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...BYTES

METRO PROFILE .....Section B

THRILLING THEATER: It's taking place right now. The 1989 National Black Theater Festival is in full swing in Winston-Salem, N.C. Organizers call it a Celebration of Reunion and Spirit. To find out exactly what you're missing see...**Page B1.**

97 YEARS AND COUNTING: The AFRO kicked its 97th Birthday Celebration and Clean Block Campaign Awards ceremonies into high gear with a high stepping march through the streets of Baltimore. Special parade guests included: Grand Marshal Frank Robinson, the Oriole Bird and Congressman Kweisi Mfume. Scenes from a parade on ....**Page B6.**

BUSINESS *PULSE* .....Section C

MOVING UP: A state-of-the-art facility, plush offices in Georgetown, these are just some of the trappings owned and operated by Black Entertainment Television boss, Robert Johnson. He says he is revamping his company to equal the "the big boys".....**Page C1.**

THE LIVING CHURCH .....Section D

MIGHTY MEN OF AGAPE: The Men's Day Season at Agape A.M.E. Church is in effect and the call is for a bumper crop of male souls. Story on .....**Page D1.**

FRIDAY PLUS .....Insertion

"YOU CAN DO IT, IT'S ELECTRIC" The "Electric Slide" is the hottest dance to hit the streets this summer. Everybody's doing it! Well, the AFRO as always is in tune with the latest happenings — we have a step-by-step guide to the slide.....**Friday Plus.**

BRINGING IT HOME: The best teams, the key players and the stars of the future are all in the pages of Black College Sports. Inside.

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DONALD BENTLEY SLAIN BY ROBBERS:

Circle of friendship broken

By Helen Glover Cook
AFRO Staff Writer

Donald Bentley founded the Oxford Club with some of his close friends — about twenty of them. Their purpose was to provide a safe atmosphere where club members and friends could socialize without the unfortunate interference of unwanted elements.

"That is what is so ironic about Donald's death," said Oxford member, David Miller. "The same type of people who killed Donald along with the anti-social actions they exhibited are the very folks we excluded from attending our parties."

"We tried to surround ourselves with positives but the negative types found us anyway."

Nineteen-year-old Donald Bentley died, after he was struck by the shotgun blast of one of three assailants who approached both Donald and Peter Miller last week as they stood near the entrance to the Wall Street Inn.

The trio of robbers demanded that they relinquish their valuables. The other two robbers were armed with automatic pistols.

David Miller said, "The three guys looked to be between the ages of 15 and 18. They started to fire shots at Donald, my brother Peter and me. My brother ran away. When I noticed that Donald had been hit I laid him on the asphalt parking lot of the used-car lot next to the restaurant.

"I went to ask the waitress could I call the police. She told me that I couldn't use the restaurant's phone. She said 'go use the pay phone'." I had left Donald lying on his stomach. When I returned from using the phone at the used-car lot found that he had turned over on his back. I felt then that he was dead."

Jimmy Curtis, owner of the Wall Street Inn said, "The group had rented my

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A gathering of the Oxford Club at one of its get-togethers. Bentley is in the center, wearing a cap.

AN AFRO EXCLUSIVE

Clarence Mitchell home for good

By Helen Glover Cook
AFRO Staff Writer

Informed sources identify today, August 18, as the last day that former 49-year-old State Senator Clarence M. Mitchell, III will spend at the Lewisburg Pennsylvania federal prison camp where he has been incarcerated since he reported to the prison authorities on Tuesday, April 20, 1988 to begin serving a four-and-a-half-year term.

Clarence Mitchell will be released into the custody of his wife Joyce who will be responsible for transpor-

(Continued on Page A2)

Korean accuses Withers of theft

By Helen Glover Cook
AFRO Staff Writer

Soul singer Bill Withers knows exactly how Rosa Parks must have felt about being asked to take a back seat on the bus that fateful day in Montgomery, Alabama.

Mrs. Parks was fed-up with the treatment she received from the white establishment. Withers became frustrated with the treatment doled out to him by a Korean business establishment.

Withers was in Baltimore for a concert appearance at the Lyric Opera House. He woke up early so he could spend the day with his twelve year old son Todd touring the city.

They visited Lexington Market and thoroughly enjoyed the atmosphere until Withers tried to buy some fruit and wound up being accused of theft by the Korean fruit vendor at Kim's Produce.

Withers asked that his purchase of two plums, two nectarines and some grapes be bagged. Another salesman at the produce stall bagged the fruit although it was sold by the vendor, Hoon Kim. Withers took the bag and began to walk to the other side of the stall to visually sample the other produce for sale.

Mr. Kim immediately began to shout thief! pointing to Withers while verbally insulting him.

The incident did not go unnoticed by other shoppers. Withers overheard one couple return their purchase saying, "If these Koreans insist on insulting Blacks by talking to them in this way then we are

(Continued on Page A2)

Bill Withers and his son Todd were on the scene as the AFRO Clean Block parade was forming outside the company's offices on Eutaw St.

Rep. Leland staff ponders the future

By Hamil Harris
AFRO Staff Writer

Capitol Hill is in mourning as the staff of Rep. Mickey Leland (D-Tex.) prepares the country to pay its final respects to a Texas lawmaker who dedicated much of his life to helping those who were less fortunate.

For 10 years Leland's staff worked to transform a long haired trackstar from a run down Houston street into a well groomed and seasoned member of the Congressional Black Caucus, but that will change soon as most have to look for new jobs.

While Houston Councilmen Rodney Ellis, Anthony Hall and Texas State Senator Craig Washington are pondering bids for the empty seat, Leland's staff now has to come to grips with one of the coldest realities about Capitol Hill: unemployment.

Leslie Smith is staffer for Rep. John Dingle (D-Pa.) and according to Smith while Leland's death is hard for everyone on the Hill it is especially hard for his staffers.

"You don't have normal protections like in other jobs, it is bad enough having to experience the losses they've had, but now these people don't have jobs," Smith said.

Smith, who was close friends with Leland's chief of Staff Patrice Johnson, said that his friend, one of those killed, could have made more money practicing law in the private sector, but chose to work on Capitol Hill.

"You don't get paid for your efforts, the public thinks that your're overpaid but you are not . . these people are really

(Continued on Page A2)

BUF gets contract

By Helen Glover Cook
AFRO Staff Writer

Reversing a trend toward selecting The United Way of Central Maryland as the city's choice for the administration of its municipal employees charitable payroll deduction plan, the Board of Estimates this week approved the National Black United Fund (BUF) as the first Black organization to spearhead the campaign which collected $876,392 last year.

As attorneys representing both The United Way of Central Maryland and The National Black United Fund volleyed their impassioned arguments concerning their organization's ability to do the job before the Board of Estimates, Mayor Schmoke referred the situation by announcing a combined effort between both organizations as a way to combine the experience of United Way with the unproven ability of the National Black United Fund.

The United Way hired Black female attorney, Ava E. Lias from the law firm of Weinberg & Green to present the case of the majority organization that has conducted the city payroll deduction plan unchallenged, for the last four years.

Lias questioned BUF's ability to meet the start up costs needed for putting the computer based program into operation as well as posting the $500,000 million fidelity bond required by the city.

BUF Executive Director and Co-founder, Danny

(Continued on Page A6)

NAACP march on DC

By Joy Tyler
AFRO Staff Reporter

"This is the worst Supreme Court since 1857," stated a disillusioned Dr. Benjamin Hooks, Executive director of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

Dr. Hooks was referring to the court's 1857 Dred Scott ruling denying Blacks citizenship.

The US Supreme Court, in the first six months of this year, has managed to reverse four key civil rights decisions that have been the staple in upholding the rights of Black americans since the late 1800's.

A silent march protesting the four hostile decisions will take place Saturday, August 26, at noon in Washington, D.C. The goal will be to call on Congress to undertake legislative remedies to reenact previous affirmative action policies and civil right laws once on the books.

The first case, the *City of Richmond v. J.A. Croson Company*, (1/23/89) overturned a city set-aside plan that required prime contractors to whom the city awarded contracts, to subcontract at least 30 percent of the dollar value of each contract to one or more

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U of M boo-boo:

Black president declines the job

By Bettye Moss

Two months ago — on Thursday, June 15, Dr. Augustus A. White, 3rd, the noted Harvard University orthopedic surgeon, arrived from Boston to accept the presidency of the University of Maryland in downtown Baltimore (UMAB).

His appointment set two precedents — he was the first black person to head the campus with seven professional schools — medicine, law, pharmacy, nursing, dentistry, graduate, and social work —

Dr. Augustus A. White, III

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