—Black lawmakers

(Continued from Page A1)

ed the incident a "disciplinary action" because "she and everyone has to know that open defiance is not the way, certain things are followed by tradition."

As for traditions in the House, Miller reportedly said "is he telling me as an African American that we can't do this, but they can because it has been done for 20 years."

The 28 members of the Legislative Black Caucus met on Monday to discuss the situation and according to Del. Curt Anderson, who chairs the group of Black lawmakers in the Maryland Assembly, "we are extremely upset."

It was not clear exactly what came out of the meeting, but what was certain was several Black legislators were careful not to make a standoff along racial lines in the Maryland Assembly.

Senator Albert Wynn of Prince Georges County said he didn't think the incident was racially motivated.

Because of her actions, some legislators say the Speaker plans to remove Del. Miller from the House Economic Matters Committee which oversees business, banking, consumer and labor laws.

With six Black senators and 28 Black delegates, there is some speculation that some lawmakers will be very careful not to challenge the House Speaker on this situation, because it could jeopardize their own legislative initiatives in Annapolis.

"We didn't meet. We never got a change to meet on it so we don't have a position, I think that the action the speaker took was excessive, but well within his authority," Del. Curt Anderson said.

Asked for the action that the Black lawmakers will be taking as a result of the incident, Del. Anderson said: "we are going to monitor all House activities to see that the rules that were evoked against Del. Miller is uniformly involved in the House."

—Minority investors

(Continued from Page A1)

packages for the general population as well as the minority investors needed to satisfy the 25 percent minority participation quota all in all contracts awarded in Baltimore City.

Duncan testified in Federal Court Wednesday, "When I started to look for minority investors, that is precisely when all the trouble started.

"I was called out of a meeting I organized for potential minority investors and told by my supervisor that there was no intention on the part of United Cable to give minority investors any participation in the company. The supervisor specifically told me that the company wants to keep out minorities.

"After my initial shock I told him that I was one of those minorities that they were trying to keep out," Duncan says.

Mr. Euan Fannell, United Cable, President testified during the court proceedings that under the terms of the contract between United Cable and UTI, the UTI group would earn a return on its initial investment of $290,000 each year until 1998.

In 1998 the return would diminish considerably. Once the interest of the minority investors was sold they would have no ownership in the company.

The case continues this week in Baltimore City Circuit Court.

—Stouffers Hotel

(Continued from Page A1)

workplace."

For two days the groups participate in role playing, awareness talks, and theory which helps educate both groups to the others history and culture.

From these relations sessions the Pepsi Company develops action plans to promote a more spontaneous and comfortable atmosphere for management and staff and set realistic goals.

Although there was a misunderstanding about the reasons behind the company's procedures of separating employees, Brady was sensitive to the public's reaction.

"The hotel (Stouffer's) management informed me that it was actually the hotel housekeeping staff that had seen the signs and wanted to know what was going on. I applaud their efforts to draw attention to what was thought to be a problem."

—Civil Rights act

(Continued from Page A1)

bill moves through Congress, I urge the president to join us in enacting it this year. This is no time for Congress, the White House or America to retreat on civil rights."

Hawkins added that it would be "very difficult for (the president) to veto" the measure.

The legislation is designed to overturn a series of decisions issued by the Supreme Court last year. The court, firmly in the control of conservatives appointed by President Ronald Reagan, has scaled back on a number of important rulings.

While some of the decisions dealt with what may be viewed as technicalities, taken as a whole they make it much harder for victims of discrimination to bring and win lawsuits. Another ruling allowed Whites to challenge discrimination settlements even though they took no action while the suit was in progress.

"As a result of these Supreme Court decisions, victims of even the most humiliating racial harassment in the work place cannot obtain a meaningful legal remedy," said Sen. Bob Packwood, R-Ore.

He added that the bill is "necessary to protect the gains made in the last 25 years toward eliminating employment discrimination."

—James Brown

(Continued from Page A1)

rector Tony Strawhorn said Brown's release would depend on the availability of bed space and a job.

Brown is serving a six-year sentence in South Carolina on multiple charges stemming from a 1988 incident that started in Augusta when Brown burst into an insurance seminar with a shotgun. He then led police on a chase that crossed the South Carolina - Georgia border.

Brown received a concurrent six-year and 90-day sentence in Georgia on charges involving the same incident. South Carolina officials did not want to release him until the two sentences were equalized.

Brown's attorney, Albert Dallas, said he would like to see South Carolina officials line up a radio or television job for Brown, preferably in Aiken County.

Brown lives at Beech Island, S.C., in suburban Augusta.

—AFRO asks

(Continued from Page A1)

James Kidd, 34, senior manager analyst: "There should be more creative lectures for kids to learn of Black history here and abroad."

Terry Davis a.k.a. MC Mellow T., 21, rapper: "We should rent out a big hall and just party. Invite some big name rappers like D.J. Jazzie Prince out and have a good time to celebrate it."

—Stevie is accused

(Continued from Page A1)

damages.

Chiate, who with another songwriter sued Wonder in 1985, said he co-wrote the chorus to "I Just Called."

Chiate's lawyers described the plaintiff as an established songwriter who has collaborated on such tunes as "Magic Man" by Fifth Dimension, "You've Got the Love" by Marilyn McCoo and Billy Davis, Jr., and many Eddie Money songs, including "Maybe I'm a Fool."

Wonder is expected to testify Thursday as the first witness in the trial, which lawyers said will provide a glimpse into how the legendary musician composes songs.

"No one here is going to contend that (Wonder) is not a musical genius or even a nice man," Herbert Dodell, Chiate's lawyer, said in his opening statement.

Dodell said Wonder and his advisors "took the song from the people who wrote it" through a series of "suspicious circumstances, deal-making and deception."

Dodell said Chiate and Lee Garrett composed a song called "Hello, It's Me" in 1976 that is "strikingly similar" to "I Just Called" in 1976.

The songwriters allegedly played tape - recordings of the composition many times for Wonder before they registered the song with Broadcast Music Inc., the music licensing organization.

Garrett, a close friend of Wonder, eventually dropped out of the lawsuit and no longer claims Wonder stole the song's chorus.

Dodell said Garrett dropped out of the lawsuit after "making a deal" with Wonder in which Garrett was paid money and given free food, clothes, limousine services and accommodations at the Hollywood Regency Hotel.

King said Wonder composed the song in 1976 "after a visit to his mother's home" in the San Fernando Valley. King said "the inspiration for the chorus came to him" as his chauffeur was driving him home.

King said Wonder, who is blind, writes songs in "bits and pieces" and was particularly prolific at the time he came up with the chorus for "I Just Called."

The lawyer said Wonder finished the song in 1984 after sitting through a screening of "The Woman in Red," before music was added to the film.

"Although he is not a sighted person and he could not see the movie, he could hear and sense the movie," King said. "He wrote it then."

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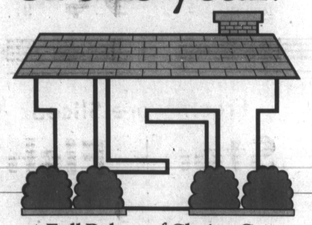

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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Sojourner-Douglass College

Sojourner-Douglass College African Scholar's Series presents "Africa: Mother of Western Civilization," lecture and book signing featuring Egyptologist, Author and Lecturer, Dr. Josef ben-Jochannan and poetry of Laini Mataka, Saturday, Feb. 10 at 7 p.m. in the Dunbar Community High School Auditorium, 1400 Orleans St. Call 276-0306.

African Arts and Crafts Exhibition

In celebration of Black History Month, an exhibition of African Arts and Crafts will be held Sunday, Feb. 11 from 12 noon to 6 p.m. at 223 N. Liberty Street in The Tace Room. Exhibition will feature arts, crafts, African fabric, clothing, jewelry, coins, recipes and snacks. For further information, call 727-2856.

Urban Services Agency

Unique books created as an art form will be displayed at the Eubie Blake Cultural Center, beginning Thursday, Feb. 15. Reception will take place at the center, 409 N. Charles St., from 5:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. Exhibit is sponsored by the Urban Services Cultural Arts Program in conjunction with its African American Arts and Heritage Festival which started in January and continues through March.

A collaborative effort with the Baltimore Museum of Art, the display, titled "Coast to Coast: A Women of Color of National Artists Book Project" features handmade works by women artists with bloodlines of Hispanic, Native American, African American, near and far East, South American and Caribbean. Their themes vary: war, sex, child birth, friendship and hate. The media used in the book forms are photography, sculpture, printmaking, textiles, words and painting. Twelve of the books will be displayed at the Baltimore Museum of Art. Visiting hours at Eubie Blake Cultural Center are noon to 6 p.m., weekdays. Call 396-1300.

Liberty Medical Center

The Women's Health Exchange of Liberty Medical, 2600 Liberty Ave., will host a seminar entitled, "Disease Common to Afro-American Women" on Saturday, Feb. 17, starting at 9 a.m. with brunch at 11:30 a.m.

Speakers include Dr. Arthur B. White, president and owner of Urban Health Institute; Dr. Fred Phillips, CEO of Progressive Life Center in Washington, DC; and Dr. Moses Pounds, director of AIDS Education at the University of Maryland Medical Center. Call 383-4747.

League of Women Voters

The problem of health care for 572,000 Maryland residents who have no insurance will be the topic of a meeting on Thursday, Feb. 22, 8 p.m., at the Grace United Methodist Church, 5407 North Charles. Featured speaker is Stanley Sollins, member of the Governor's Commission on Health Care Policy and Financing. Meeting, which is sponsored by the League of Women Voters, is open to the public. Call 889-5353.

Celebration of American History

On Feb. 24, the Maryland Legislative Black Caucus, Black Veterans of All Wars, the National Association For Black Veterans - Maryland, and The Coalition of African American Veterans Organization will host the third Annual African American Patriots' Day ceremony. The theme for this year's ceremony is "Save The Children, Save The Nation."

Ceremony will consist of memorial and recognition activities at the War Memorial Building located at Fayette and Gay Sts. Indoor ceremony will commence at 11 a.m. after which the participants will parade two blocks to the monument to African Americans who served in defense of the nation, for wreath laying ceremonies and a 21 gun salute. Call 841-3325 or 566-2512.

Southern High School

The 1965 class of Southern High School is planning a dinner and dance for its 25th class reunion. The Reunion Committee is having problems contacting everyone. Call Charlene Chavis Holsey, 783-2794 or Mary Irwin Laughter, 766-0594.

Panway Neighborhood Association

Panway Neighborhood Association, 2301 N. Braddish Ave. will hold its monthly meeting Tuesday, Feb. 13 at Gwynns Falls Elementary School No. 60, Gwynns Falls Parkway and Dukeland Street, 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. Guest speakers are Mr. John J. Oliver, Jr., Chairman of the Board/Publisher, AFRO and Mr. George N. Buntin, Executive Director, Baltimore Branch, NAACP.

BLACK HISTORY EVENTS

The Bar Association

The Bar Association of Baltimore City and Monumental City Bar Association will honor two distinguished members of the Baltimore Bar at Joint Stated Dinner Meeting celebrating Black History Month, Tuesday, Feb. 13 at Hyatt Regency Hotel. Dinner will begin at 6:30 p.m.

The Honorable Joseph C. Howard, District Judge, U.S. District Court for the District of Maryland and George L. Russell, Jr. Esquire, partner, Piper & Marbury are honorees. The Honorable Norman P. Ramsey, District Judge, U.S. District Court for the District of Maryland is guest speaker.

University of Maryland Baltimore County

In celebration of Black History Month, UMBC will feature a talk by two civil rights activists, John Lewis and Ernest Green. The talk will take place in UMBC's Library on Feb. 14 at 7 p.m.

John Lewis, now a member of the House of Representatives from Georgia, was chairman of the Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee (SNCC) during the height of the Civil Rights movement.

Ernest Green, one of the Little Rock Nine, was one of the nine Black students who participated in the struggle to crack the barrier of school segregation. Green was the first Black graduate of Central High in Little Rock, Arkansas. Call 455-2901.

Department of General Services

Rev. Frank Reid and Pro-Football Hall of Fame player Lenny Moore highlight the schedule of speakers in the 1990 Black History Month Lecture Series, sponsored by the Department of General Services. The hour-long talks will be held each Thursday in February at 12:30 p.m. in the auditorium of 300 W. Preston St. Lectures are open to the public and are free of charge.

In addition, the department is sponsoring an exhibit commemorating Black History Month in the lobby of the state building, 301 W. Preston St.

American Red Cross

To commemorate Black History Month, the Central Maryland Red Cross will hold Charles Drew Appreciation Day on Friday, Feb. 23 from 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. at the Red Cross headquarters, located at 4700 Mt. Hope Drive.

Charles Drew Appreciation is sponsored by the NAACP, Baltimore Urban League, Inc. and WWIN Radio. Special features include on-site blood typing and sickle cell education and screening. Call 764-4600.

Walters Art Gallery

African American Artists Symposium, a two part symposium sponsored by the Walters and the Eubie Blake Cultural Center, Feb. 17: "The Diversity of African-American Art." Symposium will begin at 9:30 a.m. - 2 p.m.

On Saturday, Feb. 17 from 1 p.m. to 3:30 p.m., An African Safari: A Child/Adult Workshop will take place. Children ages 6 to 9 will weave their own raffia textile using grasses and beads. Call 547-9000 Ext. 326/237.

On Feb. 24, the Morgan State University Choir, conducted by Nathan Carter returns for their fifth annual concert, beginning at 2 p.m. - 2:45 p.m. and 3:15 p.m. to 4 p.m. Black History Month events at Walters are sponsored by WMAR-TV Channel 2. For more information, call 547-ARTS.

CCB takeover a hot issue

By Hamil Harris
AFRO Staff Writer

Although the state of Maryland may be taking over the troubled Community College Of Baltimore, a proposed bill presently before the Maryland General Assembly is setting the stage for a major fight in Annapolis between lawmakers from Baltimore and suburban Washington.

If passed, CCB would be renamed the Community College of Maryland in Baltimore, according to staffers for 40th District Del. Howard "Pete" Rawlings one of the co-sponsors of the Bill.

Del. Tony Fulton, also of the 40th District, explained if the legislation passed, the physical structure as well as the programming for the institution would come under the control of the state while at the same time the City of Baltimore would be responsible for hiring and retention of personnel.

If passed by the Assembly, the city of Baltimore would be a big benefactor but the Montgomery County and Annapolis delegations are prepared to fight the bill because they feel other community colleges need assistance from the state.

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