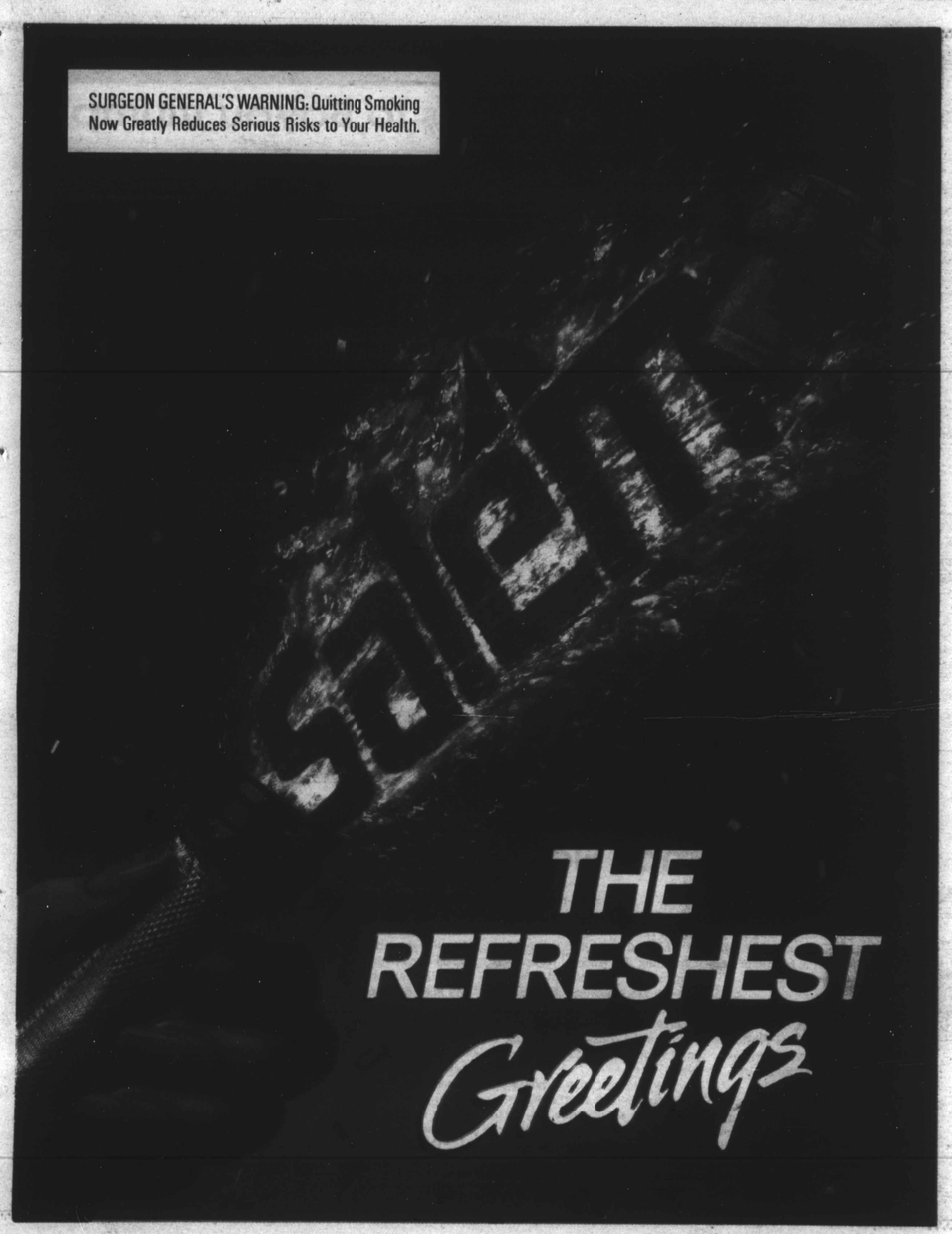
SURGEON GENERAL'S WARNING: Quitting Smoking Now Greatly Reduces Serious Risks to Your Health.



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NEWSBITES

MRS. SANTA FUND: Help! We need $9,802.06. If you write a check today, we can help needy families by New Year's Day.

METRO PROFILE .....Section B

CORRECTIONS COMMISSIONER: Former first grade teacher now tackles the challenging job of heading the women's detention center..**Page B1.**

AIR CRASH: Americans and possibly, Marylanders lose their lives as a 747 jumbo jet crashes and sets a small Scottish town ablaze.....**Page B3.**

BUSINESS PULSE .....Section C

CRIME BUSTER: Former city policewoman fights crime as she debunks many of the myths surrounding the life of private investigators in the big city.....**Page C1.**

THE LIVING CHURCH ...Section D

FATHER CLEMENTS in town from Chicago to urge Baltimore church goers to adopt needy black children.....**Page D1.**

INSIDE: Dawn Magazine. Two profiles on how black Americans are celebrating the holiday season, plus holiday recipes and much more.

Happy Holidays

LATE CITY EDITION — December 24, 1988

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Student misses appeal deadline

Vindicated but still expelled

By Helen Glover Cook
AFRO Staff Reporter

Joseph Green, the 17-year-old student accused in the October 5, shooting of Antia Moore at Edmondson Westside High School has had all charges dropped against him by the State's Attorney's Office yet, school officials still refuse to lift his suspension ban.

In an effort to protect the privacy of Joe Green, the Baltimore Public School System has been closed mouthed about disclosing the particular circumstances surrounding Green's case.

School officials have been under pressure from several groups to release information on the rules and regulations surrounding expulsion, so that some light may be shed on why Joseph was not allowed to return to Edmondson High School.

The AFRO obtained a list of those rules and an interview with Mrs. Helen Patterson, who is the coordinator of special pupil services for the Baltimore School System.

Mrs.Patterson said she and her staff regulate the procedures mandated by the Baltimore Public School System when one of the pupils in the system have been suspended or expelled from school.

The School System has a list of rules and regulations that can be classified as Law —

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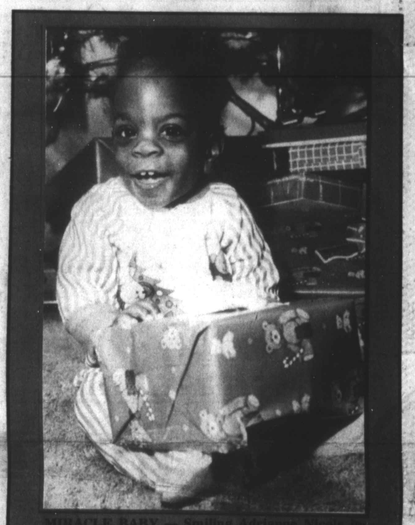

MIRACLE BABY — Smiling Adrianne Nicole inspects one of her Christmas presents at her parent's Baltimore County home. At this time last year, young Adrianne had just been born more than two months prematurely and weighed in at one-pound, 11-ounces. Thanks to the wonders of modern medicine, this tiny baby has grown into a thriving child who will be able to witness the Christmas season and the celebration of another miracle birth.

Wedding plans scrapped

Man 18, shot before vows are taken

By Alisa Samuels
AFRO Staff Writer

Charles Darrell Dixon had planned to walk down a church aisle six days before Christmas to get married. Then tragedy struck.

Two days after his scheduled wedding, more than 300 of Dixon's family and friends, including his fiancee and infant child, walked down the aisles of Zion Baptist Church to view the 18-year-old's body for the last time as he laid in a coffin.

Dixon, a Randallstown High School graduate, was gunned down Dec. 14 as he answered a knock at his Baltimore County apartment door said Jay Miller, Baltimore County Police spokesman.

Police said Dixon received a single gunshot to the head from a small caliber handgun and died immediately. "He collapsed instantly in the doorway," said Miller.

Dixon planned to marry his fiancee, Karen Gasque, 23, who lived with him in their ground floor apartment in the 2900 block of Lakebrooke Circle in Landsdowne.

"Darrell was a sweet guy," remembered Darlene Jounson, who attended Dixon's funeral Monday evening at the North Caroline Street church. She is Gasque's aunt.

He had a daughter, Ariel Angelica, and was to become father to Gasque's son, Corey, after they exchanged their vows Sat., Dec. 17.

Police responded to a call about 9:25 p.m. Dec. 14 to a shooting at the couple's Lake-in-the-Woods apartment in Lansdowne and found Dixon dead-on-the-scene.

Police said they originally thought another man had also been wounded (in the stomach) and then fled the scene, but now they think otherwise.

Miller said police searched and called near-by hospitals to locate the wounded man, but found no one.

The Baltimore County Police spokesman said Dixon's girlfriend was in the backroom of the ground floor apartment with an infant

(Continued on Page A6)

Max Robinson dies of AIDS at age 49

Thousands attended 1 p.m. memorial service at Shiloh Baptist Church for former ABC News Anchorman Max Robinson, who died of AIDS at Howard University Hospital Dec. 20.

He was 49.

Robinson had been hospitalized since Oct. 29 after making his last public appearance as the keynote speaker for the university's School of Communications Conference Banquet.

Before his death, the Robinson family would not confirm he had AIDS but family friend Roger Wilkins said Robinson's posthumous wish was that his death be used to emphasize the need for AIDS treatment and education, especially among blacks.

Max Robinson.

(Continued on Page A2)

Sullivan Bush's first black appointee

BULLETIN

President-elect George Bush has announced the appointment of his first black, cabinet level appointee at a Thursday news conference. Dr. Louis Sullivan, currently serving as president of the medical school at Morehouse College, was announced as Bush's choice for secretary of Health and Human Services (HHS).

Two cabinet positions still remain unfilled at AFRO presstime.

(Continued on Page A2)

Fire fatalities destroy Christmas mood

By Helen Glover Cook
AFRO Staff Reporter

Chestnuts roasting by an open fire, Christmas trees garnished with electric ornaments and toy chemistry sets, these are all signals which remind us that the Christmas season is approaching, but these scenes also have something else in common — the potential to start fires which destroy the holiday spirit and sometimes human life.

According to Fire Department Spokesman, Captain Patrick Flynn, fire has claimed the lives of 55 people this winter season. Many of those fires were caused by carelessness, such as fires started by unattended candles, which claimed two lives. Another four lives have been snuffed by unsafe cooking and heating appliances, three people have lost their lives operating appliances whose faulty electrical wiring was allowed to go unchecked.

Children playing with matches is one of the most frequent causes of fire, this year they caused five fire fatalities and are responsible for 60 to 70 percent of all fires. Careless smoking resulted in the deaths of 12 people, while another 12 lives were lost because of fires deliberately started by arsonists.

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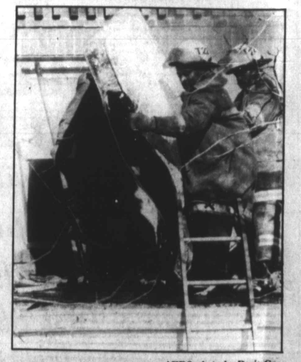

AFRO photo by Paris Gray

FIRE FATALITIES — This burned out house in the Park Heights section of Baltimore is a grim reminder that fires this year have taken many lives.

Mrs. Santa's Helpers

AFRO photo by Paul Greene

TRUCKS ROLL — Maryland National Guardsmen were at the AFRO early Thursday morning to begin their delivery of hundreds of Christmas packages to needy Baltimoreans, thanks to the efforts of the AFRO's Mrs. Santa. More on Mrs. Santa on page B7.

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