Benson & Hedges Menthol

"B&H, I like your style."

Warning: The Surgeon General Has Determined That Cigarette Smoking Is Dangerous to Your Health.

Lights: 11 mg "tar," 0.7 mg nicotine—100's: 17 mg "tar," 1.1 mg nicotine av. per cigarette, FTC Report Dec.'79.

Racism still on waterfront

Congressman Mitchell's findings-column one

Baltimore Afro-American

WE ARE NOW IN OUR 89TH YEAR — LATE CITY EDITION

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Watkins sues TV - 13 for $ millions

Ex-top cop seeks damages for broadcasts in 1975

Col. James H. Watkins, who was acquitted in 1979 of corruption charges, will be back in court September 29.

This time, the retired officer who served 28 years on the Baltimore City Police force will be the plaintiff, not the accused.

The AFRO has learned that a civil suit has been filed by Watkins against local television station WJZ-TV (Channel 13).

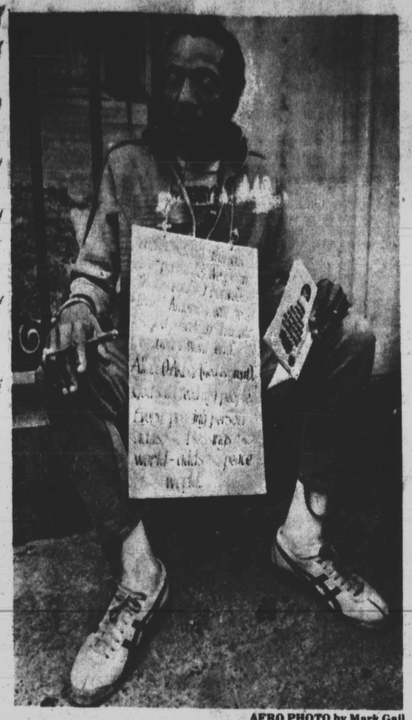
Trial date has been set for September 29.

Attorneys for Watkins had no comment on the imminent court hearing, but did confirm that the trial date has been set. They also declined to give a dollar amount for the damages being sought on behalf of their client.

In earlier legal preparations, amounts ranging from three to five million dollars were reportedly being sought for what Watkins considered news broadcasts which were extremely damaging to his reputation during the 1976 trial.

Much of the television material used regarding Watkins was reportedly assembled by former law enforcement officer-turned TV journalist.

Arthur Kern, vice-president and general manager for WJZ, could not be reached for comment on the pending suit at AFRO press time.



AFRO PHOTO by Mark Gail

WALKING TO PROTEST — Dick Gregory, internationally-known comedian and activist, paused in Baltimore yesterday on his way to Washington, D.C. The advocate has been walking for the past five days in protest over the U.S. role in Iran. Gregory feels that the hostage crisis "could be resolved in three days," if the U.S. accedes to the demands of the Iranian captors. See story page 2.

Dick's long march

By James M. Abraham
AFRO Staff Writer

"My feet are so tired that they're up to my ankles," said Dick Gregory as he eased himself down on a ledge outside a church on the corner of Cathedral and Mulberry St.

Gregory has been walking for seven days, and plans on arriving in Washington D.C. by tomorrow. He is walking to protest U.S. policy toward Iran, and says that there is more to the hostage crisis than meets the eye.

(Continued on Page 27)

Monumental Health exec, Mitchell refute adverse financial report

By Portia E. Badham
AFRO Staff Writer

The president of Monumental Health Plan, a local black health maintenance organization, has strongly refuted charges that the organization is going "bankrupt."

The charges were made by John O'Rourke, deputy director of the U.S. Office of Health Maintenance Organization (OHMD) after a financial review of Monumental.

According to Dr. H. Garland Chissell, president of Monumental, however the charges surfaced following a successful open enrollment period which offered the plan to city workers in June.

The plan is the only black federally qualified health organization in the state and only one of three inthe country. The others are located in Los Angeles, Calif. and Detroit, Mich.

Chissell reports that the plan out sold some of the other health plans such as Blue Cross by a 2 to 1 margin and the competition brought on by Monumental could be the cause for the criticisms surfaced by O'Rourke.

Federal certification of a health maintenance organization insures that any employer must offer the plan to its employees.

"We're nowhere near bankruptcy," said Chissell, "and we're in better financial shape than we've ever been in." He added that O'Rourke misread several of the findings contained in the federal review.

(Continued on Page 27)

Morgan's Band on national TV

The Morgan State University band will provide halftime entertainment at Monday night's football game between the New York Giants and Philadelphia Eagles at Philadelphia.

It will be the first of a series of nine appearances for the Golden Bear musicians in the National Football League season.

Racism still on our waterfront

By Portia E. Badham
AFRO Staff Writer

Racial discrimination on the Baltimore docks, the use of Urban Development Action Grant money by General Motors and the minority business enterprise participation in the Port McHenry Tunnel project were among the topics discussed by Rep. Parren Mitchell at a recent press conference.

After seven months of investigation, Mitchell has asked the U.S. District Court and the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission to intervene in what he describes as systematic violations of the U.S. District Court Consent Decree issued to end racial discrimination against black longshoremen.

Mitchell has met with black longshoremen who have given him documents and information alleging racial discrimination. The dockers allege that one of the key problem areas is the central dispatching center, which assigns workers to jobs.

In a letter to Judge Alexander Harvey, U.S. District Court, Mitchell reported that the dispatchers, most of whom are white, steer white longshoremen to the best jobs.

"Some black longshoremen alleged to me that non-union whites have been steered to jobs through the dispatch center while black union members are advised that no jobs are available," Mitchell said.

Continued on page 2

Former U.N. Ambassador Andrew Young (R) jokes with city CETA workers during tree-planting ceremonies at "Freedom Park" while he was in town earlier this week campaigning for President Carter.

Young attended local luncheon sponsored by city officials before speaking to a group of students at Morgan State University.

Andy says don't blame Jimmy

Tony says save black colleges

By Sue Williams

Former U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations Andrew Young told a group of Morgan State University students this week that the Carter Administration "cannot be blamed" for the problems of the past four years.

Despite heckling from the audience, Young continued his remarks, saying that "years of neglect have led to the problems of today."

"I know the shape that the country was in when Jimmy Carter was elected four years ago and I know it's not in good shape now," he said.

But he added that the Carter Administration had built a foundation in the past four years that could and would serve as a building block for the next four years.

Young seemed unable to point out the achievements of the Carter Administration, save the appointments of blacks to high government posts and the institution of the free food stamp program.

Citing himself as an example, Young said that blacks in government posts performed in more than "showcase" capacities for the first time.

But he admitted that the exclusion of blacks from areas concerning economic development had been a serious flaw of the Administration.

"We've made some mistakes," he said, referring to the earlier Carter policies of inflation and unemployment as a means of combatting the nation's recession.

(Continued on Page 27)

AFRO photo by Mark Gail

Tony Brown

They are in lead in AFRO churchwoman contest

Mrs. Myrna Powell — Mrs. Helen Talley

Again this week the leadership in the AFRO churchwoman of the year contest is held by Mrs. Helen Talley. She is a member of Christian Community Church of God.

The Mrs. Myrna Powell, an active member of Ebeneser Baptist Church is now in second place. It is still not too late to enter the contest.

You have a chance to win $500 in cash prizes, a gift for your church, tickets to the Arena Playhouse, gift certificates from Sheridan Hats, Pinnie Ross and gifts from Equitable Trust, Fidelity Trust and Maryland National Bank and other prizes.

1. The contest is open to any

Continued on page 2

TV personality begins crusade at Coppin

By James M. Abraham
AFRO Staff Writer

More than 500 Coppin students, faculty and area residents gathered at Coppin State College Wednesday, Sept.. 17 to hear syndicated talk show host Tony Brown unveil plans for his march on Washington in support of black colleges and universities.

The march is scheduled for Monday, Sept. 29, and Brown gave a short explanation of why he felt there was a need for blacks to maintain their traditional black institutions.

"There is a move underfoot to eliminate or close all black institutions of higher learning," Brown alleged.

He traced the role of blacks in U.S. history from 1619, when the first band of 20 slaves were landed at Jamestown, Va., and explained how racism was used by whites to justify using black as free labor.

He said that planters and merchants of that period "had to institute the idea of slavery, so they came up with a social policy to justify it."

He stated that the rationale used to justify slavery was that whites were innately superior to blacks, and that blacks had been put on this earth to serve; in other words white supervority.

Brown moved ahead to 1863, when emancipation was decreed, and said that the next social policy formulated by the government as regards black people was "Romantic racism."

"We'll allow the Africans to remain here in America," he descibed the scenario. "and let them assimilate into a dark-skinned white person."

But this policy failed also, as separate but equal facilities proved to be unable to train blacks to imitate or emulate whites.

(Continued on Page 27)

Carter a no show for Great Baltimore debate

By James M. Abraham
AFRO Staff Writer

The Great Debate will be held Sunday night, with only two of the three Great Debaters, and many in the Baltimore area and around the country are still wondering why President Jimmy Carter has no plans to be there.

There will be a handsome, wooden chair with a matching handsome wooden podium on the stage. There will be two erstwhile contenders for Carter's seat,

Continued on page 2

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