THE Rampage

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Nevada Senator Richard Bryan visits Rancho

by Andy Holtmann

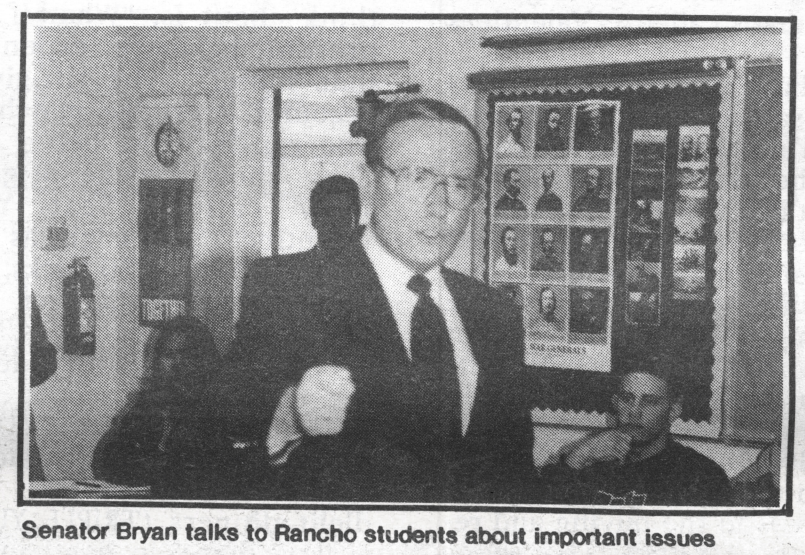
It is not every day that a United States senator visits an inner city school, so it was a celebrated event when Nevada Senator Richard Bryan came to Rancho on Tuesday, January 4. Bryan, the former governor of Nevada from 1982 to 1988, addressed Mrs. Bourque's third hour government class on several issues on the current political agenda.

News cameras from Channel 13 rolled and flashes of cameras lit up the room as students drilled Senator Bryan with questions concerning the world around them. He was in top political form as he opened the floor to questions immediately after speaking on how important it was to stay in school, go to college, and get a good job.

The first few questions, as expected, revolved around hot issues in the news. President Clinton's health care issue began the session and popped up many other times. Bryan supported the plan stating that it would open doors for universal access to health care for all and the idea of "traveling coverage" would be beneficial to anyone. When senior Billy Smith asked if raising taxes on such things as junk food and cigarettes would be an option in the funding of this plan, Bryan said that he would have no objection if this idea were submitted. "Junk food and cigarettes are causes of health problems anyway," he replied.

Education was another issue that Bryan touched on. There were many questions raised about what skills high school graduates should have in order to get decent jobs. He wanted to see a better system of helping students succeed and wanted to know what it would be like for students in say, the year 2000.

This broad issue of education shifted to the local level as Bryan explained the education funding process in Nevada. The state plays the larger funding role in the schools than the federal government. Every county in Nevada has a separate school district. These districts are run by school boards. Local funding is based on each school's student attendance. Using this, the state government can decide which schools get certain amounts of money.



Senator Bryan talks to Rancho students about important issues

Richard Bryan has been a firm opponent of the nuclear waste facility being placed in Nevada and he backed this up as he stated that science was rushing things. There are and always have been certain risks in the nuclear field. Bryan said that in the 1940s and 50s, when people were being subjected to radiation testing, the scientists went too far. He has obvious concerns for the health and safety of Nevadans.

"One can get away with the zeal for science," Bryan stated. "Deadlines for the waste facility are taking over science."

The Brady Bill was the last major issue that was discussed, which in short, imposes a waiting period in every state for buying a gun. Bryan did not vote for the bill and said that it would do more harm than good, not really stopping the criminals from committing crimes. He said that the

Richard Bryan (continued to pg 8)

Incomplete capital projects reported finished

by Donnie Ellis

Many repairs are needed at Rancho, so when plans were made to take care of some of Rancho's problems Mr. Gunderson expected to have the repairs done. Recently Gunderson was shocked to see a list of capital funds projects that were completed, in progress, or being planned.

On the list for Rancho tennis court renovations, baseball score boards, stage curtains, exterior lighting between 100 & 200 wings, and many more were completed. However, also on the completed list were projects which were not even started: gym floor replacement, gym bleacher upgrade/replacement, intercom system replacement, replace roof on student union, and seven others for a total of 11.

How could 11 capital projects be listed as completed when they were not even started? Mr. Gunderson was asking himself that question when he sent a memo to Dave Hetyonk, coordinator rehab/modernization.

In his memo, Gunderson didn't hold anything back. Gunderson claimed the capital funds list was "ludicrous." Gunderson added, "I continue to be astonished by the lack of knowledge your department has about what is going on with the facilities here at Rancho High School."

Gunderson stated in his memo which projects were not completed.

"Is this some sort of joke?" Gunderson asked about the gym floor replacement. The gym floor has had 12" by 12" vinyl tiles that have been there for at least four years.

As for the gym bleacher upgrade/replacement, Gunderson commented, "This must be another joke. Since last May our east bleachers have been stuck in the extended position seriously impairing our conduct of P.E. classes."

Gunderson simply said the intercom system replacement was "not done."

Gunderson also pointed out that since food is sold at football games there should be visitor side restrooms. According to the list these were restrooms installed already. Actually porta-cans have been used at a cost of $150 a month.

Renovations (continued to 8).....

Hats (continued from 3)

ionable shades while removing our hats?

Administration also tries to tell us what is morally right and wrong with what we wear. This shirt provokes the opposite sex, don't wear it, or those shoes are satanic. Who are they, preachers or teachers? Do we not have the right to judge what we feel is proper to wear. If it offends the authority, they make you remove the item and they provide you with those lovely Rancho P.E. clothes that make you look like a geek and put yourself in a prime position for peer ridicule, embarassment, and even the oppourtunityto be jumped by that six foot tall ox who has the urge to beat up the stupidest looking person he sees.

The color of your shoes may offend the person next to you, but does that mean that you have to take them off just for that person? No! If the administration wants to brainwash us completely, just put us in uniforms. It seems that this is what they have been striving for anyway.

What the decision makers in the front office don't realize is that there really is no harm in wearing a ballcap or beanie. They have taken the "better safe than sorry" idealism too far. The next thing you know they will be banning pencils because they can be used as a deadly weapon, (don't get any ideas).

Richard Bryan (continued from pg 1)

criminal background check was a good start.

Bryan believes that there should be more concentration on the source of crime. He feels that strong law enforcement area hinder criminal's efforts more than the Brady Bill.

Other areas were touched on such as the situation in Korea, the environment, and road renovations.

Bryan said that he likes to visit schools, and that he has not been to Rancho for a couple years. Bryan prefers the "open floor" agenda because it gives students a better chance to get involved and voice their opinion.

"I was impressed," stated Bryan. "The students had excellent questions and displayed an impressive array of knowledge."

Renovations (continued from 1)

Gunderson was not sure exactly how these projects could have been reported as completed or when they would actually be done. He is doing everything possible to get everything straightened out.

Concerts (continued from 7)

It was a busy couple of months for concerts. Throughout the four shows, the bands Failure, Possum Dixon, Violent Femmes, and Bad Religion proved most enjoyable. All four of these bands have prominent futures.

Basketball (continued from 6)

by Mike Johnson's 3-pointer with 3:01 remaining.

Vegas was held to only three points in the last three minutes of the game, and Rancho poured it on, to win 72-70.

With the win over the Wildcats, Rancho moved into a three-way tie for first with Las Vegas and Green Valley. The Rams improved to a 17-2 division record and a league best 13-5 overall.

AFJROTC undergoes inspection

by Mike Blouin

Rancho's AFJROTC had their Annual Inspection on Wednesday, January 26. Captain Buel, who is the inspector for the R.O.T.C. units in California, Nevada, and Arizona, and the Regional Director of Operations at Arizona State University, was the inspector for this year's inspection.

As Buel was greeted by Colonel Roger Jacks and the other instructors, AFJROTC cadets did a special flag raising ceremony. At 7:30 A.M., two AFJROTC instructors and six cadets briefed Capt. Buel. Mr. Gunderson, Mr. Czarnecki, Mrs. Reese, Mr. Burns, and Mr. Fono also attended the briefing which was held in the Principal's Conference Room.

After the briefing, the cadets had donuts and juice with Buel and the instructors.

Later that day, Buel met with other Rancho counselers, then went to Durango High School with Col. Jacks. After school, second year cadets marched in a special drill for the inspection.

Overall, the day went smoothly and the chances of Rancho's AFJROTC winning Honor Unit again are good. Thirteen of the last fourteen years, Rancho's AFJROTC has won Honor Unit.

Personal Messages for Valentine's Day

Holster,
You're my one and only Valentine, and yes, I "understand."
Love,
Kelster
B.F.F.

Kelli,
Through it all, you have always been in my heart and you'll always be there.
Love,
Holley

S.S.E.C
Just wanted to say thanks for being such great friends and for being there for me. Thanks-a-bunch.
Love,
B.B.

To my Sis Kristi,
Thanks for being there.
Luv ya!
Your Bro,
Chris

To Johnny Williams,
I love you, lets work things out and get back together.
P.S. The first winks are the best!
Love,
Sweaty Palms

To a forever Valentine who I love. Happy Valentines Day Turtle.
Love,
Gypsie

Dawn,
All I can say is "thank you."
Love,
Holley

Carrie
You are a great friend and I love having you by my side. Woo-Woo!
Love,
Holley

Skeeter,
There's someone out there for you and I hope you find him. Happy Valentine's Day.
Love,
Goofy

Holley,
Thanks for being there for me. I hope you get who you want. Happy Valentines day.
Love,
Carrie

Happy Valentine's Day to all my friends.
Linda Sanchez

I love Pam G! Always and forever!
from Troy Hamilton

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