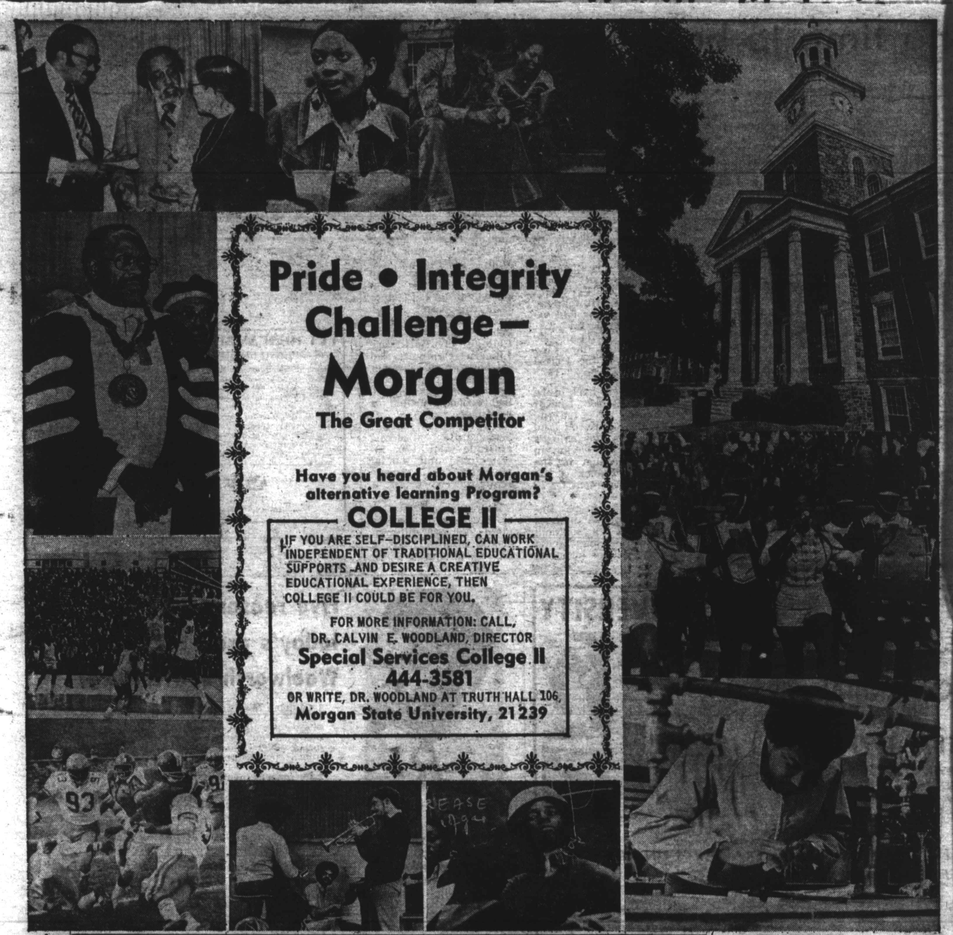

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"A PLACE TO BE SOMEBODY"

Puerto Rican teen held in male model's murder

(See Page 2)

'Little Willie's' plan for winning

Part 2 Inside

Baltimore Afro-American

WE ARE IN OUR 85th YEAR

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Dixon Stars are dedicated baseballers

See page 11

LEANING TOWARD JUDGE'S WIFE, DORALEE RESNICK

Caplan, Waxter balk at appointing black to 5th district council seat

No black person will be recommended to fill the Fifth District City Council seat left vacant this week by Allen B. Spector's departure for the bench of the city District Court, if the remaining councilmen, Thomas J.S. Waxter and Reuben S. Caplan, have their way.

Councilmanic courtesy and tradition usually allows councilmen to make recommendations regarding vacancies in their district that are rubber-stamped by their colleagues as a matterof routine.

The problems come about when the councilmen can't agree on a single candidate. It's happened that way before and here it is again.

Waxter said Thursday he will support Mrs. Doralee Resnick, "mother of two children and a very nice lady," who is the wife of District Court Judge Alan M. Resnick.

Reuben Caplan favors Mose Ottenheimler II, aligned to the old Jack Pollack machine.

For all their putative reputation for political liberalism, the white voters in the fifth district refused to elect a black when candidates as Norman V.A. Reeves ran in 1975 and racked up impressive votes in the primary and general elections, even when the area is recognizably more than 50 per cent black.

Since Waxter and Caplan also refuse to back a [illegible] person and because of

(Continued on Page 2)

Inmate stabbed at City Jail

Rickie Edwards, 20, of the 3200 block Lyndale Ave., who had been at City Jail since May 24 awaiting trial on rape charges is now in "critical condition," at City Hospitals.

Police state Edwards had been involved in an argument Wednesday and was later discovered by a guard, who was making his rounds around 7:30 p.m.

He had been stabbed in the chest and back. No suspects have been arrested. However, the victim told police he could identify the person who stabbed him.

Another City Jail inmate who was due to be released last month died at Mercy Hospital 15 hours after he was admitted. Luther Ponder, 20, was found by his cellmate George Chatmon after being beaten with an angle iron.

Wilbert Heartwell, 45-year-old inmate has been charged with the murder. Ponder was serving a six-month sentence for malicious destruction of property and possession of a deadly weapon.

Did Blair Lee's tongue slip?

The second most powerful government official in the state made what seemingly was a slip of the tongue last week in announcing the appointment of the first black person to the Montgomery College Board of Trustees.

Lt. Gov. Blair Lee III, who was commencement speaker, at the Rockville-Takoma Park based Junior College's graduation exercises held at the Shady Grove Music Theatre in Gaithersburg, said that the new appointee, Ms. Yolanda Ford, director of the office of Human Relations at the University of Maryland, College Park, would be "an ornament to the board."

Lee's use of the word shocked and angered many of the few black parents who attended the predominantley white graduation and most of them refused to participate in the standing ovation when he completed his speech.

"I wasn't quite sure I heard him right," said one parent who refused to be identified afterwards. "But I saw a white couple turn

(Continued on Page 2)

(Photo by Roman Hankewyez)

MORGAN'S NIGHT AT THE OPERA—The Morgan State University Choir, under the direction of Nathan Carter will be spotlighted at the Morris Mechanic Theatre, June 6, 8, and 11 as it participates in the Dominick Argento Opera, "The Voyage of Edgar Allen Poe." The leading black choir and one of the best overall choirs in the country today, according to the American Choral Directors Association will host the June 10 performance. Shown are: Vanessa Grogan, Michael Tillman, Valeria Foster, Tanya Lanham, Tom Ahrens, Betty Malkus, Nathan Carter and Margaret Lindsay. (See story page 10)

Sharon's killer gets life

A 28-year-old former Maryland Penitentiary guard, who is now serving a 20 year sentence for raping a woman May 14, 1975 was sentenced to life plus 15 years on Wednesday by Judge James Macgill for murder.

John William Simms, of the 4200 block West Rogers Ave. was found guilty in April of killing Mrs. Sharon Taylor Tynes, 23 on June 29, 1975. She was shot to death around 4:55 a.m. while waiting for a bus in the 4400 block Garrison Blvd.

Assistant State's Attorney Joe Lyons told the AFRO Simms now faces 13 charges of rape, one assault with intent to murder and murder. Lyons stated it has not been decided if Simms will be brought to court again for the other charges.

Simms, who served as a guard for five years at the penitentiary is the father of two children. Due to publicity in the rape case that was held in Criminal Court, his last trial was held in Ellicott City.

Mrs. Tynes, who was eight months pregnant when she was killed was found lying in the street in a pool of blood. She died at Sinai Hospital of two gunshot wounds of the back. Her baby also died.

Police report they found a .38 caliber revolver in Simms' home last August, when they searched his home and the weapon was the same gun used in the murder of Mrs. Tynes and attempted murder of another woman.

* * *

Police arrested Simms several months after a woman whom he allegedly raped saw him driving a car and jotted down the li-

(Continued on Page 2)

MESTER NEW BOWIE PREXY

Handwriting on our college walls?

BOWIE — The Bowie State College Board of Trustees has appointed the first white head of the predominantly black school.

In a press conference held Thursday on Bowie's campus, Edmund C. Mester, executive director of the board, was elected to serve as interim president replacing Dr. Samuel L. Myers, who is retiring Aug. 30.

Mester will serve as head of the college until an eight-member search committee can find a permanent president of the school.

* * *

A graduate of the University of Maryland, Mester has been executive director of the board for nine years. Before his appointment he served eight years as executive assistant to former Gov. J. Millard Tawes.

Mester was also a mem-

(Continued on Page 2)

EDMUND C. MESTER

More winners share Mr. Fro's dough

Mr. Fro took to the streets Wednesday afternoon to reward lucky Baltimoreans who had in their possession current issues of the Baltimore AFRO when he stopped by their home.

The bare cement fronts of several neighborhoods suddenly filled with the young, surprised, old, happy and curious as Mr. Fro gave away a total of $50.

Attempts at the $100 lucky number dart throw were unsuccessful as $10 went to Wilbert Anthony of 1805 Saratoga St., James and Christine Williams of 535 Pulaski St., Clara Hinson of 1712 Ruxton Ave., Virginia Thorpe of 3518 Reisterstown Road and Erna Dixon also of 3518 Reisterstown Road.

* * *

Wilbert Anthony, who won after sending in the lucky coupon and was later called by Mr. Fro, seemed the envy of all his neigh-

(Continued on Page 2)

(AFRO staff photo by Norma Spencer)

ALL GRINS—Mrs. Virginia Thorpe of 3518 Reisterstown Rd., smiles broadly after Mr. Fro gives her $10 for having Tuesday's AFRO in her home.

I read the AFRO
Peel it & Paste it
Mr. Fro will be looking for AFRO Lucky Stickers as he gives away a Dollar a day in the AFRO-In-Your-Home Contest.

SUCCESSFUL ATTORNEY RECALLS ST. JOHN'S '48

Being 1st black grad was painful

ANNAPOLIS — Martin A. Dyer, who in 1952 was the first black graduate from a previously all-white college in Maryland, said his experience at St. John's College was a "painful time, for which I am eternally grateful."

Dyer, who later became an attorney with the federal government, reflected on his undergraduate years at St. John's during commencement ceremonies Monday.

"I was my own worst enemy. In some ways I had not been adequately prepared. And while I eventually compensated, it was a long painful time," said Dyer Monday.

Dyer said he believed himself to be the poorest student in the class at the time.

"This is not so much a matter of how true it was but how I felt and I know it affected my performance." Dyer went on to graduate seventh in his class of 70 at the University of Maryland Law School.

Dyer, 46, is now an assistant attorney to Thomas Tierney, director of the U.S. Medicare program.

MARTIN A. DYER
as he is today

"St. John's may be the first previously segregated college in the country to change its policy voluntarily during the 1940's" he said, "Although there was internal discussion within the college, there was no outside pressure to bring it about. At other colleges there were court cases."

During the 1940's St. John's faculty and students had petitioned for the admission of a black.

But their requests were turned down for several years by the Board of Visitors and Governors. The Board said Annapolis, segregated life, which was reflected in restaurants, theaters, and churches, would make it too difficult for a black student to attend.

"I was very warmly received by both the faculty and the students," Dyer recalls of those opening weeks in 1948. "I felt no different than anyone else.

"People frequently try to go out of their way to be nice to someone who is new and different, but my arrival at St. John's was treated in a matter of fact way without any fuss or fanfare. I was just another student, and, under these conditions it was easy to be quickly comfortable."

After graduating from St. John's and the University of Maryland Law School he was a legislative assistant for the late Sen. Edward Bartlett, D-Alaska.

Included in this year's graduating class of '77 at St. John's was one of the 13 women in the U.S. awarded a Rhodes Scholarship. (UPI)

AS HE WAS—Martin Dyer was the first black student at St. John's College.

JUN