

# POET'S CORNER

## The Final War In The Sky (Progress The Wheel)

By Keith A. Brantley (Izulu Poets)

Behold the star that moved from place  
Ezekiels' vision of man from space.

The first and final  
invention the wheel.  
The pale horse below  
still tinkers in steel.

On silver wings of death  
the pale horse rides,  
death bound for death  
as forces collide.

Battle cast in light  
of epic proportions.  
The alpha wheel in flight  
shedding omega distortions.

The wheel of the past  
future fast, spinning truth  
tales told by prophets  
spinning visual proof.

The feeble of wings  
of progress, the deceptor,  
symbolically limited  
by phallic receptors.  
War genitalia  
launching sexual games.  
Phallics taking flight  
to perish in flames.

From delusions of Godhood  
so many shall die  
as the mighty wheel wages  
final war in the sky.

# WAAK-UP

(Continued from Page 11)

attempts. Gordon and Lewis, who both attended the meeting, deny that any such statement was made, but Clark-Murphy remains unconvinced.

"I called Larry McKay and Coach LaRocque and they swear she said this, and at this time my distrust of LaDonna is bigger," said Clark-Murphy.

"My son's name should never have come up (during the Nov. 21 meeting). His name should not have been on her lips."

"I would never do that," said Gordon. "I would never bring up the name of any child...I never expected another black person to do anything like this. I could never put anything like this in writing."

"It really hurt me more than anything," continued Gordon. "I was friendly with this person. We sat next to each other at games. We would save seats for each other. I told her things, she she told me things. I didn't know she could be like this."

Gordon had one more surprise before the week was out, not only had Clark-Murphy written this letter, she had written a letter back in January when the parents had first begun to meet to talk about Coach LaRocque.

The recently uncovered letter strongly criticized another parent, Charles "Chas" Cochrane, for dragging Sadat "into adult business."

"That's what really gets me," said Gordon. "(After the January letter) she continued to come up to me and be friendly. She never mentioned any of this. She never said LaDonna I disagree with you about this. She didn't say a word."

Clark-Murphy confirmed that she never spoke to Gordon about her concerns, and she doesn't intend to do so.

"I don't have anything left to say to her," said Clark-Murphy.

Gordon was contacted this week with the official response to the meeting on Nov. 21. The principal wrote his response after talking with several black coaches and players. These were some comments made by African-American coaches:

"I have never heard any racial comments or seen any prejudicial act."

"He has been fair with me and the players."

"They (the African-American players) respect and listen to LaRocque."

Said players...

"I have never seen him do or say anything bad about Blacks."

"He treats me like family...(he) treats everybody fairly...gives motivational talks."

"Coach is cool...he's like a second dad to me."

"Does not show favoritism...treats kids fair."

Principal Coles own comments mirrored those given by coaches and players.

"In summary, it is your position that Keenan is an outstanding basketball player who should be starting for Coach LaRocque. Because Coach LaRocque does not hold your view, you believe he must harbor racist feelings towards African-American males, and cut Keenan

from the team as the final act of retaliation for you reporting an incident during the 1994 Christmas Tournament in California. As a result of my investigation, however, I found no support for your position. What I uncovered was a caring coach who had made some tough and painful coaching decisions."

Gordon's plans are not publicly known at this point. She has responded to Coles' letter. Meanwhile, WAAK-UP will continue the fight against Durango High School without Gordon.

Said Marzette Lewis, "I think now LaDonna is trying to protect her kids. With her having a young daughter, it would really hurt this child to see her Mom out mudslinging with another black woman."

While the love of her children may be forcing Gordon to scale back her efforts, the same issue drives Lewis to complete the task.

Said Lewis, "I love kids. That's why we are continuing this fight. No one is targeting the kids on the team. This is not about the team. It's definitely about the staff at Durango. I don't want to hurt the kids. But I don't want LaRocque because, he hurts kids. I never would do anything to hurt somebody's kid, especially a black child, because I know a lot of them play for Coach LaRocque," she said.

Said Lewis, "I want any other parents of kids who have known LaRocque or Athletic Director Larry McKay in the past to come forward. Contact WAAK-UP with any information. Please, feel free to call 646-3280."

# CRIME

(Continued from Page 18)

convention, range

from a "Dial soap" representative to QueTel Corp, who impress prison wardens with technology to bar code inmates.

Should Americans be legitimately fearful that Wall Street has recognized that crime not only pays, but it pays billions? Have we reached that critical stage in America where the alienated and disenfranchised of our society are valued only for their eventual imprisonment? Although these are questions for all Americans to answer, how they are answered will disproportionately affect the future of Black Americans.

The American prison and jail population is over 1.5 million. While Blacks are 13 percent of the general population, they are nearly half of the 1.5 million incarcerated population. Experts believe that the prison population has swelled due to a so called "War on Drugs." Drug related convictions are certainly one of the reasons Blacks are disproportionately incarcerated, but one has to question why? According to the Department of Health and Human Services, 2.4 million (64.4 percent) of crack users are white, compared to 1 million Blacks (26.6 percent). Yet, in a 1992 study by the U.S. Sentencing Commission, 91.3 percent of those sentenced for federal crack offenses were Black, while 3 percent were

white. Such stark numbers irrefutably reveal that Blacks are the flesh that maintains a profitable "Prison Industry."

With the billion dollar profits from prison construction, warehousing prisoners, vending goods, and the operation of a slave-like work force, Blacks haven't been this desirably to middle America since colonial slavery. That was a period when the labor of enslaved Blacks created an economic boom across the landscape of America. In comparison today, as prisoners are being transported from state to state and the implementation of a slave-like

work force, it is difficult to ignore the frightening parallel.

When the privileged of society take aim to profit from the misery of crime, they become accomplice to social disorder, complicit in creating a criminal class.

Their quality of life becomes tied to a misery/revenue index where profits are merely a function of the misery of others. America's symbol of justice is unfolding before our eyes. It is no longer a blindfolded woman, it is now an accountant, not balancing the scales of justice, but debits and credits on a balance sheet.

# LAND CRISIS

(Continued from Page 3)

land. All we need is clear title. Since the banks have admitted making only a tiny fraction of their loans in the Black community and are therefore partially responsible for the blight, they can give us interest-free loans as well as grants to compensate for their crimes of red-lining. (Or we can go overseas to get what we need.) Since the Black Nation knows best what it needs, it is we who should organize the development of the land in a way that satisfies our mutual needs.

With the government of America seeing a million Black men occupying its capital city, it seems that the government might want to show a sincere gesture of atonement for past and present crimes against the Black Nation, by humbly coming to the table to discuss reparations.

# SILVER-N-SPRY EXERCISE CLASS

Attention Lung patients! Improve your muscle strength and flexibility while you have fun!

The American Lung Association of Nevada is offering a FREE exercise program for

seniors with lung disorders such as emphysema, asthma and chronic bronchitis.

The exercises are moderate and each individual is encouraged to work at his or her own pace. For more information contact the American Lung Association at 454-2500.

## SEND US YOUR POETRY CONTRIBUTIONS

LAS VEGAS SENTINEL-VOICE  
900 E. Charleston Blvd. • Las Vegas, NV 89104

## Desert Chrysler-Plymouth

(on Fremont between Sahara & Showboat Casino)  
VOYAGER VAN-NEON CARS  
GOOD OR BAD CREDIT

AUTO LOANS  
OVER THE PHONE  
IN 10 MINUTES



277-8603

CRAIG TOWNES  
CREDIT ANALYST

600 Used Cars in  
Huge Inventory

\$500 CASH/TRADE-INS DELIVERS  
Fresh Start Financing For Credit Problems  
Gold Key Financing For Good Credit  
1st Time Buyers For No Credit  
Auto Insurance Available

Available Exclusively at

# Violet May

"We specialize in Black Skin and Hair Care Products"

508 E. FREMONT (LAS VEGAS BLVD. & FREMONT) 471-1110

15% HOLIDAY DISCOUNT WITH THIS COUPON

- FINE PERFUME • BODY WRAPPING
- SKIN CARE • HAIR CARE
- MAKEUP • COLLECTIBLES

MEN'S & WOMEN'S FRAGRANCE  
STARTING AT \$9.99

IT PAYS TO ADVERTISE  
CALL NOW  
380-8100