

# NEWS CLIPS

## KING WINS IN COURT, MOVES INTO PUBLISHING

Boxing promoter Don King was recently acquitted of charges that he cheated Lloyd's of London out of \$350,000 by allegedly padding an insurance claim after a 1991 fight between Julio Cesar Chavez and Harold Brazier was canceled. In a double blow to the federal government, the jury was unable to reach a verdict against Don King Productions, the other defendant in the trial that started in March. It was the second time federal prosecutors failed to win a conviction of the flamboyant boxing promoter on fraud charges. The first trial ended in 1995 with a deadlocked jury. "The victory is not mine, it's America's," King told reporters. "What I fight for is a better America ... I fight for all the great people of this nation." The case stemmed from the 1991 Chavez-Brazier fight which was canceled when Chavez cut his face while sparring. King had taken out a \$750,000 insurance policy with Lloyd's to cover non-refundable expenses. However, prosecutors charged that he padded the claim he submitted by including \$350,000 in training fee losses that did not occur. King was paid a total of \$671,000. Asked whether he would return to boxing, King replied, "My first move is to put together a program to help others who are less fortunate or less informed to be able to deal with a system that seeks to find them guilty rather than presuming them innocent." One new area of concentration for Don King Productions is publishing. The company recently purchased the *Cleveland Call & Post*, a member of the National Newspaper Publishers Association, and will formally assume ownership later this month. — Gail Appleson & Gloria Dulan Wilson, *Daily Challenge*

## BLACK MOTORISTS ARE STILL TARGETS ON HIGHWAYS

"Let me make this very clear," began Colonel David Mitchell, Maryland's chief state trooper, "the Maryland state police has not, does not, nor will it ever condone the use of race-based profiling" in stopping cars on highways. Still, members of the African-American community aren't so sure, according to published reports. Mitchell made his statement after 11 Black motorists, with the American Civil Liberties Union and the Maryland NAACP, filed a federal lawsuit. In it they charge that state troopers have targeted Blacks on Interstate 95, an allegedly popular route for weapon and drug smuggling. "It's a shell game. Police use profiling sloppily and rely on racial characteristics in totally illegal ways," said Bill Mertens, the lead counsel representing the ACLU in this case, to *Time Magazine*. The issue gained momentum this past April when state troopers on the New Jersey Turnpike shot and wounded two Blacks and a Hispanic in a van pulled over for speeding. The incident sparked protests just as the issue, dubbed by victims as "DWB" — driving while Black — had caught Washington's attention. The House of Representatives has passed a bill that would require the government to monitor race data on searches across the country. Statistics available in Maryland show that 75 percent of the drivers on I-95 are White, 17 percent are Black. But of those stopped and searched between 1995 and 1997, only 23 percent were White, while 70 percent were Black.

## BLACK FARMERS FILE SECOND LAWSUIT AGAINST USDA

A second lawsuit has been filed against the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) by a group of 129 Black farmers claiming racial discrimination by the agency. The \$500 million suit, representing farmers from 14 states and the Virgin Islands, was necessary because of the continued discriminatory practices by USDA since the first lawsuit was filed, according to the farmers. Gary Grant, president of the Black Farmers & Agriculturists Association (BFAA), said that his organization "strongly supports the Black farmers who filed this second class action lawsuit." Grant's organization filed the 400-farmer, \$2.5 billion suit against USDA in July, 1997. The farmers in the new suit requested that Judge Paul Friedman, the judge presiding over the first suit, also hear their case and the request was granted. Judge Friedman has called on the government, more than once, to settle the cases with the Black farmers before trial. Observers say that the USDA and the Justice Department are trying to "postpone the inevitable" through legal maneuvers. Legal experts project that with the farmers who have filed complaints and those yet to file, the number of Black farmers suing USDA could easily top the 5,000 mark. This represents about 30 percent of the total estimated number of Black farmers.

# Educator new Zeta president

## Special to Sentinel-Voice

Sisterhood is as sisterhood does. For Barbara Carpenter, the truest manifestation of sisterhood is service: service to your organization and service to your community.

In the highly competitive politics of African-American sororities, this emphasis on service has helped her achieve a unique distinction by being unanimously elected International President of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc., without any opposition.

"It was an awesome feeling and one of the great highlights of my life," said Carpenter, a professor and director of the Center for Service Learning and the Division of Continuing Education at Southern

University in Baton Rouge, La., where she received her bachelor's of science in vocational education and general science and her master's in secondary education and administration. Carpenter earned a Ph.D in adult and occupational education from Kansas State University.

"I never had a burning desire to become president," Carpenter said, "but after my service as first vice president, sorority sisters kept coming to me because they felt I could bring the sorority some fresh ideas that would lead in a new direction."

Under her administration, the Saturday Academy for  
(See Zeta, Page 5)



BARBARA CARPENTER

# Davis distinguished himself in fraternity, community

## Special to Sentinel-Voice

Edgar G. Davis, a tireless and devoted member of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. for more than 60 years, passed away recently in a Las Vegas hospice. He was 84.

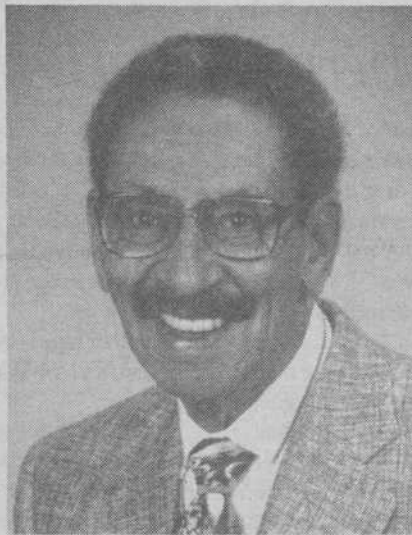
Davis was instrumental in re-activating the Las Vegas Chapter, Theta Pi Lambda, in 1985.

For the next 13 years he was an active member, holding the positions of corresponding secretary, treasurer, chaplain and associate editor to the *Sphinx*.

Besides the regular duties of his various positions, Davis consistently volunteered his energies to the chapter's regular programs, including the A.D. Guy Golf Tournament for academic scholarships, the annual holiday food basket drive, the making of the Martin Luther King Parade float and marching in the annual event, membership weekend, and the chapter's other social activities.

"Brother Davis set the standard for what it truly meant to be an Alpha man," said Theta Pi Lambda President Russell Flye of Davis, who was initiated into Beta Chapter at Howard University on Jan. 4, 1938. "He's going to be sorely missed."

At the chapter's most recent Founder's Day Breakfast, held in December 1997, Davis talked fondly about his years of service to Alpha and encouraged the brothers to continue their community



EDGAR DAVIES

service strides as well as work towards strengthening their own comradery.

Born April 13, 1914 in Brooklyn, N.Y., Davis was known for willingness to get involved with numerous Alpha projects in Las Vegas and formerly at Los Angeles' Beta Psi Lambda Chapter.

He was also a member of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, the American Association of Retired Persons, the National Buffalo Soldier's Organization, Las Vegas Zodiac Couple Club, the All Saints' Episcopal Church and other community projects.

After graduating from Howard in 1940 with a bachelor's degree in business, Davis served in the U.S. Army during World War II obtaining the rank of captain.

He retired from Sears, Roebuck and Co. after working there for more than 40 years as an equal opportunity director.

He is survived by his wife Fern, daughter Barbara of Southern California and two grandsons.

Services were held for Davis June 21 at Palm Mortuary Gardens in Las Vegas.

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