Unnecessary, say some officials

BSU wants minority student advisory office

By Stephen P. Thomas

Does the University of Maryland, Baltimore County need a special office to deal with scholastic problems of minority students?

No, say some UMBC administrators who feel present services to minorities are sufficient.

Yes, say officials of the Black Student Union (BSU), who feel the new office would play a major role in advising and retaining minority students.

They cite a 46 percent negative performance statistic for black UMBC students as a compelling argument for the initiation of the office.

That percentage statistic of 46 percent came from a now defunct 1976 university affirmative action plan which included statistics (from fall, 1975 - spring, 1977) on three categories of negative performance among minority students.

Conflict between the BSU and several administrators was spurred by the cancellation of UMBC's office of Minority Recruitment (OMR) on Dec. 19, 1978.

The office was closed because it had carried out career development and job placement practices which, according to Jack Burke, director of university relations, "Were outside the scope of theoriginal intention of the office."

John Dorsey
UMBC Chancellor

On the other hand, Quentin Watkins, chairman of BSU had noticed the slow death of the office during the previous academic year, when the administration failed to post the position of assistant director, vacated by Ms. Betty Sewell.

Watkins felt that a new and more comprehensive office to serve minority students of the campus should replace OMR.

BSU, according to Watkins, wants to devise an office similar to the Office of Minority Student Education (OMES) at the College Park campus which coordinates minority tutorial programs, minority personal advisory programs, minority job bank and a monitoring program to refer minority students to the OMSE if they are having academic difficulties.

Earlier, Watkins told the UMBC newspaper THE RETRIEVER, "Many black students feel that they are being used . . . there is no effort to keep them here once they've been admitted."

Watkins cited the de registration threat in the fall of 1978 against about 90 students, some 60 of whom were black, because of a delay in used.

Watkins also cited the opposition by many administrators to the Minority Orientation Program, established by the BSU in 1976, as an example of the unreceptive climate for black students at UMBC.

Some administrators oppose the idea of the new office because the university already has an Advisement Counsel, Career Development Department, Minority Recruitment Department and a Minority Orientation Program. The first two departments are open to all UMBC students.

Watkins expressed his disagreement with the feelings of those administrators "This (proposed) office would not be affective if it is operated through the Admissions Office or the Dean of Students Office . . . this office must have a direct channel to the Chancellor."

Watkins, on behalf of the BSU, introduced the proposed office to the Chancellors Committee of Minority Student Education on Jan. 3.

He hopes to have recommendations from the national black congressional caucus via Congressman Parren Mitchell and the NAACP to submit to the committee by the end of the first week in February.

If the proposed office earns Chancellors' committee approval, then the "buck" must pass through the UMBC Senate, and ultimately the Board of Regents.

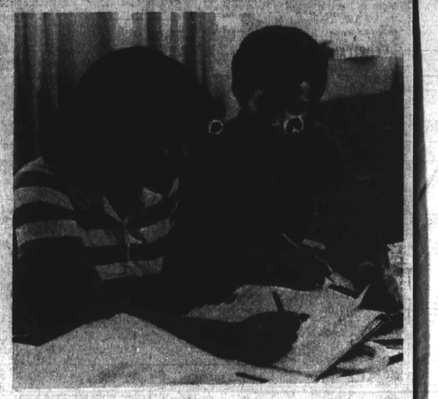
Watkins, who is very optimistic about the success of the proposal, feels some extra support from UMBC Chancellor John Dorsey may be needed to earn Senate approval. Watkins will meet with Dorsey on Jan. 29.

The OMSE, at College Park, was created four years ago to retain and support minority students there. Muruku Waiguchie, OMSE Director, feels that the office has performed both tasks well.

Harps wins appraisers top award

Three Washington, D.C. real estate appraisers have been presented with the Professional Recognition Award of the American Institute of Real Estate Appraisers.

The Washington appraisers honored were: William S. Harps, MAI, first vice president, John R. Pinkett, Inc.; Anthony Reynolds, MAI, principal, Reynolds & Reynolds, Inc. and Leady W. Seals, Jr.I MAI, vice president - appraisal and underwriting, Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation.



UMBC STUDENTS — Quentin Watkins (R), Black Student Union president at University of Maryland, Baltimore County, and Linda Kenington discuss a proposal for a minority student assistant program at the school.

Top judge asks lawmakers for reforms

Maryland's top judge has asked the General Assembly for more judges, higher pay, and specific judicial reforms — but the chances of getting what he wants may be slim.

House Majority Leader Donald B. Robertson, D - Montgomery, said proposals by Chief Judge Robert C. Murphy of the Court of Appeals to reorganize the Supreme Bench of Baltimore and to remove circuit court judges from the normal election process are likely to meet stiff opposition in the House.

But across the hall, Senate Majority Leader Rosalie S. Abrams, D - Baltimore, predicted the change in appointments of circuit judges would probably pass this year.

She also said legislators would probably back a proposal by Murphy for creation of seven new circuit judgeships.

"That created the most interest," she said. "Ears perked up because people see this as an opportunity for patronage."

Murphy, in a slow, deliberate 45 - minute state of the judiciary message to a joint legislative session, also pointedly criticized Gordon Kamka, Gov. Harry Hughes' nominee for secretary of the department of public safety and corrections.

Murphy referred to Kamka's statements that a long proposed 890 - inmate prison in Baltimore may not be necessary because less dangerous prisoners may be better handled in community corrections facilities.

"I claim no expertise in prison administration, and I do not deprecate the sincerity of those who espouse this newly emerging philosophy," he said. "But simple mathematics, reason and logic tell me that what is being proposed may be a 'pie in the sky,' 'Alice in Wonderland' solution."

Minutes after Murphy concluded, Sen. Robert L. Douglass, D - Baltimore, answered with a loud speech on the Senate floor in support of Kamka's liberal corrections' philosophy.

Saying he was "highly upset," Douglass, the head of the legislative Black Caucus, said, "I do believe we need some sensitivity for these prisoners. I applaud Gordon Kamka for speaking out the way he has done. We do need a different approach in this state."

Murphy said reorganization of the six - court Supreme Bench of Baltimore into a single circuit court — a proposal first advanced in 1942 — would save city taxpayers $500,000 to $600,000 a year.

"The state's largest trial bench of general jurisdiction — the all - important Supreme Bench of Baltimore City — is a textbook example of the worst court organization imaginable," he said.

On another matter, Murphy cautioned the lawmakers - sentencing guidelines in an effort to insure equal sentences for persons found guilty of the same or similar crimes.

"Determinate sentencing may have its advantages, but it may well be an example of overkill in that it may deprive a judge of too much discretion," he said.

Echoing remarks made by Hughes last Friday, Murphy said circuit judges should be removed from the contested election process and be appointed like appellate judges, who then must periodically go before the electorate for a "yes - no" vote on their records.

He said circuit judges should be removed from contested elections because they have no constituency as do legislative candidates, and that the election process often fails to identify the qualities most important in a good judge.

"And even if there is no actual impropriety or obligation involved, a judge who must obtain financial support to run, get his name slated on the appropriate tickets, and indulge in the pre and take of political gatherings is inevitably seen by many as incurring obligations wholly inconsistent with the nature of judicial office," Murphy said.

Murphy cited the burdensome workload on the court system, including more than 1.3 million new cases filed in 1978 alone.

He said two new circuit judges were needed immediately in Anne Arundel County and one each in Charles, Montgomery, Prince George's and Worcester counties and in Baltimore City.

He also said judicial salaries have "totally failed to keep pace with increases in the cost of living and with the earnings of the most capable members of the bar."

MSU professor publishes book

Dr. Rosalyn Terborg-Penn, an associate professor of history at Morgan State University, recently celebrated the publication of her book, "The Afro-American Woman: Struggles and Images."

Dr. Penn, in conjunction with Sharon Harley, an assistant professor of history at the University of the District of Columbia, began working on the anthology in 1974 in an effort to fill the gap in scholarly information about black women.

This collection of essays examines the experiences of black women from an historical perspective and covers the period from the early nineteenth century to the present, providing a creative approach to the real lives and perceptions of a number of black women, some well known and some not so well-known and describes as well how they have been perceived by others.

The influence and effect of the Afro-American experience on educators, workers, political activists, poets and blues singers is also explored.

Catholic leader says surplus should be used to help poor

Archbishop Borders has urged Maryland lawmakers to use part of the state's approximately $220 million surplus to increase financial aid to poor families.

Although he cited the rise in abortions performed as a major problem, Borders denied that the Catholic church has abortion as its sole legislative issue.

"I cannot say often enough that as a bishop and as a man, I am deeply concerned about all issues that touch the basic human life of our people," he said.

Borders met with 45 legislators to outline what he considers to be major problems that must be faced by the 1979 General Assembly.

They are:

— In Maryland, a family of four receiving public assistance gets $3,264 in annual income while the federal poverty line is $5,860.

— The state's marriage rate is dropping and the divorce rate is climbing.

— In 1976, more than 20,000 women received abortions in the state, compared to 52,672 births.

— More than 130,000 students are enrolled in 600 private and parochial elementary and high schools in Maryland, 95,000 of those attend Catholic schools.

"As pastor of many of Maryland' Catholics, and as a citizen of the state of Maryland, I am sadly aware of these debilitating conditions and ask what can be done to help alleviate some of these conditions legislatively," Borders said.

He urged the legislators to enact laws that would make living in poverty more bearable.

Borders suggested using part of Maryland's surplus to pay for an increase in public assistance to poor people.

The Archbishop also urged adoption of legislation that would empower the state public service commission to search the best form of "lifeline" utility rates to ensure minimum utility service to the poor.

New deadline on appeal of Mandel conviction

RICHMOND, Va. — The U.S. 4th Circuit Court of Appeals has granted federal prosecutors another 30 days to decide whether to seek reinstatement of the conviction of former Maryland Gov. Marvin Mandel.

The U.S. Attorneys office had until Thursday to ask for a new hearing before the full court, but was notified Wednesday that the extension to Feb. 24 had been granted.

Mandel's racketeering and mail fraud convictions were overturned in a 2-1 decision Jan. 11. The court found fault with the admission of some testimony and ordered a new trial for Mandel and his five co-defendants.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Daniel J. Hurson said in a petition field Monday that the Department of Justice would require more than 14 days to decide whether to seek reinstatement of the convictions.

The department's criminal division must review the recommendation of the Baltimore office and the divisions recommendation must be approved by the Solicitor General.

If the court turns down the Justice Department's plea for a rehearing, the department can still seek a new trial or ask for a hearing in the U.S. Supreme Court.

Local stage productions selected for theatre festival

Stage productions by Catonsville Community College and University of Maryland Baltimore County are among four selected for presentation at the Region XI American College Theatre Festival to be held at Catonsville Community College Feb. 9 through 11. The others are from the University of Delaware and Anne Arundel Community College, Arnold.

The four shows were chosen by evaluators from among entries by colleges and universities of Delaware, Maryland and the District of Columbia.

Montgomery College of Rockville originally was one of the four but withdrew its production and was replaced by Anne Arundel, which had been named as alternate.

The annual festival, which will include 24 workshops and other events as well as the four plays, will take place at Catonsville Community College, 800 S. Rolling Road. It will be attended by college theatre students and faculty from the region and also will be open to the general public.

Named as the showcase productions are "Five Short Plays by Samuel Beckett," presented by UMBC; Lorraine Hansberry's "less Blancs" by CCC; "The Snow Queen" by the University of Delaware and "Thieves' Carnival" by Anne Arundel.

Nationalwide, more than 430 shows have been presented as entries, of which 70 have been selected for regional stagings. Of these, up to 10 will be chosen for a week of festival performances at the Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C. in April.

The regional festival at CC will culminate on colleges and universities of Delaware, Maryland and the District of Columbia.

sherry's "Les Blancs" by

Nationwide, more CCC will culminate on have been deliberately Schaefer Wednesday city inspector on the to inspect the facility and keep his mouth shut," he said.

Oppel said Pressman's Pressman invited Oppel to the school without mentioning reporters also had been invited, Oppel said.

"Your inspectors and you were derelict in your job by failing to see to it that the contract was not paid . . . because deficiencies were not corrected," Pressman told Oppel at the time.

the school, Oppel admitted.

and the repairs cost "only a few hundred dollars."

Sunday evening, Feb. 11, with an "Awards Gala" featuring the regional Irene Ryan Scholarship finalists and a musical revue with a cast of students from the participating colleges, directed by Ted Cooper of Howard University. Irene Ryan scholarships are awarded to individual students for excellence in acting.

Advance registration of the three - day festival, including all performances, workshops and events, will be $15. Groups of 10 or more persons will be able to register for a group rate of $10 each. Admittance to individual shows and workshops will be $3.

Registration information may be obtained by calling 455 - 4348 at Catonsville Community College

Investigation begin into school constructions

An investigation has been ordered of City Comptroller Hyman Pressman's allegations that work specifications have been deliberately ignored and the city is not getting its money's worth in school construction.

Mayor William Donald Schaefer Wednesday ordered City Solicitor Benjamin Brown to begin an investigation that the city did not get its money's woth in the $3.1 million contract for construction work at the George W. F. McMechen School for the Handicapped.

The Board of Estimates gave the investigation chores to a pre - qualifations committee, which determines which contractors are qualified to work on city projects.

Schaefer and the board also said the state's attorney should investigate Pressman's charge that a city inspector on the McMechen Job had been told by another official not to inspect the facility and complied with the order.

Pressman said he was told by unnamed city building inspector that school construction specifications are deliberately being ignored by city building officials.

"I have received information that an inspector was ordered to 'see nothing, say nothing and know nothing' when he complained about a failure to follow (school construction) contract specifications. He was told by his superior to keep his mouth shut," he said.

Pressman said he wants to appear before a Grand Jury to name the inspector and "tell them all I know."

Pressman's charge was denounced by Edward R. Oppel, the city's director of Construction Management, as "a staged media event" for political purposes.

Oppel said Pressman's action is just a ploy to launch his 1979 re - election campaign.

He said he was not contacted by Pressman about the city building inspector's allegation.

"I object to being treated this way, it's shabby," said Oppel.

Oppel said he has written a letter to the Board of Estimates asking for investigation of any allegations against his department in order to "clear the air."

Oppel claimed that Pressman started his political campaign through the media by inviting news coverage of his visit last week to the George W. F. McMechen school for the handicapped.

Pressman invited Opel to the school without mentioning reporters also had been invited, Oppel said.

At the school, the two men engaged in a heated exchange about what Oppel described as "minor deficiences."

"Mr inspectors and you were derelict in your job by failing to see to it that the contract was not paid . . . because deficiencies were not corrected," Pressman told Opell at the time.

A few construction deficiences and fire hazards were uncovered and are being corrected at the school, Opell admitted.

He quickly added, however, that the School does not have to be closed and the repairs cost "only a few hundred dollars."

Should BG and E customers pay for building costs?

Baltimore Gas and Electric Co. does not need to charge its customers for construction costs of a power plant that is not yet providing electricity, a consultant for Consumer Advocates told the state Public Service Commission.

Accountant Donald J. Trawicki told the PSC, "BG and E is so far removed from financial stress that the recommendations I am making would in no way put the company . . . in financial stress."

The commission is trying to decide whether to change the utility's accounting procedures so that the cost of the $882 million Brandon Shores Power Plant will be paid by BG and E customers only when the plant goes into operation.

The plant, now being constructed in Anne Arundel County, is scheduled to open its first all - powered unit in 1982 and the second in 1984.

Utility customers are paying for half the cost of construction through their monthly bills.

But the People's Counsel believes the billing practice is justifiable only if BG and E can prove it needs the operating money.

The utility has maintained that it would be easier for customers to pay for the plant cost now than in the future.

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PUBLIC HEARING
to review progress and performance under Baltimore City's
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM (CDBG)
at
THE WAR MEMORIAL BUILDING
(GAY STREET between LEXINGTON and FAYETTE STREETS)
7:30 p.m. Wednesday, February 7
This hearing will give citizens the opportunity to comment on all aspects of the City's performance under the CDBG Program.
For further information, telephone 396-4100 or visit our office at 222 E. Saratoga Street, Room 500.
M. J. BRODIE, Commissioner
Dept. of Housing & Community Development

Baltimore Afro-American
WE ARE NOW IN OUR 87TH YEAR
87th Year No. 50
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BALTIMORE, MD. FEBRUARY 3, 1979 LATE CITY EDITION 30 CENTS

Reading and our kids
Is it a community crisis?
See Our World

B'more's own 'Eubie'
Broadway musical smash arrives
See Showtime

Who's doing what in General Assembly?
See page 5

Tattle Tales kicks its boots off
See Our World

Teen co-worker seized in Provident aide's death

A teenager employed at Provident Hospital since Nov. 13, 1978 has been charged with killing a co - worker who was found stabbed to death in his Bolton House apartment, Jan. 28.

George Leopold Ashley, 17, of the 7100 block Marston Road in Baltimore County was arrested at his home Jan. 30, two days after James Rufus Colfield, 24, was found dead in his 13th floor apartment.

Police state Cofield, a Provident Hospital medical worker, had been stabbed in the back and was found around 6:45 p.m. that day by a male friend

photo, page 2

(Continued on page 2)

Diana Ross never showed

By Michele McCrae and Fred Hines

The "Anniversary Show of Stars," billed as the first of its kind in the Baltimore area, had far less people in attendance than expected last weekend and most of the big name performers did not show up.

The group that produced the show worked on it for more than a year and had planned to give the United Negro College Fund $50,000 as a result of the money they gained from ticket sales and sale of the souvenier brochure.

But even though the tickets were priced at $5, $10, and $20, only 494 persons showed up. The Civic Center was set up that night to accomodate 12,000 people and the same amount of tickets were printed.

Diana Ross was supposed to receive an award as female entertainer of the world, but she did not attend. Singer Dee Dee Bridgewater, musician Roy Ayers and Wildman Steve were supposed to perform, they weren't there either.

Rep. Barbara Mikulski and Mayor Schaefer were to present awards but they cancelled out also.

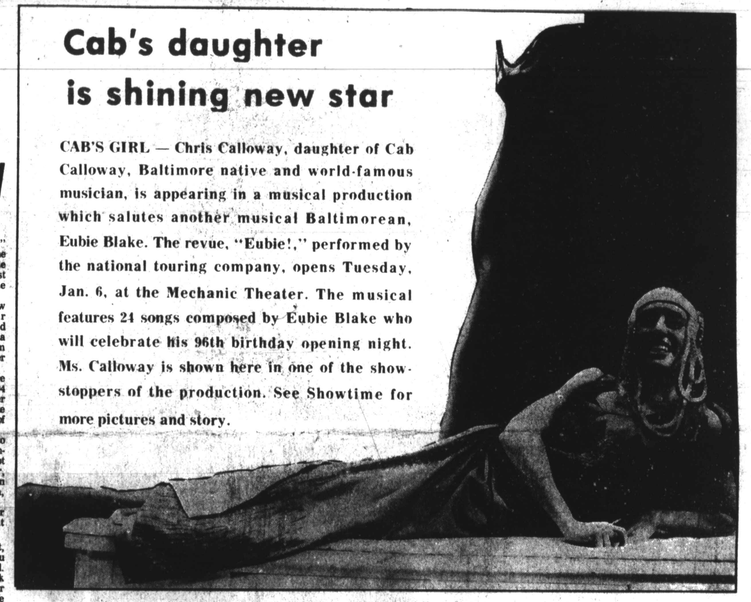
"When you're doing a benefit, you're not contracting people, you are accepting them on their word. And when you do a benefit, I think that should be honored because your word is your bond," said Lawrence Parker, producer and director of the show. He was voicing his disappointment with the people who did not show up.

Parker said that only when he wrote a letter to Berry Gordy about two weeks ago did he receive a call from Bob Jones, publicity director at Motown, expressing concern that Diana Ross would not be attending the benefit.

(Continued on page 2)

Cab's daughter is shining new star

CAB'S GIRL — Chris Calloway, daughter of Cab Calloway, Baltimore native and world-famous musician, is appearing in a musical production which salutes another musical Baltimorean, Eubie Blake. The revue, "Eubie!," performed by the national touring company, opens Tuesday, Jan. 6, at the Mechanic Theater. The musical features 24 songs composed by Eubie Blake who will celebrate his 96th birthday opening night. Ms. Calloway is shown here in one of the show-stoppers of the production. See Showtime for more pictures and story.



...and some future stars pose at Gist Elementary School

WHO ARE THEY, these bright, smiling youngsters? They're students at Gist Elementary School No. 69 and if you want to see some more of them, look inside today's AFRO. There's a special section, part I with photos and stories on School 69. Next Week we'll have part II, Gist Elementary School, with more pictures and stories. And, coming each week we'll feature other schools. Reserve your AFRO at the nearest store or newsstand in your part of town so you won't miss anything. There's plenty of good spring reading ahead.

School system shake-up

A massive shake-up in the city's public school system will result in at least two high ranking regional superintendents and 85 educators without jobs or facing reassignment next September.

The reorganization plan announced today by Department of Education officials will establish a six-region administrative structure and phase out two of the existing school regions.

This will place on school personnel the awesome task of finding jobs within the system for 85 staff members.

The phasing of these staff members into other regions, or offices or schools will be done in consideration of retirements, resignations, and staff reductions based on available funds in the new budget year.

Dr. John L. Crew, school superintendent, stated that he did not know at this time the particular superintendents to be axed.

"We will have other jobs for them," he said, "if they decide to take them."

The reorganization plan is expected to save the school system nearly $2.2 million over the next two years and ease the constantly increasing budget.

Costs for repairs, heating and maintenance could run as high as $150,000 per region stated Dr. Crew.

In addition to immediate and long-term budget considerations, the decline in pupil enrollment was cited as another reason for the change.

(Continued on page 2)

Dean, Rawlings say they'll pay fines

Two members of the House of Delegates have been fined by the Office of Supervisor of Elections in Annapolis for failing to submit campaign activity reports by the required deadline.

Delegates Walter R. Dean and Howard "Pete" Rawlings face fines up to $1,200 for their negligence.

A daily late fee is assessed for each day past the deadline. A spokesman for the Office of Supervisors of Elections stated that the campaign reports must be submitted periodically throughout a campaign.

Dean reported that he would pay the fine.

He said, "I have every intention of paying the fine as soon as possible.

And Rawlings said, "I plan to pay my fine within the week."

Any elected official who does not pay the fine will be called in for a hearing to determine whether they were notified of the deadline and if they in fact filed reports past the deadline. And there is a possibility that their delegates' pay checks could be withheld.

New AFRO —series—

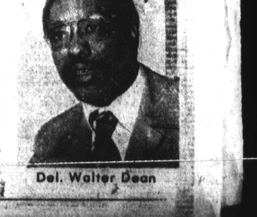
Legislative spotlight

By Portia E. Badham
AFRO Staff Writer

This article is the first in a series featuring each of Baltimore's black delegates and senators in The Maryland General Assembly.

"My legislative agenda this term will include two main goals, economic development and human resources. I believe the crisis in the black community rests in the lack of social and human resources for life maintenance.

(Continued on Page 8)



Del. Walter Dean

Charm City culture biggies ignore us!

A colorful new self - mailer containing three brochures, what to do, where to dine, and where to go in Baltimore, is now available free of charge from the Baltimore Office of Promotion and Tourism.

There is only one catch. No mention of black organization activities is listed on the calendar which lists 76 days of city events.

The brochure also does not list any black museums or work by black artists at the museums that are listed.

The brochure does list the Arena Players in its Theatre section along with other theaters listed.

One of the reasons there is not more representation from black organizations is that they did not send information to be included in the calendar, said Michele Fetricks, calendar editor of the Baltimore Events brochure.

"It is a very difficult job, trying to coordinate this. All we can do is write a letter and hope we get a response," Ms. Petricks said.

"A lot of places are not set up with publicity offices. I can't be calling every organization."

"Baltimore Sights," as the new winter - spring edition of the brochure is called, also describes parks and outdoor places, historical sites, art museums, and shopping areas.

On the reverse side, a map displays not only Ft. McHenry, Lexington Market, the U.S. Frigate Constellation and the B & O Railroad Museum but 109 other attractions.

To receive the brochure, contact, Baltimore Office of Promotion and Tourism, 110 W. Baltimore St., Baltimore, Maryland 21201, (301) 752-8632.

The Office of Promotions also put out a "Baltimore's Great!" calendar that dedicates three months to black Americans. They are Cab Calloway, a musician, the late Billy Holliday, a singer, and Joe Gans, a boxer.

The calendar can also be ordered from the Office of Promotions.