—Parren furious

Continued from Page 1

At a news conference in his West Baltimore home, Mitchell indicated he is considering taking legal action against the publications that have questioned his "record of integrity, rectitude and honesty." But he would not specify if that action might include libel suits.

When asked if he had requested a retraction from the Daily News, the former congressman said, "I would not waste my time on that despicable rag."

Mitchell, who was head of the House Small Business Committee, said in June he asked the Small Business Administration to investigate alleged wrongdoing by Wedtech, a now-bankrupt Bronx, N.Y., military contractor.

He said the committee requested the SBA probe after it became apparent the matter was too involved for an investigation by its staff.

Mitchell said he had received anonymous complaints that Wedtech was using White House influence to get military contacts, that the firm was not a bona fide minority firm and that federal agencies were giving Wedtech contracts that it did not have the capability to perform.

On Dec. 11, Mitchell wrote the acting chief of the SBA, Charles Heatherly, saying he had received tips that some SBA staff had "deliberately withheld or misrepresented information requested by the committee concerning Wedtech.

The former 7th District congressman said he did not know that a Baltimore law firm run by his nephews, Michael Mitchell and Clarence Mitchell III, received a $100,000 "consulting" contract from Wedtech until October newspaper reports.

The former congressman said of his nephews: "I've run my professional life and they've run their professional life separately...I have never interfered with the law firm."

Mitchell said he contacted Michael Mitchell when he learned of the law firm's contract with Wedtech and informed him the defense contractor was under investigation by the SBA. The former congressman also said he examined the legal contract and said it looked "legitimate."

—Frank Green

Continued from Page 1

cident left one toll facilities officer dead and three others wounded in a shooting spree in Havre de Grace, MD.

Green had made another phone call to his father, Rev. Frank Green, Sr., a few days before the shooting incident to tell his father that he was having problems.

The eldest Green told the AFRO his son said, "Pop, I am bugging out," then he laughed like a crazy man, recalled Rev. Green.

Green's father, whose ministry is in Fayetteville, NC, said he believed his son had a death wish and had been crying out for help. "He called for help . . . ., but no one listened," he said.

—Black history in schools

Continued from Page 1

eager to learn. Surrounding them, on classroom walls were many pictures of great blacks and famous whites such as George Washington and Abraham Lincoln.

Their discussion of Benjamin Banneker and Dr. Charles Drew led them into a sub-discussion of a farmhand, a role most blacks had occupied in slavery days.

"A farm hand," Bailey defined, "is a person who works on a farm and uses his hands."

Baltimore city schools offers no set guidelines for teaching black American history. According to Cherry Hill Elementary school principal, William Howard, the problem with teaching this subject is that "textbooks don't properly reflect black history."

Many teachers from his staff, who are predominantly black in an all black school, are forced to do their own research, Howard said.

According to Dr. Samuel Banks, director of Social Studies for Baltimore City public schools, "Baltimore is ahead of the nation. Youngsters black and white must study blacks history throughout the year," Banks said.

Black History became part of the curriculum of the Baltimore City public schools soon after he became Social Studies Director in 1973, Dr. Banks said.

The curriculum was reworded, Dr. Banks said, "to make sure culture, contributions, problems and aspirations of black Americans were implemented."

While Dr. Banks admits that there may be isolated incidences of social studies teachers who do not teach black history, he said it is "inescapable for youngsters to go through Baltimore city public schools without having an appreciation of black contributions to America.

According to Dr. Charles Simmons, president of Sojourner-Douglass College, the goal for teaching and studying black history should be the approach to "cultural equality," so that as a people "we can understand who we are, and act in the political sphere of self determination."

Students at Sojourner-Douglass will spend the month of February celebrating the "Ifetayo" concept.

From the Yoruba tradition of Nigeria, "Ifetayo" means "Love Brings Happiness." Ifetayo will be reinforced through "Agape" or brotherly love.

Dr. Simmons said that even though slavery played a part of our history, Asian-African history should be taught also.

"February," he said, "is an educational time for society to both educate African-American and Caucasian ... Our interest should be in long time planning, using this time to put into place permanent systems for the studying of Africa," he said.

Throughout Baltimore city public schools, students, during the month of February, will be engaged in black history activities, such as discussions of great blacks, oratorical contests, poetry readings, and art displays.

At New Era Development Center, where director, Myrtic Hockaday said, pre-schoolers are taught black history everyday," students will spend February travelling to various schools reciting black poetry.

They are emphasizing the seven principles of Kwanzaa, Mrs. Hockaday said, which is also part of the New Era philosophy.

—FBI searching

Continued from Page 1

aliases such as Bruce Gil Brown a.k.a. Bruce Gilbert Brown a.k.a. Bruce Gilliam Brown a.k.a. Bruce G. Browne.

He has also listed his date of birth as August 8, 1943, 1952 and 1953.

The FBI stated in a press release that Browne was reported missing by his wife to the county police and has allegedly threatened suicide.

Anyone with information concerning Browne or his whereabouts should call the FBI at 265-8080.

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The National Alumni Association of
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invites
Alumni, Students and Friends
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HOMECOMING '87:
"Taking it to the Limit"

MONDAY-FEBRUARY 9
12:00 noon & 5:00 p.m.
Films — "Tribute to an Artist" by Paul Robeson
"Cabin In the Sky"
Faculty Dining Room/Cafeteria
Admission — $1.00 each
TUESDAY-FEBRUARY 10
7:00 p.m.
Mini Jazz Concert featuring SAUD JAZZ Quartet
James Weldon Johnson Auditorium
Admission — $3.00
WEDNESDAY-FEBRUARY 11
8:00 p.m.

Phyllis Hyman Concert
James Weldon Johnson Auditorium
General Admission — $12.00
THURSDAY-FEBRUARY 12
12:00 noon
Film — "Count Yorgo."
Faculty Dining Room/Cafeteria
Admission — $1.00
7:30 p.m.
Greek Sing
James Weldon Johnson Auditorium
Admission — $3.00

FRIDAY-FEBRUARY 13
9:00 p.m. Until 1:00 p.m.
Pan Hellenic Council and American Red Cross Present "Dancing for Disaster,"
Tawes College Center Ballroom
Admission — $3.00
SATURDAY-FEBRUARY 14
Homecoming Basketball Games
$3.00 each
6:00 p.m
Women's
Coppin vs. Morgan (Home)
Community College of Baltimore
Liberty Campus field house
8:00 p.m.
Men's
Coppin vs. Morgan (Home)
Community College of Baltimore
Liberty Campus field house
5-7 p.m.
Alumni Cocktail Sip
10-2 a.m.
Rathskellar Tawes College Center
(Before and after the game)
Drinks 99¢
11:00 p.m. Until
4:00 a.m.
Valentine Day Victory Dawn Dance
Tawes College Center Ballroom
Admission — $6.00 (single)/$10.00 (couple)

CALL: 333-7353

—Lead paint

Continued from Page 1

lowered.

Recent studies have shown that developing brain tissue is extraordinarily sensitive to the toxic effects of lead during late pregnancy.

Lead also reduces birth weight and contributes to the birth of premature babies.

Dr. Chisolm said, "The effects of lead on the developing brain are longlasting and permanent — They are not reversible."

According to Cook, there are 225,000 homes in Baltimore city that probably contain lead paint.

In 1985, 29,557 children were tested for lead paint. Of those numbers, 241 children had a low content of lead in their system, 43 had a moderate level and 6 were determinted to have a high content of lead in their systems.

"They get the lead from a variety of different things, such as walls, toys and dust," said Cook.

Proponents of the bill said that not only will the legislation reduce treatment costs, but should also reduce the degree of permanent brain damage and the problems of learning disability.

Expenses for the bill are estimated at $187,885 assuming passage of House Bill 35, which requests $1 million to fund the Lead Poisoning Relocation Assistance Fund.

—Insurance hearing

Continued from Page 1

represent the public when the insurance industry asks for increase or in a dispute.

The lawmakers were holding hearings on insurance discrimination in the state.

The consumer-oriented group had several "victims" of the high price of insurance testify, including, small businessmen, home and automobile insurance holders, who are paying as much as 50 to 75 percent more insurance because they live or operate in a certain part of the state.

"The insurance industry and a lot of legislators are in a way, placing the blame for high insurance cost on the victims, said Tom Chalkley, a member of the organization.

"We blame the insurance industry."

"The two bills that are being heard today (Thursday) are examples of types of insurance reform that MCAC believes we need in Maryland. "The assault on consumer rights that the insurance industry is trying to impose on consumers here in Maryland and throughout the nation, should not be," said Janelle Cousino, executive director of the Maryland Citizen Action Coalition.

Other parts of the coalition's legislative agenda for this year include requiring insurance companies to fully disclose profit, loss, interest income, expenses and claims information when filing for rate increases; require the insurance commissioner to conduct public hearings for rate increase request.

The coalition wants to expand the insurance commission, which presently has only one commissioner.

"That's a lot of authority to give to one person," Johnson said. "If they don't increase the number of commissioners, then they ought to take away some of his responsibilities. Let his office act more as an advocate for consumers."

—Black History

Continued from Page 1

All seminars will be held in Room M-201, 111 N. Calvert St.

* * *

February 15 at 2 p.m. The Park School will present "Five Black Artists," a film and lecture by Dr. James E. Lewis, the director of the Gallery of Art, Morgan State University.

Feb. 15 at 11 a.m., Morgan State University Christian Center will sponsor a lecture on "The Black Church Experience in America." The event will be held in the Chapel.

The following events will be taking place at the University of Maryland Baltimore County:

Feb. 24

"The Last of the Blue Devils" a film about the Kansas City Jazz style pioneered by Count Basie, Benny Moten, and Jay McShann. Features vintage and recent film footage of Basie and McShann which documents the enduring nature of this style and its influences on the big bands of the 1930s and 40s. Library Lobby, 1 and 7 p.m.

March 3

"A Different Drummer"—a film portrait of drummer Elvin Jones who created the complex, polyrythm style of drumming that propelled one of the great ensembles in jazz history, the John Coltraine Quartet of 1960-1966. Features rare footage of John Coltrane and affords a unique musical insight into the way in which a complex jazz style is created out of simple elements. Library Lobby, 1 and 7 p.m.

March 12

"Pass Through"—a drama tracing the struggles of a group of young jazz musicians within an urban ghetto environment. Deals with the issues of jazz as a symbol of Black identity, the economic and personal sacrifices made in the pursuit of art and communicates a sense of the resilience of jazz tradition within the context of modern Black urban life. Library Lobby, 1 and 7 p.m.

Feb. 19

"The Jazz Spectrum: A continuum of Black Music Tradition." Dr. George Brandon, UMBC. Panelists: Dr. J. K. Nketia, Professor of Ethnomusicology, University of Pittsburgh; Dr. Leonard Goines, Professor of Jazz History, New York University; Dr. Wendell Logan, Professor of Composition, Director of Jazz. 3 to 5 p.m., University Center; Reception at 5:30 in the lounge.

March 6

"Jazz and Classical Music: A Black Composer's Perspective." Dr. Coleridge-Taylor Perkinson, Composer. 1 p.m., Fine arts—001.

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Parent volunteers help out at Montebello

By Muriel C. Ashley
Baltimore City Public Schools

Mrs. Robinson is over seventy years old and retired. Every day, she goes to Montebello Elementary School to help out in the office, the classrooms, the cafeteria, or "wherever they want me," she says.

It all started a few years ago when she began bringing her grandchildren to school. She dropped them off in the morning and picked them up in the afternoon. Finally, she decided to stay at school all day.

Now, even though the children have grown up, she is still going to school - all day, every day, in good weather and bad, winter and summer. "The school calls me for everything," says the lady known as "Mother" Robinson. "I can't just sit around and do nothing. I have to get out an do things."

Mother Robinson is one of many volunteers who "do things" at Montebello. Typically, parents and community members come to school and stay. According to Principal Dolores Winston, Montebello has the highest rate of volunteerism in the city schools.

Montebello is an easy place to visit. Sitting on the edge of Lake Montebello, the school is picturesque and inviting. Most visitors, however, come not to see the scenery outside, but to view the educational "landscape" inside.

Parents are especially welcome. "Parents are an integral part of our program, says Mrs. Winston." You can come in the building at any given time, even on a snowy day, and you will find parents here, actively working."

She thinks they are devoted to the school "because they know they are wanted, needed, and appreciated."

The devotion shows as volunteers become members of Montebello's "50 club," "100 Club," "500 Club," and "1,000 Club." The clubs acknowledge the number of hours the volunteers contribute to the school.

These hours invested in school are often paid back as parents become learners along with their children. "We've trained parents in skills they didn't know they had," says Mrs. Winston. Along with human relations skills, they also learn to use office equipment, they write newsletters and create bulletin boards, and they learn to reinforce instruction at school and at home.

Montebello's welcome mat is also out for any educators who may want to stop in and learn a thing or two.

Morgan State University uses Montebello as an observation and participation site for training new and beginning teachers.

Last year, the Maryland State Department of Education selected Montebello as one of several "pilot" schools to try out the new statewide "Thinking skills" program (an approach to learning that focuses on the "how" and "why" of thinking).

As a result, educators from all over the state tour Montebello, observing "model" classes in the new curriculum. The program is now used throughout the Baltimore City Public Schools.

The Maryland State Department of Education sponsors and funds several other programs at Montebello. One of them, the Extended Elementary Education Program, focuses on children in pre-kindergarten through grade 3.

Empahsizing parenting, staff development, and continuity of instruction, the program traces achievement levels of children who have been enrolled in pre-kindergarten. According to Mrs. Wintson, "PreK does make a difference. The achievement levels are higher."

Montebello also welcomes local businesses. One business in particular, the Bank of Baltimore, has "adopted" the school and provides funding for a youth counseling and tutoring program for fourth and fifth grade boys.

Visitors often have far-reaching effects on students' lives. Last year, for example, State Delegate Clarence Davis worked with fifth graders during a government unit, and students asked him to sponsor anti-drug legislation.

When the bill was introduced in Annapolis last March, Montebello students stood with Delegate Davis on the floor of the legislature.

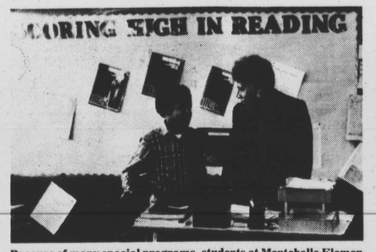
Dolores Winston believes Montebello's open door policy benefits visitors but is especially important for students and staff. "I'm always interested in anything that will ehnance our instructional program," she says.

She also feels that by inviting parents, community, and new programs into Montebello Elementary, she and her staff can provide the positive role models that are essential for elementary students.

According to Mrs. Winston, the key word is "positive." "If we are positive examples for our students, if we help to develop positive self-esteem, if we provide them with a positive program of instruction, then certainly they're going to be positive leaders of tomorrow.

They're going to be positive symbols in our society." Most importantly, says Delores Winston, "It has to begin very early - in early childhood education."

Parent volunteers work with children in a classroom. Montbello has the highest rate of volunteerism in the city school system.



Because of many special programs, students at Montebello Elementary School get personal attention in academic areas such as reading.

"Mother" Robinson, a Montebello Elementary volunteer, helps a student. Even though she has no children in the school, she helps out every day.

MTA new big lines are ready

Bus transportation in northwest Baltimore got a big boost Monday (Feb. 2) when the Mass Transit Administration officially opens its first new division in more than 40 years.

A 1 p.m. ribbon cutting launched transit operations at the Northwest Bus Division on Mt. Hope Drive, although buses actually began rolling out of the new facility Jan. 25 to coincide with a regular MTA bus schedule change. Thirty bus routes originate from the new division every morning.

MTA Administrator/General Manager Ronald J. Hartman welcomed invited guests to the $20.8 million bus maintenance and storage facility.

William K. Hellmann, Maryland's secretary of transportation, is also participated in the ceremony, as did Alfred A. DelliBovi, deputy administrator of the federal Urban Mass Transportation Administration; Mayor Clarence H. "Du" Burns; Baltimore City Comptroller Hyman Pressman; and Howard "Pete" Rawlings, state delegate from the 40th district. Rawlings served as chairman of the MTA's site selection committee for the new bus division.

Construction on the Northwest Bus Division began more than two years ago. The complex, where more than 350 MTA employees are now assigned, has taken shape with the help of a federal and state partnerships (75 percent federal funds, 25 percent state funds).

The Northwest Division is the only MTA division that has the capability to store up to 250 buses under cover.

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