

BLACK HISTORY MONTH

Muhammad Ali Inspired a Generation

'The Greatest' earns NAACP Image Award

The legendary Muhammad Ali will receive the NAACP's 2009 President's Award at the 40th NAACP Image Awards, from 8-10 p.m. on Thursday, Feb. 12 on FOX, KPTV Channel 12.

"The Greatest" will be presented with the prestigious award, which is given in recognition of special achievement and distinguished public service.

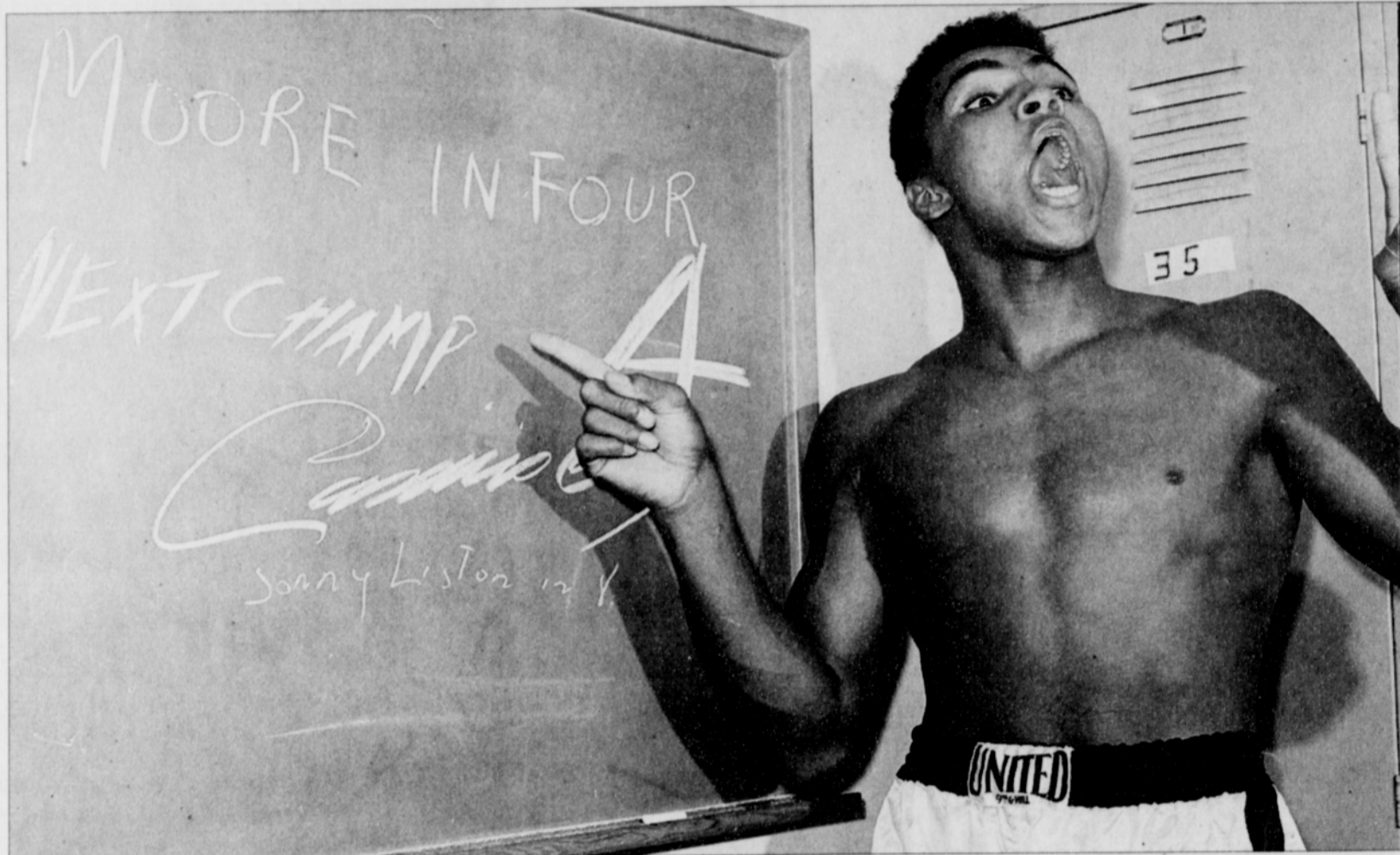
"Muhammad Ali inspired a generation," said NAACP president and chief executive officer Ben Jealous. "We are honored to recognize the accomplishments of one of the most respected and admired men of all time, who earned a special place in our hearts and minds not only for his success inside the boxing ring but for his role as an outspoken, charming and witty leader, activist, humanitarian and artist. He is truly 'The Greatest of All Time' and incredibly worthy of this award."

Academy Award-winner Halle Berry and acclaimed screenwriter/actor Tyler Perry, both recipients of an NAACP Image Award, will host the 40th NAACP Image Awards broadcast, live from Los Angeles' historic Shrine Auditorium.

The star-studded event, which coincides with the NAACP's 100th anniversary, will kick off the civil rights organization's year-long centennial celebration.

As a boxer, Ali brought unprecedented speed and grace to his sport, while his charm and wit forever changed what the public expected of a champion. His accomplishments in the ring are the stuff of legend as he became the first three-time world heavyweight champion.

There was always far more to the man than what took place within the confines of the ring. Ali's life and career have been played out as much on the front pages of newspapers as



Muhammad Ali, known in those days as Cassius Clay, realized the prediction that he'd knock out Archie Moore in the fourth round in their 1962 bout.

on the inside of sports pages. His early relationship with the Nation of Islam and his insistence on being called Muhammad Ali instead of his "slave name," Cassius Clay, ment of the 1960s. He became an influential figure in the civil rights movement, inspiring millions of Americans toward political change, with his outspoken but ultimately widely-re-

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— NAACP president and chief executive officer Ben Jealous

heralded a new era in black pride. His refusal to be inducted into the U.S. Army during the Vietnam era foreshadowed the growing antiwar move-

Lumpur signaled a shift from superpower dominance to a growing awareness of the developing world.

Daring to go against the political establishment to help people in need, Ali has made goodwill missions to Afghanistan and North Korea; delivered sorely-needed medical supplies to an embargoed Cuba; traveled to Iraq to secure the release of 15 American hostages during the first Gulf War; and journeyed to South Africa to meet with Nelson Mandela upon his release from prison.

In the last two decades, Ali has been instrumental in providing more than 232 million meals to the world's hungry. Traveling across continents, he has hand-delivered food and medical supplies to children in Cote

D'Ivoire, Indonesia, Mexico and Morocco, among other countries.

In addition to his international efforts, Ali is equally devoted to helping causes at home. He holds an annual fundraiser, Fight Night, to raise millions of dollars for Parkinson's disease research and treatment. He testified before the United States Senate advocating for more federal funds to find a cure for the disease.

He is also an advocate and the namesake of the Muhammad Ali Boxing Reform Act, a federal law that regulates professional boxing to protect athletes from unscrupulous promoters, as well as poor health and bout conditions. He has appeared before committees of the U.S. Senate several times regarding boxing reform.



Vanport Square, the new minority-owned development on Northeast Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard, has earned certification for its environmentally sustainable construction and energy efficiency.

Vanport Square Earns Gold

Certified for environmental construction, energy savings

The first phase of Vanport Square, the new minority-owned commercial development on Northeast Martin Luther King J. Boulevard, has achieved Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design Gold certification.



Ray Leary

The project, which opened in January 2008, was developed by Vanport Partners, LLC and partially funded by the Portland Development Commission and the Portland Family of Funds.

"The importance of sustainability is more pronounced than ever in

underserved communities," said Ray Leary, a principal in Vanport Partners. "Because of the high level of disregard, pollution was relatively unchecked, and now developers must try in every instance to not only correct this historic imbalance, but to set a new standard as well."

Vanport Square integrated a storm water management plan that achieves an 80 percent storm water mitigation rate; created landscaping and irrigation systems that reduce water usage by 79.6 percent; and installed dual flush toilets and low-flow fixtures that save an estimated 36,415 gallons per year.

The complex also gets 100 percent of its energy needs with

renewable energy purchases and reuses 76.8 percent of the existing building shell and structure. Credits were also earned by making 100 percent of the mixed-use spaces and 96 percent of the retail and restaurant spaces have views to the outdoors

"We at PDC are very proud to have helped this project reach a successful conclusion," said Bernie Kerosky of the PDC. "Receiving LEED Gold certification is an outstanding achievement for this project — and for the development team."

Vanport Square includes 16 for sale flexible retail and commercial spaces targeting local and small businesses. Fourteen of the units are sold with two units currently available. In addition, the project includes an enhanced pedestrian environment designed to support existing business and foster community.

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