—Col. Watkins

(Continued from page 1)

the community to keep communication open."

Vanguard is an organization comprised of black police officers which handles various complaints and sets up legal funds for officers filing suit against the department.

During the recent trial, Watkins, a tall medium built man usually dressed in dark suits and shoes with a "spit-polish" shine, sat rather emotionless onthe front row of the courtroom each day with his wife, Gildie at his side.

With his career onthe line, and possibly facing ruin, Watkins says he "never gave up hope" that he would be cleared.

"There was always that thought way in the back of my mind that the jury might come back with a guilty verdict, but somehow I still felt I would be cleared. I know I could prove myself."

The June 18 trial was the second trial for Watkins. He was tried in court November 1978 on four counts and was convicted of two, after the jury deliberated for two days.

This he said came as a shock to him. "I didn't expect a guilty verdict and I really didn't expect the jury to take as long."

Those counts however, were dismissed by Judge J. Harold Grady, when set the way for retrial.

"It's funny. What happened this time, is what I really thought would happen the first time."

However, it's all over now. No longer will Watkins have to sit in court day after day listening to testimony nor will he have to sit out jury deliberations that will decide his whole future.

And gone are the Saturday sessions spent with his attorneys, George L. Russell Jr. and Kenneth Thompson, going over records and reports from his 28 years in the police department.

Breathing a sigh of relief Watkins, who will be on vacation until Aug. 28, feels that he had at least 85 per cent of the police department's support during his trial.

He adds that he had a lot of support from the community. "I want to thank all the people in the community for their faith and confidence in me.

"And thank them on behalf of me and my family for their prayers over the last year."

Clearly pointing out his community support, he explained an incident that happened outside the Fish Market this week.

"A man who I don't think I knew, came up to me and congratulated me. He said that he had followed the trial and was very happy about the autcome."

The man who congratulated Watkins was white, but the "Colonel" as he is affectionately caled, says that's not rare. "Both black and white were pulling for me. That just shows that they really believed in me."

—7,279 grads

(Continued from page 1)

through appeals to school officials and 466 special and vocational education graduates were exempt from the testing process.

Two makeup tests will be offered this summer for those who did not pass.

Although the testing program, used for the first time this year still has some problems to iron out, school officials consider it a cuccess.

"The kids have benefitted, the value of our diplomas has skyrocketed and morale troughout the system has improved," said Dr. John Gist, deputy school superintendent.

Last year, some 7 percent of the senior failed to graduate compared to 12.6 percent this year. However, school officials say failure to complete course work, not the proficiency tests, is the cause of the increase.

More seniors passed the exam because of after-school tutoring and repeated re-testing, officials said.

An estimated 94 percent of the seniors passed the test when it was first given. By May, after two more tests during the second semester and in April, 83 percent had passed the exam.

A fifth test was given in June but it was too late for those who passed to graduate with the rest of the seniors.

School officials said tutoring and re-testing may be phased out next year, although details have not been finalized.

Gist said the school system will focus on upper elementary school grade levels next year.

—'Perfect crime?'

(Continued from page 1)

On the record, homicide detectives have been unable at this point to locate anyone who might have seen Mr. McAllister in the Winands Road area nor have they any evidence that shows exactly how he might have been carried there.

Mr. McAllister, 54-year-old lawyer and former assistant state's attorney was reported missing June 15 when he did not appear in court.

His body was found one week later by an elderly white man who lives near the vacant house on Winands Road.

Perfect crime? Not likely once the complex toxological tests are completed.

—Pig ears

(Continued from page 1)

Police reports state that Mr. McClain was shot in the 100 block of N. Monroe Street about 2 a.m. Sunday July 1 as he left Green's Bar Lounge on the corner of Fayette and Monroe.

According to witnesses a man dressed in a blue shirt and blue jeans walked up to the victim raised his hand, which was inside a paper bag, and shot the victim once in the lower right side of the neck, without saying a word.

Witness told investigators that the man was about 5 feet, 6 inches tall to about 5 feet, 8 inches tall with a medium complxion and a large afro haircut.

The report says that witnesses told police that the victim fell to the ground while the suspect stood over him for a moment then fled east in the alley behind Green's Lounge.

McClain was pronounced dead at 2:10 a.m. at Bon Secours Hospital. Police said they recovered a .22 caliber shell and a bag containing a bottle of wine.

Funeral services were held Wednesday for Mr. McClain at March Funeral Home. He is buried in Mt. Auburn Cemetery.

COMPLETING his basic training, Airman Donald Frierson, son of Mr. and Mrs. George Friersoa of 145 Rhode Island Ave., N.W., Washington, has been selected for technical training at Keesler AFB, Miss.

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—KKK terrorists

(Continued from page 1)

The cross burning charge, which is a misdemeanor and carries a penalty of a $500 fine and/or 90 days in jail, is still pending and may not come to trial, according to Tony Gallagher, assistant state's attorney for Baltimore County.

"We're not trying to downgrade the seriousness of the cross burning charge but they (the Klansmen) may not go to court for that because they were just given eight years on another charge," he said.

Both Allen and White were convicted of possessing explosives without a license and conspiracy to use explosives, as well as destruction of property. Allen also received an eight-year sentence for manufacturing explosives.

According to testimony, the two men belonged to a "strike force" designed to draw attention to Klan activities and attract new members. The strike force was made up of three Klan members and an undercover state police officer.

The convictions stemmed from an incident June 29, 1976, when the two discussed blowing up the B'nai Jacob Synagogue.

The police undercover agent testified the men went to the synagogue with a pipe bomb but did not explode it. Instead, they drove to Carroll County and burned a cross on a black family's driveway.

The agent also said that on July 7, Allen and White threw a brick through the synagogue window in preparation for a second bombing attempt.

As early as November 1977 State police learned Mitchell was a possible Klan target and alerted the Congressman and the Baltimore City police about the threatened cross burning.

Mitchell was enroute to Alaska and could not be reached for comment.

According to a police spokesman, the scheme was prevented when the Klansmen became aware of the stepped-up city police patrols around the congressman's home.

Ronald F. Glover, 43, another Klan member involved in the bombing conspiracy, earlier was given a five-year suspended sentence and placed on three years probation for conspiracy to possess explosives and possessing explosives.

Gallagher said the men were not punished because they were Ku Klux Klan members but because they were "terrorists.

"Once they went beyond advocacy to violent action, once they crossed Constitutional bounds, they became terrorists," he said.

Photos by Mike Carrington

SUPPORTERS OF THE COACH, second from left include Delegate Margaret Murphy, Cookie Britt and Raymond Haysbert, president of Parks Sausage Company.

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154.5 million gallons expected

Maryland getting less gas in July than in June

ANNAPOLIS—Major oil companies have told state officials that Maryland will receive slightly less gasoline in July than it received in June, one of Gov. Harry Hughes' top energy advisers said.

Frederick L. Dewberry, the deputy transportation secretary temporarily assigned to coordinate gasoline supply information for the state energy office, said gas supplies for the usually high-travel month of July will be at least as tight as they were in June unless gas allocations are unexpectedly increased.

He said deliveries for the month will total an estimated 154.5 million gallons, or 17.5 million galloos below the amount Maryland motorists burned last July.

Actual deliveries could be even less, but not more, he said.

Only if the state wins its lawsuit claiming that the federal gas allocation system is discriminatory could those deliveries be increased, he said.

June deliveries of 155 million gallons were 22 million gallons below the June 1978 figure, but Dewberry said the appearance that the monthly shortfall will be less in July than it was in June is misleading.

That is because gas consumption in July 1978—the base period for determining this July's allocation—was lower than consumption in June 1978, while estimated deliveries for this July have slightly increased from the June figure.

On paper, the state will receive a higher percentage of its "base period" gas in July than it did in June, but fewer actual gallons of fuel will be delivered to the pump.

Dewberry said the decline in consumption last July was probably attributable to motorists leaving the state's metropolitan areas or leaving the state altogether or vacation—a trend he said the gas crisis is likely to reverse this summer, thus compounding the problem.

"People are afraid to travel, he said. "People are staying home in the metropolitan areas because they are afraid they'll be stranded."

Dewberry insisted the various emergency gas plans now in effect— such as required minimum purchases and odd-even rationing—seem to be helping to reduce the size of gas lines.

But he said, "more gasoline is the real answer."

After a long morning meeting with Hughes, Dewberry said the state is prepared to expand its Sunday gas station opening program from 50 to 100 stations for each of the remaining four Sundays in July.

As an incentive to stay open, the state will allocate each station 4,000 gallons of gas from the state's emergency "set aside" allotment, which in July is expected to total 8.8 million gallons.

Three percent of the federally required 5 percent "set aside"—about 5.8 million gallons—will be held in reserve for emergency uses. Dewberry said whatever gas is remaining at the end of the month from that allotment will be released to specific stations in areas that need it the most.

Thd bulk of the remaining 2 percent (about three million gallons) will be used for the Sunday station opening program, he said.

Most of June's "set aside" gas was diverted to the Washington and Baltimore Metropolitan areas, with distribution based on motor vehicle registration, he said.

The state has also requested stations to operate on Sundays at staggered hours, but Dewberry conceded the voluntary request has not shown much results.

"They are independent business people who lease their stations and they have business decisions to make," he said. "all I can say is that we have called upon them to do it on a voluntary basis."

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State gasoline prices increase 20 cents

The average cost of a gallon of gasoline in Maryland last week was 20 cents higher than it was at the start of the year, with a fourth of that increase coming in the last month, the auto Club of Maryland reported.

The club's weekly survey of 30 full-service gas stations in the station indicated the average price of a gallon of regular gas was 88.6 cents, 1.5 cents higher than a week ago. Unleaded gas sold for 93.4 cents—a 1.5 cent increase—while the price of a gallon of premium gas went up 1.8 cents a gallon to 95.5.

The average cost of a gallon of regular gas has increased 19.8 cents a gallon since Januray, with similar increases for unleaded (20.2) and permium (21.2). Prices in June rose 4.9 cents a gallon for regular gas, 5.2 cents for unleaded and 5.3 cents for premium.

Lines at many Maryland gasoline stations were considerably shorter Monday with the return of weekday odd-even allocation, but long waits were common at stations in Southern Maryland and Prince George's County.

"I call this a gasoline drought area or desert," said Hal Silvers, energy coordinator for Prince George's County. Silvers said he saw a three-block-long line near a Riverdale service station at 6 A.M.

Prince George's County stations were staggering and limiting hours in an effort to stretch limited supplies, Silver said.

Long lines were reported during the morning rush hour at some Suburban Baltimore stations, but lines had thinned out by 11 A.M.

State police reported long lines at the few stations that opened in St. Mary's County, including a half-mile line of cars outside a Lexington Park Station at 6 A.M.

St. Mary's County chamber of commerce officials said stations were staggering their hours and were planining to pump gasoline for only a few hours at a time.

By 10 A.M. a two-mile line had formed at one station. But Renee Gott, a Chamber of Commerce secretary said she was not surprised.

"We routinely run mile lines but that's no big deal, an hour and a half wait is a short line," she said.

"If you want gas you have to get up and out at 5:30 or so," she said.

Many station owners said they expected to stay open longer hours because they since receiving July gasoline allocations.

Exxon spokesman Pat O'Connor said he expected Maryland dealers will have more gasoline to pump this month.

O'connor said July nationwide allocation figures average 81 percent of the July 1978 allocation. That compares with a 78 percent nationwide average for June. O'Connor said the three percent increase should help dealers.

Gas info hotlines

The Maryland Energy Policy Office maintains a toll-free hotline for information regarding the odd-even gasoline purchasing plan and the minimum purchase requirements. The number is $-800-492-5903.

This number is not to be used to obtain information regarding which service stations are open in Maryland and their hours of operation.

Individual counties, however, are operating special telephone lines to supply this information to county residents.

This information is available at the following county numbers: Anne Arundel, 263-2681; Howard County, 992-2319; Frederick County, 662-2126; Prince Georges County, 663-8687; Montgomery County, 441-1600.

Latest Lottery winners

The State Lottery announced the latest Baltimore area residents to win in Lottery games.

The winners are: Leonard Gold, from Glen Burnie, who won $75,000;

Eleanor Tawney, from Parkville, who won $2,610;

William Callender, form Overlea, who won $2,320, all three in the "Big Money game."

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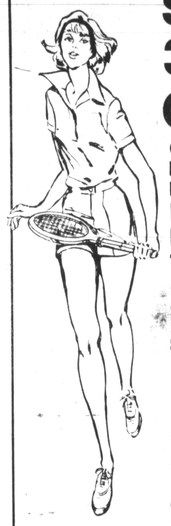

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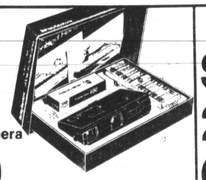

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