

LAS VEGAS

Sentinel Voice



GRIOT COMMUNICATIONS GROUP, INC.

April 10, 1997

VOLUME 17, ISSUE 49

"THE TRUTH SHALL SET YOU FREE"



McKINNEY-ARRINGTON

CCSD employee files complaint

Personnel director accuses school district of discrimination

By Damon Hodge
Sentinel-Voice

A 28-year Clark County School District (CCSD) employee has filed a complaint with the Nevada Equal Rights Commission and Equal Employment Opportunity Commission charging the district with employment discrimination.

The complaint by Yolanda McKinney-Arrington alleges that the CCSD discriminated against her based on race and disability, violating Title VII of the 1964 Civil Rights Act and the Americans with Disabilities Act.

"Racism is alive and well. That's not new," McKinney-Arrington said. "But (at the CCSD, racism) is so openly blatant. That's highly disconcerting."

The complaint alleges McKinney-Arrington, director of recruitment selection and retention, experienced a history of discriminatory practices.

The administrator - who began her career as a teacher aide and later held positions as a teacher, high school counselor and principal - was subjected to unequal treatment, closer supervision, low evaluations, less desirable job assignments and written/verbal reprimands, the complaint alleges.

The harassment began in May 1995, McKinney-Arrington alleges, when Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources Dr. George Ann Rice halved her budget, reduced clerical assistance, tightened her deadlines and removed 11 states from her recruitment responsibilities and gave them to a Hispanic administrator.

McKinney-Arrington had been responsible for the recruitment of all licensed candidates in all 50 states.

African-American applicants to the school district face harsher scrutiny and African-American licensed staff are fired more frequently than licensed staff who are white, McKinney-Arrington alleges.

"The district's engaged in a superficial effort to attract teachers of color," she said Tuesday (See Arrington, Page 4)

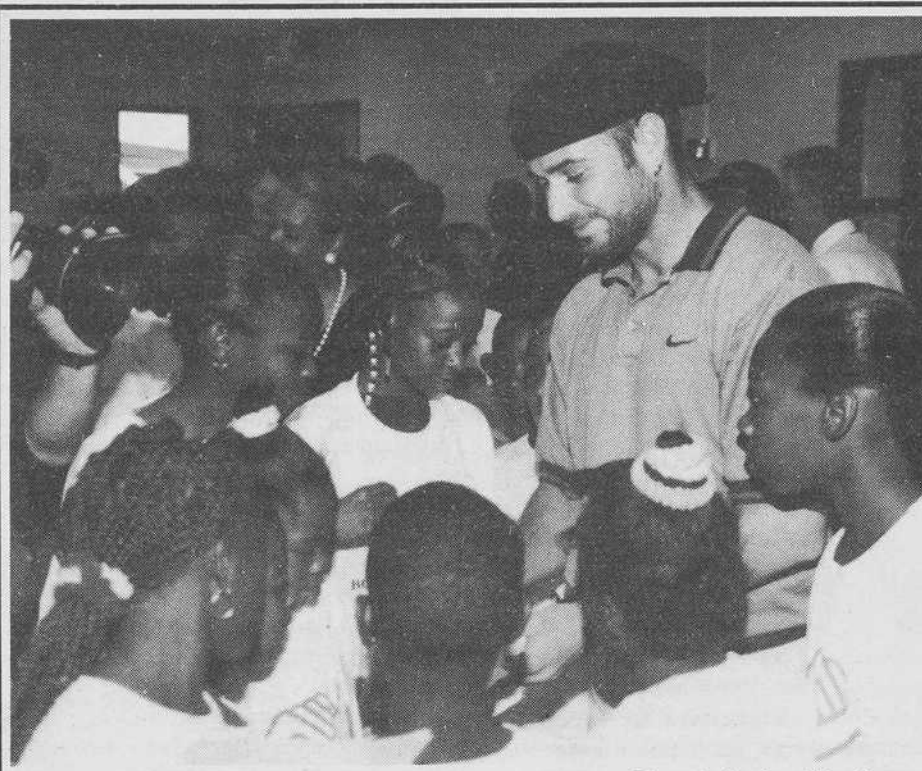


Photo by Isadore Washington

Tennis star Andre Agassi visits with the children Wednesday.

Agassi center dedicated

By Damon Hodge
Sentinel-Voice

Pierre Baton and Andre Agassi share a mutual respect.

Baton, 10, loves Agassi's high-energy brand of tennis. Agassi loves Baton's zest for the sport.

Both met and exchanged admiration during Wednesday afternoon's sneak preview of the Andre Agassi Boys & Girls Club, a 20,000 square foot recreational and training center designed to serve more than 2,000 youth.

The club features an indoor gym, library, computer lab, teen center, cafeteria, picnic area and lighted outdoor basketball and tennis courts.

"The club will meet the athletic and educational needs of area youth," said Agassi who donated \$1.28 million to the center's development. "It will allow the kids to express their creativity and talent."

Last year Baton, who called Agassi his favorite tennis player, bested an advanced field to claim a tennis gold in the Inner City

Games. Baton refined his game on the courts adjacent to the A.D. Guy center. The new club surrounds the A.D. Guy center which had served the neighborhood's children.

"When you're ranked number one in the world, just remember where you started," Agassi said.

Agassi, a Las Vegas native, has won many titles, including tennis' highest prize, a Wimbledon title in 1992.

The club, located at 800 N. Martin Luther King Blvd, bubbled with energy. Youth raced about the club, exploring its offerings with eager eyes.

Equally enthusiastic were elected officials, community leaders, police and parents. All buzzed with excitement about the club.

Twelve-year-old Rayvon Barnett hopes to use the club's revamped tennis courts to hone his skills.

Keith Washington, 13, said the club will give youth an outlet for their energy.

(See Agassi, Page 8)



The outside view of the new Boys & Girls Club.

Photo by Alex Mendez

Man charged in wife's 1996 killing

By Damon Hodge
Sentinel-Voice

A man suspected of killing his wife last year was arrested and booked into the Clark County Detention Center on murder charges April 5, authorities said.

Family members said the arrest of 57-year-old Clarence Elliot merely puts a band-aid on a gaping wound.

Las Vegas police arrested Elliot last Friday as he was moving property out of a house in the

7500 block of Holloran Court, Las Vegas police homicide Lt. Wayne Petersen said.

"One of his neighbors saw him going in and out of the house and called police," Peterson said.



TURNER-ELLIOT

Elliot is suspected of killing Barbara Turner-Elliott, a 48-year-old University Medical Center social worker and mother of three sons, police said.

Turner-Elliott vanished between 5 p.m. and 10 p.m. Feb. 19, 1996, after picking up a prescription at the Sav-on pharmacy at Rainbow Boulevard and Flamingo Road, authorities said.

Elliot, who married Turner-Elliott eight months earlier, reported her missing the following day. Later that week, her car was found parked at the Angel Park Country Club Course with her keys, purse and wallet still inside.

On May 21, two Nevada Department of Transportation workers found Turner-Elliott's body dumped in the desert off Highway 159, near the Red Rock detention basin.

Police said Elliot was possessive and that evidence linked him to the murder.

Elliot's youngest son, Jeff Turner, 28, flew to Las Vegas from Seattle Tuesday night after learning Elliot had been charged in connection with his mother's murder.

"I'm relieved," he said. "But there is no closure."

Belinda Thompson, director of the Martin Luther King Jr. Center and Turner-Elliott's friend of 17 years, agreed.

"People read about someone getting (See Arrest, Page 4)



CLARENCE ELLIOT