

# AWARDS LUNCHEON



MINORITY AWARDS -- Ron Lurie, right presents the awards during the Second Annual Minority Awards Luncheon Friday to, left to right Frank Canul, Celso Flores and Sam Craig. Guest speaker at the luncheon was Connie Mack Higgins, of the Small Business Administration, Washington, D. C.

Continued from page 1.. Nevada Family "the lousiest I've ever seen."

Carl Christensen, chief District Judge for Clark County, also supported Dr. Densen-Gerber's criticism. He said the therapeutic community has lost the confidence of the judicial system, the medical profession, attorneys and everyone who deals with drug problems.

Mr. Whitfield informed us that while Carl Christensen was the callendar judge, he handled many criminal drug cases, yet, never referred a single case to the Nevada Family. As of January 1st, he said he received 10 patients from the present callendar judge. Burt Whitfields also stated that if the Family is going to be truly successful it needs the patients to fill the facilities, and the need

for a more extensive program shouldn't be considered unless we make use of what we have. Presently only about 50% of the potential enrollment is in use. Many members of SND AC expressed concern over Dr. Gerbers program due to both the cost and the fact that the controlling board would be located out of state. If Dr. Gerber's program were instituted, the last cost estimate would be \$206,000 which is \$20,

000 below her original estimate at the time of her programs incorporation in Nevada, SN-DAC only has \$160,000 to work with.

As far as the Family programs' financial status stands, they have been audited twice, with a clean bill of health both times.

Both Christensen and Dr. Densen-Gerber were advocating Nevada Family be replaced by Dr. Densen-Gerber's program.



ANSWERS CRITISM -- R. Norris Beatty, past president of the Southern Nevada Drug Abuse Council, vehemently defended the drug abuse program in this area recently, in response to the criticisms of Dr. Judianne Densen-Gerber, founder and director of a drug abuse program operating in eight states. He specifically denied the charges by Dr. Densen-Gerber that Nevada Family, Inc., has "the lousiest (program) I've ever seen."

## BLACKS LIVE IN BRIAR PATCH WORLD

There comes a time in every person's life when he wishes that a strong invigorating wind would blow and breath new vitality into his life.

Percy Bysshe Shelly, 19th century English poet, said it best: He wrote one of the best poems of that century calling on the west wind to give him new life. He prayed, "...lift me as wave, a leaf, a cloud! I fall upon the thorns of life! I bleed!

Every person feels this way at some point in life. It seems that life is one big patch of thorns in which man must wonder through searching for the little flowers that will give his life a little meaning and a fresh scent of hope.

Black people have been placed in the most thorny part of this briar-patch world. Throughout their stay in the United States, they have prayed to God to make their stay a little less thorny. But a lot of them have begun to think that God either does not hear their prayers, or he does not care about their plight--their best leaders have been shot down in the streets; and now inflation and recession are undoing the progress that these leaders obtained for their people.

As the old man, who was picking cotton one hot day on a plantation, lifted his head to the skies and asked, "Oh God, how long must I be tied to this sack? I want to be rid of it so that I can sit in the shade like white folks; eat good food; wear fine clothes and sleep between sheets with my woman."

But it seems even when black people get some of these delicacies they are filled with thorns.

Black people have, however, the same curse they have always had--lack of unity and purpose. They do not seem to plan for the future. If the good things of life do not come to them immediately, they get discouraged and quit trying.

Many solutions exist to the plight of the black man. But there is one which seems more practical than the rest--the strong and intelligent blacks

will just have to forget about the mass and go out and fight alone--maybe they will lose, but at least their deeds of bravery and daring might inspire others to follow in their foot steps. And besides every man must live for himself--follow his own destiny. An those few blacks who dare to dream should follow them with all their might, no matter what their people are doing.

## D.A. ON HOTSEAT

District Attorney George Holt will be interviewed on a new radio program. "Las Vegas Hotseat," by a team of three high school students. The program will be broadcast by KORK-AM on Friday, March 28th at 11:05 p.m., on March 29th by KRAM at 4:45 p.m. and on March 30th at 5:45 p.m. by KLVM. The panelists for the broadcast are Mike Arcamuzi, student

body president of Chaparral High, Cathy Edwards, a junior at Western High, and Andy Eskin, student body president of Valley High. The students selected Mr. Holt to be interviewed, and prepared the questions. The fifteen minute program is aired every week, with a variety of guests. The broadcasts are coordinated by the City's Youth Affairs Office.

THE BLACK PRESS — OUR FREEDOM DEPENDS ON IT

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**NOTICE OF A PUBLIC WORKSHOP**

To be held by the special Legislative Subcommittee, chaired by Mr. Tom J. Hickey, studying possible legislation dealing with Mass Transit within Clark County.

The workshop is to be at 1:30 p.m. on March 29, 1975, in the City of Las Vegas Commission Chambers at 400 East Stewart Avenue.

**THE PUBLIC IS INVITED TO PARTICIPATE**

ORIGINAL DEFECTIVE