—500 teachers

(Continued from Page 1)

Dr. John Gist, deputy superintendent, Baltimore City Public Schoors, told the AFRO Thursday morning that the layoffs were necessary in balancing the operational budget for the upcoming school year.

Dr. Gist also reported that the layoffs were not made suddenly, but were given thought and careful consideration.

"We used an established criteria to decide which teachers would be layed-off. First we began laying off those teachers who had received unsatisfactory ratings.

Secondly, those teachers classified as provisional or probationary were layed-off unless they had received a superior or good rating," Gist said.

"Using this so-called evaluation as a sword, 500 teachers were fired without any semblance of just cause or without due process. Meanwhile, at city expense, administrators have been running around the county recruiting new teachers," said Bethea.

"The Board's pursuit of excellence has produced a grave and humiliating injustice to the teachers as a whole, the City of Baltimore, to the parents and most important of all, to the students."

The BTU has already filed some 300 grievances at the Baltimore City School headquarters on 25th Street and has asked for an immediate Board hearing.

The Baltimore Teachers Union questions the way the mayor directed the $10.4 million designated by the legislature to the city to help maintain sorely needed school services.

Bethea also expressed the total concern of the BTU in reference to the glaring conflict between the BKOARD'S EMPTY CONCERN FOR "excellence" and a drastic reduction in the teaching staff.

"The most significant component in a system truly concerned with educational quality is reduced class size. We fail to understand how the Board could, at a single meeting, adopt the Project Excellence report, and minutes later, slash the system's teaching staff by 10 percent. This action was not even debated, nor was a single dissenting voice raided. We have the massacre of education excellence in Baltimore City."

The BTU charges that the Board of School Commissioners consciously attempted to allay public criticism by implying that they were actually pursuing excellence.

In addition to filing grievances, the BTU is demanding an immediate restoration of the budget cuts, that the Board show just cause for each teacher fired, due process for each teacher fired and immediate reinstatement of each teacher fired.

Another group taking action against teacher lay-offs is the Public School Teachers Association.

According to Moses Holmes, executive director of the PSTA, "At this point the fight against the layoffs is two-pronged: legal and parental anger.

PSTA officials met with attorneys Thursday, July 20 to draw up the class action suit to stop the layoffs. Holmes said the suit will be filed in "the near future."

Members of the association, teachers and concerned parents also met July 20 at the school board's regular meeting to express their anger at the terminations.

"We want to ask the board some specific quealions, mainly the legality of these terminations," Holmes said.

He said the people who should be upset with the layoffs are parents.

"Granted, teachers are the losers but most importantly, the students are the real losers," he said.

Mayor William Donald should be horsewhipped and the school board should be spanked for what they are doing to the quality of education in this city, Holmes said.

"The Mayor is always calling kids our most valuable resource. How can he say that and then cut the teaching staff by 10 percent?" Holmes said.

Holes accused Schaefer of misplaced priorities — "he is so concerned with the physical improvement of the Inner Harbor and downtown, but yet he is willing to sacrifice our kids."

Unloading upper-level, high salaries school officials could solve the teacher terminations, he said.

"It will be interesting to see if the school board also cuts 10 percent of the administrators, too.

"Face it, the farther away someone is from the kids and the classroom, the less important he or she is," Holmes said.

He also said the city is in "serious trouble" concerning its educational quality.

"Just when the test scores show a miniscule increase, they terminate people. This will force a decline in test scores," he said.

Holmes urged taxpayers and parents to question elected officials on how tax money is spent.

"Maryland asks for more in tax dollars and gives less (in services) to taxpayers. Where does our money go?" he said.

PSTA and BTU are vying for bargaining agent power for the city's teachers. How do the layoffs effect PSTA?

"Certainly whatever action we take has to do with the election. But this is a subordinate point — right now we are mainly concerned in the best interests of the students," Holmes said.

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—'Mom's still alive'

(Continued from Page 1)

Her husband, Alonzo L. Stanback, a former Social Security employee, was charged with killing his estranged wife.

Stanback, a 37-year-old paraplegic of the 400 block Aisquith St., was arrested by the state police July 14 on U.S. 29 near Route 108, where he ran out of gas driving his wife's 1974 Ian Buick.

Police report blood was on the seat of the car and Mrs. Stanback's white leather purse, identification cards, a canvas shoulder bag and a red leather wallet containing $20 were found in the trunk of her car.

Stanback, who relatives said was a friend of convicted drug dealers John Edward "Liddie" Jones, Brother Cromer and James "Big Head Brother" Carter, was then taken to the homicide department to be questioned and the clothes he was wearing were submitted to the crime lab for processing for possible blood stains.

Police reveal they checked with Howard County Hospital, University and St. Agnes Hospitals to see if Mrs. Stanback had been admitted or treated for injuries. However, police state the results wwere negative.

Mr. and Mrs. Stanback had been married for nearly seven years and separated for three years. Relatives state the couple was in the process of getting a divorce.

At the time they were together, they lived in Woodlawn.

Stanback is being held at City Jail without bail and Lt. Charles Kearney of the homicide department stated, "We have enough corroborating evidence and two or three different things to indicate it is (murder)."

His 12-year-old daughter told the AFRO, "I think my father knows where my mother is and is playing games with the police. I don't think she is dead and my father will tell the police where my mother is."

—41st District

(Continued from Page 1)

Running as an incumbent as a result of filling the uncompleted term of her husband, Mrs. Murphy is reckoned as a tough opponent to contend with.

Says Angela Gibson, who is serving Mrs. Murphy as an administrative assistant: "Mrs. Murphy's reason for filing for the seat is that she is most concerned about carrying through projects which her husband started."

Miss Gibson is also serving as Mrs. Murphy's campaign coordinator.

One of the most powerful groups in the 41st District, the Vanguard Club fully supports Mrs. Murphy in her effort to get elected.

Herb Brown, Vanguard treasurer said: "Mrs. Murphy was the choice of our executive board. We kicked around several names, but she was our final choice."

However, this choice seems not to be well received by the equally powerful Five-of-Five Organization's leadership.

Quietly, Five-of-Five, led by Sen. Blount, has assembled its slate which excludes Mrs. Murphy.

The final Blount ticket: House of Delegates: Dels. Walter Dean, Pinkney Howell and Nathaniel Oaks.

State Central Committee: Vera P. Hall, Lester B. Wallace and Maceo M. Williams.

Reached Friday, Blount would only say: "Nobody knows who Mrs. Murphy will wipe-out if she wins. Its unpredictable. The voters in my district are highly sophisticated and intelligent.

"They're going to vote for people on the basis of what they've done in the community. They will judge Mrs. Murphy on her own credits, not her husband's because he is gone. Nobody can help her but herself."

—Pettit hitting

(Continued from Page 1)

Swisher, 44, who is running for the Democratic nomination for a second four-year term, failed to honor the invitation. Keating, however, was present.

Charging the incumbent of having no affirmative action program in the state's attorney's office, Pettit, 32, said there are only two blacks and five women out of 97 staff members in Swisher's office.

Pettit is the president of the city's black bar association which has, of course, endorsed him.

He refused to enter into debate with Keating, explaining that Swisher not Keating is the "man to beat."

According to Pettit, who was chairman of Jimmy Carter's Maryland presidential campaign, "people have lost confidence in the state's attorney's office" which he said has fallen from number one in the nation under Milton B. Allen to "one of non-recognition."

Stating that Swisher has been ignoring white-collar crimes while prosecuting the poor disproportionately, Pettit accused the state's attorney of failing to cooperate with federal government investigations of narcotics violations.

Keating, 34, also accused Swisher of "ineffectiveness" pledging that "When I'm elected state's attorney, I will go into court myself. If I don't, how can I ask my attorneys to do the job."

Meanwhile, support for Pettit continues to mount this week with the endorsement of his campaign by the Five-of-Five Organization, the Vanguard Club and the Progressive Democratic Organization. Last week he received the support of the Citizens Democratic Action Organization.

A fundraiser has been scheduled Thursday, July 27, from 6-9 p.m. at the Blue Crest North. For ticket information, call Elijah Cummings, 727-0920.

His campaign headquarters are located at 2435 Reisterstown Rd., 669-1990 and 302 Lombard St., 752-0611.

—CRC probes brutality

(Continued from Page 1)

John Ferron, director of CRC said "Curley is one of the officers that has consistently come before the Complaint Evaluations Board of the police department of the police department" but he is still on the force.

Juanita Mitchell, who appeared at the June meeting to give the evidence that police brutality is increasing, again emphasized her point by saying the NAACP receives calls all the time about police brutality.

We have lost faith in the internal investigations Division," Mrs. Mitchell said. "The mayor has control of the police departmnet and we want action."

Mrs. Mitchell continued by saying the main problem is that "the investigation of complaints are secret. Police should be able to come before the public."

What probably clinched Mrs. Mitchell's argument was when she said the public's "impression is that the Community Relations Commission is rubber stamping the Complaint Evaluations Board's reports."

The commissioners then approved a motion to hold a public hearing when both police and community persons could be asked questions about the rise in police brutality.

The agency said it would decide late on who specifically to invite and what they would do with the information that was obtained from such a hearing.

Welcome Cab

CAB CALLOWAY, bandleader, actor, dancer and King of "Hi De Ho," is returning to his native Baltimore. City residents can attend a Welcome Home bash at Hopkins Plaza, Monday, July 21, 12:30 p.m. A band is scheduled to play "Minnie the Moocher." Calloway opens Tuesday at the Morris Mechanic Theatre in "Bubbling Brown Sugar."

—James Brown

(Continued from Page 1)

The suit against the singer alleges he owes $170,000 to the former owners of the radio station.

The station was purchased by Brown in 1969 for $270,000 and the last payment was to be made in September 1976.

At the time Brown was arrested, he was appearing with his band, the JB's at the Apollo Theatre.

Before leaving Baltimore July 20, Brown had to report to Francis P. Tunney, chief U.S. probation officer.

Tunney told the AFRO, "Mr. Brown gave me his itinerary schedule for the next seven days. He will mail his passport to his attorney who will deliver it to me. Mr. Brown will give me an itinerary every seven days until the court tells us it is no longer necessary."

Local attorney Richard Johnson, representing local businessmen has been negotiating to purchase radio WEBB.

Other bidder is Bishop Clarence L. Long of Washington, D.C. who has already made a bid of half a million [illegible]

—Hopkins

(Continued from Page 1)

Rawlings said in the face of this decision his group has several alternatives it may pursue. The first, he revealed is to appeal to the state health systems agency and ask the governor to intervene.

The second would be to sue the Central Maryland Health Systems Agency for recommending such a provision and putting a construction contract above patient care.

Paul Evans, a spokesman for CMHSA, said Wednesday night's action by the agency was only a recommendation to the state body.

"Because we are recommending doesn't mean the state will approve it, though it probably will," he said.

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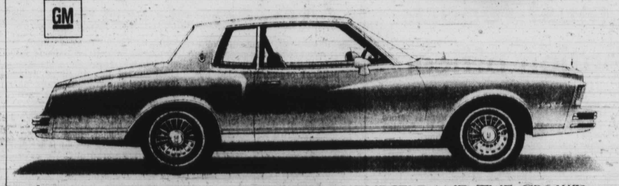

PUT A LITTLE DISTANCE BETWEEN YOURSELF AND THE CROWD.

Cherry Hill's anger hasn't eased

Residents of the Cherry Hill section of Baltimore met Monday night to exchange complaints and reactions regarding a series of articles published in the Sunpapers last week.

The local daily's articles traced the lives of several young men who grew up in Cherry Hill, some of whom ended as convicted criminals.

The urnout was so great — about 350 — that the meeting had to be transferred from a small seminar room in the Cherry Hill Multi-Purpose Center to the gymnasium.

Shephard H. Burge, the mayor's representative, began the meeting by saying that "I sense those of us in this room agree with me in saying that Cherry Hillis a positive community. We want everyone to know we have struggled here for the last 40 years."

From that point a clear intent of the meeting was never established. It ranged from emotional arguments to statements and proposals for future meetings.

One young resident, the first to speak, said that the Sunpapers rarely had anything good to say about black people.

"The Sun is out and out racist, not only against Cherry Hill, but against all black people," he said.

But he was interrupted by Sarah J. Bundy, chairperson of the Cherry Hill Multi-Purpose Center Board. She emphasized that the area has the lowest crime rate in Baltimore.

The meeting was somewhat of a crisis with person after person giving examples of why they thought the local daily's articles were unjust to the community.

"What made me so mad about this is that they called Cherry Hill a ghetto. Cherry Hill is not a ghetto," one man said. "Cherry Hill was established for blacks, no one else lives here."

But then he was sharply cut down by a young lady disagreed. "A ghetto is where one race is situated," she said. "You grew up on cold water, I'm growing up on rats."

The residents soon calmed down and decided that one good alternative may be to go on local television and radio shows to educate other Baltimoreans about Cherry Hill.

Another good suggestion, not mentioned in the meeting, may be to write letters to local newspapers, to get their viewpoints across.

More than anything, the rheeting was a chance to bring the residents together around a specific issue and it just may lead to some type of Cherry Hill organization in the future.

Nigeria welcomes investors

ATLANTA — The west African country of Nigeria has made an appeal to small and medium sized American businesses to invest in the fast-growing nation.

A delegation of 27 Nigerian businessmen and businesswomen were in Atlanta recently calling for American investors as part of a 21-day tour of the United States.

Because Nigeria imports most of its food, he said foreign investors are welcome in agriculture andhe also stressed the need for low and middle-income housing for the growing nation.

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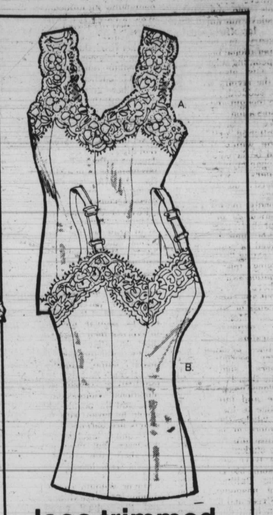

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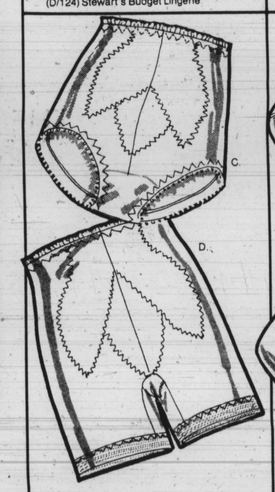

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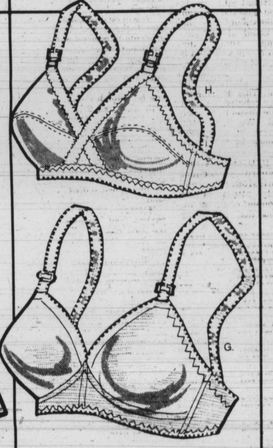

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