

NEWS CLIPS

KCEP, UNLV HOST STUDENT CONFERENCE SAT.

A wealth of career information will be available to students attending the first annual African-American Student Achieving Conference '97 to be held at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas' student union Saturday from 8:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. The conference will provide 26 career workshops, at least one \$500 scholarship will be awarded and a special guest recording artist will close the event. Career topics will include aviation, engineering, politics, banking, music industry and government among others. For more information about registration call KCEP at 648-0104

STUDY SHOWS MORE BLACK MALES ARE LOSING VOTING RIGHTS

According to a report released by the Washington, D.C.-based Sentencing Project, one in seven African-American males have lost their voting rights due to incarceration and felony convictions. An estimated 1.46 million black males have lost the right to vote. The study discovered that about 510,000 black males are permanently disenfranchised in 13 states. The remaining 950,000 are ineligible to vote in 31 states for the term of their incarceration, probation or parole. Only four states, Maine, Massachusetts, Utah and Vermont, allow prison inmates to vote. The report also found that the disparity between the number of black and whites incarcerated, increased in 38 states and Washington, D.C. between 1988 and 1994. Nationally African Americans were incarcerated at more than 10 times the rate of whites. New York and California were the only two states that showed less racial disparity, but only because of the large number of Hispanics who are classified as "white." When Hispanics are excluded from the "white" inmate classification, the report found that the black/white disparity in California doubled.

FOUR GEORGIA MEN INDICTED FOR BURNING BLACK COUPLE'S HOME

Four Georgia men have been arrested on civil rights charges for conspiring to set fire to a trailer home belonging to a black couple, the Justice Department announced. The three-count indictment, handed down in U.S. District Court in Savannah, charges Razell Spires, 55, Joey Spires, 19, MacNathaniel Rainey, 20, and Tommy James Hulett, 20, with violating federal criminal civil rights laws. The four allegedly conspired to burn a trailer home in order to frighten away the black owners, Carrie McRae and Oscar Lee Riley. The trailer was located in Telfair County, GA, about 100 miles southeast of Macon. "These indictments underscore our commitment to vigorously prosecuting these types of crimes," said Isabelle Katz Pinzler, assistant attorney general for Civil Rights. Each defendant faces up to 10 years in prison and \$250,000 fine for count one: Conspiring to violate the civil rights of the black couple and count two: Interfering with the couple's right to live in their dwelling free from violence and intimidation. Count three, using fire in the commission of a felony, carries an additional five years in prison and a \$250,000 fine.

NEW DIRECTOR OF THE SMITHSONIAN'S MUSEUM OF AFRICAN ART APPOINTED

Dr. Roslyn A. Walker has been appointed the new director of the National Museum of African Art. Walker, 52, who was senior curator of the African Art Museum, has worked extensively in the U.S. and western African. At a reception celebrating her appointment Dr. Walker explained that she is not only committed to building the finest collection of African art, she is also focused on making the museum accessible to every member of the community. The National Museum of Art is the only museum in the U.S. dedicated to the collection, exhibition and study of African art.

WORLD BANK CHIEF TO VISIT "TOP PRIORITY CONTINENT"

World Bank President James Wolfensohn is embarking on a nine-day trip to sub-Saharan Africa to try to fathom why the region has posted its second straight year of economic growth and how to increase foreign investment there. Economic growth, at about four percent a year continent-wide, exceeds population growth in some 24 out of 48 African countries. Yet, foreign investment in these countries accounts for only about two percent of private capital flows worldwide, according to Wolfensohn.

SOUTH AFRICA'S NEW CONSTITUTION TAKES EFFECT

South Africa's new constitution, hailed as one of the most progressive in the world, came into effect at midnight Monday Feb. 3, 1997. It replaces the interim constitution under which the country has been governed since the inception of the first democratically elected parliament in May 1994. Its final certification in December 1996 by the Constitutional Court ended negotiations which began after President Nelson Mandela's release February 1990 from 27 years in prison. The new constitution also stipulates that it has to be reviewed annually by parliament.

Chamber to honor its heritage

By Nancy Watson
Sentinel-Voice

The Urban Chamber of Commerce has taken up the charge of the Nevada Black Chamber of Commerce which disbanded over a year ago, according to Harvey Phelps, president.

Now, the 10-month-old organization is taking the time to honor past presidents of the Nevada Black Chamber of Commerce.

A Tribute to Heritage, will take place at the West Las Vegas Art Center, from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m., next Thursday, Feb. 27.

Although the Nevada Black Chamber of Commerce, which had been in existence since 1980, suffered money and administrative problems, most people have a good feeling for

the organization, Phelps said.

Evidently that's true. Only two days after 300 RSVP invitations to the banquet were sent, 90 responses had already been received.

Those who will be honored include: Sarahann Knight-Preddy, Dr. James McMillan, Bob Bailey, Louis Conner, Ken Brass, Lonnie Chaney, James Porter, Rev. Sam Roberson, Al O'Neil, Emanuel Wasson, Ruby Pilot and John Gardner.

One other special award will be given, but Phelps did not want to disclose the recipient's name.

Phelps said the Urban Chamber's charge is to provide information about the chamber through its new World Wide Web page. It will also host luncheons with speakers on a variety of topics and use a

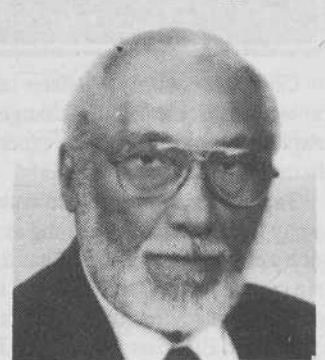


Sarahann Knight-Preddy

monthly newsletter to provide information to its 75 business membership. The chamber also provides health insurance and other benefits for members.

The group will support business members with everything from developing a business plan and bid proposals to applying for block grants, he said.

"The community is growing



James McMillan

so fast, we need to be an advocate for the small business owners," he added.

The honorees banquet is the first official function of the new chamber and it's an event people have been waiting for, Phelps said. He's hoping people will come out and support the effort.

The banquet will be catered by Seven Seas Restaurant.

Girls encouraged to expand horizons

Special to Sentinel-Voice

Girls in grades six through 12 are invited to come to UNLV on March 8 to meet and talk with a number of women who currently are working in a variety of math- and science-related fields.

The 10th annual Expanding Your Horizons Conference will take place Saturday, March 8, from 9 a.m. until 2 p.m. on the UNLV campus.

More than 30 workshops designed to spark the interest of young women in science- and math-related careers are scheduled.

A "Guess My Job" segment

in which conference participants try to guess the jobs of the panelists also will take place.

The deadline to register for the conference is Feb. 28. The \$7 registration fee will cover the cost of materials and refreshments. To register, call UNLV's Educational Equity Resource Center at 895-1380.

"The reason this conference is so important is that girls tend

to stop taking math and science courses at an earlier age than boys. What that means down the line is that young women often are prevented from pursuing a variety of higher paying jobs because of decisions they made in high school or even middle school not to enroll in certain classes," said Kathy Lauckner, program coordinator for UNLV's Harry Reid Center for Environmental

Studies, who also is one of the coordinators of the Expanding Your Horizons Conference.

"It is our hope that this conference will expose girls to interesting women who are working happily in non-traditional jobs that the students may never have considered and that, as a result of meeting these women and getting a chance to talk with them, the students

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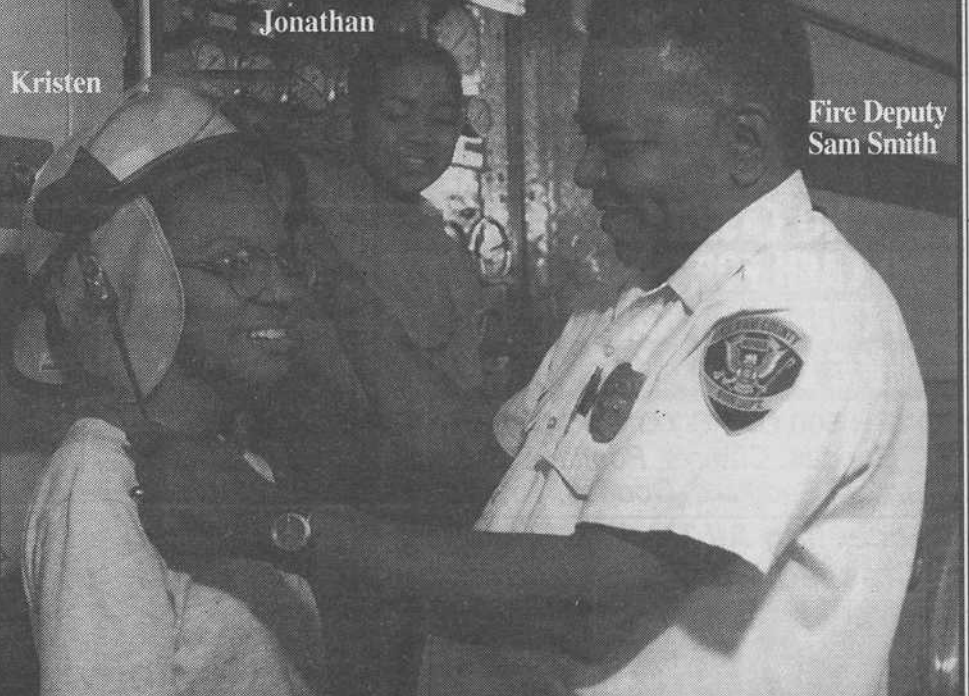
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