

# C.A.A.N.

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"Intelligent people should be able to discuss our differences," Fowler said. "We don't have to agree on everything," he added. "We do have our battlegrounds...but we have far more common ground," Fowler urged.

"It gives me hope that our vote is finally going to have some value," said Brown, adding the African-American community has been "disenfranchised for so long."

C.A.A.N. is broadly structured and is comprised of 57 people seated on three distinct boards.

There are ten founding board members. The Executive Board has 30 members. The Ways and Means Board is comprised of 17 members, each focusing on one or more work areas.

Stokes says this was designed so the group would be "all inclusive" and to ensure a broad range of expertise. Board members Ron Sanders, long-time civil rights activist, will chair Race Relations, and Jill Triplett, academic program administrator, is Education chair, illustrating how the organization will rely on subject matter experts, according to Stokes.

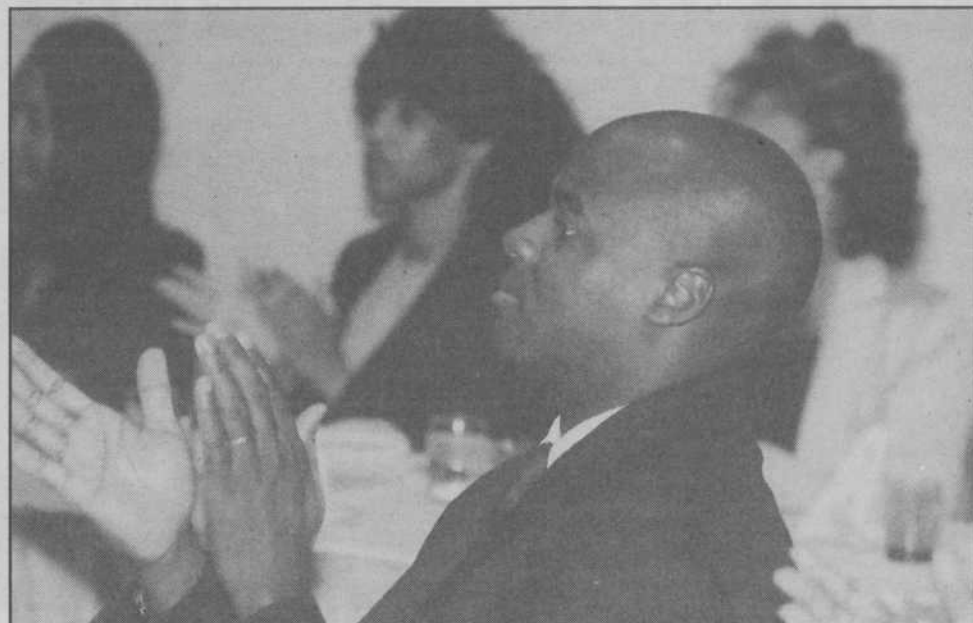
One of the organizations that will partner with C.A.A.N. is the NAACP, especially for voter registration drives.

Representatives from other well-established associations and groups attended.

Larry James Mosley, president of the Las Vegas Chapter of 100 Black Men and national executive board member was at the breakfast with several other members. Mosley said he likes the idea of being united.

"They have approached us," Mosley said. "It fits well with our platform and like goals. "Collaboration is fundamental" to achieving goals.

Elected officials attended the breakfast, including Democrats Congresswoman Shelley Berkley, U.S. Sena-



Sentinel-Voice photo by Ramon Savoy

Among the notables at C.A.A.N.'s event was Democratic Assemblyman Kelvin Atkinson.

tor Harry Reid and Clark County Commissioner Yvonne Atkinson Gates.

Each addressed the audience expressing a strong commitment to work with C.A.A.N. to help advance its efforts in the African-American and minority community. Each of them remarked how pleased they were with the size of the audience.

"This is a wonderful beginning," Berkley said. She expressed her great pleasure to see more African-Americans getting involved in the political process.

"It's about time," she added, smiling.

Stokes explained that the general meeting around June would provide interested candidates for any office the opportunity to speak before the board and member body.

The process will be for board members and general members to have a one-person, one-vote right to nominate and elect candidates for endorsement.

State Senator Joe Neal was present at the breakfast, but he declined to stay.

"They are endorsing people and I can't be here (to take part in and remain) for that," Neal said, leaving the building. For more information about C.A.A.N., call (702) 493-6936.

# Police snooping on hip-hop stars

MIAMI (AP) - Police say they are secretly monitoring hip-hop stars P. Diddy, DMX and others in South Florida to protect them, but celebrities and critics see the surveillance as unnecessary and racist.

Officers in Miami and Miami Beach have photographed rappers and their entourages at Miami International Airport and staked out hotels, video shoots and nightclubs while consulting 6-inch-thick dossiers of rappers and associates with arrest records in New York state, The Miami Herald reported.

"We have to keep an eye on these rivalries," said Assistant Miami Beach Police Chief Charles Press. "The last thing we need in this city is violence."

Some experts believe the sweeping surveillance of a genre of musicians is unprecedented.

"There's been no shortage of rock stars and other (See Hip-Hop, Page 13)

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