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Mondawmin merchants in uproar over TV report

(See Col. 2 below)

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INSIDE THIS ISSUE

★ COMMUNITY PROFILE—A look at the Rosemont section of the city—its people, places and things. Page 14.

★ OLIVER STREET CENTER—The AFRO visits the facility which is in the forefront of youth activities. Page 15.

★ FRIDAY PLUS—A closer look at Coppin State College, plus a full rundown on activities going on this weekend.

Parren Mitchell will run

RUN, PARREN, RUN — Supporters applaud Congressman Parren J. Mitchell shortly after the Westside lawmaker announced his intentions to seek an eighth term in office. City Councilperson Kwelsi Mfume, D-4th and Iris Reeves, D-5th, and TV news executive George Collins look on.

By Martin Evans
AFRO Staff Writer

Congressman Parren J. Mitchell announced Thursday he will run again for his Seventh District seat next November, ending weeks of increasingly intense speculation that he would end his six-term stay in the office and not run again.

"It is no great secret among my family and friends, community leaders and long-term supporters that I gave careful consideration not to run again," Mitchell said. "I am announcing today that I will seek re-election to the House of Representatives."

Speaking before a crush of scribbling reporters and maneuvering photographers at his Bloomingdale Road office, the 61-year-ld Mitchell said his determination to support policies in Washington to help minorities, labor and the poor, and to help turn back a re-election bid by President Ronald Reagan are reasons for his decision to run again.

"There are a lot of things I would like to do," Mitchell said. "I think if this administration is allowed to continue, (Reagan) will do irreparable harm to the country because of cruel domestic policies and militaristic international policies."

The 12-year congressman made his comments before dozens of long -time supporters, including attorney Larry Gibson, the Rev. Vernon Dobson, State Senator Nathan Irby, D-45, and others. Members of the congressman's family, including his brother,

(Continued on page 7)

ID badges a must at Hariem Pk. Jr. Hi

By Arthur Johnson
AFRO Staff Writer

Three weeks after the murder of 14-year-old Harlem Park student Dewitt Duckett by thieves who wanted his satin Georgetown University jacket, students at the school are attending classes dressed in their winter coats and jackets because locks and lockers have not yet been issued, the AFRO has learned.

"We're trying to get students to remove their coats and develop a locker program," says Principal Edgar Covert.

"We've got so many things going on here now. Usually we issue lockers in October."

The principal says the original locker fee was re-evaluated by a school committee which decided to change the policy in order to achieve 100 percent locker use.

Covert says each student should have both a lock and a locker, "hopefully within a week."

The Harlem Park school community is also involved in a massive effort to photograph the over 1800-member student body and faculty for clip-on identification cards.

"We started taking pictures Monday and it will probably take two weeks to do it all," says Covert.

In addition to I.D. cards for students and faculty, cards will be available also for visitors.

Wednesday morning Art Instructors James Williams and Macfarlane Dailey directed the operation of the photographing process from the stage of the Harlem Park auditorium with Ninth grade students Keisha Epps and Angela Webb, typing the students' names and pertinent information on the cards.

Student Vernon Williams cut the pictures apart (photos are developed in groups of four), laminated the cards (encased the photos attached to I.D. cards in plastic). Then, each clase was summoned to the auditorium for scheduled picture taking.

"When we see the ones not wearing it, we'll go to the nearest adult and tell them," says Williams of the new school security measure.

Student Leslie Keemer told one teaching wearing the I.D., "You look just like a warden over at the jail."

"It's a positive thing, something

Edgar Covert, school principal

(Continued on page 22)

'We have no choice' Greyhound strikers say of contract offer

By Edward King
AFRO Staff Writer

"It is the Council's firm opinion that acceptance of this package was the only way to save your job."

Such a statement included in a recent letter to local Greyhound union members from the Amalgamated Council of Greyhound Local Unions has begun to force most striking workers to accept the new agreement reached between union and company officials even though most of them are not in favor of the proposal.

Local union members argue that there is very little difference in this new contract proposal than the last. The 7.5 percent wage cut still remains the same, but under the latest proposal, there will be no hiring of part-time help, no split shifts and a two percent reduction to the pension fund. Otherwise everything else is the same.

Union officials assured members that their seniority could not be protected if they did not accept this proposal.

For a 26-year veteran of Greyhound employment like John Ferguson, that proposed a problem. "I really have no choice. I'm being forced to accept this contract. But you can very well bet, I'm going to think hard before making my decision."

Union officials argued that through this contract, the Council was able to recoup several millions of dollars in benefits which Greyhound had been insisting on taking away.

"Those benefits were there in the first place," said Harold Young, local Greyhound driver. "It's an attempt to make us look like we've gained what we already had. I think the union has forsaken us.

"They urged us to stick this thing out. They told us hang out there, we can beat them and look they have left us out in the cold."

The Council by majority vote of 162 to 76 recommended that union members accept the proposal.

In the union letter the Council stated, "(We) have managed to eliminate part-time workers, dual classifications, split shifts for terminal personnel, run-arounds, 6th and 7th days, three day waiting period on sick leave, and changes in the vacation schedule."

Outraged, Baltimore strikers reluctantly think about approving the contract by the Dec. 19 deadline for returning ballots.

"I don't make enough money as it is," exclaims Maurice Stokes, a baggage clerk. "I can't even get a raise for three years."

Sure enough, provided within the contract are provisions that allow for a freeze on the cost of living increases until 1986.

(Continued on page 22)

Federal grand jury indicts security firm

A federal grand jury has returned a seven-count indictment against Liberty Security Services Inc., 2755 Edmondson Ave. and Leonard F. Moyer, chairman of the board and principal owner; Lawrence A. Brunt Jr., and Robert L. Houston, both officers in the business.

According to records filed in federal court Dec. 2, the indictment arises out of a scheme to defraud the General Services Admini stration (GSA) of monies allegedly due pursuant to contracts to provide guard servicews services at certain government buildings in the Baltimore area.

According to the indictment, the essence of the conspiracy was to submit to the GSA documents which falsely inflated the number of hours worked by Liberty employees at the government buildings.

The indictments filed in federal court state "Liberty was to provide guard services at certain government buildings including the Metro West Social Security building, the Dickinson Complex on Woodlawn Drive and the Social Security Administration Computer Center."

"At times relevant to this indictment, Brunt was employed by Liberty in a managerial capacity, primarily as president and executive director of Liberty."

The court record states Houston was employed by Liberty in a managerial capacity, primarily as vice president and president of Liberty.

According to federal court records, "It was further a part of the conspiracy that the defendants caused the GSA to pay

(Continued on page 7)

LOTTERY

The lotto jackpot prize for the drawing to be conducted Dec. 10 will have a single annuity value of approximately $2,000,000.

Martin Puncke, director of the Maryland State Lottery said this is the largest single lottery prize that has ever been available in the Maryland Lottery. The drawing will be 7:55 p.m. Saturday on WJZ-TV.

The lottery numbers for December were:

PICK 3

12/01/83	711
12/02/83	925
12/03/83	676
12/05/83	460
12/06/83	313
12/07/83	472

PICK 4

12/01/83	4819
12/02/83	3443
12/05/83	8277
12/06/83	3392
12/07/83	2925

LOTTO

12/03/83: 02 04 07 17 18 31

SUSCRIPTION GAME

12/07/83	6-digit:	708737
	5-digit:	88755
	4-digit:	3089

Not all are happy with subway:

Lafayette Mkt. starves while Lexington booms

By Racine S. Winborne
AFRO Staff Writer

Merchants at the Lafayette Market are displeased with the business the new subway system has generated.

Despite contentions that they were assured that the rapid transit line would draw outsiders into the shopping area, they say things have remained virtually the same.

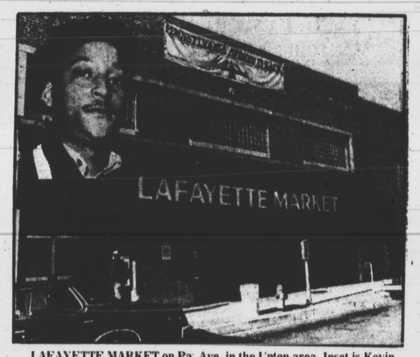
In some cases, vendors feel that the number of people visiting the 26-year-old market has actually dwindled, and they hold the MTA directly responsible.

"I have two vegetable stalls for sale," explains Freddie Neal, owner of Freddie's Produce. "People can get downtown much easier now...it's more convenient to get to Lexington Market now."

While black vendors aren't the only ones suffering inside the food center, many may be forced out of business very soon, they say. Right now, they are forced to play a waiting game and hope that their earnings don't slip further.

"They fail to realize that this is a neighborhood market. Lexington Market is world-known..., I use to hear about it in

(Continued on page 22)



LAFAYETTE MARKET on Pa. Ave. in the Upton area. Inset is Kevin Peterson, co-owner of William and Kevin Meats, who objects to the Upton Station name.

Mondawmin merchants call TV series a 'hatchet job'

By R. b. Jones

Mondawmin Mall management merchants and community leaders from adjoining areas have raised a storm or protest over a recent report aired on Channel 2 entitled "Crime in Mondawmin." The group accused the station of biased reporting that concentrated on minor negative incidents at the mall and ignored what they see as tremendous progress.

Les Coleman, the reporter who did the series for the station defended the report. "About 25 people came to us with complaints about the security at the mall. That's how we decided to do the story.

"We talked to Major Bolesca of Northwestern District. We also talked to several security guards about the situation at the mall. We talked to about a dozen merchants off camera who would not come on. Three agreed to come on camera.

"The people who were interviewed on camera who changed their tune are second guessing an interview and that is not productive. I was not even aware that there was any controversy about the report."

The Mondawmin Transit Planning and Action Committee, a community group and the Mondawmin Merchants Association held a meeting with a representative of the station Thursday evening.

Among the major concerns of the group were why was Mon-

(Continued on page 7)

TATTLETALES

Well, loves, we have returned. We've been gone for almost two years — but we yield to the demand of the many people who have asked for its return, so you will be able to find Tattletales in your AFRO each week — beginning now:

DID YOU HEAR about the real reason P. J. announced he would run again for Congress? Well, what we heard was that P.J. has had some health problems — in fact, we know for a fact that he spent some time in Bethesda Naval Hospital.

But we are told that he would have agreed to step down, if he could have a hand in picking his successor. So, who do you think he choose . . . one of the city councilmen — and not Michael Mitchell either.

Word is that P.J. wanted Kweisi for the slot, but his family objected mightily — saying he should endorse his nephew Clarence. Nay, sayeth P.J., who chose to keep all options open — ergo: he will run again. We only heard.

* * *

DID YOU HEAR about what happened when some of the high muckety-mucks of the Blacks For Schaefer movement called on Mayor Schaefer expecting to receive some sort of reward.

Well, we heard it was all sweetness and light until they met with the mayor, and Willy Don is supposed to have told them they would receive absolutely nothing . . . zilch . . . zero, and please leave.

We only heard.

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