



Mayor to fix Westside

Catisha Marsh and John T. Stephens III
Sentinel-Voice

Now that the mayoral elections are over, budgets are allocated and the political dust is settling, what will African-American Las Vegans demand from Oscar Goodman?

On Monday, Goodman was sworn into the mayoral office before his first city council meeting, officially taking the reigns from Jan Jones.

His first order of business was to appoint Lynette Boggs McDonald to the city council seat left vacant by Arnie Adamsen. Although Boggs McDonald is black, Ward 2, currently the area bordered on the North by Cheyenne and Desert Inn on the South, and Torrey Pines and Summerlin Parkway, comprises mostly affluent white constituents.

So, even though his first appointment went to an African-American, the question still stands: how will the Goodman administration affect the black community?

"I've heard a lot about



LISA WALKER

Oscar, some good and some bad," said Marcel Lucier, a Westside Autozone manager when the Sentinel-Voice polled community members about their thoughts on what Goodman's impact may be. "But I'm going to wait and see what he does."

"They all sound good, but politics is politics," said Lisa Walker, a teacher with the Economic Opportunity Board. "At least he's reaching out and is approachable, though."

According to the new mayor, he firstly plans to diversify his administration

by creating a "Rainbow Coalition" at city hall.

He said, "Just about every African-American I know—of those who belong to formal organizations and those who are friends to those who I see everyday at the supermarket—they have all told me of their concerns.

"I'm surrounding myself with folks from all walks of life, ... , all socioeconomic backgrounds, all cultures, all races, all religions so that everyone will have a voice. I am the people's mayor. I want to represent everyone's

interests."

One sign that Goodman is seriously considering the multi-ethnicity of his administration is his close relationship with Barbara Robinson, an independent columnist and Las Vegas



Sentinel-Voice photo by Ramon Savoy

Former mayor Jan Jones reads the oath of office to Oscar Goodman during Monday's swearing-in ceremony. Goodman later presided over an 8-hour council meeting.

philanthropist who is African-American. Unlike most of the black leadership

Vegas part of the city," Robinson said. "It looks like they take the poverty and the

percent—on the Old Westside, the area between Rancho and I15 from West to East and Bonanza and Carey from South to North.

Though revitalizing downtown, courting software companies and selling Las Vegas to Wall Street are Goodman's main goals, he said he won't neglect West Las Vegas.

"I've been here for 35 years and Jackson St. looked bad then and it's bad now," Goodman said. He plans to stimulate the area by helping new businesses and current businesses to operate there successfully.

(See Mayor, Page 2)

“They all sound good, but politics is politics.”
— Lisa Walker

in Las Vegas, Robinson supported Goodman from the inception of his campaign and is advising him on issues of particular importance to West Las Vegas.

"The city has not done enough to make West Las

statistics on the Westside to get federal money, but then they spend it elsewhere, ... like on the Main Street experience and parking garages."

Estimates place the largest concentration of blacks—38

Overstreet upset over dismissal from committee

Catisha Marsh
Sentinel-Voice

After losing a heated fight to become a local NAACP presidential candidate because of a membership dispute, Louis Overstreet is back in the news.

This time, Overstreet was not reappointed to the Clark County School District Bond Oversight Committee and feels that the decision was a direct attempt to eliminate him from involvement in the school district.

Appointed by Board Trustee Shirley Barber, Overstreet has served on the committee since December of 1997. In January of 1999, the group started drawing up a set of by-laws to give it focus. Part of the new guidelines stipulated that of 15 appointed positions, seven would be direct ones by each board member and that the appointee must live in the same district as the board member who appoints him. The remaining eight were at-

large positions where appointments would be suggested by various members and then voted on by the full board. Overstreet was a direct appointment, and when his term was up, he no longer met the requirements because he didn't live in Barber's district.

"This is happening because I raise the wrong kinds of questions," said Overstreet. "For instance, there's a lack of a comprehensive management

plan, but the city is raking in 10 percent off the top of any money that's coming in for school construction for management. ... Superintendent Cramm has masterminded this whole thing against me because I always embarrass him. I've provided public testimony that's uncovered millions of dollars worth of mistakes that's directly attributable to his mismanagement."

Overstreet said that at least (See Overstreet, Page 2)



TAPPED OUT

A worn but jubilant Paulie Ayala celebrates after a hard-fought 12-round decision Saturday over Johnny Tapio in their WBA batamweight championship fight inside the Manadaly Bay Events Center.

Sentinel-Voice photo by John Olsen/Front Row Photos

Victor Awards celebrate athletes' contributions

Marcello Sawyer
Sentinel-Voice

Little known to most locals, the 33rd annual Victor Awards took place Saturday afternoon at the Las Vegas Hilton. Stars such as "Downtown" Julie Brown, "Baywatch" lifeguard Traci Bingham, and G-funk lyricist

Warren G. were on hand to recognize more than 51 athletes in 17 categories for outstanding achievement and contributions to the world of sports.

Hosted by Mark Curry of "Hangin with Mr. Cooper," the Victor Awards are the longest running sports awards

show in the history of television. Among the honorees were: sluggers Sammy Sosa and Eric Davis, NFL standouts Terrell Davis and Randy Moss, Heisman trophy winner Ricky Williams, consensus Men's College Basketball Player of the Year Elton Brand,

women's basketball stars Chamique Holdsclaw and Nikki McCray, track & field greats Maurice Green and Marion Jones, and NBA superstars Karl Malone, Penny Hardaway and "White Chocolate" Jason Williams.

Cynthia Cooper, two-time (See Victor, Page 8)