

LAS VEGAS

# Sentinel Voice



VOLUME 28, ISSUE 48

GRIOT COMMUNICATIONS GROUP, INC.

March 27, 2008

"THE TRUTH SHALL SET YOU FREE"



Christine Beatty, former chief of staff for Detroit Mayor Kwame Kilpatrick, arrives for her arraignment in court in Detroit on Tuesday. Both are charged with perjury.

## Detroit mayor, aide vow fight

Special to Sentinel-Voice

Legal experts said Tuesday that the heart of the perjury case against Mayor Kwame Kilpatrick — steamy text messages that seem to contradict his sworn denials of an affair with an aide — might be less open-and-shut than many believe.

Kilpatrick's attorneys want to keep the intimate and sexually explicit text messages out of a trial, and at least one outside defense lawyer says the admissibility of such high-tech communications is an unsettled legal question. Even if they are admitted, experts say the defense will exploit any ambiguity in the messages, in the questions the mayor and former Chief of Staff Christine Beatty were asked under oath, and in their answers.

"If the questions were not clear, and that's going to be used to prove the case, then that's another avenue in trying to establish a reasonable doubt," former federal prosecutor Matthew Orwig said.

The usually gregarious Kilpatrick was subdued as he stood mute to eight felony charges of perjury, conspiracy, obstruction of justice and misconduct in office during his arraignment in Detroit. Beatty also stood mute to seven of those charges.

Not guilty pleas were entered for both. They were released on personal bonds and are expected to appear at a June 9 preliminary examination that will determine if they will face trial in Wayne County Circuit Court.

The charges stem from a lawsuit filed by two former police officers who won a jury verdict last year. They said they were fired for investigating claims that the mayor used his security unit to cover up extramarital affairs.

Kilpatrick had said he would challenge the verdict, but prosecutors allege that a multimillion-dollar settlement was reached after the officers' attorney showed the mayor's lawyers references to the text messages, which had been left on Beatty's city-issued pager.

The *Detroit Free Press* published excerpts of the messages in January, prompting an investigation that led to

(See Mayor, Page 3)

## 40th anniversary of King assassination March to recall struggle

By Hazel Trice Edney  
Special to Sentinel-Voice

WASHINGTON (NNPA) — Rev. Al Sharpton, preparing to lead a historic "recommitment march" on the 40th anniversary of the death of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. next week, says Blacks are still in the wilderness.

"When you do a comparative analysis of the Children of Israel who had gotten out of bondage but had not gotten into the promised land, you will see that part of the problem was that they were not empowered in the land where they were, but they were also plagued by their own behavior," Sharpton said in an interview this week.

"We have crossed the red sea of segregation, public accommodations and voting rights," he continued.

"But, we are still oppressed by a combination of

what the pharaohs have done and the fact that some of us have succumbed to false values and oppression... Compounding our struggle are Black-on-Black crime, the killing, drug use, the glorification of gangsta rap," he said.

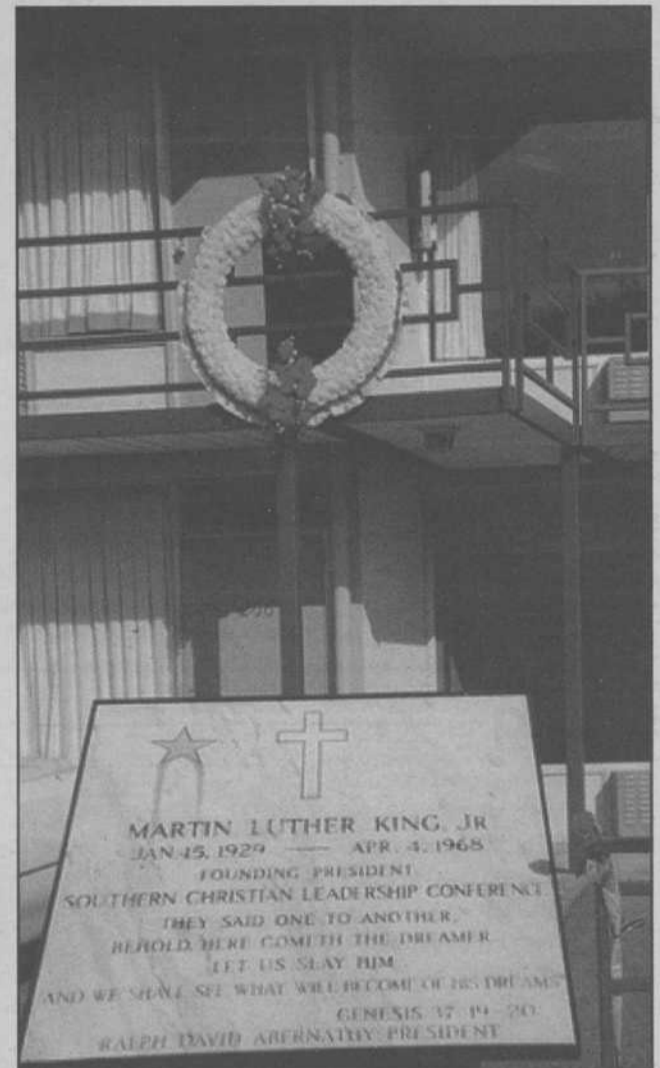
The answer is remembering — as the children of Israel did — to become in sync with the "values of the God that brought us out," he said. "Kaleb and Joshua, who made it in, never surrendered to the psychological oppression of Pharaoh."

According to a statement, a 1 p.m. pre-march rally will be held at the Memphis City Hall with the Recommitment March to the Lorraine Motel beginning at 3:30 p.m. A Memorial Program at the Lorraine Hotel/Civil Rights Museum will be held at 5 p.m., all on April 4.

The march will be led by



The National Civil Rights Museum is seen in Memphis, Tenn. The historic edifice was built around the motel where Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. was assassinated in 1968.



Martin Luther King Jr. was slain at the Lorraine Motel.

Sharpton and Martin Luther King III, who will visit the Lorraine Motel for the first time. His father, Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. was assassinated there on April 4, 1968. He was shot while standing on a balcony of the hotel a day after speaking at Memphis' Mason Temple Church of God in Christ.

Sharpton said in a state-

ment that he is calling the event a "Recommitment March" because it will "serve as an opportunity for people to recommit themselves to fighting for the ideals that Dr. King envisioned 40-years ago."

He says the march will bring thousands from across the country to dedicate and

(See King, Page 2)

## NY governor admits cocaine use

Special to Sentinel-Voice

NEW YORK — New York's new governor, who disclosed last week that he and his wife both committed adultery several years ago, said that he used cocaine in his 20s and smoked marijuana when he was younger.

In reference to cocaine, Gov. David Paterson, 53, said in a television interview that he "tried it a couple of times" when he was "about 22 or 23."

"And marijuana, probably when I

was about 20," he said on the NY1 cable news station. "I don't think I touched marijuana since the '70s. More Americans have tried a lot more during that period of time and gone on to lead responsible lives and, hopefully, have lived their lives to their fullest," he said.

Paterson was lieutenant governor under Gov. Eliot Spitzer, who resigned last week amid a prostitution scandal.

Last week, Paterson and his wife, Michelle Paterson, disclosed they each

had strayed from the marriage years ago.

They were separated for a "couple years" at the time, David Paterson said.

In an interview, Paterson pointed out that he had acknowledged to a television journalist in 2006 that he had used illegal drugs. The NY1 interviewer, Dominic Carter, noted that few people paid attention to Paterson's revelation then because he was running for lieutenant governor.