

LAS VEGAS Sentinel Voice

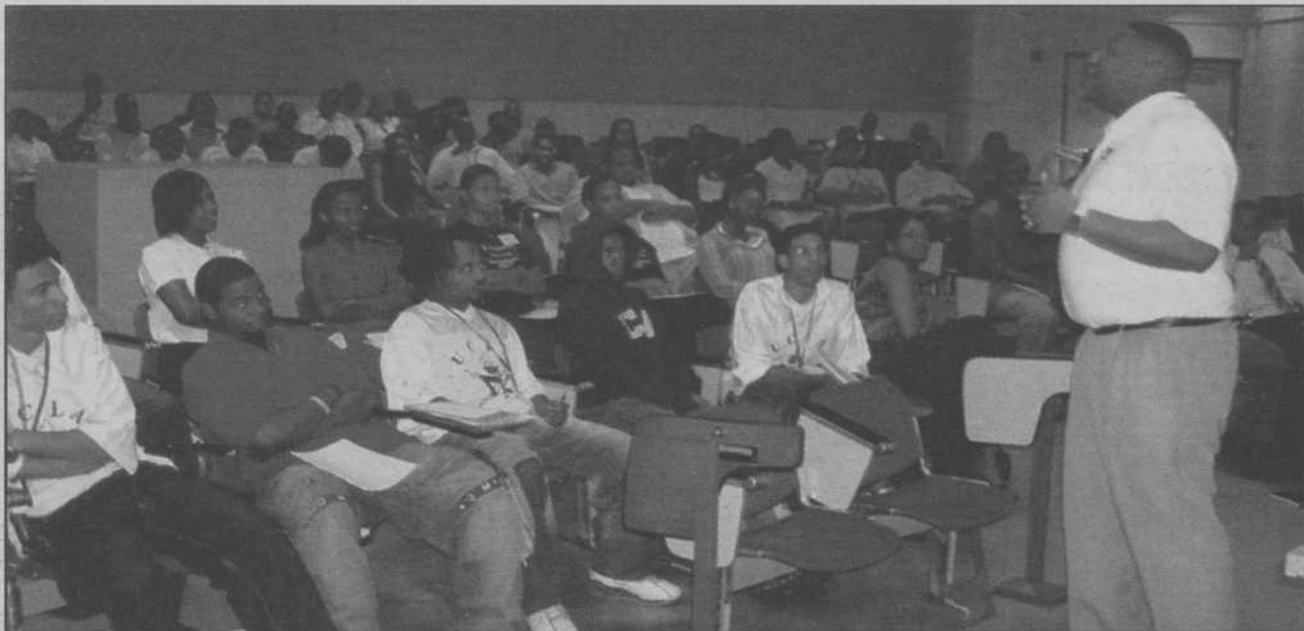
VOLUME 26, ISSUE 15

GRIOT COMMUNICATIONS GROUP, INC.

August 11, 2005

"THE TRUTH SHALL SET YOU FREE"

Black Engineers host students conference



Sentinel-Voice photo by Lés Pierres Streater

Dwayne Allen, the national alumni chairperson of the National Society of Black Engineers, speaks to students during the Western Region 6 conference held at University of Nevada, Las Vegas on Saturday.

By Lés Pierres Streater
Sentinel-Voice

More than 200 students attended the 2005 Regional Leadership Conference sponsored by the National Society of Black Engineers held at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Students came from the NSBE Western Region 6 areas of Oregon, California, Colorado, Arizona, Nevada, Washington and New Mexico. NSBE, founded in 1971, is the largest student-managed organization in the country, comprised of more than 15,000 members with 270 chapters on college and university campuses, along with 75 alumni chapters nationwide and 75 pre-college chapters.

NSBE seeks to increase the number of Black engineers who excel academically, succeed professionally and positively affect the community through cultural sensitivity and social responsibility. The organization provides its members ongoing academic excellence programs, scholarships, leadership training, professional development and access to career opportunities for graduates.

The theme of this year's Region 6 conference was "Passion and Pride: Stepping up to NSBE." In addition to entertainment and social sessions, the participants attended workshops on many (See *Engineering*, Page 2)

Scream Tour IV turns into celebrity sibling affair

By Chelsi Cheatom
Sentinel-Voice

More than 6,500 young people attended BET Presents Scream Tour IV: The Heartthrobs 2005 at the Orleans Arena last Wednesday. The concert had performances by some of hip-hop and R&B's biggest names, including rapper Bow Wow,

R&B singer Bobby Valentino, former B2K member Omarion, and Marques Houston. The 29-city tour kicked off on July 20 in Trenton, N.J., and it is scheduled to conclude on September 4 in Miami, Fla.

The tour also features two new groups — Bad Boy Records' B5 and Rap/R&B

group Pretty Ricky. Both are successful groups comprised of brothers. While both have different musical styles, they are often compared to the Jackson 5 because both groups are made up of brothers.

Brothers Dustin, 17, Kelly, 16, Patrick, 14, Carnell, 13, and Bryan, 10,

released "B5," their self titled album, in July. It features their hit single "U Got Me," as well as their first single, "All I Do," which is a remake of the Jackson 5 hit. They describe themselves as a diverse hip-hop and R&B group. B5 combines a classic R&B group sound with modern style and dance

moves for a great live show.

B5 chose their name after being compared to the Jackson 5. They used the first letter of their last name, Breeding, combined with the number of members.

Patrick commented on the Jackson 5 comparison: "We just want to live up to that expectation. It feels good. It's

an honor."

The Breeding brothers, who have no other siblings, have been working for six years, originally performing as the four-member TNT Boyz until 10-year-old Bryan, the youngest brother, joined the group. It is obvious that they have a very (See *Scream Tour*, Page 8)

Media giant John H. Johnson dies

By Karen E. Pride
Special to Sentinel-Voice
CHICAGO (NNPA) — John H. Johnson, the award-winning publishing pioneer and cosmetics mogul who used the pages of *Ebony* and *Jet* magazines to trumpet the stories of African-Americans for the past 60 years, and in turn built a \$500 million media empire, died Monday at Northwestern Memorial Hospital. He was 87. His story is a rags-to-riches tale. A man who left Arkansas for Chicago as part of the Great Migration launched by *Chicago Defender* Founder Robert Abbott, Johnson went from poverty and welfare to become one of the nation's richest men.

He was chairman of the Johnson Publishing Company, Inc., which he founded in 1942. The company's flagship magazines, *Ebony* and

Jet, are considered the premiere African-American publications around the world.

Johnson expanded his empire into make-up and runway couture with his *Ebony* Fashion Fair and *Fashion Fair* cosmetics line which have emphasized the glamour and sophistication of African-American men and women.

In a statement, Linda Rice Johnson, Johnson's only surviving child and the company's president and CEO, said her father had been active in company affairs until recently.

"He was in his office every day until his last illness and was alert and active until the end," she said. "He was the greatest salesman and CEO I have ever known, but he was also a father, friend and mentor with a great sense

of humor, who never stopped climbing mountains and dreaming dreams."

The Rev. Jesse Jackson Sr., who visited the offices of Johnson Publishing Company to speak to and console the staff, said he was saddened at the loss of such a great man.

"The tallest tree in the history of African-American journalism has fallen, but has fallen gracefully," Jackson Sr. told the *Chicago Defender*. "He shared the pain of Emmett Till, the development of Martin Luther King Jr. and was a source of information and inspiration."

Jackson recounted how Johnson gave him his first decent job in Chicago, after Mayor Richard J. Daley had offered a position as a toll collector.

"One man saw a toll taker, the other saw a communica-

tor," said Jackson.

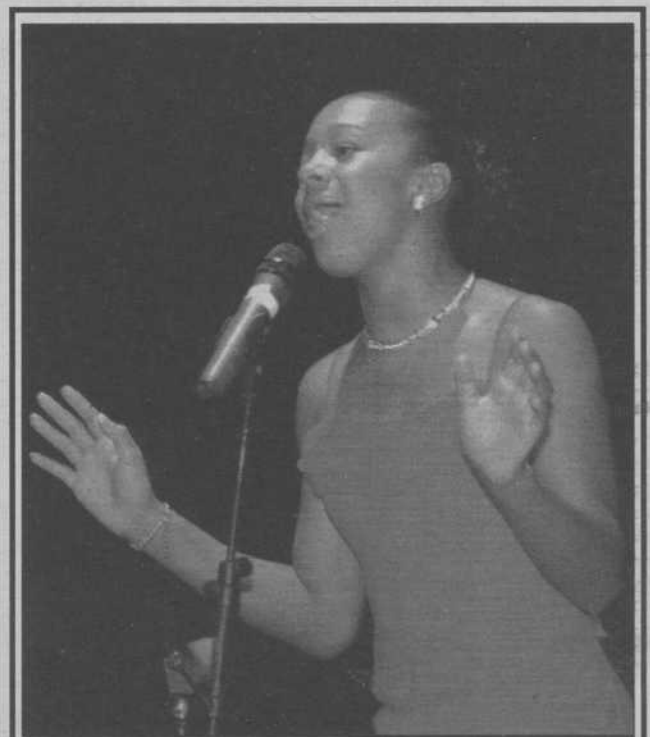
He said it was very emotional for him when he spoke to the staff.

"The family is so close-knit, and he (Johnson) prepared her (Rice) for this," Jackson said. "We have his legacy, but the business of his company is intact. The family is in mourning but strong."

John Harold Johnson was born in Arkansas City, Ark., on January 19, 1918, the grandson of slaves.

His father, Leroy Johnson, died in an industrial accident when he was very young and his mother, Gertrude Jenkins Johnson, saved her wages as a cook to move the family away to Chicago.

With \$500 borrowed from his mother, John H. Johnson created what would become an unprecedented magazine (See *Johnson*, Page 13)



Sentinel-Voice photo by John Broussard

THE ART OF SONG

Primrose Martin sings "Stormy Weather" at the West Las Vegas Library Theater. Martin's performance was part of the finale of the summer-long Performing Arts and Visual Camp on Saturday. See more photos on page 9.