Telecommunications Act Could Spell the End of Black Radio

Black Voice News, Thursday, September 11, 1997

By Timothy Santiago

Black-owned radio stations could be the victim of a government-oversight hearing or competition.

As pervasive as headphones and portable radio are among young African Americans, it would be difficult to imagine knowing that 30 years ago, it was pretty near to hear a black music format in nearly every town.

Large portions of the South had no clear-channel station out of Nashville, Tenn., playing rhythm and blues for three hours per day. At one time, radio was often heard as the traditional black community.
Letting Children See That Reading is Cool

I was reading a newspaper article to an elementary school class of 3rd graders. The article was about a program where children are encouraged to read books and take them home with them. The teacher explained that the program was designed to promote reading and to encourage children to develop a love for books. She talked about how important it is for children to read, not just for their education, but for their personal growth as well. She also mentioned that the program had been very successful in her school, with many students reporting an increase in their reading skills and a greater interest in books.

I asked the children if they had read any books recently and if they enjoyed reading. Some of them raised their hands, and I invited them to share their favorite books with the class. We discussed different types of books and the different ways in which they could enjoy reading, such as reading for pleasure, learning, or even just for fun. The children seemed very engaged and enthusiastic about the topic, and they clearly enjoyed sharing their stories with one another.

In conclusion, the importance of reading cannot be overstated. It is a fundamental skill that is necessary for success in all areas of life, from school to work and beyond. By encouraging children to read and develop a love for books, we can help them to become better learners and more successful adults.

The Black Voice News
The Black Voice News

Welfare Reform: What It Means to Californians


Welfare Reform

- **Current recipients of aid are limited to 24 cumulative months of welfare.**
- **After the time period, aid can continue if the county determines that there is no job currently available and the individual participates in required work or training activities.**
- **The individual must sign a community service contract in exchange for aid.**
- **The minimum required hours per week range from 10 to 35 hours per week.**
- **Allowable work activities include education, personal care services, physical/mental rehabilitation, and support services.**
- **The new name will be Welfare-to-Work Services. All recipients of CalWORKS are to be provided the same services.**
- **Aid Projects. Comments on this welfare reform program are invited.**

Litigation Program at San Bernardino Public Library

A volunteer litigation tutor program and workshop will be conducted Friday and Saturday, September 19 and 20, 1997. The program, which begins at 10:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. in the San Bernardino City Library Literacy Center, will be held at the Literacy Center, Felixson Central Library, 555 West Sixth Street in San Bernardino.

This is an opportunity for more information, or for details of future library literacy programs. Volunteer Tutors Workshop, call (909) 381-4325 or 381-8262.
REACH Program Links People to Services

Δ Riverside Woman Sparked Collaboration Combating Homelessness
Black House News

By Laura Khare

For Sarah Lewis, the REACH Center for the Homeless, 117 E. Mission St., Riverside, is partly the fulfillment of a dream. It's also a new beginning.

Lewis has been on a crusade against homelessness for more than 27 years. Most of the time she worked alone, with help from a few friends. At last long, last, new groups of volunteers have joined in the effort, allowing her some rest.

The Sarah Lewis Foundation is one of a group of organizations cooperating in REACH. Riverside Efforts to Actively Confront Homelessness, which is a project of the Riverside Homeless Coordinating Council. The council is a coalition of Riverside city and county government agencies, and private nonprofit organizations.

The collaborators worked hard for more than two years, through several delays and stings, to open the REACH center. The site is managed by the Riverside Volunteer Center, and located in modular buildings near the 60/215/91 Freeway interchange. Some view the center as a means to divert the homeless away from downtown.

Lewis has her own motivations. "I'm working for God. I try to help those less fortunate than myself," she says. "I like to bring God's children together and stop fighting and confusion. We're not here for a paycheck."

The REACH site serves as a "one-stop service center" for homeless people, although there is no over night housing. Volunteers are on site to bring short supply elsewhere. Volunteers and staff try to find some way to provide, just about every other need a client might have.

REACH offers meals, showers, clothing, groceries, laundry, job information; help with "welfare applications, housing information, some types of medical care, and referrals to a wide variety of other service agencies. A few services, such as meals provided by churches, are available with no questions asked. But for most kinds of help, applicants go through a simple intake and pre-assessment procedure.

On the REACH site, two modules house the REACH Center for the Homeless. The Lewis Center dispenses free medical care to women and children, and provides clothing for anyone. Women's health services include: pregnancy testing, prenatal and post partum care, in clinic testing, yearly exams, health maintenance, IPV testing and counseling, breast health services, birth control, and referrals for optometry and dentistry.

Lewis said free medical care is the most unusual aspect of the facility, compared to other combating homelessness in other cities. Lewis has recruited doctors when she realized how many women living on the streets needed health care. Dr. Samuel Wiltchik, MD, a long-time volunteer with the Sarah Lewis Foundation, is medical director for the center. Women's Health Services. Other medical volunteers include Dr. Bhagwant Singh, MD, chiropractor Dr. David Madison, and dentist Dr. Edward Cooper.

Lewis's multi-faceted approach is sensitive to the dignity of the individual, and she encourages that respect in other aspects of the REACH center. She says anyone can become homeless. Whatever is needed is to restore the person to find some way to provide just about every other need a client might have.

Lewis has a unique headway, help from a donor, tips on interviewing for jobs—Lewis and REACH try to provide.

Agencies cooperating in REACH include the City of Riverside Neighborhood and Community Services, Riverside County Department of Public Social Services, Inland Valley Hospice, Inland AIDS Project, Veteren's Services, mental health agencies, employment services, various churches, women's business groups, and other groups.

When the center opened earlier this year, Riverside City Councilman Arthur Moore said, "I've been supporting and following it since the site was chosen."

In developing homelessness statistics during the center's planning stages, Karen Rush, of Neighborhood & Community Services, said, "The at risk population is the most difficult to count. This includes people who are living out of their cars or in campgrounds, but haven't contacted social services yet."

Rush said women account for about 25% of the homeless population and are growing, especially in groups with children with them. These are the ones Lewis wants to help.

Once we get more housing established, we'll be able to help get more people off the streets," said Lewis.

Lewis has been a Volunteer Center, in July REACH served 129 different children, 124 women, and 345 men. The center fed 160-180 people per day, plus distributing groceries to 25-35 families.

"A lot of churches and people in the community have been contributing," said Cooper. Cooper says the center's needs include: more food, clothing, office supplies, garden tools and supplies, bedding, furniture, playground toys, and a storage shed. Additionally, on Lewis's wish list are: medical supplies, more volunteers, eyeglasses, computer equipment, printing, transportation services, janitorial supplies, and parking.

For more information about the Lewis Center, contact Russ Utz or Jessica Castillo, (909) 776-3980, ext. 215, or write P.O. Box 51146, Riverside CA 92507. The Lewis Center and other REACH programs are open to provide meals, clothing, and help to women and children on the streets.

"I'm working for God. I'm trying to help those less fortunate than myself..." "Once we get more housing established, we'll be able to help get more people off the streets," said Lewis. "We've got to work on that.

Sarah Lewis' help complements on all her, doctors, executive board members, and advisors. She said she is grateful for a grant from the Riverside Community Foundation, and for donations of medical supplies from Riverside Community and Parkview hospitals. Lewis expressed praise and thanks to Volunteer Center Director Neil Cooney, for the help and cooperation the Lewis Center has received from

Sarah Lewis Photo by Black House

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Thursday, September 11, 1997

Employers Recognition Reception

The Inland Empire Employment Services (IEES) is hosting a special Employer's Recognition Reception. The event will be held Wednesday, October 22, 1997, 4:00 p.m. at the Friedanium and will serve to recognize employees who have hired IEES agency participants. The event will also recognize individuals who have overcome significant barriers to employment. For more information contact Jan Carone, (909) 793-8801.

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--Bill Howard, President, Howell Petroleum Products

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Friday Holy Water Worship Service
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Sunday Morning Holy Worship
Sunday Holy Evangelist Service
Evangelistic Service
Intercessory Open Door Prayer

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Mt. Zion Choir
Mt. Zion Kids Church
Children's Church 11-12:30 p.m. (during church)

Wednesday Night Neighborhood Worship Night
Sunday-12 Noon
Iron-Cross Worship Service
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Williams ascends to U.S. Open title, but loses to Hingis

In her first U.S. Open and on the 40th anniversary of Althea Gibson becoming the first African-American women to win the Open, Williams makes the finals.

By LEELAND STEIN

INDIAN WELLS, Calif. - How soon is too soon? Ever pick and try to consume a banana before it was ripe? Or eat frozen vegetables before they were thawed out?

Probably similar thoughts for just about anyone. Relaxing this thought to onlookers, Williams, 17, and Hingis, 19, are mounting. However, the Williams family has held fast to their vision and timetable for Venus concerning her participation on the tour.

Along with the best women’s player in tennis, Martina Hingis, together they became the youngest pair ever to compete for a Grand Slam title. Williams was 17 at the time, winning her third Grand Slam title of the year, Williams was knocking on history’s door. She became the first player since 1968 to make the Open finals, as well as the first since 1978 to make the title contest in the same year.

Although Williams lost to the dominant Hingis, 6-0, 6-4, she savored notes that maybe the path chosen by her and her parents was indeed right for her.

"The following is a one-on-one interview with Williams at the State Farm Event Cup on the beautiful grounds of the Hyatt Grand Champions Resort at Indian Wells, in Venus’ first event of ’96."

LEELAND STEIN: What age did you get that feeling you’ve put your hands out and when did you recognize what you were doing?

Venus Williams: I was about four. At age six is about the time I can recall playing. I don’t really remember how much I played or anything like that... you have to ask my mom about that (looking over and winking).

LS: At what age did you start enjoying, or did you always enjoy tennis?

VW: I always enjoyed the game. It never took on the feel of work. I probably enjoyed it even more because my older sisters played. They liked (Jessica and Yolanda). Serena, who is the youngest, also plays on the tour. You always want to do what your big sisters were doing. We can ask (Venus), my dad and mom played... that’s the way it was.

LS: Are you comfortable with your tennis schedule. Do you feel outside pressure to compete more?

VW: Yes, I’m very comfortable. I’m glad I don’t have to go from place to place and not get home. I’m glad I don’t have to do that right now. I don’t listen to what people are saying about me. I’m not thinking about my achievements. I feel good where I’m headed and I’m getting out of my shell.

LS: Do you go to a regular school and do you enjoy it?

VW: No, never! I’m very happy with what I’m doing right now. All the time I’ve had been really good to me. I’ve learned something each time from those decisions.

LS: What is it like having dad be dad and having dad as your manager?

VW: He does a good job. I think it’s great I don’t have outside forces managing me. We do have help, but my parents still have the say in whatever we’re doing, making sure new things are O.K. A lot of times people don’t have family that can (manage) or think they can do that, so believe they can do that. I trust my family to do what’s right.

LS: How does mom and dad play in your life?

VW: My mom is the task master and dad’s the loving arm. Snoooo... my parents are really nice. Plus, I’m a good kid, so, they don’t have to be mean to me.

LS: Do you go to a private school or do you enjoy it?

VW: I go to a private school. I don’t have tutors and stuff like that. I like school. I like history, low, economics... I like all my classes. The one I like least is math, because it takes so much time, and, I don’t have a lot of that.

LS: Do you have a lot of friends outside of tennis?

VW: No. My parents and sometimes a lot of people come. But, my mom and dad are my best friends.

LS: Describe your attributes as a player.

VW: I’m very aggressive, and a lot of girls aren’t very aggressive. I have a good serve and I’ve learned the things you need to do to compete out here. I’m still learning how to play in matches though. In practice you can make as many mistakes as you want to, but when it comes down to the real deal you have to make the mistake. You have to figure out what your opponent is doing and how to win.

Last year if I was having a bad day I probably wouldn’t win, but, through the few matches I’ve played I’ve learned so much, I feel confident I can still compete on bad days.

LS: What do you think you have to do to improve?

VW: I think I have to get better at coming to the net and doing more of that. I feel I’m getting my older sides, I can cover the net and I can volley, so, I need work out in getting the net.

LS: You’re still growing, is your balance and equilibrium in total harmony.

VW: I’ve never had a problem with my balance or coordination. I think, of course, as I get older I can only get faster and stronger. I think those are the two main things you will see in me, but, as far as going up (taller) .... not anymore I think. Also, I lift weights about three days a week.

LS: Are you going to step up the number of matches you’ll compete in on the WTA Tour?

VW: Yes, I have five more tournaments this year and next year I’m going to play these.

LS: Sure, you’ve been born into tennis, but has the will to be the best or very good at it vanished?

VW: Yes, if you don’t want it, yourself, you will not work hard... you’re not going to put the title... you’re going to find away not to play. I think I’ve always wanted to be very good at it. We (she and her sisters) chose to do tennis, we don’t force our daughters. If I didn’t want to play tennis I could quit now. My parents wouldn’t mind, and that’s important to know. I’m in it for myself.

CONCENTRATE: Venus Williams displayed grit and heart in getting to the U.S. Open finals.

LS: What type of music and movies do you like.

VW: I like prefer comedies. I like to come out the movies smiling. I prefer rock music and I’m learning the guitar and bass.

LS: Tell me about your youth foundation and what purpose will it serve.

VW: My dad always said that a lot of people that come out of neighborhoods like Compton, where I’m from, never go back, they just keep going. They never remember what they see from or talk about it. It’s like they’re not proud of it. It’s important that I go back. I realize where I’m from and from never forget it. I want to help people that are in places of that sort. Also, they wanted me to name the foundation, but I couldn’t think of anything so they named it the Venus Williams Tennis Academy. At the academy we focus on education and tennis opportunities for low-income youth. Still I think the education is the most important thing. You can do so much more if you have the education to open doors.

LS: Any rite a model.

VW: Yes, I’m a rite model. I feel I don’t have to push it away so I can do weird, wild and crazy things. I want to live a good life and be happy. I think I’m a role model for other people, because I try to set a good example for others that may want to look up to me. I think my sport is a lot different than others, because there aren’t many examples to look up to. I’ll keep growing.

LS: If you could jump to the future, what will you do next year?

VW: I’d like to play five to eight years. I don’t want to predict where I’ll be at that point, but I already feel like I’m one of the top players... I’d never think anything less. It’s not like I go to tournaments and say, “Hey, I get to go to the finals, so I’m scared to compete.” I know I’m going to be a top player. I think if I keep learning and growing... everything will fall in its proper place.

FAMILY AFFAIR: Venus Williams (left) stops to pose with her sister, Serena and father, Richard.

PHOTO BY JON GADE

TRUE DETERMINATION: Venus Williams awaits serve from Hingis.

PHOTO BY JON GADE

HIGHER SCHOOL FOOTBALL IN FULL SWING

This weekend all the Intaid Enterprise schools will line up on the gridiron and the chase for the California Interscholastic Federation (CIF) titles will commence. Riverside North, Redlands, Fontana, Moreno Valley, Canyon Springs, Jurupa Valley, San Bernardino Pacific, Rancho Cucamonga are a few of the teams ranked high in the early season state polls. Support the local youth and take in a game this weekend. For more details see our local CIF reports in this issue.
Samuel L. Jackson Shines in .187

By Kwaku Drehor

Samuel L. Jackson delivers a gripping performance as a vigilante substitute teacher in Kevin Reynolds' drama .187.

Though playing Trevor Garfield is no giant leap from his character in John Grisham's "A Time to Kill," Jackson's role in .187 stands out due to several factors.

Firstly, Garfield, unlike his character in "A Time to Kill," is not a lawyer. Instead, he is a former high school student who has been traumatized by the school administration's indifference to student violence. Garfield's journey from a boy of privilege to a man of action is an intense and emotionally charged one.

Jackson's performance in .187 is a study in contrasts. He is at once a father figure to his students, a protector of the underdog, and a vigilante avenger. His characters' psychological transformation is masterfully conveyed, making the audience feel the weight of his decisions.

In addition to his acting prowess, Jackson's physicality is on full display in his portrayal of Garfield. His body language is fluid and powerful, reflecting the inner turmoil and rage that fuel his actions.

The film's visual style is also noteworthy. Directed by Kevin Reynolds, .187 features a gritty, realism-driven aesthetic that complements Jackson's performance.

Even though playing Trevor Garfield is no giant leap from his character in "A Time to Kill," Jackson's performance in .187 is a testament to his versatile talent. It's a role that allows him to explore different aspects of his character, making it a must-watch for fans of his work.
A Beat summer nears to an end, reflections on the hottest show this year.

By Stanton Allen Weeks

IRVINE Meadows Amphitheatre was the location for the combining of major musical talents and some of the hottest shows in the business right now: All for charity.

"Kick-A-Thon" to Benefit New Foundation

A martial arts "Kick-A-Thon" will be performed on September 13th at 3690 Riverside Plaza, Riverside, CA 92506 by staff and students of United Martial Arts. Proceeds of the Kick-A-Thon, which will be held from 10 a.m. to 12 noon, will be donated to Project Action Foundation, Inc., a non-profit corporation which provides scholarships in dance, gymnastics and the martial arts to underprivileged and "at-risk" children.

As a project sponsor studio, United Martial Arts supports the foundation's goal of giving children circumstances the opportunity to gain positive role models, peer support and self-esteem in a healthy and secure environment. During the Kick-A-Thon, students of all ages and levels of skill will execute everything from basic side kicks and front kicks to some of the more advanced techniques in martial arts. The students have collected donations for the kicks they will perform, and will each attempt to perform one hundred kicks.

"The perfect weather, non-violent atmosphere and many-up an evening with the Multiracial Generation X Foundation's goal of giving children in difficult circumstances the opportunity to gain positive role models, peer support and self-esteem in a healthy and secure environment. During the Kick-A-Thon, students of all ages and levels of skill will execute everything from basic side kicks and front kicks to some of the more advanced techniques in martial arts. The students have collected donations for the kicks they will perform, and will each attempt to perform one hundred kicks. 

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YOU KNOW US...
IT'S TIME WE GET TO KNOW YOU.

- You know us for world renowned doctors, our quality care and the heart transplants we do. But, did you also know we take care of broken bones, do well-baby exams and give routine physicals? From cuts to cardiac care, Loma Linda University Medical Center can ensure the health and happiness of your entire family, including that new center of attention.

For information on choosing a health plan that offers the care of Loma Linda University Medical Center affiliated physicians, call 1-800-LLUMC-97 or talk to your employee benefits manager today.