

# Farrakhan now out of hospital

By Nisa Islam Muhammad  
Special to Sentinel-Voice

CHICAGO (NNPA) – Min. Louis Farrakhan was released from a five-week hospital stay recently following a major surgical procedure, according to spokespersons for the minister.

“He was in the hospital for five weeks,” explained Min. Ishmael, national assistant to Farrakhan, who moderated the Web broadcast to various mosques.

“I’m happy to announce to the Nation of the Islam and all of the wonderful people who prayed for him that he was released and is out of the hospital and at home,” he said.

In addition to the care from his doctors, Farrakhan was under the constant and continued care from his daughter and nurse, Fatima Farrakhan Muhammad, who had been

(See Farrakhan, Page 12)

# Buffalo

(Continued from Page 1)

Annie Oakley Avenue off Sunset Road in Las Vegas bordering Green Valley.

“We’re celebrating the Buffalo Soldiers during Black History Month, and the soldiers will be there in complete uniforms both Friday and Saturday. We will have seven different artists who will have portraits conveying the lives of the Buffalo Soldiers on display at the gallery,” Lee said.

She said the gallery is “excited about the event.”

“As an artist, I have always been interested in the activities of the Buffalo Soldiers. We welcome the opportunity to honor them,” added Lee, who has several of her own works in tribute to the legendary Army veterans on permanent display.

Gallery Curator Andre Hines said, “It’s surprising how many people don’t know about the history [of the Buffalo Soldiers]. It’s good to have something to keep their history going.”

The Buffalo Soldiers have a rich legacy of service to the country. In July of 1866, according to the International Museum of the Horse, Congress passed legislation establishing two cavalry and four infantry regiments; the mounted regiments were known as the 9th and 10th Cavalries.

These units soon were nicknamed the Buffalo Soldiers by the Cheyenne and Comanche Indians because of the similarity between the hair of the soldiers and the coat of the buffalo. The soldiers originally served as members of the United States Colored Troops that served in the Civil War before being reassigned to regiments, primarily in the western U.S., which were comprised of only African-Americans.

The Greater Las Vegas Area Chapter of the Buffalo Soldiers 9th and 10th Horse Calvary, formed in 2004, consists of 25 members. Since 2005 it is among 29 units established as certified chapters throughout the country under the national organization. Chapter President Sam Armstrong said he is honored at being included in the gallery’s program this year.

“Ms. Annie Lee contacted us a few months ago stating that she wanted to honor the Buffalo Soldiers. We met, sat down with eight artists, and began putting the project together. This will be the first time that the local chapter has been honored here in such a way as this.”

It is a group deserving of honor, but not only for their military service.

The soldiers were key pioneers in the U.S. Westward Expansion. The Buffalo Soldiers were assigned duties that included protecting stage and mail routes; building and maintaining forts; subduing Mexican revolutionaries, hostile Native Americans, outlaws and rustlers; along with evicting White settlers that were attempting to relocate on protected land granted to Native American tribes.

The Buffalo Soldiers faced many adversaries while carrying out their assigned orders, among them were Geronimo, Sitting Bull, Skinya, Nana, Victorio, Lone Wolf, Billy the Kid, and Pancho Villa. Also, equally important but lesser known, the unit explored and mapped vast areas of the Southwest and strung hundreds of miles of telegraph lines.

They endured fierce prejudice from White officers and enlisted soldiers, along with prejudice from

# Activists to Wal-Mart: Be fair

By Gene C. Johnson Jr.  
Special to Sentinel-Voice

LOS ANGELES (NNPA) – An area activist and an Inglewood businessman joined a national group of community leaders via a national tele-press conference recently to demand that Wal-Mart create better jobs and become a responsible community partner.

“Many communities across the country now see Wal-Mart as a symbol of corporate disregard for American values, fairness, responsibility and respect,” said the Rev. Eric P. Lee, executive director of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, during the Jan. 8 tele-press conference — timed to be held just before the Mar-

tin Luther King Jr. holiday. “As we celebrate the life and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King’s birth, we call on Wal-Mart and its CEO, Lee Scott, to lead the way in eradicating poverty rather than perpetuating it.”

Specifically, Lee and others sent a statement to Scott, which read in part: “Public relations campaigns and do-

nations to charities of color cannot substitute for responsible employment practices and for respecting the aspirations of our communities, nor can they stand in for treating women and minority workers with dignity and respect.”

Wal-Mart later responded to the letter with a statement that read: “The public will see through these attacks, because they know Wal-Mart offers good jobs and opportunities, helps working families save money, and gives back more to our communities than virtually any other company in America. Our commitment to diversity is not just something we talk about, it’s who we are. We are a diverse employer, working with diverse supplies, and serving diverse communities,” read the statement.

Lee was joined in the telephone news conference by Gil Mathieu, a businessman in Inglewood, one of the communities that led a successful grassroots campaign that stopped Wal-Mart from building a Super center in 2004 without having to con-

(See Wal-Mart, Page 6)

# Barkley still gamblin’ man

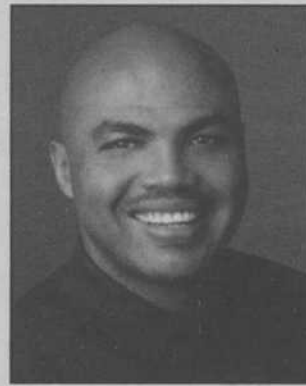
PHOENIX (AP) - Charles Barkley said Monday that he won “about \$700,000” gambling in Las Vegas over the weekend.

“That was all profit (from) blackjack, and I bet on the Super Bowl. I had the Colts,” Barkley said in an interview with Phoenix television station KTVK.

Barkley did not say how much he bet on Sunday’s game.

In an ESPN interview in May 2006, Barkley estimated that he’d lost about \$10 million gambling over the years. He said Monday that he lost \$2.5 million “in a six-hour period” one night last year.

“It’s a stupid, bad habit. I have a problem,” Barkley



*“It’s a stupid, bad habit. I have a problem. But the problem is when you can’t afford it... I like to gamble and I’m not going to quit.”*

— Charles Barkley

said. “But the problem is when you can’t afford it. I can afford to gamble. I didn’t kill myself when I lost two and half million dollars... I like to gamble, and I’m not going to quit.”

Barkley, who lives in the Phoenix area, was elected to the Hall of Fame last year.

He averaged 22.1 points and nearly 12 rebounds in a 16-year career that included stops in Philadelphia, Phoenix and Houston. He was the league’s MVP in 1993 with the Suns, and he won gold at the 1992 Barcelona Olympics as part of the original U.S. Dream Team.

many of the citizens that they were assigned to protect in the towns that the soldiers were responsible for and even helped to create. In addition to personal abuse, they suffered from the destruction of their barracks.

Despite these challenges, members of the 9th and 10th Cavalries developed into two of the most distinguished fighting units in the Army. There is also one surprising member who dressed in male clothing and served a term undetected — a woman, Cathay Williams, is now being placed into history as the Female Buffalo Soldier.

The gallery runs a video presentation showing the dedication ceremonies of the national monument to the veterans, which is a bronze, horse-mounted Buffalo Soldier located in a park at Fort Leavenworth, Kan., the home of the original cavalry units. The monument was dedicated in 1992.

A portion of the admission to Friday night’s events will go to support the creation of a junior Buffalo Soldier unit for students ages 8-17.

A \$50 donation is requested for the fundraiser.

For more information, call 387-4030 or go to [www.annieleearts.com](http://www.annieleearts.com).

Parker Philpot contributed to this article.

# Homework Headaches? We Can Help!



We’re your partner in success.

[www.lvccld.org](http://www.lvccld.org)

With a library card and a computer with Internet access, homework help is just a click away ... even when the library is closed!

Las Vegas-Clark County LIBRARY DISTRICT

Services also available from in-library computers.

All the FREE homework help you need:

- Special on-line Kids Catalog
- Web links for your assignments
- Live tutors on-line
- On-line reference with

“Ask a Librarian”