



Hopefuls line up for NLV council seat

Kincaid's exit prompts scramble for successor

By Nichole Davis
Sentinel-Voice

Although she didn't know it at the time, North Las Vegas City Councilwoman Mary Kincaid's successful campaign for the Clark County Commission has created a potential leadership vacuum.

The veteran North Las Vegas Council woman replaced District B Commissioner Jay Bingham, who did not run for re-election.

Elections for the four-year at-large council seats in North Las Vegas are staggered. Every two years two seats are up election; the same kind of system is used in most elected bodies. In North Las Vegas, each council member is elected by a city-wide vote. There are no ward or district boundaries in the state's third-largest city.

When members leave before completing their term, the city charter dictates that the remaining members appoint another person to fulfill the obligation. The replacement must face election during the cycle immediately following their appointment.

That means in 1997 three seats will be open during the next campaign cycle: the last two years of Kincaid's term and two four-year terms belonging to Mayor Pro Tempore Theron Goynes and Councilman John Rhodes.

Kincaid said she was surprised to find her replacement would face election in June.

"I didn't think whether they would have to run or not," she said. "I didn't know it when I was running."

In fact, the council woman found out from the city attorney only when someone asked about the replacement process. But the plot thickens.

Goynes has publicly expressed a desire to run for mayor. He said last week he anticipates making a formal announcement this month. As he can't run for two offices, that means one four-year council seat would be completely vacant, and another two-year office will be filled by relatively unknown incumbent.

Council members say several people have already phoned or written them regarding Kincaid's seat, but they have 30 days from the time she

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COUNCILMAN JOHN RHODES



COUNCILMAN THERON GOYNES

Women give big fundraiser for Simpson

By Dennis Schatzman
Special to Sentinel-Voice

LOS ANGELES — Undaunted by threats of cancellation by Hollywood Park Casino administrators, criticism from talk show hosts like Gloria Allred and Geraldo Rivera, and a "vicious local mainstream mass media, the newly formed Christian Women for Justice recently sponsored a gala fundraising luncheon for O.J. Simpson.

"Our goal is to network and bring about changes in the legal system for the African American family, and to initiate social and cultural programs geared to motivate the African American community into solving problems," Erma Jean Bryant, the group's president, told the audience in the banquet room of the Hollywood Park.

"But at this moment," Bryant continued, while tearing up a prepared speech, "Orenthal James Simpson is the focal point. We have decided that enough is enough! We are strong Black women and we will see Mr. Simpson through. He was found innocent of all charges brought against him in the only system we have. It was a system that was put in place when we were still chained to a plow."

Simpson was acquitted of double murder charges filed against him for the

June 13, 1994 murders of his estranged wife, Nicole Brown Simpson and her friend, Ronald Lyle Goldman. Simpson is now facing a civil suit in Santa Monica, CA by both the Brown and Goldman families for the "wrongful death" of the two victims. He is also fighting the Brown family for the custody

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1996 BILLBOARD MUSIC AWARDS



TONI BRAXTON



A reunited New Edition opened the sold out show.

Photos by John Broussard

Stars rock the Aladdin

By Janice Carter
Sentinel-Voice

A sellout crowd at the Aladdin Theatre was treated to a special night of musical entertainment Wednesday as the 6th Annual Billboard Music Awards broadcast live on Fox Television from Las Vegas.

Hosted by comedian Chris Rock, the show honored this year's No. 1 songs and artists. Featuring performances by artists like Toni Braxton, New Edition and Celine Dion, the show had the south end of the Strip abuzz with star gazers and paparazzi who were all wondering what took so long to bring a major awards show to Las Vegas.

Highlights of the show included Braxton's

"You're Making Me High" being named R&B Single of the Year; R. Kelley winning R&B Artist of the Year; and the Tony Rich Project being named the New Artist of the Year.

LL Cool J was named Rap Artist of the Year, Madonna flew in on her private jet to accept the Artist Achievement Award and Carlos Santana received the Century Award for his ever popular Afro-Cuban musical style.

Winners were determined by 1996 year-end charts compiled from Billboard magazine's weekly and biweekly charts published Dec. 4, 1995 through Dec. 3, 1996.

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