NAACP probe

Continued from page 1

His wife objected, and Crockett said the officer told her, "Shut up b—— ."

The next thing he knew, more policemen began responding. "It looked like they were dropping out of the sky."

He said his wife was punched in the mouth by an officer, and beaten with nightsticks, and the two were taken down to Western district.

Crockett and his wife face a combination of charges as a result of the event, including assault, aggravated assault, attempting to steal police property. (Mrs. Crockett said she grabbed a nightstick to stop a policeman from beating her), and causing a disturbance.

According to Singleton, charges of brutality and complaints are expected to be filed with the Baltimore police department, the FBI, and the Baltimore Community Relations Commission.

As Crockett spoke, his small wife and their three little girls stood to one side. One of the girls was a baby, and was wrapped in her mother's arms.

A reporter asked her what effect has the incident had on her children.

"When we got here," she said, "one of my little girls looked around and said, 'Mommy, here come the police again.'"

—Prison date

Continued from page 1

probation or given a reduced sentence, but Gasch turned him down in a brief hearing.

Gasch ordered Diggs to report to a prison to be designated by the Justice Department. The judge said he would recommend that Diggs be assigned to the prison at Maxwell Air Force Base in Alabama.

The government accused Diggs of obtaining $80,000 fraudulently but House officials agreed to accept $40,000 as full restitution which Diggs agreed to pay at the rate of $500 a month.

Diggs cited the agreement in his formal petition for leniency, along with his censure by the House, his public statement of contrition and his decision not to seek a 14th congressional term.

Diggs was chairman of the House District of Columbia Committee and the Foreign Affairs Subcommittee on Africa.

Assistant U.S. attorney John I. Kotelly opposed granting leniency, but did not oppose the choice of the prison.

The U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in Washington upheld Diggs' conviction by a 2-1 vote last November. Last June 2 the Supreme Court, without comment, let his conviction stand.

—Md. GOP delegates

Continued from page 1

Allen could not give his fellow delegates high marks on the party's final stand on the Equal Rights Amendment, the so-called women's right bill, saying, "it is most unfortunate that the party changed its position after so many years...this is a highly emotional issue to many women...to change our position was very bad."

The state senator was enthusiastic about Ronald Reagan's economic development philosophy.

"It sits well with my own philosophy. As you know Gov. Reagan took 75,000 people off relief into jobs in the private sector in California. This stimulates the economy."

Crosse also favored Reagan's economic development approach. Recalling the candidate's visit to the Republican black delegate caucus, Crosse said, "he didn't come to us with platitudes. He spoke of how the black community shall keep the $130 billion (in development money Reagan proposes) in the black community. You don't hear people talking like that in Baltimore."

Clark was also impressed with Reagan's plan to commit $137 billion to black communities expressed in his chat with the caucus.

"I've always believed that should be the case with black dollars, of coming home."

The Maryland Republicans all expect to return home by this weekend.

Said Clark, "I'm looking forward to coming home and working to change the current political fades with Republicans."

—Sues insurance exec

Continued from page 1

Ms. Avery further charged in the court records that she was placed in fear of immediate harmful offensive contact and in fear for her life and as a result of the attack, she suffered injuries to the head, face, back shoulders and severe headaches.

Records filed in Superior Court state Ms. Avery had numerous scratches and bruises on her face, arms and other parts of her body.

As a result of the alleged assault and battery, her suit also claims that Ms. Avery was hospitalized and was prevented from pursuing her normal occupation and the normal pursuits of home life.

Ms. Avery charges she was forced to expend large sums for doctor bills and medicine and her health has been permanently injured.

She is asking the court for $10,000 in punitive damages. She and her attorney appeared at Northwestern district court on July 1 along with Roger Walker and his lawyers, Richard Johnson Walker and Ms. Avery are scheduled to appear in Criminal Court on August 14.

—Stabbed in heart

Continued from page 1

According to Jackson's wife, he barely survived the assault.

"The doctor said he didn't know how my husband survived that long," she said.

Police say they are searching for three white males. One is about 18 years old, tall and slim; the second is approximately 16 years old, of medium build, and the third suspect is described as short and heavy set, with a large brown suede hat and an approximate age of 18.

Jackson was rushed to City Hospitals by ambulance, where he has undergone three operations. He is currently listed in satisfactory condition.

Beat the heat

How to survive record hot spell

When it gets to be 102 degrees in Baltimore, how do you keep cool?

The Health Department offers a few tips. Don't expose yourself to the heat when it is not necessary. Don't go out in the hot sunshine without a hat.

Don't wear heavy or tight clothing. Don't exercise strenusly in the sun. Be sure not to exercise just before or after meals and don't overeat.

Also, don't indulge excessively in alcoholic beverages, bathe frequently. Take advantage of areas with adequate shade and ventilation and keep regular bedtime hours. You can also rest during the hottest parts of the day, if possible.

Children should avoid strenuous exercise or play in the hotter part of the day and drink plenty of fluids, especially fruit or vegtable juices, before, during and after strenus play periods.

Eat smaller meals, dress in lightweight, light-colored, loose fitting clothes, preferably cotton. Tight fitting clothes should not be worn, because they hinder air circulation and slow down sweat evaporation.

Avoid exposure to direct sunlight and hot temperatures and bathe frequently. Babies are affected by the heat more than older children because the smaller body surface absorbs more heat.

You should not leave babies in direct sunlight and bathe and change them frequently, and use light cotton clothing. Do not bundle babies in blankets while sleeping and be sure babies sleep or play in an area or room with good air circulation.

Local hospitals reported 10 heat-related health problems Wednesday.

The health department reports that animals suffer on hot days perhaps even more than human beings.

Dogs can be clipped if your veterinarian advises it. Dogs can be cooled off by wiping the top of the head and the soles of the feet with rags wet with cold water.

Do not tease or race pets in very hot weather. Provide your pet with protection from the sun and plenty of fresh water. Keep your pet from walking through tall grass or wooded areas where ticks and fleas are found.

Psychology internship

The Howard University Counseling Service, which provides academic, career, and personal growth counseling and therapy to the university and the Washington area, is offering an internship for a doctoral candidate in clinical or counseling psychology.

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To apply, contact Dr. Christine H. Carrington, director of training, at (202) 1636-6870, or Howard University Counseling Service.

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City Council hears heated debate on gay rights bill

By Ann Sagi
AFRO Staff Writer

Some 350 people crammed City Council chambers Monday, July 14 to attend a public hearing on proposed legislation to eliminate discrimination against homosexuals in housing, employment and education.

Supporters of the bill offered emotional testimony of harassment based on sexual preference, and likened the treatment of homosexuals in America to that of Nazi Germany and said passage of the bill is essential if gays are to enjoy basic human rights.

Opponents, equally impassioned, quoting Bible verses condemning homosexuality, predicted that family life would disintegrate if the bill passes and suggested that every minority in the city would petition the Council for similar legislation.

The Rev. Delores Perry, assistant pastor of Metropolitan Community Church of Baltimore, spoke in favor of the bill.

"Brothers, sisters, lesbians, gays—don't let them destroy you," she said.

She also criticized opponents of the measure who presented religious reasons against the bill.

"It is difficult for me to remain in this room with people who proclaim to be Christians when what you say goes completely against scripture," the Rev. Perry said.

Andre Powell, a student at Towson State University and at Essex Community College, said as a gay black, he has been discriminated against more often because of his sexual preference than because of his race.

"I've spent thousands of dollars on my education and I want to be able to get a job when I get out of college.

"We are going to end gay oppression because it works against homosexuals, hetrosexuals and bisexuals," he said.

June and Jack Durham, a mother and her gay son, testified together about the merits of the legislation. Mrs. Durham said the bill would make it easier for gays to live the type of lives they wished.

Her son also attacked testimony given by opponents.

"There are a couple of sections in the Bible which talk about us, but the rest of it talks about you, and you still ain't got it right!" he said. His remarks sparked loud, prolonged cheering

Pro-gay

By Ann Sagi
AFRO Staff Writer

Clarence Hill, 38, and a co-coordinator of the Black Coalition of Gay Men and Lesbians, said he has never felt the need to deny that he is a homosexual and has never had problems with his family, schools or employers as a result of his sexual preference.

Hill knows through working with other homosexuals that his experience is the exception, not the rule

He and other members of his organization are in the thick of the fight to promote passage of a City Council bill which would provide equal access to jobs, housing and education for homosexuals.

"Our main concern is to eliminate fear gay people have about being denied jobs or apartments. If gays 'come out of the closet,' they face potential harassment from employers or landlords," Hill said.

Opposition to the bill by some fundamentalist religious groups ta kes the focus from the real issue, Hill said, which is not whether homosexuals should be viewed as sinners, but that they are seeking rights due them as human beings.

"People are afraid of homosexuals because we look like everyone else. That is their insecurity.

"People should weigh the scientific evidence that says homosexuals are born that way, they don't choose to be gay," Hill said.

Equal rights for homosexuals should not be an issue of sexual habits, Hill said, but a human rights issue.

"Heterosexuals do not have to deny what they are and do not have to fear for their jobs because of what they are.

"Homosexuals must have the right to employment, to live in a healthy environment, to be a free person in society regardless.

"We aren't asking people to accept or condone what we do, just protect us," he said.

Hill is optimistic City Council will pass the bill because Council members will "distinguish between morality and human rights."

Anti-gay

Local members of the American Muslim Mission are vehemently opposed to an ordinance pending before the Baltimore City Council which would grant equal rights to homosexuals because as in Christian sects, homosexuality is a sin in their religion.

Hakim Ali, a local member, pointed out sections of the Koran, the Islamic holy book, in which Allah, the creator, condemned homosexuals and promised punishment for those who practiced homosexuality.

The Koran details the punishment for the inhabitants of ancient Lut who refused to listen to a prophet of Allah. The villagers did not cease their homosexual activities and Allah destroyed the entire village.

Ibrihim, a Muslim visiting Baltimore from Jordan, said the area where Lut was located is now the Dead Sea where no plant or animal life grows even to this day as an example of Allah's wrath to the Lut people.

Ali, who testified against the City Council bill at a hearing held Monday, said humans are born with man's nature and that homosexuality lowers man's nature below that of animals.

"Men and women create life. Men and men, women and women, are like seeds on rocks, they will never create life," Ibrihim said.

"The homosexual world will be destroyed. There is great punishment in the hereafter for men who do this action," he said.

Ali angrily blamed poor leadership for the bill's introduction and blasted black City Council members who supported the legislation.

"How did this bill ever get to the (Council) floor? Some of our leaders have been starved from the knowledge.

"If homosexuals get rights, so will every other criminal."

Ali also blasted those who equate homosexuals demands for equal rights with the civil rights struggle of blacks.

"It hurt me to see an Afro-American man stand up at the meeting and support this bill. He is still a slave, he allows his passions to be aroused.

"It is terrible that homosexuals are trying to identify with the civil rights struggle of Afro-Americans," Ali said.

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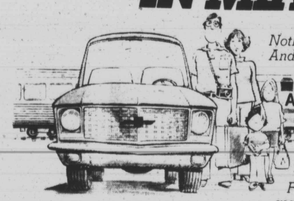

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