Catholic parents claim no discrimination at St. Mary's School

Recently the AFRO published stories about discrimination in the Catholic Church and other allegations by the National Black Lay Catholic Caucus.

However, some members of the Church take a different view.

Portions of a letter written by Milton J. Payne to His Eminence Lawrence Cardinal Shehan are as follows:

"A news release appeared in the AFRO April 22 with the headline, 'Nuns Hit With Pupil Mistreatment.'

"The artical described what the Caucus called inhumane and racist treatment to black children in Catholic schools in general and to black children at St. Mary's Govans.

"It was charged that nuns and white lay teachers discriminate in the treatment of the black children.

"It also stated that the teachers and nuns of this particular school have treated the parents disrespectfully and had used a public address system to defame and libel the parents of a particular black child of the school.

"As one of 32 black families with children enrolled at St. Mary's, I was shocked and appalled at this accusation.

"As the Vice Chairman of the Parish Council of St. Mary's, I felt obliged to investigate.

"The teachers and the nuns of St. Mary's were interviewed and the charges discussed.

"I talked to all black parents.

"I questioned them about racial problems that they may have encountered.

"I questioned them about racial problems that they may have encountered.

"The answers to all of these questions and inquiries was negative.

"In the light of the facts unearthed in this investigation we can conclude that the charges made by the National Black Lay Catholic Caucus are unfounded insofar as St. Mary's School is concerned.

"The black parents wish to make known they are satisfied that their children are not being mistreated or racially abused. The parents feel and know that their children are attending one of the finest schools in this city, and are receiving an education of highest quality.

"The Principal, the teachers and the staff of St. Mary's may take heart in knowing that black parents support them.

"We pray irreparable damage has not been done to the reputation of our school and its personnel."

BAR ASSOCIATION annual meeting last Tuesday at Hilton Hotel had as guest of honor, the Hon. Hall Hammond, center, chief judge of the Md. Court of Appeals who retired in May, 1972 after 20 years' service. Pictured in this photo by AFRO's Ben Phillips are (L-R), City Solicitor George L. Russell Jr., David T. Mason, chairman of the Board of Parole; Supreme Bench Judge Basil A. Thomas and Judge John R. Hargrove, administrative judge, District Court of Maryland.

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COMMUNITY NOTES

The Bentalou Improvement Association will sponsor a luncheon and fashion show Sunday at Holy Trinity Episcopal Church, Lafayette and Wheeler Ave. 1:30 to 5 p.m. Guest speaker, Mrs. Addye T. Smith. Mrs. Lucille Johnson, chairman, Mrs. Gross, president.

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Edmondson Hi graduates 735

More than 3,000 friends and relatives watched Monday evening as 735 Edmondson High School graduates received their diplomas at the 8 p.m. Civic Center exercises.

Dressed in Scarlet and white caps and gowns, each student walked to the middle of the stage to accept his diploma from City Comptroller Hyman Pressman.

In recommending the class to be graduated, Edmondson's principal, Lewis H. Richardson Jr., said, "Each word of their class motto, Love, Peace and Understanding, reflects upon what they believe is needed to make the world better."

Dr. Roland N. Patterson, City School System superintendent, presented the class and told the graduates that their graduation symbolized "the arrival at very important crossroads of your life."

Miss Beverly Ann Owens, the class' highest scholastically ranking student, addressed the graduates and visitors. "Apathy has swept our country," she began.

She pointed out the world's crucial problems as racial prejudice, war, unemployment and pollution. "We have to fight this disease of apathy and struggle with our many problems," Miss Owens said.

Edmondson's 10 highest honor graduates for this year are: Beverly Ann Owens, Denise Elizabeth Imes, Gregory Stokes, Eugene Allen Vincent, Vernadean Tyra Jones, Glenda Elaine Moody, Veleda Jones, Beverly Helen Bowles, Annie Lee Gadson and Cheryl Marguerite Coates.

The following students received awards and scholarship grants: Vienana Doreen Johnson, Eugene Allen Vincent, Sara Jean Baulding, Willie Earl Jones, John Robert Coles, Vernadeen Tyra Jones, Elizabeth Jean Lowe, Noleda Vonzella Turner, Johnny Anthony Brown, Melinda Agnes Johns, Rodney Clifford Jones, Beverly Ann Owens, Robert Tyrone Parham, Annie Lee Gadson, George Allen Gree Jr., Darryl Merrick, Beverly Helen Bowles, Glendell Louise Adamson and Kathryn Lenora Cooper.

Others were: Iantha Marie L. Foster, Veleda Jones, Sharon Marie McLean, Francine Denise Rideout, Melinda Yvonne Lowery, Sidney Gregory Kornegay, Lael Jeanette Jones, Mack Linwood Whitaker, Veta Yvette Boothe, Edward Daniels Jr., Chester Lewis Jones, Michael Keith Mobley, Marsha Leone Richardson, Thomas Roosevelt Taylor, Anthony Young, Garcia Alecia Edgerton and Richard Ivan Thornton.

And, Mary Delores Blackburn, Glenda Elaine Moody, William Lane Jr., Garrie Bernard Speights, Denise Burrell, Vince M. Randolph, Gloria Evone Wilson, Walter Maurice Baker, Gary Dexter Hinton, Kenneth Leon McClellan, Eugene D. Hinton, Cynthia M. Chase, Poinier Winters Ockimey, Earline Rush, Donald Franklin Parks, Eula D. Monroe, Charles Johnson, Varona Galendo Jones and Blonethea Olivette Vann, Gwendolyn Beech Nottingham, Antoinette Maria Carter, Dexter Maurice Vaughn, John Alfred Gross, William Warren Gray and Janet Denise Richburg.

Also, Robert Tyrone Simmons, Harvey Lee Woodard, Charles Nelson White, Gregory Devone, Willie Felder Jr., Ray Anthony Johnson, Harry A. Jones, Stanford Phillip Scribner, Norman DeWitt Perry, William Lee Sivels Jr., Arnold Dwight Carter, Frances M. Gibson, Gregory Edward Gordon, Richard Ivan Thornton and Carl L. Williams.

REAL-LIFE FISH STORY — Wilson C. Monk (right) of Silver Springs (near Washington), doesn't have to tell about the big one that got away. He's shown with 449-pound blue marlin he pulled from the Gulf Stream off Oregon Inlet (NC) last Friday. A dental technician, at Walter Reed Hospital, Monk was one of 71 members of the Anglers All-Fishing Club of the D.C. area. With him are Capt. Beverly Hoy of the cruiser Scorpio (left) and his mate, Terry Otten.

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New coaches' association formed in Petersburg

PETERSBURG, Va. — Football coaches from the Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association (CIAA) and the Mid-Eastern Athletic Association (MEAC) got together here over the weekend to form a new professional association.

Tom Caldwell, head football coach at Elizabeth City State University and president of the CIAA Football Coaches Association, said that the new organization has adopted the name of the Eastern Seaboard Football Coaches Association.

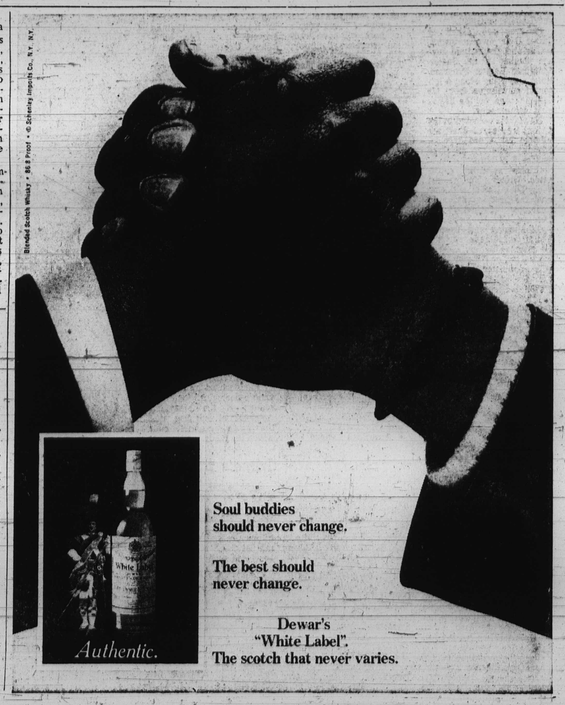
In their initial action of business, the group voted to honor "letters of intent" of the CIAA and MEAC. This is in addition to honoring the 'National Letter of Intent."

According to Caldwell, the purpose of the organization is to foster a closer relationship among coaches in predominantly black institutions and to improve professional and coaching techniques.

The group plans to meet twice each year with the December meeting devoted to organization and procedures. In addition, the group will pick 46 football players for All-ESFCA honors. It will also select a coach of the year.

* * *

Membership in the organization is open to any coach or league in the Southeast and Middle Atlantic states. All former coaches of institutions in these areas will be made honorary members.



Soul buddies should never change.
The best should never change.
Dewar's "White Label".
The scotch that never varies.

Servicemen in the news

Marine First Sergeant Earl R. Davis, son of Mrs. Helen M. Hoffman of Elderry St., graudated from the Human Relations Leadership Class held at the Marine Corps Base, Camp Lejeune, N.C.

* * *

Marine Pfc. James A. Stewart, son of Mr. and Mrs. William E. Stewart of Augusta Ave., Baltimore, was promoted to his present rank at the Marine Cardwell Ave., is a crew-N.C.

* * *

Marine Cpl. Jerome Woody, son of Mr. and Mrs. Sam Woody of Westfield Road, was promoted to his present rank while serving at Marine Barracks, Wahiawa Detachment, Kuni, Hawaii.

He joined the Marine Corps in August, 1970.

* * *

Navy Seaman Apprentice Joseph N. Groves, son of Mr. and Mrs. Herbert L. Groves of Hollins Ferdy Rd., has completed the Signalman School at Newport.

Signalmen send and receive messages by flashing light and flag and assist in navigation.

He is a former student of Southern High School.

* * *

Coast Guard Petty Officer First Class Larry J. Hollaway, son of Mr. and Mrs. C. B. Hollaway of Cardwell Ave., is a crewmember aboard the Coast Guard's 295-foot square-rigged sailing ship "Eagle" which will sail to three Gulf Coast ports this summer.

Marine Sgt. Elmore Morris, son of Mr. and Mrs. Wilber Morris of N. Broadway, Baltimore, participated in the training exercise "Exotic Dancer Five" in the Camp Lejeune, N.C. area.

The exercise involved forces of the Marine Corps, Navy, Army, Air Force and Coast Guard, and was designed to strengthen the unity of their forces during amphibious assaults.

* * *

Marine Lance Corporal George Allen Harris, son of Mr. George W. Harris of 3511 Windsor Mill Road, Baltimore, also participated in the training exercise "Exotic Dancer Five" in the Camp Lejeune, N.C. area.

* * *

Navy Seaman Apprentice Ralph L. Robinson, son of Mr. and Mrs. Lewis J. Robinson of S. Durham St., and husband of the former Miss Cathy L. Walton of Hudson St., both of Baltimore, has arrived on the "gun line" off the coast of Vietnam aboard the USS Newport News, a heavy cruiser homeported at Norfolk, Va., and now on her third tour of duty in Southeast Asia since 1967.

* * *

Navy Petty Officer Third Class Michael A. Proctor, son of Mr. and Mrs. Norman R. Proctor of Rosalie Ave., Baltimore, has arrived on the "gun line" off the coast of Vietnam aboard the USS Newport News, a "heavy cruiser homeported at Norfolk, Va., and now on her third tour of duty in Southeast Asia since 1967.

* * *

Navy Petty Officer Third Class Tiny Henson, son of Mrs. Sarah J. Henson of S. Fulton Ave., Baltimore, has also arrived on the "gun line" off the coast of Vietnam aboard the USS Newport News.

* * *

Marine Pfc. Johnny R. Hunt, son of Mr. and Mrs. James Hunt of Bareley St., Baltimore, has returned to the Marine Helicopter Base in Jacksonville, N.C. after taking part in the training exercise "Exotic Dancer Five" in the Camp Lejeune, N.C., area and in waters off shore.

The exercise involved forces of the Marine Corps, Navy, Air Force, Army and Coast Guard, and was designed to strengthen their coordination during amphibious operations.

* * *

Navy Petty Officer Third Class Clayton H. Boone, son of Mrs. Vernell M. Boone of Cranston Ave., and husband of the former Miss Lender Nelson of St. Charles Ave., both of Baltimore, has arrived on the "gun line" off the coast of Vietnam aboard the USS Newport News.

* * *

Marine Corporal Frederick Singlatony Jr., son of Mr. and Mrs. Fredarick Singlatony Sr. of Riggs Ave., and husband of the former Miss Theresa A. Thorne of Lyndhurst St. all of Baltimore, has returned to the Marine Helicopter Base in Jacksonville, N.C. after taking part in the training exercise "Exotic Dancer Five" in the Camp Lejeune, N.C., area and in waters off shore.

* * *

Marine Lance Corporal Cornell D. Marvel, of McCabe Ave., Baltimore, was promoted to his present rank while serving at the Marine Corps Air Station, Kaneohe Bay, Hawaii.

A former student of Baltimore City College High School, he joined the Marine Corps in October 1970.

* * *

Marine Cpl. James A. Young, son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles H. Young of W. Fayette St., and husband of Mrs. Mary E. Young of Wirton St., all of Baltimore, Md., has reported for duty at Marine Corps Air Station, Iwakuni, Japan.

He joined the Marine Corps in February 1970.

* * *

Navy Petty Officer First Class Dennis C. Foster, son of Mr. and Mrs. Bennie E. Foster Sr. of Richwond Ave., Baltimore, is in the South China Sea aboard the light guided missile cruiser USS Oklahoma City, flagship for the Commander, U.S. Seventh Fleet.

Off the Vietnamese Coast, the Oklahoma City fired more than 1800 rounds of ammunition at enemy shore targets during the first four weeks in the combat area.

SERVICEMEN (L to R): Navy Seaman Recruit Luther E. Starks, Navy Seaman Recruit Anthony A. Parran and Navy Seaman Recruit Carroll E. Webb, all of Baltimore.

Keeping jazz alive is aim of 'D' Burnett show

Originally from Cincinnati, D'Armond Burnett, an Army sergeant, now makes his home in Baltimore, but more than that he is fast becoming a part of the jazz scene here.

D'Armond Burnett (better known as "D") is doing his best to prove that jazz is not losing its musical position of being number one all over the nation or in Baltimore.

A jazz die-hard, Mr. Burnett hosts a one-hour weekly radio show called "Just Jazz" at the Community College of Baltimore's FM radio station WBJC.

The show is an informal hour of instrumental offerings and participation by the listening audience.

Proving his point that jazz is not dead or dying, "D" shows that the foundation built for jazz by such greats as Bird, Pres, Miles, Trane, Dizzy, and many others through the years, will never be out of place or dead.

He says, "It's strong enough to hold up on its own and even support the new sounds around today."

As for the younger "New Generation," he says, "They continue to strive for new sounds as did their predecessors.

"The majority are intermingling the progressive sounds of yesteryear with the way they feel today."

D'ARMOND BURNETT hosts "Just Jazz" at CCB.

Lombard High has first spring festival

The Lombard Community School and the East Baltimore community gathered on June 3 at the Lombard playground to celebrate their first annual Spring festival.

More than 200 persons participated and attended the festival which included games, rides, table tennis, musical entertainment and an art display.

Mayor William Donald Schaefer appeared to proclaim the day as "Lombard Parents and Students Day."

Mrs. Lennie Johnson, of S. Dallas Court, was honored as parent of the year.

* * *

Among those displaying their arts and talents were Thomas Stockett, AFRO-AMERICAN Newspapers artist, and Colonel Imo, of the Society of OAAU.

The 'Spring Thing" was sponsored by Lombard's Community Council and the Parents Teachers Association. Mrs. Beatrice Brooks is president of the Lombard PTA, and John E. Mohamed is Lombard Community School coordinator.

Lombard's principal is C. E. Brooks and Edgar Covert is special assistant to the school.

Landlord gets suspended fine, warning

Micheal Vatello was given a suspended fine of $100 in the housing court Tuesday afternoon for failing to rehabilitate his property in the 1900 block Hope St.

Judge Solomon Baylor told the defendant he was suspending the fine in the hope that the rehabilitation would be done in 10 days.

David Seidman, attorney for Mr. Vatello, told the court his client has since May this year been doing his best to raise the property.

James Martin, 2400 block Garrett St., testified that work on the building is nearing completion. He told the court he is the supervisor of the rehabilitation team.

In the same court, John Newson, 1700 block Carrollton Ave., was given probation without verdict for failing to repair some defects on his property in the 1700 block Carrollton.

The prosecution told the court an inspection of the home in April ando n May 22 revealed there were defective panes, doors and windows in the building.

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818-B Frederick Ave.
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40 S. Dundalk Ave.
Baltimore, Maryland 21222
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