OPINION

Editorial

Here is your chance to effect change

Most of the time the deadline for filing for a student government executive office at UNLV goes by relatively unnoticed. We all kvetch about student government, but not many students bother to get involved.

The deadline to submit your application to run for the coveted executive office positions of student body president, student body vice president and senate president, is Wednesday.

You can pick up your ap-plication today at the CSUN office, Room 160 in the Moyer Student Union, and still file to throw your hat into the UNLV political ring before the deadline passes. There is a \$50 refundable application fee due upon filing.

To qualify, you need a minimum 2.0 GPA for the current and previous semester, to have completed 48 credits (15 at UNLV), and to be registered for at least six credits for this semester.

Now that we have the qualifications out of the way, let's get to the reasons why you should run for a student government executive office, what the duties of those offices entail, and what the salary is for each position.

Student government needs leaders who are dedicated to the university, who care about our school, and who view UNLV as a place worthy of expending energy and hard work in order to make it better.

We've all heard people complain about the CSUN leadership, and most of us are probably guilty of doing

some complaining of our own. However, nothing is ever accomplished merely by complaining.

If you think you can do a better job than the current administration, it's time to become part of the decisionmaking process. It takes action to bring about change.

Becoming a part of student government leadership is also a way of giving back to the university. This form of community service allows you to help your school advance itself and evolve to meet the ever-changing needs of our population.

On a more personal level, it gives you an in valuable experience for dealing with the real world.

Fifteen or so years ago it was a rarity to see someone beyond their 20's attending classes at UNLV. The university now serves students ranging in age from their teens to beyond retirement age.

Our current student government is a homogeneous mix of twenty-something generation-X types. We need a wider variety of participants in student government to make sure all voices are heard.

If you're up to the challenge of putting your money where your mouth is, you should know what the duties are of the executive offices.

In a nutshell, here's a brief run-down of what each executive office is all about.

The student body president is the supreme being of the student body. The person elected to that office is the official spokesperson for all university students, is responsible for all executive decisions made by the student government and has veto authority

over senate decisions.

The student body vice president assists the student body president in the administration and execution of executive actions, serves as the liaison between the senate and judicial council and performs any other duties delegated by the senate.

The senate president is the administrative head of the senate and official spokesperson for that body, maintains the integrity of the CSUN constitution and by-laws and performs any other duties delegated by the senate.

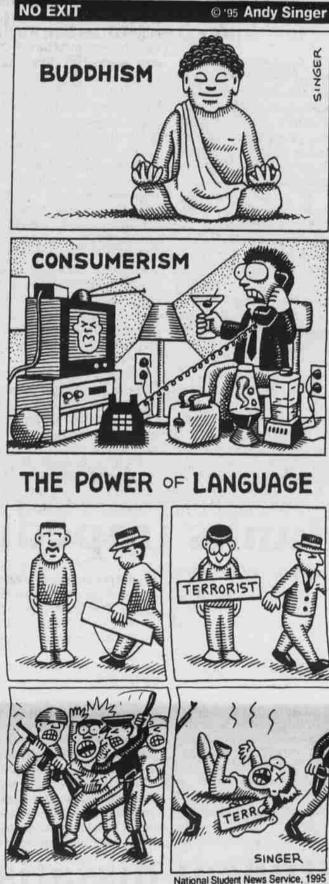
If elected to an executive office in student government, not only will you learn about the political process, but you'll get paid for learning about it, too. Think of this as one big lab, and instead of having to pay for the class, it pays you.

The student body president is paid a \$1,000 per month stipend, and receives a tuition waiver of 24 credit hours per year.

The student body vice president and senate president each receive a \$750 a month stipend and also receive a 24 credit hour tu-

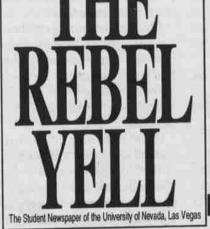
ition waiver per year. Don't get stuck in the mind set of coming to campus just to attend classes and go home. Get involved in your student government.

Most of you will spend at least four years of your life, and thousands of dollars at this university. Do everything you can to make that time and money a worthwhile investment.



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UNLV

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR SHOULD BE TYPED AND FEW-ER THAN 300 WORDS. THEY MUST INCLUDE NAME, AD-DRESS AND TELEPHONE NUM-BER. WRITERS AFFILIATED WITH UNLV MUST INCLUDE CLASS AND MAJOR, OR FAC-ULTY/STAFF POSITION. LET-TERS ARE SUBJECT TO EDIT FOR LENGTH AND CLARITY.

BY MATT MORILLO NATIONAL STUDENT NEWS SERVICE-

One of the major issues raised by the Republican Congress in the past year is the English Language Bill.

This bill, proposed by the Republicans, makes English the official language of the United States and cuts off funding for bilingualism.

Passage of this bill would make bilingual road signs and motor vehicle examinations a thing of the past. Of course, liberals are claiming that this bill is racist and can only divide this nation further. However, as usual, the liberals are ignoring certain facts.

First, if this bill is racist, who is it racist against? There are people of all races who speak different languages. There are black immigrants from Haiti who speak French, Asian immigrants who speak Korean, white immigrants from Italy who speak Italian, and Hispanic immigrants

from Latin America who speak Spanish.

Encouraging all of these people and others to speak the same language is not racist, it is fair. No particular race or nationality is singled out by this bill. Please, tell me how it is racist.

Secondly, this bill in no way attempts to destroy people's native culture. There is nothing in the bill that says people cannot speak their native languages whenever they want. At the same time people will still be allowed to open up a store which emphasizes their own ethnic backgrounds. For example, if you are Korean and you want to open a restaurant and have your sign written in Korean, you can. The government cannot interfere in your personal business. This bill only makes sure that the government will no longer encourage people not to learn English.

The liberal's other preposterous criticism of the bill is that it will further divide us. How can a nation of people that speak the same language become more divided? It can only help. What do the liberals think? Possibly that a nation full of people who don't understand what each other is saying will help.

People must understand that if we continue to fund bilingualism it will eventually get out of control. If you go on a Long Island Railroad train today, you will see a sticker on the door which reads, "Do not lean on door." It is written in English and Spanish. What happens when a large Korean population moves in, do we then write it in Korean? What about when a large Arab population moves in, do we then write it in Arabic? Where do we draw the line? The liberals probably want this because it gives them another way to spend people's tax dollars.

See Liberals, pg. 6

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