

Arts & Entertainment

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The Rebel Yell

Three years of entertainment writing; it was grand

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Time passes by quickly. It is hard to believe that I have been writing week after week since the fall of 1995. The Landmark, Aladdin and Sands were still standing. **Waterworld**, **Seven** and **Mortal Kombat** were still at the movie complexes. **Real McCoy**, **Live** and **Hootie and the Blowfish** were blaring from stereos. I was fresh off the boat, er, plane, transferring from a college in Boston. It was the beginning of a memorable *Rebel Yell* career.

This is not your usual Best of Las Vegas list. It is simply an interesting rundown of what I feel are the best and worst things that have come to pass during my career. I have written articles that have spanned all areas of entertainment. I have written things that you may have read or simply refused to waste anytime scanning over. But even if you just enjoyed one of my many articles, my goal has been fulfilled.

MISTAKES THAT WERE REPEATED, REPEATED

Spice Girl Reviews - Did you ever wonder why the Spice Girls were reviewed not once, or twice, but three times in a collegiate publication? Me too. I still cannot believe that they were actually printed!

When the Spice Girls came



The Spice Girls

out, I already knew all about them. I had been following the phenomenon over in Europe since the fall of '96 when they were hitting the top of the charts throughout that part of the world.

I was amazed to see how successful they were. My positive reaction to both of their CD's astonishes me and many others who dismiss their music. I am a big fan of pop music, and was floored by how well they brought that genre back to this country. During a time of depressing alternative and rap, the Spice Girls sparked a glimmer of hope. However, I drew the line when they started making films.

WALT DISNEY WORLD ON ICE

When it came time a few weeks ago for the **Toy Story on Ice** at the T&M, I was scared. I thought I would be going for the third time to a **Disney on Ice** show. Even though the **Lion King** and **Snow White** productions were both well performed, they are ultimately made for people who will be part of the graduating class of 2015. They are also good for those clean-cut first dates.



World on Ice of horrors

BEST INTERVIEW

Kristine W - The Las Vegas Hilton will never be the same when Kristine W takes the stage for the last time this June. Kristine



Kristine W

has said that she needs to concentrate on recording her second album.

This former UNLV student who worked her way from an occasional gig at the Plaza to dance superstar at the Hilton is an amazing talent. She has had numerous top dance hits that have had great results throughout the world. Kristine is a down-to-earth, positive role model for those students who want to build a successful entertainment career.

BEST RECORDING

Aimee Mann, "I'm With Stupid" - Many people simply know her as the crazy-haired lead singer of 'Til Tuesday who couldn't stand her boyfriend in the song, "Voices Carry." Believe it or not, that song is only a preview of a mature artist that has written songs of breakup and broken-hearts long before Alanis, Meredith and Tori Amos ever recorded a CD.

Her songs are filled with passion that is honest and hits right at home. Songs such as "Par For the Course" and "Long Shot" are

perfect. One may even notice that Mann's music has been featured in several films. Both **Picture Perfect** and the wonderful new film starring Gwyneth Paltrow **Sliding Doors** contain the song "Amateur," which is on the CD. This proves that filmmakers know an emotional song when they hear one.



photo courtesy of Geffen Records
Aimee Mann

BEST CONCERT

"Weird Al" Yankovic - **"Weird Al"** does it all. He sings, acts and knows how to make an audience laugh all night. His performance at the Joint inside the Hard Rock Hotel in the Fall of '96 was nothing short of outstanding with



"Weird Al" Yankovic

classic performances that included "Like a Surgeon" and "Fat."

Strangely enough, this concert is also memorable because it was the first date I had with my current girlfriend.

BEST MOVIE

Sling Blade - Billy Bob Thornton did an amazing job portraying a man who killed his abusive father. An emotional film in which every word counts, it was unbelievable to see John Ritter do such a good job as a gay neighbor. This is definitely a movie that should be rented during a time when one needs a boost to see the special things in life.

BEST PLACE TO HAVE FUN

RA - Although I never had a chance to write about this dance club at the Luxor Hotel, it is a place where one can dance to a variety of dance music that crosses different generations.

The Rio is another good choice, but RA has the cutting edge. The sound and light system, along with several big screens showing all kinds of images, is a place to escape to after a hard week at school.

Although many of the club-goers are tourists, there are many young people who dress great and are willing to party. Unlike other clubs that focus on rock or R&B all the time, RA's variety of dance music includes disco, funk, techno, house and pop.

BEST MOVIE THEATER

Sunset Station - Sunset is the place to go for not only the finest in sound and picture, but for the movie selection as well. When I started writing for *The Rebel Yell*,

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SIR MILES



BY GENE REDDEN

