

EDUCATION

HILTON



By Dr. Keith Orlando Hilton

As always, this annual state of the campus address is dedicated to students of African descent enrolled in colleges and universities throughout the world.

And now that this column is officially international, we are excited about the networking possibilities that will very likely occur between education advocates worldwide.

This marks the ninth consecutive year that I have written my annual state of the campus column. And each year I remind college students that they are not alone.

There are millions of advocates and other students worldwide who believe in you and want you to succeed

To my colleagues who are college officials, I say "sometimes students just need someone to talk to during rough classroom periods."

Sometimes they need a "stern voice" to keep them focused, and yes, sometimes they are too "cocky" to admit that they need help.

To this very day, it bothers me to see cocky, arrogant students of any ethnicity. It is my opinion that parents and educators need to let them know when they are acting that way.

For example, just this summer a recent college graduate of a highly touted liberal arts college was at my home discussing his law school plans and made a flip remark about state universities.

He said that he could never see himself going to a state school for graduate or law school because this would be considered a step down from his undergraduate institution. Now that was arrogance mixed with even more ignorance.

I reminded him that most people have never heard of his highly rated liberal arts college, but I am sure that more people, including prospective employers, have heard of "lowly" state schools like Michigan State, Ohio State, Illinois State, SUNY - the State University System of New York or even Rutgers University - the State University of New Jersey.

"Rutgers University is a state university", he asked? To say the least, he was a little embarrassed as I continued to click off other "state" colleges, including Oregon State, Arizona State and North Carolina State University.

"And when you learned your ABC's, you should have thanked the California State University System, because many, if not most teachers in California go through that system at one time or another", I reminded him.

I could see in the young man's eyes and voice that he was rethinking his opinion about state schools.

You see, it is possible to be a confident, assertive and successful student, while at the same time, displaying humility.

During this academic school year, we will applaud every student who goes through school with excellent grades. We will also be 100% supportive of those students who may not get the best grades, but are doing their best.

We won't give up on those students who don't yet quite see the necessity of being academically serious or culturally centered—yet. We have seen a few diamonds in the rough come through and suspect that many more will follow for years.

And finally and especially to African American, African Caribbean, (See Hilton, Page 16)

MAMA'S BOYZ by JERRY CRAFT



Conference draws small crowd

By Carl Chamberlain Sentinel Voice

The Project Youth Life Skills Center Inc. began its first annual youth conference with a series of workshops last Saturday at the Doolittle Community Center.

The conference's theme, "Bridging the Gap," was explained by Project Youth Executive Director Rena' Smith. "It's all of us that have to reach down and grab these babies," she said.

The event, which was held in the Doolittle Gym, attracted an audience of about 20 people despite the fact that more than 100 had pre-registered for the event. Conference organizers expressed disappointment with the low turnout.

Smith delivered a welcoming message followed by an invocation by the Rev. James Britt. At 11 a.m., a series of workshops were presented.

Topics included communication skills, conflict resolution, drugs and violence, HIV, AIDS and crime prevention.

Workshop presenters included Lois and Delbert Green, the Rev. Britt, Yolanda Woods, Kim Devine, Wallace Edwards, Gerdy Washington and Bill Tullock. The conference was sponsored by BankWest, AFAN and the Cooperative Extension among others.

The conference's second day began with a 9 a.m. awards ceremony and the introduction of state ambassadors. Other events included a panel discussion monitored by Lawrence Weekly and a luncheon featuring guest speaker Michelle Cotton who spoke about teenagers, crime and the community.

Entertainment was provided by Marsha and Rashad Smith at the West Las Vegas Library



Lois Greene, vice president of administration for BankWest of Nevada, speaks to students during Saturday's confab.

Photo by John Broussard

Theatre.

The event ended with free school supplies giveaway.

Smith said she was happy that the conference at least

showed neighborhood youth that there are community leaders who care about offering positive choices and helping to promote self esteem.

Latino police to hold violence workshop

By Nichole Davis Sentinel-Voice

As crimes among teen-agers continue to rise across the nation, more than 70 local youth, political leaders, community activists and police have agreed to sit down and discuss new solutions for teen violence. The local Latino Police Officers Association (LPOA) will host the two-hour-long event to be held at the Riviera Hotel in the Convention Center Room B. KLVX TV Channel 8 news anchor Polly Gonzales will host the event.

Organizers said the purpose of the event is to create a dialogue between groups who have the power to make a difference with today's youth.

"We wanted to look at the ways on how we can work

cooperatively to help youth," said event organizer and local LPOA spokesperson David Osmon.

Participants will brainstorm about current issues and their causes for an hour, then they will then present the information to

other participants and about 100 audience members, Osmon said. Organizers will also award four \$250 scholarships during the event to the winners of an LPOA essay competition.

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Music

(Continued from Page 1)

industry. It's a billion-dollar industry, but it just hasn't been picked up in Las Vegas," Bailey said.

Too often people get sucked in by the glamour of the industry and the illusion of quick, easy money, she said. But that's not realistic.

"How often do people tell you what's going on in the music industry? How often do people tell you who to talk to?" Bailey questioned. "That's the idea behind the *Business of the Music Conference 1996*."

Organizers added a special session to the event where the relationship between violence and gangsta rap will be explored following the Sep. 7 shooting of rapper Tupac Shakur in front of

the local Maxim Hotel and Casino, 160 E. Flamingo Road.

"There's some serious risks involved with this gangsta rap people should be aware of," Bailey said.

E! Entertainment Television personality Tonya Hart, Clark County District Attorney Stewart Bell and representatives from Shakur's former label, Interscope Records, have been invited to speak.

The event will be a great starting point for people who want to get more involved in this area, Bailey said. And those individuals who have a change of heart about being industry insiders "will be on the MicroBusiness program mailing list either way," she said. "It's a win-win situation."

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