

LAS VEGAS

Sentinel



Voice

VOLUME 17, ISSUE 19

GRIOT COMMUNICATIONS GROUP, INC.

September 12, 1996

"THE TRUTH SHALL SET YOU FREE"

Shakur still critical

Police seek suspects in shooting that injures rapper and Death Row CEO

By Nichole Davis
Sentinel-Voice

While police still have no official motive for Saturday's shooting of rapper Tupac Shakur, local gansta rap followers continue to argue whether the drive-by was part of a long-standing feud between East Coast and West Coast hip hop artists.

Shakur remains hospitalized in critical condition at University Medical Center's Trauma Intensive Care Unit after being shot at least two times in the chest late Saturday night while in transit from the MGM Hotel to the Club 662 at 1700 E. Flamingo Road.

Shakur, whose most recent Death Row Records album *All Eyez on Me* has sold more than 5 million

copies since its February release, had his right lung removed after surgery on Sunday.

Death Row Chief Executive Officer Marion "Suge" Knight, who owns the club, was driving the rented BMW in which the two were riding and shot.

Knight was treated for minor wounds to the right temple, neck and shoulders. He was released from the hospital before noon Sunday, said a source close to the music executive who requested anonymity.

Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department officials said Wednesday the evidence in the case suggests Shakur was the target of the incident, which took place in front of the Maxim Hotel and Casino, 160 E. Flamingo Road.

Flamingo is a four-lane street, and if Knight was the target the shooter had ample space to drive up next to him, police said.

Hospital security remains tight Thursday, said UMC spokesman Dale Pugh, as some speculated the suspects may try to shoot the rapper again.

"As always we have an (Las Vegas police) officer here 24-hours a day, seven days a week, and we have a security guard," Pugh said.

Police reported Wednesday that Shakur's personal body guards are also at the hospital.

Few people have been allowed see the rapper, as his unit is closely monitored to prevent infections, but the Rev. Jessie Jackson, singer Janet Jackson and boxer Mike Tyson are just three of the celebrities who have been reported visiting the critically-wounded rap star.

Four to five family members, including Shakur's mother and aunt, have been keeping vigil over the rapper. They remain enclosed in a private area inside the trauma unit.

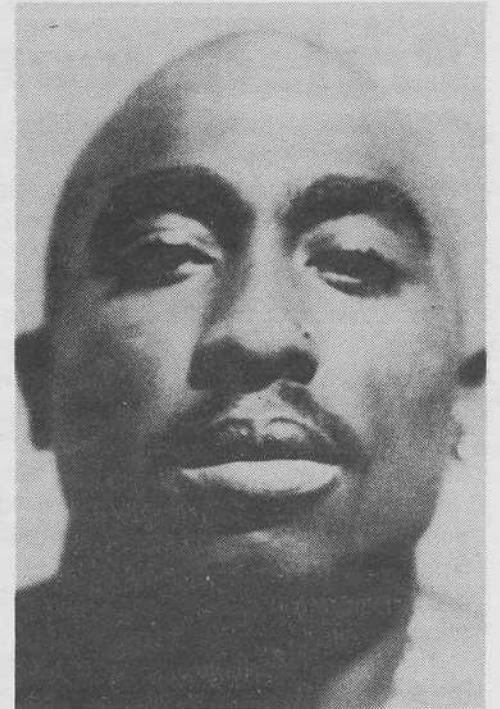
Details surrounding the shooting remain unclear at this point. No suspects have been identified, and at least one witness, Knight, has not given testimony as of late Wednesday.

Members of a multi-car entourage, which was traveling with the victims, claimed to have seen nothing after the incident, Las Vegas homicide Sgt. Kevin Manning said.

Witnesses told police they were ducking down to avoid gunfire, he said. But that's not likely.

"It amazes me that we have professional

(See Shakur, Page 9)



Death Row Records recording artist Tupac Shakur remains in critical condition at University Medical Center after being wounded in a shooting after last Saturday's Mike Tyson-Bruce Seldon heavyweight championship fight. Sentinel-Voice file photo

Jackson challenges LV voters

Special to the Sentinel-Voice

The Rev. Jesse Jackson, who is making a city-to-city tour of U.S. cities rallying voters to support Democratic candidates in the upcoming November elections, made a two-day stop in Las Vegas this past weekend: enjoying the hype at the Mike Tyson fight Saturday and rousing three Westside churches Sunday.

Referring to the Democratic and Republican parties as teams, Jackson gave what he described as clear examples of the differences between "their team and our team."

Just as he told members of the Democratic National Committee's Black Caucus last month at the Chicago party convention, Jackson said, "General Colin Powell is an intelligent man, a man for whom I have the highest respect. If you're playing with the Dodgers and your brother is playing with the Yankees, you can admire your brother because you have common parents.

"However you are not going to lose the ballgame just because he is your brother playing and he is in a different uniform," Jackson said.

"If Powell's team wins, you have Dole, Gingrich, Trent Lott, and Scalia and Clarence Thomas will have more companions on the Supreme Court. That's their team, not our team."

Jackson began his Sunday at the pulpit at Greater New Jerusalem Missionary Baptist Church, home of Las Vegas NAACP President the Rev. James Rogers.

There Jackson told the congregation (many of whom did not know before of his scheduled appearance) that black people are "a spiritual



From left, State Sen. Bob Coffin confers with the Rev. Jesse Jackson and Second Baptist Church pastor, the Rev. Willie Davis, during Jackson's West Las Vegas visit last Sunday.

Photo special to Sentinel-Voice

people and we live by faith and we live under the law. Therefore we must apply the rules of democracy in an effort to change the law of the land. Voting is the key," Jackson said.

While offering support for Nevada Democratic Congressional candidate Bob Coffin, Jackson told the crowd there, and later at New Bethel Baptist Church and Second Baptist Church, that voting is vital. Many people died for this right and that black Americans should take the simple steps necessary to register.

At Greater New Jerusalem, Jackson even asked all the unregistered voters to come to the altar. Once about all 40 arrived, he provided them with voter registration applications to fill out right then.

"They are burning churches, repealing

legislation, taking our people out of Congress. It's time to draw the line, stand up and fight back," Jackson said.

"If we fight back and fight back in coalitions, across the lines of race, sex and religions, we will win and deliver our support for President Clinton and a new Congress. I will travel city to city and leave no stone unturned to defeat the radical wing."

The Las Vegas Congressional District is among a select group of areas Jackson has targeted to encourage people to vote for Democratic candidates and to get them involved in the political process.

In his sermons Jackson endorsed both Coffin and President Clinton and praised their efforts on behalf of African-Americans.

MANAGING MONEY

Las Vegans share success secrets

By Nichole Davis
Sentinel-Voice

As the average incomes of black families continue to rise, sound financial planning has become an issue all African Americans must concern themselves with.

But proper financial planning has become the exception and not the norm for a growing number of blacks who live paycheck to paycheck, several experts said.

"We tend to save differently, because we attempt to accumulate wealth through savings such as homes, other tangible assets, and social security," said James Greene, a University of Chicago-educated economist and local estate planner.

Racial tension in American society is one explanation for the phenomenon. Blacks are more likely to be unemployed, have longer periods of unemployment and earn less money than whites when they do work.

Blacks also tend to live shorter lives, so "we decided to save in things that can be used quickly, that you can enjoy immediately and at the same time can invest in," Greene said.

When blacks do make investments, "usually we tend to be less sophisticated on average," he said, so blacks are more likely to save money in things like savings accounts, pension funds or cash value insurance.

The bad news is these kinds of investments tend to offer lower interest rates so less money is earned by the investor, experts said.

Linda Gray, a maid at the Maxim Hotel and Casino, and Sharhonda Ramos, a recent University

(See Savings, Page 4)