Phi Delta Kappa Conference **Hailed Big Success**

The 21st Far Western Regional Conference sponsored by the National Sorority of Phi Delta Kappa, Inc., was successfully held at the Dunes Hotel last weekend. The conference hosted by the local Gamma Sigma Chapter was rated excellent by those in attendance from the Far Western Region and other regions.

members Local participating were: Simmie Conference Chairperson; Deborah Franklin, Jessica Perkins, Gilda Austin, Shiela Gilchrist Dorothy Powell, Yolanda Arrington, Brendia Crosby, Lurlena Howard, Quincella Joyce Wilson, Rivers. Dorothy Roberts, Claudette Grace Whitson and McGlothen

Superintendent Dr. Robert Wentz of Clark County School District brought astounding greetings to the conferees. He said, "I find our basic philosophy in close harmony with the philosophy, guiding principles, and five-point program of Phi Delta Kappa. What could be a more worthy goal than to train our youth to cope satisfactorily and effectively with today's problems? What better way could there be to accomplish that goal than through dayto-day instruction in the classroom and reaching out for support and reinforcement in the community? You are to be commended for adherence to your philosophy and guiding principle . . . As your colleague, I offer my support to your pursuit of Phi Delta five-point Kappa's

program. Highlighting the conference was the Regional Award Citation Luncheon which was held at the Topof-the-Dunes before a jammed-packed audience. The Regional Award was presented to Las Vegas' Honorable Senator Joe Neal contributions education, human rights, civil rights, Community Services, National and International contributions by way of publications and news articles. The Awards Committee felt that Senator Neal has been very supportive of the Clark County School District's educational program through his having served on the administrative Selection Committee. He has been instrumental in trying to get the bill passed in Carson City to make Dr. Martin Luther King's birthday a legal holiday in the State of Nevada.

Before accepting the award Senator Neal delivered a stirring and thoughtprovoking address based on the sorority's national theme "The Pursuit of Excellence



Winnie Palmer

- A Challenge to Fulfill." In his opening remarks he immediately made the announcement that a young Black girl, Debbie Thomas, had won the World Championship Figure Skating Award for 1986 in Germany

Senator Neal, who has been rated locally as being definitely pro-teacher, expressed his concern over the bad rap that teachers are getting - especially Black teachers. He said that they

Our success depends upon how well we satisfy you

are testing teachers in every subject area but not testing them for what they have specialized in. This is not in the best interest of teachers, he remarked. He said that he asked some of his fellow colleagues what is the testing really for and was told that someone has to be blamed for the inadequacies in education, technology and other areas. Neal asserted that teachers cannot be blamed for these inadequacies. He also said that everything that is said about teachers is not necessarily true but there are some things that we must take a closer look at.

Neal blamed Reagan's administration for a great deal of the existing problems. He said it seems that their whole purpose was to eliminate the Department of Education on the National level

Another highlight of the conference was the Special Press Conference/Cocktail Party honoring Winnie Palmer, National Supreme Basileus of the National Sorority of Phi Delta Kappa, Inc., which was held last Saturday evening at the Top, of the Dunes.

Mistress of Ceremonies for this elaborate occasion was Earline Sanders, Regional Public Relations Chairperson See KAPPA, Page 9

Organizations Send Delegates To Leadership Summit

By Larry A. Still NNPA News Service

WASHINGTON, D.C. -Over 100 key delegates from 300 invited, predominantly black organizations were among the representatives drafting proposals for collective action this year at the second annual National Black Leadership Roundtable conference here. The three day sessions were held March 14-16 at the Howard University School of Law campus with Dr. James E. Cheek, H.U. president, welcoming the participants.

According to Rep. Walter E. Fauntroy, District of Columbia congressman and NBLR president, conferees outlined plans for action in the areas of Network Development (establishment of state Black Leadership Roundtables) political Empowerment (voting rights enforcement and election of more black officials in city and municipal offices,

congress and statewide posts); media accountability through advertising and publicity; Youth Development; International Youth Affairs (African Relief and South African Liberation); Senior Support for Black elderly with "Crime Watch" and "Adopt a Senior: Drug

Treatment and Preyention; A National Campaign to Save Black Owned Land, and Enhancement of the annual Congressional Black Caucus

REGISTER

THE SENTINEL-VOICE

Nevada's only black community newspaper

Published every Thursday by the Brown Publishing Co. Inc., 1201 South Eastern Avenue, Las Vegas, Nevada 89104 Telephone (702) 383-4030.

Serving Las Vegas, North Las Vegas, Reno, Carson City, Sparks, Hawthorne, Henderson and Tonopah.
Ed Brown, President, Co-Publisher, Director of Sales; Betty Brown, Vice President, Co-Publisher-Editor; LeRoy Brown, Marketing Director; Delores Feemster, Reno General

Members: National Newspaper Publishers Association, West Coast Black Publishers Association.

This newspaper is audited by Community Papers Verification Service, 6225 University Avenue, Madison, W153705 (608) 238-7550.



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