—Douglass' desire

Continued from Page 1

job.

Douglass said he has a strong background in government finance, has helped sponsor and pass legislation affecting how the state does business, and is a chairman of a House subcommittee.

He said he is "encouraged" about his chances to be the state's first black treasurer and has been campaigning for the post for the past seven months.

Douglass said before he began his campaign he spoke with James, who has been treasurer for the past 12 years. At that time, Douglass said James indicated he was considering retiring from office.

"Now there is some question about whether or not he will consider retirement," Douglass said.

James said he has spoken with Douglass several times but cannot remember their conversations.

"He's been in here a number of times," James said. "He asked about details of the office."

About a year and a half ago, James said he spoke with a daily newspaper reporter about retiring. He said at the time he considered stepping down because he had been in office a long time and thought it might be a proper time to step down.

James said he has since been persuaded by legislative leaders to reconsider but would not say by whom.

The office of the treasurer was created in 1776, according to Carol Jones, a spokeswoman for the Legislative Reference Department of the Maryland General Assembly.

Then the state had two treasurers, one for the Eastern and Western Shores. The office was consolidated in 1841, Mr. Jones said.

The treasurer is elected by a joint ballot of both houses — the House of Delegates and the Maryland Senate, she said.

Among the treasurer's duties are responsibility for accounting and daily deposits, preparation of all checks and the investment of the state's surplus funds.

The treasurer also administers the state's insurance, renders quarterly reports, handles cash receipts and disbursements and is a member of various boards and commissions.

One of the most important of boards is Public Works. The three-member board, comprised of the governor, comptroller and treasurer, runs the state when the General Assembly is out of session.

Sen. Troy Brailey, Dels. Pete Rawlings and Elijah Cummings are among Douglass' supporters.

Cummings rated Douglass' chances of becoming treasurer 50-50.

Rawlings and Brailey said if James decided to run for another term it is unlikely the legislature will vote him out of office.

If for some reason James is unable to complete his next term, "John would be the one to reckon with," Rawlings said.

Brailey disagreed and said former State Sen. Harry McGuirk's name has been mentioned for the job, "so Douglass would still have a fight on his hands."

All parties agree Governor-elect William Donald Schaefer "will have enormous influence over the General Assembly and the selection process."

Sen. Nathan Irby, D-45th, told the AFRO there was "no doubt in his mind the governor will want a treasurer supportive of his policies."

Bob Douglass, a spokesman for the Governor-elect's office, said during the past weekend Schaefer has been weighing and evaluating people for different positions but has yet to make a decision about whom he would want to see as treasurer or other important posts.

—Politics '87

Continued from Page 1

District.

When asked about a decision on his successor, Mfume said he had been talking with several people who have expressed an interest in assuming his seat.

Mfume said he expected to make a decision about a successor by week's end and promised the AFRO would be among the first to know.

Mfume said he is impressed by the quality of potential candidates and was "extremely impressed" by Mrs. Smith.

"I've gotten letters from individuals recommending others for the job, and I've received letters from people who want it themselves," Mfume said. "I'm impressed by others, but I'm extremely impressed with Sheila. Her commitment to the community is a real one and a valid one."

Mrs. Smith could not be reached for comment at AFRO presstime.

Rodney Orange

It was only three weeks ago when Rodney Orange, a long-time participant of the city's political scene, lit up like a Christmas tree with the mention of his name in the same breath as expected City Council vacancies in the Fourth Councilmanic District.

Now, however, City Hall sources are saying Orange is expected to launch a campaign for the City Council but in an entirely different district — one considerably south of the 4th.

Del. Larry Young

Del. Larry Young, D-39th, certainly has had his share of bad news in the House of Delegates lately, but it still is business as usual.

Young, who is chairman of the Governor's Commission on Black and Minority Health, conducted a meeting Wednesday to adopt the final version of the commission's preliminary report.

"The commission is charged with making a preliminary report to the governor by Dec. 1," he said. ". . . It looks like we will be able to make that deadline."

A couple of weeks ago it seemed Young was in the eye of a hurricane of controversy over the possible loss of his house chairmanship. During that time he took his office telephone off the hook. It is back on now.

Circuit Court

Gov. Hughes recently named Assistant Attorney General Ellen M. Heller to the Baltimore City Circuit Court. Ms. Heller succeeded Judge Solomon Baylor who retired.

This and another appointment of a white to replace blacks on the bench is causing concern in the black community.

For Circuit Court Judge Mable Houze Hubbard it also is a time of disappointment.

"It's always disappointing to see the number of blacks on the Circuit Court decrease," she said. "We know there are capable, competent blacks who have applied for the position and who were studied by the Judicial Review Board.

"Our hope always is that black people, competent black people, are appointed to the bench until it does not make a difference if they are black or white. Now, it's still important."

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—Maryland Nat'l

Continued from Page 1

Middleton, executive vice president of Maryland National.

Kenneth Montague, a board member of Maryland Citizen Action Coalition and president of Baltimore Neighborhoods Inc., said: "We were very pleased that the bank responded readily to our concerns, and acknowledged the risks to our communities when affordable loans for mortgages, rehabs and small business are not available."

According to Tom Chalkley of the Maryland Citizen Action Coalition, one of 14 community-based organizations taking part in the program, this is the first program of its kind in Baltimore.

Beginning in the spring of 1987, officials said, the bank will lend a minimum of $50 million to households in the "212" zip code area whose total income is at or below median income, commercial enterprises whose gross annual revenues do not exceed $5 million and non-profit developers of housing for low- and moderate-income housing in the target area.

—I have won

Continued from Page 1

court action in which the city sought to have her legally removed from her home, Judge Thomas Ward ruled last week that the city could not evict Miss Sunday from the city-owned rowhouse she moved into last August, a move that prevented her from being homeless.

According to her attorney, Joe Williams of Legal Aid, "The judge decided that because the city had fraudulent represented itself to the courts (earlier), it would not be in the interest of justice to evict her."

He explained that initially, the city had misinformed the judge that it had attempted to contact Miss Sunday before it filed an injunction to have her evicted last month.

Williams said that evidence has surfaced since that time that proved that the city did not actually contact her.

Though this battle has resulted favorably for Miss Sunday, the war is not over, because the judge's ruling only stipulates that she can remain in the house until there is a permanent owner. This means that applications are still being taken and reviewed by the city's Neighborhood Progress Administration (NPA) for permanent occupancy.

Last Tuesday, Miss Sunday submitted her application to NPA, at which time an NPA representative informed her that a local contractor had also applied and that he expected a "mad rush" of applicants before the noon deadline.

Accompanying his client in submitting the application, Williams acknowledged that he is asking the city to waive the $250 application fee it has mandated for applying for vacant houses.

According to the lawyer, he was informed by an NPA official that he application fee was "to prevent people from submitting bogus applications." He added that since it is obvious that Miss Sunday is serious about purchasing the house, the fee should be waived.

"I think it would be a showing of good faith on the city's part if they did this (waived the fee)," Williams said.

Miss Sunday is offering $250 for the three-story house, a price she feels is fair in light of the overall circumstances.

"The city has sold houses to contractors for one dollar, for $100. I am offering more than that," she said. Earlier, Miss Sunday had expressed total disdain for the city's policy of offering vacant houses in the area to contractors at a much less expensive price than to private neighborhood residents.

According to an official city price listing, the city has offered to sell her the house she is now living in for $11,850, but has offered about 30 houses in the area to a local contractor for a total of $35,450.

"I understand that big business is necessary to make a city of this size run effectively, but I find it hard to believe that the city wants to benefit big business at the expense of a hard-working individual," Miss Sunday argued.

Meanwhile, the energetic, profoundly conscientious college graduate has other items on her agenda. She acknowledged that the Franklin Square Association, of which she is an integral member, has many plans in the working to revitalize the neighborhood.

"We want to see housing in the area that represents the spectrum from homesteaders to doctors and lawyers. But we want to maintain ourselves here also," she asserted, apparently responding to reports that the city is trying to force lower-income persons out of the area in order to attract more affluent individuals.

She continued that the association plans to further enhance the community by inviting businesses to the area, which would provide jobs for community residents. In addition, the association is trying to establish various landmarks to express African culture in the neighborhood.

One of these proposed landmarks is to be called, "The African University," according to Miss Sunday. She said that the city-owned building at the corner of Saratoga and Carrollton Sts., has been agreed upon by association members as the facility it will try to acquire for the educational institution.

The university's purpose would be to "teach about the link between black people here and in Africa" said Miss Sunday, adding, "We used to think that in America we had to melt and blend in to be a part of the larger population. We realize now that we need to maintain what makes us unique.

"We want to see all ethnicities represented in our area, but we primarily want to see African culture expressed in our area," she continued.

The socially conscious, intelligent crusader has received letters applauding her cause from well-known, local figures such as 7th Congressional District Representative-elect, Kweisi Mfume and Interdenominational Ministerial Alliance president, Douglas Miles.

In addition to receiving praise and support from local organizations such as Baltimore Neighborhood Inc., the All People's Congress and the Interdenominational Ministerial Alliance, Miss Sunday acknowledged that she has also received great support from local residents.

"I can't walk down the street without someone saying to me, "It's great what you're doing. Don't give up, we have given up too often. We have to begin to fight again," she said.

—Home violence

Continued from Page 1

other family members as well. No one can know for sure whether last Saturday's incident, involving two young brothers, aged 12 and 13 had anything to do with the holidays, but while they were visiting their grandmother's home, the eldest stabbed his brother in the back with a steak knife and punctured his lung.

According to Grosfeld, statistics bear out the theory that more instances of violence occur during the holidays, but it is difficult to tell whether it is the holidays themselves or the many complex underlying factors, such as economic and societal pressures exerted on the family.

One thing is certain, there is an underrepresentation of abuse cases and this comes at a time when the reporting rate on abuse is higher than it ever was, but only half of the cases are reported to the police, Grosfeld said, and police don't always do a formal report on these.

Dr. Barbara Herbert, an emergency room doctor at the Johns Hopkins Hospital, said that although there is no solid documentation as to whether domestic violence cases increase during the holiday season, her experience, in an anecdotal way, says this is true.

Last December, a significant percentage of women in their early pregnancies, were treated in the emergency room for traumas that suggested domestic abuse, but she said there can never be certainty because we still do not have the climate where we sufficiently protect the victim.

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Explosion issues in health care has come

By Del. Larry Young

In the past decade the medical industry has witnessed an explosion of issues. From cost containment, to quality of care, to H.M.O. and hospital regulations the issues have been diverse. On Thursday and Friday, Nov. 13 and 14, the Maryland Health Roundtable held its Sixth Annual Health Convocation. The convocation is probably the largest on-going health care issues conference in the Mid-Atlantic region.

As chairperson of the convocation and Maryland's Legislative Leader on health care issues I stated, "For a health conference to have a two-day attendance of nearly 1,200 persons demonstrates that people are taking the issues seriously."

With the State of Maryland as well as the entire nations wrestling with the problem of reducing health care costs without adversity affecting the quality of health care, this year's convocation theme, "Quality of Care in a Cost Conscious Society," was right on target.

With both state and federal agencies regulating hospital and other health care cost more stringently, the on-going concern has been whether or not the quality of health care would decline proportionately. Health care users and advocates are vociferous in insisting that quality of care standards remain high while cost cutting initiatives are implemented.

While the Health Convocation is essentially a Maryland-Washington area event, the speakers had a national aura. The Hon. Louis Stokes, U.S. representative, Ohio, gave his views on the availability of appropriate health care in a price sensitive market. Noted Lecturer Eli Ginzberg pointed out the "Uncertainties on the Health Care Horizon," and the potential problems of inadequate health care planning.

Industry was represented by the Vice President of General Motors Personnel Administration and Development Staff, William P. MacKinnon. He shared General Motors blueprint for providing quality health care in a cost effective manner.

The third estate gave input via the presentation of George F. Will, distinguished columnist and television news analyst. Will offered his insights regarding "The Washington Scene" and its impact on the health care arena. To assure a balanced program, Samuel A. McCann, the Department of Health and Human Services Assistant Secretary for Management Budget presented, "The Impact of Health Care Cost on the Budget."

I presided over a reception which honored "Our Partners in Health." This year's honorees were Adele Wilzack, secretary of the State Department of Health and Mental Hygiene; Rep. - elect Benjamin Cardin, Lt. Gov. - elect Melvin Steinberg; John Sargeant, former executive director of the Medical and Chirurgical Faculty of Maryland (posthumously) and Lois Young, M.D., (posthumously). I and Sonya Gershowitz, vice-chairperson, presented certificates in recognition of the honorees' efforts to foster improvements in Maryland's Health Care Arena.

On Thursday evening about 100 hearty souls were on hand for the first public hearing of the Governor's Commission on Black and Minority Health.

The commission was assembled by Gov. Hughes in recognition of the peculiar health problems affecting Maryland's black population. The commission and its task forces have labored since March of this year in approaching the various health issues affecting black people.

In all seven individual task force chairpersons reported their findings and fielded questions and comments.

The following represents the task forces and their respective chairperson:

- Cardiovascular disease, cancer and other causes of Minority Morbidity and Mortality, Hon. Paula Hollinger.
- Maternal, Child and Family Issues, Maria Pou.
- Finance, Access and Indigent Care, Rudy Arrendondo.
- Subatance Abuse, Helen McAlister.
- Aging and Mental Health, Aris T. Allen, M.D.
- Homicide, Suicide and Unintentional Injuries, Hon. Kurt Schmoke.
- Minority Health Manpower Development, Loreatta Richardson.

The question and answer period ended a very long first day for the convocation participants.

In spite of the lateness of the hour in which the first day's session ended, day two kicked off right on time. Secretary Wilzack gave the remarks for the Plenary Session. Following her inspiring remarks, the convocation participants broke for the seven concurrent morning worships.

The worshops were titled "Benefits of Regionalized Health Care Services," "Is Cost Containment Undermining Quality of Care?", "Quality Care: Hospital Control System," "Access to Quality Care for the Medically indigent." "Alcoholism: A Focus on Youth and Adolescents," "H.M.O.'s and Medical education; Strange Bedfellows?", and "Quality of Care in a Managed Health Care System."

The luncheon session featured greetings from Sen. - elect Barbara A. Mikulski and pointed remarks from Michael Bromberg, executive director of the Federation of American Health Systems.

After the luncheon remarks seven more concurrent sessions were held. These sessions included "Cost effective Care for Youth," "Provision of Mental Health Services to the Homeless," "Cost Benefits of a Comprehensive Rehabilitation Program," "Quality Care, Appropriate Care: Developing tools for Measurement," "House calls for Kids with Disabilities," "Administrative Waste, Competition and Inadequate Regulation and "Revolutionary Changes in the Prepared Industry."

Over the past six years The Maryland Health convocation has witnessed a consistently growing audience. What was once just a dream for me is now a major event in Maryland's Health industry. It is the only time during the year that health care administrators, Physicians, lay people, legislators, as well as labor leaders and the insurance industry, get together in such large numbers to discuss topics as far-reaching as those presented.

The 22 session planners represented a cross-section of companies and agencies including Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Maryland, the West Baltimore Community Health Care Center, Carefirst, the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, the Johns Hopkins Health System, the Baltimore City Health Department and District 1199E, National Union of Hospital and Health Care Employees.

Planning for next year's convocation are already being formulated. I promise that the 1987 convocation will continue to address the timely issues of the 1980s and beyond.

Two views on the Health Convocation

Maintaining care in a cost-conscious society

By N.G. Greaves

The difficult issue of maintaining quality health care in a cost-conscious society was addressed at the Sixth Annual Maryland Health Convocation on Nov. 13-14 at the Convention Center.

Viewpoints from both ends of the political spectrum were presented on the first day of the convocation, which was sponsored and underwritten by Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Maryland, and attended by more than 500 health care advocates. Among the speakers were representatives from the Reagan Administration, a multinational corporation, a noted political columnist, a member of the academic world and a congressman.

"I don't think we could have asked for anything more," said Del. Larry Young, who represents Maryland's 39th legislative district and is the chairman of the convocation. "This is a critical question facing society and hopefully this exchange of ideas, from both sides of the spectrum, will help us find some solutions."

In his opening remarks, Blue Cross and Blue Shield President Carl J. Sardegna told the audience that "all of us agree that cost containment is a critical issue in health care. However, I believe that the real long term, fundamental issue facing the health care industry is one of quality. That is why the focus of this convocation — quality of health care in a cost conscious society — is so appropriate.

"Containing the cost of care has been, and will continue to be, a difficult challenge," Sardegna continued. "Assuring the proper balance between cost and quality will be even more difficult. But, it is also absolutely essential."

The highlight of the day was an entertaining and provocative address by George S. Will, nationally syndicated columnist for The Washington Post and political comentator for ABC Television, who spoke on the Washington scene.

The bulk of Will's remarks were directed toward the problem of the growing federal budget deficit. On the topic of health care; Will noted that he does not expect the federal government to expand its commitment, saying, "We're out of money. No one is talking about entitlement programs in Washington these days.

"The only significant contribution the public can make in public health can come from behavior modification; eating less, exercising more, quitting smoking and wearing seat belts."

Will said he does not foresee a national health plan or national health insurance in the future, either. "I don't think an argument can be made or will be made for increased government involvement in this area. The initiative needs to come out of the private sector."

Representing the Reagan administration was Samuel A. McCann, assistant secretary for management and budget, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. McCaNN ADDRESSED the impact of health care cost on the federal budget and also focused on some of the problems now facing the Medicare system.

McCann called for a merger of the problems of controlling cost and controlling quality of care, as well as a Medicare voucher system.

"Some institution, other than the federal government, has to have the responsibility and resources to manage medical care," he said. "And it won't come about until we get a single voucher system. Until we create a single voucher system that allows the health care system to manage care regardless of reimbursement, there will continue to be gaps."

An alternative was presented by the next speaker, Don Evanson, senior director of health care, Supplemental Unemployment and Special Benefits, General Motors Personnel Administration and Development Staff. Evanson told of General Motors' goal to provide quality health care in a cost effective manner and its plan to get more of its retirees enrolled in health maintenance organizations and preferred provider organizations.

"We think it is the way to get them quality coverage in a more efficient way," Evanson said.

"We had some exploratory meetings with the Health Care Financing Administration (HCFA) to discuss ways to merge Medicare with our coverage.

"This would open up some opportunities to get more retirees into HMOs and PPOs and away from the problems associated with Medicare."

Evanson explained some of the demographic conditions facing General Motors, which 11 years ago had 15 active employees for every retiree, but today has just two active employees for each retiree. He went on to illustrate some specific utilization rates of GM employees that were well above the national average.

"Nationally, health care costs, although declining, are still increasing as at a rate nearly three times the rate of inflation," he said. "And since we provide health care coverage for more than 2.2 million people — roughly 1 percent of the U.S. population — containing these costs is critical. We've trimmed our increases from 14 percent in 1974-1984 down to 8 percent last year. If we had kept up at the 14 percent rate, our costs would have increased at the rate of $1 million per day.

"But it is important not to sacrifice quality for cost," Evanson continued. "That is why it is important for business and health care providers to keep open minds, keep lines of communication open and avoid taking adversarial positions."

Taking an adversarial position against moving Medicare recipients into HMOs was another speaker, Eli Ginzberg, Ph. D. Dr. Ginzberg, who is the director of Conservation of Human Resources Project for Columbia University and an expert in health economics, took a look at some uncertainties on the health care horizon.

"When HMOs take in elderly patients, it changes the whole picture," Dr. Ginzberg said. "They are not prepared to assume that kind of risk. I remain dubious of the growth of HMOs and all "for-profit" enterprises in the health care system."

Dr. Ginzberg also attacked the voucher system proposal, saying, "I think it will be a very long time before we see the implementation of a capitated Medicare payment

Dr. Ginzberg stressed two issues that he sees impacting both on the cost and quality of health care in the future: the increasing number of doctors and their resulting disenchantment, and a form of national health insurance.

"In 1950, there were 140 physicians for every 100,000 people. At the current rate, that will double to 280 per 100,000 by the year 2,000. And, remember, it is physicians who drive the health care system and account for 70 percent of all expenditures.

"The most important point in the future will be the mood of the medical system. There is no way to assure quality of care if the doctors in the system aren't behind you. I am very worried we are moving toward a disenchantment of the medical system. And the more physicians worry about the system, the less they will care about their patients.

Noting that "the poor are falling through the cracks in alarming numbers," Dr. Ginzberg called for a system where the federal government would give everyone some coverage and it would be up to the individual to get the rest from his or her employer or buy it direct.

The final speaker of the day was U.S. Congressman Louis Stokes (D-Ohio), who discussed the availability of appropriate care for all Americans in a price sensitive market. Rep. Stokes, who has been a member of Congress since 1948, is chairman of the House Ethics Committee.

Rep. Stokes said he perceives a desire by Americans to provide health care for all members of society but an unwillingness to pay for it.

"This nation was once committed to decent health care for all," he said, pointing to the creation of Medicare and Medicaid. "But, today, as competition increases, who will be responsible for health care for those who don't have the resources to pay for it? I believe that no health system can be a truly progressive system without offering it to all segments of the population."

Rep. Stokes pointed out that fewer than nine percent of all hospitals are providing health care for 40 percent of the poor. He said hospitals are caught between the desire to provide care for all and economic survival. But he stressed that the "Improvement of the health of the medically indigent and our health care system are not incompatible.

"I never want to return to a two-tier system of health care with one standard for those who can pay and another for those who can't.

Noting the growing federal budget deficit and present mood in Congress to cut costs, Rep. Stokes said he doesn't expect any solutions to come out of Washington. But he did call for an initiative from the private sector to join with the public sector in an effort to solve this problem.

A Franchise Seminar

Morgan State University will host a seminar entitled, "Is Franchising For You," on Saturday, Dec. 6, 1986, 9:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. on campus located at Hillen Road and Coldspring Lane, Jenkins Building, Room 104. There is a $25.00 seminar fee.

Franchising is one of the fastest growing forms of business expansion in America. For the seasoned or aspiring entrepreneur franchising For You," on Saturday, Dec. 6, 1986, 9:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. ing financial independence. Franchising is not for everyone. Evaluation of a franchise requires careful research and thought.

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- franchising as a business form
- how to select and evaluate a franchise
- ways to finance a franchise
- presentations from the franchisee's perspective and the franchisor's perspective

Please call 444-3160 for reservations and materials.

Brunch And Art Show

The Second Annual Brunch and Art Show in honor of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. will be held at The Forum on the third Wednesday of January — Jan. 15, 1987 — the birthday of Dr. King.

The program will feature performances by 35 students of dance from the Martin Luther King Elementary School, under the direction of Ms. Valarie Norris. The students are from nine to 13 years old, who have been encouraged to be creative in their chosen fields.

Ms. Norris is assisted by other fourth grade teachers.

The public is cordially invited to attend. Brunch tickets will carry a special entry ticket to the Arena Players new Saturday night performance on Jan. 17.

Donation for the package of entertainment is $23. A portion of the proceeds will benefit the Arena Players.

Send check or money order to: "Ideas" c/o S. G. Mills, director, 5900 Park Heights Ave., Baltimore, MD, 21215.

Book Sale At Pratt

A Used Book Sale, offering more than 20,000 surplus books, magazines, recordings, maps, and lantern slides at prices ranging from 10 cents to a dollar, will be held at the central Pratt Library, 400 Cathedral Street, on Thursday, Dec. 4, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.; Friday, Dec. 5, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.; and Saturday, Dec. 6, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Details: 396-5494.

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For the last fifteen years, Mr. Pinderhughes has pursued a successful career as both a commercial and fine arts photographer. He is based in New York.

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