

# Detroit mayor Kilpatrick rekindles tensions in city

DETROIT (AP) - At a time when Detroit needs its suburbs more than ever, the long-standing rivalry between the city and its surrounding towns is hitting another rough patch.

Mayor Kwame Kilpatrick, facing a tough re-election fight, last week caused a controversy when he singled out two school districts in neighboring Oakland County as having higher rates of drug use than Detroit's.

"In Birmingham and Bloomfield Hills and all these places, they do more meth, they do more Ecstasy and they do more acid than all the schools in the city of Detroit put together," Kilpatrick said Thursday during the first of three planned debates with challenger Freman Hendrix.

County and school district officials lashed out at the mayor Friday, saying the statement was irresponsible,



Detroit Mayor Kwame Kilpatrick, right, seen here with Democratic Ill. Sen. Barack Obama, is under scrutiny.

and requested a public apology.

"Those comments insulted the residents of Birmingham, Bloomfield Hills, insulted the students and impugned the reputation of two of our finest, exemplary school districts," said Oakland County Executive L. Brooks Patterson.

Patterson said Kilpatrick's comments were reminiscent of longtime Detroit Mayor Coleman Young, whom Patterson said refused to develop any kind of relationship with the surrounding communities.

In his January 1974 inaugural speech, Young enraged (See Kilpatrick, Page 13)

## Preparedness

(Continued from Page 2) conditions unfavorable for an attack.

"If you think of a continuum of events. You've got the pre-event... [The agency] works to prevent those from happening." She said that they look at infrastructure, protection, back-up systems and more.

"Where are the bad guys; what are they thinking; what would they be looking at?" Hadd named some of the things Homeland Security assesses. She added, "And what do we need to do to help the fire dept, the government... other entities and private industries — making them a hard target?"

The phrase "hard target" refers to making any entity undesirable, inaccessible or otherwise too difficult to be appealing to terrorists.

"They [terrorists] look for ways to exploit weaknesses," Hadd explained.

"In the terrorism game they [terrorists] want to win... In order to recruit others, they have to have successes."

Focusing on the more probable, "We're more likely to be hit by a high wind event or a flood than anything else," Hadd said.

"We assist if there is an event," she expressed to assure Nevadans and visitors.

**American Red Cross**  
Although the Southern

Nevada Chapter of the Red Cross is fully engaged in assisting with Katrina evacuees and their families in crisis, it is participating in already planned events aimed at raising community awareness for preparedness.

"We have to think about the unthinkable, because, unfortunately, it happens," said Board Chairman Cedric Crear.

In keeping with the month's theme of community involvement in planning, Crear said they included children in making advance plans for emergencies. On the local chapter's website at

www.redcrosslasvegas.org there is help for those who need to help kids understand disasters, preparedness plans and reduce their fears. It's called Reading, Writing and Readiness.

Director of Disaster Services for the Southern Nevada Chapter Ed Ruttan stated: "Over the summer, Southern Nevada children have probably seen and heard about high heat, wildfires, flash floods and terrorism. This news can be scary for both kids and adults. However, the Red Cross has the information to empower families with knowledge so



## CLOTHES MINDED

Getting prepared for the changing season, neighbors Yuriko Pimentel, left, and Norma Meijia begin sorting, separating and folding clothes Saturday in West Las Vegas.

Sentinel-Voice photo by Ramon Savoy

# Photo ID law challenged

ATLANTA (AP) - Voter and civil rights organizations filed a federal lawsuit Monday challenging Georgia's new law requiring voters to show photo identification at the polls.

The suit was filed the same day a commission co-chaired by former President Carter, a Georgia native, recommended a national requirement that voters show photo IDs.

Opponents of photo IDs for voters say such requirements would disenfranchise minorities and the poor; backers say they're a good way to combat voter fraud.

"Photographic identification as a requirement for voting is antidemocratic and prevents people from exercising their fundamental right to vote whether proposed by the General Assembly of the state of Georgia or the Carter-Baker commission," said Daniel Levitas of the American Civil Liberties Union's voting rights project.

Plaintiffs in the suit — including Common Cause, the League of Women Voters, the Georgia Legislative Black Caucus and the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People — contend the law violates the state and federal constitutions.

The law eliminates formerly accepted forms of voter identification, such as Social Security cards, birth certificates or utility bills.

Several groups filed objections with the Justice Department before it approved the law last month. Under the Voting Rights Act, Georgia and other states with a history of suppressing minority voting must

get federal permission to change their voting laws.

The Republican-backed measure sparked racial tension during the state's legislative session last spring. Most of Georgia's Black lawmakers walked out at the state Capitol when it was approved.

Democrats argued the idea was a political move by the GOP to depress voting among minorities, the elderly and the poor — all traditional bases for Democrats.

Dan McLagan, a spokesman for Republican Gov. Sonny Perdue, said the law is intended to deter voter fraud.

"Requiring an ID to vote is common sense and has been instituted in other states," he said. "Under the old system, you could pluck a utility bill out of somebody's trash can and cast a vote."

Nineteen states require voters to show identification, but only five request photo ID, according to the National Conference of State Legislatures. Those states — Arizona, Florida, Louisiana, South Carolina and South Dakota — allow voters without a photo ID to use other forms of ID or sign an affidavit of identity.

Carter, who chaired an election reform commission along with former Secretary of State James Baker, said in Washington Monday that requiring photo IDs was one of the most important and most difficult of his group's recommendations.

"We addressed this with a great deal of hesitancy," he said, adding that a national approach would prevent states from enacting laws that are discriminatory.

they're not so paralyzed by fear."

The agency advises that local residents can face extremely high temperatures, wildfires and floods, creating natural disasters.

"Parents and children should talk about how they would be impacted when and if these natural and man-made circumstances materialize," is their advice.

One crucial step that every other agency suggested, as well, is a contact and meeting plan.

"...families should write down how they would contact each other if at home, work or school. They should identify two places — right outside the home and outside the neighborhood — in the event they cannot return home to meet after an emergency or disaster," the Red Cross plan details.

"The contact should be located outside the affected area because local telephone lines may be overloaded and busy after a disaster. All family members, including chil-

dren, should keep the contact's information handy." It further explains that the contact can notify necessary agencies and other people.

Looking back at Katrina and looking at the current undertakings to mitigate problems, there is much to be learned, according to all agency spokespersons.

"The community is only as good as the sum of its parts. It's [best] when we are prepared [on all levels]," Tonelli concluded.

## Need a Barber? Come see us!

Six award winning Certified Master Barbers on staff specializing in:

- ◊ Fades
- ◊ Shaves
- ◊ Afros
- ◊ Eyebrow Arching
- ◊ Texturizing
- ◊ Children's Cuts
- ◊ Women's Short Cuts

**BOOTHS AVAILABLE**



**HOUSE OF FADES**  
Barbershop  
Over A Million Faded

514 S. Martin Luther King Boulevard

702.399.3233 • 702.307.3234