

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

HIGHER EDUCATION DENIED

BY STEVEN HORSFORD
LEGISLATIVE INTERN TO
ASSEMBLYMAN WENDELL
P. WILLIAMS, DISTRICT 6

As a sophomore at the University of Nevada, Reno studying to be a Secondary Educator, much of the funding that I and other students received in the past have been decreased if not taken away completely.

The reason- due to severe budget cuts in our state and nation, higher education has taken the back seat to the ailing budget concerns of many leaders.

On Thursday, March 4 over 200 students are expected to lobby the Nevada State Legislature for more funding to higher education. Presently, a letter and petition signing campaign has been the focus of the student leaders at UNR and UNLV.

The issue of funding higher education students is a fierce reality for African American students.

At UNR, for example, with only one hundred and eighty four African-American students, many have little need based or financial scholarships or grants. For high school students planning to attend a college or university the blatant truths about how to fund their college years are an added stress to an already difficult challenge.

Accordingly to *The Alliance*, a publication for Association of University Professors, ranks Nevada 50th for the funding of providing aid to needy students. Historically, African-Americans, Native Americans, and Mexican

Americans come from the poorest communities and families. In effect, our government is discriminating on the bases of economic status which is having an adverse effect on how many minorities can attend and graduate from an institution of higher learning.

Governor Miller's proposal for the 1993-95 biennium would cut higher education funding from 20.2% of the state budget to 19% in 1993-94 and 17.6% in 1994-95. Our state legislatures now have the difficult task of allocating funds based on the Governor's proposal and still meet the needs of their constituency and the entire state.

Concerned citizens, incoming freshman, and college students must express what the primary objective of the state should be. Should it be paying over \$25,000 a year to incarcerate a felon or spend more than \$6.10 per student in need based aid.

From the same source, *The Alliance*, New York spends \$434.50 in need based aid followed by Virginia which spends \$68.60 per student in need based aid.

If we are to have productive citizens in the State of Nevada funding must be made available too for early childhood education, to elementary and secondary education, to high school, community and university colleges, as well as continuing education for all adults. Chairman of Education, Wendell Williams realizes the importance of all the areas of education and

will speak at UNR during a Special Legislative Education Subcommittee hearing on March 8.

The focus of the forum will deal with education policy and curriculum of higher education and state funding for higher education.

It is election time for the student government at UNR, ASUN, and many students are concerned about the future curriculum, tuitions, and student serv-

WESTSIDE STORY

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Washington and Jefferson which is impeding our progress. You can explain away, but the hard core facts speak for themselves America stated that education was the key for blacks. By the 1990's we gained our highest representation ever in Academics, but we were at our most unemployed since World War II.

Integration was supposed to instill harmony, but what it brought was the metamorphosis of the American suburbs.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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fire arms. You might also want to check out the reasons given by both local and national law enforcement agencies for needing more man power. Tell me if this line sounds familiar; "The gangs have us out-numbered and outgunned. WE need to put more police officers on the streets. We need better weaponry. We need a bigger budget to combat an ever growing gang problem." Sounds like something we've all heard before, doesn't it?

Please understand that if not for the problems of our youth, the police department would

ices that will be provided. As a candidate for ASUN Education Senator I will represent the interest of all educational issues, particularly those affecting the African American community.

Now is the time for the "each one, reach one, teach one" philosophy to become a reality in the state of Nevada. Contact your state legislature and let them know what your concerns are. The number is 687-5545.

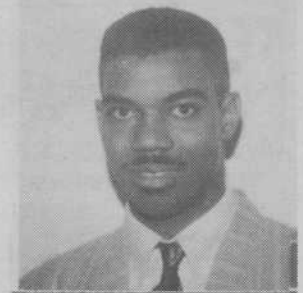
Coming up this week in ses-

sion:

Education Committee-Special Subcommittee to address concerns of higher education.

ACR9 - Directs Dept. of Education of conduct study concerning tracking of academic histories of pupils in public schools.

Ways and Means - AB 170- which deals with issuance of bonds to provide revenue for grants for preservation and promotion of cultural resources of



STEVEN HORSFORD
the state.

AB 260- Makes appropriation for program of nutrition. (W.I.C.)

AB 93- Clarifies provisions governing revenue to be deposited in fund for new construction of facilities for prison industries.

We recently suffered the worst racial rioting in our nation's history. The Dept. of labor concluded that blacks and minorities with similar educational and experience backgrounds had little chance of obtaining the same jobs as whites. Fortune 500 companies have a white to minority ratio of; 92% to 2.6%, for top positions. You can explain all you want, but the first and most vital reason for our condition, is racist contamination and neglect.

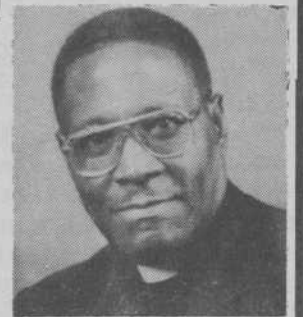
During one part of the session, a former gang member who had turned his life around when exposed to programs of work and personal development, was continually asked; if it was his HOME RAISING that was the reason for his early bad behavior." Time and time again, he responded that it wasn't his raising; but rather, "that lack of opportunity." Well after about 6 answers like that, they sat him down, and looked for someone else who could give a more "proper" response. If your answers don't fit the perfect explanations, no one has time for your response.

PEACE...

THE NAACP AND YOU!



Rev. Jesse D. Scott
President
Las Vegas, NAACP



A NOTICE TO ALL NAACP MEMBERS FROM WILLIAM H. PENN, SR., NATIONAL DIRECTOR OF BRANCH AND FIELD SERVICES

Dear NAACP Member of Las Vegas:

You are advised that as a result of a complaint filed against the Branch election held in December, 1992, the National Board of Directors has ordered a new election in the Branch.

In this connection, I have been designated as the Presiding Officer for the new election, and in accordance with the provisions of Article V, Section 14, of the Constitution and By-Laws for Branches of NAACP, will order the procedure for the new election.

Because the violations centered around the membership roster used in the election, we shall proceed with the election of those nominated in the November, 1992 meeting of the branch. Accordingly, the following information is provided relative to the new election:

Date of New Election: Sunday, March 21, 1993
Polls Opened: 1 p.m. - 5 p.m.
Site of Election: Heritage Lounge,
1042 W. Owens, Las Vegas, NV.

All members whose memberships are current as of March 15, 1993, and on the day of the election, will be entitled to vote in this new election. This determination will be made by the Branch Secretary/Branch Office, the custodian of Branch records. If you are not sure of your membership status, you should contact the Branch office immediately. Receipt of this communication does not necessarily mean that you are a member eligible to vote in this new election.

Please bring some form of identification with you, since you will be required to be properly identified before being issued a ballot. Your cooperation is appreciated.

Sincerely,
William H. Penn, Sr.
Director Branch & Field Service

EDWARD M.
BERNSTEIN
& ASSOCIATES
Attorneys At Law

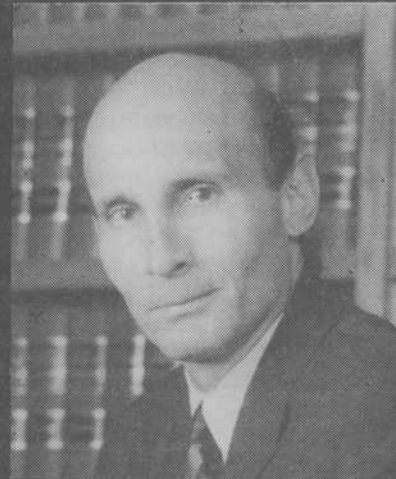
Practicing Primarily In

ACCIDENTS AND INJURIES

Se Habla Español
Offices in Las Vegas,
Reno and Laughlin

500 So. 4th St., Las Vegas

384-4000



"Notice to the Public: Neither the State Bar of Nevada nor any agency of the State Bar has certified any lawyer identified here as a specialist or as an expert. Anyone considering a lawyer should independently investigate the lawyer's credentials and ability."