—Controversy over junior ROTC

(Continued from page 1)

Junior Air Force ROTC is offered at Northwestern and the Air Force provides instructors, an aerospace library, audio-visual equipment and uniforms that the students are required to wear one day a week.

More than 80 students are already enrolled in the program at Northwestern and those attending other schools who are interested in taking the course may apply for a transfer and are interviewed. Up to 100 students will be selected for the program.

Dr. Frank Thomas, coordinator of the Junior ROTC at Northwestern, stated that the Air Force course was chosen over other branches because it was not so military.

"This course teaches the kind of skills students would need whether they choose a civilian career or military," he said. "And I'm not pushing anyone to chose the military career. But they should be aware of it, it's out there and it's real."

But, the Rev. Wendell H. Phillips, head of the Interdenominational Ministerial Alliance, opposes the course and says it was "slipped and sneaked into the system without us knowing too much about it."

Then he firmly interjected, "The military has no business in the public school system. It's opening avenues that need not be done at that level. Kids at that age are too easily influenced."

Also opposed to the program are Rep. Parren Mitchell, D-Md. and the American Friends Service Committee who aired their views at the Sept. 6 school board meeting.

Although Mitchell was not present at the meeting, the group read his statement which said, "With the current increase in the number of units in predominantly black urban schools and schools with sizeable black populations, I begin to sense a connection between how unit site is recommended to a school board and what is perceived of as a local need.

"It seems there are those who believe that by having military training for students, it will dissipate underlying currents of anger and frustration.

"You do not solve problems of our people by teaching them to march and shout 'Yes Sir.'"

Fran Donelan, American Friend Service Committee, a human rights organization, raised the question that students might be too easily encouraged to join the military.

In addition, the Baltimore Teachers Union has raised some questions over the procedure in which the military personnel will be paid.

"At a time when teachers are being 'excessed' throughout the system and when supposed budgetary constraints effectively trim the scope of educational programs in our schools, it is inconceivable that monies can be found to meet the school system's contractual obligations to the ROTC personnel," said John Bethea, president.

He said the estimated cost for the personnel at Northwestern would be $21,290.

Maj. Robert Dash, a retired Air Force pilot with 22 years of service will teach the course. He will be assisted by Sgt. Albert Randall, a Dunbar graduate who has served for more than 20 years.

Military requirements state that instructors must be retired from military duty but not for more than four years which means in addition to receiving a salary they also receive pension from the Air Force.

School officials reviewed a similar course at a high school in Largo, Md. last year and decided to submit a request for the program which is approved by the Pentagon.

Northwestern was one of ten schools selected nationwide and a similar program is being considered for Walbrook Senior High.

For more on ROTC see Page 5.

Bernardette Cross

9-year-old missing since Sept. 10

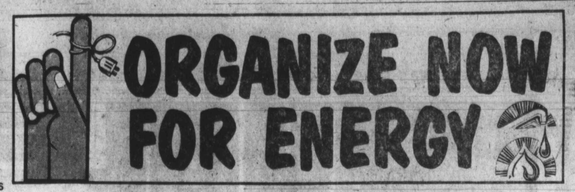
Bernadette Cross, 9 - years - old, has been missing since Monday, Sept. 10.

She was last seen at 2301 Eutaw Place. She was wearing corduroy blue jeans, a maroon shirt with a checked collar and dirty white sneakers.

Bernadette is 4 feet, 11 inches tall and weighs 85 to 90 pounds. She has shoulder length black hair which she was wearing in plaits Monday.

Her mother, Brenda Graham, said she has never been missing before.

If you have any information about Bernadette Cross, call Ms. Graham at 669 - 5881 or the police department at 396 - 2525.



The old problem of jobs, the new problem of energy.

On the job training for the disadvantaged and unemployed will be provided through a new job-training program sponsored by the federal government.

The Opportunities Industrialization Center (OIC), a job development and placement program in Baltimore, will receive $212,000 per year to conduct a three - year job training program.

Charles Watts, project director, reports that the program participants will be selected from referrals made by the Office of Manpower Resources and training should be underway by Oct. 1. About 100 persons will be trained each year.

Participants will spend up to one year in the program and eventually be placed in permanent positions. In addition to the 40 hours of orientation, trainees are required to spend at least 640 hours of classroom time per classification.

Areas of training will include automated business, clerical, secretarial and security. Also, working along with OIC, the Monumental Health Services will provide additional training in the health care area.

Although participants will not be paid a salary, Watts stated that they would receive a stipend based on their individual needs. Whether they receive public assistance, are unemployed or underemployed would be considered.

Basic requirements for the program are that a person must be a minority, be disadvantaged or unemployed. Watts pointed out that employed persons could be considered for the program if the training would upgrade their employment.

Rep. Parren Mitchell, who has been pressing the Carter Administration to target more federal resources on the continuing problem of high unemployment in America's urban centers, stated he was very pleased with the decision of the U.S. Labor Department.

"I am excited over the opportunity for Baltimore's OIC to operate a creative job-training program that will guarantee trainees a permanent job with upward mobility."

The Rev. Harold Dobson, who heads OIC, helped prepare the proposal which was submitted to the Department of Labor in May.

Watts stated that the center would request additional grants to continue the program after its three-year period.

Prison system suffers massive shake up

Corrections Commissioner Edwin R. Goodlander named five new prison officials Thursday and said they will provide the leadership and management to restore public confidence in Maryland's prison system.

Goodlander appointed new wardens for the House of Correction, the Maryland Correctional Institute and the Correctional Training Center in the administrative shakeup

"This is a 'can - do' team with a positive attitude and the confidence that we can make Maryland a model for the nation," Goodlander said.

The reorganization came less than a month after 30 inmates escaped from the House of Corrections in Jessup, the second largest prison break in the state's history, and the escapes of one inmate from the correctional institute in Hagerstown and two women from the Women's Prison in Jessup.

But the 30 - year - old prisons chief flatly denied that the shakeup was a result of the prison breaks. He said the reorganization has been planned since he was appointed commissioner seven months ago.

"I don't feel the escape hastened this decision in any way," Goodlander said. "I was dissatisfied with the management ability and leadership qualities (of the officials who were dismissed). There were no pressures made upon me to make any changes."

He said his new team will provide the aggressive management needed to "give the public a secure and cost effective correctional system."

The new team includes:

— Paul J. Davis, the former chief of operations for the Division of Correction, replaces Ralph L. Williams as head of the House of Corrections.

— Mary Lou Bartram was appointed to the new post of assistant commissioner for programs. She is the former head of the diagnostic system for all prisoners.

— William E. Lamb Jr., a former member of the Community Corrections Task Force, was named director of the State Pre - release System, replacing Robert McColley.

— Jon P. Galley, assistant superintendent at the Maryland Correctional Training Center in Hagerstown, replaces his boss, Supt. Paul A. Wagely.

— James P. Tinney III, replaces Gerald A. Keller as warden of the Maryland Correctional Institution in Hagerstown.

Also removed was Deputy Warden John R. Byrne at Jessup. Goodlander said no replacement has been found for Byrne and he also did not rule out the possibility that additional firings on the deputy level would be made.

Goodlander said the reshuffling indicates that the problems plaguing the prison system go further than lack of manpower or budgetary problems — both cited by prison guards after the Jessup prison break.

He also said Davis was not "being made a scapegoat" because of the Jessup escape, where 30 inmates sawed through barred windows and chain fences Aug. 22. All but six inmates were returned.

Goodlander would not indicate just how his new team plans to clear up prison problems, but pointed out "We have a group of devoted and seasoned, trained and experieced admi- ministrators who are ready, willing and able to tackle the problems in the Maryland correctional system."

Meanwhile prison officials are holding three inmates suspected in the stabbing at the Maryland Correctional Institution in which one prisoner was killed and two others wounded.

Acting superintendent Lester Stoner said Tuesday the inmates' names could not be released because the investigation is incomplete. He said more prisoners may be involved in the incident and that formal charges may be filed later.

Officials said Billy D. Hall, 23, of Seat Pleasant, died in Washington County Hospital two hours after the attack at 8 p.m. Tuesday. He had been serving a 20 - year sentence for manslaughter and armed robbery.

Gregory H. Taylor, 23, of Lanham, was in the hospital's intensive care unit in guarded condition with stab wounds to the neck, stomach and chest.

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The authority to implement this law has been delegated to the Maryland Public Service Commission by the U.S. Department of Energy.

Certain exemptions are possible under the law. If additional time is needed to install a substitute, you may request a temporary exemption from the Maryland Public Service Commission. Under the Act and regulation a permanent exemption may be available from the Commission for:

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