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"THE TRUTH SHALL SET YOU FREE"

Vick: Actions unbecoming

RICHMOND, Va. (AP) - First, Michael Vick apologized to all the people he lied to. NFL commissioner Roger Goodell. Atlanta Falcons owner Arthur Blank. Coach Bobby Petrino. His teammates.

"I was not honest and forthright in our discussions," the star quarterback said Monday, somber and deliberate and not speaking from notes.

Then he apologized to "all the young kids out there for my immature acts."

"I need to grow up," he added.

And so began a public act of contrition from Vick, who pleaded guilty to a federal dogfighting charge and then stood behind a podium to say his job now was "betting Michael Vick the person, not the football player."

There he was, a QB so deft and nimble he pulled off any number of amazing scrambles on the field. Now he was scrambling to save himself and his football future because of his role in a gruesome dogfighting ring.

Saying he was speaking "from the heart," Vick said he took full responsibility for his actions.

"Dogfighting is a terrible thing, and I did reject it," he said.

Acceptance of responsibility is one of the factors U.S. District Judge Henry E. Hudson will consider in handing down Vick's sentence Dec. 10. The federal sentencing guideline range is projected at a year to 18 months, but Hudson can impose up to the five-year maximum.

Vick was suspended indefinitely by the NFL after his written plea agreement was filed in court last Friday.

"So I got a lot of down time, a lot of time to think about my actions and what I've done and how to make Michael Vick a better person," said Vick, who grew up

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Locals remember Katrina

Sentinel-Voice

A small crowd gathered at Doolittle Park to observe the Hurricane Katrina National Day of Reverence.

Led by a survivor of that tragic day, Aug. 29, 2005, in New Orleans, Rekaya Gibson along with Eddie Watson, vice president of the Las Vegas chapter of the NAACP, wanted to continue to bring attention to the situation after two years of governmental red tape in the revitalization of her home.

Gibson, who's one of the more than 450 families displaced and currently living in Las Vegas, thinks President Bush and fellow Republican Party congressional members are dragging their feet in providing the necessary funds and manpower to rebuild New Orleans and the surrounding areas after Katrina and Rita.

The devastation caused by the hurricane and the aftermath of the levee breaking destroyed and disrupted the lives of tens of thousands. Large sections of the city have yet to recover.

"I don't want people to

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Sentinel-Voice photo by Ramon Savoy

Katrina survivor Rekaya Gibson prepares for the first Hurricane Katrina National Day of Reverence at Doolittle Park on Wednesday. Gibson along with others marked the anniversary with a call to action by Nevada's elected officials in the rebuilding of her city.

Census Bureau: Blacks at economic bottom in U.S.

By Hazel Trice Edney
Special to Sentinel-Voice
WASHINGTON (NNPA)

— Black people in America had less health care last year than they did in 2005 and they remained at the economic rock bottom of America — also below the U.S. Hispanic population.

According to a report released recently by the U.S. Census Bureau, the median household incomes for Black families remained last year at \$32,000, the same as it was in 2005. That's \$5,800 less than Hispanic families, which remained at \$37,800 and \$20,400 less than White families, which remained at \$52,400.

Poverty rates in 2006 were no better for African-Americans.

While the poverty rate decreased by 1.2 percent for Hispanic-Americans (21.8 to 20.6); poverty rates remained statically unchanged for Whites, 8.2 percent; or for Blacks at 24.3 percent. Poverty rates for Blacks in 2006 were 3.7 percent higher than Hispanic-Americans and 16.1 percent higher than Whites.

The annual report, based on compilations of 2006 data is called "Income, Poverty and Health Insurance Coverage in the United States: 2006."

Economists say it's

America as usual.

"The data are just not surprising. You don't even have to see the data to know that African-American people are at the bottom. All you have to do is walk a neighborhood to see the number of unemployed," says economist Julianne Malveaux, president of Bennett College in Greensboro, N.C.

"In my position, I literally see the result of us being at the bottom in terms of how my students struggle with issues around financial aid. You have so many who in April when they filled out financial aid applications, their parents had good jobs. In

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Sentinel-Voice photo by Ramon Savoy

MAN OF THE HOUR

Congressman Keith Ellison of Minnesota, the first Muslim to serve in Congress, made a brief appearance at Jamia Masjid on Friday night to reflect on his tenure in D.C. During his visit he spoke with some of Muslims of the Islamic Society of Nevada.