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GRIOT COMMUNICATIONS GROUP, INC.

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"THE TRUTH SHALL SET YOU FREE"

Given EOB's issues, could KCEP be sold?

By Parker Philpot
Sentinel-Voice

There is concern, confusion and criticism amid recent reports — and there is conjecture. Is the radio station known as KCEP Power 88.1 FM up for sale?

"It isn't," said Interim Executive Director Jean Childs at the Economic Opportunity Board of Clark County Community Action Partnership, the agency that owns and operates the 32-year-old community radio station as a training and public service resource.

KCEP is a music and talk format radio station, funded primarily through listener membership and supported through underwriting from local businesses. Childs heads the largest and oldest community action agency in Nevada known as EOB.

The radio station was founded under the direction of EOB in the interest of serving the economically disadvantaged community in and around its location on the Westside, the historic nearly all-Black area of town. The



KCEP FM 88.1 program director/radio personality Billy T, right, accepts items from a generous man during a station food drive. Tenuous affairs at the Economic Opportunity Board, which owns KCEP, has some worried about its future.

24-hour broadcaster is licensed by the FCC as a non-profit community service radio station.

KCEP's General Manager Lee Winston was a local resident and broadcaster in the mid '70s when the station was founded; he knows the evolution of the station and said, "I think the station is truly an asset for this community. I think most people won't realize the [value] until it's gone."

But, that is what raises concern, and for some, an outright fear of losing "the voice of the community." Although the sale of KCEP has been discussed speculatively in previous years, the real possibility that the station could be placed on the selling block is a question facing the EOB board.

Why now, after three decades? In recent years, EOB has endured financial difficulties stemming from managerial errors and inadequate record keeping, according to the findings of the national regulatory agency that placed

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N.Y. Times debuts 'Black' newspaper

By Starla Vaughns Cherin
Special to Sentinel-Voice

FORT LAUDERDALE, Fla. (NNPA) - Hoping to cash in on the billions in African-American spending power, the Gainesville Sun, a subsidiary of The New York Times launches the Gainesville Guardian this week. However, local owners of African-American periodicals in Gainesville are worried the paper will siphon off the already weak advertising dollars they have worked for years to gain.

Aimed at the predominantly African-American community on the east side of Gainesville, the weekly publication estimates a circulation of approximately 10,000. Housed and financed by the New York Times Regional Group, the Guardian has its own team of reporters. "It's an independent broadsheet newspaper," said Editor Charlotte Roy.

Over the past year, the Gainesville Sun held focus groups with Black business and community leaders to gauge their support of the paper. Roy has also been speaking to local church and community groups. Many, including local politicians, are rallying behind the new

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Business program honors local youth

By Lés Pierres Streater
Sentinel-Voice

Family members, mentors, employers, and staff of the Summer Business Institute program gathered on Friday at the Texas Hotel and Casino in the Dallas Room to celebrate students in the 11th annual SBI business training and internship program, which has served hundreds of local youth with internships and job training throughout Clark County. The theme was "Providing Today's Students with Opportunities for Tomorrow." The event paid tribute to the hard work and dedication of more than 100 program interns in 2005.

SBI is a collaborative effort of the Clark County Business Development Division and representatives of local businesses to give young people the opportunity to gain valuable work experience

in small businesses and corporate work environments. In addition, it provides students with mentors

and a support base for growth and development.

Students attending the SBI program enrolled for

eight weeks in a combined work and training environment that concentrated on providing life skills, business financial management, team work, communications and self-discipline.

Students can reapply to attend for a second year. Each summer, they participate in a community service project and work on various fundraising activities to donate the money to nonprofit organizations.

Business Development Manager of Clark County Debbie Conway is the coordinator of the SBI program. She commented on the success of this year's program and explained how the program works to benefit youth:

"This is the 11th year of our Summer Business Institute program. Students are selected from high schools

(See SBI, Page 2)



Las Vegas Academy senior Krishelle Gaines, middle, is all smiles after receiving the first Farrah Gray Foundation scholarship at the Clark County Summer Business Institute's banquet on Friday at the Texas Station Hotel-Casino. Gaines' mother, Deborah Jamerson, thanks Gray, for contributing to her daughter's educational future.