

Classy opening, then humdrum launch session

By KAREN HOSLER
Staff Writer

The General Assembly opened its Bicentennial year session yesterday with a lot of class.

Thanks to Radification Day ceremonies which were combined this year with the legislature's opening, it was a day of great pomp and a recognizable glimmer of patriotic fervor.

The legislators also took the occasion to give Gov. Marvin Mandel the warmest reception he has received from them in two years.

Dressed in an uncharacteristically flashy red, white and blue tie, Mandel sat beaming through a prolonged standing ovation offered him at the joint morning meeting. It was his first appearance before the body since his indictment on criminal charges last November.

Compared to the wooden smiles and polite applause Mandel received from the legislators during appearances before them last year, it was an unquestioned show of support.

The ghost of confessed embezzler Alford R. "Skip" Carey also walked the halls.

Carey, former head of the state school construction program who yesterday began a three-year prison term for his theft of more than \$22,000 in state money, was blamed in the House for subverting efforts to improve the program.

Del. Charles S. Blumenthal, D-Prince Georges, prompted a round of snide laughter yesterday afternoon with the remark that the legislators had been successful only in preventing Carey from adorning new schools throughout the state with bronze plaques bearing his name.

Sen. President Sidney H. Hoyer pointed to Carey's sweater with pride because he, Mandel and House Speaker John Hanson Briscoe had initiated the special investigation which led to Carey's prosecution.

Hoyer did not note that the investigation was launched as a result of several newspaper stories chronicling allegations against Carey.

The old humdrum got going again about noon. The House and Senate quickly re-elected their leaders and went about the tedium of upholding Mandel's vetoes of about 100 of

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Photo by Tom Darden

BACK AGAIN — Listening to opening day ceremonies in the State House yesterday are several members of the Anne Arundel County delegation. From left are Del. Elizabeth S. Smith, R-Davidsonville; Patricia L. Aiken, D-Annapolis; Robert R. Neall, R-Davidsonville; Franklin A. Thomason, D-Linthicum; and Michael J. Wagner, D-Glen Burnie.

Open Anderson review hit

Members fear 'spectacle' at public hearing

Inside

Sink or swim

The City Council's "good will" vote to support Mayor Apostol's request to end the nine-month hiring and capital spending freeze may, in fact, be an attempt on the council's part to let the mayor sink or swim alone with his \$8.3 million budget. See the news analysis on Page 17.

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By PETER RUEHL
Staff Writer

A majority of the county Board of Education, saying they fear a situation similar to that which arose in Washington and Baltimore, are opposing board member Maureen Lamb's proposal for a public hearing on and formal evaluation of school Superintendent Edward J. Anderson.

Barbara Sizemore and Roland Patterson, the former school superintendents in Washington and Baltimore respectively, lost their jobs after the school boards in those cities held public reviews. Board members here said yesterday they wanted to avoid any similar public spectacles.

Mrs. Lamb, in a letter given to the board members Tuesday night, asked that the hearings

this county, with the exception of the county executive, holds more power over the future of our county than the superintendent...."

Board president Raymond G. Smith said today he opposes the public hearing but will listen to any comments from the public on the issue.

"The character assassination of the type that would occur," he said, "wouldn't help anything. I've always wanted input from the public on this or any other issue. I'm willing to listen."

Smith said he is also against using a standardized form for rating Anderson, as Mrs. Lamb suggested. She proposed sending the form to county PTAs, Citizens Advisory Committees and other interested groups.

Board member G. George

an executive session matter and will stay that way."

One member, Charles G. Truffer, said Mrs. Lamb was "bordering on malfeasance of office" by attempting to organize the public hearing because state law requires that personnel matters be decided by the school board in a private session.

Mrs. Lamb, while seeking the public meeting, did concede however that, "The school board's deliberations and the final decision on the contract would, of course, be made in executive session."

Anderson's contract expires in June, but must be renewed in February. He is completing his second four-year contract.

Board member Beverly Zimmerman said she is



Photo by Tom Darden

FRENCH TRIBUTE — Count Rene de Chambrun, a descendant of Lafayette, addressed the joint session of the legislature yesterday. Seated in front are Rep. Marjorie S. Holt, R-

Severna Park; Comptroller Louis L. Goldstein; Atty. Gen. Francis B. Burch; Rep. Paul S. Sarbanes, D-Md.; Sen. Charles McC. Mathias, D-Md.; and Lt. Gov. Blair Lee III.

Assembly session launched

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last year's bills.

The real show-stopper yesterday, however, was an eloquent French attorney imported by the Maryland Bicentennial Commission to help celebrate the anniversary of the end of the Revolutionary War.

Count Rene de Chambrun is a descendent of Marquis de Lafayette, who helped negotiate the treaty ending the war. The treaty was ratified by Congress in the State House in 1783.

Speaking in soft, French-

accented tones, Chambrun stirred the legislators with a very personal account of Gen. Lafayette's love for the young United States and Maryland, in particular, which gave him and all of his male descendants perpetual citizenship.

All the top state officials and several members of Congress, including Rep. Marjorie S. Holt, R-Severna Park, turned out. French Ambassador Jacques Kosciuszko-Morizet and his wife were there. Maryland's First Regiment presented the colors.

Red, white and blue ties and

dresses were everywhere.

Two letters from Lafayette to George Washington, previously unknown to historians, were presented to the state by the count. He said he found the two four-page letters during a renovation of his 15th century castle.

In one letter Lafayette wrote: "Now that the war with England is nearing its end, I hope that this danger being

over, the danger of your forgetting to let your dear friend hear of your welfare will disappear.

"I shall ever be the most devoted, grateful and affectionate friend," he wrote.

The letters were obscured for a few generations, the count said, because the family castle fell into the hands of relatives sympathetic to British Tories.

Throughout the morning, the great hall of the old State House reverberated with the strains of "The Star-Spangled Banner", "The Battle Hymn of the Republic" and other tributes provided by the Maryland Youth Symphony.

"Really classy", said Del. Patricia L. Aiken, D-Safern. Only one minor Senate bill survived and will now become law.

The normal raucous, frantic activity which customarily marks the legislature's annual 90-day meeting begins in earnest today.

Carey begins his sentence

Alford R. Skip Carey Jr., the former head of the state school construction program, has begun a 3-year prison term for forgery and embezzling \$22,105 of his agency's funds.

Carey, who pleaded guilty Friday in Anne Arundel County Circuit Court to two of 51 charges brought against him, reported as ordered to the county sheriff's office Wednesday. He was sent to the county detention center where he will remain pending transfer to the Maryland Penitentiary diagnostic center and assignment to a penal facility.

The only member of the Mandel administration to be convicted of a crime, Carey will be eligible for parole consideration in nine months.

An investigation of the school agency's irregular handling of portable classroom construction contracts is continuing, however, and the state has reserved the right to charge Carey with additional offenses.

U.S. to investigate Morton appointment

(Continued from Page 1)

of the appointment. Officials say they are concerned that money spent for Morton's political activity would not be counted against Ford's campaign spending limit.

A commission spokesman said Curtis was not saying the Ford campaign is in violation of campaign law but "they're in dangerous waters. They're treading on thin ice."

Ford on Tuesday named Morton, who has served as his commerce secretary, to be a White House counselor on economic and domestic policy with "incidental duties of liaison with the President Ford Committee and the Republican National Committee." Morton would receive a White House salary of \$44,600.

It had long been expected that Ford would name Morton to a high campaign post in which his salary would be paid by the Ford election committee. But when the announcement was made, White House spokesman Ron Nessen downplayed Morton's political role.

Harris told the FEC that if Morton's "primary duties are to help President Ford's campaign" he should not be on the public payroll.

Spending limits included in new campaign laws make it



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