

Sentinel-Voice photo by Ramon Savoy

Many parents were dismayed at the answers given at the forum.

## West

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Watson has since removed his children from Clark County schools. He said students attending schools in Summerlin would have never suffered through this experience.

All middle schools have the same construction plan, Cram said, in answering the complaints. The construction and equipment problems are the result of the valley's tremendous growth which puts a strain on services. He said he would like to see slow, but that he knows it won't.

"We want what you you want: the best education for our kids," Cram said. "At this time we are hiring 1,200 to 1,500 new teachers. Schools are crowded when they open. We would like everything to be up and running without any problems, but that's not possible. We would like to say our performance has been perfect, but it hasn't been," said Cram who afterwards explained how schools secure funding for projects they need done.

Las Vegas NAACP president the Rev. James Rogers did not buy Cram's answers.

"I am appalled that this school wasn't high on the list of the schools that were opened," Rogers said. "We aren't discussing bonds, or how the schools raise money. We are asking why this school district isn't trying to open this school, and why this school isn't on-line as other schools in some of the newer communities. Why must this community fight for everything it gets? We want to see a better job of treating us fairly. Our money is just as green."

Watson said Lied Middle School, which was constructed around the same time as West, lacked funds, as West did, to get the necessary materials and make improvements "But that school was miraculously repaired and opened without any problems. Where did the money come from?"

Cram said the money was donated to the school. He then ran down a list of items he said the school has received or ordered.

Unhappy with Cram's answers, the audience became fiery. "Dr. Cram, those things are not true," Lewis said. "These things that you say are here, if they are then they just got here. When Lied opened they had all their things. Their math class looks like a theater, here the math class looks like a regular class. If there are VCRs (here), then there are no TVs. The clocks on the walls have read 10:30 since the first time you came to this school, and they still read 10:30. People, do not let Dr. Cram sit here and

tell you these lies."

Deborah Jackson was concerned about the eighth-grade magnet component that will be introduced to West next year. She worried whether neighborhood kids will be able to attend

"I don't want to be taken around the world, I just want some plain answers. Haven't our kids been shut out of other magnet schools and will our kids be shut out if this becomes a magnet school?"

Many parents feel threatened by the magnet component because their children were not able to attend the area's first high school magnet programs at Advanced Technologies Academy.

Leonard Paul, assistant superintendent of secondary education tried to assure the parents they have nothing to worry about.

The purpose of magnet schools was to desegregate and diversify the student body of a given school, he said. Should Charles White become a magnet school, 300 white students would be brought into the school, leaving 1,400 seats for African-American and Hispanic students. That small amount, 18 percent, would not affect the school. And all the students, would have the opportunity to participate in the magnet program, he said.

"You had better be sincere because we will be watching," Jackson said. "We have been kicked around and slapped too often. So, we will be watching," said Jackson to loud cheers and applause from the audience.

One concerned parent felt the discussion of magnet school status was premature. "We deserve the opportunity to prove our best, and your discussing magnet school status sells us short. It's as if you are saying we can't have a good science, math, or music program without bussing in white kids.

Said another parent: "It has been proven time and again that our children are used to draw suburban kids to the school and when those kids get there our kids are left out."

"Not this time," Lewis said. "I am ready to go to jail over this. If our kids get shut out of this school, then it will be shut down."





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## Radiothon

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take place at the Artemus Ham Hall on the campus of the University of Nevada, Las Vegas

Sherman Rutledge Jr., KCEP's general manager, said at least 280 applications have been submitted for the talent show. "That just lets you know that there is a lot of talent out there and no where to go," Rutledge said.

After the talent competition the Hop Night Club is having a night of classic music for fans of yesteryear's tunes. The night will also double as listener appreciation night.

A safe Halloween party is planned for Oct. 31 in the parking lot of the radio station, 330 W. Washington Ave. There will be horses, free candy, hot dogs and soda in addition to a costume contest, haunted house, games and free entertainment.

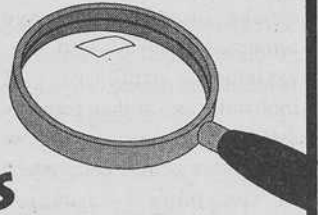
The Safari Club, later that night, will be host a party for the parents of the little goblins and ghouls.

KCEP created these activities to raise money for future projects and keep current one afloat. Rutledge has his sights set on making \$100,000.

"We are shooting for \$100,000. I say that because all the other public radio stations have raised that amount without a whole lot of effort. If we do \$50,000 we'll be extremely happy," Rutledge said.

The station plans to use the money to boost its watts from 10,000 to 100,000 wattage and to digitize broadcasting and production facilities.

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