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"THE TRUTH SHALL SET YOU FREE"



Left to right: Former O.J. Simpson co-defendant Charles Cashmore with his lawyer John Moran, co-defendant Charles Ehrlich and his lawyer William Terry, co-defendant Michael McClinton and his lawyer Robert Dennis Rentzer and Walter Alexander appear in court for their sentencing hearing at the Regional Justice Center in Las Vegas on Tuesday. The four former O.J. Simpson co-defendants who took plea deals and testified against Simpson received probation.

Simpson cohorts get probation

Special to Sentinel-Voice

LAS VEGAS — Four men who pleaded guilty to reduced charges in exchange for testifying against O.J. Simpson at his robbery-kidnapping trial were sentenced Tuesday to probation, drawing a loud protest from a sports memorabilia dealer they held at gunpoint in a Las Vegas hotel room.

"You've got to be kidding me!" Bruce Fromong exclaimed after Clark County District Court Judge Jackie Glass sentenced Michael McClinton to eight years' probation. McClinton, 50, testified that he supplied two guns and brandished one during the Sept. 13, 2007, confrontation.

"Get him out of the build-

ing," Glass said of Fromong. She did not let Fromong address the court before sentencing.

Glass lectured the four defendants but accepted a state recommendation that they serve no prison time. She handed probation terms of six years to Charles Ehrlich, four years to Walter Alexander and three years to

Charles Cashmore.

The sentences were much lighter than those meted out Friday to Simpson and Clarence "C.J." Stewart, the only co-defendant who stood trial.

Glass sentenced Simpson to nine to 33 years in prison and Stewart to 7-1/2 to 27 years.

(See Defendants, Page 2)

Drive collects shoes for local kids

Special to Sentinel-Voice

The West Las Vegas Library, in conjunction with the Las Vegas-Clark County Library District, has announced its 14th Annual "Shoes for Children" benefit shoe drive. The drive provides new shoes for needy children in West Las Vegas.

As always, the shoe drive will culminate with a performance inside the West Las Vegas Library Theater. This year, Shoes for Children co-founder "Sweet" Lou Collins and Life Long Dreams co-founders Tshlene R. Henreid and Cathy Warriner will present "Ridin' on a Rhythm," a production ex-



The West Las Vegas Library is hosting its annual shoe drive.

ploring the colorful world of music.

"The Music Man," along with special guests, will lead

Life Long Dreams Kids on an entertaining and educational adventure highlighting the origin and history of mu-

sic.

Admission to the performance is one new pair of children's athletic shoes sized for youth from preschool to high school.

All donated shoes will be distributed to children within the area and to given to local charities. The performance is slated for 5 p.m. on Saturday. The theatre is located at 951 West Lake Mead Boulevard.

Donations of shoes will be accepted December 19 at all Las Vegas-Clark County Library District branches. Those interested in more information on the Shoe Drive or the performance can call 507-3989.

O.J.'s lawyers set to appeal

LAS VEGAS (AP) — In the harsh light of the morning after his sentencing, O.J. Simpson's future was clear Saturday. His new home will be a prison cell in the Nevada desert with his door to freedom hinging on an appeal of a trial that his lawyers say was filled with errors.

"This is not a frivolous appeal," Yale Galanter, Simpson's lawyer, said. "There were some grave errors made by Judge [Jackie] Glass, and we think they are strong enough to overturn the conviction. We also think we have a shot at bail."

Galanter has cited six initial issues for appeal. The most significant concern could be the exclusion of Blacks from the jury selection. The defense also will protest the judge allowing comments about Simpson's 1994 Los Angeles murder case in which he was acquitted of killing his ex-wife, Nicole Brown Simpson, and her friend, Ron Goldman.

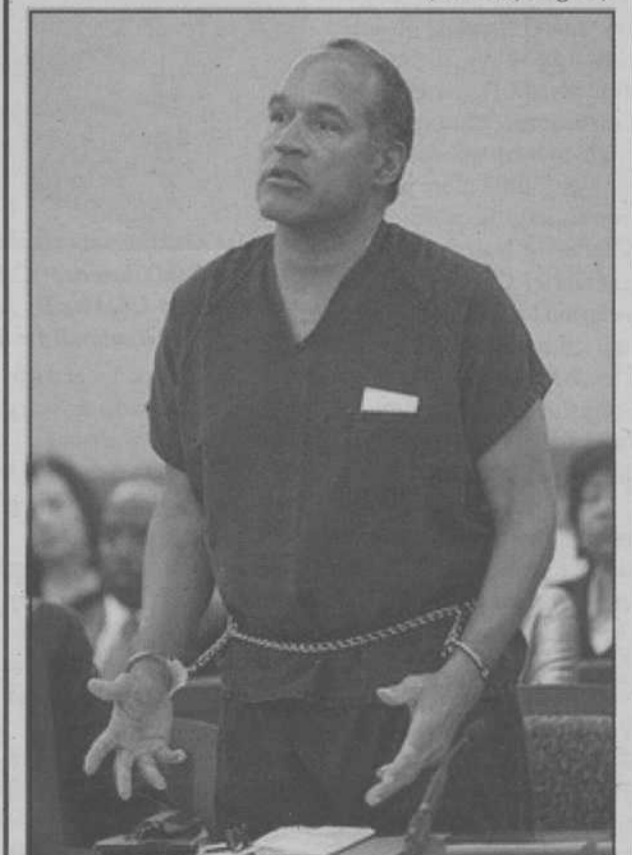
On Saturday, Simpson remained at the Clark County jail where he has been housed since his conviction on Oct. 3, along with co-defendant Clarence "C.J." Stewart. The two men were found guilty of 12 criminal charges, including kidnapping, armed robbery and assault with a deadly weapon.

Simpson was sentenced Friday to 9 to 33 years in prison. Stewart got 7-1/2 to 27 years.

Michael Shapiro, a New York defense lawyer who has followed the Las Vegas case, said Simpson's case may get extra attention from Nevada Supreme Court, the state's only appellate court.

"Superimposed over all of it is that he's O.J. He's not Joe Schmo," Shapiro said. The justices also could be influenced by Simpson's murder trial, he said, calling it

(See OJ, Page 2)



Former NFL running back O.J. Simpson speaks in court prior to his sentencing at the Clark County Regional Justice Center on in Las Vegas on Friday.