PLAYERS GO PLACES

Meet
Players Menthol.
Kings and 100s

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

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- AFRO PROFILES A. Dwight Pettit. He has entered the race for Congress. Page 7.
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- NEWBORN BABY THROWN IN THE DRAIN—Mother is sent to Montrose. See column 2.


# State of black America is at low ebb

(See Column 2)

SATURDAY LATE CITY EDITION

Baltimore Afro-American

WE ARE NOW IN OUR 92ND YEAR

92ND YEAR NO. 4 ... the AFRO AMERICAN Co. BALTIMORE, MD. JANUARY 21, 1984 35 CENTS

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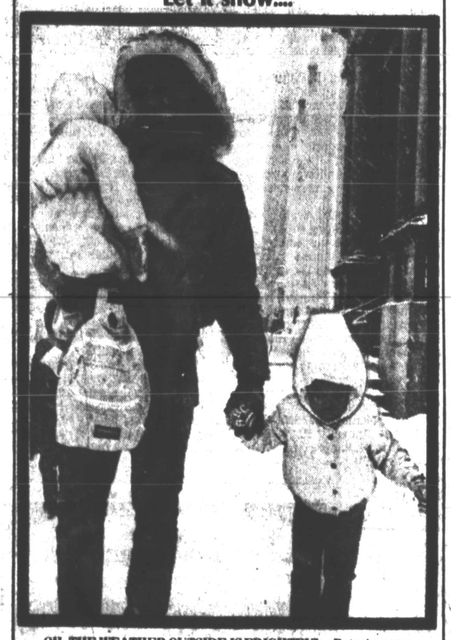
Let it snow....



OH, THE WEATHER OUTSIDE IS FRIGHTFUL—But who cares. At least, that's what the Cousins family seems to be saying as the AFRO photographer, Paul Greene caught them on Eutaw St. during Wednesday's storm. Shown are Craig, Duke and Kiana Cousins.

PHONE USERS GET A REPRIEVE:

# FCC says no to access charge

By Eddie King
AFRO Staff Writer

AT and T wanted to charge all of its customers a $2 access fee. The FCC said no. In a meeting in Washington yesterday, the access fee for residential customers, which was to go into effect on April 3, 1984, has been outlawed—at least for now.

The Federal Communications Commission denied temporarily AT&T's request for a $2 access fee to have been charged to small businesses and residential customers for long distance service.

Yesterday's ruling was a tremendous set back for AT&T who as of Jan. 1 broke off as the parent company for seven regional companies now operating independently.

The access charge was the charge agreed upon by the FCC that would cover the interconnections between local companies and the long distance network.

Before the break-up, that charge was automatically included in C&P's montly bill, but now must be handled as a separate charge.

In the past, big businesses subsidized for smaller businesses and residences because of their heavy use of the long distance service. Their fee for long distance service has always been higher.

With the split, AT&T suggested that some of the burden be taken off larger businesses and divided some by applying a $2 access fee to residential customers and a $6 access fee to small businesses that would go into affect around April 3.

Believed because of congressional pressure, the FCC decided to delay-to as late as June 1985-the newly proposed access charge until a study could be properly done that would indicate how to best apply these charges without bringing substantial harm to customers.

"We find any delay in implementation of the FCC order extremely troublesome," said AT&T's Executive Vice President Kenneth J. Whalen. "It is a disservice to customers. It is intended to help, but it could prevent the sizable reductions in long distance rates we had planned."

AT&T had originally proposed to reduce long distance rates by approximately 10.5 percent.

Whalen argued that the FCC's action forces AT&T customers to continue subsidizing their long distance competitions.

Carl Smith, spokesman for C&P, said that they were in favor of the charge because it spreaded the charge around as opposed to just allowing big businesses to pay most of it.

Smith said that such consistent demands from big businesses will tempt them to withdraw from the network and build their own system.

Under the plan tentatively adopted yesterday, the access charges business customers pay for their hook-up to long distance services-$6 per line-will still go into effect April 3 as scheduled.

(Continued on page 20)

# Governor's message falls short of education needs

By Arthur Johnson
AFRO BUREAU

ANNAPOLIS — Increased aid to families with dependent children, Morgan State University's Engineering school, Coppin State and public education were all part of Governor Hughes budget proposals for fiscal year 1984 in his State of the State Message delivered Wednesday at noon.

Governor Hughes also granted the wishes of those seeking a proposed Chesapeake Bay cleanup plan and pay raises for state employees with no major tax increase.

However, funding for these areas depends on the passage of Hughes' proposed Pension Reform Bill, which would cut retirement benefits for state workers saving the state $82 million. The state retirement system currently provides cost-of-living increases for a large number of its members.

Hughes also proposed a repeal of the requirement for circuit court judges to stand for re-election.

The proposed $6.9 billion budget for fiscal year 1984 (beginning July 1) promises $60 million in aid for school systems, about $16 million for Bay cleanup, and a six percent raise for state employees which will cost the state $64 million.

Continued on page 2

# Friday the 13th was really her lucky day

By Racine S. Winborne
AFRO Staff Writer

A few crazy things happened over the span of four days beginning with last Friday the 13th. It is infamous now FRIDAY THE 13TH, the frightening result of a series of horror flicks.

Historically bad things are supposed to happen to jittery people on the 13th or at least strange unexplainable things. This year, on that particular date, somebody won a mint, and out of millions of possible winners, nobody knew who had actually won. Not until a couple of days later.

Mrs. Singletary went to Lester's Food Market that day and handed a

Continued on page 2

Mrs. Delois Singletary

# Balto. was ready but the snow was a tease

By Tyrone Vines
AFRO Staff Writer

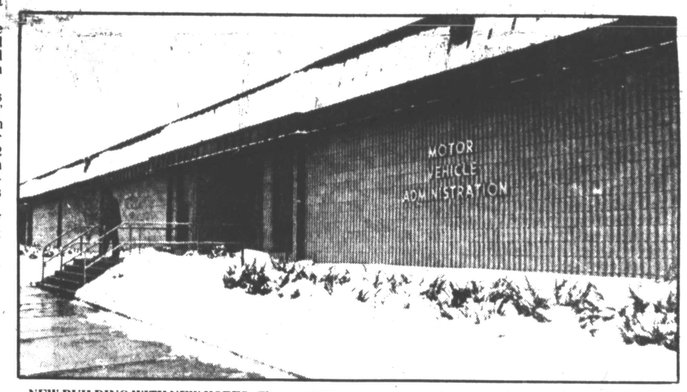
Snow-shy Baltimore residents jumped the gun this week, as business dismissed employees early, schools closed and commuters went slip-sliding home through a midday rush hour.

For Baltimore's television weather forecasters, the prediction for Wednesday might have been better had they used a crystal ball, a pinch of bats' wings and some fairy dust.

The storm, which in early morning had been forecast to begin as freezing rain or sleet in Baltimore, came on as heavy snow and covered most of the rest of the state, too.

Frank Babusci, chief of the city's emergency snow cleanup operations,

Continued on page 2




NEW BUILDING WITH NEW HOPES: The new MVA building which opened on 17 January, with an office space capacity of 29,375 square feet. MVA officials are hopeful that the new facility will provide drivers with a speedier visit to the MVA. It is located at 2500 Gwynns Falls Parkway.

## LOTTERY

The Lotto Jackpot prize for the drawing to be conducted on Jan. 21 will have a single annuity value of approximately $1,000,000.

The lottery numbers for January were:

PICK THREE

| | |
|---|---|
| 1-2-84 | 243 |
| 1-3-84 | 120 |
| 1-4-84 | 899 |
| 1-5-84 | 211 |
| 1-6-84 | 700 |
| 1-7-84 | 754 |
| 1-9-84 | 108 |
| 1-10-84 | 180 |
| 1-11-84 | 513 |
| 1-12-84 | 727 |
| 1-13-84 | 953 |
| 1-14-84 | 590 |
| 1-16-84 | 275 |
| 1-17-84 | 505 |
| 1-18-84 | 726 |

PICK FOUR

| | |
|---|---|
| 1-2-84 | 8187 |
| 1-3-84 | 8478 |
| 1-4-84 | 9711 |
| 1-5-84 | 1515 |
| 1-6-84 | 7388 |
| 1-9-84 | 3717 |
| 1-10-84 | 2447 |
| 1-11-84 | 3774 |
| 1-12-84 | 7711 |
| 1-13-84 | 6556 |
| 1-16-84 | 1584 |
| 1-17-84 | 2163 |
| 1-18-84 | 6133 |

LOTTO

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1-7-84 | 05 | 13 | 31 | 32 | 33 | 39 |
| 1-14-83 | 09 | 10 | 16 | 17 | 28 | 35 |

SUBSCRIPTION GAME

| | |
|---|---|
| 1-4-84 | |
| 6-digit | 377779 |
| 5-digit | 93511 |
| 4-digit | 8228 |
| 1-11-84 | |
| 6-digit | 746976 |
| 5-digit | 78502 |
| 4-digit | 5121 |
| 1-18-84 | |
| 6-digit | 555164 |
| 5-digit | 68437 |
| 4-digit | 3548 |

NUL REPORT:

# The state of Black America at low ebb

WASHINGTON, D.C.—Declaring that "the plight of black Americans remained strained throughout 1983 with no light apparent at the end of the tunnel," John E. Jacob, President of the National Urban League, predicted that the "deep changes in the economy and the freeze in racial progress," will be of primary concern to them during 1984.

Jacob made this observation as he released "The State of Black America-1984," an annual report by the National Urban League that explores in detail the experiences of Blacks over the past year in a number of crucial areas.

This year's report contains major papers on the economy, the implications of high tech for blacks, the black vote, the progress of civil rights, urban education, and black single female-headed households. It also includes an overview by Jacob and a series of policy recommendations from the NUL.

"While white Americans celebrate a long-overdue economic recovery and a falling unemployment rate, black America is buried in a depression of crushing proportions," Urban League chief John Jacob told a news conference, "The plain ugly fact is that there is no recovery for black Americans."

Jacob released the League's annual "State of Black America" report, which includes papers on the economy, "high tech" industries, the black, single female household, the black vote, the state of urban education and development of civil rights law in the past 30 years.

"The state of black America is a disaster," he said.

Jacob said blacks, angry and

(Continued on page 20)

# MVA moves — but not very far

By Tyrone Vines
AFRO Staff Writer

Remember those days when you had to get up at 4:30 a.m. during the vehicle registration period to beat the crowd gathered at the Motor Vehicle Administration building in Mondawmin Mall? Well, those days have been numbered with the opening of the new MVA building at 2500 Gwynns Falls Parkway across from the Food-A-Rama market.

According to Agnes Stoicos, acting administrator for the Motor Vehicle Administration, "We are leasing the new building, with the option to buy from Irving Kidwell, for $28,210 per month."

The new facility has 29,375 square feet of office space, as opposed to the old location which had 20,800 square feet of office space.

"With the new office we will provide driver rehabilitation clinic classes, which are in the evening; alcohol education programs,; investigative services, which include collection of uninsured motorist penality fees; vehicle renewal stickers (tag renewal stickers). We will also issue learners' permits, drivers' license, renewal of drivers' licenses, and duplicate licenses."

"We will provide for vision screening of drivers' license applicants and other important services to the public," Stoicos stated.

According to the MVA branch manager for Baltimore, Ms. Eltra Nelson, "the reason for the additional office space is to eliminate a crowded condition that existed in the previous office, thereby providing a better service to the public."

"The design of the new office also allows for the flow of applicants to be processed in a more timely fashion than was the case in the other location," Ms. Nelson added. "The customers enjoy coming into a place that is larger. We are able to flow them better because of the larger facility."

MVA officials stated that nine other sites in the city were considered by

(Continued on page 20)

# Mother who dumped her baby sent to Montrose

By Tyrone Vines
AFRO Staff Writer

"The child was terrified of something, but we will never know just what that something was."

This was the response of Juvenile Court Judge Milton B. Allen after he had ordered a 17-year-old city girl who admitted dumping her newborn baby in a West Baltimore storm drain 2½ months ago to be committed for an indefinite period to Montrose School this week.

Judge Allen said in dismay, "The mystery is that she never said why she threw the baby down the storm drain."

In fact according to court records, the 17-year-old girl denied that she had had a baby even though medical authorities were able to produce medical evidence to the contrary.

The abandoned baby girl was less than two hours old, when she was dropped in a storm drain by its mother.

The newborn child was then rescued by Maurice Hill, a 28-year old college student who was driving through the area of Bloom and Division Sts. with some friends.

That rainy evening, Hill and a friend were waiting for a stop sign at Bloom and Division Sts., when Hill's friend described what he said was a cat on the prowl, but later turned out to be a baby crying.

Hill who insisted upon parking the car to investigate a storm drain where he saw some movement in a yellow plastic bag.

Reaching down into the storm drain, he began pulling the bag out of the murky water. But just as the bag was about to clear the drain opening, the bag tore and the baby fell out still covered with after-birth.

Luckily Hill was able to grab the child out of the storm drain and hand it to his cousin who wrapped it in her overcoat. When police arrived, they found a trail of blood leading from the drain to a near-by house where they made their arrest.

After the trial, Judge Allen explained the purpose for committing the 17-year-old girl to Montrose. "The school has helped many children who have come from similar family conditions as this young girl. It was clear that she couldn't survive in the atmosphere where she lived. By going to Montrose, she will have the opportunity to mature, and receive the needed attention to recover from her troubled past."

"Even though, there may be a chance that she will recover and return to society better able to deal with womanhood, there are still many juveniles who don't have that opportunity. Many of the juveniles that come to this court are repeat offenders, with sometimes eight or more prior convictions. Given the youngness in age, their names are not publicized and little is known about what goes on in Juvenile courts. In fact, if the general public knew of the types of criminal offenses that went on in the juvenile courts there would be more attention given by the public to the juvenile court system. There is a serious need to examine the juvenile courts in regard to the types and usefulness of actions taken by the courts to combat juvenile crimes."

Leonard Gmeiner, superintendent

(Continued on page 20)