Morgan U. gets O.K. for department dorms

By Delfield S. Yoes, III
AFRO Staff Writer

Like many other colleges and universities around the nation, Morgan State University is grappling with the dilemma of too many students and not enough bed spaces to accommodate them.

To help assuage the problem, Morgan received official approval this week from the Maryland State Board of Public Works, to negotiate the leasing of 84 apartments at the Northwood Apartment complex near the university.

The 84 apartment units will be used to house 200 Morgan students for the fall semester. Registration for the fall semester begins this week.

Currently, Morgan has 900 beds, but more than 1,200 students have requested on-campus housing.

According to Dr. Ray Downs, vice-president of student affairs at Morgan, there was little objection from the Northwood community to the leasing of the units.

"Their only concern was that Morgan would maintain control over the apartments and we will be doing that," said Downs.

Downs also said that the 84 apartments will be staffed by residence directors and residence assistants, just like the on-campus housing at the university.

Morgan State University was the recent recipient of a $75,000 grant from the Metropolitan Life Foundation. Receiving the grant is Dr. Earl S. Richardson and Dr. Oscar Jobe of Morgan State. Richardson and Jobe are flanked by Frederick E. Kutner.

Baltimore mayor Kurt L. Schmoke encourages the crowd of city teachers gathered at Memorial Stadium to produce "competent and confident young people."

City teachers in convocation

By Delfield S. Yoes, III
AFRO Staff Writer

On a very pleasant, clear morning, hundreds of Baltimore City teachers recently gathered at Memorial Stadium for the Baltimore City Teachers Convocation.

Most of the teachers were concentrated in the lower section of the stadium, directly behind home plate, in perfect view of the several politicians and school officials crowded on a dias erected near the Orioles dugout.

Mayor Kurt L. Schmoke, Councilwoman Iris Reeves, Seventh District Congressman, the Hon. Kweisi Mfume and city school superintendent, Dr. Richard C. Hunter were among the speakers who addressed the crowd.

Mayor Schmoke in his address, sounding more like a pep talk, referred to the volatile 1988-89 school year which included a major reorganization of the system and a teacher's strike at the very end of the school year, yet encouraged the city teachers to help produce, "competent and confident young people."

The teachers, who recently settled their summer long contract dispute, begin classes Tuesday, September fifth.

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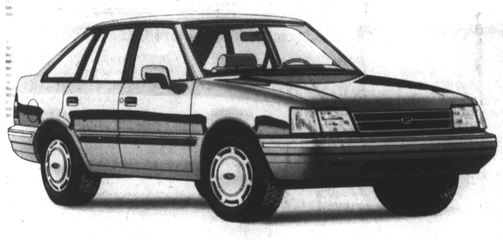

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IF YOU ASK ME

By Bettye Moss

Smile orchids

Smile orchids to **Ms. Annette Pearson.** She is the Security America Services security guard who has plenty of sunshine in her voice.

Employees in the Community College of Baltimore's Bard Building admire the way she goes about her duties with smiles in her voice.

Cuff note: Since the note to this column, Ms. Pearson has received word of a promotion. Next week, she begins duties at the Raleigh Building on Wicomico St., where she will be dispatch super.

More cuff: Orchids to **Melvin Bilal,** president of Security America Services Inc., for finding employees like Ms. Pearson. They do his firm proud.

• • •

Smile orchids to these good neighbors we watched at work this week — **Joseph Green-Bishop,** publisher of **the Black Church,** the monthly Baltimore newspaper.

To **Miss Lydia Murray,** the Union Baptist Church member, who specializes in making party trays.

And to **Ms. Valerie Garrett,** merchandising employee at the Gas and Electric Co.'s new outlet in Security Mall; and to **Richard L. King,** the Video Concepts' assistant manager, also in Security.

Cuff note: Mr. King's a Community College grad who credits **Dean Barbara Faw** for providing advice and support when he was pursuing his business-math degree.

Remembering

Frank DeFrancis, the wealthy Baltimore race track owner, (Pimlico, Laurel et al), credited with revolutionizing racing in the state died last week at the age of 62.

Others have extolled his contributions in the field of racing.

Two Black leaders recall another area:

Dr. Earl Richardson, Morgan State University president, said: "He has been a very dear friend of Morgan, and has been very generous with his time, his money and his influence which he used to broker friendships in the larger corporate world and to support Morgan in many of our activities these last three years.

State Senator Clarence W. Blount remembers: "He literally resurrected racing in our state and now we have one of the best racing enterprises in the nation. He was also good in causes for education, a good supporter of what I consider Black interests in the state. He will be long remembered and sorely missed."

Cuff note: Morgan prexy Richardson and staff honored DeFrancis at the annual Yule dinner this past December, and presented him a chair, engraved with the Morgan seal.

AME reunion

The eight-page program called it "a celebration of excellence." The **Rev. Jesse Jackson** termed it an unplanned family reunion.

For the 2,000 persons who packed Baltimore's Bethel Church on Tuesday morning, it was a glorious goodbye ceremony for a beloved son of the African Methodist Episcopal Church, the **Rt. Rev. Frank Madison Reid, Jr.**

Bishop Reid, 63, died on Friday at a Chicago hospital. He had cancer. He was presiding prelate of the church's 5th District, embracing Canada, Illinois, Indiana, and Michigan.

His fellow bishops, 17 of them, in black and purple garb, were present — coming from all over the U.S., Africa, England and the Caribbean.

The two-hour service began promptly at 10:59 a.m. in deference to **Bishop Reid's** longstanding habit of starting all services a minute before the hour.

Impressive were the tributes in song and verse, which often moved the hushed audience to respond with amens, applause and even standing ovations and laughter as speakers recited stories of the deceased's unorthodox practices in helping others.

His fellow clergy called **Bishop Reid** a friend, role model, a distinguished pastor, bishop, mentor, scholar, civil rights leader during his 35 years in the ministry, the last 17 as bishop.

Laughter

Baltimore's **Bishop John R. Bryant** flew home from the new assignment in Liberia where he had just arrived last week, to recall, "He was not ordinary . . . he did things his own way . . . he was a lover of family, books and fellowship . . . he loved to laugh . . ."

More laughter when **Rev. Jesse Jackson** described himself as "an AME bishop at large," and "amens" when he termed Bishop Reid, a civil rights pioneer. "He marched with Dr. King when he was alive . . . he preached freedom for Mandela . . . when it was time to sit-in, he sat-in, he preached against segregation, against apartheid . . . he was authentic . . . he was real . . ."

Bishop J. Haskell Mayo, who succeeds Bishop Reid in Chicago, had the church in extended laughter as he told of following him years ago at a St. Louis church . . . "he was an unique pastor . . . he created an Easter bunny suit . . . wore a Santa Claus costume for a Christmas program . . . I tried to succeed him, but the people said don't bother . . ."

There were other stories of **Bishop Reid's** unique appearance, his beard (a lifelike portrait of him graced the program), and many moving tributes about his integrity, his love for excellence, family, and his unselfishness.

The church's national treasurer, **Dr. Joseph A. McKinney** of D.C., remembered a trip to Ghana where **Bishop Reid** gave away all he had, "his comment was so deep . . . he gave so generously . . ."

"Taught us"

Mrs. T. D. Peters, a lay leader and teacher who came from Birmingham, Ala., 'He taught us to have vision, to always aim for the highest, to be innovative, creative, curious and prepared . . . he taught us by example to be loving and forgiving."

The deceased's son, and namesake, **Frank, 3rd,** pastor of Baltimore's Bethel Church, told of a creative encounter with his father ' "tell them don't cry for me . . . thank you for a good God who has it fixed.'"

And the area's presiding bishop, the **Rt. Rev. H. Hartford Brookins,** "he was a rare individual, anyway you looked at it . . . he finished the race and kept the faith . . ."

This area's former bishop, the **Rt. Rev. John Hurst Adams,** now of Atlanta, presided.

Other program participants in scripture and song, Bishops **C. E. Thomas, Frederick H. Talbot, Frank C. Cummings, Clinton Coleman, Vernon Byrd, Frederick C. James;**

And, **William E. DeLoach,** the Columbia, S.C. businessman who was among 60 S.C. church members who travelled here, having known and admired the deceased when he headed the church area there until five months ago when he was assigned to Chicago to succeed the late **Bishop S. S. Morris.**

Magnificent

Moving musical tributes came from Charleston, S.C.'s **Bobra Bright,** ("The Lord Is My Light"), accompanied by her husband, **James;** the Metropolitan Ensemble from D.C., (The Lord is Nigh,"), and 19-year-old **Broderick Belin,** Little Rock, Ark., who raised his bass voice in a magnificent version of "It Is Well," bringing the congregation to its feet.

• • •

Cuff notes: Bethel's comfortably air-conditioned sanctuary had few vacant seats an hour before the services. This writer squeezed in beside a Columbia, S.C. mourner. She was **Dr. Sylvia P. Swinton,** professor emeritus at Morris College in Sumter, S.C. She is a life member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority.

On our left, Philadelphia's **Mrs. Mildred Jackson,** wife of the **Rev. J. J. Jackson,** pastor of Morris Brown Church in the Pennsylvania city.

• • •

The Tuesday services here in Baltimore were the second in two days. First was Monday morning at Bethel in Chicago.

Some 50 cars transported family and friends to Arbutus Memorial Park for burial. The Joseph Locks Funeral Home was in charge.

Baltimore pallbearers were **Revs. R. J. Rumley and S. T. Spencer, Samuel J. Washington, Dr. Carl Adair, Henzie Paige and Enlo Rountree.**

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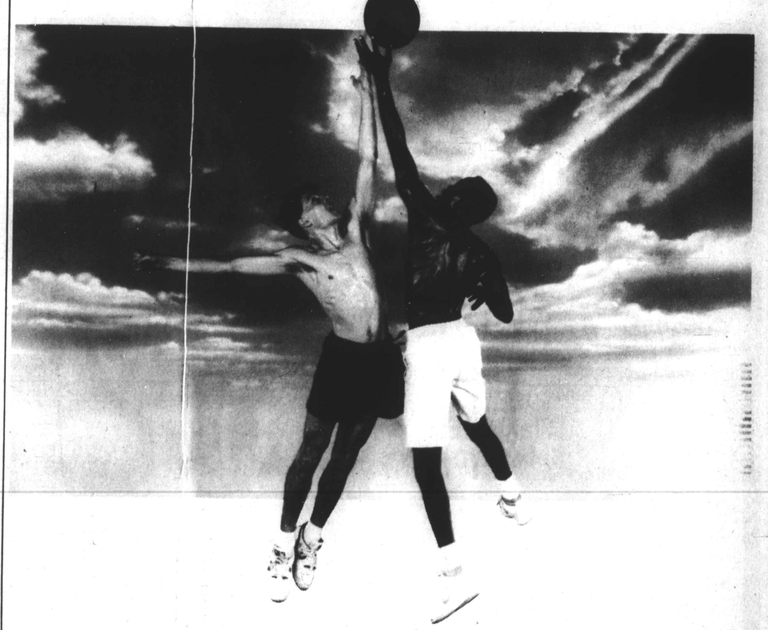

Competing against each other in a basketball game can teach kids a lot of respect for the other guy's ability. And sometimes the changing of a whole society begins as simply as that. The exchange of an idea between a student and teacher. The common concerns of neighbors.

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