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| MILWAUKEE/County Stadium | August 8 | $12.50, | $10.50, | $8.50 |
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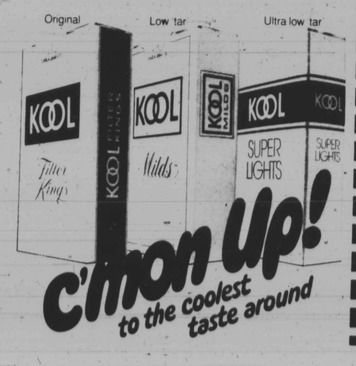
| DETROIT | (Soon to be announced) | | | |
| WASHINGTON | (Soon to be announced) | | | |

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## The AFRO salutes 'Buy In, Buy Us' week

***Inside: 8 pages honoring this new black economic crusade***


# Baltimore Afro-American

WE ARE NOW IN OUR 89TH YEAR

89th Year No. 58 | BALTIMORE, MD. FEBRUARY 28, 1981 | LATE CITY EDITION | 35 CENTS


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(AFRO photo by Mark Gail)

IT'S OVER-State Trooper Frazier West is shown leaving Baltimore Criminal Court after assault charges against him were dropped by State's Attorney William A. Swisher. Shown with Frazier (c) is his attorney, Herb Singleton (L) and Ronald Hayes, a friend and supporter throughout the ordeal.

# Shooting charges against black trooper dropped

By Sue Williams
AFRO Staff Writer

State's Attorney William A. Swisher will not prosecute state trooper Frazier West for his part in a New Year's Day shooting incident involving a Hampden teen, because, he said, "if the boy does not deserve to be prosecuted, neither does West."

Swisher told the AFRO this week that his office began a reassessment of the case when it learned that the Juvenile Services Administration had decided not to press assault charges against 17-year old Neil McIntee, the youth involved in the case.

After taking into consideration "all of the facts," Swisher said, including the JSA decision," he decided that he could not prosecute the case.

"When we first learned of the case," he said, "we thought West was right. After examining the facts, we determined that West had used excessive force."

"But what we always maintained," he continued, "was that if West was wrong, so were those teens, because they instigated the whole thing. If the boy can go then so should West."

He said that in all fairness, the charges should be dropped, so that the Baltimore community can see that there is not in fact a "dual system of justice" as has been charged by legal and civic leaders.

### Had defended himself against Hampden teen

Attorney Herbert Singleton, who would have defended West in the event of a trial, told the AFRO that it was "clear to him that Swisher was responding to community pressure all the while."

"The decision (of Swisher) to prosecute in the first place was a political one," Singleton said. "He probably received pressure from the Hampden community and from that family in particular and he gave in."

"But what has to be made perfectly clear to everyone is that the facts never changed. The facts are the same now as they were in the beginning. If we had gone to court, we would have won."

Singleton said that Swisher responded to community support for West from the Baltimore community, both black and white, who were convinced from the outset that the case was unjust.

"We need to encourage the black community," Singleton said, "to rally their support whenever a case of this nature arises. It is clear from what has happened...that we are in a position where we have to demand justice

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*Confessed baby killer went free on technicality*

## Swisher wants '12 minute' law overturned

State's Attorney William A. Swisher is asking members of the Maryland House of Delegates and Senate to support two bills that will overturn a judiciary imposed measure that allowed a convicted killer to go free.

James McClain gave confession to the police in 1976 admitting that he had killed his girlfriend's baby because he was jealous that she was dating other men.

Because, however, that confession was given 12 minutes after a judicially imposed deadline for presentation of a defendant before a magistrate, it was ruled invalid by the Court of Appeals and McClain is now a free man.

In a letter to the Maryland House of Delegates and Senate, Swisher said the bills would forbid the reversal of a criminal case merely because some artificially imposed time restriction had not been complied with by the state unless the defendant could demonstrate that his constitutional rights had been violated in the process.

Twenty four hours and 12 minutes after McClain was arrested, he confessed to the crime. His subsequent conviction and life sentence were reversed by the Court of Appeals on the grounds that his confession was obtained 12 minutes after a judicially imposed deadline.

The court decided that justice required that this rule, of which the police officers could have had no knowledge, should be retroactively applied to allow convicted murderers to go free.

Swisher says Senate Bill No. 322, introduced by Sen J. Joseph, D-43, Curran on Jan. 15, was directed towards juveniles and house bill no. 302, filed by Del. Joseph Owens D-17th on Jan. 14, was directed toward both juveniles and adults. Both bills are now pending before their respective judiciary committees.

The bills would prohibit dismissal of juvenile and adult criminal cases simply because the state has failed to meet a technical time limitation in some step in the prosecution unless the defendant could demonstrate that some important constitutional right had been violated in the process.

Swisher says he believes the bills will help to restore some of the now shaken confidence of the people of Maryland in the ability of the criminal justice system to protect them.

The Grammy Awards

## Stephanie Mills new queen of soul

By Ida Peters

The 23rd Annual Grammy Awards presentation Wednesday Night, broadcast live from Radio City Music Hall on CBS Network Television was a long confused rascist presentation.

The real surprise of the evening was the Grammy to Stephanie Mills as the R & B best female vocalist. The new "Queen of Soul" who won over Aretha Franklin, Minnie Riperton, Roberta Flack and Diana Ross with "I Never

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Stephanie Mills

## 11 robbed on MTA bus

By Pam Widgeon
AFRO Staff Writer

A police officer who was waiting for a light to change at Franklintown Road and Poplar Grove around 8:15 p.m. Wednesday night, interrupted a robbery on the 15 bus when he saw one of the suspects run off the bus.

Sgt. Hezekiah Bunch heard Cornell Tilghman Sr., the bus driver, yell, "They just robbed us," and chased a teenager a block before he was arrested.

Gary Bennett, 16, of the 400 block of Loudon Ave., was arrested on a vacant lot and was being held at Southwest district without bail at AFRO presstime.

Police report when the teenager and his accomplice got on the bus one of the men pulled a pellet gun from his waist and started hitting the driver in the head. The other suspect told the 11 passengers to place their money, wallets and valuables in a plastic bag.

Tilghman told police it took less than a minute for the suspect to collect the passengers' wallets and money.

Bennett is charged with 10 counts of assault and 10 counts of handgun violation. Police were still looking for the other suspect at AFRO presstime.

Tilghman was taken to Lutheran Hospital and treated for lacerations to the head and released. One passenger was treated at St. Agnes Hospital for shock and released.

The passengers on the bus were Roy Pugh, 900 block Seagull Ave; Ms. Sonia Foxworth and Ms. Shelia Foxworth, 2500 block Harlem Ave; Ronald Taylor, 2100 block McCulloh St; C. Mahomes, 1000 block Washington Ave; Ms. Catherine Decker, 3200 block Keswick Rd; Carl Carlton, 1100 block Argyle Ave; Derk Cohn, 4400 block Valley View; Ms. Sonia Hawkins, 900 block Chester St; Ms. Patricia Clark, 1000 block Abbott St., and Ms. Sharon Jones, 1900 block Mosher St. Police report less than $100 was taken from the passengers.

## Suspect in teacher slaying indicted

Johnny Lee Daniels, 27, who is charged with the Jan. 29 murder of a Carver High School teacher has been indicted by the grand jury and is being held at City Jail without bail.

Indictments handed down Feb. 20, also state Daniels, of the 2900 block Bowers Ave., is charged with possession of a handgun. He is scheduled to appear in Criminal Court March 12 for arraignment.

Mrs. Ethel Mae Love Bond, 56, of the 1900 block of Lexington St., had just returned home from the West Baltimore Community Health Care Corporation meeting, when she was shot to death as she attempted to open her front door.

Police report when Mrs. Bond turned around after hearing someone call her an obscene name, she was shot in the throat, cheek and left thigh. She was pronounced dead on the scene.

Mrs. Bond had been employed with the Department of Education for 26 years and had been teaching at Carver for 10 years. She had served as chairman of the West Baltimore Community Health Care Corporation for seven years.

(Continued on Page 2)

## Dr. Ralph J. Reckling, noted educator, dies

Dr. Ralph Weeden Reckling

Services for Ralph W. Reckling, who served Baltimore city public school system for 46 years, will be held at 12:00 today (Friday) at St. Katherine of Alexandria Episcopal Church, 2001 Division St.

Mr. Reckling, who was 94-years-old, died Feb. 24 at the Keswick Nursing Home.

During his career in the system, he served in several capacities. He began his career as teacher of English and History at Frederick Douglass High School. Later, he served as principal of the Harvey

(Continued on Page 2)

## Rent control backers sued by landlord group

By James M. Abraham
AFRO Staff Writer

Seven members of the forces who fought for rent control during the past two years have received a rude surprise from the law firm which represented landlords during the 1979 court victory of property-owners that nullified the rent control referendum.

Bob Cheeks and Sharon Ceci, of the People's Campaign For Rent Control, and Ed Taylor, Mary Benns, Mike Brockmeyer, Christina Gutierrez and Micheal Johnson of the Rent Control Campaign are being sued for legal costs by the law firm of Weinberg and Green.

According to the firm, all seven, who were plaintiffs in the suit, must pay the legal firm $10 in court costs and $2019.94 for the preparation of the brief used by Weinberg and Green in their case.

As a result of the legal action, members of the Rent Control Campaign are attempting to raise the money by appealing to the community.

"We don't want to raise the money," said Mary Jo Kirschman, a member of the Rent Control Campaign, "we don't have any money of our own, and if we did, we could find better things to do with it than give it to these corporations who need it like they need a hole in their head."

She explained that "We can't run the risk of our people getting hurt. If we let our people get hurt, it might prevent others from taking risks in the future. We can't allow that to happen."

Both Cheeks and Ms. Ceci reportedly have decided to ignore the suit.

The legal action is the latest setback for the rent control forces, who have watched their last efforts for rent control legislation, Councilman Kwesis Mfume's bill No. 283, languish in a Council committee.

Monday, members of the Rent Control Campaign attempted to stage a protest at City Council to demand that the bill be put to a vote, but were thwarted early when two of their fellow workers were ignominiously arrested for shouting slogans in the Council chambers. The two, Charles Dobler and Jonathan Reidy, were charged with disorderly conduct, but later released.

"I think that there has always been this feeling that the have-nots have to be kept down," said Ms. Kirschman, "but things are going to get worse before they get better."

## Morgan supporters to meet

The Steering Committee for Maryland black colleges will meet with the Governor, Speaker of the House of Delegates and President of the Senate Monday, March 2 in Annapolis to discuss the concerns regarding pending budget cuts for the black schools.

The month-old committee, headed by Dr. Thelma Cox, a member of the State Board for Higher Education and John H. Murphy III, chairman of the board AFRO-AMERICAN Newspapers, have confirmations from the House speaker and Senate president but are awaiting word from the governor.

Dr. Cox said the proposed moves to alter the make-up of some of the predominantly black colleges will also be discussed. These proposals are being considered by Dr. Sheldon Knorr, commissioner for the state board.

The committee also plans to ask legislators to address students during a rally scheduled outside the state building in Annapolis at 5 p.m. Students from Coppin State College, Bowie State College, Morgan State University and University of Maryland Eastern Shore will participate.

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