

# Education

## SCHOOL TALK

By Dr. Marshall C. Darnell

### A MAN TO REMEMBER

On February 5, 1988, the Clyde C. Cox Elementary School was officially dedicated by the Clark County School District. It was my good fortune to have prepared the insert for the dedication program. The lines that follow are taken from the history and work of this outstanding leader. For those who were not able to attend the ceremony, it seems only fitting that his testimony for life be offered where many may have an opportunity to once again appreciate the value of his contributions for all Nevada.

#### Bishop Clyde C. Cox

Bishop Clyde Carson Cox was a leader for his time, not only for his race, but for all races and creeds in the state of Nevada. He labored in the cause of the ministry and education, profoundly concerned with the needs for all citizens to be educated. His spiritual devotion to this cause and to the needs of his congregation reaped countless blessings in his lifetime and remain today as an inspiration to those who carry his dream forward.

When he was born in Mexia, Texas, his parents, Henry Clay and Etta Cox, did not dream that their son would be a leader of hundreds of people. They assisted him in obtaining an education in elementary schools in Oklahoma and Georgia. His secondary education was completed when he graduated from Bartlesville, Oklahoma. Following this phase of his formal training, Clyde attended Morehouse College in Atlanta and earned his B.Th. degree in 1932. He earned his Doctor of Philosophy degree from the Trinity Hall College and Seminary in Springfield, Ill. on May 15, 1956.

Prior to coming to Las Vegas, Bishop Cox served as

pastor to a number of churches in Iowa and California. During his years of ministry, he met and married Sweet T. Givens in Midland, Texas. From this union came a daughter Clara Jean McCoy.

Bishop Cox moved to Las Vegas and was named pastor of a church he directed in construction at 1117 F Street. He was a member of a small Negro population in Las Vegas in these years which numbered less than 300. To keep up with the rapid growth of the city Rev. Cox and his congregation built two churches on this property for the Church of God in Christ.

In these early years of ministry to the Las Vegas Community, Bishop Cox volunteered to distribute mail in West Las Vegas. This meant that he had to walk from his home to the Post Office on Stewart Street where he would pick up the mail for his section of the city, then walk back and slowly distribute it twice each day. In this position he became an informational bureau for his people. With all his activities, his wife, Sweet, was at his side assisting him wherever she could, trying to lighten the burden. For as the congregation in Las Vegas grew, Bishop Cox's work increased; he was required to travel over 35,000 miles each year to visit every city in his territory and to attend annual meetings of the Church.

His labors were not overlooked for in 1966 he was named "The Man of the Year of Las Vegas." Other recognitions were offered to Bishop Cox, yet his love for all people and that love returned was his greatest honor. Today we honor him once more than an elementary school to carry his

## COURT RULES SCHOOL DISTRICTS MUST COMPLY WITH STATE LAW

CARSON CITY—In a precedent setting decision, the Nevada Supreme Court has ruled that school districts must comply with a provision in state law that probationary teachers must be made aware if their performance is unsatisfactory and must be given "reasonable assistance" to improve.

The ruling came in a case brought to the court by the Nevada State Education Association on behalf of association member Pamela McCrackin.

In the case of Pamela McCrackin v. Elko County School District, NSEA argued that McCrackin, a probationary teacher, was not given notice of the intention not to renew her contract nor was she given assistance or a chance to improve. The Court agreed with NSEA's argument.

In its decision, the Court stated that, "In determining the meaning of specific provisions of an act, the act should be read as a whole and meaning given to all its parts . . . The legislature's requirement that probationary teachers be given notice of a potential decision not to re-employ them, and the rea-

sons for such a decision, could serve no purpose if those teachers are not also given a chance to respond to that notice . . ."

Leaders of NSEA praised the decision as a "milestone in making the evaluation process a meaningful tool for improving the quality of education."

"Our association has always advocated that the evaluation process should be used to recognize the high quality of instruction in Nevada's classrooms. In those instances where a teacher is judged to have deficiencies, the evaluation process should be used as a tool to help the teacher improve," NSEA President Chris Giunchigliani said.

"In 1985 our association worked for changes in the evaluation statute to strengthen the process. Those changes, which were enacted into law, require that districts make 'reasonable efforts' to help teachers judged to be unsatisfactory to improve their performance. This Supreme Court decision mandates that school districts comply with this requirement."

## STUDENTS TO ATTEND JOB INFORMATION FAIR

A Job Information Fair will be held at Cashman Field Complex Friday, February 26 at 8 a.m. until noon. The job fair is sponsored by the Clark County School District Special Student Services Department.

Approximately 120 students are expected to attend the seminar which will provide information about the jobs that are available for special education students who have been mainstreamed into vocational education classes.

Frank Hawkins, professional athlete for the L.A. Raiders, will deliver the key-

note address at 8 a.m. in room 101. His speech, entitled "Keeping Straight from School to Work," will encourage students to avoid substance abuse and learn as much as possible while in school to prepare for the future.

During the morning event, students will receive information about job application skills, interview techniques, community opportunities and vocational information.

## Register

## Doolittle Tutorial Program Underway

The Board of Trustees of the Tutorial Program at the Doolittle Recreational Center met Monday night and appointed Ms. Juanita Simpson as its coordinator. This selection begins the active process of putting the tutorial program in operation and initiated the drive to recruit students.

The Tutorial Program was established by the recent enactment of Assembly Bill 704 sponsored by Assemblyman Wendell Williams. AB 704 appropriated a one-time amount of \$80,000 and named the City of Las Vegas as custodian of the funds.

City staff worked closely with Assemblyman Williams to organize a Board of Directors to serve as a governing body responsible for the establishment of a curriculum and the administrative policy for the program. The board members include: Ms. Yvonne Atkinson-Gates, Mr. Richard Blue, Ms. Carol Burrell, Ms. Lorraine W. Hall, Dr. Bernard Hamilton, Dr. Joe Lamarca, Ms. Samye Lynom, Mrs. Rose McKinney-James, Dr. Paul E. Meach-

am, Ms. Daisy L. Miller, Ms. Ida Pinckney, Dr. James Pughsley and Ms. Michelle Sears.

Ms. Simpson, the new coordinator is currently employed as a reading teacher in the Chapter 1 Program at the John C. Fremont School. She brings to this new program more than ten years experience of direct professional involvement in programs emphasizing those developmental skills and competencies that are being targeted by this program.

Before coming to Las Vegas, Ms. Simpson directed two programs with similar objectives for the cities of Elmsford, New York and Carbondale, Illinois. She is also currently pursuing a Ph.D. degree in Education, with emphasis in reading, at Southern Illinois University.

Since the program is supported by state funds, all meetings will be held in compliance with the open meeting law. For those wishing further information, or students interested in becoming a part of the tutorial program, please contact 386-6374.

## Participation Needed . . .

### University of Nebraska Initiates NO Research Program

LINCOLN, NE —: Have you been pressured to use drugs? Tobacco? What about unwanted sex? Or drinking alcohol to excess? People who have had both successful and unsuccessful experiences in refusing to give in to pressures like these are urged to contact the University of Nebraska's Prevention Center for Alcohol and Drug Abuse, Lincoln, NE, to participate in "The Refusal Project," a research study.

"Saying No" has become a trademark of many drug and sex education efforts, but it's not as easy as the slogan suggests," says Dr.

Ian Newman, director of the Center.

"The more we develop and test programs to teach saying no, the more we realize how much we have to learn about saying no," said Newman. "Dealing with pressures from our friends to do something we don't want to do is one of life's toughest tasks."

The researchers would like to send anonymous questionnaires to people who have been successful or unsuccessful at saying no when pressured to participate in certain risky behavior. The researchers would also like to contact those who have pressured others into unwanted actions. All participants will be sent the complete results of the study.

Those interested in participating should contact: Ian M. Newman, Ph.D., The Refusal Project, Nebraska Prevention Center for Alcohol and Drug Abuse, 226 Coliseum, University of Nebraska, NE, 68588-0138.

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