

Political novice, incumbent sound off on issues

**Catisha Marsh
Sentinel-Voice**

The race for city council in Ward 3 is coming down to the wire as [22-year-old] newcomer, Nevada Stupak steps up to the plate against incumbent Gary Reese.

In interviews with the Sentinel-Voice, the politicians identified what they think are the most important issues for black Las Vegas.

Reese, who has owned a barber shop on Eastern and Bonanza for 36 years, said that he knows the community intimately and has the experience and ability to get things done.

"Look at my track record," he said. "I've been responsible for West Las Vegas for two years since redistricting and when I first came to the Westside, there

were people who I represented who didn't like me, but I've still proven myself.

"We built the senior center, redid the baseball field, Vegas Heights, moved abandoned cars, organized neighborhood cleanups, built homes, worked with Habitat for Humanity, we're building Gerson Park and we created the Enterprise Zone in which we have the Veteran's Administration, a post office and McDonalds."

Reese said that he's ready to be more aggressive in injecting new life into the economy on the predominantly black Westside.

"We've secured a lot of dollars for revitalization, especially federal money," he said. "We've already gotten \$12 million to revitalize old Vegas Heights.

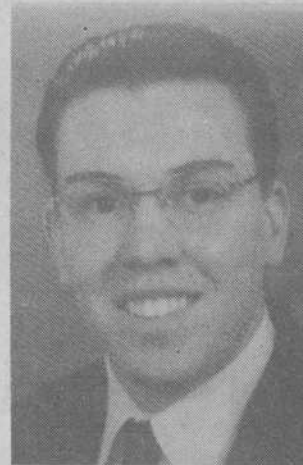


GARY REESE

"I also want to fix the roads—fix Washington and widen MLK to four lanes. Owens and Vegas Drive also have to be done."

Reese said other priorities included reducing crime.

"Crime is an issue all over America," he said. "I want to address how to combat it on a local level. How do you fight



NEVADA STUPAK

it if everytime you arrest one person, you've got three or four to take their place?"

To reduce crime among youth, Reese intends to rebuild Doolittle Community Center.

Although this is his first run for political office, Nevada Stupak also wants to connect with the youth of the

African-American community.

"I want to attack the gang issue. Gangs start in schools," he said. "I will work with leaders in the community and the school district and find out why they're not taking advantage of opportunities."

He said that he also must help mothers who can't afford daycare find ways to care for their children.

Born and raised in Las Vegas, Stupak thinks that there's been "deterioration in Ward 3," but that he can turn the community around.

"Drugs, gangs, youth, neighborhood (improvements)," Stupak said are major priorities, "but the number one issue for black constituents is economic development."

"I plan to work with businesses by providing low

interest loans, (and I will) encourage fast food chains and restaurants to open up, and provide jobs for youth."

Stupak also sees the issue of police presence as crucial to blacks who he represents.

"I want to work with the police; have a police officer assigned to one particular area, so people would know exactly who they're calling and who to ask for when they have a problem," he said.

"Those personal relationships would calm down some of the tension."

"I'm running because I've been blessed with opportunities in my life and I'm not giving back as much as I got," he said.

"This is an opportunity for me to give back. There's been a lot of deterioration in Ward 3 and I grew up there. I want to see it thrive."

Health fair part of Juneteenth celebration

**John T. Stephens III
Sentinel-Voice**

The fourth annual Juneteenth Celebration and Health Fair will jump off Saturday, June 19, at Nucleus Business Plaza, 916 West Owens from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. "Our culture needs to come together and celebrate our heritage," said Gina Fountain, director of corporate affairs for Nucleus Associates which is co-sponsoring the event. "(We need to) learn more about our

history and the sacrifices made."

Juneteenth is a celebration that recognizes a slice of black history that originates in Texas. The Emancipation Proclamation was signed into law January 1, 1863, but was unheard of before June 19, 1865 by black slaves in the East portion of the Lone Star state. Since learning of their freedom, Juneteenth celebrations have become an African-American tradition.

Free health screenings,

free food, face painting, games, a talent show, vendors, and a 5K walk will be featured events.

"We want to bring in the community and make it a full community event," said Larry Gammel, director of community relations for the Community Health Centers of Southern Nevada, one of the event's other sponsors.

"Our goal is to make this a week long event which is self supporting," Gammel said. He said that Juneteenth is

celebrated in some cities all week long, with Texas and Oklahoma declaring it a state holiday.

"We wanted to go deeper into what Juneteenth is about as well as the health aspects concerning African-Americans," Fountain said.

'99 Legislature completes first 120-day session minutes early

**Sandra Douglass
Special to Sentinel-Voice**

After working until midnight all weekend, legislators adjourned at 11:44 pm on Monday night.

Voters mandated the 120-day legislative session last year to prevent a repeat of the 1997 session, which lasted 169 days and cost \$15.3 million.

The new session introduced deadlines for individual sponsors and committee bill drafts and bill introductions.

Legislators had to adjust to the new timeline, but many believed the deadlines helped speed up the process. Southern Nevada lawmakers liked the permanent deadline for final adjournment. They knew when they would be able to return to their homes and jobs.

Though the Legislature discussed the problem of more than 1,500 seniors failing the new,

revised state proficiency exam, no action was taken to permit the seniors to graduate this week. Approximately \$300,000 was passed to fund summer school classes and tutoring to those seniors who did not graduate.

Those interested in summer school and tutorial classes can call the Nevada State Board of Education at (775) 867-9217.

The following bills have become Nevada State Law.

Millenium Scholarship — Any student with at least a B average will receive \$2500 a year to attend Nevada Universities and \$1250 a year to attend a community college. Forty percent of the state's annual tobacco settlement will be used to fund the scholarships.

Contraceptive Coverage — Health insurance companies are required to cover contraceptives and (See Legislature, Page 3)

Moulin Rouge

(Continued from Page 1)

Jr. "I know a little bit about the black mentality," Stupak said. "How they like to step out on the town and show themselves off. They can't do that at a place like Caesar's or other casinos."

Bilawey said that his team will open the Moulin Rouge on September 15 in three phases.

"First, Maxine's Casino and Grill will open, ..." said the general manager. "Then, we'll open the main casino with 300 machines, two bars and a small bandstand. ... Finally, we're going to open the showroom with a capacity of about 400. ... There'll be a little bit of an ethnic flair, but it's 1999 and we're here for everyone."

B-CON

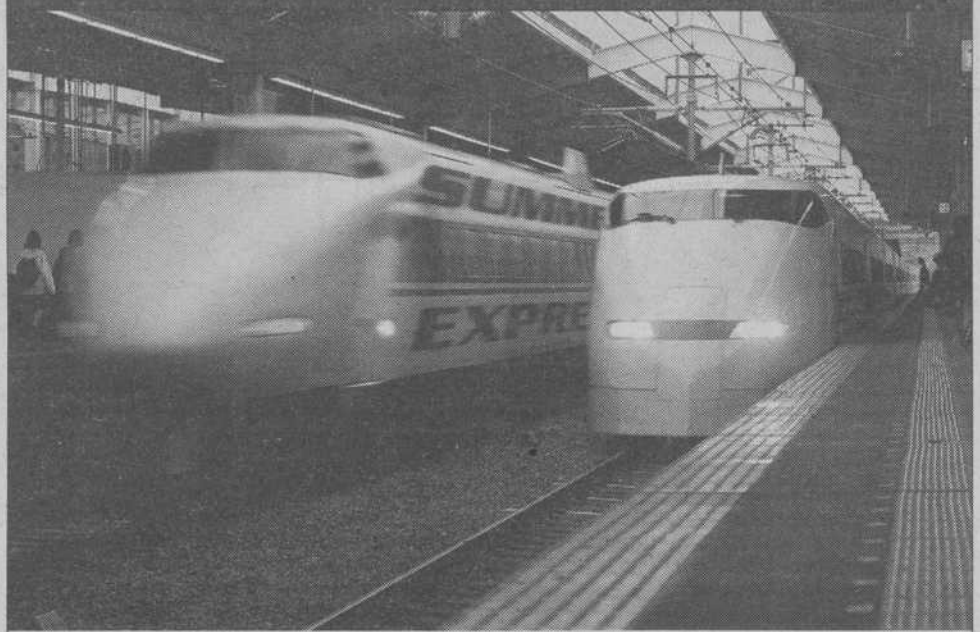
(Continued from Page 1)

"It's for students to see what you are and know what you want to do," said Barber, who also added a piece of significant advice, "Never stop learning."

"It's been a long time to get up and out of Las Vegas," said 18-year-old Samantha Springfield, who plans to attend Clark University in Atlanta Georgia.

"Your (graduating seniors) theme is to prepare for the millennium," said keynote speaker Rev. Cornell Fields.

THE COMMUNITY COLLEGE SUMMER EXPRESS.



TAKES YOU ANYWHERE YOU WANT TO GO!

ALL ABOARD! CCSN Summer Sessions will speed you along your personal academic or professional track.

Small classes, talented faculty, state-of-art facilities for computing, medical, hotel/gaming and auto tech training.

No. 1 in transfers to UNLV ❖ Lowest tuition in Nevada

Enroll Now!



Call 650-CCSN

Summer classes start JUNE 7

Cheyenne Campus 3200 E. Cheyenne North Las Vegas	Charleston Campus 6375 W. Charleston Blvd. Las Vegas	Henderson Campus 700 College Drive Henderson	Summerlin High Tech Center 333 S. Pavilion Center Drive Las Vegas	Western High Tech Center 4601 W. Bonanza Rd. Las Vegas
--	--	--	---	--