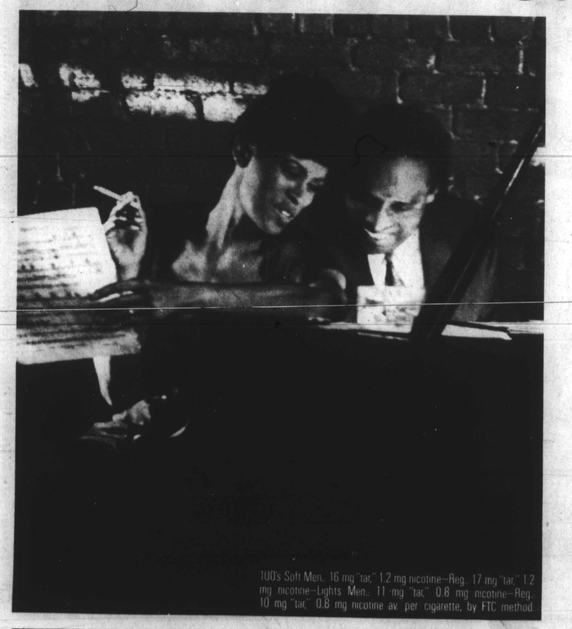
For people who like to smoke...

BENSON & HEDGES



Available in Menthol and Regular.

100's Soft Menthol: 16 mg "tar," 1.2 mg nicotine—Reg.: 17 mg "tar," 1.2 mg nicotine—Lights Menthol: 11 mg "tar," 0.8 mg nicotine—Reg.: 10 mg "tar," 0.8 mg nicotine av. per cigarette, by FTC method.

SURGEON GENERAL'S WARNING: Smoking By Pregnant Women May Result in Fetal Injury, Premature Birth, And Low Birth Weight.

20761 09/09/90 BA-2 USPS 040-880
OCTO, INC
ATTN.: ANN STEINEIKE
312 LAUREL AVE/P.O.BOX 1558
LAUREL MD 20707

NEWSBYTES

STRICTLY PERSONAL: For those who want to check out the listings for Lonesome Hearts and Pen Pals, the information is chronicled this week on.....**Page A6.**

METRO PROFILE .....**Section B**

INSPIRATIONAL is how the Patti Labelle concert last week was described. According to the AFRO reviewer, the performance purveyed a healing quality that caught the listeners in its spell.....**Page B5.**

RELATIONSHIPS: A continuation of the series discussing the vagaries and solutions prevalent in male and female relationships. Focus this week is on interracial marriages, its problems and an examination of how children of mixed race/religions are affected.....**Page B1.**

BUSINESS *PULSE* .....**Section C**

THE WHITE GIRL: Actually, the title has nothing to do with race or sex, for White girl is the appellation given to drugs — cocaine and heroin. It is also the title of a movie produced by Tony Brown, which at long last has a chance to being seen in this area.....**Page C1.**

THE LIVING CHURCH .....**Section D**

CREATION: When a minister spends 40 years in the same pulpit, its time for his parishioners, and indeed the entire community to pay him homage. Thus it was as the Rev. Marion Bascom, Sr. was honored for the many years of service has given a pastor of Douglass Memorial Community Church.....**Page D1.**

LATE CITY EDITION January 27, 1990

Afro-American

Copyright by the AFRO-AMERICAN Company

BALTIMORE, MD 98th Year No. 25 50 CENTS

MAYOR BARRY STING OPERATION:

Was racism behind it all?

By Robyn-Denise Yourse

WASHINGTON

Information obtained by The WASHINGTON AFRO suggests that federal agents involved in the Jan. 18 arrest of District Mayor Marion Barry worried whether or not the sting operation — which was juxtaposed between the city-wide celebration honoring Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and the mayor's planned announcement for a fourth term — would appear racially motivated.

A high-ranking government official, who requested anonymity told the AFRO "the details of the operation and its planning were checked over and over again because Barry was a Black mayor in a predominately Black city.

"We worried about how it would look," said the source adding that the sting had originally been planned for Jan. 22, just one-day after Mr. Barry's announcement of his candidacy in the District's 1990 mayoral race.

SPECTATORS AND members of the press view Mayor Barry as he enters U.S. District Court."It was an absolute circus," one observer noted.

Also, in a separate conversation, another source involved with the sting said all efforts were made, both locally and nationally, to highlight alleged corruption in other metropolitan areas "to downplay the issue of race in regards to Mayor Barry."

"There's no question about the fact that we at the NAACP across the past few years have felt that there has been undue emphasis on harassing elected Black officials," NAACP Executive Director Dr. Benjamin Hooks said during a meeting with President Bush, Attorney General Dick Thornburg and FBI director William Sessions.

"And to that extent the Barry case might fit into it," he said.

Mr. Thornburg, however, disputed Mr. Hooks, later saying "federal prosecutors do not bring cases based on race or other identifying factors.

"The Department of Justice investigates allegations of wrongdoing by public officials in the same manner that it

(Continued on Page A2)

ANONYMOUS TIP SAYS:

Contract is put out on woman who lured Barry

By Robyn-Denise Yourse
AFRO City Editor

The life of former model Rasheeda Moore, the long-time intimate friend of Mayor Barry's who played a pivotal role in his recent arrest, may be in jeopardy, according to an anonymous call made to The Washington AFRO Jan. 24.

"A contract has already been put out on her," the caller said. "She will pay for what she did. You just wait and see."

But Nestor Michnyak of the FBI said the agency didn't know of any threats. "We haven't gotten anything across our desk," he said.

"We don't confirm any pending investigation," he said of reports that Ms. Moore was involved in a witness protection program.

Under the program, which is administered by the U.S. Marshals Service, government witnesses in major criminal cases are protected against death threats in exchange for their testimony. Protection involves legal name changes and the relocation of a witness to a safe place as soon as he/she becomes involved in the program, said William Dempsey of the Marshal Service

The U.S. Attorney's office did not return AFRO calls before presstime. Telephone calls to the Moore's Taylor Street home in Northwest Washington were not answered.

A CONTRACT has been put out on Rasheeda Moore, said an anonymous caller.

(Continued on Page A2)

Court to rule in Sandra Craig case

By Helen Glover Cook
AFRO Staff Writer

Both the U.S. Supreme Court and the Maryland General Assembly are taking a hard look at the ways in which child abuse cases are handled.

Specifically, they are targeting laws concerning a child's courtroom testimony and under what circumstances that testimony can be given.

The Supreme Court recently agreed to review a Maryland case involving the state of Maryland's appeal of the Sandra Craig case.

Ms. Craig was convicted to 1987 of sexually, psychologically and physically abusing a six-year-old girl who was enrolled at Craig's pre-school facility in Clarksville, Maryland, owned by Mrs. Craig.

The testimony of four children under 12 was given via closed circuit television in this case.

In July the Maryland Court of Appeals overturned Mrs. Craig's conviction on the grounds that she was not allowed to confront her accuser in person, no matter what their age. The child was allowed to give testimony before a closed circuit television camera.

The attorneys for the state asked that any exceptions to the Sixth Amendment right to face to face confrontation between the accused and the defendant in a court trial be clarified.

In Maryland the state Senate introduced a bill this week that would allow child victims (without age restrictions) to give court testimony in abuse and molestation cases.

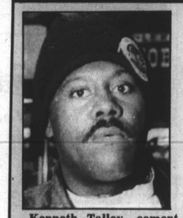
The current Maryland law stipulates that only children aged 12 and over can testify in Maryland's court.

Under the newly introduced bill, the competency of the child to testify would be determined by a judge during a pre-trial interview with the child.

The current law provided for a mandatory interview with the child in the presence of the accused.

(Continued on Page 2)

DO YOU THINK BARRY WAS TREATED FAIRLY?



Kenneth Talley, cement finisher, 36: "They knew he had a problem, so if they will bring anyone from LA to get him, they were after him. With the FBI its always race. They don't want us to have role models."

Sandra Musillzy, housewife, 21: "I don't think he was treated unfairly. They gave him an opportunity to get away from it, but he chose to do it anyway. I don't believe he should go to jail though."

Louis Rosenstock, student, 24: "I think he is guilty. I don't think of it as a racial thing....he screwed up and got caught. Politics is too corrupt to pick on any one person though. However, he is a hypocrite, trying to clean up drugs in D.C."

James King, assembly person, 36: "I think if he had not made a commitment to run again they would have left him alone. It was politics and not race."

(Continued on Page 2)

Free needles for addicts resurfaces

By Joy M. Tyler
AFRO Staff Reporter

Renewed interest in the Mayor's previous call for a free needle exchange program in Baltimore has resurfaced in the wake of a new program set up by the city health department.

The proposed program has come about to help lead the city's estimated 35,000 addicts, particularly intravenous drug users who are spreading the AIDS virus to seek treatment and to prevent the spreading of the virus to new victims.

The health department contends that Baltimore's needle exchange would reduce the transmission of HIV infection through needle sharing, reduce AIDS morbidity and mortality, and improve addicts knowledge of risk behavior.

Health officials would go out onto the streets and shooting galleries to distribute clean needles to the addicts, rather than distributing them through clinics because addicts are less likely to participate because of fears of retribution.

This type of distribution has already been tried in Boston, Massachusetts by a graduate student belonging

(Continued on Page 2)

Fundraiser is set for Mrs. Mitchell

By Helen Glover Cook
AFRO Staff Writer

Senator Larry Young is sending out a call for volunteers to attend a meeting on January 30 at 7:30 p.m., at the Palladium to organize a March 31, fundraiser for Mrs. Juanita Jackson Mitchell.

The Mitchell family is in danger of losing eight of its real estate properties because they lack the $15,000 mortgage payment necessary to stop a February 1 scheduled auction of the buildings.

Clarence Mitchell IV, grandson of Mrs. Mitchell said, "our family has been plagued by an increasing debt resulting from my grand-

(Continued on Page 2)

To Subscribe Call: (301) 728-AFRO