Johnson's attorneys hint jury head's bias

Another twist in the already complex case of 17-year-old Terrence Johnson was unveiled this week. Lawyers for the Bladensburg youth have filed a motion to reverse Johnson's manslaughter conviction because information regarding the possible racial bias of the jury foreman was withheld from them during the trial.

The motion, filed in the Prince George's County Circuit Court, the Maryland Court of Special Appeals and the Maryland Court of Appeals, charges that P.G. County Circuit Court Judge Jacob S. Levin may have been aware of "racially derogatory statements" made by jury foreman William Burns.

The accusations stem from a post trial interview with a white female juror who says she informed Levin of Burns' remarks during deliberations. She claims that the derogatory statements were made about the black jurors.

In their brief, Johnson's attorneys, R. Kenneth Mundy and Allen M. Lenchek, charged that Judge Levin's failure to inform them of his private meeting with the white female juror "prejudiced the rights of the defendant, rendering his convictions for manslaughter and use of a handgun unlawful."

Facts surrounding Jacqueline Ball's(the female juror) private meeting with Judge Levin came out during post - trial interviews conducted by the Philadelphia - based National Jury Project. Notification of Ms. Ball's charges have also been sent to Levin, prosecuting attorney, Arthur A. Marshall Jr. and the chief judge of the P.G. County Circuit Court.

Johnson, presently incarcerated at Patuxent Institute, was found guilty of manslaughter in the shooting death of P.G. County police officer Albert Claggett, and not guilty by reason of temporary insanity in the death of Officer James Brian Swart. The shootings took place at the county's Hyattsville police station in June 1978. He was tried in March 1979.

"It was totally improper for the judge(Levin) not to inform the defendant's lawyers of his meeting with the juror," states Brent Dillingham, a Johnson supporter. Dillingham added that the youth's lawyer will probably be asking for the "appropriate relief" which may mean a new trial.

In a related matter, Johnson's attorneys, who were unsuccessful in an appeal before the Maryland Court of Special Appeals earlier this year, have filed an appeal before the state's highest court, the Maryland Court of Appeals.

Sexual harassment of women on the job

Sexual harassment of women on the job is emerging as a workplace issue of significant proportions, according to a report from the Department of Labor.

This long-hidden form of violence against women, like rape and wife abuse, is gaining attention in the public forum where awareness about its seriousness, prevalence, and consequences can work for necessary change.

Most forms of sexual harassment fall into two general areas. One type consists primarily of unwanted and unsolicited verbal comments, gestures, invitations, propositions, and other actions that treat women as sex objects rather than workers.

This kind of activity has an enormous effect in terms of occupational stress and work effectiveness.

The report states that while such harassment can be present in all workplace situations, it has become particularly prevalent in situations where women are working in nontraditional jobs.

Men who feel threatened by the presence of women in formerly all male worksite, or in supervisory positions, frequently resort to this kind of sexual harassment to force women to quit, or to undermine their accomplishments and effectivenass, by refusing to see such women as anything but sex objects.

Much more serious, of course, are acts of physical violence directed at women in nontraditional jobs.

The second form that sexual harassment takes, the report adds, is demand for sexual favors which when refused, result in firing, demotion, denial of raises, promotions, or opportunities for training or other affects on a person's employment.

It has been suggested that most women who are victims of sexual harassment attempt to resolve the problem by leaving their jobs. It is obvious that sexual harassment can have substantial economic consequences for working women.

The Department of Labor recognized the importance of this problem when it developed regulations requiring construction employers with Federal contracts to undertake affirmative action programs for women.

The regulations state that Federal contractors must "ensure and maintain a working environment free of sexual harassment, intimidation, and coercion at all sites."

Recently proposed Sex Discrimination Guidelines for Federal Contractors in general also include a section that would prohibit officials or supervisors from using their official authority in making sexual advances and from using personnel actions as rewards or reprisals in attemptine to elicit sexual favors.

Further, contractors would be held accountable for failure to take appropriate corrective action if they know or should have known of such a violation.

The Equal Employment Opportunity Commission has announced that it plans to address the problem of sexual harassment within the next few months in a revision of its Guidelines on Discrimination Because of Sex.

—Social Security

(Continued from page 1)

George B. Brosan, special agent in charge of the Drug Enforcement Administration stated that arrests came after a six - month undercover effort with the combined efforts of six agencies.

In addition to the arrests, Brosan said that DEA agents intended to seize about six automobiles which had been used or connected with the drug transactions, some of which took place in Social Security administration parking lots.

The drug transactions were all at the user level and not what DEA would usually investigate. However, the U. S. Attorney's office and DEA felt that such prevalent drug abuse at government facilities could not be tolerated.

A report detailing other illegal activities will be forwarded by DEA and the U. S. Attorney's office to the Social Security Administration.

Drugs peddling is only one of the problems that exist at Social Security. Last month, Mrs. Janet Elizabeth Bartee Blair, a $16,000 a year employee was charged with manipulating a computer at Social Security headquarters so that she and her accomplices would receive government checks totaling $500,000 in disability benefits.

She is being held at City Jail on $100,000 bail. In January, 14 women employees were charged with receiving welfare benefits while receiving federal payroll checks.

William J. Driver, commissioner for Social Security issued a memo to all employees on how to recognize misconduct in office such as sexual harassment, gambling, alcohol abuse and abuse of leave. He also praised the pride and dedication of most of the employees.

Further, several Social Security employees have been slain. In Feburary, Mrs. Georginia Simmons, 25, and her 36-year-old boyfriend, Gregory A. Blount were found in her Woodlawn apartment. Police report the victims had been stabbed at least 15 times.

Ms. Phyllis Arlisa Green, 20, missing from home since Jan.31, was also a Social Security employee. She was found in a cornfield 20 feet off Dogwood Road in Baltimore County by a jogger.

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—D.C. voting rights

(Continued from page 1

Shouts of joy were heard throughout the House chamber as the final vote was tallied on the huge electronic scoreboard after an hour-long discussion on the resolution including amendments which were voted down.

Handshaking and hugs and a lot of "thank you's, we needed that" could be seen and heard in the lounge just outside the House chamber.

Nathaniel Exum, delegate from Prince George's County, served as floor leader for the resolution and displayed a wide grin when he stated, "I think Maryland will now serve as a catalyst for other states that have similar resolutions pending." Prior to the vote, Exum could be seen walking around with pen and paper in hand making a last minute check on the votes. It was stated that by as late as Wednesday morning two additional votes were still needed in order to pass the resolution.

Earlier reports indicated that the caucus had enough votes to pass the measure due to an arrangement between Sen. Clarence Blount and Delegate Paul Weisengoff

Weisengoff who fought unsuccessfully last year to get his jai alai bill passed which would have brought the sport to Baltimore, reportedly made an arrangement to provide a certain number of votes for the D.C. amendment, if Blount would introduce a jai alai bill and provide votes for it.

Blount stated following the passage of the resolution that while both sides lived up to the agreement, the deal had soured some since Weisengoff did not provide all of the promised votes.

"That's why we only won with 71 votes and not 74," said the senator who would not disclose the names of those involved.

Fauntroy who is expected to become one of Washington's senators if the amendment is ratified, drew criticism from several Jewish members of the House because of his recent meetings with Yasser Arafat, leader of the Palestine Liberation Organization.

To that Fauntroy said, "The PLO issue should not have been a part of this. Whoever represents Washington will have their own personal views on matters and these views should not be a part of the consideration."

Delegates David Shapiro and Stephen Sklar asked Fauntroy for a statement explaining his position with the PLO, a terrorist organization hostile to Israel. Both the delegates had indicated that they would withdraw their support from the measure because of Fauntroy's silence.

But instead of voting against the resolution, Shapiro and Sklar "took a walk making a last minute check on the votes. It was stated that by as late as Wednesday morning two additional votes were still needed in order to pass the resolution.

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But instead of voting against the resolution, Shapiro and Sklar "took a walk." Shapiro later explained that it was never his intention to vote against the measure, although a non-vote is considered the same as a nayvote.

"I'm happy and pleased that this is resolved once and for all. I'm happy for the Black Caucus because this was one of its important issues. But I still want an answer from Fauntroy on where he stands.

Another 30 states are needed to ratify the constitutional amendment. The amendment has been rejected by 12 states which means the remaining states must all ratify the amendment or the chance of Washington getting two voting senators and at least one representative in Congress is lost.

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—Housing

(Continued from page 1)

Hall of the 2200 block of Pennsylvania Ave.

Ms. Hall had some harsh words for the building inspector.

He said his department must "prioritize" complaints. Telephone complaints about no heat or no water get priority.

Ms. Hall sharply disagreed.

"I had no heat, and no electricity this winter. It was cold, it was cold.

"I have kids and my grandmother who is an invalid.

"So we called you and we had to makedo." Ms. Hall said she waited for more than a month before an inspector came to her house.

The forum, with Mitchell the first of several, ended with a message from Mitchell and Mfume that was echoed by a woman in the audience.

"A lot of things could be changed if we would vote. We have the power to change things and we have the power to vote for someone who won't sell out."

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-Birmingham

(Continued from page 1)

Then he emphasized, "People who are involved and work together can bring about change."

Arrington then explained that with his staff of volunteers who went from door to door canvassing both black and white votes, he was able to capture 45 percent of the total vote which included four percent of the white vote, the largest racial crossover vote in the election.

In addition to Arrington's victory, the city of Birmingham witnessed 62 percent of the black voters and 52 percent of the white voters coming out on election day.

Arrington pointed out, 'let us not fail to remember that we still have miles to go. We cannot measure our progress by the freedom we've already accomplished.

"How far and how fast we go depends on what we do for ourselves."

During the banquet at Blue Crest North which was attended by more than 300 people, awards were presented to Councilwoman Victorine Adams, Councilman Clarence "Du" Burns, Delegate Troy Brailey and Senators Clarence Blount, Robert Douglass and Verda Welcome.

Arrington received a special award from Quentin Lawson, special assistant to Mayor William Donald Schaefer on behalf of the city of Baltimore and the mayor. The award was a silver plate with the city engraved on the face.

HEAD TABLE GUESTS — Among those who were guests at the head table for the black leadership awards banquet given by the Fourth District Democratic Organization were (L to R) Howard "Pete" Rawlings, General Assembly delegate, Travis, Vauls, executive director of the Baltimore Urban League and Mrs. Datie Mae Russell.

Sen. Verda Welcome

Councilwoman Victorine Adams

Councilman Clarence "Du" Burns

Sen. Robert Douglass

Rep. Parren Mitchell

Delegate Troy Brailey

Sen. Clarence Blount

GUEST SPEAKER HONORED — Mayor Richard Arrington of Birmingham, Ala. (R) who gave the address during the Fourth District Democratic Organization's banquet, was presented with a special award by Quentin Lawson on behalf of the mayor and the city of Baltimore.

Md. Lottery

The winning numbers in the Maryland lottery at Wednesday's drawing were as follows: six digit, 880228; five digit, 50176; four digit, 7714, three digit, 154, and two digit, 21. Bonus No. 313945.

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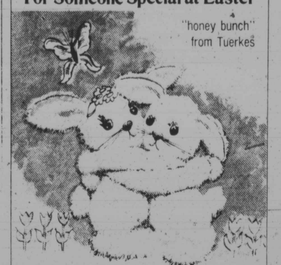
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C. (style 43) "Pretty Panty" pantyhose with reinforced toe and lacy support pantyhose. Reg. 2.50. sale 3 for 6.30, 2.10 pr.
D. (style 90) "Room-At-The-Top" sheer pantyhose with reinforced toe. Reg. 2.50. sale 3 for 8.70, 2.90 pr.
E. (style 550) "Room-At-The-Top" pantyhose with sandalfoot. Reg. 3.50. sale 3 for 8.70, 2.90 pr.
F. (style 190) "Room-At-The-Top" pantyhose with tummy control and reinforced toe. Reg. $4. sale 3 for 9.90, 3.30 pr.
G. (style 28) "Room-At-The-Top" support pantyhose with reinforced panty and toe. Reg. 5.95. sale 3 for 14.85, 4.95 pr.
H. "Tummy Control" pantyhose with reinforced toe (style 80) or sandalfoot (style 470). Reg. 3.50. sale 3 for 8.70, 2.90 pr.
J. (style 147) "Sheer Radiance Ultra Sheer" pantyhose "illusion" with sandalfoot. Reg. $4. sale 3 for 9.90, 3.30 pr.
K. "Girdle-At-The-Top" pantyhose with reinforced toe (style 135) or sandalfoot (style 134). Reg. 5.95. sale 3 for 14.85, 4.95 pr.
L. (style 518) "Gravity Reinforced Toe" Body Smoothers with support pantyhose. Reg. 5.95. sale 3 for 14.85, 4.95 pr.
M. (style 555) "Gravity Sandalfoot Body Smoothers" support pantyhose all sheer. Reg. 5.95. sale 3 for 14.85, 4.95 pr.
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Candidates selected for court vacancy

A spokesman for the governor's office stated Governor Hughes has not said when he will fill the vacant District Court judge created when Judge Robert M. Bell was appointed to the Supreme Bench.

Last month, the trial courts judicial nominating commission for the eighth judicial circuit met for the purpose of considering candidates for the vacancy.

Those candidates selected were David B. Allen, H. Gary Bass, Neal M. Janey, Alan P. Lipson, Joseph P. McCurdy, Gerald R. Walsk and Ms. Geraldine K. Sweeney.

The commission has interviewed all candidates and considered all available information about them. After extensive discussion, the commission voted by secret written ballot and by at least a majority of the full authorized membership of the commission determined the seven candidates to be legally and professionally most fully qualified for appointment to the district court.

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