

## NEWS CLIPS

### COMMITTED 100 MEN HONOR WILLIAMS, HOGGARD

Committed 100 Men Helping Boys, a local mentor program for young boys, hosted their fifth annual Humanitarian of the Year Awards Banquet last Saturday at the Palace Station. The 5-year-old United Way-accredited group provides mentors and positive role models to African-American boys ages 7-13 who live in single-female homes. This year the group honored state Assemblyman Wendell Williams (D-District 6) and community activist J. David Hoggard Sr., who was the first president of the Las Vegas NAACP branch office. Hoggard was also the husband of West Las Vegas' first black school principal, the late Mable Hoggard. "The reason we give this award is to combat some of the problems that our young men are facing today," said banquet chair Mike Waller, who is also the group's chairman of the board. Organizers said Hoggard and Williams were picked because of their reputations for community service. "Both individuals have donated much to the betterment of the Southern Nevada community, in the spirit of charity, a quality that is the core of this organization," group president Will Watson said. These kinds of events are needed to make a difference in the lives of these youth, Waller said, because it gives them hope that they too can one day be successful.

### CIVIL WAR MEMORIAL DEDICATED

A five-day celebration was held in Washington, D.C. Sept. 8-12 in honor of the more than 185,000 African-American troops who served, and the 37,000 who died in, the Civil War (1861-1865), reports The Washington Afro-American. Black soldiers fought in 499 battles according to National Archives and Record Administration. A statue listing the names of the Black officers and soldiers will be completed in 1997 and erected in Washington, D.C. at 10th and U Streets, N.W. A heritage center will also be opened across the street from the memorial. For more information, call 202-939-8719.

### NEW HOTLINE FOR COLLEGE STUDENT FINANCIAL AID GUIDANCE

There's new help for students and their families who are trapped under a mountain of financial aid forms, writes the Herald-Dispatch. Introducing College Answer, a new toll free service from Sallie Mae designed to help college-bound students and their parents navigate the sometimes rocky road to college financial aid. "We created College Answer as a service to students and parents who are often under informed and overwhelmed about the financial aid process," says Steve Stocks, director of College Answer and former college financial aid director. "Our College Answer representatives can take callers step-by-step through the financial aid process, provide precise information about the size of loan payments and current interest rates, or suggest ways to reduce the cost of their loans." Callers can reach College Answer weekdays from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Eastern time at 1-800-891-4599.

### CARIBBEAN GIRLS FINDING LIFE AFTER TEENAGE PREGNANCY

Young girls who were once forced to drop out of school and faced alienation from families and society are finding that attitudes are changing and there is now a glimmer of hope that there may be life after teenage pregnancy, reports IPS. The Antique-based Caribbean Family Planning Affiliation (CFPA) 12 years ago did a study finding that there was widespread victimization of pregnant teenagers within the school system and that becoming pregnant while in school meant the end of a girl's education. Many non-governmental organizations (NGO) have found that a girl who drops out of school at 13 because she is pregnant and who does not return, is likely to have her second child by the time she is 15. "It looks as though once the opportunity to remain in school is there, and all that implies in terms of a future, once that exists, the ability either to postpone sexual activity or to manage it responsibly is there," said Tirbani Jagdeo, CFPA chief executive officer. The Women's Center for Adolescent Mothers in Jamaica is also ensuring that teenage pregnancy does not herald the end for the young mothers, while the fathers are able to continue their education uninterrupted in most cases. Vanda Gomez, Trinidadian nursing educator and family life counselor, said there is still some reluctance in the public school system to admit girls after they have given birth, however, the range private secondary and tertiary educational facilities throughout the region is giving more and more young girls the opportunity to continue in school after pregnancy.

## Prostate Week raises awareness

Prostate cancer is now the leading form of cancer in American men, and African Americans are 2 1/2 times more likely to get the disease than any other ethnic group in the world.

That is why actor Danny Glover has joined retired U.S. Army Gen. H. Norman Schwarzkopf as spokesman for Prostate Cancer Awareness Week 1996, which is being celebrated this week, to increase awareness of the disease among all men and the women in their lives.

Glover, who is participating in a public awareness campaign and national media interviews, particularly wants to educate African-American men about their high risk of developing prostate cancer.

"It is important for us all—both men and women—to encourage African-American men to be tested for prostate cancer, because awareness and early detection are the only sure way we can fight this disease," Glover said.

During Prostate Cancer Awareness Week 1996, September 24-30, low-cost screening tests for the early detection of prostate cancer will be offered at several Southern Nevada locations, and appointments for exams can be made by calling 454-6226.

More than 2.5 million men have participated in Prostate Cancer Awareness Week since it began in 1989.

Unfortunately, only five percent of the participants each year are African Americans.

It is still unknown exactly why African-American men have the highest incidence of prostate cancer in the world. Research has shown, though, that they typically develop the disease earlier than white Americans, but are diagnosed with it later, so their mortality rate is higher than that of whites, said Dr. E. David Crawford, the Prostate Cancer Education Council chairman and associate director for clinical activities at the University of Colorado Cancer Center.

An estimated 317,000 American men will get prostate cancer this year, and more than 41,400 will die from it. One in every eight African-American men will develop the disease in his lifetime. Because early prostate cancer usually does not have any symptoms, it is extremely difficult to detect without testing.

Men at high risk of developing prostate cancer, such as African Americans and those with a family history of the disease, should get a baseline PSA test—similar to a baseline mammogram for women—between the ages of 35 and 39,

according to new data obtained by Crawford and his colleagues during Prostate Cancer Awareness Week. Both the American Urological Association and the American Cancer Society also recommend annual prostate cancer screenings

beginning at age 40 for high-risk men.

If diagnosed, prostate surgery can lead to a high prostate-cancer survival rate.

That is the conclusion of scientists at eight U.S. and European medical centers who

monitored the long-term survival rates of 2,758 men with prostate cancer, most of whom underwent radical prostatectomies.

"Men with early-stage prostate cancer who have their prostates surgically removed  
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## Brown

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potential and greatness as leaders. So, I salute you and recognize you and say to you that the dawn of greatness is upon you. That a lot of people are depending upon you, and I say thank you on behalf of those people that you represent — those that you serve."

Afterwards Burgess, who is director of the Clark County Department of Family of Youth Services offered warm words to Brown. "We thank Mr. Brown for his words of wisdom and down to earth expressions. I think he certainly gave everyone a lot to leave with."

"I also thank our membership," Burgess added. "They are the ones that make this organization work."

The group is currently organizing their next quarterly luncheon set for November.

"Today we heard, through words and song, encouragement, words of motivation, inspiration — all things that have given us the boost that we need to become more productive persons in the world of work," added luncheon chairman and assistant director of the Clark County Department of Family and Youth Services, Cranford L. Crawford, Jr.

Developed in 1983, the NFBPA, which is comprised of more than 3,000 members nationally in 25 cities, interfaces with local, state and federal governments to provide a minority viewpoint regarding issues of importance to the health

and well-being of minority communities.

As an organization dedicated to grooming black administrators for the challenges of senior management positions in the public sector, the NFBPA looks to foster relationships that will increase opportunities for the next generation of African American public managers.

"The local chapter of the Forum, which currently has 30 members, began in 1986," according to member Barbara Jackson, the deputy director of the City of Las Vegas Department of Parks and Leisure Activities.

"We ask the community to join with us to keep the interest of our community at the forefront of our daily work," she added.



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