

# Last minute opportunities found at The Edge

By Francie Angelov  
Staff Features Writer

Overheard recently in a fast food restaurant was a small child, about four or five years old, talking with his father over the latest kid's combo-meal.

"Daddy, what's that building over there," asked the boy. "It has a big, red letters on it."

"Oh, that's the university where big kids go to school," responded the father, half paying attention to his small son.

"I thought the university is the school where grown-ups go when they decide what they want to do when they get older," said the boy.

"No, that's where they go when they don't know what to do when they grow up," said the father.

"How come you don't go there then?" asked the little boy.

If you've noticed there are fewer parking spaces to come by lately, fewer empty seats in your classrooms, lines to get on NEON at the library and that the UNLV Writing Center is booked each day this week, and if you haven't been living under a rock or you haven't lost your syllabus, you know that it is almost the end of semester! Wow, the pressure

is almost over. Well, at least for some.

Hundreds of UNLV seniors will hang up their backpacks, box their school books or sell them back for the highest price they can get, and will soon venture out into the wilds of the real world. Their plans for what to do next are just as varied as their reasons for going to UNLV in the first place. Some will go on and continue their education and go to graduate school, medical school or law school, but the majority will enter into the workforce and, yes, begin to pay off all of those student loans.

The latest statistics show that nearly 73 percent of college graduates with a bachelor's degree will enter into the workforce first, before heading on to further their education. Luckily for UNLV graduates, Las Vegas is the prime hiring location in the states, with thousands of job opportunities tied in with the tourism industry.

At Wednesday's 103.5, The Edge sponsored Job-a-rama, held at the Moyer Student Union, sev-



by Erik Thompson / The Rebel Yell  
An Aerotek representative talked to future graduates at the Job-a-rama, sponsored by 103.5, The Edge.

eral potential business representatives held interviews and took job applications from UNLV students and members of the community. Some students even got to try out live on the air for radio air talent on The Edge.

"We have been very appreciative of the community business which have come out and shown their support today," said Tamar Kauahi, The Edge promotions director. "They all have been very energetic about this service to the community and being on the university campus is such a great

coming commencement celebration.

"But, I don't know what I want to do yet," she said. "I just hope that I can find a job soon."

Ginsburg is in the same position as many seniors, who are more interested in finding a job in any field than going on to graduate school. With her resume in hand, she came out to the Job-a-rama to check out what opportunities may be out there for her.

"I know that if I want to work in the field of psychology that I would have to get a

place to be."

Though, like many seniors graduating this month, many are not sure what they really want to do after graduation, and they're just happy to get over all of the hurdles required by their individual departments just to graduate.

Senior Julie Ginsburg, a psychology major, is psyched up to graduate and even plans on donning a cap and gown and taking part in the up-

master's degree," said Ginsburg. Represented at The Edge Job-a-rama were Alpha Graphics, Saturn, Apple One, Aerotek, the Army, Harrah's, Lake Mead Cruises, U.S. Filter, Kelly Services, Bally's Hotels, McDonald's, Nevada Career Institute, Lit'l Scholar pre-school and KDEG radio.

According to Kauahi, the Job-a-rama will most likely become a yearly event, and they hope to draw more businesses next year for the event, which not only included meeting with business representatives but included help with resumes and copy machines to reproduce those flashy, new resumes.

Besides at job fairs like the ones sponsored by The Edge and the UNLV Career Center, there are many opportunities out there just waiting to be snatched up by graduating seniors. Many can be found posted on departmental walls, others are posted on the net through Job-Link, and others can be found within county and state agencies. There are hundreds of opportunities, so go get them, Rebels!

For those who are going on to further their education, good luck. For those who are on the ten-year plan, we'll see you in the fall.

## In retrospect: from Elka W. to Clark and Denton

By J.T. Mollner  
Staff Features Writer

I am fairly new to all of this.

I am a journalism major, but I was always a full time athlete before so I spent most of my time in the water, swimming. This semester opened new doors for me. Swimming was over for me after ten years of engaging in the sport, and I think I truly began to become a journalist here at *The Rebel Yell*. I developed a passion for reporting, and lucky for me I had an extremely eventful first semester at the campus newspaper.

I remember walking in and receiving my first assignment from the features editor, Tiffanie Bond. "Do an article on condoms," she said. "National Condom Day is coming up, and we'll want to be on top of it."

I couldn't believe what I heard, but I accepted it, did some interviews, and went on to write "Use condom sense for Valentine's Day fun." The headline turned out to be quite interesting. I thought of "condom sense" but I must give credit for the cheesy "Valentine's Day fun" part of the title to my editor. Tiffanie has a knack for thinking up cheesy headlines that she thinks are cute.

The condom article was interesting and fun, but nothing on earth could have prepared me for the Elka fiasco.

Elka was a female character on MTV's popular *The Real World*. I started hearing word around campus that she went to school at UNLV, but they seemed to be simply that- rumors. No one had anything concrete for me. No one had actually seen her. I was stumped.

I checked the MTV web sight and found her last name. I finally had something to go on. After failing to find her name in the phone book, and getting rejected for information at the registrars office, I found a friend who was willing to reveal her class schedule to me. Only half of the job was done. I still had to talk to her and convince her to do the interview.

When I met Elka in front of

her class she was friendly and surprisingly approachable. She agreed to do the interview and after about two days of work, I had an interesting profile article compiled.

Before the article ran, she requested her last name not be mentioned in the issue. I told her I would inform our editor.

We decided to put her last initial (W.) into the article in the name of good journalism.

The article seemed to be a success when it ran. It inspired numerous letters to the editor and it appealed to a large majority of the student body.

Unfortunately, it didn't appeal to Elka. She called me at my home ranting and raving and telling me how I just narrowed the choices of letters down in her last name for all the stalkers out there who would try to figure it out. She explained her perilous situation.

"I'm not just a normal girl anymore J.T., I'm a star now. People recognize me everyday and there are psychos out there who will stalk me," she said. Then, she informed me the paper had just placed her in a dangerous situation.

Our conversation went on and on. She threatened to sue our Editor-in-Chief and "drag *The Rebel Yell* through the mud" with her lawyers.

That was the last I ever heard of Elka. I wish her all the best.

Just when I thought it couldn't get any more eventful and interesting for me, I stumbled upon another interesting story.

Star basketball center Keon Clark and football quarterback Jon Denton were both suspended for undisclosed reasons. As a reporter, I saw the situation in a different light than most.

I saw an opportunity to both advance my journalism standing and experience, and give the public what they deserved, the truth.

Clark and Denton were both public figures, star college athletes who appeared on national television periodically and were funded and basically "paid" to play their sports with public scholarship money. With the facts in mind, it was my understanding these ath-

letes had an obligation to the public and their school.

I began my investigation.

Being a swimmer at UNLV, I was lucky to have access to numerous sources in the athletic department that probably weren't available to most other reporters. I took advantage of the fact most people around campus knew me as an athlete, not a media person. I heard things everywhere, but the things I came across were simply hearsay and rumors. I needed quotes from concrete witnesses in close contact with the players themselves.

The rumors I heard implied that Denton and Clark were both suspended because of drug violations.

I talked to athletes on the teams and close friends of mine who worked in the athletic department. I got repeated subtle confirmations, but no one was willing to give me quotes on record. I came close to giving up, and then I hit the jackpot.

Two athletes on the football

team came forward with quotes and confirmation. They said they would go on the record as anonymous sources. I finally had the foundation for a story.

Next, I got a lead on Clark. A girlfriend of one of the players on the basketball team was a friend of mine and she persuaded her boyfriend to talk. I went on to get double and triple confirmations and quotes from sources in the athletic advising department and the athletic training department. The story was finished and ready to go.

Then came the debate in *The Rebel Yell* news room: Should we run it or should we not? It seemed risky. I was confident with the story, but understandably, anonymous sources are always a bit difficult for editors to run with.

Luckily, I was dealing with Darryl Richardson, Editor-in-Chief. He had faith in the story and backed me 100 percent. So did Mary Hausch, the faculty advisor for the paper. If it wasn't for the two of them being willing to take a risk on the story, you would've

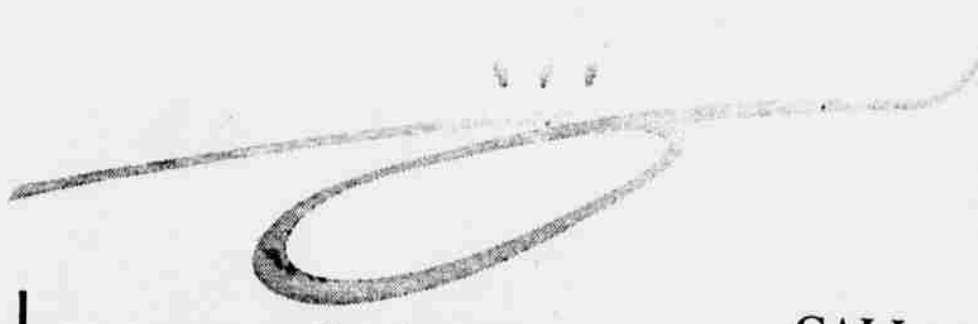
never seen it in print.

If it had been up to Ray Brewer, Sports Editor, or Eric Gruzen, Staff Sports Writer, the story would have been scratched and the public would have most likely read about the drug violations for the first time in a later edition of *The Las Vegas Review-Journal*.

The greatest thing about the story was our newspaper broke the story first. I was a little nervous the production night, but after the story ran, I realized the valuable lesson I learned from both Richardson and Hausch: In order to reap the rewards of journalism a reporter must be willing to take calculated risks.

I had a bitter sweet experience following the release of the story. On the positive side, the story gave me an opportunity to interact with media all over town. I conversed with sports writers from *The Las Vegas Review-Journal* and went on the Channel 13 News with

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