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Bathtub murder suspect found not guilty

Mrs. Christine Macklin, 42, has been found not guilty of the "Bathtub Murder."

Mrs. Macklin was charged with the Jan. 22, murder of her sister-in-law, Mrs. Vivian Valentine.

A Criminal Court jury of five women and seven men deliberated three and a half hours Tuesday before reaching the verdict.

Mrs. Macklin continuously cried while her attorney William Murphy Jr. and Assistant State's Attorney Clifton Gordy presented closing arguments to the jury, Tuesday afternoon.

* * *

Mr. Murphy told the jury, "Mrs. Macklin was not the person who brutally killed Mrs. Valentine. If you listened to Det. Giangrasso, he said there was some kind of hand to hand struggle with the victim being subdued to the floor.

"Do women fight with their fist? Do they fight like men? No, when someone is fighting for their life they scratch and pull hair. Was there a single mark or a single scratch?

* * *

Det. Giangrasso said Mrs. Valentine was dragged from the bedroom and indeed you see a trail of blood on the floor. How do you pin someone down on the floor who is struggling for her life?"

Mr. Gordy told the jury in his closing argument, "The defendant would have you believe there was a man but she never saw his face.

"This mysterious man she testified to was the Boogey Man. Her fingerprints were found in blood on the phone."

Mrs. Macklin was charged with murdering her brother's wife. Police state the victim had been stabbed 16 times, shot once, dragged from her bedrooms and placed in a tub of water.

MRS. CHRISTINE MACKLIN

Navy Seaman Recruit Marvin L. Pierce, brother of Mrs. Sandra Curry of 3112 Brightwood Ave., Baltimore, graduated from recruit training at the Naval Lakes, Ill. He received Training Center, Great nine weeks of intensive instruction in seamanship, small arms training, fire fighting, close order drill first aid and Naval history.

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Cong. Mitchell named to powerful committee

Congressman Parren J. Mitchell (D-7th District-Maryland) was elected Aug. 7 to serve on the potentially powerful House Budget Committee.

Mr. Mitchell polled the second highest number of votes on the seven-man slate which the Democratic Steering and Policy Committee recommended. The Democratic Caucus at its 9 a.m. meeting Aug. 7, voted on that slate and Congressman Mitchell was thus elected to the new House Committee.

"I am indeed honored to have been chosen to serve on this important new Committee," Mitchell said, "although the demands made by this new Committee assignment will be very heavy." This Committee, Mitchell continued, "is so very important because it will, in effect, determine the national spending priorities."

The House Budget Committee came into being because of the mounting criticism that the Congressional Budget process was "fragmented, slow, and unable to reach decisions on an overall basis."

The Committee on which the two term Maryland Representative will serve must resolve the problems of late appropriations; the size of the federal debt; the fixed portion of the federal budget; and "back door spending," a device by which federal agencies are funded through regular congressional appropriations and also through other spending authority means.

My role on the new Committee as I see it, Congressman Mitchell stated, "is consonant with my role in the Congress, namely to insure that programs which are meaningful to Blacks, minorities and the poor are given the same, if not greater priority than are the Defense, Space Programs and other such efforts."

Also serving on the 23 member House Budget Committee are: Congressmen Ullman, Burke and Congresswoman Griffith, representing the House Ways and Means Committee; Congressmen Whitten, Smith and Giaimo representing the Appropriations Committee and Congressmen Adams (Wash.); Wright (Texas); Bolling (Mo.); O'Neill (Mass.); Ashley (Ohio; O'Hara (Michigan) and Leggett (California).

Mitchell is the only black serving on the Committee. He was endorsed and supported by the Speaker of the House, Carl Albert, who was among the first to congratulate him.

On the average the Democratic members of the House Budget Committee have served for 14 years or more, but Mitchell is now just completing his second two year term.

This new Committee assignment is of such magnitude and there is such heavy responsibility, the Maryland Congressman said, "that within the next week or ten days I shall submit a formal resignation from the Democratic Steering and Policy Committee and the Subcommittee on Consumer Affairs."

CONGRESSMAN PARREN J. MITCHELL and Speaker Of The House Carl Albert photographed together Aug. 7 as Rep. Mitchell received news of his appointment to the powerful House Budget Committee.

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CONLON for Lt. Governor

Auth: JOHN P. O'FERRALL, Treas.

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