

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

COLLEGES NOT IMMUNE TO ACADEMIC SUCCESS

By Steven Horsford, Legislative Intern To Assemblyman Wendell Williams-District 6

Five major bills introduced last week in the Legislature have caused a lot of controversy in the eyes of universities, NCAA officials, university foundation representatives, and sport fans alike. Assembly bills 399, 400, 401, 402, and 403 were introduced and referred to the education committee for testimony

and review.

AB 399 would regulate university foundations that make donations to universities and certain agencies and departments within the universities to report to the board of regents their donations under certain circumstances. These disclosures and reports would state which donations are being given, to whom, for what purpose, and what amount.

AB 400 further regulates

university foundations to pay tax on transfers of real property and prohibit an employee or officer of the University of Nevada System to accept employment or compensation from a university foundation. The bill also states that an employee or officer of the University of Nevada System can not serve as a member of the governing body of an university foundation.

AB 401 enforces the board of regents to approve certain con-

tracts of employment, agreements of compensation and agreements with independent attorneys.

The bill would also change provisions for the board of regents to require the approval of the president of a university or community college to conduct certain undercover investigations and providing penalties.

AB 402, introduced by Chairman of Education Wendell Williams (D-District 6), is a legislative matter that supports the university system's rules and regulations that require a university student who participates as a member of varsity athletics to make satisfactory progress toward obtaining a degree.

AB 403 would prohibit any state agency employee, including university and community colleges, from disclosing to the public certain allegations relating to former employees without notifying the employee.

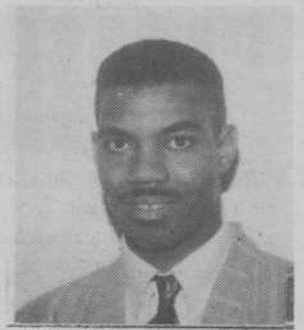
These bills were introduced in lieu of recent scandals surrounding the UNLV basketball program. Former basketball coach Jerry Tarkanian was in constant battle with the NCAA in allegations of broken rules of the NCAA by-laws. UNLV's recent controversy includes J.R. Rider who was accused of having an English tutor complete a paper that would keep him eligible to play.

UNLV is not the only school

that has had run ins with the NCAA. UNR had passed actions taken in both the basketball and football programs. Newly appointed NCAA president Joe Crowley (who is also the President of UNR) ensures that all NCAA rules and regulations are abided.

How does UNLV and UNR rate in the graduation rate of student athletes? This is a question that Assemblyman Wendell Williams has asked. Both institutions rate poorly in their overall graduation rate of student athletes.

Disturbed by his findings, Assemblyman Williams introduced legislation that would require either universities or the board or regents (or both) to ensure that student athletes are 'on track' of receiving their degrees. In other words, student athletes would not be allowed to take courses just for the sake of keeping eligible if those courses don't match the academic track



STEVEN HORSFORD of the student athlete's respective degree.

The other controversy is over whether private university foundations should have to report to the board of regents their donations to the universities. University foundations generally pay for many of the fringe benefits that student athletes and coaches receive. Some foundations give scholarships. Others may pay for apartments, cars, clothes, or donate complimentary services such as rooms and shows on the Strip.

AB 402 will be heard in Las Vegas on April 14th along with tentatively scheduled AB 399, and AB 400. The hearing will take place at the Cashman Field Complex.

For more information regarding these and other bills contact your legislator. Education is an investment not an expenditure, let your opinion be heard. Call 687-5545.

BOND ISSUE APPROVED FOR NLV

North Las Vegas Councilman Theron Goynes has announced that a \$10 million bond issue to repair and reconstruct neighborhood streets in North Las Vegas was approved by the General Obligation Bond Commission last week.

The proposal for the bond issue will go before voters at the general election on June 8, 1993. Goynes serves as Vice Chairman of the commission.

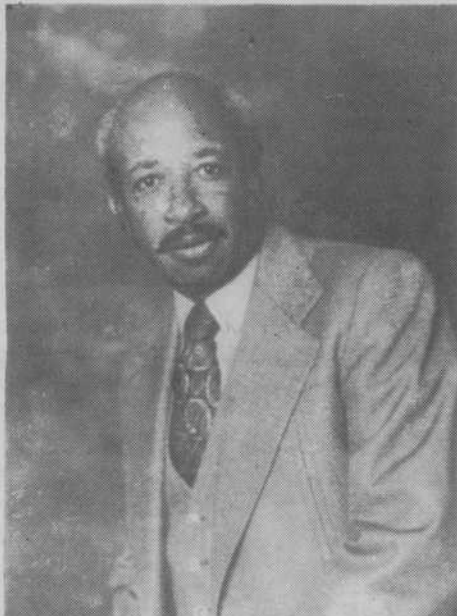
If approved by voters, the \$10 million in bonds will be sold over a four to six year period.

City Manager Michael Dyal explains that during this four to six year period, increases in assessed valuation, largely due to new residential construction in the northwest growth area, will help to retrieve the bonds without the need for an increase in property taxes.

"We're quite pleased," stated Councilman Goynes, "that we have been able to identify a way to finance improvements for neighborhood streets without increasing property taxes."

The first contract for street repair and reconstruction is anticipated to be let shortly after voter approval.


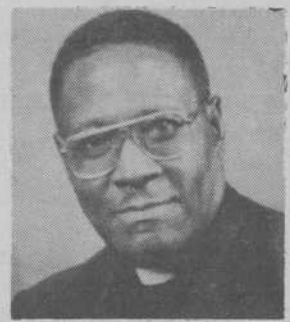
Subsequent contracts will be let in the spring of



NORTH LAS VEGAS COUNCILMAN THERON GOYNES

1995 and 1997, when it is expected that bonds can be sold without increasing the debt portion of the property tax rate, due to increasing valuations.

THE NAACP AND YOU!

Rev. Jesse D. Scott
President
Las Vegas, NAACP

NAACP Is Ready....Are You?

On April 1, 1993 the Las Vegas Branch NAACP will launch a Membership Fund Raising Drive that will include everyone...and that means you!

The campaign crusade is called 10 + 10. Each worker pledges and voluntarily agrees to sign up 10 NAACP memberships or more per month and to donate or solicit a donation of \$10.00 or more per month.

These reports must be made at the NAACP office before 5:00 p.m. the 1st Tuesday of each month.

- NAACP MEETING DATES**
FRIDAY, APRIL 16, 1993 - 7:00 P.M.
 Voters League Candidate's Night - Mable Hoggard School
SATURDAY, APRIL 17, 1993 10:00 A.M. TO 3:00 P.M.
 Orientation Workshop for new members of the Executive Committee as well as others - Mable Hoggard. Delta Sigma Theta will serve lunch. Limited attendance (100). Reservation must be made on or before 5:00 p.m. Monday, April 12, 1993 - 646-1662.
SUNDAY, APRIL 18, 1993 - 3:00 P.M.
 Installation of officers (NAACP) and Executive Committee Member at Zion United Methodist Church by Judge Lee Gates.
SUNDAY, MAY 16, 1993 - 3:00 P.M.
 NAACP Monthly Meeting Victory Baptist Church, 500 W. Monroe.
 Speaker: Chief Justice of Nevada Supreme Court Bob Rose.

HARRIS

©1992 G. HARRIS PRODUCTIONS
ALL RIGHTS RESERVED (312)238-1537

#HARRIS# 1993

PRIME TIME
NOW SHOWING
BLACK MEN ON TV