

## NEWS CLIPS

### C4 CRIMEFIGHTING SYSTEM TEAMS VARIOUS ENTITIES

The Clark County Public Communications office, in conjunction with Criminal Apprehension Team, Secret Witness, Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department, Henderson Police, North Las Vegas Police, FBI, and U.S. Marshals will air a short television segment to reduce crime in southern Nevada. "Southern Nevada Fugitives" is a three-minute public service presentation to assist law enforcement in apprehending suspects from citizen's tips. "It is our hope that 'Southern Nevada Fugitives' will raise awareness and not fear," said Doug Bradford, director of public communications at Clark County. "We are not urging residents to take the law into their own hands, but instead encouraging citizens to keep their eyes open and report pertinent information to local law enforcement." The crime watch segments will be broadcasted daily at various times on Cox Cable, Channel 4. If the public has any information or tips for police on a wanted fugitive they can call Secret Witness at 385-5555 or Criminal Apprehension Team at 383-3535.

### PROCEDURE AN ATTEMPT TO BOOST CENSUS RESPONSE

Denver is the first of 12 regions in the nation to wrap-up its Non-Response Follow-up portion of Census 2000. Non-Response Follow-up is the procedure where census takers go door to door to gather data from households that failed to mail a response. "We want to acknowledge the tremendous effort made by all staff in our 38 Local Census Offices in order to complete this massive task," Denver Region director Susan A. Lavin said. "The success in the Denver Region resulted from a combination of factors, including the preliminary efforts of our staff and partners to increase awareness about the Census and the hard work and dedication of our entire operations staff including the enumerators knocking on doors." Nearly 40,000 people were needed to accomplish this task in the Denver region which includes Arizona, Colorado, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Mexico, North Dakota, South Dakota, Utah, and Wyoming. Approximately three million households were contacted at least six times to obtain questionnaire information. After quality control checks over the summer, the first census data will be submitted to the President on or before Dec. 31, 2000.

### HSU APPOINTEE TO STATE COMMISSION ON ETHICS

Reno Attorney Rick Hsu has just been appointed by Gov. Kenny Guinn to replace retiring Judge Mario Reconzone on the state Commission on Ethics. "Rick Hsu's stellar career has been marked by a commitment to serve the public," Guinn said. "I think we're very fortunate to have a man of his skill and integrity." Hsu's law specialty is employment litigation and general business practices. He has experience in researching ethics questions for school board members and sat on a panel for an ethics seminar in northern Nevada. "This appointment is a tremendous opportunity for me to serve the public good and to apply my experience in the field of legal ethics," Rick Hsu said. "I'm looking forward to the challenges of serving on the Ethics Commission."

### OFFICER CONVICTED OF LYING IN COP TORTURE CASE

NEW YORK (AP) — A policeman was convicted last week of lying to investigators to avoid becoming a "rat" in the case against patrolmen who tortured a prisoner in a precinct house's bathroom. The jury deliberated two days in Brooklyn federal court before delivering a split verdict, finding Francisco Rosario guilty of two counts of conspiring with his partner to make false statements to the FBI six weeks after the 1997 assault of Abner Louima. He was acquitted of a third count that charged he lied again in a later interrogation. Rosario became the sixth officer to either be convicted at trial or plead guilty in one of the worst brutality scandals in city history. The 1997 attack on Louima, a black Haitian immigrant, sparked protests and prompted a Justice Department investigation into whether the New York Police Department fosters abuse of minorities by not cracking down on excessive force. Prosecutors had accused Rosario of lying because he "did not want to be labeled a rat." Defense attorney Richard Levitt said Rosario would appeal. Rosario faces up to five years in prison; no sentencing date was set.

# Survey finds poor children lack basics

WASHINGTON (AP) — Conditions for U.S. children have improved somewhat in the last several years, a charitable group said last week. But far too many poor kids live in families lacking what most Americans take for granted — parents, computers, telephones, cars and health insurance.

"Six of 10 indicators used to measure child well-being showed children were better off in 1997 than in 1990," said the annual Kids Count survey sponsored by the private Annie E. Casey Foundation.

Infant mortality and child death rates dropped and teen birth rates are down, the survey showed. Other improvements included an 18 percent drop in the rate of teen deaths by accident, homicide and suicide and a 10 percent decline in the percentage of children living with parents who lacked full-time jobs.

But other factors affecting well being — low birth rates, poverty and missing a parent — worsened over the last several years. Children in the poorest urban neighborhoods face a myriad of barriers to succeed in a competitive world:

-17 percent live in homes without phones.

-84 percent of households with children don't have computers.

-Half of all children live in families that don't have cars.

-17 percent of children lack health insurance.

-8 percent don't live with either parent.

"At a time when media experts, economists and social observers stress that the future belongs to those on the Internet and to those who can compete in a global economy, many inner-city families don't have cars to get to work, phones to remain linked with family and neighbors or computers that would allow them to navigate the information superhighway," the survey reported.

The survey, an amalgamation of data from federal and state government studies, showed that despite the economic boom of the 1990s, the number of children living in working poor families increased from 4.3 million in 1989 to 5.8 million in 1998.

This increase comes as millions of former welfare recipients have left the rolls and entered low-wage jobs, causing the ranks of the working poor to swell. Most children living in poverty do not receive government assistance, but instead live in families where at least one parent is working.

States where conditions were worst for children included Arizona, New Mexico, Louisiana, Arkansas, Mississippi, Tennessee, Alabama, Kentucky, Georgia, South Carolina, North Carolina and West Virginia, the survey showed.

States with the best conditions included Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Connecticut, New Jersey, Wisconsin, Iowa, Minnesota, Nebraska, North Dakota and Utah.

## Courthouse honors pioneer black Boston senator

### Sentinel-Voice

Sen. Edward W. Brooke of Boston, Mass., has been honored with the dedication of the new Edward W. Brooke Courthouse in the downtown area.

The new structure is located near city hall and the State Hall and was built at a price tag of \$102 million.

"The name Edward W. Brooke is synonymous in this state with integrity and conviction," Mass. Gov. Paul Cellucci said.

"This building stands as a symbol of justice, and justice

for the poor, the elderly and the innocent... something that ... (Brooke) has fought for all his professional life."

At a six-story height which includes an atrium under glass skylight, 18 courtrooms, and 24 judges' lobbies, it will easily house a juvenile court, housing court, land court, Suffolk County probate and family court, and a Suffolk County registry of deeds.

"We can take strength from a living legend," Chief Justice Barbara Dortch-Okara of the Administrative Office of the Trial Court, said.



EDWARD W. BROOKE

"A man who began his public life here in Boston and who remains as an inspiration."

Brooke became the first African-American popularly

elected to the U.S. Senate (1966 to 1979) since Reconstruction.

He was also the first African-American in the U.S. to be elected a state attorney general in 1962.

A World War II vet and a graduate of Boston University School of Law and Howard University, Brooke has dealt with issues such as the Vietnam War, Cold War nuclear arsenals, recognition of the People's Republic of China, and the 'Brooke Amendment' which states that no tenant of public housing pay no more than 25 percent of their income for housing.

He is currently penning his memoirs.

## NAACP urges House backing of hate crimes legislation

BALTIMORE (NNPA) — National NAACP head Kweisi Mfume urged the U.S. House of Representatives to quickly follow the Senate's lead in passing legislation to make it easier for federal prosecutors to try hate crimes and to increase penalties for such crimes.

"The Senate's bipartisan support for the hate crimes bill should encourage our allies in the House to work harder to pass similar legislation introduced by U.S. Rep. John Conyers (D-Mich.)," said Mfume, the group's president and CEO.

"We hope the Clinton administration will also join us in the battle to have Congress pass a new federal Hate Crimes law," he added.

The Senate bill would add offenses motivated by sexual orientation, sex or disability to the list of hate crimes already covered under a 1968 federal law. It also would give federal prosecutors the option of a pursuing a hate crime case if local authorities refused to press charges.

FBI statistics show about 8,000 hate crimes were reported in 1998, the latest year available.

Of those incidents, 3,573 were committed against Blacks. Whites committed 2,084 of those 3,573 acts. Overall, 66 percent, the majority of offenders, were Whites.

Mfume said more comprehensive hate crime laws are needed because bias crimes are still part of American life.

"The 1998 death in Jasper, Texas, of James Byrd, a 49-year-old Black man, who was dragged behind a pick-up truck and the death, also in 1998, of Matthew Shepard, a 21-year-old homosexual University of Wyoming student, who died after being beaten into a coma and tied to a fence, serve as stark reminders that hate is still a destructive force in America," Mfume said.

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