanie Boixo to send seven students to Nevada Higher Education Day in Carson City.

Although Higher Education Day may sound like an important leadership conference, it is little more than a barbecue with legislators.

While it is important for UNLV's student government to establish a dialogue with legislators at the state level, Higher Education Day is an expensive field trip that will not benefit the students of UNLV. To send seven student leaders to a glorified barbecue is hardly spending money wisely.

To make matters worse, the number of students that made the trip, which took place yesterday, jumped from an already high number of seven to an astronomical 17. The students of UNLV paid for 17 members of student government to fly to Carson City to enjoy a day-long barbecue.

To spend money to fly to Carson City for a useless barbecue is an unconscionable act. In a year that saw student activities sponsored by CSUN reach an all-time low, this is hardly the way to end the academic year.

The Rebel Yell believes the trip was a waste of money and feels it shows the irresponsible nature of many involved in student government.

'Rebel Yell' to Meet Student Government in Softball Sunday

Sunday marks an annual right of spring as *The Rebel Yell* meets student government in our yearly grudge match softball contest.

It will be a day filled with fun and good times. *The Rebel Yell* invites all students to attend and pick their side in this annual battle for softball supremacy.

The game is 11 a.m. Sunday at the Rebel Diamond, the home of the UNLV softball team.

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.

The Rebel Yell

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR SHOULD BE TYPED, DOUBLE-SPACED AND FEWER THAN 300 WORDS. THEY MUST INCLUDE NAME, ADDRESS AND TELEPHONE NUMBER. WRITERS AFFILIATED WITH THE UNIVERSITY OF NEVADA, LAS VEGAS MUST INCLUDE CLASS AND MAJOR, OR FACULTY OR STAFF POSITION. LETTERS ARE SUBJECT TO EDIT FOR LENGTH AND CLARITY.

Student Government Can Be Run Effectively

Although this year has been a down year for UNLV's student government, it has not always been that way. All students have to do to see that it can be run effectively is look back one year to last year's administration.

Serving in his second term as UNLV's student body president, Joel Kostman went the distance for the students at this university. Not only was he an effective lobbyist in Carson City, but Kostman also realized that the students were indeed the reason he held office.

The reason Kostman was such an effective president? It is simple: experience. Before becoming the top dog at CSUN, Kostman served as a student senator for two years, he was the vice-chairman of the Rules and Ethics Committee and served as the Director and Assistant Director of the Office of Student Information. By the time he became student body president, Kostman had a solid grasp of the whole system.

Kostman also truly served the students of UNLV. During his two terms, Kostman created a student's Bill of Rights, gained improved seating for students at UNLV basketball and football games and even abolished the \$3 parking fee for students at Sam Boyd Stadium.

It is easy to see that Kostman accomplished a great deal while serving the students as their student body president. But perhaps one of the biggest accomplishments Kostman was respon-

Straight From the Gully



SCOTT GULBRANSEN

sible for was the streamlining of student government. Under his administration, no money was completely wasted as it has been under current president Stephanie Boixo. Kostman would spend money on student events but those events were attended by a great number of UNLV students. He never spent \$11,000 on a

debate that only 20 people attended like this year's president has done. Kostman even said "I'd even try to get the lowest price on paper clips that was possible."

Not everyone liked Kostman as president. But even his most outspoken opponents could not deny that he did do a good job as UNLV's student body leader. He made 12 campaign promises and accomplished 11 of them in his two years.

Boixo also made campaign promises including increasing safety on UNLV's campus. Can she say at the end of her term that she succeeded?

Certainly not. Kostman elevated student government, with the help of the student senate during his terms, to a new level of productivity. In the past year, his successor has torn down that structure that must now be built back up. But student government has been, and will continue to be, an important piece of campus life. Just because it has had a down year do not turn your back on it.

With the right people, CSUN can again live by its motto of

"students serving students."

Yesterday marked the end of an era at *The Rebel Yell*. As mentioned in this column a couple of weeks ago, Sports Editor Paul Gutierrez has taken a position at *Sports Illustrated* and flew to the Big Apple yesterday.

My hope is that the next sports editor at the *Yell* has the drive and determination that Gutierrez showed in his three years as the paper. We'll miss you Paul.

Last weekend marked the passing of one of sports broadcasting's greatest members—Howard Cosell.

Cosell made a name for himself as the premiere boxing commentator during the 1970s and was also one of the men who made *Monday Night Football* into a mainstay on American television.

In his later years, Cosell became a controversial figure because of some racial comments he made regarding a black athlete. Although his political views may have gone astray in his later life, Cosell was a broadcasting legend that will not soon be forgotten.

Next week will mark my last column at *The Rebel Yell*. I know some of you will celebrate that fact but graduation is upon me and it's time to move on.

Next week's column will be a good one so don't miss it!

—Scott Gulbransen is the Opinion Editor, for one more week, at *The Rebel Yell*.

Letters to the Editor

Lesbian Mad at 'Yell'

To the Editor:

Excuse me Mr. Editor Scott Gulbransen! As an Asian-American-Feminist-Lesbian I do support all ethnic groups. Especially when they are under attack by articles written by bigot editors from *The Rebel Yell*.

I am also responding to David Kanaan's article "Mexico Showing its True Colors," dated March 30, 1995 and to Gulbransen's article "It's Time to Merge-Not Separate" dated April 13, 1995. I was present at the open forum in response to the article written by Kanaan and as I looked around I noticed a diverse group of people volunteering their time to give a word of disgust to the editorial.

It is no longer to my surprise that editors of *The Rebel Yell* would follow the Scott Gulbransen cold mentality. *Rebel Yell* — Get a spine!

Janette Dela Cruz
Business Management

A Bit on the Net

To the Editor:

I read *The Rebel Yell* on April 20, and was struck by an article titled, "The Internet: Places to Go, Things to See." by Danny Kim. There were a number of fallacies.

Kim says, "I overheard many complaints of people missing classes [waiting for accounts]... you will be issued a rather lengthy and unpronounceable password" He goes on to infer that the system managers arbitrarily deny user accounts for "some odd reason." In my opinion, Mr. Kim must have had an unusually harrowing experience with System Computing Services because his anger prevented him from verifying information before he expressed it. If

people miss class, it is simply their own fault for failing to allot adequate time to a task. And I suppose the passwords are a little lengthy — I know eight letters all pressed together have frustrated me on many occasions.

Kim's article is filled with what appears to be negative propaganda for a fairly neutral and helpful university department. I can't say I understand his malice, but I do know that System Computing Services (SCS, Mr. Kim, not SCSS) has been unusually busy — the number of users at UNLV has doubled in one year.

Mr. Kim seems most upset by the lack of Internet Relay Chat at UNLV. If he could have acted in spite of his dissatisfaction with the necessary omission of IRC, he would have found some other options available — talk, ytalk, and webchat. He wields the constitution and his rights of free speech like a sword, but free speech doesn't prevent things like phone company charging for long distance.

Berealistic, my disgruntled friend. There are reasons for everything, Mr. Kim, and those reasons seldom involve purposefully inconveniencing someone. For a person so accustomed to using the Internet for non-academic activity, you should be happy to have a free connection at all.

Brian Anzalone
Senior
English

Student Senate Meeting Schedule

The Rebel Yell encourages all students to attend UNLV's Student Senate meetings.

Monday, May 1, 6:30 p.m. MSU 201