

Williams Request Refused By Commissioners

When the 1971 Nevada State Legislature created several districts in Clark County, one of the districts was in an area assuring the Black community a seat on the Clark County Commission. After this became a fact and after much deliberation, the Black residents decided that they wanted to fill that position with someone with the Black community at heart and with the ability to work with the County Commissioners and for the County as a whole. From time to time, it has been evident that we made the right decision.

The latest development to sustain our belief occurred recently when Commissioner Williams solicited the help of his fellow commissioners to petition the Sheriff, to get select citizens to ride in a police car on the Westside. This, of course, was refused by all the other Commissioners.

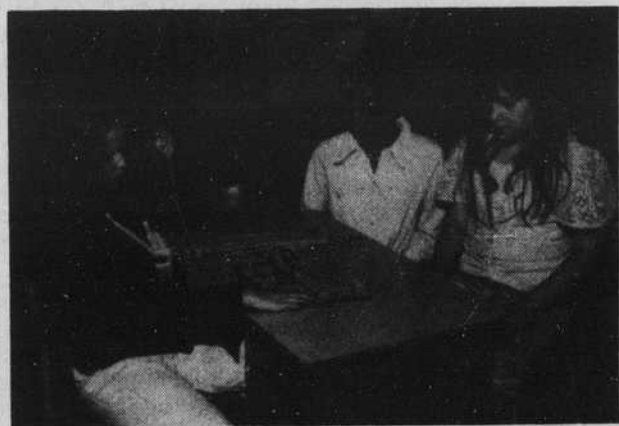
One Commissioner dared to say she had never heard of police brutality in this area. I was appalled at such a statement because Black people have been shouting so loudly that the Justice Department in Washington, D.C., heard the cries. The NAACP and the SCLC have many complaints on file.

There was one other thing that was pointed out in the Commissioners' refusal to support Commissioner Williams, and that is the lack of apathy felt toward the Black community.

Commissioner Williams is to be commended for his efforts in trying to get some things done in this area of police brutality. It is a very prominent complaint. We also hope that the Commissioner who confesses total ignorance of these complaints, has more knowledge in the administration of other county areas.

It has been our experience ever since Commissioner Williams has been on the Commission that he has worked for the entire county as well as for the Black community and supported all programs for the entire county.

We have never heard of any cases where he failed to support any program because it was in Winterwood or Paradise Valley. It will be good if some of the other Commissioners would follow this line of thinking.



TEACHING--Linda Nelson, a deaf student in the aurally handicapped program at Ruby Thomas, demonstrates and explains stitching to Sharon Beatty and Robin Payton in a recent one-day visit to Walter Bracken Elementary.

Pardoned Blacks Establish Justice Fund

ATLANTA--Two Black men who spent 12 years on death row fighting a death sentence, have been pardoned and have formed an organization to fight for others who are imprisoned unjustly.

The Pitts-Lee Justice Fund, Inc., which was recently founded by Freddie Pitts and Wilbur Lee, will organize support for, and finance the defense of incarcerated persons believed innocent.

According to an article published in the April 30 edition of the Bilalian News, Pitts and Lee "now maintain busy schedules speaking before prison support groups, universities, colleges and social organizations."

The two Black men won national media coverage in the early '70s when it was disclosed that "a Caucasian ex-convict admitted the killings for which Lee and Pitts were convicted. Curtis Adams, the convict was under questioning at the time for a near-identical murder."

"In a span of 22 days, the pair had been arrested, assigned an attorney, indicted, tried, convicted, and sentenced to death! The prosecutor, defense attorney, judge and jury were all Caucasians."

The two men, now closer than many blood kin, did not know each other prior to the fateful night of August 5, 1963, when a series of circumstances made a net which would bind them together for life.

UNLV Tops at Jazz Festival

The University of Nevada, Las Vegas Jazz Ensemble was selected as one of the top bands at the annual Pacific Coast Jazz Festival at Berkeley, California.

The group, under the direction of Frank Gagliardi, placed second in overall competition and received a trophy from the prestigious festival which attracted more than 40 bands from throughout the Southwest and Canada.

"We were only four points from first place, and that went to Cal State at Northridge," said Gagliardi. "And this was a real thrill for us because it was our first major competition."

The UNLV Jazz Ensemble, which has been invited to perform at the World Jazz Festival in Switzerland this summer, also performed at Donte's nightclub in Los Angeles.

"Not many college bands get to play there," Gagliardi said, "and this is our second time."

He added that UNLV's reputation in jazz has grown and that the ensemble ranked above Stanford and UCLA in festival competition. The UNLV Jazz Ensemble will be performing in a spring concert sometime in May in an effort to raise funds for the upcoming trip to the World Jazz Festival.

Head start Registration

Recruitment for Sept. 1976 Head Start classes will be taking place throughout the month of May at the Economic Opportunity Board, 900 West Owens Avenue. Children who will be four years old on or before December 31, 1976 and are from low-income families may be eligible. Current Head Start students will graduate in May. For further information call 648-3280, Ext. 98.

Join Ray Willis and Maria Donoso for a look at what minorities are doing in Southern Nevada.

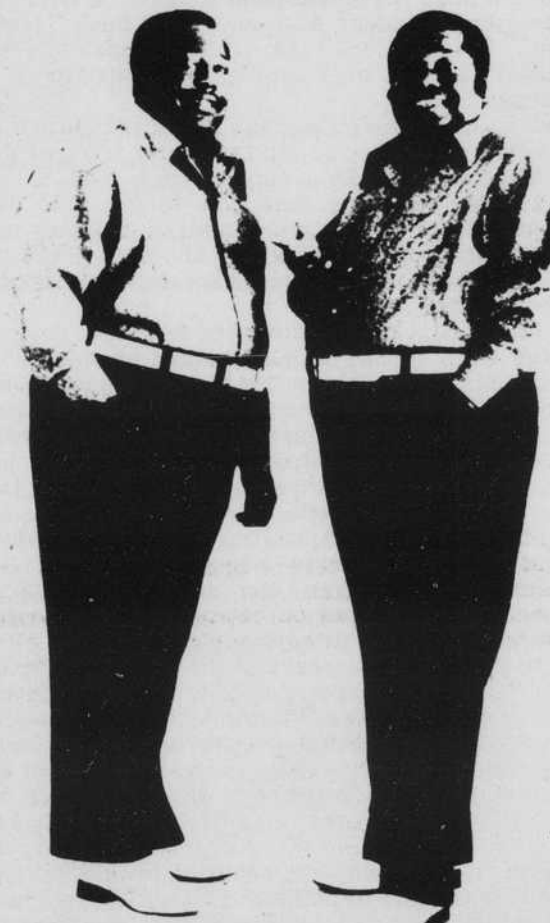
Along with special local and nationally known guests, they make this an interesting and informative half-hour.

Sat. 4:30 PM Sun. 7:00AM

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GREAT MOMENTS IN GOSPEL



O'NEAL TWINS

Great Moment in Gospel Productions presents the famed O'Neal Tiwn, from St. Louis, Mo., Rev. John Brown with the Cornerstone Cogic Singers also Rev. Sam Roberson with combinations. The affair will be held Friday, May 14, 1976 at 8:00 P.M. at the New Morning Star Baptist Church, 1221 "J" Street - Rev. A.B. Carr pastor. Advance donation: \$3 at the door \$5. Children 6-12, advance donation \$2. at the door \$4.

Tickets are available at the Religious Emporium, 1322-1/2 "D" Street.

The VOICE Has IMPACT

THE STAFF OF THE LAS VEGAS VOICE EXTENDS THEIR APLOGIES TO THE WALKER FAMILY AND CONTRIBUTORS FOR ERRORS MADE IN LAST WEEK'S AD - CORRECTED AD IS TO THE RIGHT.

The Walker Family Wishes To Express Appreciation To:

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The following is an actual comment one family made. We have the writer's permission to print it here: "I had preconceived ideas of such places and people involved in your kind of work -- but thanks to Don Maisal, they emerge differently now. Everything, I know, was to make things easier and uncomplicated for me, and I thank all of you."

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