—D.C. voting rights

(Continued from Page 1)

by saying, "I've seen many significant bills in Maryland take several years before they are passed.

"We'll continue this effort until we get it passed."

He pointed out that he has made the resolution an agenda item for a meeting next week with President Jimmy Carter and the National Black Caucus of State Legislators which Mitchell served as national chairman. The National Caucuc has 537 black legislators who represent 42 states.

Nathaniel Exum from Prince George's County's 25th district has been delegated to keep an eye on the votes on the House side.

"I believe it's going to pass this year," said the delegate. "If it doesn't there are some serious questions we need to look at." Exum added that he did expect the vote to be close and around the same total as last year.

It In order to ratify the constitutional amendment at least 38 states must pass similar resolutions. To date, eight states have adopted such a resolution.

least 38 states must pass similar resolutions. To date, eight states have adopted such a resolution. The reamining 30 states must act within last year.

It In order to ratify the constitutional amendment at least 38 states must pass similar resolutions. To date, eight states have adopted such a resolution. The reamining 30 states must act within the next six years or the amendment is cancelled.

It was reported in Annapolis this week, that Delegate Paul Weisengoff, D-37th, pledged additional favorable votes for the D.C. amendment if some of the black legislators would vote for a jai alai bill.

Weisengoff known in the General Assembly as one of the best vote traders, however, denied that supposed deal and to date has not introduced such a bill.

He did sponsor legislation last year that would bring the fast-paced sport to Baltimore but in a surprise move a Senate

He also said that he has no plans to introduce the bill this year unless the sentiment in the Senate changes.

—Rent control

(Continued from Page 1)

Keep Baltimore Best Committee, a group representing property owners, realtors and developers, to defeat the bill.

But the rent control forces, although outspent almost 30 to one, managed to secure a victory by almost 5,000 votes.

But after Kaplan handed down his ruling, the battle had to be moved to another arena, the Maryland Court of Appeals.

Monday, lawyers for both sides argued their cases before the Court.

Lawrence Koshnear, representing the rent control forces, compared the referendum to an Anne Arundel County case, in which voters used the referendum process to change the zoning designation fer a site of land in that county.

But Judge John D. Eldridge questioned the comparision, and stated that, in the Anne Arundel case, no commission was created by the voters, as would have been the case had the rent control measure been enforced. The lawyers for the Cedlair Corporation argued that the only way it would be possible to implement the ordinance would be to pass a whole new referendum giving voters the right to create commisions or pass ordinances.

—Morgan

(Continued from Page 1)

A final community rally is scheduled for Saturday at 2:00 p.m. in the school's McKeldin Center. President Andrew Billingsley, Leonard Jackson, Sherman Moore, president of the school's Student Government Association; and Alvin Thornton, head of the faculty senate; are scheduled to address the mass meeting.

Whether or not the merger is implemented, one indisputable fact has emerged. The black community, politically, culturally, academically and spiritually, has coalesced to show the larger community that no threats to a black institution such as Morgan will be tolerated.

—Jessup plan

(Continued from Page 1)

Anne Arundel County legislators have already promised to fight construction of another prison near Jessup, where the House of Corrections, a prison for women and Patuxent Institution, among others, are already located.

Howard County lawmakers are certain to join in.

Senate President James Clark Jr., D-Howard, suggested the new prison be built in Baltimore, and one Anne Arundel County senator has threatened to filibuster the issue, if necessary.

The budget briefing was no less hostile than other recent confrontations between state corrections officials and Appropriations Committee members who are angered that they must again consider building a prison after agreeing last year not to build one.

Delegate Charles Avara, D-Baltimore, one of the staunchest critics of the corrections department under Kamka, said, "We're trying to use a better attitude in dealing with you. We're trying to maintain our cool."

Avara then launched into a tirade in which he questioned the department's ability to classify prison inmates and declared, "There is a lack of confidence in this department."

Of the department's ability to quickly produce the criminal records and other information on each of the prison system's inmates, Avara said, "The whole system reeks — it reeks — much worse than I ever thought."

Committee members closely questioned Edwin R. Goodlander, commissioner of corrections, on his plan to meet a June 1 deadline to end prison overcrowding if a federal judge refuses to grant the state a requested 10 - month extension.

Goodlander said prison officials are attempting to identify 1,200 inmates serving sentences of three years or less and in for non-violent crimes such as auto theft, shoplifting or non-support who could possibly be released if the federal court so orders.

He also said efforts were being made to streamline parole and probation procedures, and insisted, "we're not looking only to the streets to resolve this."

Committee members pressed Goodlander on whether the request to extend the deadline for ending double-celling of inmates included references to the administration's current legislative plans to build new prison facilities.

"I'm certain the courts will want to know that we not only are trying to get over the hump, but are also doing some longrange planning to end overcrowding," he said.

AFRO photo by Roman Hankewycz

SCHOOL SHOOTING — Leonard Bowman, a Clifton Park Junior High School student, was taken to City Hospital Feb. 6, after he was shot in the knee outside the school.

HU honors McHenry, Chavis

United Nations Ambassador Donald McHenry and human rights activist the Rev. Benjamin Chavis will be honored at Howard University's 4th Annual International Law Week, set to start Feb. 12.

The theme for the event, which will continue through Feb. 15, is "The Caribbean Challenges for the '80's. " The event is being sponsored by the William S. Thompson International Law Society at Howard.

McHenry and Chavis, will both be honored during a closing banquet on Friday . McHenry will be awarded the 1980 W.E.B. DuBois International Statesman Award. Chavis has been selected to receive the year's William S.Thompson International Human Rights Award.

Other guests to be honored at the four day affair will be news commentator Max Robinson, who will receive the William S. Thompson International Journalism Award, and noted author James Baldwin, who will be given the Paul Robeson Freedom Award on Thursday.

Late registration scheduled at CCC

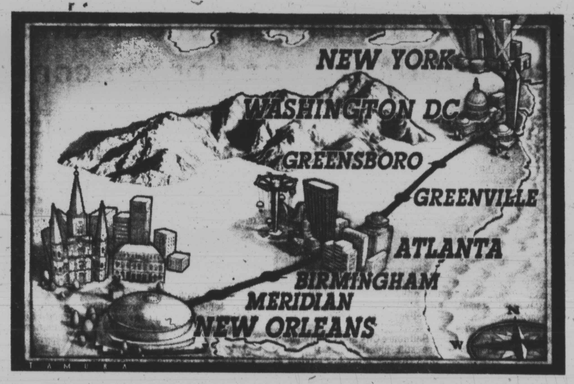
Spring semester classes at Catonsville Community College Late registration will be held Feb. 8, 11, 12, 13, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and 5 to 7 p.m. on the CCC main campus, 800 South Rolling Road, in the Student Services Building.

Tuition will be charged at registration. For Baltimore County resident, tuition is $20 per credit. Out-of-county residents pay $40 per credit.

The Northwest College Center, 110 Painters Mill Road, Owings Mills, will accept late registrations through Feb. 16.

For more information on the Spring Semester at CCC and its branches, call the Admissions Office at 455-4200.

IN THE LONG RUN, IT PAYS TO GET INTO TRAINING.



Ride Amtrak's Crescent between New York, Washington, Atlanta, New Orleans or any city along the route, and you'll be whistlin' Dixie all the way.

For less than you might think, we'll give you lots of that good old southern comfort, some down home cooking and a train ride with all the romance of the past.

Our plush, wide seats make it easy for you to stretch out and relax. Curl up with a good book. Or take a nap.

Then if it's food you're looking for, head over to our dining car and sit down to breakfast, lunch and dinner. There you can fill up on hearty meals like scrambled eggs and bacon, sandwiches and salads, and New York Sirloin Steak. All cooked to order. Everything you need is right on board. Even lounge-car service. And at an extra charge, bedroom accommodations.

From the minute you make your reservations to the minute you leave the train, our friendly, courteous people make you feel right at home.

So call your travel agent or Amtrak for information and reservations. Then climb aboard the Crescent and let us show you the kind of southern hospitality that'll make y'all come back.

Read Down		Read Up	R/T Coach Bar. Fare
5 20 PM	Baltimore	9 57 AM	
9 00 PM	Charlottesville	5 55 AM	$ 32 00*
9 40 AM	Greenville	10 15 PM	80 00*
6 05 AM	Atlanta	7 05 PM	95 00*
11 16 AM	Birmingham	1 55 PM	112 00*
7 15 PM	New Orleans	6 45 AM	142 00*

Amtrak

AMERICA'S GETTING INTO TRAINING

Pennsylvania Station, 1515 N. Charles St., Baltimore/Call 539-2112 in Baltimore. Elsewhere in Maryland, call toll-free 800-523-5700.

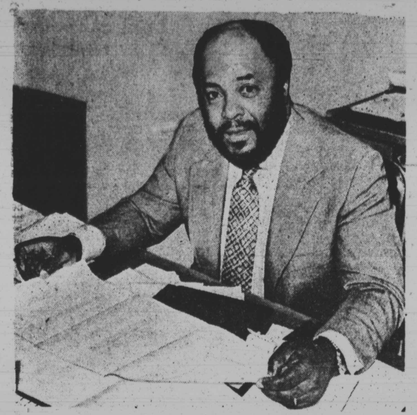
GET IT TOGETHER WITH A SALAD COMBO AT GINO'S.

Gino's

You'll Go For The Food.

BALTIMORE AFRO-AMERICAN
(Registered U.S. Patent Office)
Second Class Postage Paid at Baltimore, Md.
Circulation audited by Audit Bureau of Circulations (ABC)
Published every Tuesday and Saturday by the AFRO-AMERICAN Company, 628 N. Eutaw St., Baltimore, Md. 21201. Phone (301) 728-6700
John H. Murphy Sr., Chairman of Board; John J. Oliver Sr., President; Mae E. Dyson, Secretary; George C. Lothier, Treasurer; Frederick A. Howard, Vice President-Production; Raymond Boone, Editor; Vice President; Kenneth O. Wright, Vice President-Advertising; Ralph Matthews Jr., Managing Editor; Elizabeth M. Oliver, City Editor
NITE & SATURDAY PHONE NUMBERS
CITY DESK 728-6700
CITY DESK 728-6701
CITY DESK 728-6702
EXECUTIVE OFFICES 728-6707
FRONT DESK 728-6704
CIRCULATION 728-6705
DISPATCH 728-6707
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR 728-6706
A CHAMPION OF CIVIC WELFARE AND THE SQUARE DEAL
National Ads: Representatives, Amalgamated Publishers Inc. 15 W. 45th Street, New York, N.Y. 10036
AFFILIATED NEWSPAPERS
WASHINGTON AFRO-AMERICAN 2002 11th St. N.W. 20001 (202) 332-0080
RICHMOND AFRO-AMERICAN 014 E. Clay Street, 23219 (804) 648-8478
NEW JERSEY AFRO-AMERICAN 11 Mott St. Newark 07102 Suite 200-01 (201) 622-2143
AFRO Philadelphia Bureau 1617 Market St. Philadelphia 19103 TEL. (215) 563-3811 Subscription Rates:
6 Months $ 6
9 Year 10
2 Years 20
3 Years 30
(You save $11)
Rates for ONE edition only

Black eyewear firm 1st in nation



AFRO photo by Mark Gail

EYEWEAR EXEC — R and R Optical prepares to start the manufacturing of owner, Roland Smith, tackles the piles of paperwork on his desk as he eyeglasses and lenses.

By Portia E. Badham
AFRO Staff Writer

Anyone passing by the 2500 block Woodbrook Ave. would probably assume that it's just another business in the inner-city and that it's not really important or significant.

But, R&R Optical, owned by Baltimorean Roland Smith promises to be important and significant and will make the entire Baltimore community take notice.

This firm will prove to be very significant since it's the first black owned manufacturer of eyeglasses in the country. And it will surely turn out to be important because its owner has promised to hire persons from within the community and teach them a skill and trade they may not otherwise be exposed to.

The idea of a manufacturing firm first came to Smith while he was unemployed following an injury in 1977.

The eyeglass business is rather second nature to 41-year-old entrepeneur who worked for Zyl-Craft Optical, a Baltimore based company where he served as plant supervisor.

"I ran the shop," says Smith. "I knew every operation, the ordering, inventory, everything except the payroll."

The firm moved to Barbados, West Indies and Smith relocated there for six years before moving back to Baltimore in 1972 when he married his wife, Carolyn.

He reports that it was difficult to get a job with local optical firms on the East Coast who were "not too receptive to hire a black plant manager."

In 1972 he took a job with the McCormick Spice Company and worked there until 1976.

While unemployed, Smith decided he knew enough about the manufacturing of eyewear to give it a try of on his own. "I tried all the agencies geared to give help." However, Smith very eager to get started in his business found that some agencies' review process required too much time.

In addition, he learned that some agencies were ill-equipped to handle his large package and that they couldn't believe he was going to try a rather closed market never pursued by a black before.

Vowing not to give up, he then went to an accounting firm and hired a lawyer to put his total package together before he presented it to the U.S. Small Business Adminstration which later approved a $150,000 loan.

Smith points out that it was with the help of Rep. Parren Mitchell that he got additional aid. The Maryland congressman, very involved in minority development, provided assistance from several of his staff members to work on the project.

With the aid of Mitchell, Smith was able to secure a $200,000 loan from the Baltimore Economic Development Corporation and a contract from the Defense Department for 277,000 units of basic and safety eyeglasses.

R&R Optical will start out with 40 employees who will work in the 28,000 square foot building in West Baltimore, originally housed by the Piracci Construction Company. Smith says he will produce up to 5,600 units a day and hopes to increase his employees to 100 within a year.

Being the first black manufacturer of eyewear doesn't seem to affect Smith who says "I don't think of it as being the only one.

"If someone goes into this business, that won't hurt me. There's enough business out there for all of us."

Then he adds, "This is a situation where a black is doing something that isn't normal and proving that it can be done."

Machinery which Smith traveled to Europe to find and price is ssstill arriving at the company where renovations are still underway. The company should be ib operationby the first of March. 30-

Hospital offers diabetes education

North Charles General Hospital's Diabetes Education Program will begin Friday, March 7.

Applications from diabetic patients and their families are currently being accepted.

Jointly sponsored by North Charles General and the Diabetes Association, Maryland Affiliate, the program consists of four 6-hour class sessions held on consecutive Fridays from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the hospital, Charles and 28th sts.

Diabetic patients and their families learn about the disease, diet, nutrition, insulin administration, urine testing, medication, complications, personal hygiene and personal adjustment problems. Lunch will be served as part of the program.

For further details and registration information, call the Diabetes Association at 486-5515.

Health fair planned

A "Facts Fair for Health Care", co-sponsored by the Hope Chapter, B'nai B'rith Women and March of Dimes, Greater Baltimore Chapter, will take place Monday, Feb. 18, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Reisterstown Road Plaza.

More than 25 groups will be participating in this public service project with its emphasis on pre-natal care, senior citizens services, health information and health screenings free to the public.

Participating organizations include American Diabetes Association, Childbirth Education Association, Deaf Referral Service and Meals on Wheels.

For further information, call 655-5578.

Bon Secours holding community programs

In observance of Heart Month, Bon Secours Hospital is offering two free community programs to be held in the cafeteria of the hospital, 2000 W. Baltimore St.

On Saturday, Feb. 16 at 10 a.m., the public is invited to view "Without Warning," a film on heart attacks. A question and answer period and free hypertension screening will follow the film. No registration is necessary for this program.

On Monday, Feb. 25 and Tuesday, Feb. 26, the hospital will give 4 CPR course from 6 to 8 p.m. Advance registration is requested. To register call 233-7100, ext. 379 or ext. 225.

Members of the community may get their blood pressure checked at no charge in Bon Secours Hospital's ongoing hypertension screening program held every Friday from 9 to 11 a.m. at the hospital.

Lend a hand in the fight against litter.

NATURAL HAIR GROWTH

MEN & WOMEN
3 MONTH SIZE $6.75
6 MONTH SIZE $9.75
Longer, Thicker, Dandruff Free Hair in 30 Days or Your Money Back
KRIEGER DRUG STORE
Poplar Grove

NURSES RNs—LPNs

LOOKING FOR A WAY TO SUPPLEMENT YOUR INCOME?

We are in urgent need of competent nurses—full time or part time—to work on a one to one basis private duty or on staffing assignments in local hospital. If you had at least 1 yr. of recent clinical experience and would like to earn top money.

LPNs —up to 6.75/hr.
RNs—up to 10.50/hr.

Call for more information.
Any weekday from 7:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.
889-3450
UPJOHN HEALTHCARE SERVICES

LET'S GET TO KNOW EACH OTHER

ASHBURTON INSURANCE, LTD. is pleased to be an active part of the growing, thriving Baltimore community. We feel that our role of providing the finest in insurance service adds to the betterment of our community.

So, for no-nonsense service in life and health insurance, please give us a call. We'd like to get to know you.

Frank M. Conaway Alford W. Laws Carroll A. Smith

ASHBURTON INSURANCE, LTD.
3903 Liberty Heights Avenue / Baltimore, MD 21207
Phone (301) 466-5000
General Agents for
Educators Mutual Life INSURANCE COMPANY
Home Office: Lancaster, Pennsylvania

Stewart's home sale

Zenith® 19-inch* color TV
$399
After sale, $439

A. The ideal viewing size for the entire family! This fine TV features Triple-Plus Chassis for extra dependability and Tri-Focus Picture Tube for improved picture sharpness. Electronic Power Sentry prolongs picture tube life and uses less energy than comparable models.

A

Picture this: fine Zenith® quality at very fine savings!

B

C.

Zenith® 13-inch* color TV
$329
After sale, $349

B. This compact set is perfect for bedroom, den or dorm. Solid-State Super Video Range Tuning System gives a sharp, clear picture even in weak signal areas. Triple-Plus Chassis and Tri-Focus Picture Tube for better performance, enhanced picture detail. Runs cooler than most compact sets for longer life, energy savings.

Zenith® 12-inch* black & white TV
94.99
After sale, $109

C. Designed to save energy, this compact black & white set features 100% Solid State Chassis for longer life, cooler operation and exceptional durability. Quick-On Sunshine Picture Tube gives a full, bright picture without continuous energy drain. Intel-Frequency Audio system for fine sound quality with little interference.

Home Entertainment, all stores.

*Diagonal measure. All models not shown.

For a free copy of the manufacturer's warranty write to: Stewart & Co., c/o Mail Order Department, 6790 Reisterstown Road, Baltimore, MD 21215