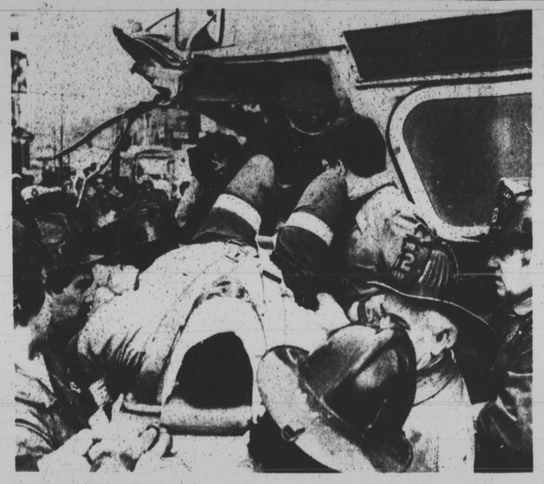


RESCUING THE INJURED — Bus operator, Ramson Wade, 48, is lifted out of his badly damaged MTA bus following the Tuesday morning crash in West Baltimore. Wade suffered serious head injuries and was rushed to the hospital by ambulance.

IMPACT — This bus, which traveled MTA's No. 7 line, is left disabled following an early morning accident crash with a fire engine.

AFRO photos by Roman Hankewycz

—Bus, fire truck probe continues

Continued from page 1

engines had passed the same way moments before the crash occurred.

Officer Wagner told the AFRO there were four officers taking statements from witnesses and injured people at AFRO presstime and the bus driver was released from the hospital Wednesday morning.

Police are not expected to complete their investigation and interviewing passengers who were on the bus until next week.

Passenger John C. Dixon, 47, said he heard the fire engine's siren and saw the truck seconds before the collison.

"A lot of passengers fell on top of a young girl. Everyone was thrown forward, the front of the bus just got smashed," Dixon said. There was panic and confusion, everybody tried to get out of the bus."

Ronald Wongus, a 17-year-old high school student who was riding the bus to class, said he "flew about 15 feet" through the air when the crash occurred. "People were stepping on each other to get out," he said.

Dixon, who sustained a head injury, said he and others tried to kick out a side window to help evacuate the more seriously injured.

Uninjured firefighters also assisted in removing passengers from the heavily damaged bus.

Police said the MTA driver was pinned inside the wreckage for more than an hour until firefighters using iron bars and saws could free him.

The injured were rushed to six city hospitals. The bus driver, Ramson Wade, 48, and two firefighters were admitted with serious injuries and the rest were treated and released, authorities said.

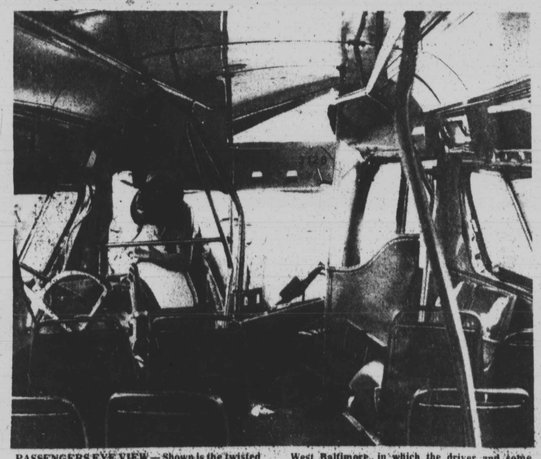
"There were a lot of walking wounded," said Capt. Flynn. One witness said he was flabbergasted by the collision.

"It was really something. I've never seen anything like this in my life. Firemen were thrown into the air, they looked like flies," said Sterling McWilliams, 46, who was standing on a nearby street corner when the crash occurred.

VICTIM — Patrice Day, 16, a bus passenger, shows the strain of what must have been a truly horrendous accident for her and others involved in the Westside crash.

LIMPING TO SAFETY — An unidentified passenger on MTA's No. 7 gingerly tests his leg for a possible injury.

THE SECOND CRASH VEHICLE — Two firefighters appear to be discussing their damaged fire engine moments after the crash, which occurred Tuesday as the engine was traveling the wrong way on a one-way street to a fire near the crash site.



PASSENGERS EYE VIEW — Shown is the twisted interior of the bus that collided with a fire engine in West Baltimore, in which the driver and some passengers sustained injuries.

Tenant groups fight to limit landlord's power

Tenant groups in the city, despite a decrease in activity following the battle over rent control waged two years ago, are continuing efforts to limit the power of landlords. It thought that after rent control the movement was dead. It is not. The movement is continuing," Bill Scriven, director of the Baltimore City Tenants Association, said Tuesday afternoon.

Scriven said rent control is far from the only issue with which tenant groups are concerned. By controlling the dwellings of a large percentage of the city's population,' landlords have a major impact on the lives of the city's inhabitants.

Landlords who impose stiff rent increases, who are negligent of their properties and ignore housing-code violations, and who harass their tenants with capricious threats of eviction, impose serious hardships on tenants and are a major focus of tenant activists, Scriven said.

A loose coalition of tenant advocacy groups, including the BCTS, the Baltimore Welfare Rights Organization and the using Alliance, are working to develop a comprehensive approach to the problem of tenants' rights. Their efforts include:

-monitoring the effectiveness of Housing Court judges in dealing with chronic-offender landlords.

-establishing criteria for "good cause" evictions, to protect residents from gratuitous eviction.

-sponsoring political candidates sympathetic to tenant orgnaizations in the 1983 city council elections.

-developing a new rent control measure for a November referendum, to replace a previously approved measure declaired invalid by the courts.

-organizing and educating tenants to form effective ne negotinting groups for landlord-tenant dialogs.

ency repairs in dwellings, billing the landlord, in instances where landlords cannot be reached.

-a prohibition of rent increases for units with significant housing-code violations.

package of laws as a step in the right direction, but say they fall short of providing adequate protection.

The bottom line for the tenant groups is relief from immoderate rent increases, however, an issue which has not been addressed by the laws.

Scriven said a landlord recently had been sentenced to 10 days in jail recently, adding it may indicate a new firmness on the part of Housing Court in dealing with chronic offenders.

"That was truely a victory," Scriven said of the landlord's sentencing. "We have been after him for over a year."

Mexico City is the second-largest city in the world.

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Woman charges minister with assault

(See Story Column 5)

Baltimore Afro-American
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Two women found strangled at Flag House

Toya's still missing

Police frustrated in search

By Pam Widgeon
AFRO Staff Writer

"Very frustrating," is how police describe the unsolved case of Toya K. Hill, 8, who has been missing since March 24. Toya was last seen playing with friends in front of her South Spring Court home.

Sgt. Robert Dean of the missing person's bureau told the AFRO, "Toya's case is a rare occurrence. The bulk of the children missing are run aways. We have a large number of children who leave home and when they feel like it come back on their own."

Police said Toya's case is a little different then the average missing child report.

"There is a lack of evidence in the case. If we get a piece of information, I have a conference with the homicide unity every day," said Sgt. Dean.

Toya's playmates told police a

Continued on page 2

AFRO Photo by Martin Evans

OUTSIDE MURDER SCENE — Residents of the Flag House are shown huddled outside a seventh floor apartment seeking news of two strangulation murders which occured inside. Two women were found nude and bound. A detective (center) makes his way to the scene.

Women were bound hand and foot

Residents of the Flag House Court on South Exeter Street were shocked and horrified, when two women were found bound, nude and strangled in a seventh floor apartment at 127 S. Exeter Street, Thursday, April 22.

At AFRO presstime police said they still were investigating the case and the women had not been identified.

Police said one woman was found in the bedroom and the other woman was found in the living room. Police would not say who discovered their bodies or how long the women had been dead.

However, police believe the women might have known the person or persons who killed them.

Several tenants who live in the public housing hi-rise complex alleged there is a lack of security at the building, and said security officials are apathetic and intimidated.

The complex is equipped with electronic surveillence measures and a magnetic identification system, but residents asserted the measures are frequently bypassed and unauthorized individuals can enter the apartment complex.

Father Franklin, Evangelist locked in dispute

Rev. P. H. Franklin

A 45-year-old Evangelist, who was an active member of Saint Martin's Spiritual Church of Christ, Madison and North Avenues, has charged the church's pastor, the Rev. Patrick Henry Franklin, with assault.

Evangelist Rosetta Smith, of the 3600 block of Park Heights Ave., told police that on April 19, around 7:50 a.m. she was leaving her Northwest Baltimore home for work, when Rev. Franklin approached her and knocked her to the ground and beat her on the back with a stick.

Evangelist Smith told police she was once a large financial contributor to the church and he (Rev. Franklin) is trying to get her to renew her membership at the church.

She showed an AFRO reporter her cancelled checks showing where she had contributed more than $3,000 to the church. She also said she paid $700 for a set of dishes for the new home the church is building for wayward boys.

According to police, Rev. Franklin said Smith had "con-

Continued on page 2

Evangelist Rosetta Smith

Fees may be waived for needy students

Students must pay $100 to attend summer school

Public education, at least during the summer, no longer is free at Baltimore City Public Schools. Beginning this summer, students who wish to enrich themselves through summer courses will have to come up with a $100.00 tuition for each class they are enrolled.

For high school students who have failed either an English, math, social studies or science course this year and wish to make up their failing grade also will have to pay a fee, but it only is one-fourth of the amount others students must pay.

Dr. Patricia Roder, deputy superintendent for the city schools, told the AFRO that the Board of Education approved the measure to charge tuition during the Spring of 1981 effective the 1982 summer session.

Tuition is being charged because the school system does not have the funds necessary to pay teacher's salaries and to provide materials and other costs of the summer program, she said.

"The courses must be self-supporting," Dr. Roder said.

Two types of programs are being offered this summer. One is the traditional review program at Lake Clifton and Poly High Schools. This program is for students who need to make up

(Continued on Page 24)

Goslee announces Supreme Bench bid

"If women continue to wait for and depend upon the benevolence of the male dominated political system to determine who, when, and where we shall serve, we will be waiting until the middle of the 21st century before we achieve anything which resembles political party

The above statement was made by Mrs. Georgia Goslee on the steps of the court house April 19, when she announced she would be running in the September election for a seat on the Supreme Bench.

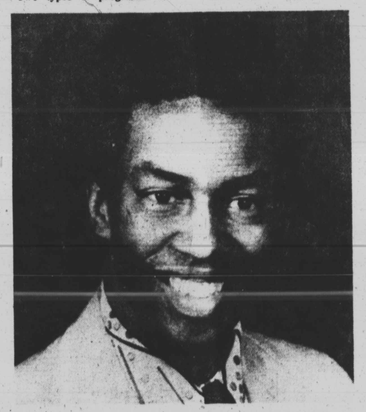
Mrs. Goslee, 35-year-old Coppin State College graduate and University of Maryland Law School graduate said she is proud to be the first woman to conduct an independent challenge for a seat on this city's highest court.

According to Mrs. Goslee women in Baltimore constitute the largest segment of the city's population and studies have shown women are the most consistent voters in the city.

However, Mrs. Goslee says, "Persons of our gender occupy few elected or appointed seats of power in this city. Of the 23 judges on the Supreme Bench of

Georgia Goslee

(Continued on Page 24)



FIRST BLACK IN SPACE — Guion Bluford Jr., 39, will become the first black person in space as a crew member on the third flight of the shuttle Challenger, scheduled to hurl aloft July 4, 1983. A Philadelphia native, and a father of two, Bluford graduated from the Johnson Space Center's astronaut school in 1980. He resides in the Houston area. The aerodynamics specialist, one of 35 astronaut candidates selected from a field of more than 8,000, is a distinguished Air Force ROTC graduate from Penn State, and is a Vietnam veteran.

Two blacks appointed to Reagan administration

In an apparent effort to improve its ties with the black community, the White House recently announced that Melvin L. Bradley, senior consultant at the White House, will be elevated to special assistant to the President for Minority Affairs.

This position gives Bradley responsibility for monitoring the impact of administration policies on minorities.

A second black man also is to be elevated to special assistant to the President, in charge of trade and commerce issues.

Wendell Wilkie Gunn, a conservative Republican, currently is assistant treasurer for Pepsi Cola Inc. The appointments of Gunn and Bradley brings the number of black presidential aides to six.

Officals claim prison escapes on the decline, but rash continues

Despite the recent rash of prison breaks, including four on Monday, April 19, prison escapes here in the free state have "drastically declined in the past two years," according to Beverly Marable, a state corrections spokesperson.

There are about "360 escapees still on the loose in comparison to 700 escapees a year to 18 month ago" statewide, said Dennis Hill, Baltimore Police Department spokesperson.

While city police and state prison authorities agree the number of escapes has been cut, they disagree on how many escapes have occurred statewide this year.

Marable has been quoted as saying there have only been 23 escapes this year, while Hill cited 43 escapes to date, just last week.

Here is an update on which of the recent escapees still are at large:

At the Jessup Pre-release

Continued on page 2

BULLETIN

Arnold Jolivet, of the Maryland Minority Contractors Association told the AFRO that with the help of Rep. Parren J. Mitchell, an agreement had been reached with Cam Construction Company to hire minority contractors and local black workers to work on the renovation project of Douglass High School.

Jolivet said the agreement was reached Thursday afternoon. Mitchell and representatives from the black contractor's group had protested recently.

Win a dream vacation to the Caribbean

You better hurry or you are liable to miss out on a chance to win the vacation of a lifetime! Only 22 days remain to send in your official order blanks to the AFRO's "Vacation You'll Never Forget" contest.

Just think, you could be the lucky winner of one of three trips the AFRO-AMERICAN Newspapers is offering. And there still is time to be included in the big drawing on Saturday, May 22.

Picture yourself in the Bahamas, because that is where you will be if you win an all-expense paid trip courtesy of the AFRO

The first place winner and a guest will spend six days and five nights in exotic Freeport.

Accomodations have been arranged at the luxurious Hotel Princess Tower Bahama Princess. But that is not all, the AFRO will pick up the tab for payment of hotel, taxes, tips to hotel employees and round trip jet fare to Freeport.

Don't miss out because the internationally famous charms of Grand Bahamas lure visitors from all over the world.

Other trips the AFRO is offering as part of the contests' prizes will be detailed in later editions. Don't forget to enter, for more details, see page 14.