

# Schaefer mulls regaining mayor's job

*Washington Times* 2/17/99

**M**aryland's comptroller is not ruling out going back to the future and running to become, once again, mayor of Baltimore.

Last night, **William Donald Schaefer** was scheduled to dine with his closest advisers at Dalesio's in Baltimore's Little Italy. Discussions about running to reclaim his seat at the city's helm are said to be the appetizer, if not the main course of discussion.

"He's not going to discount anything right away," said **Michael Golden**, a spokesman for Mr. Schaefer. "Right now he's focusing on his job as comptroller."

But Mr. Golden was quick to add that Mr. Schaefer, a Democrat and former two-term governor, has a "particular affinity" for the city and is greatly concerned about rescuing it from decline.

And Mr. Schaefer clearly had more than his work as the state's comptroller on his mind when he told *The Washington Post* that the mayor's job was his "idea of heaven."

Baltimore Mayor **Kurt L. Schmoke** is leaving office when his third term expires at the end of this year. Almost a dozen people are considering a bid for office. But the only prospective candidate Mr. Schaefer has praised — NAACP President **Kweisi Mfume** — has repeatedly declined to be drafted for the job.