

# LAS VEGAS Sentinel Voice

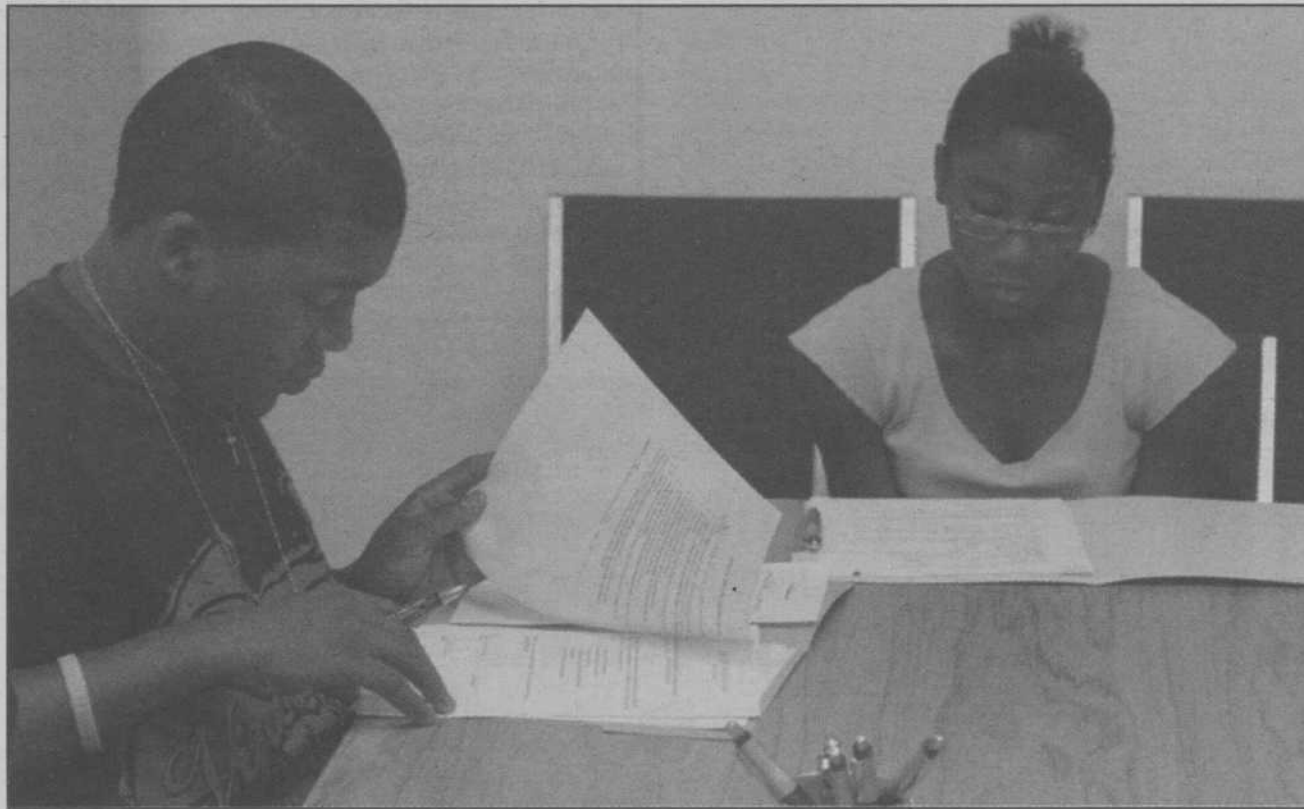


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"THE TRUTH SHALL SET YOU FREE"



Clark County school students are gearing up for the upcoming 2007 - 2008 semester that administrators hope will further improve the Adequate Yearly Progress report's numbers.

## Schools make progress

By Frank A. Albano  
Sentinel-Voice

Clark County School District has announced that it met the AYP, Adequate Yearly Progress, in line with the guidelines of the No Child Left Behind Act.

The number of schools meeting AYP increased from 183 in 2006 to 216 in 2007, a 12 percent increase. This is the second year in a row the number of schools meeting

AYP has increased, according to district reports.

Included in the 339 schools are 199 elementary, 55 middle, 41 high schools and 31 alternative, magnet schools or academies.

Nearly 98 percent of the schools exceeded English/language arts target goals, and nearly 94 percent of all schools exceeded math targets. The school district also reports there are improve-

ments in the dropout rate and proficiency test scores.

"Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) measures specific state-defined standards that increase over time. Each school is divided into nine subgroups, which must meet targets in the following subject areas: English/Language Arts, math proficiency, participation and other indicators," the school district's guide to NCLB and AYP re-

porting states.

The entire report is posted online annually by the Nevada Department of Education for public information at [www.nde.state.nv.us](http://www.nde.state.nv.us). The full report will post by the weekend showing each school's scores.

Under the federally mandated — but unfunded — 2001 No Child Left Behind Act, school districts that

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## Black America called to vote

By Alvin A. Reid  
Special to Sentinel-Voice

ST. LOUIS (NNPA) - Black America must be more vocal and active in lobbying for its agenda with both major political parties, according to a bipartisan panel discussion on during the 97th annual National Urban League Conference in St. Louis.

The panel centered on the questions of whether Black voters and issues of importance to the Black community will be ignored during the 2008 presidential campaign.

"No candidate and no president will do any more than we make them do," said panelist Rev. Al Sharpton.

"Every constituency, except Blacks, requires a candidate to address whatever its issues are seriously. Too many of us, in both parties, apologize for standing up for our community."

Joe Watkins, a Republican strategist, said, "If [Black people] want to be taken seriously, there has to be some

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Sentinel-Voice photo by Wiley Price/St. Louis American

Shannon Reeves, chair of the Republican National Convention African-American Leadership Council, discusses strategies as Democratic strategist Paul Braithwaite listens during an Urban League conference.



### THE RAIN MAN COMETH

Welterweight champion Floyd Mayweather Jr., who "let it rain" \$100 dollar bills over the weekend at Studio 54 has agreed to defend his title against Ricky Hatton on Dec. 8 in Las Vegas.

Photo special to the Sentinel-Voice by Marty Frierson

## 'Hate, violence and death' Attacks on homeless rise in U.S.

By Brentin Mock  
Special to Sentinel-Voice  
Part 1 of 2

ST. PETERSBURG, Fla. - Harold Washington has two strikes against him: He's Black, and he's homeless.

For the last seven months, Washington has slept in tents, under bridges, or on park benches. He temporarily claimed a room at a friend's apartment until his roommate got in a fight with his girlfriend and she set the place on fire.

"We were all lucky to get out of that one," said Wash-

ington.

Last November, the day before Thanksgiving, he wasn't so lucky.

Washington had just finished a day of labor at Tropicana Field, a major league baseball stadium located in a formerly African-American, working-class neighborhood near downtown St. Petersburg. Soon after he left the stadium, Washington was ambushed by a gang of six White youths he describes as "skinheads."

"All I remember was waking up from a coma,"

said Washington. "I ain't heard no more about it."

Similar reports of violent targeting of the homeless are rising sharply in America. According to "Hate, Violence, and Death on Main Street USA," a 2006 report from the National Coalition for the Homeless, 26 states recorded assaults or murders of homeless people committed last year, not counting so-called "homeless-on-homeless" violence.

Nationwide, there were 142 reported attacks on

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