

**Atty Fred Gray, new bar head, wants more blacks in firms**

A list of Fred Gray's past clients reads like a who's who of civic rights. Among them: Rosa Parks, Martin Luther King Jr.

For the next year, the Tuskegee, Ala., lawyer will continue the struggle as head of the National Bar Association, the USA's oldest and largest black lawyers group.

"If you knock on the door of America's large law firms you will basically see white males," says Gary, 54, who takes over tonight in Chicago as president of the 8,500-member association. "We will be calling on these large white law firms to hire black attorneys."

He credits segregation in Montgomery, Ala., for

steering him to law.

Gray, whose carpenter father died when he was 2



GRAY: Segregation steered him toward law profession

and whose mother worked as a domestic, chose Western Reserve University in Cleveland because morning classes allowed him to work in a button factory, a steel mill and delivering dry cleaning.

In September 1954, he returned to Montgomery. On Dec. 1, 1955, Rosa Parks boarded a bus 1½ blocks from his law office. She was arrested when she refused to give her seat to a white man. The incident cost Parks \$14 for breaking the segregation law. It also helped launch the civil rights movement, King's prominence in it and Gray's career.

He was one of the first blacks since Reconstruction

to serve in the Alabama Legislature, from 1970 to 1974.

"The Legislature was an interesting experience, but it was most frustrating... Things there are designed to be nonproductive," he said.

After taking time out for his wife, Bernice, four children and professional journals, Gray says: "My biggest outside interest is my grass. We have 15 acres and it takes three or four hours to cut."

--Steve Marshall

**Free Sickle Cell Screening Available**

Sickle cell disease still afflicts thousands of black Americans every year. September is National Sickle Cell Month.

On September 14, The Sickle Cell Anemia Foundation of Nevada, Inc. will conduct free Sickle Cell screening to the public at Operation Life, 900 W. Owens Ave. from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Free refreshments, posters, counseling and educational material will be given.

**Drug abuse films available for viewing**

To aid its continuing fight against drug abuse and child abuse, the Metropolitan Police Department has purchased 10 films to loan to schools, civic clubs, churches and parent groups free of charge.

The award-winning audio/visual films, developed for the

department, are available through the department's Community Relations Office.

Films about drugs and alcohol in the workplace also are available.

For additional information, or to schedule a free showing of any of the films, contact detective Chuck Woodworth at 386-3111.

**Ten arrested during drug raid**

Ten people were arrested and cash, drugs and a pistol were seized after Metropolitan Police served a search warrant at a North Las Vegas residence Monday afternoon.

The raid occurred about 4 p.m. at 2033 Travis St. after patrol officers working out of the department's west substation learned that cocaine sales were allegedly taking place at the residence, officials said.

When they arrived at the house, they discovered \$1,000 in cash, an estimated \$450 worth of rock cocaine, miscellaneous pills, freebasing paraphernalia and the pistol.

The owner of the house, Sara Flanagan, 39, was arrested on charges of conspiracy to distribute cocaine, possession of a controlled substance with intent to distribute, sale of cocaine and four counts of felony child endangerment.

Nine others arrested on charges of conspiracy to distribute cocaine were Courtney Norman, 25, 1104 Wyatt Ave; Steven Robinson, 25, 2605 Clayton St.; Lenett Nunnally, 23, 965 Lawry Ave.; Linda Lanton, 32, 1955 Gerlach Dr., No. 23B; Chris Gray, 22, 2033 Travis St.; Ralph Gray, 40, 1989 Balzar Ave.; Randolph Trent, 33, 1048 Miller Ave., Apt. A; and two juveniles.



Alex Haley  
Journalist and Author

**A Special Message from Alex Haley for minorities about careers in journalism**

My career as a journalist began in my spare time with lots of desire and no formal training. Minority news professionals were scarce then and getting into the news business was tough.

Things have changed some, but not enough. There are still far too few members of racial minorities pursuing news careers or being given a chance to do so.

If you have talent as a writer, cartoonist, graphic artist or photographer and you're interested in a career in the news business call this number toll free: 1 (800) 331-1750. Ask for Operator 128. In Nebraska call 1 (800) 343-4300. You'll get free information from the Society of Professional Journalists. Remember, journalism needs minorities, and minorities need journalism.

1 (800) 331-1750

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An affair-Alphi Phi Alphi Fraternity Inc., The Second Annual Scholarship Affair will be held on Sept. 28 at the Imperial Palace Hotel. The theme "The Ballot and the Book: Links to Socio-Economic Freedom." The speaker is the honorable Dr. Richard Arrington, Mayor of the City Birmingham, Alabama. Cocktails start at 7:30 and dinner served at 8:15 p.m.

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