

NEWS CLIPS

BOARD TURNS DOWN UNSOLICITED \$1.2 MILLION OFFER FOR KCEP-FM

The Economic Opportunity Board of Las Vegas has turned down an unsolicited \$1.2 million buy-out offer for KCEP-FM, the *Las Vegas Review-Journal* reported Saturday. The board voted to turn down the offer Feb. 1 from the California-based Joshua Company. The offer spurred E.O.B. officials to question the true value of the not-for-profit station, which recently celebrated its 25 anniversary. Independent researchers recently concluded the actual worth of the station was \$2.9 million. "The idea of a sale is now a dead issue," Tyree Carr, director of the board said. The E.O.B. is a 32-year-old not-for-profit agency, which offers government funded social services and economic training to elderly and low-income individuals.

LOCAL MAN GETS LONGEST PRISON TERM EVER FOR TELEMARKETING

Las Vegas Robbin McLaurin, 38, was sentenced to 10 years in prison for his role in telemarketing schemes that robbed senior citizens of more than \$370,000. That's the longest prison term in Nevada history for telemarketing crimes. McLaurin, who was convicted in November by a federal jury, was found guilty on 37 different counts, which included conspiracy, mail fraud, aiding and abetting. McLaurin reportedly ran a rip and tear promotional scheme, which promised customers big payoffs for small amounts of cash. Defense Attorney Kirk Kennedy had requested five to six years for the crimes arguing McLaurin would be more likely to pay restitution if the sentence were shorter.

NIGERIAN OFFICIALS BRIBING U.S. CONGRESSMAN SAYS AUTHOR

CAPE TOWN, South Africa — U.S. Congressmen are accepting bribes to lobby on behalf of Nigeria, said Nobel-Prize winning author Wole Soyinka. Soyinka said the Nigerian dictatorship lead by Gen. Sani Abacha has paid hundreds of thousands of dollars to win influence among diplomats, government officials and heads of states around the world. "Abacha has even bought a couple of congressmen, lawmakers in the United States, in order to push his calls with the American government," Soyinka told reporters during a United Nations conference on children's issues. Soyinka also said that Abacha asked Nation of Islam leader Louis Farrakhan to lobby for him with South African President Nelson Mandela. Farrakhan never raised the issue, said his spokesman, Joel Netshitenzhe. Abacha has come under fire recently after allowing the hangings of nine political activists including playwright Ken Saro-Wiwa.

FARRAKHAN MEETS WITH WINNIE MANDELA

JOHANNESBURG, South Africa — Nation of Islam leader Louis Farrakhan met with Winnie Mandela to thank her for her efforts to end apartheid Jan.31. Neither Mandela, the estranged wife of South African President Nelson Mandela, nor Farrakhan told the press what was discussed. Farrakhan is touring the African continent and has already met with Libyan dictator Moammar Ghadafi and Nigerian leader Sani Abacha. Upon his return, Farrakhan is expected to be called before Congress for reportedly accepting a \$1 billion offer from Moammar Ghadafi to further Muslim interest in the United States.

FORMER NIGER PRESIDENT RELEASED

NIAMEY, Niger — Former President Mahamane Ousmane was released from house arrest Feb. 2 and promptly denounced the military coup which ousted him from office. Although he called the move expected, Ousmane said "I am not going to back down...I disapprove of the coup, and as a democrat I will continue to occupy myself with politics." Thousands of people marched in the streets in support of last week's coup, which claimed at least six lives, according to press reports. Col. Barre Manissara, who lead the coup, said the move was necessary because the government was deadlocked in a parliamentary stalemate. The United States and France have suspended aid to the country in the wake of the coup. The release of the prisoners is a "step in the right direction," said a French Minister. Jacques Rummelhardt said, "It is important that it be followed by other decisions leading to the re-establishment of constitutional law."

NO JACKSON VIDEO, RIO JUDGE ORDERS

A judge has blocked Michael Jackson from filming a video in a slum of Rio De Janeiro, Brazil. Saying that images of poverty in the Santa Maria shantytown would hurt Rio's tourism industry, Judge Luiz Haddad issued an order Monday barring Jackson from filming in Rio for 20 days. The piece, "They Don't Care About Us," is being directed by filmmaker Spike Lee.

Booker Celebrates National African-American Parent Involvement Day

By Nichole Davis
Sentinel-Voice

Booker Elementary School will be the flagship school for the first annual

"Take Your Child to School Day-Visit Your Child in School Day" Feb. 12.

The event, which is sponsored by the Booker Elementary Parent-Teachers Association is also known as National African-American Parent Involvement Day (NAAPID).

"It will basically be a time for

parents to come in and share and basically see what we're doing," said Beverly Mathis, Booker Elementary School principal.

"One of our goals is parental focus for Booker Elementary. We want parent to feel comfortable and to know that they are a vital part of their child's education," she said.

Ideally, parents would attend Feb. 12 classes along with their child and meet with their teachers. Parents could use the time to create solutions for

concerns they or teachers might have. They could also exchange phone numbers and optimal calling times.

Organizers hope to better communication between black parents and educators leading to a better learning environment for black children.

Although organizers recognize that this scenario may not be possible for every parent, they hope that the event's publicity will encourage parents to get more involved in the education of their children.

Local efforts were spearheaded by Dr. Al Gourrier, a coordinator at the Clark County School District Resource Center.

"Research shows that we can best influence our children by our actions. Our presence in schools says that this is something that's important," Gourrier said.

"There's a spectrum of involvement," he said.

For parents who may need to modify how they participate in NAAPID, Gourrier suggested *(See Gourrier, Page 4)*

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