

CONVENTION ATTENDANCE UP 17.2% FIRST 8 MONTHS — TOURISM UP 5.5%

LAS VEGAS, NV. — Sept. 16 — Las Vegas attracted 7.3 million visitors the first seven months of 1983, while 640,000 convention delegates met here between January and August. This equates to a 5.5% increase in visitor volume and a 17.2% rise in convention attendance compared to the same period of 1982.

Given the forementioned data, coupled with the fact September and October are traditionally strong convention months for Las Vegas — an earlier news release proclaimed

50,000 delegates for September — the city can be optimistic about its immediate future. Additionally, the annual Caesars Palace Grand Prix auto race, Oct. 6-9, is expected to draw 25,000 plus spectators. This will boost the local economy even more.

Aside from the increase in visitors and convention attendees, automobile traffic from Southern California to Las Vegas was up 1.3% — 1.6 million vehicles traveled here — over the same eight month time frame of a year ago.

Nevada Power Announces Big Response To 1984 Summer Air Conditioning Control Program

Nevada Power Company said today that reservations are going quickly for the 1984 Summer Air Conditioning Control program.

Mel Sutton, manager of the Energy Conservation Department said, in less than one week, more than 1,000 customers have signed up to have their air conditioners controlled by radio during the hot summer months from June through September. He said the company started the sign-up cam-

paign for 1984 early because of the consumer demand for participation in the popular program. The response to the announcement of the availability of the program for the next year has been phenomenal, according to Sutton. Customers are being signed up on a first-come first-served basis.

Each customer on the program averages about \$15 a month reduction in their power bill from June through September.

"The Year of Human Rights in Nevada" Proclaimed By Gov. Bryan

Governor Richard Bryan has proclaimed the 1983-1984 school year as "The Year of Human Rights in Nevada."

The proclamation, which was requested by representatives of the Clark County School District, will be used in conjunction with a number of planned projects relating to the Holocaust and Dr. Martin Luther King.

It reads:

"WHEREAS, the subject of human rights is of highest priority to all of us; and

"WHEREAS, the need for awareness of human conditions is paramount; and

"WHEREAS, knowledge of historical and

present world attitudes toward human rights must be communicated; and

"WHEREAS, the education of young people and adults in the area of human rights is a shared responsibility of our schools and community; and

"WHEREAS, the schools of Nevada, in programs initiated by Clark County, will be emphasizing the issues of human rights during this school year;

"NOW, THEREFORE, I, RICHARD H. BRYAN, GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, do hereby proclaim the school year 1983-1984 as "THE YEAR OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN NEVADA."

NAACP Officials To Hold Local Probe

National NAACP officials will be in Las Vegas Friday to meet with leaders of the troubled local chapter whose president, the Rev. James Allen, recently resigned.

William H. Penn, director of branch and field services, will hold a general membership meeting at 7:30 p.m. Friday at the Economic Opportunity Board to answer questions from chapter members, said local NAACP spokesman Pete Peterson.

Penn and an attorney for the National Association For The Advancement of Colored People then will meet with the chapter's executive committee Saturday to aid in the transition from Allen's presidency.

Allen was placed on a 90-day suspension by national NAACP officials two weeks ago. He resigned four days later after his superiors said they saw no reason why the suspension should not be permanent because of statements Allen made to the media.

Viewed as controversial by some chapter members because of his often fiery denunciations, Allen alleged that federal funds may have been misused in the construction of an NAACP

housing project in Las Vegas.

The former president claimed that more than \$250,000 was siphoned off in the form of kickbacks and missing construction materials at the Arthur McCants housing project on Eastern Avenue.

In a letter to Allen last week, Penn said national officials planned to conduct their own "internal investigation" of those allegations and asked Allen to provide documentation.

But Penn warned Allen of the importance of "due care" in any further public statements "since you may leave yourself open for defamation litigation should the reputations of individuals and others be inaccurately

portrayed."

Allen, who said after he resigned that he would be traveling to New Mexico, was not available for comment.

He has been replaced in the post by NAACP Vice President Bernard Hamilton, leaving Hamilton's post open for an appointment by the executive committee.

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Nevada's largest and most complete black community newspaper.

Published every Thursday by the Brown Publishing Co., 1201 So. Eastern Ave., Las Vegas, Nevada 89104. Telephone: 383-4030.

Ed Brown, President & Advertising Sales Manager; Betty Brown, Vice President, Publisher-Editor; Comilla Johnson, Business Manager.

Subscription payable in advance
Six months \$15.00
Twelve months \$25.00
The rates apply to Continental United States Only

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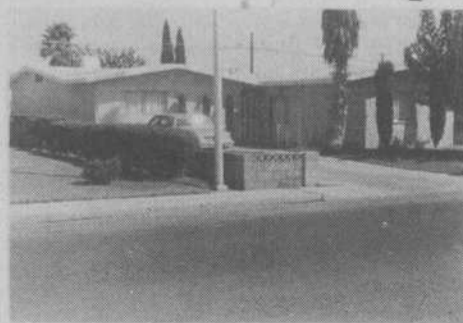
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