



98 of 166 DOCUMENTS

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WINNERS & LOSERS IN THE STATE OF MARYLAND

BODY:

It might be argued that any year that sports--or anything other than politics--grab the biggest headlines is a good year. By that standard, 1983 was a banner one in Maryland. The Redskins won the Super Bowl, the Orioles won the World Series, and the Bullets and Capitals will remain at the Capital Centre as the result of the extension of a tax break to Abe Pollin, the builder who owns the professional basketball and hockey franchises and the arena they play in.

While White House aide Ed Meese wondered how many hungry folks are out there, wealthy Montgomery County found enough to open its first soup kitchen, and a shelter for homeless men.

Women in politics moved to the fore as presidents of the County Council in Montgomery and school boards in Montgomery and Prince George's, but they failed to win the right to call 'fore' at the Burning Tree Club, which retained both its all-male membership and tax break, although the latter is being challenged again in '84.

The year was a mixed bag for animal rights' activists. Their big victory was a decision by the Defense Department to stop using dogs to test the efficacy of bullets at a shooting range at the Bethesda Naval Hospital. But poor Missy the Monkey, whose owner reluctantly surrendered her for rabies tests, died a short time later, apparently of natural causes.

As in sports, any 12 months brings both winners and losers. The multi-faceted teaching career of Professor Paul Crafton came to an end; English teacher Kathy Megyeri admitted that she had borrowed extensively from a student's essay for an article she submitted to a national magazine.

Jailer Arnett Gaston quit after revelations of sexual assaults among prisoners in the overcrowded detention center; Police Lt. Joe Vasco opted for early retirement after the job he long coveted, police chief, went to a colleague; and Tommie Broadwater not only must go to prison for food stamp fraud, but he saw his seat in the state Senate go to a political foe. THE WINNERS

1.ABE POLLIN

Retains tax break After Pollin threatened to move his Capitals' hockey team and his NBA Bullets out of his Capital Centre if the Prince George's County Council revoked a tax break, the council voted 5-4 to retain the break.

2.BALTIMORE ORIOLES

World champions The Orioles brought the area its second championship of the year, the Redskins having provided the first.

3.MELVIN A. STEINBERG

Taken seriously For years, Mickey Steinberg was regarded as a legislative prankster. But last year, a serious and determined Steinberg wheeled and dealed, ousted James Clark Jr. as Senate president and then won high marks for his leadership.

4.THOMAS V. MILLER

Power broker The powerful Prince George's senator used his political muscle to force the county's Democratic Central Committee to select former Del. Decatur Trotter to replace Tommie Broadwater in the Senate, although leading pols in the district favored others.

5.MARYLAND BANKERS

Won deregulation Gov. Hughes signed a sweeping banking and credit deregulation bill that gives bankers wide latitude in setting fees and charges.

6.DEFENSE DOGS

Wound lab vetoed A plan to train doctors in treating war wounds by shooting dogs at a firing range at the Bethesda Naval Hospital was scuttled by Defense Secretary Weinberger after protests from animal rights advocates.

7.ESTHER P. GELMAN

After 13 years Her election as president of the Montgomery County Council last month capped a 13-year legislative career and assured that County Executive Charles Gilchrist must continue to deal with a political foe.

8.MARILYN J. PRAISNER

Unanimous choice The usually bickering seven-member Montgomery County School Board unanimously selected Praisner as president, narrowing the gap between the board's liberal and conservative factions.

9.THE NEEDY

Food and shelter Despite initial protests from nearby residents, Montgomery County opened its first shelter for homeless men, a 15-bed facility in Bethesda, and a soup kitchen in the Silver Spring area to feed 50 indigents.

10.LORRAINE SHEEHAN

Lt. Gov.? Despite being on the outs with the political bosses, former P.G. Del. Lorraine M. Sheehan was named secretary of state and is a prime candidate for lieutenant governor in 1986 on a ticket headed by House Speaker Benjamin L. Cardin. THE LOSERS

1. TOMMIE BROADWATER

Convicted The former Prince George's County state senator faces six months in prison as the result of his conviction in a food stamp fraud scheme, halting his rags-to-riches career as businessman, legislator and popular black leader.

1983;WINNERS & LOSERS IN THE STATE OF MARYLAND The Washington Post January 3, 1984, Tuesday, Final Edition

2. PAUL A. CRAFTON

Peripatetic professor Until his arrest, Crafton, of Potomac, simultaneously held full-time teaching positions at Millersburg State and Shippensburg State in Pennsylvania and at George Washington University.

3.KATHRYN MEGYERI

Suspended teacher Megyeri was suspended for a year without pay from her job as an English teacher at Winston Churchill High School in Potomac for plagiarizing the work of a student at her school.

4.JOE VASCO

Dream disappeared Lt. Col. Joseph D. Vasco's dream of being chief of the Prince George's County Police Department ended when County Executive Parris Glendening named Michael Flaherty. Vasco retired on disability.

5.CABIN JOHN BRIDGE

Pileups and potholes Hardly a rush hour goes by that there isn't a backup on the Cabin John Bridge.

6.ARNETT GASTON

Forced resignation Gaston quit as director of the Prince George's County Jail after revelations of sexual assaults among prisoners, and after the National Sheriff's Association said the jail met only half of its criteria.

7.MISSY THE MONKEY

Broken heart A pet monkey that Anne Arundel health officials wanted to kill and test for rabies survived that threat only to die after being returned to owner Joanne Kolodnicki, who said Missy had "pined away" during confinement.

8.DRUNK DRIVERS

Crackdown From the arrest of Rep. Louis Stokes (D-Ohio) last spring to roadblocks throughout the area over the holidays, police cracked down on drunk drivers, and appeared to win increasing public support.

9.BILLY MURPHY

No contest Former Baltimore Circuit Court Judge Billy Murphy failed to arouse the "sleeping giant" that is the majority black electorate in Baltimore, allowing Mayor William Donald Schaefer to sweep to a fourth term.

10.PHONE USERS

Reaching out The Maryland Public Service Commission gave the C & P a New Year's present in the form of a 31 percent rate increase, and the option of basing charges on the number or length of calls. FIVE TO WATCH IN 1984 TAX INCREASE No win If legislators block Gov. Hughes' expected request for a tax increase, the big losers are likely to be the public schools, which are hoping for additional state aid, and the cleanup of the Chesapeake Bay. THE BAY Promises, promises In 1983, everybody studied the bay, and unsurprisingly concluded that years of neglect have left it in terrible condition. The question for 1984 is, will anyone do anything about it? Hughes says he wants a clean bay to be his legacy. SCHOOL FUNDING Will state help? A blue-ribbon task force headed by former U.S. Attorney General Benjamin Civiletti recommended a plan that would cost about \$68 million, but last week Gov. Hughes indicated he favored a \$48 million version. BONNIE JOHNS Heads search Johns, the first black to head the Prince George's County school board since the system became majority black, faces the task of leading the search to replace Supt. Edward J. Feeney, who will retire in June. BURNING TREE Teed off The exclusive men's golf club in Bethesda faces another onslaught in 1984, in court and in the legislature, by those who think it shouldn't retain a tax break so long as it

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continues to discriminate against women.

GRAPHIC: Pictures 1 through 25, no caption