

## Under the Influence with Otis & Arthur

# Do we really need Homecoming?

### Otis

Homecoming is almost here, Arthur. That means a queen and king will be selected to represent this university to victory against New Mexico state. (I know it would take a miracle for the football team to win, but Otis has faith, baby!) I like the homecoming extravaganza. It's the little bit of tradition that we have here at UNLV. I bet Arthur hates it because he doesn't like sports. He would rather go to a poetry reading at Cafe Copioh and smoke funny cigarettes.

The actual homecoming game is a lot of fun. All the school spirit and pageantry, not to mention the free booze provided by student government. I mean, who couldn't get pumped up to the UNLV fight song at the games: "U ... N ... L ... V, UNLV, go, fight, win." It makes me want to go out and tackle somebody. Come here Arthur.

Homecoming brings out a large portion of the student body. It brings everyone together. I mean where else could you see your professor trashed out in public? This is a good chance to kiss up. Everyone is there to get trashed and see the Rebels win.

When selecting seats for the big game always try to sit behind the fraternities. Sure, these guys have spirit, but if you're really lucky you might even get to witness a frat brawl like the one a couple of years ago. It was great, I had front row seats and saw the whole thing with-

out spilling a drop of beer. If it happens this year I'm grabbing Arthur and pounding him.

As far as Homecoming King goes, I don't think anyone could care less. It's the battle for Homecoming Queen we want to see. It's interesting since many of the ladies that win run as independents and their personality plays a major factor for vote. This is apparent when they have to flirt outside of MSU for the male votes. I know the men aren't not going to complain about it; we're sad ladies, but we're not stupid. Speaking of stupid, why not write in Arthur for Homecoming King (Hey, if Joe Mills can do it, why not Artie?).

Sam Boyd stadium has to be the best place to watch a football game. The view is incredible, you could spend your time just looking out into the desert without even paying attention to the game. Actually, I think that may be a good idea this year. We need that Horton magic now more than ever.

Try to make it out to the game folks. It's a good time no matter who wins. No matter how well the football team is doing, they are still working hard and could still get in the Las Vegas Bowl. Besides, what else are you going to do? Get drunk and lose all your money gambling? Get drunk and lose your marbles at the game. In fact, I'll make it even more interesting. If the Rebels win, I'll be nice to Arthur for a week's column and I won't take his lunch money. You hear that Artie? Nice for a week to the geek.

### Arthur

You criticize me for liking poetry, Otis? Last week you were writing me poetry. And if you try to tackle me I'll write you in for Homecoming Queen! No more poetry, please; my significant other may get suspicious.

So now you try to get away with not quite doggin' Homecoming. What's up with you anyway? Are you for it or against it? Anyone reading your column might get the idea that the event is just one big excuse for a bacchanal.

Don't get me wrong, I like to get down with the best of them, but what about everything else Homecoming represents? Election of the king and queen. Enduring traditions. School spirit. An opportunity for student government to spend more money on beer than the annual budgets of many small countries ... maybe you have a point, Otis.

I don't know, I think Homecoming still has a place in academia. This university really does need a dose of cohesion. There isn't anything else to bind us all into a campus community. We don't have a frat row, we don't really have parades with decent floats like grown up schools.

But we do have the football team, Otis. I realize you think they are a bunch of wimp losers, Otis, at least that's what you usually say. But I thought we were going to keep your newsroom comments and opinions about the athletic department out of print until just before you graduate. Wasn't that what you requested? Isn't it enough that we don't publish your picture?

Oh well, I know the football players look intimidating, Otis, but I'm sure they'll take your kidding in the spirit of good-natured fun that you intended they think you meant it in. I hear they're really a great bunch of guys. And I know, even if you won't give them proper credit, that they give their best for the team effort. I think that the university can be proud of all its teams.

And what is the thrill in seeing a professor trashed in public? You make it sound like they are nothing but a bunch of luses. I'm sure not all instructors are tee-totalers, but give them a break! Try teaching a roomful of students like you, Otis, and you might find the need to mood-alter too. But since when have you needed an excuse?

Now, I do agree with your suggestion that everyone turn out to support the team. A good crowd always generates some excitement, and you're right, a good time, win or lose, will benefit everyone associated with UNLV. And I know the real reason you sit behind the fraternity guys, Otis. You're a Greek sniffer, waiting for tidbits on student government or any other interesting stuff on Greek life that can appear in your column.

It's too bad you never rushed a frat this year, Otis, you may have gotten in. That biscuit is still in the refrigerator for you, if you want to practice for next year.

—"Otis & Arthur" is co-authored by S.T. Sutherland and Vince Caliguire.

## Keep it in your pants, Professor

I couldn't believe the article in Tuesday's *Rebel Yell* about UNLV and sexual harassment

on campus. Sexual harassment, what is going on here? As if going to school and work-

ing wasn't enough, now you have to worry about your professor going down your pants.

If your professor does hit on you, then what? You could tell him to cut it out. But what if that doesn't work? I mean this man has the power to fail you. Even if you go to the proper authorities, there is still a long process and you still may not be vindicated. You could even get an F in that class.

I feel bad for the ladies on campus that must endure this situation. I've heard stories from some of my female friends about professors asking them out or hitting on them at school. That's inappropriate and it creates an uncomfortable situation for that student. That professor is taking advantage of the student/teacher relationship. Besides that, he is being a pig.

This university should take steps towards these kind of situations. Many universities around the country have policies deterring this kind of behavior; we should follow suit and establish our own. The situation is a serious problem, though far from being omnipresent. That's an even better reason for the administration to be proactive and make a stand against this kind of behavior before it turns into a bigger problem. They should establish some policies that

are concrete enough so that a situation can be rectified immediately.

The current system that undertakes charges of sexual harassment is lead by the Board of Regents Committee on the Status of Women. The committee does excellent work and has streamlined the actual reporting of incidents a great deal. In fact, incidents have dropped from 66 last year to eight this year.

Those results have a lot to do with the better dismissing of false complaints. I can't understand why people would do such a thing. It's a despicable course of action and it diminishes the validity of honest complaints. Those who try it should be disciplined accordingly.

The university is correct in being wary of dictating morality on campus. But I believe an established policy can eliminate ambiguity and protect the innocent. It can set the guidelines of what is expected or allowed by professor/student relations. If an incident happens outside of the realm of what is allowed, then action can be taken quickly.

The current system allows for a committee to prescribe the course of action to an incident. That doesn't mean true justice can be accomplished. Opinions for the person charged by members of the committee can lead to an in-

Living at Large  
VINCE CALIGUIRE

correct verdict. After all, an incorrect decision could ruin that person's life.

The committee on the status of women has accumulated

much information on preventive measures to horny professors. A university policy should be mandated to ease the minds of students here.

To the faculty reading this article may I remind you that many of the students in your classes are impressionable. We come to your class with a great deal of respect and trust.

There are many opportunities to be taken advantage of by the unscrupulous in faculty positions. Being educated gives you no jurisdiction to get into someone's pants.

I mean, do you really think some young girl in your class is going to find you attractive? If they go along with you it's because they are afraid. Even flirting to see what you can get away with is disgusting, and I see many of you professors do it. Is it really worth your career and reputation? What about these girl's fathers, do you really think they sent their daughters to school to get hit on?

So please gentlemen, take a cold shower and just teach class.

—Vince Caliguire is an Opinion columnist at *The Rebel Yell*.

# THE REBEL YELL

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