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"THE TRUTH SHALL SET YOU FREE"

Urban Chamber to file complaint versus CCSD

By Kathi Overstreet
Sentinel-Voice

The Urban Chamber of Commerce will file a formal complaint with the Office of Civil Rights in the Department of Education against the Clark County School District.

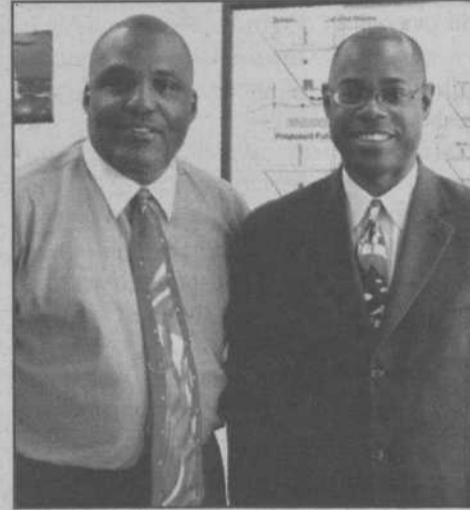
Chamber President Hannah Brown declined to say how soon the chamber would file the claim. The complaint will address the lack of hiring of African-Americans who are clearly qualified for positions, the disproportionate percentage of African-American students placed in special education classes and

the disparity of spending in schools in high-income versus low-income areas.

An additional driving force behind the complaint is the high volume of calls the chamber handles from people claiming they have been overlooked for promotions or not considered at all for hire. Also parents complained that the quality of education at schools with predominantly African-American and Hispanic student populations is less than that of schools with predominantly white student populations. Parents said district officials were

(See Schools, Page 4)

Assembly Education Committee Chairman Wendell Williams and the Rev. Spencer Barrett, Las Vegas NAACP president, back the Urban Chamber's complaint against the school district, as does school trustee Shirley Barber.



Sentinel-Voice photos by Kathi Overstreet



Final Call editor loses job over Jesse Jackson flap

By George E. Curry

WASHINGTON (NNPA)—James G. Muhammad, the highly-respected editor of the Nation of Islam's newspaper, "The Final Call," has lost his job for mishandling a story that erroneously implicated Jesse L. Jackson Sr. and Samuel "Billy" Kyles in the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther

King Jr.

Muhammad offered his resignation to Minister Louis Farrakhan last week and the minister accepted it, according to Nation of Islam (NOI) officials.

The "Final Call" made a front-page retraction in its Aug. 26 edition, apologizing for a story in the previous week's issue alleging that the

King family had implicated Jackson and Kyles, two Baptist ministers and well-known Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC) activists, in the 1968 assassination of their leader.

The original story carried the double byline of Eric Ture Muhammad and Donna Muhammad. It read, "On April 8, 1998, Mrs. Coretta

Scott King, her son Dexter King, Rev. Walter E. Fauntroy and former UN Ambassador Andrew Young met with then-U.S. Attorney General Janet Reno for two-and-a-half hours. They demanded a new federal investigation into the King assassination based on new evidence that had come to their attention. The family alleges

that the Reverends Jesse L. Jackson and Samuel Billy Kyles are complicit in the assassination of Dr. King."

The "Final Call" retracted the comment attributed to the King family, noting that it has "no basis in fact or proof."

In another story, the paper interviewed Martin Luther King III, who said: "My family has never accused Rev.

Jackson and Rev. Billy Kyles of complicity in the murder of Martin Luther King Jr."

And in yet another story, the "Final Call" interviewed former District of Columbia Delegate Walter E. Fauntroy, a former top King assistant who chaired a U.S. House of Representatives subcommittee investigation into the King (See Muhammad, Page 14)

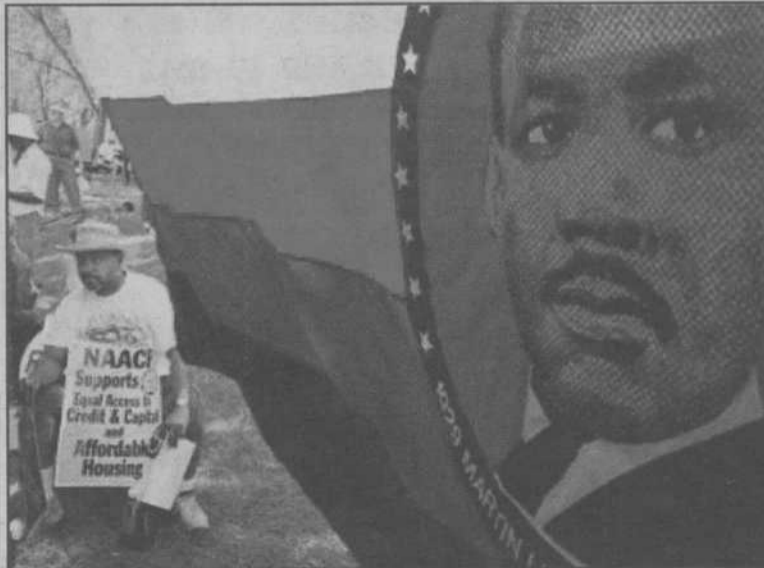
March organizers seek to energize 'dream' into discernable movement

By Hazel Trice Edney

WASHINGTON (NNPA)—The 1963 March on Washington ignited a movement that provided the momentum for passage of a major civil rights bill, voting rights legislation and a fair housing law, all within five years. Organizers of Saturday's march are hoping that the 40th anniversary commemorative March on Washington will have a similar impact.

Martin Luther King III was only five years old when his father delivered his famous "I Have a Dream" speech.

"When people talk about that great day, I have no first-hand knowledge. But I do know that my father was more than a dreamer," says King, who now heads his father's old organization, the Southern Christian Leadership Conference. "The glorious dream that my father shared with us on that day was not just an exercise in eloquent speech-making. We need to remember that Martin Luther King Jr. was



A flag bearing the image of Martin Luther King, Jr., hangs as Anthony Skinner, from Frederick, Md., listens in on a 'teach-in' given by the National Coalition on Black Civic Participation at a tent on the Mall in front of the Lincoln Memorial in Washington on Saturday.

first and foremost a minister of action."

Al Sharpton, the civil rights activist and presidential candidate, and many other speakers observed that in that famous speech, Dr. King

accused the federal government of giving African-Americans a check marked "insufficient funds."

Sharpton drew perhaps the loudest cheers of the day when he said, (See March, Page 15)

Texas redistricting bid fails for a second time

AUSTIN, Texas (AP)—The Texas Legislature adjourned its second special session of the year Tuesday without passing a congressional redistricting bill, nearly a month after Senate Democrats broke a quorum by fleeing to New Mexico to block the measure.

Republican Gov. Rick Perry said he would call yet another special session to try to get approval for new congressional boundaries.

"When I call that session is strictly up to me, and I'll give the appropriate notice on the appropriate day," Perry said.

Sen. Leticia Van de Putte, chairwoman of the Senate Democratic Caucus, has said the Democrats who went to New Mexico on July 28 are prepared to stay away another 30 days if needed.

Republican Lt. Gov. David Dewhurst sent a warning Tuesday to the Democrats.

"Let me pass on a very clear message to our 11 colleagues out in Albuquerque. The mood in the Senate is changing. ... We're tired of sitting here and waiting," Dewhurst said. "It is in our 11 colleagues' best interest to come back sooner rather than later."

Dewhurst would not offer details on how the stalemate could be resolved, but said, "I did lay out a specific new proposal to our Democrat senators yesterday."

The Democrats said they had not heard an offer that would bring them back.

The Democrats have said the current map should not be changed, and that proposals before the GOP-dominated legislature this year would have hurt minority representation.

Republicans, led by U.S. House Majority Leader Tom DeLay, have said recent voting (See Redistricting, Page 6)