—Watkins trial

(Continued on Page 1)

Northeastern district police Sgt. Norman Parker was the second defense witness to testify on Thursday evening.

Parker is one of the original members who worked with Watkins on the STOP Squad. The STOP squad was a special group of plainclothes officers led by Watkins who were a strike force involved in all aspects of law enforcement.

"We did it all," Parker said of STOP squad. "If there was a problem on the block we went. We would do what was necessary."

Attorney George L. Russell chief defense counsel for the indicted colonel asked the witness: "Did you know Mr. Burman?"

Parker answered, "Yes sir."

Russell : "Were narcotics laws "enforced"?"

Parker— "Very definitely, we enforced all narcotic laws."

Burman, the state's key witness, spent nearly two days on the witness stand.

Dressed in a colorful palid suit, Burman admitted to the jury that he lied when he told Judge David Ross in a pre-trial hearing that the prosecutor threatened to prosecute his sons if he did noh cooperate with investigators.

The convicted drug dealer, who is serving a 35 year sentence for federal and state narcotics convictions and currently in city jail, testified that he could not give specific times when he slipped Watkins cash payments.

"I couldn't say a specific month . . . but I paid him over the years," Burman insisted.

Rocking back and forth in the witness chair, Burman testified, that while selling drugs in one year alone he made $1 million. He said he purchased a $70,000 house in Randallstown and had a "B" shaped pool and an electric protective fence around hi home.

He testified that he knew about nartocits raids because Watkins tipped him off. The witness told the jury that when he made $1 million he traveled widely, following the Muhammad Ali fights and important horse races like the Kentucky Derby across the country.

During cross examination Russell asked the witness: "Did you declare all your income sources on your taxes?"

Burman answered, "Most of it I declared on my income tax but not all of it."

Most of the state's witnesses who testified against Watkins had criminal records and have served time in prison.

Ms. Jacquelyn Williams said she observed Burman give money to Watkins on three occasions while on Pennsylvania Avenue in 1974 and 1976.

Another state witness, Joseph Miller, testified that he met Watkins in the 1500 block of Pennsylvania Avenue through Burman.

"I would go in the Alhambra and Burman would be in the booth eating. Mr. Watkins was in the booth and would pick up money off the table and walk out," the witness testified.

Miller had refused to testify at Watkins first trial and stated that the state had not promised him anything for his testimony. He did reveal that he was offered a contract in the late 60's to kill Watkins but he did not accept the contract. Miller did not say who offered him money for Watkins assassination.

Miller admitted that at one time he used cocaine and heroin and that he was arrested for possession of narcotics in 1972 and convicted for possession of a hand gun violation in July 1976.

He was also arrested in July 1978 and charged with possession of cocaine with intent to distribute. He is now serving time in a federal prison.

Another witness who testified for the state in Watkins first trial, was called as a state witness to testify on Wednesday. John Young, now serving time for narcotics violations, testified that he worked with Burman on Pennsylvania Avenue selling drugs and writing numbers.

He testified that he was present on numerous occasions in 1968 when Watkins was in the Alhambra Bar and that he saw Burman give the officer money. Young who said he had used drugs for six years, however, denied being caught with heroin on March 3, 1979 in City Jail, when asked by Russell.

He said the heroin was thrown on the floor in his cell by Jessie Armstrong. When asked how heroins gets into City Jail, the witness answered, "I don't know."

The trial resumes Monday, June 25 at 10 a.m.

—1st black assembly

(Continued from page 1)

Called the first Black People's Assembly and spearheaded by Rep. Parren J. Mitchell, D-Md., the meeting's purpose was afford black Marylanders an open forum to discuss crucial needs and problems of the black community and to work out solutions.

Held at Morgan State University, the assembly after a morning general session, then divided into workshops where participants began working through a myriad of problems facing our community.

Five days later (Thursday) assembly coordinators now face the awesome task of reading through workshop notes, tape recordings of planning discussions, then coordinating and organizing all this material into a comprehensive body of recommendations.

The plan is to compile the work of the Assembly into book form. This document, hopefully, will be a blueprint for black political, societal and economic direction in Maryland to span the next five years.

The Assembly recommendations are beginning to flow into the Assembly coordinating staff. The breadth and scope of what transpired last weekend at MSU can only be noted at this point.

A first glance at recommendations emanating from three of the 11 workshops shows the dimensions of concern which gave rise to the Assembly.

The Black Assembly workshop on criminal justice, for example, developed recommendations on the viability of testing, training and educating inmates prior to release; the involvement of inmates in prison management and a plan whereby parents and law enforcement workers would work with youth in juvenile delinquency prevention programs.

Also coming out of the criminal justice workshop was a proposal that a public relations program designed to dramatize and restore the strength of the individual black family unit and to develop parent skills.

The Assembly's cultureal arts workshop proposed several objectives including:

—formation of a consortium for developing public interest and support for black artists and black cultural arts institutions. Target date for this mechanism would be 1980.

In the Assembly's political education workshop, heavy emphasis is placed on voter registration programs. The young black voter or potential voter is of particular concern as are public information programs which explain the voting process.

Lobbying to maintain sanctions against racist South Africa was a recommendation of this panel as was the necessity to develop clearer communications between black elected officials in the state.

In the Sixties, direct action was the route, as the Eighties begin, if the Assembly turn-out is any indication, black Marylanders intend to seriously sit down and think problems through then systematically make the American system begin to work for them.

Seen his way the Black People's Assembly can be as revolutionary a technique in these times as non-violent protest had been in former times.

The real work of the Assembly, consolidating and implementing what people want to move on, has just begun.

In coming weeks as Assembly staff persons codify and evaluate the impact of last Saturday's Black People's Assembly, a sense of focus and purpose for black Marylanders will emerge.

—Desegregation

(Continued from page 1)

"We're making sure the desegregation efforts stay on the front burner."

However, while the community colleges have made considerable progress and either met or surpassed their goals, the predominantly white four-year colleges and universities have not sufficiently increased their black enrollment, especially at the University of Maryland and Towson State University.

At the same time, pressure is being mounted against black institutions who have faced difficulty increasing white enrollment.

Shepler said that black students are attracted to black institutions because of "heritage, prestige and a feeling of togetherness" but that students should also attract to a school because of the programs offers.

In order to attract more white students, the graduate program is being expanded at Morgan State University and a nursing and law program may be implemented at Bowie State College.

Howard "Pete" Rawlings, D.-40th, the only black delegate on the committee, has expressed repreated concern not only with the low number of black students at area schools but with faculty members as well.

He also noted that the number of black students enrolled in the graduate and professional schools has decreased instead of increasing over the past few years.

"These figures are very disturbing," said Rawlings who is an educator. "We're worse off now than in 1970 with the enrollment in the professional and graduate school levels, especially in the medical and health fields. And these are areas very critical to blacks in the community."

The State Board may be re-evaluating its desegregation status, once the litigation with the Department of Health, Education and Welfare has concluded.

The 4th Circuit Court of Appeals recently upheld a lower court decision, handed down by Judge Edward S. Northrop who ruled in March 1976 that HEW must discontinue administrative enforcement proceedings against Maryland until the agency would indicate specifically which postsecondary programs were not in compliance with Title VI of the 1964 Civil Rights Act.

During August 1975, HEW notified the governor of Maryland that deficiencies existed in the Maryland desegregation plan which it had accepted in 1974 and requested that specific actions be taken in order to proceed with the implementation of the plan.

Shortly thereafter negotiations between the state and HEW completely collapsed and in December 1975 HEW informed state officials that the Maryland case was being referred to the Office of the General Counsel for enforcement

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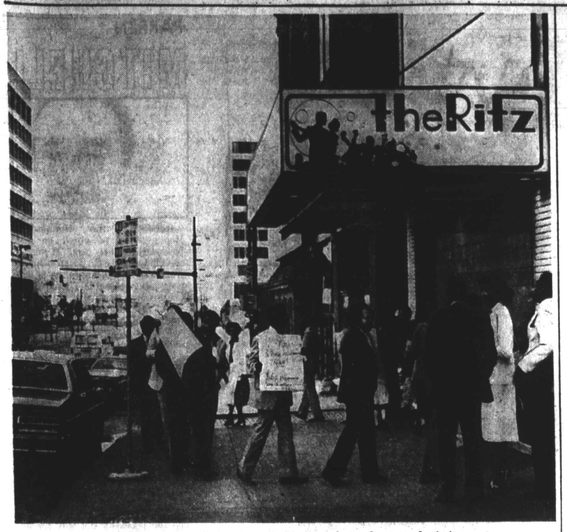

Monumental Bar lawyers march in front of club

—Lawyers picket

(Continued from page 1)

A meeting was held late Thursday between Smith and Dave Richeson, part owner of the club, in an attempt to iron out the differences.

In a joint statement issued after the meeting Richeson and Smith agreed "that there was no intentional restrictions" by the management of The Ritz of any patrons of any race and "there" would be no such restrictions in the future."

The demonstration centered around a $300,000 court suit filed by a local promoter who charged that the Ritz canceled a contract with him to hold a series of special "gay" nights at the club.

According to papers filed last week, in the Court of Common Pleas, the promoter, Brian J. Hawkins and The Ritz had agreed to limit black patrons of the planned "gay nights" to no more than 40 percent of the total attendance.

If according to the contact, black attendance at the planned "gay nights" exceeded the 40 percent ceiling the restaurant's management would have the right to cancel the agreement.

The agreement was signed by Hawkins and Dave Richeson, part-owner of the Ritz, according to documents provided the court.

Smith said the lawyers decision to walk out was unanimous. He said his group refused to involve the sitting judges or Anthony Robinson, a black attorney who is a candidate for a seat in the 5th councilmanic district in their decision to protest.

Elijah Cummings, Monumental's first vice-president and the attorney involved in the court suit also did not vote or take part in the demonstration.

"We have to prevent a clause like this being placed in a contract especially where black people are concerned," said Smith.

The contract according to the suit, called for a "Gay Night" every Monday night for 52 nights beginning May 28.

But on or about June 4 The Ritz declined stating that Hawkins would not be allowed to carry out the contract and "also totally repudiated the contract."

The full text of the accord heared by Richeson and Smith is:

"The Ritz and the Monumental City Bar Association have reached an agreement in the recent dispute involving the pickieting of the Ritz.

Dave Rich, owner of The Ritz and Edward Smith, Jr., president of the Monumental City Bar Association, reported they supported black business in Baltimore.

"Furthermore, that there were no intentional restrictions by the management of The Ritz on patrons of any kind and there will be none in the future.

"After a negotiating session in the office of Councilman Michael Mitchell, the parties were both satisfied."

—Dr. Julian

(Continued from page 1)

The young doctor had come under sharp questioning in political circles recently as to whether he could handle both a budding medical career, act as city councilman and run a re-election campaign at the same time.

Reliable sources said Sen. Verda Welcome, D-40, tryed to pursuade Julian not to run at a City Council meeting several weeks ago, pointing out that he was more needed in the medical field.

Julian, however, strongly pointed out he was in no way pressed into not seeking re-election and he was on the verge of announcing that he intended to run.

"No one coerced me," he said. "True I almost announced that I was going to run but I thought about it and, I decided against it."

He added that he believed that the current negotiations between the Fourth District and Metro Democratic Clubs and the People's Action Democratic Organization (PDAO) dealing with a unity ticket would have helped his campaign and sources said that PDAO was seriously considering supporting his candidacy.

But since he's not running Julian's seat is now up for grabs between at least six challengers.

Those candidates include, Kenneth Webster, Kweisi Mfum'e, Agnes Welch, Irving Conway, Ike Dixon and John Bailey, a local cab driver.

Political observers state that the front-runners among the six challengers are Dixon, Mfum'e and Webster.

Julian said He plans to study each candidate carefully before he makes any endorsement.

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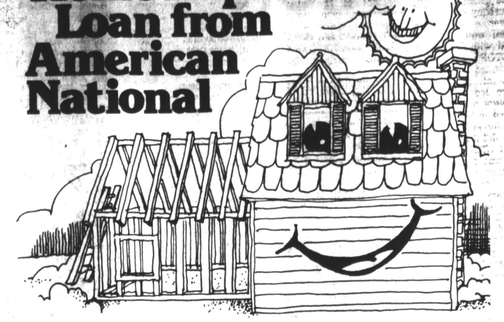

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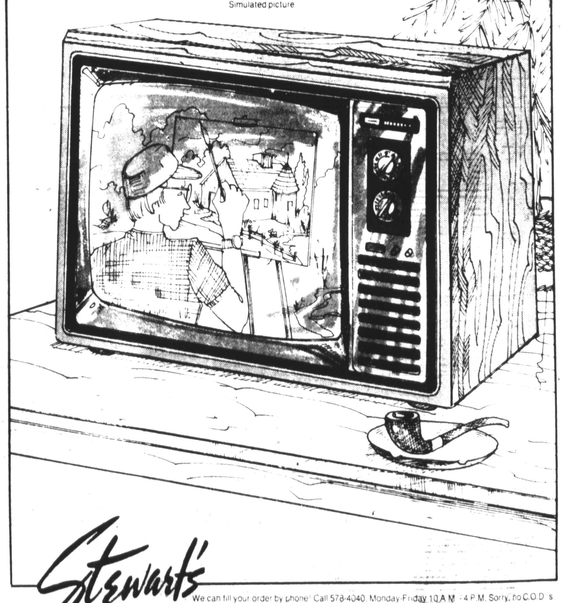

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