PEOPLE

Barnes named Student of Week

David Barnes, 23, has been given a Student of the Week Award after 18 weeks at the Broadcasting Institute of Maryland.

Dave was given the award for his persistence in pursuing and receiving an internship at the new hot 95.9-WGHT radio in Baltimore. He also engaged a guest speaker at the school. Jr. Webb of WEBB radio talked to the students courtesy of Dave. He has 131 extra credit points!

A former football player at Edmondson High School, Dave likes all sports, including card collecting. His other hobbies are model trains, biking, hunting and camping.

Who's Who taps 11 at UMES

Eleven students at the University of Maryland Eastern Shore will be included in 1988 edition of Who's Who in American Universities and Colleges, the publication has announced.

They are **Veronica Ruiz Benigno** of Fort Washington, **Otis H. Forney** of Piscataway, N.J., **John David Hunt** of Baltimore, **Shailesh Joshi** of Salisbury, **Felecia Leontyne Norman** of Bassett, Va., **David Scott Penn** of Cockeysville, **Toni A. Russell** of Upper Marlboro, **Kathy Yvonne Scarborough** of Landover, **Carol Anne Spencer** of Princess Anne, **Cheryl Denise Taylor** of Crisfield, and **Jose Zarzuela** of Baltimore.

Rudolph Holley, on the job at the University of Maryland at Baltimore, the School of Social Work and Community Planning.

UMBA honors security officer

Randolph Holley, of Ellicott City, a 17-year veteran of the University of Maryland at Baltimore police force, was recently honored as the campus' employee of the month for January.

Holly began his employment with UMAB when he moved to Baltimore from North Carolina 30 years ago. Dr. Edward N. Brandt, Jr., UMAB chancellor, presented Holley with a $50 savings bond and a framed commemorative certificate.

2 at Calvert Hall get state honors

Two Calvert Hall students have been selected as members of the 1988 Senior High School All-State Band and Chorus.

Albert Prater Jr., son of Mrs. **Elner Prater** of Hillendale, is a base in the Calvert Hall chorus. **Gabriel Sobieski**, son of Mr. and Mrs. **Stanley Sobieski** of Bolton Hill, is a percussionist in the Calvert Hall band.

They will perform as members of the All-State Chorus and All-State Band at the annual Maryland Music Educators convention in Ocean City on March 6.

State taxmen to get tougher

Maryland State Comptroller Louis L. Goldstein announced new tax enforcement initiatives while providing members of the General Assembly's three fiscal committees with a final report on the state's Tax Amnesty Program in Annapolis.

Stepped up enforcement efforts were part of the motivation for tax delinquents to take advantage of Maryland's Tax Amnesty. Goldstein called the Tax Amnesty an "unqualified success." Amnesty generated $34.6 million and added hundred of taxpayers to the tax rolls.

Among the new efforts the comptroller disclosed:

- A new Registration Compliance Section to ferret out businesses which are not collecting sales tax and sending it to the state.
- A fully automated tax offset program to recover delinquent taxes from vendors doing business with the state.
- Closing down businesses with severe tax deliquency problems by revoking sales tax licenses.
- A computerized check of W-2 information provided by taxpayers against tax withholding reports filed by employers.
- Requesting local liquor boards to place administrative "holds" on or even revoke liquor licenses of establishments that have severe tax delinquency problems.
- A computerized check of active employer withholding accounts against other state records, such as Employment Security files.

Christopher Richardson, inner city youth, proves his skill at 401 E. 28th St. as he completes On the Job Training with a Housing and Rehabilitation Program enacted by Baltimore Jobs in Energy Project.

Man hammers out job in new program

By Maxine L. Wallace
AFRO American Newspaper

An 18-year-old Baltimore youth expressed enthusiasm for a city program which gave him the opportunity to learn a trade.

"It's a good program with good instructors who stick with you and work with you on a one to one basis," said Christopher Richardson, 18, of 2520 E. Hoffman St. "I liked the classroom sessions because we worked together, we worked hard, and we finished the course."

Christopher is one of 20 unemployed youth and AFDC recipients who were recently honored at a graduation and luncheon at Martin Luther Church, 401 North Patterson Ave., after completion of six months of classroom and on the job training, as part of the Baltimore Jobs in Energy Program.

Male and female trainees, ranging from age 19 to 35 demonstrated their new skills, read poems, and received congratulations from their children and other family members.

The program which started in July, 1987 is structured with 12 weeks of classroom sessions and upon completion of that, 16 weeks of on the job training.

The first graduation of this year old program honored 12 graduates from class sessions and 11 from on the job training.

During the classroom sessions, the trainees studied actual techniques for housing and rehabilitation. They learned how to build interior walls, replace windows and doors within walls, demolition, framing, how to hand dry walls, and how to cut glass.

Other skills mastered by the graduates were window and door weatherization.

According to Vicki Sipe, assistant director of the program, nine of the graduates have been already placed in jobs at Turner Station and in Dundalk working on job sites for BJEP.

"Construction and housing is one of the biggest growth industries," she said. "We know we are not training them for dead end jobs, but for jobs in an industry that is going to grow."

Sipe said she plans to double the number of trainees this year and for the program to be year round. "I am extremely excited about the possibilities," she said.

Sipe said she intends to help Mayor Schmoke's plan of producing 1000 new home owners to be actualized this year. "The trainees in this program are going to be important because they will be the workers who will make 1000 homes liveable this year in Baltimore City," she said. "We see ourselves as helping the mayor reach his commitment."

The progam is according to Sipe, in addition to renovating residential homes, the program will also allow for the student workers to renovate at least one third of all the homeless shelters in the city.

Trainees in the Housing and Rehabilitation Training Program received wages of $4 an hour while participating in the on the job training session. The money is in part funded by the Office of Employment Development, under the directorship of Linda Harris.

Bettye Moss has been hospitalized at Liberty Medical Center. Her column is expected to continue next week.

Nation responds to little Tabatha

United Press International

PITTSBURGH - People who heard President Reagan's nationwide appeal for Tabatha Foster, whose family desperately needs more money to pay for her five-organ transplant, are swamping a hospital switchboard with offers to help.

"We've received approximately 100 phone calls into our switchboard since the president's comment was made," Children's Hospital spokeswoman Lynn McMahon said.

Reagan closed his weekly radio address by mentioning 3-year-old Tabatha of Madisonvillve, Ky. who received a new liver, small intestine, pancreas and parts of her stomach and colon in a nearly 15-hour operation that ended Nov. 1.

The girl's surgery and postoperative care has cost more than $1 million, not including doctors' fees, said Joseph K. Williams III, the Fosters' attorney, who organized the donor effort.

"Her parents have exhausted their medical insurance, so a Tabatha Foster fund has been set up, I know you join me in praying that Tabatha will someday be able to lead a normal life," the president said.

Reagan's brief message prompted five times the normal number of daily calls from people asking what they could do to help Tabatha - the world's longest-surviving five-organ transplant patient, McMahon said.

The Reagan remark surprised both the girl's parents and hospital officials, she said.

"Someone from the White House phoned Joseph Williams," McMahon said. "But they did not even mention to him the president would mention Tabatha in the weekly address. It was a surprise."

Williams started the fund at Heritage Bank in Pittsburgh to defray the costs of Tabatha's medical care.

Tabatha, oblivious to all the attention, went about her normal routine, eating baby food and receiving her intravenous feeding as well as a special food supplement through a nasal tube, McMahon said.

"She usually spends her days in the playroom," the spokeswoman said.

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Mitchell trial winds down

By John Robinson
Special to the AFRO

Prosecution and defense attorneys began closing arguments Thursday in the trial of Clarence M. Mitchell III.

The former state senator is charged in federal court with obstruction of justice by submitting false documents meant to cover up a $50,000 payment Mitchell allegedly received from convicted drug dealer Melvin Williams.

The prosecution told the jury Mitchell convinced Jerry Hill, the millionaire owner of a fast-food chain and several gas stations, to fabricate a $15,000 loan note after federal investigators found "unexplained" money in Mitchell's real estate firm's bank account.

Mitchell was called to testify before a grand jury in 1985 that was looking into alleged income tax evasion and narcotic trafficking by Williams who is serving a 34-year sentence for selling drugs.

Evidence indicated the 47-year-old Mitchell was paid $50,000 by Williams as a "consultant fee" to help Williams obtain government loans to renovate an apartment complex in 1984.

Mitchell testified this week that he received only $5,000 in cash from Williams. He also said Hill gave him $15,000 in cash in 1983 as a loan, but admitted the loan documents was created two years later when federal prosecutors asked to see proof of the loan.

Hill told the jury he never made the loan to Mitchell. Williams refused to testify, citing the Fifth Amendment right against self-incrimination.

But as the jury listened to closing arguments Thursday, the legal ordeal of Clarence Mitchell is scheduled to take an even more somber tone today. He and his brother, state Sen. Michael Mitchell are scheduled to return to the same courtroom, before the same federal Judge Norman Ramsey, to be sentenced for their part in the Wedtech investigation.

In November a federal jury found the Mitchell brothers guilty of wire fraud and accepting $50,000 from Wedtech officials to obstruct a congressional investigation of the New York-based electronics firm.

Michael Mitchell faces a maximum sentence of 15 years in prison and Clarence could receive 10 years.

During the Wedtech trial, the Mitchell brothers appeared confident and smiled and made small talk with friends during recesses in the proceedings.

But during the second trial, both appeared drawn and subdued. Their mother, prominent civil rights activist and attorney Juanita Jackson Mitchell has been at the defense table each day taking notes and conferring with her sons sitting beside her.

Michael Mitchell is part of his brother's defense team and frequently passed handwritten messages to Blaine White, Clarence Mitchell's other attorney in the case.

But on Friday Michael Mitchell will cease being a defense attorney, and will stand alongside his brother before Judge Ramsey for sentencing.

It will be an off ending to one phase of the legal troubles that have plagued these members of Baltimore's most prominent family.

The Mitchell brothers have maintained throughout that they are "targets" of an unofficial plan by federal prosecutors to harass black elected officials.

The first trial was delayed when a new jury had to be selected after a white perspective juror was overheard to say he wanted to "get those Mitchell brothers."

Clarence Mitchell charged that Judge Ramsey couldn't be impartial because he (Mitchell) had held a telephone conversation with the judge's wife about some public relations work he wanted her to do.

A court of appeals denied Mitchell's request to remove the judge from the case.

EMBATTLED POLITICIANS — Former Maryland State Sen. Clarence Mitchell, currently on trial in Baltimore, talks with Reginald Eaves (left), with Denise Bates during a rally held last Sunday at the Nineteenth Street Baptist Church in support for embattled politicians.

The rally was sponsored by the Mitchell Defense Fund Committee and drew support from such persons as C. Delores Tucker (below left) who stops briefly to pose with Maryland State Sen. Michael Mitchell (center).

SCHOLARS — Theresa Ideo, Jerold Baker, Dr. Hoke Smith, St. George Crosse, Dr. Calvin Burnett, Donna Higgs, and Kyle Anderson after HUD scholarship awards.

Outstanding scholars honored

Regional manager of the Housing and Urban Development Department George St. Crosse recently commended employees appointed HUD Outstanding Scholars.

The program is administered by the Office of Personnel Management which gives federal agencies the authority to hire college graduates who meet program requirements, outside of the competitive merit system.

Family members and friends of the scholars were present at the press conference in Baltimore.

President of Coppin State College, Dr. Calvin Burnett and president of Towson State University, Dr. Hoke Smith, were also present at the conference.

"It is important to know that five of the six people hired as scholars, by this office, are graduates of local colleges and universities," Crosse said.

"This is a compliment, in part, to the quality of education received by the scholars," he continued. "But I must say parents also deserve some of the credit.

"All of us are aware of the criticism leveled against some of our colleges and individuals who attend college and graduate with degrees. Some people graduate from college without any meaningful or marketable skills."

The program requires any person selected as an Outstanding Scholar to have a minimum cumulative grade point average of 3.5 at the time of graduation.

Also, individuals in the upper 10 percent of their class are eligible.

Scholars honored at the conference were Kule Anderson, Jerold Baker, Diedre Elkerson, Theresa Ideo, Donna Higgs, Terri Feeser.

MAJOR STUDY RELEASED

Millions of black voters left off voting lists

By Hamil Harris
AFRO Staff Writer

Over 6 million people, many of them black are needlessly being left off voter rolls because of barriers in federal election registration laws according to Non-Voter study recently released.

Although the study done by the Committee for the Study of the American Electorate had no ethnic break down in their findings according to Curtis Gans the director of the study much of the problem is still in the South where a larger number of blacks have faced Voter discrimination.

"We have come along way baby,but we have along way to go,"Gans said who explained that although reform is needed nationwide there is a particular need for change in the South.

In the 127-page study, entitled," Creating the Opportunity,"the Committee found that more than 80 million eligible Americans do not vote in Presidential elections, and more than 100 million potential voters pass up the bailot box during mid-term elections.

The Joint Center for Political Studies decline to comment on the report as spokesman Fred Brown said,"our analyst have not scene the report,"but in the annual,"State of Black America,"National Urban League researcher Dianne Pinderhughes wrote about black voter participation.

According to Pinderhughes the 1965 Voting Rights Act,"has led to the gradual increase of black elected officials in the Deep South,in the Urban North and even in small and middle size cities in the Midwest,"but blacks have not arrived yet.

Pinderhughes reported that blacks who make up only 10 percent of the 173.8 million voters, will still pay a big part in the upcoming Presidential election especially in the South because they are, "a critical part of the southern electorate, ranging from a low of 14.6 percent in Florida to a high of 29.6 percent in Mississippi.

One of the changes the electorate committee is pushing for is the two-step process of qualifying to vote citing that, "the United States is the only Democracy in the world that puts the burden of qualifying to vote on the citizens."

Other strategies to increase voter participation include having people register to vote when they get there drivers license or even going door to door and registering people.

The committee feels that such methods could add over 3 million people to the voter roles but they cautioned that,"to increase the number of those registered does not,"guarantee an increase in voter turnout."

Although there are several law suites challenging many of the old election laws still on the books Gans said that he hoped his organization could address the issue through,"new policy formulation."

HU anthropologist debunks 'Jimmy the Greeks' views

By Henry Duvall

There is no evidence of "an Afro-American type that has characteristics for superior athletic performance," according to a Howard University physical anthropologist, debunking the recent remarks made by Jimmy the Greek Snyder who said blacks were bred to be great athletes.

Instead, he indicates that black athletes have gained their athletic abilities the old-fashioned way — by earning it through training.

"Afro-Americans are one of the most genetically diverse people in the world," stressed Dr. Michael L. Blakey, a professor in Howard's department of sociology and anthropology.

He pointed out in an interview that black Americans have "an African mixture, European mixture, and a Native-American mixture, derived ultimately from Asia."

"We are a distinctly diverse people," he said.

Although Snyder said in an interview in the nation's capital that "the black . . . practices to be the better athlete," he ran into a storm of controversy over other statements, which caused him to lose his long-time job as a CBS Sports commentator.

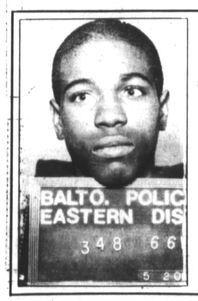
Blakey though, takes issue with Snyder's remarks that the black is a better athlete "because of his high thighs that go up into his back," which he said makes black athletes "jump higher and run faster because of their bigger thighs."

The anthropologist, who recently became president of the Association of Black Anthropologists, said some blacks "have large thighs. Some don't. Some whites have large thighs. Some don't."

In fact, Blakey noted that Dr. W. Montague Cobb, professor emeritus of anatomy at Howard, had already debunked the anatomical superiority issue of black athletes when track star Jesse Owens won a world record in the 1936 Olympics. "Dr. Cobb settled this matter in the '30s with (his anatomical research on) race and runners."

Although many whites believed Owens won a world record because of his long heel bone, Cobb found that Owens had a shorter heel bone than the average white man.

Cobb also debunked the notion that blacks have a short-bellied calf and a long Achilles tendon. He and a team of scientists compared Owens with Frank Wykoff, a white world-record runner in the '36 Olympics.



Suspect sought

City police are seeking Stanley Gwynn, 18, in connection with the machine gun slaying of Roy Johnson, 41, of New York, who was shot over a dozen times Tuesday, Jan. 19.

Gwynn, of 4513 Manordene Rd., is also known as "Pie" among his associates.

He is wanted for first-degree murder of Johnson and the attempted murder of Arrington Brown.

Coast Guard's drug war ODs after budget cuts

The Coast Guard has announced drastic steps to slash spending by $48 million, including cutting back its campaign against drug smugglers and closing nine rescue stations.

In his State of the Union Address, however, President Reagan had proclaimed progress in the war on drugs pointing to study results showing dropping cocaine use, along with a change in public attitude as evidence of a "commitment to a drug-free America."

Reagan included efforts against drug abuse in his list of legislative priorities. Stating, the efforts have been successful because, "public attitudes are clearly against the use of illegal drugs, and drug awareness is increasing."

He also said the national prevention effort has "taken off with its own strong momentum."

The president mentioned a Department of Health and Human Services study that found cocaine use decreased significantly in the past year for the first time in eight years among American high school seniors, college students and young adults. The study also found a decrease in marijuana use.

"We can be proud that our students are just saying 'no' to drugs," Reagan said. "But let's remember that ending this menace requires commitment from every part of America and every single American — a commitment to a drug-free America."

Reagan listed strategies for reducing the supply of illegal drugs, including enhanced international cooperation and stepped up investigations to eliminate drug trafficking organizations. To reduce demand, the president said efforts are being made to keep young people from becoming drug users, particularly those most at risk of experimenting with the substances.

An administration official said there will be increased focus in the next year on the 23 million Americans with long-time drug addiction.

"The fight against narcotics has been an administration priority throughout" Reagan's two terms, said another administration official. The federal government has "tripled the resources going into efforts against drugs," the official said.

In addition, there has been a 195 percent increase in arrests of major drug offenders, a 311 percent increase in convictions of the offenders and a 1,822 percent increase in cocaine seizures, the official said.

"The theme basically is that we're making progress but we have to maintain that momentum," said the official.

Coast Guard officials warned earlier they would have to make sizable reductions because of a $105 million shortfall between funding and planned activities. The agency is expected to seek a supplemental appropriation to make up the difference between the $48 million in cuts and the $105 million shortfall.

"We don't want to do these things, but we don't have much choice," a Coast Guard officer told Senate staff workers Tuesday at one of the briefings held on the budget slashing.

The cuts will begin as early as February.

Drug interdiction efforts will be reduced by 55 percent from last fiscal year, officials said. About 22 percent of the Coast Guard's budget goes to the war on drugs.

Routine patrols by rescue ships and aircraft will be canceled. Maintenance and a number of training programs will be postponed.

In addition, the Coast Guard will consolidate some of its facilities or close them.

JAN 1988