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Interview truths

Part one of this article appeared in the March 26 issue of *The Rebel Yell*. This is part two of the article.

Articulation—The ability to articulate your background is a combination of good preparation (which you have full control over) and vocabulary/enunciation (which you have little control over). Your "smartness," "sharpness," "quickness," "aggressiveness," and "brightness" are all attributes that are typically evaluated based upon your articulation.

If you have "lazy lips" you may want to practice enunciating and forming your words more clearly. And whatever you do, don't continually reach for elusive words to perfectly portray your thoughts and feelings. Any practiced interviewer prefers an individual who is comfortable with their vocabulary level than one who is always searching at the level above.

And make sure you are fully prepared. Both prepped on your own background (nothing will kill an interview quicker than someone who cannot recall personal events) and knowledge of our company. Proper research will help you formulate your answers in a clear and succinct manner.

The truth about interviewing is that it is weighed heavily toward first impressions. Interview preparation is critical, but it's important that this preparation goes far beyond having "all the right answers" to the questions. Interview preparation also includes preparing yourself for those initial impressions. What you say is often not as important as how you say it.

The very best thing you can do to prepare for your interview today is to participate in a mock interview. It can be intimidating to be put under the microscope. You will make mistakes. You will make mistakes. But how much better to make those errors with those who can help you. A mock interview gives you the opportunity to be at your very best when it means the most.

Check with your campus career placement center today to arrange for your mock interview. Be fully prepared and ready for when it counts the most.

NEXT COLUMN: *Making the most of on-campus interviewing.*

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Final score not the only thing that counts

Sociology professor, James Frey, teaches Sociology of Sport

BY D.J. ALLEN

CONTRIBUTING FEATURES WRITER

For the past 14 years, James H. Frey, chairman of the sociology department at UNLV, has been instructing students on the Sociology of Sport.

Frey, who has been teaching at UNLV for 21 years said, "Initially, I think there's a good portion of the students who think it's just going to be fun. I lose eight to 10 people every session."

Erik Boal, a junior communications major, is an avid sports fan and was drawn to Frey's class for that reason. However, the class turned out to be completely different than what Boal thought it would be.

Nobody said that was bad, though.

"Being a sports fan, that's what attracted me to the class," Boal said. "But the thing I've learned the most is that there's a cause and effect for everything that happens in sports—on and off the field. I have a much different perspective now when I watch sports than what I used to have."

While the class attracts avid sports fans, it also takes one to teach it. "It's a pretty big part of my life, mostly because my sons are interested in playing a lot," said Frey. "But I've been interested in sports since I was in about fifth grade, both as a participant and a fan."

Frey's the first to tell you he was never a world-class athlete. "One of my friends described me well once, 'I'm good enough to compete, but not good enough to win it all,'" said Frey.

In high school, Frey played basketball and ran track. However, running track was the basketball coach's idea—not his.

"Basketball was my main sport, but they made all the basketball players go out for track," said Frey, who grew up in Sioux Falls, S.D. "Our biggest challenge was trying to figure out how to hide from the coach so we wouldn't have to run five miles."

He stopped participating in sports after the preparatory level, but went on to get his bachelor's degree from Augustana College in Sioux Falls, his master's degree from the University of Iowa and finally his doctorate from Washington State University in 1974.

Now Frey has the job of preparing young adults for the future. "It's really multiple," said Frey about his job as a college professor. "Obviously I have an obligation to serve the teaching function, but I also feel it's my job to stimulate students to do their best work."

Although he heads a department at a major university, Frey remains a student-focused professor. "He's real-

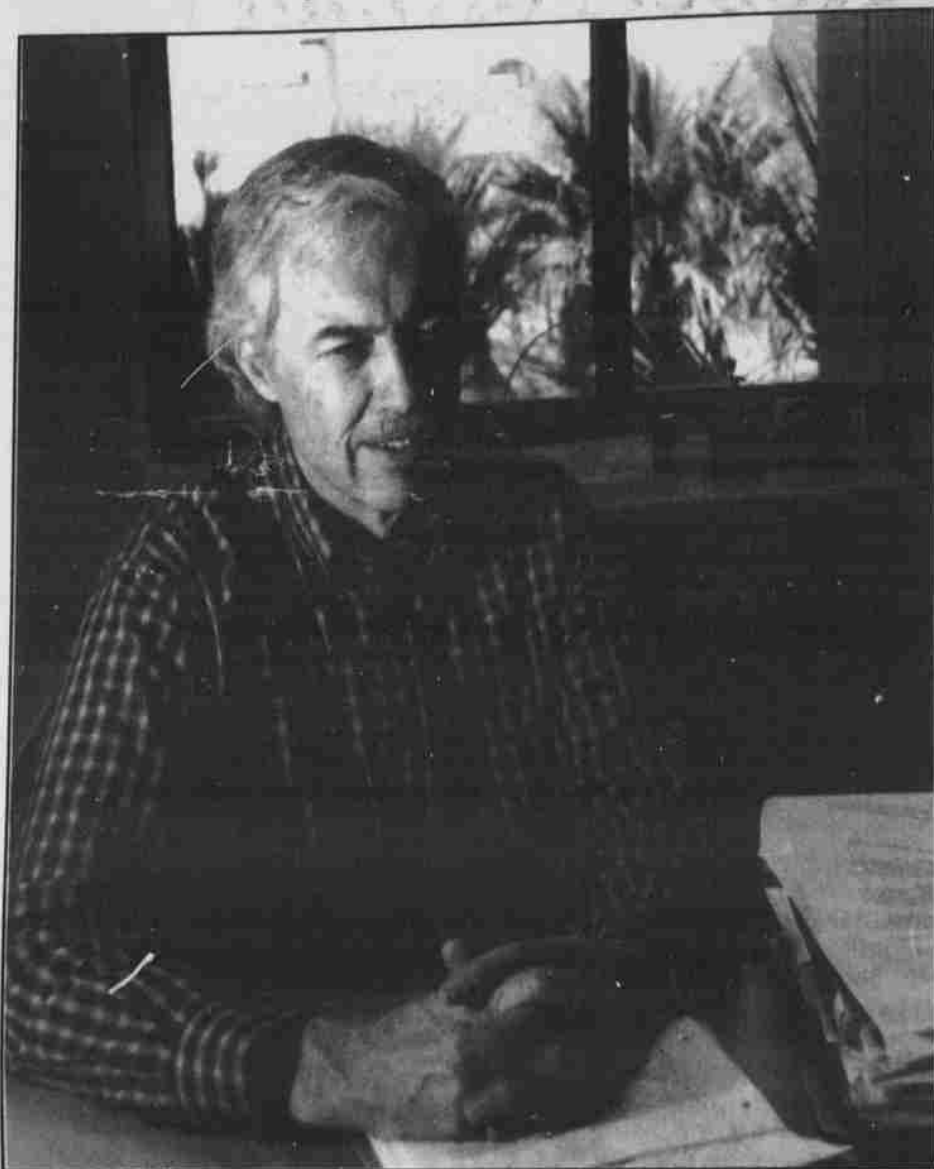


PHOTO BY VASNA WILSON

Sociology Prof. James Frey makes love of sports a science.

ly fair, especially for it being a 400 (level) class," said TaMisha Dennis, a senior currently taking the Sociology of Sport class. "Usually teachers at that level don't get on your butt. But he does. He wants you to come to class and do the work."

"They should do the work and be there," said Frey about his students. "They expect me to be there every day, in return, I expect them to be there every day." That's something he's always felt.

Boal agreed with Dennis, saying Frey is a student's professor. "I've had the chance to interact with him a few times outside of class," Boal said. "He's really into his students. He wants them to succeed in a 400-level class."

Frey's teaching duties don't end at UNLV—he's got three sons, Ryan, 23, Cory, 18, and Chris, 16. That gives Frey yet another role in sports.

Both Cory and Chris are currently playing top-level prep sports at Green Valley High School. Cory has already signed a letter-of-intent to play baseball next year at the University of California at Berkeley.

"I'm pleased with both boys, but they haven't been successful without trials and tribulations," said Frey. "They've worked hard for everything they've gotten."

Being a parent of a top-notch youth athlete can sometimes lead people to acting a little—or a lot—out of control.

However, Frey sometimes lets his knowledge of sport show when a co-parent is letting an official, coach or player know how they feel.

"I have said some things that have embarrassed my wife—like when I've told them to shut up," Frey said. "But I'm pretty passive when it comes to being a parent."

Frey said there is no reason for fans to act obnoxious—and remember—this is coming from a doctor of sociology. "They look stupid when they do that," Frey said. "It really has an impact on their kids on the field. That's been demonstrated in research studies. I've never seen it change the game on their behalf."

Frey, who has coached his kids in a variety of youth sports, is usually on the spectator side of most sports. But two years ago, his wife Carol sent him to a Chicago Cubs fantasy baseball camp. Now it was dad on the diamond.

"He didn't even have a clue I knew there was such a thing called a fantasy camp," said Carol. Participants at the camp played 63 innings of baseball in six days.

"It was painful and embarrassing, but I had a lot of fun," said Frey. "Fortunately for me, they had three guys staffing the training room."

Well, maybe on the field isn't where Dr. James H. Frey belongs. He's found his home in the classroom. And his students couldn't be happier.

Fabulous Sputnik Man



episode 14

"your bullets taste like chicken" or "ouch!"



The thing to remember in situations like this is never show pain.



BY NICK TIMINSKAS