

Ne-Yo jailed for speed

Special to Sentinel-Voice
When Ne-Yo gets going, it's the sky — and apparently not the speed — that's the limit. The 28-year-old hip-hop star was arrested recently in Atlanta after Cobb County police clocked his Range Rover going more than 100 mph. Police spokeswoman Cassie Reece said Ne-Yo, whose real name is Shaffer Smith, was booked on charges of reckless driving and driving without a license and released later that day on a \$1,300 bond.

He's due in court Mar. 25 to answer to the charges. Ne-Yo, whose sophomore album "Because of You" won the Grammy this year for Best Contemporary R&B Album, has a home in Atlanta. The rapper-songwriter is currently embroiled in a lawsuit against the tour pro-

moter behind R Kelly's recent Double Up Tour, from which Ne-Yo was booted after only two shows. The Arkansas native claims that he was attracting more ticket buyers and better reviews than Kelly, and that Georgia-based Rowe Entertainment unceremoniously dropped him at the behest of Kelly's people — a charge the R&B star's rep has adamantly denied.

"Ne-Yo may think blaming the situation on R. Kelly will improve his chances of collecting from the promoter, but if he does, he is sadly mistaken," publicist Alan Mayer told E! Online last month.

"Anyone remotely familiar with R. Kelly knows he is confident enough in his own abilities to be happy to share the stage with enormously talented people — the more talented, the better."

But Ne-Yo is sticking to his story, although apparently he's saving his rage for the road these days.

"Me personally? I've let it go," he told MTV News' website recently.

"I'm not the hold-a-grudge guy. I'm not gonna see R. Kelly in the street and run up on him and swing on him. I'm not gonna do a dis record about R. Kelly. It was what it was. It happened. For whatever reason, he, I don't know, I guess felt threatened by me and kicked me off tour. Life goes on. I don't have a problem with the man. It's apparent he has a problem with me — he kicked me off tour."

While not holding a grudge, Ne-Yo has also been busy prepping for his follow-up to "Because of You" and fielding songwriting requests from Usher and Janet Jackson, among others.

Farrakhan

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he had become disenchanted with politics, until he heard Farrakhan's message.

"I was never political because I felt like nothing changes," he said. "But, after all that Min. Farrakhan said, I'm going to look at Obama a little closer and see what he's about."

Farrakhan's popularity among young Black Americans grew significantly after the 1995 Million Man March.

In the past, Farrakhan has been criticized for his comments, which include what some perceive to be anti-Semitic statements and other comments that sparked outrage. But in recent years, most significantly after his battle with prostate cancer in the 1990s, he has tried to strike a more conciliatory tone.

In his opening remarks, Farrakhan commented on his unexpected return to the public stage. Last February, the controversial leader said his Saviour's Day speech in Detroit would likely be his last public address. Speculation also arose about a potential successor to Farrakhan after he handed leadership of the Nation of Islam over to an executive board and underwent surgery for complications due to his treatment for prostate cancer.

Farrakhan said he was thankful that God had granted him another year. He said he had spent most of the last year working internally within the Nation of Islam to put the movement on "the best road possible" to the future. "I'm still here. I'm alive. My mind is very sharp," he said.

Reid securing \$130 million for foreclosure counseling

Special to Sentinel-Voice
Washington, D.C. — Earlier this week, Nevada Sen. Harry Reid said \$130 million will be awarded to agencies in Nevada and around the nation to help individuals and families facing the threat of foreclosure. The Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2008 provided funds to NeighborWorks America and, through language included by Reid, instructed the organization to direct funds to areas with the

highest rates of foreclosure, leading to increased funding for Nevada.

"The Silver State suffers from the highest rate of foreclosure in the country, and we're all feeling the effects," Reid said. "The funds that we were able to direct towards Nevada will have far reaching effects by allowing agencies to hire counselors to help with foreclosure prevention. By preventing more foreclosures, we're helping more families remain in their homes."

The following Nevada agencies will receive funding to help with foreclosure counseling: Consumer Credit Counseling Services of Southern Nevada & Utah in Henderson and in Las Vegas, ACORN Housing in Las Vegas, Housing for Nevada, NACA Las Vegas Las Vegas, the Women's Development Center, NID-HCA Bowie in North Las Vegas and the Nevada Housing Division, among other entities.

Health officials announce scare

Special to Sentinel-Voice
Talk about a scare. On Wednesday, the Southern Nevada Health District announced that it was notifying 40,000 patients of the Endoscopy Center of Nevada about potential exposure to Hepatitis C.

The district identified a cluster of three acute cases of Hepatitis C in January and



Dr. Eladio Carrera of the Endoscopy Center

has found six cases to date. "The recent events related to the Southern Nevada Health District study mark the first time anything like this has ever happened at our facility," said Dr. Eladio Carrera. "We have already taken steps to ensure it will never happen again."

The investigation identified the re-use of syringes (not needles) and the use of single-dose vials of anesthesia medication on multiple patients as the potential sources of contamination.

"Based on the information we discovered during our investigation, it appears the injection practices that can lead to the transmission of Hepatitis C and other bloodborne infections have been occurring at this clinic for years," Dr. Lawrence Sands said.

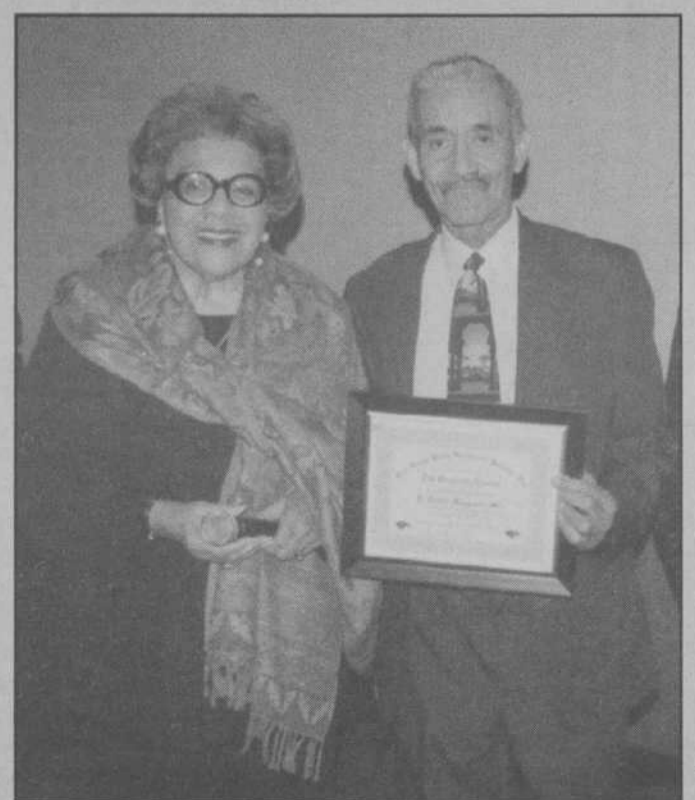


Dr. Lawrence Sands, Chief Health Officer, left, and Brian Labus, Senior Epidemiologist, spoke to the press.

Las Vegas Black Historical Society



Alice Key (above), president of the Las Vegas Black Historical Society, recognizes two of this year's recipients, Jimmy Gay III and J. David Hoggard Sr. As their sons J. David Hoggard Jr. (right) and Phillip Gay received certificates of remembrance. Ida Gaines accompanies Phillip, and Verlia Davis congratulates David.



Sentinel-Voice photos by Sir Wash