—The Palladium

(Continued from Page A1)

Because Butler is listed as the debtor (technically making him the person responsible for repayment of the loan) rather than the Palladium, Inc., it is Butler that must file for Chapter 11 protection.

Butler said, "All I have to do is go back to bankruptcy court and file personal bankruptcy and the auction will automatically be suspended."

On June 8, Butler says that he will petition the bankruptcy court to stop John Hanson Savings and Loan Inc. from proceeding with the auction. Butler said, "the loan was made to the Palladium and not me personally. I will go to court on Thursday asking the judge to grant me an emergency hearing, Friday."

Butler says, "If the judge does not allow me to be heard on whether or not I can stop John Hanson, then all will not be lost because I can still file bankruptcy proceedings in my name and thus will retain the Palladium."

"Business at the Palladium has fallen off due to the number of potential clients who feel as though our facility is out of business. We want people to know that not only are we alive and operating but we will continue to be available to the community," Butler said.

"Right now we are housing a Baltimore county church (The Living Word Christian Center) that was flooded. We still have our happy hour and the new management and caterers are doing a tremendous job," Butler said.

(Photo by Ricardo Gray)

WHILE PROTESTORS DEMONSTRATED, guests and members of the Maryland Rainbow Coalition warmly welcomed keynote speaker, Walter Fauntroy (3rd from left); Shown are Father Damien, Rector, St. Gregory the Great Church; Mary Benns, Co-chair, Rainbow Coalition; Paula B. Cullings, George Buptin, Jr., executive director of the Baltimore Chapter of the NAACP and Danise Jones-Dorsey, chair of the Maryland Chapter of Rainbow Coalition.

—Coalition criticized

(Continued from Page A1)

termed the minority organizers as "sellouts." Davis said, "anyone that would pass up a black owned catering facility to do business with a majority owned business while telling the black masses to buy black products is not being honest.

Davis said, "These black leaders often espouse a 'buy black' philosophy in theory, while in practice they lend their financial support to majority businesses.

"It's the old don't-do-as-I-do, do-as-I-say syndrome. What kind of role models or examples are these people?"

Murphy says, "Contracting a black catering firm was our first priority. When our agreement with the Palladium did not work out we tried to do business with black run establishments.

"They were all booked, so we then tried to get Morgan State University to host the affair. Morgan tried very hard to accommodate us but it was not possible because they too were booked," said Murphy.

"After an unsuccessful try at scheduling the event at a union managed hall we received a fair price from the Power Plant. Deciding on them was purely a business decision that's all," said Murphy.

Willie Davis says, "I called Mr. Murphy to ask his reasons for scheduling a minority affair at the Power Plant rather than the black owned Palladium.

"Murphy said that it would be very unwise of me to picket the banquet. It was a subtle threat that obviously did not work because I followed through with my plans to expose his tactics."

Ed Butler, owner of the Palladium discussed the arrangement that never materialized. Butler said, "I was approached by Murphy with a deal that would have not been feasible for me from a business standpoint.

"Murphy wanted me to do two things that were against the law. Bringing in chefs that were not on my payroll, and selling wine.

"I do not have any insurance to cover untrained personnel and I do not have a wholesale liquor license. Suppose someone got poisoned or slipped on a banana peel, without the proper insurance I would be financially liable," said Butler.

Murphy says, "Insurance was never mentioned in my negotiations with Butler."

Davis says, "They did not get the number of people needed for the banquet to turn a profit. They needed at least 300 and only 50 to 60 people came to the affair."

Butler said, "We do not support each other and sometimes when we do it's with a lot of unreasonable demands tied to the deal."

—Caucus writes letter

(Continued from Page A1)

vestigation of Congressman William Gray...

"When we recently met, you stated that you wanted to begin a new era of cooperation, between the executive and legislative branches. Mr. President, it will be extremely difficulty to embark on this new relationship when members of the Justice Department continue to engage in trial by the media.

"Congressman Gray was told that an investigation of an allegation about an employee or employees began three or four months ago. Yet, it was in the early morning hour of Memorial Day that Philadelphia-based FBI agents travelled to Washington, DC and appeared at the Congressman's home.

"Can it be the standard operating procedure of your Department to delay for four months notifying a member of Congress of an investigation, only so on a holiday, and on the eve of that member's election to a House leadership position?

"What is worse, Mr. President, is that these FBI agents told Congressman Gray that he was not a target of any investigation and then someone in the Department leaked to the press that he was! Press leaks are never proper and, as in this case, violate federal law and what we assume to be Department regulations.

"Congressman Gray requested that the Department initiate an investigation into these press leaks. Attorney General Thornburgh wrote back saying that such an investigation would be done. However, the request was for an independent counsel inquiry and to date, the Attorney General has rejected this crucial proposal."

The letter then stated that "Mr. President, to make certain that this investigation is thorough and complete, we insist that an independent counsel be appointed".....

—Burroughs guilty

(Continued from Page A1)

On November 3, 1988, Burroughs was charged with removing thirty-six blank checks from the reserved check book, secured in the trustee board office safe. Mr. Burroughs made these checks payable to himself in various denominations and then deposited them into his personal bank account.

Burroughs committed the crime while serving as a member of the Liberty Heights church's trustee board.

JET MAGAZINE Washington Bureau Chief Simeon Booker will be feted at a gala dinner June 10th at the Hyatt Regency Hotel. Proceeds will benefit a scholarship fund in his honor at Howard University.

In November Burroughs told the *AFRO* "These charges are the result of the work of a few critical church members... I entered into a gentleman's agreement with a fellow trustee board member in order to borrow $35,000."

Burroughs said, "I have a right to face my accusers both verbally and in writing." Burroughs claims he was denied a hearing by the church administration.

After the indictment was filed accusing Burroughs of the theft, he was asked to surrender all church keys and prohibited from holding any church offices or entering church property or grounds, according to a letter written by Edward Taylor, Chairman of the Concord Baptist Church Trustee Board.

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Part two of two parts

The unflappable Marion Barry

D.C.'s mayor tells his story to veteran journalist

By Ethel Payne

This exclusive interview with Mayor Marion Barry, Jr., took place on April 6 at his office in the District Building. The conversation ranged over topics on health, family, the criminal justice system, administrative problems, the school system, ambulance and fire services, a list of what he considers his best achievements, drugs, the scandals in his administration, the budget and finances, his relations with the City Council, and finally, some candid views on the candidates for Mayor in 1990 and his own candidacy. Since that meeting, more events that may have a significant impact on his future have taken place, chiefly, the highly touted media attention on the possible entry of the Rev. Jesse Jackson in the race.

Part two of the verbatim discourse follows. Part one appeared last week.

"At least a thousand persons shot last year are now living thanks to the emergency medical treatment they have received through the ambulance service. You don't find them getting lost like they use to. The response time has greatly improved. The average time now is five to six minutes, sometimes three.

"I'll give you an example - a Congressman died three or four months ago. He was from Alabama. He had a heart attack. The ambulance was there within three minutes. It wasn't because of the time that he died.

"You ask about my best achievements as I see them. Here they are:

"1. Summer job program - (average of 30,000. His pride and joy. The Mayor brags that any kid who wants to work can get a job.)

"2. Redevelopment of the downtown area. We have the sewer capacity to hook up these new buildings which a lot of cities don't have. We operate our waste management sewage treatment plant at Blue Plains very well. (The Washington gave him an A on this.) When I came in 1979, they were talking about a moratorium on new buildings for downtown because there wasn't a sewer capacity adequate to handle them. We've gone from $3 billion assured property to $20 billion in growth.

"3. East of the river(Anacostia) shopping centers, H Street is alive again after being destroyed by the disorders of 1968. We've attracted 42 new businesses and the first banking center in 30 years. The Anacostia area is one of three designated for redevelopment, 8th and H Street, N.E.

"4. I think the crime rate has peaked, and will level off as we learn how to fight it- there's nothing scientific about it. It's an unconventional means to fight an unconventional war. We have to figure out unconventional techniques within the legal parameters. We've closed down a number of open air drug markets in Potomac Gardens (large Public Housing unit) we just cleaned it out. The reason for all the problems in public housing are sociological. We've got time to do it. I think within the next 30 to 90 days we'll be on top of it. It's like a cancer that spreads and you try to find ways to contain it.

"Speaking of the Guardian Angels (the New York -based voluntary foot patrollers made up of young people, some of whom are former gang members.) I wish they would come in here. I would welcome them. We need all the help we can get. (The Guardians recent assignment was in Alexandria, Va.) The Muslims are here and they don't have the manpower. Most of them are working people, so they have to do their patrolling at night time or in off hours.

"5. Our streets are cleaner than they were 10 years ago. We have the highest median income for any black community in the world. I feel very proud that I've been able to place Black men and women in the jobs which they never had before. They're in the finance office where there weren't hardly any before we came in. If you look around at any city who are the tax directors?

"Now, we have Blacks and Hispanics who are in top positions. We have a black insurance commissioner, a black is the city treasurer. They're all through government. I don't publicize this a lot, because I don't want to alarm those persons who fear black takeovers, everybody in town who believes that blacks are doing the things that they have always done.

"The women in my administration are in key positions. They are very able, very comfortable. Carol Thompson is the City Administrator, (a career city employee who has rapidly risen up the ladder and is considered one of the brightest civil servants in the country.

"Also, I believe that we have some of the best in terms of social programs. We have spent more of our local money on these than any city in America. As the Federal government keeps cutting back, we just keep adding some more of our local money for jobs, for the Aids problem. We've spent more money on this than New York City in Aids Education and Aids prevention.

On the Virgin Islands controversy

"What else is there to be said? It was a $260,000 project. Unfortunately, some of our people who went there used the chance for fun on the beach. It was a project I didn't pay much attention to because it wasn't under my jurisdiction.

"I don't think the Virgin Islands government watched it as carefully as they should have. We had about a half dozen employees down there, some of whom took advantage of the situation - things charged to their accounts, stuff like that.

"The Work product was excellent, but it got lost. There were 30,000 pages of analysis and data, questionnaires, things like that. The Governor will tell you that. But this too shall pass. I don't think there are going to be any indictments in the situation.

Since then, Charles Lewis, principal in the investigation was indicted and has been convicted. The Virgin Islands is a U.S. Trust Territory, so that it comes under U.S laws.)

On the upcoming 1990 mayoralty race

The Mayor gave a short answer to the question, "Does it bother you about the candidates lining up for your job?" (He dismissed this with a hearty laugh) "No, it doesn't bother me at all. That's democracy. I've not yet decided that I'm going to run." (Since that response, however, the media has gone into a feeding frenzy with speculation that Rev. Jesse Jackson will enter the race.)

All the current hoopla over "the Jackson Factor: and its impact upon the expected Barry bid for a third term raises the suspicion that this is a contrived plan to divert Jesse Jackson from another try in 1992 for the Oval Office and thus relieve the Democratic Party overlords who are frantically trying to exorcise the nightmare of yet more maneuvers by the country preacher.

Mayor Marion Barry continues to govern the District in the wake of allegations.

As of this writing, the declarative statement is that Marion Barry will run, and the formal announcement will be made in early June. Jesse Jackson has informed him that he will support his candidacy. Marion Barry plans to run on his record of achievements in city services, despite the scandals swirling about his head.

No less a formidable power woman than radio station WOL owner and TV hostess of her own show, the loquacious Cathy Hughes says, "I don't knowwhat it's going to take to convince the white media that the Mayor's personal life is not of importance to the black community."

Despite the perceived notion that the large black middle class in Washington is "turned off" on Barry, the facts are that pragmatism overrides the morality issue.

A lot of affluent blacks have done well under the Barry regime with lucrative contracts from the city. The As and Bs on the Washingtonian report card add up to more than the Cs and Ds. A new factor to be reckoned with is the Black Press which lined up behind the Mayor.

Heretofore, it has not been considered a significant force, but within recent years, this second class segment of the media has become far more influential than the naked eye meets.

Perhaps one of the most reliable blocs of voters in the city is those senior citizens who are among the Mayor's most favored class. When he established an Office on Aging under his direct supervision, the elderly took on a new status in respect and attention.

Just ask Mrs. Genevieve Johnson, the 90-year old leader in senior citizens affairs. She has molded this group into a strong political force. Her annual prayer breakfast attracts upwards of 2,000 attendants. A devoutly religious person (she is a pillar of Zion Baptist Church in Northwest Washington).

Genevieve Johnson sternly lectures Marion Barry on the need to improve his personal behavior, and when she talks he listens. Mrs. Johnson is one of his strongest supporters on one to be reckoned with.

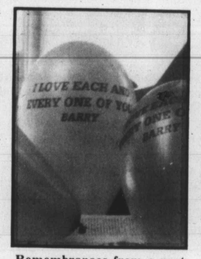
As Tom Sherwood, the Washington Post reporter says, "He doesn't need a machine. He has 50,000 employees working for him..., and he adds, "I've said I was prepared to write the rebirth of the mayor or his obit. I'm still prepared to write either one."

Footnote on the ambulance service set

This latest report on the improvement of the D. rated District of Columbia ambulance service is just in. Between November 1988 and March 1989 a new system has been installed. Under it, the peak load of scheduling has been adjusted so that it is now 26 responses as of 21 during the lighter hours. Both figures are based on around the clock calls during a 24 hour period.

This significantly reduced the possibility that all units will be busy when the calls come in and it balances the people scheduling work load better. All around the country there is a scarcity of paramedics . To meet that problem, the D.C. government has made a contractual agreement with a consortium of city hospitals for an Emergency Medical Services teaching unit.

It will recruit high school students who may not choose to go on to college to train for EMS jobs as an option. The pay is generally good, even though the hours may be staggered. The report states that the highest priority is M for life threatening situations and the response time for this has been reduced from 8.6 minutes to 8.5 minutes. Other cases, depending on the nature of the problem are graded from 1 to 2, 3 and 4. These have been lowered from 10.85 minutes to 10.35 minutes. Overall, there is an improvement rate of 3.5 percent. The unit availability is now up from nine times a day to 20 times.



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