—Old hands, new faces

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of politics. But leads of senior citizens, housewives and elementary and high school students made the journey from Baltimore to witness history.

There were a number of firsts:

New reading clerk Edith Booker, the first woman and the first black to hold that position in the House of Delegates. As reading clerk, Ms. Booker reads aloud the bills, resolutions and other procedural orders of the House.

Del. Larry Young, D-39th, the first of his race to hold a House committee chairmanship, hosted 10 or more of his constituents in the large committee chamber overwhich he will preside.

In celebration of this historical event, Chairman Young served a buffet lunch to his supporters and invited them to come watch his committee as often as they could.

Young said that "of course I have to act sort of formal in my chairmanship role, but I'm counting on all of you to remind me of my roots and where I came from."

New Senator Troy Brailey, D-[illegible] sportsdressed in a gray pin striped suit and coordinated red striped tie, looked very inch the statesman.

He told the AFRO, "I feel fine. As a Senator, I will be concentrating on the same issues for which I've always fought. Unemployment problems will be a priority.

"I am opposed to a lifting of interest rates and I've already pre-filed a bill on getting unemployment benefits for school support employees who can only work 10 months a year and are idle for two," he continued.

New 40th district Del. Ralph Hughes proudly took his teenage brother and other family members on a tour of the statehouse.

Television newsman turned Del. Curt Anderson had his young son and daughter with him at his seat in the assembly.

New comers Nathaniel Oaks and Clarence "Tiger" Davis, both known in the past as front line activists, were impressively attired.

Both young men exuded a mood that was all [illegible] formal, but friendly.

On the Senate side, Sen. Clarence Mitchell III assumed his new post as Chairman of the Executive Nominations Committee with good humor and dignity.

Both Houses sparkled with the flashes from cameras as the legislators took the oath of office. Senators were sworn in by President Pro Tem Frederick Malkus and the delegates were sworn in by House Chief Clerk Jacqueline Spell.

It will be days and possibly weeks, however, before the 188 part-time lawmakers actually get down to business.

By the April adjournment, the lawmakers will have considered more than 3,000 pieces of legislation, among them proposals to reform the state retirement program, to name the site for the next state prison and to change dozens of state criminal laws.

Council seeks end to weekend utility cutoffs

A resolution urging two local utilities to adopt a policy against the termination of services for delinquent payment was introduced before the City Council Monday.

The motion, which was sponsored by second district councilpersons Mary Pat Clarke, Nathaniel McFadden and Edwin Johnson, drew objections from at least one of the two utilities; the Baltimore Gas and Electric Company. The proposal was sent to committee.

A BG&E spokesperson said his company opposed the measure as an unneccessary piece of regulation.

City Councilwoman Clarke said the resolution is intended to end utility shutoffs during weekends and holidays when municipal offices are closed.

Clarke said councilpersons attempting to aid individuals who had their services shut off could not draw upon the services offered by state and municipal agencies during weekends and holidays and would be powerless until the agencies opened again.

BG&E spokesperson John Metzker said the power company gives individuals facing cutoffs several weeks notice, and is available to turn power back on each Saturday. Metzker said these factors limit the inconvince faced by individuals who face power curtailment.

And Metzker said the power company occasionally finds that Saturday is the only time when they can get in to some individuals' residence to shut off power, and is unwilling to forfeit the right to terminate services to these individuals.

"We are opposed to that resolution and we think for good reason. The people who face cutoff have received written and personal notification well in advance, so it is not like they don't know it is coming," Metzker said.

A spokesperson for the C&P Telephone Company said he was not familiar with the proposed resolution and declined to comment. [illegible] reached Thursday afternoon.

Civil rights groups to hold confab

WASHINGTON

The Leadership Conference on Civil Rights a coalition of 162 major national organizations representing Blacks, Hispanic and Asian Americans, labor, women, the handicapped, the aged, the major religious groups, minority businesses and professions, will hold its 3rd annual meeting, January 24 and 25 at the Capital Hilton Hotel.

Sessions will focus on the theme: "The Civil Rights Challenge for the 80s: Equal Economic Opportunity."

Labor leaders push for jobless aid, retraining

The creation of a coalition of the General Assembly seeking relief for the jobless and the issue will be a big concern of legislators.

"Jobs and protecting the unemployed are the single biggest issues, outside of the budget, in Annapolis this year," he said.

Bradley said he and others will be pushing for the enactment of such legislation as a moratorium on mortgage and [illegible] as soon as possible" in Maryland.

Maryland State Department of Labor Employment and Retraining is one of the things the state's labor leaders said they hope to come out of the 1983 General Assembly.

Tom Bradley, president of the Maryland State and District of Columbia AFL-CIO, told the AFRO he will be among the labor leaders attending foreclosures, an extension of unemployment insurance benefits and the creation of a department of labor employment and retraining.

"The problem is so big, we need a department with a secretary at the head of it to make sure people get their benefits on time and that they're trained for jobs to get them off unemployment Bradley said.

The average person in Maryland receives unemployment benefits for about 16 weeks, he said. Benefits can last for up to 53 weeks.

Jo Atwater, a spokeswoman for the Department of Human Resources told th AFRO that as of November 1982 - the latest figures available — 167,398 people were without jobs in Baltimore City, the figure was 42,530.

Another labor official and advocate of the jobless who said he will be in Annapolis lobbying is Kwazi Nkrumah, a United Steelworker official and co-founder of the United Committee of Unemployed People (UCUP).

While interested in the programs outlined above by Bradley, Nkrumah also said his group is seeking the establishment of a bill of rights for the unemployed.

He said both he and Bradley were in Annapolis last week attending a session by a task force established to study the issues of the state's jobless and retraining programs.

"Lopsided" is what Nkrumah called the task force, which was created by Benjamin Cardin, Speaker of the House of Delegates.

"The task force was lopsided in terms of a very heavy representation of business interests," he said adding that labor, blacks and the unemployed were not adequately represented.

A list of proposals drafted by the task force included some "pet projects" that were not "labor intensive," which gave him problems with the proposals.

"That is not to say that some of the proposals will not benefit the state in the long run," Nkrumah said. "But the task force did not address the need for jobs."

He said his efforts will be lobbying for UCUP's bill of rights and other issues affecting the unemployed.

Scholastic Sports Scene

Carver loss blemishes Bears' bright season

Oh, what a game it was!

Carver High let a squeaker get away from them Tuesday afternoon, losing to visiting Northern before a modest home court crowd by a single point, 73-72.

"We should have pulled it out," a disappointed Bear point guard Greg Rooks said after the game. "We were playing good but they came back. I guess it was the turn of the ball. It just went against us," Rooks added.

Th Bears did play well in the first period. But after springing to a 29-16 lead by the end of the opening quarter they let th lead slip away gradually.

Problems on defense let the Vikings score big, and as the Carver offense stalled the Bears were outpointed in each of the remaining quarters; 21-14, 19-18, and 17-11.

Darren Mosley was the Bears' lone bright spot on offense. The rangy center scored a game high 30 points, two of which came on a breakaway slam dunk that ignited the crowd in the game's final moments.

But his stellar effort was wasted when Northern's Julius Lovelist canned both ends of a 1-and-1 free throw opportunity with seven seconds to go to provide the Vikings' slim margin of victory.

The loss was both disappointing and costly for the Westsiders.

It was disappointing because the Bears have been doing well recently. They had come into the contest riding a two game winning streak after having made it to the finals in the La Plata Christmas tournament.

It was costly because the Bears' next two games figure to be tough ones. Carver will journey across town to be hosted by the Dunbar towers of terror Tuesday. And if Dunbar does anything but roll over and play dead Carver will have to drag themselves back over to the Westside in defeat before taking on rival Walbrook at Walbrook in a Friday game.

The outcome of the upcoming contests could be of critical importance to th Bears' standings. Carver, Walbrook, and Dunbar all are in the MSA A conference division II, and the results of the next two games could weigh heavily in determining the Bears' final standing.

With Dunbar looking all but unbeatable and virtually assured of taking the division's top honors it seems likely that Carver and Walbrook will fight it out for second Place. A continuing string of losses would tarnish their chances.

Carver has established itself as one of the premier basketball teams in the area however, regardless of the outcome of the upcoming games. And their success has surprised more than a few fans.

Carver graduated much of its first line talent last spring, and opened the season with but a single player who had been a starter when the 1981-82 season began.

And the team is much smaller than the Bears of last year, and is not able to mix it up inside as easily when the going gets rough.

But it has not proven to be the rebuilding year that many pople expected, however. So far the Bears have established a most respectable 9-4 record.

One reason for the team's success this year is center Darren Mosley. Mosley joined the varsity midway through last season, moving up from the junior varsity to replace former Bear star Dennis Pope who had been felled by a knee injury.

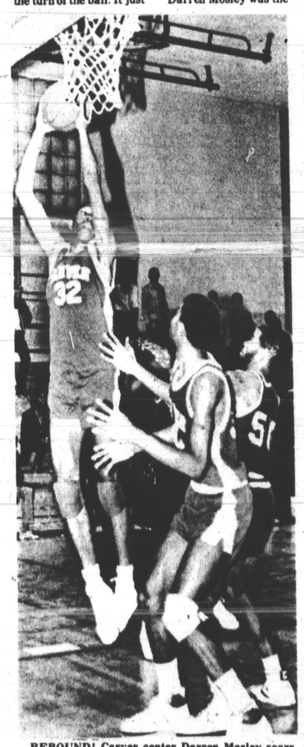
And while Pope was healing, Mosley was learning. "That helped m a lot," Mosley said of last year's varsity experience. "I got a chance to see all of the other players play. That gave me a lot of experience. I know what I am going against now."

Mosley scored most of his 30 points from within 10 feet of the basket, the area in which he said he is most comfortable. Carver coach Robert Jones said Mosley's patience makes him a consistent contributor.

"He has been playing very consistently throughout the season," Jones said. "Once he gets inside the paint he can do anything he wants to do."

Jones said that Mosley has a physical advantage that helps on defense also.

"He measures 6'3" or 6'4", but what helps him are those extra-long arms of his," Jones said, a grin and a chuckle punctuating his observation. "He plays more like a guy that is 6'7". He blocks a lot of shots."



REBOUND! Carver center Darren Mosley soars to snatch a rebound, leaving a teammate and a Northern opponent grounded. Mosley led all scorers in the Tuesday contest with 30 points.

CARVER FLOOR LEADER — The Bears look to point guard Greg Rooks for his steadying influence and floor leadership.

Dunbar's Lewis adds dimension to Poets

By Martin Evans
AFRO Staff Writer

Just what does a player who can come off the bench and score points mean to a team?

That kind of player can mean a lot. Even to a winning ball club stocked with starting talent.

Doubters may inform themselves by asking Dunbar coach Bob Wade about the Poets' supersub forward Reginald Lewis. Wade can give a run down on the value his sixth man has for the team.

"Everyone talks about the Williams and the Bogues and the Dawsons," Wade said, referring to Poet starters Reggie Williams, Tyrone Bogues and Tim Dawson, three of the top schoolboy basketball players in the nation.

"But he is a solid unsung hero. He comes out and does his job," Wade continued.

Wade's comment is a mild understatement, at least. Lewis frequently does more than his share once he gets out on the court.

Although he often must wait until one of the Poet front court players gets into foul trouble before seeing action it is not uncommon for him to appear as one of the scoring leaders when the final buzzer sounds.

And his teammates credit the spidery forward with being a work horse under the backboards and a hustler on the fast break.

"He comes off the bench and gets five or six rebounds within few minutes," Poet guard Mike Brown said after the Walbrook game.

"He adds a new dimension to the team," added Reggie Williams, who usually is reserved in his comments. "He is good player."

Lewis has added another dimension to the Poets, indeed. The 6'7" senior scored 13 points in last week's rout of crosstown rival Walbrook in the Warriors' building, nine of them coming in a 19 point Dunbar fourth quarter.

And he poured in 17 points in the final game at the Johnstown, Pa. tournament which took place during the Christmas holiday. Lewis' efforts earned him the tournament Most Valuable Player award, a feat tht surprised even his coach.

"He got the MVP coming off the bench. That's almost unheard of," Wade said.

Reserve players are usually thought of as slow, awkward and fumble fingered brutes. Many think the only qualification for being a subsitute is being not quite good enough to start.

But basketball people will quickly tell you differently. There is an art to playing the sixth man on a ball club, a skill that can elude even the most talented players.

Coming off the bench demands of players the ability to hit the floor running without disturbing the existing offensive and defensive patterns. Incoming players have to be able to dance to the tune set by their teammates.

"He's got to have the chemistry to come in and blend with the group" Wade said, referring to a sub's qualities. "He and (reserve guard Darryl Wood) are good at that."

"For a lot of guys it takes two or three minutes to warm up. But he gets right into the flow," Wade continued.

Although Lewis is one of the city's best reserve players the Poet cager said if he had his choice he would rather be on the floor for the opening tip.

But the dream of a starting position motivates Lewis to seek the peak of his performance level, the lanky forward said, adding he has not given up hopes that he will earn the right to start before his scholastic career ends.

POET SUPERSUB — Reginald Lewis came off the bench to grab seven rebounds for the Poets in last week's game between Dunbar and Walbrook.

Friday Plus

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