

**POLITICAL POINTS:
"IT'S JUST LIKE COMPTON"**

by Assemblyman Wendell P. Williams SEE PAGE 2

UNLV BOOSTS RECORD TO 2-0
UNLV's Daniel Porter Named BWC
Defensive Player of the Week
by W. G. Ramirez SEE PAGE 18



**BLACK CULTURAL TOURS
A FIRST FOR LAS VEGAS**

by Muhammad Abdullah SEE PAGE 24

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"THE TRUTH SHALL SET YOU FREE"

NEW BUS SERVICE SET TO ROLL IN DECEMBER

By Joan Shepard

After three years of planning, Las Vegas will finally get a city-wide bus service by the first week of December, according to Kurt Weinrich, director of the Regional Transportation Commission.

The new 21-route bus service will cost about \$14 million a year to operate. The new fleet of 90 buses costs \$206,000 each. The financing comes from sales tax revenues, plus federal money for a permanent maintenance facility.

In addition, the new system creates about 150 new jobs. Local business will benefit by supplying goods and services including fuel, parts and towing. The RTC will sell on-board advertising.

The new system, Citizens Area Transit (CAT) will start advertising and marketing the new bus service in November. In addition to television ads, RTC will distribute maps, brochures, and schedules.

The new system will be totally different from the existing service. Instead of buses going in a meandering circular route, the new service will have buses running in two directions on the routes. Buses will service all sections of the city, including North and West Las Vegas, for 20 hours a day (until 1:30 a.m.).

Before the bus service can begin in December, drivers must be hired and trained. Some of the drivers who work for Las Vegas Transit will transfer to CAT.

The buses were described as "state-of-the-art," by Bruce Woodbury, chairman of the Regional Transportation Commission. The 45-passenger buses, manufactured by new Flyer in North Dakota, meet environmental standards and are wheel-chair accessible.

The buses have a system to trap particles, which means the buses omit a filtered exhaust. The electronic engines use clean diesel fuel which is lower in sulfur than conventional gaso-



The new Citizens Area Transit (CAT) buses, displaying above their ability to serve the disabled, plan to be in service by the first week of December.

Photo by Savoy/LVS-Voice

line.

The air-conditioning system went through the "Houston Pull Down Test," and is designed for hot Southwest conditions. Both Weinrich and New Flyer president, Guy Johnson, said they did not expect any trouble with the air conditioning system. Air conditioning was a hot topic this summer in Las Vegas, as the air systems broke down on all of the E.O.B. buses which transport senior citizens and the handicapped.

"The new bus system is a very positive thing for Las Vegas," exclaimed Yvonne Atkinson-Gates, candidate for County Commissioner. "Hopefully there will be a reduction in air pollution and traffic congestion," she said. "And it will help many people get to and from work," she noted.

The 20-hour, 5 a.m. to 1:30 a.m., schedule has been designed with shift-workers in mind, explained Weinrich.

The fare on the new CAT buses will be \$1.00, which is .25 cheaper than the current \$1.25 Las Vegas Transit fare. In addition, a monthly pass will be available for \$20, and a 40-ride coupon book will cost \$15.00. Reduced fares for senior citizens and youths 5-17 are

(See Bus Service, Page 11)

SCHOOL BOARD PASSES RESOLUTION TO END BUSING OF BLACK STUDENTS IN GRADES K-3

Sentinel-Voice

After long negotiations with concerned parents who formed the group WAAK-UP (Westside Action Alliance Korps-Uplifting People), the Clark County School Board has decided, for the first time in close to twenty years, to stop busing some Black students out of their own neighborhoods.

Though the board did not officially ban busing at a meeting held Wednesday evening, they did pass a resolution to create a plan so Black students in grade Kindergarten through third, can attend neighborhood schools—hopefully by the beginning of next school year.

School Superintendent Brian Cram, along with his staff, will now have the task of developing the new plan, which will then be put before the board for a vote. Reports say that the plan could be devised by as early as next month.

The old desegregation plan, created about twenty years ago, has been criticized throughout the years because it placed the burden of busing on Black students.

WAAK-UP had attempted to negotiate with the school district since as early as April, on matters such as sensitivity training for teachers and school administrators, and hiring of more African American teachers, as well as revising the old bus policy.

When parents became frustrated with the direction of the negotiations several weeks ago, they called for a boycott which resulted in close to 175 Black students missing the first two weeks of school.

Members of WAAK-UP, along with the support other concerned citizens and organizations, have vowed to continue to move forward and pressure the school board until this, and other important concerns, are addressed.

THE HISTORIC MOULIN ROUGE HOTEL NOMINATED TO NATIONAL REGISTER

By Muhammad Abdullah

The African-American Cultural Society, in cooperation with the Las Vegas Presentation Commission, owners and staff of Moulin Rouge Hotel, Dr. Paul Meachum the Moulin Rouge Preservation Committee and a host of well wishers, have culminated a drive to nominate the Moulin Rouge Hotel to the state and national register at a historic meeting on Friday, September 18, 1992.

According to Sarann Knight-Predy, part-owner of the historic site, the National Register will enable the Moulin Rouge to receive the recognition that is long over due.

The Moulin Rouge Preservation Committee invited the Las Vegas Preservation Commission to hold their hearings at the hotel inside their ballroom.

After discussions of its regular agenda, the commission opened the discussion for public comment on the preservation of the Moulin Rouge Hotel as a historic site and recommended approval for its nomination to the Na-

tional Register.

By a unanimous vote, the commission approved the nomination of the Moulin Rouge Hotel & Casino to the National Register following a brief tour of the facilities which was hosted by Ms. Predy, Katherine Duncan, President of the African-American Cultural Society, and the Moulin Rouge Preservation Committee.

In celebration of the event the Moulin Rouge Preservation Committee announced plans for a "Fireside Chat" appropriately named "Strolling Down Memory Lane," which will chronicle the history of the Moulin Rouge Hotel & Casino.

The Fireside Chat will take place on Saturday, October 3, 1992 at 7:30 p.m. in the ballroom. Activities will include speeches, 50's Music, a video documentary, Hor d'oeuvres, and no-host bar. Master of Ceremonies will be Dr. William H. "Bob" Bailey. For more information call (702) 593-CLUB.

According to Michelle McFadden,



Architectural Historian of the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources Division of Historic Preservation and Archeology, and Michele Martin, Membership Coordinator of the Nevada State Museum and Historical Society, the significance of the preservation of the Moulin Rouge Hotel & Casino will be a lasting benefit to the community in a number of ways; 1.) It will be listed on all of the national maps as "historic sites; 2.) It will attract grants for preservation funds; 3.) It will

(See Moulin Rouge, Page 11)