

CAAN

(Continued from Page 1) professional, referee and his ongoing work with youth in the community. He commented on this recognition of excellence by CAAN:

"I think that the CAAN group is doing a wonderful job, and I appreciate that they would honor me for some of the things that I have been trying to do here for the last 30 years," Steele said.

"All I have done over the years is to help people become better citizens — especially the young people... [We owe them] everything we can do to improve their lives because someone extended a hand and helped us in the past," Steele reminded the audience.

Jacqueline Shropshire, board chair of the Las Vegas Clark County Urban League was one of two individuals receiving a National Trailblazer Award. She spoke about her love of community work:

"First of all, I am very honored to receive recognition for something that I love to do... basically, to work with the community. For a presti-

I am a part of, involved in, and trying to move our agenda forward."

Stella Parson was the other recipient of a Pioneer Award and was recognized as the first African-American woman to graduate from the University of Nevada Las Vegas. Parson said she has lived here for 62 years and shared more with the audience:

"I [suppose that I am] humbled and excited to be here tonight in the midst of other deserving individuals. I was told that there was going to be some type of celebration tonight and that I would be a part of it because of our work with the school district where they named a school in [honor of my husband and myself]. [We] founded a church, started a Bible college, and after I retired, I went back to school and got a degree in Marriage and Family Counseling. I opened a counseling center and provided counseling [and still do] along with church work.

"I'm amazed as to how Las Vegas has grown... and I

and he was a second recipient of a Helping Hand Award. He paid tribute to the event:

"I feel truly honored to be acknowledged for doing community service and being a servant of the community. My mission is to do what I can to uplift our people and this honor will allow me to go out and open doors that will provide me with the opportunity to do better things for the community," Williams commented.

Duana Heard, a Helping Hand Award recipient, established Churches in Las Vegas.com providing information on the Internet, and she commented about her recognition by CAAN for the work she provides to the community:

"It's truly an honor to be appreciated by my peers, colleagues, and fellow African-Americans. It means a lot that people have thought enough of me to take a moment out to say 'thank you' and that they appreciate me for the contributions that our ministry has given to Las Vegas," Heard said.

"At first, I was nervous [about] being recognized for the work that I do, because the work that we do is not for awards or recognition: it's a ministry. So, this is really an honor and I appreciate all the support. I will continue to share what I am doing with young people and educate others on the work of our ministry," Heard promised.

Ramon Savoy, publisher, *Las Vegas Sentinel-Voice*, was presented with a Helping Hand Award. He discussed his perspective on being recognized for his work in communications:

"I feel honored to be among these other humble honorees," Savoy said.

"This [award] says 'Ramon Savoy' but it should be to all of you, because without you, this couldn't exist," he said, referring to the *Sentinel-Voice*, the community's only African-American advocacy newspaper.

Savoy said he's grateful to the community readers, advertisers and other contributors, and he expressed appreciation for the staff, writers and associates who help keep the weekly newspaper going — everyone who supports the Black press.

"It's a [memorable] event and a great tribute to those [who CAAN awarded] for their tireless efforts and contributions to the community," he said about the ceremony where eight awards were given.



"I'm amazed as to how Las Vegas has grown... and I would have never dreamed of the things that are happening here."

— Stella Parson

gious organization like CAAN to honor me is beyond my wildest expectations. I am new to Las Vegas but not new to the problems of the community. So, in coming here (to Las Vegas), whatever I have that I can offer in making things better is my goal in life, and to be honored for doing something that I love to do is very special."

Chuck Bremer, training director, Urban Chamber of Commerce received a National Trailblazer Award and also accepted with words of gratitude:

"Well, what it means to me, at the back end of a career, [it is] humbling... to know that your colleagues recognize you for the work that you have done over the years and around the country. Most of my work has been with results-oriented Black organizations. So, that's a feeling of humility. I'm hopeful to take away from this event a sense of appreciation from a community that

would have never dreamed of the things that are happening here," Parson said.

Beverly Mathis, Principal at Booker Elementary School, and one of four recipients of a Helping Hand Award, spoke about the importance of this event:

"I am delighted, I am humbly excited to receive this award. But, you know that I have to share it fully with my staff at Booker because I know, for a fact, that I do nothing by myself. I'm thankful to God, and I'm just one [of the] blessed people, so I'm delighted.

"This award translates to others that hard work does pay off. It translates the fact that we have a very supportive Las Vegas community, and it shows that whether or not we receive a thank you, it benefits our community, and our reason for living is so that we can help somebody."

Ramont Williams with Nevada Partners is a gang specialist and youth advocate,

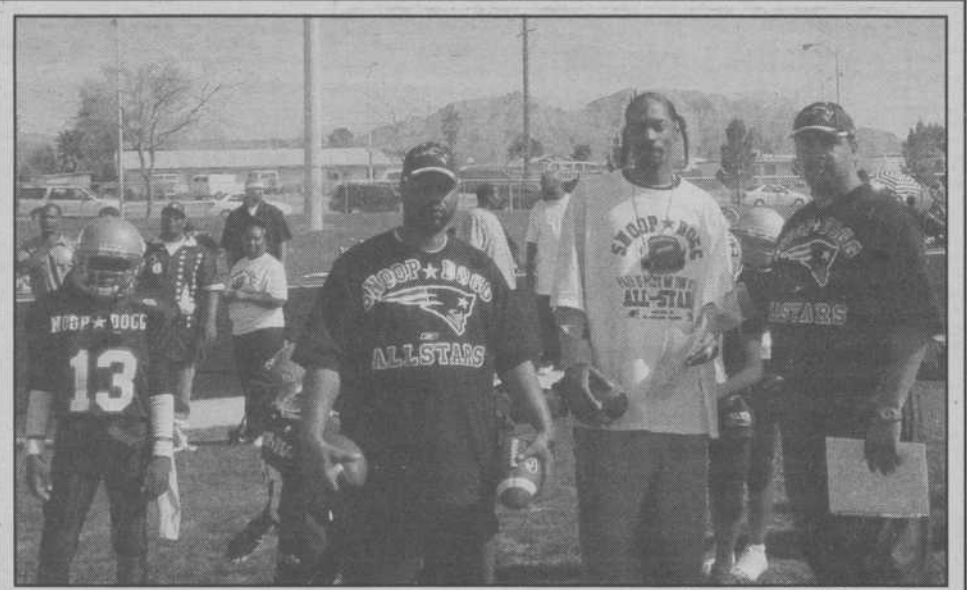


Photo special to the Sentinel-Voice

COACH SNOOP

Talented rapper/actor Snoop Dogg (Calvin Broadus), center, brought his Wild West Football Team as well as the Junior All-Stars youth football team to Las Vegas for an exhibition game against the Las Vegas All-Stars on Sunday at the Community College of Southern Nevada Cheyenne Campus. Snoop has been coaching for several years.

Military recruiters facing resistance from citizens

By Elizabeth Weill-Greenberg

Special to Sentinel-Voice

NEW YORK (NNPA) — The military spends about \$3 billion each year to convince young people that enlistment will give them college money, job training and an alternative to working at McDonald's. In the wake of the growing conflict in Iraq, which has resulted in more than a thousand U.S. casualties, the military has become more aggressive in scouting out high school students willing and able to serve.

In many New York City public schools that are predominantly Black and Latino, military recruiters are a heavy presence, promising young people financial security and a fulfilling career. Recruiters roam the halls, set up tables and even pull students out of class.

But in recent months, a group of teenagers and anti-war veterans have been can-

vassing the neighborhoods where the recruiters frequent, hoping to convince students to consider other options.

"We've heard everything up to and including having a desk in the guidance counselor's office," said Amy Wagner of Youth Activists-Youth Allies (YaYas), a group that focuses on counter-recruitment. "When the kid comes in to talk to the counselor about college, before the kid can get there, they've got somebody in their face saying, 'You want to go to college? How are you going to pay for college?'"

New York City organizers are educating people about alternatives to enlisting and the realities of military life. Vietnam veterans and anti-war activists Jim Murphy and Dayl Wise visit high schools, where they recount for the students stories about their time in the service.

In one class of juniors at West Side High School,

Murphy told them that before the service, he spent time making money playing seven-card stud. Once he left community college, he was drafted.

"I wasn't smart enough to have fear about it," Murphy told the class. "I didn't have a clue."

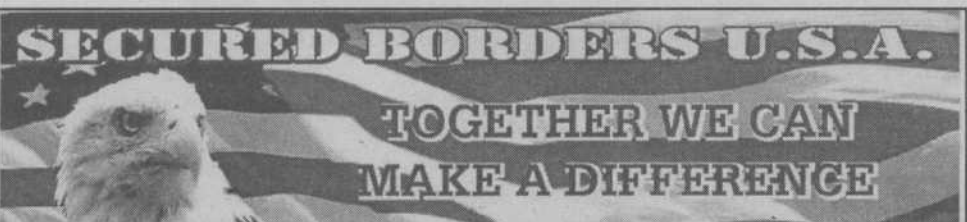
Wise, who was in the infantry, didn't want to go to war when he was drafted. His father offered to help send him to Canada.

I took the easy way out by reporting for duty," he said. "It takes a braver person. I let it happen to me? I didn't have a plan. I gave up control."

He warned the students: "Please have a plan. Don't let others make plans for you."

The YaYas, staffed almost entirely by high school students of color, work to make sure young people avoid falling into military service because it seems like the only option for advancement.

(See Recruiters, Page 14)



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TOGETHER, WE CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE !!!

"HELP STOP THE ILLEGAL ALIEN IMMIGRATION INVASION"

SIGN & NOTARIZE OUR NATIONWIDE PETITION

Townhall Meeting second Tuesday of each month at the:
ELK's Lodge #1468, W. Charleston Blvd, Las Vegas, Nevada at 7 PM.