

## REBELPALOOZA

# Becoming a traditional music-fest

By Pauline Villapando  
Staff A&E Writer

Usually when people think of Vegas, a clear image of the strip comes to mind.

The blindingly colorful lights, the herds of people clumped together, trying to make their merry way to every hotel, and the loud noises of traffic and jabbering tourists mingled into one boisterous racket. All these things characterize what we locals refer to as "home."

But to many people's surprise, there is a night life outside this pristine image of Sin City.

And on Friday night, that spotlight rested on UNLV's annual **Rebelpalooza**, which featured national headliners, **Reel Big Fish** and **Goldfinger**, bringing a wild end to the day-long musical ceremony.

Rebelpalooza was sponsored by the Student Government, Campus Community Development and the Residence Hall Association.

A few minutes before 8 p.m., hordes of people began flocking to the field, anxiously awaiting the distinctively hip ska beats of Reel Big Fish. The crowd was already hyped up by the awesome performances of previous bands and was ready for the main course. Reel Big Fish definitely delivered a hot entree of musical numbers.

The band entered the stage with each member garbed in his own fashion statement. But lead singer Aaron Barrett had a unique style, with his loud beach shirt, crispy hairdo and funky striped sunglasses.

"They're my ska-ray vision glasses," explained Barrett. "It keeps me from seeing the audience mosh cause everything is a

blur. I don't like moshing or stage diving. Besides, it's more fun if everybody dances."

Barrett joked around with the audience, making the concert a more cozy setting for conversation. "Everybody super-doooper-Alice Cooper?" he asked, as the people screamed back their response.

"They're funny. They're great. They relate to the audience a lot," commented Sophomore, resident assistant, Penny Wandel.

Their diverse instruments played well together, forming the unique and vivid sound that characterizes ska music. From trombones and trumpets to electric guitars and the drum, each contributed to the loud rock n' roll chorus of the band. The music was just as colorful as the glaring lights.

The band played many songs off their album, *Turn The Radio Off*, such as the subliminal and extremely repetitive, "241." Some other favorites included the hopelessly pathetic whining of "I'll Never Be" and the hilarious flavor of, "She Has A Girlfriend Now."

While some people were walking around, searching for what each booth had to offer and testing the rides, others were simply enjoying the energetic and fast beats of Reel Big Fish. Many people let the music overtake their whole bodies as they wriggled and jumped around in a hypnotic frenzy.

They weren't the only ones that were hyped up. Members of the band were skipping and hopping around on stage as well, trying to really get into the spirit of things, which wasn't hard to do.

But the "father of reggae" wasn't their musical style when they first met. With such a diverse



Goldfinger



Reel Big Fish

## Linus and Johnny Flame Head rocked the North Field

By Brian J. Kuchar  
Staff A&E Writer

Opening bands **Linus** and **Johnny Flame Head** kicked off the UNLV Rebelpalooza festival in high style on Friday afternoon.

The bands couldn't have been further apart in their rock/alternative sound. Linus succeeded in perfecting a pop/rock sound while Johnny Flame Head performed their hard-edged alternative rock. Both gave valiant efforts in getting the moderately sized crowd of about 150 people riled up before the headliners graced the stage later in the evening.

The festival was graced this year with blue skies, gusting winds and temperatures in the 80s. Several sponsors were on hand to make the event lively. PR Plus, Snapple, Gatorade, Castello Beverage, and Bogus Production all contributed in

making the event run smoothly.

There were a variety of table mini-shops which displayed various free samples and offers for students. One could have picked up free music samples from PolyGram artists at one table, while purchasing unique jewelry at another.

The stage area was an exact duplicate to the stage set up last year. Linus took the stage promptly at the 2:00 hour. This local band has been growing in popularity around the Las Vegas area with their pop/alternative sound which can best be compared to **Weezer**.

Three of the band members are students at UNLV. Caleb, the lead vocalist is currently attending the Las Vegas Academy of the Performing Arts. He is also the backup guitarist. Jeff Johnson bangs the drums, Ryan Wells is on bass and John Gibbs is the

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## Bands excited the hungry dinner crowd with rock and reggae

By Jason Sheehan  
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Rebelpalooza, which took place Friday at the North Field, was like a roller-coaster ride. It had its ups and downs, with plenty of loops in-between.

From the hours of 4:00 to 7:30 p.m., a sparse crowd of approximately 100 to 150 people showed their happy faces, as **Darrel/Neither Trumpets nor Drums**, **The Glerl** and **Urban Dread** performed. The crowd grew slightly once Urban Dread began to play.

Urban Dread, which uses reggae to carry forth the message of musical pleasure, was the best band out of the threesome. They proved the power of reggae can indeed thrill a crowd that may not have been familiar with this genre of music. But thanks to Los Angeles' Urban Dread, which has been together for seven years, those who danced and were captured by their sound received an education in music. They also learned what

reggae is all about.

"A lot of people are still not into reggae," saxophone and keyboard player Jason Bourne said. "Our younger generation hasn't even discovered it. They think that **Sublime** is reggae. We'll play songs that Sublime covers such as Bob Marley's version. And they go, 'cool, Sublime cover!' They don't even know it was Bob Marley."

After listening to Urban Dread, these people may now know the difference between authentic reggae musicians and those who try to be something they're not.

Urban Dread deserves credit for originality. Most reggae bands either have a full horn section or don't use horns at all. Urban Dread has changed that stereotype. Bourne is the only horn-player in the band, but his tremendous skill allows him to get the job done. The sound of a single saxophone mixed in with reggae made Friday's gusting winds feel like an ocean breeze.

"It's a whole different element to use in reggae," Bourne ex-

plained. "Most people with a sax in reggae have a full horn section, instead of just a single sax player. So I get to transform melody sound, really cool sound, with added flavor."

The band's name was derived by Bourne. Urban Dread is all about clashing cultures creating beautiful music.

"I was thinking about myself playing reggae and I thought I looked a little out-of-place to play reggae, being a white guy with long hair," Bourne said. "But I just thought, I may be the urban part. And we do have some dreads in the band. It's like a cross-street of Jamaican reggae with an urban twist that we put on it. It gives us that Urban Dread sound."

And that sound should have been enough to get everyone moving at UNLV. Unfortunately when the lead singer, who goes by the name Jahmark, told the

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