

NEWS CLIPS

SHERRICE IVERSON BILL STALLED IN ASSEMBLY

With minor tweaking, the Senate-passed Sherrice Iverson bill, which stalled in the Assembly, should pass legislative muster, according to the bill's proponents. Last week, the Assembly refused to accept Senate amendments to Assembly Bill 267 which requires anyone who witnesses crimes against children or the elderly to report them to authorities. The bill requires a person to report within 24 hours any knowledge he or she may have about a crime against a child under 12 years old. Failure to report is a misdemeanor. Some legislators were concerned about language in the bill holding family members criminally liable for failing to report these crimes. They also want to exclude some professionals who learned of the crime through a confidential contact. The bill will go to a conference committee. Iverson was 7 years-old when she was raped and murdered in May 25, 1997 at the Primm Valley hotel in Primm, 45 miles south of Las Vegas. Californian Jeremy Strohmeyer chased the second-grader into the women's restroom, then sexually assaulted and murdered Iverson. He was sentenced to life in prison without the possibility of parole. His companion, David Cash, witnessed a portion of the assault but never told authorities. Clark County District Attorney Stewart Bell said there was no law that allows him to prosecute Cash.

UNLV WARNS PUBLIC ABOUT SCAMS USING UNIVERSITY'S NAME

UNLV officials are warning the public to beware of scam artists who claim to be collecting money or selling goods or services on behalf of the university. The university has received reports of such activity this week in the Summerlin area. In one instance, someone claiming to be a student asked a resident to do a personality assessment and pay. In another case, money was solicited for a trip to Paris. "Unfortunately, scams in which people improperly use UNLV's name to raise money pop up from time to time," said Tom Flagg, director of News and Public Information at UNLV. "We would like the public to know that no UNLV academic program is supported in this manner. These may or may not be UNLV students. In virtually all recent cases they were not."

MINISTER SPREADING WORD ABOUT AIDS PREVENTION

Minister Demetrius Muhammad Sr., who shocked Million Man March participants in October 1995 when he proclaimed he was cured of AIDS thanks to God and Kemron treatments, has since married and is the father of an infant son. "From 1995 to 1999, I have tested negative [for HIV] every year," Muhammad said. "Everything comes back saying, 'non-reactive/negative' on every test." Currently living in Pittsburg, Muhammad is the Fruit of Islam Captain of Muhammad's Mosque 22 in Wilkinsburg. He says he is developing Victory AIDS Ministries to teach AIDS prevention and spread the word about how his life was saved. In his book, "A Man Who Conquered HIV," he explains that Victory Ministries is "about ministering, going to schools, churches, colleges, anywhere people need to have hope. It's about giving hope, compassion, the message that you don't have to live in despair even though despair is a part of the journey." Those interested in more info on Victory AIDS Ministries can call 877-367-4360.

HEALTH ALERT SOUNDED OVER PLASTIC BABY BOTTLES

WASHINGTON (IPS) — A coalition of health, consumer and environmental groups want U.S. regulators to remove potentially harmful chemicals used to make plastic food containers, including baby bottles and bowls in use around the globe. The groups sounded a warning bell earlier this month following recent scientific findings that showed higher levels of the synthetic chemical bisphenol-A, known as BPA, leaking from plastic bowls and baby bottles. Researchers said the chemical had disrupted normal hormonal functioning and caused adverse health affects in laboratory test animals, even at very low doses. BPA also was used as an "inert" ingredient in the manufacture of pesticides. "Baby bottles shouldn't release any chemical — let alone one that has been shown to function in the body like a hormone," said Philip E. Clapp, president of the Washington-based National Environmental Trust. The plastics industry and federal regulators, however, maintained their studies already proved the safety of the products.

Howard University confers degree on late Ture

Askia Muhammad

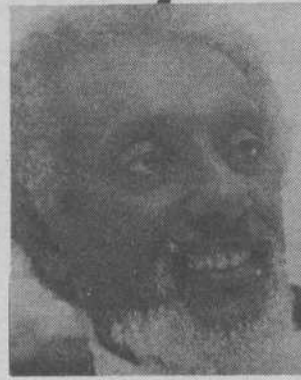
Special to Sentinel-Voice

Cries of "Black Power" rang out among Howard University's candidates for graduation on Commencement Day May 8, and not one university official was upset.

The shouts were a fitting salute to the "Father" of that expression. Howard University posthumously honored Kwame Ture — one of its own — with a doctor of Humane Letters at its 131st Commencement.

Hundreds of Washingtonians and friends of the revolutionary and former civil rights leader, formerly known as Stokely Carmichael, came out to celebrate his dedication, legacy, and career in the struggle to liberate African people. Mabel Carmichael, Ture's 80-year-old mother, received the honorary degree on his behalf.

Ture died of complications of prostate cancer at his home



KWAME TURE

in Conakry, Guinea West Africa in 1998. He was 57.

"To the end, he answered the telephone, 'You ready for the revolution,'" University President Patrick Swygert told the graduates and their guest, as Dr. Harold P. Freeman, a member of the board of trustees, placed the hood designating the degree on Carmichael.

Student trustees Jonathan Hutto and Randy Short sponsored the measure that recognized Ture who earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Philosophy in 1964. In the spirit of her late son's

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revolutionary fervor, Carmichael later revealed at a reception at New Bethel Baptist Church, that in her last conversation with him, he reminded her of his desire to see the Kwame Ture Work Study Institute and Library built in his adopted home in Conakry.

The student trustees, the Howard University Faculty Senate, former Mississippi civil rights activist Lawrence Guyot, boxing promoter Rock Newman, New Bethel Pastor Walter Fauntroy, and the All-African People's Revolutionary Party — Ture's political base for the last 20 years — organized the community celebration.

Ture, born in Port of Spain, Trinidad in 1941, graduated from the academically elite Bronx High School of

Science in New York before attending Howard. While a college student, he became deeply involved in the "Freedom Rides," sit-ins, and other student-led demonstrations that swept through the country challenging the American apartheid system of Jim Crow.

Ture participated in the Congress of Racial Equality, the Non-violent Action Group, and later joined the Student Non-violent Coordinating Committee. He was elected national chairman in 1966.

While leading a rally in Greenville, Miss., Ture, and friend and colleague Willie Ricks, rallied the cry "Black Power," which became the most popular slogan of the civil rights era.

Riverside cops deny celebrating after Miller shooting

LOS ANGELES (AP) — White officers who fatally shot a black woman did not celebrate or use racial epithets at the scene but rather hugged each other in grief, a lawyer said in response to a lawsuit filed by the woman's family.

Attorney Bill Hadden denied accusations by lawyer Johnnie Cochran that the officers were racist and slapped high-fives after shooting Tyisha Miller.

The Riverside officers

were "hugging each other and commiserating with each other because they hadn't been killed," Hadden said last week. "To say they high fived is absolutely false."

The civil rights suit filed last week by a legal team headed by Cochran named five officers and the city of Riverside — 60 miles east of Los Angeles — as defendants and alleged "racial animus" as the motive for killing Miller, 19.

Officers fired 23 shots at Miller, hitting her 12 times, on Dec. 28 after she was found in her locked car with a gun in her lap. Police, who responded to a 911 call, say she suddenly reached for the weapon when an officer smashed the car's window.

Hadden said the officers were convinced that Miller, who did not respond to banging on the car windows or shouting, needed urgent medical attention and they

were willing to risk their lives to help her.

"They thought she was dying," the attorney said. "If the officers sat back and did nothing, Johnnie Cochran would be saying a bunch of racist cops didn't value a black life."

The Riverside County District Attorney, while critical of the officers handling of the situation, declined to file criminal charges against them.

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Timothy Williams is a member of the Nevada & Illinois State Bar, practicing primarily in personal injury cases.

Neither the State Bar of Nevada nor any agency of the State Bar has certified any lawyer identified here as a specialist or expert. Anyone considering a lawyer should independently investigate the lawyer's credentials and ability.