

# COMMUNITY BILLBOARD

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 29

The Cultural and Community Affairs Division of the City of Las Vegas Department of Leisure Services presents a Rites of Passage Workshop from 10 am-3 pm at the West Las Vegas Arts Center, 947 West Las Vegas Blvd. Following the workshop will be at the Karamu Feast, a joyous celebration of African-American ancestry that takes place on the sixth day of Kwanza, from 3 pm-5 pm. Admission is free. For more info please call 229-4800.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 31

Mountaintop Faith Ministries invite the community to a special New Year's Eve Service, "Bring the New Year in at the Mountaintop" @ 9pm. It will be held at Mountaintop Faith Ministries, 2845 Lindell Road. For more info please call 367-1636.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 5

At 1 pm the Department Of Leisure Services Cultural And Community Affairs will feature alternate health practices that incorporate African-American folk wisdom, age-old remedies, and new developments in healing methods at the West Las Vegas Arts Center, 947 W. Lake Mead Blvd. Admission is free, must be 17 yrs. or older. Call 229-4800 for more information .... The West Las Vegas Arts Center will hold an African-American cultural focus entitled "Employ your mother wit: optimal health of the body, mind and spirit." At 1 pm, 947 W. Lake Mead Blvd., for more information call 229-4800.

JANUARY 14

The West Las Vegas Arts Center will hold a Community Gallery featuring Beyond the Boundaries and Craps: A Black Man's Game at 947 W. Lake Mead Blvd., for more info call 229-4800.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 18

The West Las Vegas Arts Center will hold a Poet's Corner at 7pm. Established poets as well as open mike at 947 W. Lake Mead Blvd., for more information call 229-4800.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 25

The West Las Vegas Arts Center will host On Stage: An Evening With Walter Mason & Friends at 8pm in the West Las Vegas Library Theatre at 947 W. Lake Mead Blvd., for more information call 229-4800.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 26

The New Bethel Baptist Church Scholarship Committee will be hosting their 1st annual Scholarship Banquet from 6-9:30 pm. The banquet will be held at Friendship Baptist Church, 2249 W. Washington Ave. Donations are \$15 adults and \$5 children or \$120 per table of 8. For ticket information please call Otha Roberson, Chairperson at 431-0749 or the church at 648-8663.

ONGOING

The Reed Whipple Cultural Center will feature The Riches of Family: An American Journey from Slavery to Prosperity, the works of Rick Hyman, through February 23 ... Left of Center Art Gallery and Studio will hold an art exhibit by local artist Jorge Arcos entitled "Faces of Mexico." Over 30 oil and watercolor works depicting the rich and colorful Mexican culture. It will run from December 9 until February 15... The Southern Nevada Chapter of the Lupus Foundation of America Inc. meets the 3rd Wednesday of each month inside the Sunrise Hospital doctors' conference room, 3187 S. Maryland Parkway, from 7-9p.m. Participants will discuss a variety of subjects about lupus in an effort to educate and support lupus sufferers. Call 566-1425 for additional details... The West Las Vegas Arts Center, 947 West Lake Mead Blvd., invites the community members to share the history, traditions and customs during the monthly "Voices of the African Diaspora," at 6p.m. The host will be Hasani Kefing Palacio. Participants are encouraged to participate in a discussion of pertinent, contemporary issues experienced by African Americans. "Voices of the African Diaspora" is a free presentation by the Cultural and Community Affairs Division of the City of Las Vegas Department of Leisure Services. This program is provided to the community every first Tuesday of each month. Call 229-4800 for additional details regarding this event... Family Home Hospice is offering ongoing training for volunteers. Volunteers will provide emotional support to terminally ill patients, care-giving respite, errand running, companionship and socialization for and caregivers, office help and assistance with the hospice's bereavement program. Call 671-1193 to register for an upcoming training session.... The Las Vegas Fibromyalgia Syndrome/Chronic Fatigue Syndrome Support Group will hold meetings every second Tuesday at Desert Springs Hospital, 2075 E. Flamingo Rd., from 5-5p.m. Participants are advised that this is a smoke-free and fragrance-free meeting due to individuals that suffer from chemical sensitivity. Call 645-2153 for more information.

The Las Vegas Sentinel-Voice accepts Community Billboard announcements for non-profit and church organizations. Send notices: 900 E. Charleston Blvd., Las Vegas, NV 89104 or fax to (702) 380-8102.

## Ali

(Continued from Page 9)

of late crooner Marvin) plays his second.

Mario Van Peebles appears as Malcolm X, Ron Silver as trainer Angelo Dundee, Mykelti Williamson as Don King, Levar Burton as Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Paul Rodriguez as Fight Doctor Ferdie Pacheco, boxer James Toney as Smokin' Joe Frazier and TV sportscaster Jim Gray is typecast as a reporter.

Michael Mann has spared no expense on a production which cost way over \$100 million to complete. Filmed at faithfully-recreated locations in Miami, New York, Chicago, Houston, LA and, of course, Africa where the action all culminates in what its fright-wigged promoter billed as "The

## Clingman

(Continued from Page 6)

stitutions in this country. We own one national channel of distribution, The MATAH Network, and if we are faced with developing new ways to earn a living by creating our own products and services for our people, how will we gain access to those products

and services as well as to Black consumers without a Black channel of distribution?

This is my plea to us as a people in this country.

Don't take lightly the things you see happening around you.

Understand that if we do

Rumble in the Jungle!"

During the protracted, pre-fight hoopla, the chant "Ali Bumaye!" (meaning Ali, Kill him!) becomes the rallying cry of everyone in Zaire.

The slogan is yelled at Ali by passersby, squealed by the children who accompany him in his roadwork and is graffitied onto elaborate murals, crescendoing by fight night as an almost national imperative. There's no dry eye in the house as the people's support inspires Ali back into shape for his fateful showdown with Goliath, in a previously undefeated George Foreman.

Excellent (4 stars). Rated R for two simulated sex scenes, periodic profanity, a few racial epithets and many fisticuffs.

## Degrees

(Continued from Page 12)

ban planning. Most graduate with three-year broad Bachelor's degrees or diplomas.

Moreover, for every Black graduate in the fields of commerce, mathematics, and engineering there are two Whites. There are three times as many White as Black graduates in computer science, and an enormous eight times as many in the field of industrial arts, trades, and technology.

In contrast, Black graduates outnumber Whites by 10 to one in education, and by three to one in language and literature, public administration, and social services.

While the government tries to address these imbalances through such measures as merging higher education institutions and improving school-level math and science, it is clear that inherited structural inadequacies in the education system will linger for some time.

Only 15 percent of Black higher-grade candidates passed the 2000 matrix exams in math and science. It is thus hardly surprising that only 17 percent of awards to Blacks (compared to 35 percent to Whites) are in the natural sciences.

## Overstreet

(Continued from Page 11)

last week. It will never happen cap'n! The reasons being that over the last year-and-a-half the MGM/Mirage has been at the forefront, followed by Park Place Entertainment and Station Casinos, in promoting diversity in the gaming industry.

The other reason he will not be successful is that people of all colors living in Las Vegas are infected with a disease of epidemic proportions called "infectious apathy." Man, you can not get us to protest (you know the word that goes here). This is why West Las Vegas looks like it does, and why no one is concerned about the lack of quality education for grades K-12 in spite of the fact that we are spending \$2,000,000,000 a year of taxpayers' money on the Clark County school system.

A recent national poll indicated that Americans be-

lieve the two most important issues facing us today are terrorism (49 percent) and the economy (47 percent). Come next election time, terrorism will not be the most important issue. It will never happen cap'n, the reason being the fates of Messrs. bin Laden and Omar will have long been decided, after which time we will lose our stomachs for fighting wars around the world.

Thus, how full or empty our bellies (economy) are will become most important issue. The economy will determine which party controls the U.S. House and Senate after November 5, 2002.

Hey, if my predictions prove to be wrong, do you think I can return a used crystal ball, marked-up astrology charts, wet tea leaves and crumpled playing cards for refunds? I invite you to provide me with your one-word-with-two-letters response.

## Child

(Continued from Page 12)

a shack with siblings of the opposite sex, with no privacy, no space to observe the luxury of modesty...

"His words are music to the ears of those who wallow in being cast as victims. We may blame apartheid for child rapes, and violent abuse of the girl-child and woman-so it's sort of understandable, justified and all right.

"Blaming apartheid is seized upon by the misfits of our nation as the ultimate absolution of all their sins, and carte blanche to sin again.

"With that mentality, the moral fiber of South Africa will never be restored, national dignity and pride will never be regained," the news-

Sure, some of us may be well-off, but what about our people?

Please act upon that understanding-that reality-by spending a greater portion of your disposable income with your brothers and sisters. Our very lives, our children's lives, depend upon it.

paper said in an editorial.

The Natal Witness, which proposed that the government establish a department of HIV/AIDS, says the link with HIV/AIDS is plain because of the shocking belief by some traditional healers that sexual intercourse with a virgin is a cure for the disease.

"Another World AIDS Day has come and gone, the pandemic continues and increases. An estimated 5,000 people die each week in South Africa of AIDS-related diseases," the newspaper said.

"If a war were to be producing these figures, government would long since have treated this as a national emergency and responded accordingly."

## Comoros

(Continued from Page 12)

any names. Sunday's referendum on a draft constitution is being held under an agreement brokered last February by the Organization of African Unity, France and la Francophonie, an organization of French-speaking nations.

If the constitution is approved, a government of national unity will be formed to prepare the Comoros for elections to return the impoverished country of 700,000 off Africa to civilian rule.

Moheli, Anjouan and Grande Comore - the three islands of the Comorian republic - obtained independence from France in 1975. A fourth island, Mayotte, voted against independence and remained a French overseas territory.

In 1997, Moheli and Anjouan announced plans to secede in an attempt to achieve a status similar to that of Mayotte. France rebuffed the attempt, and Comoros government troops managed to put down the secession on Moheli but failed on Anjouan.

Military ruler Azali Assoumane Assoumane, who took power himself in a bloodless April 1999 coup, said Friday that indications were that the coup attempt was staged by "some Comorian with Paris backing."

On Saturday, Interior Minister Sheikh named the suspected Comorian as Ahmed Achrafi, a former government official now living in France.