TOUR INFORMATION.

For hotel and motel reservations in the Williamsburg area, call the Williamsburg Hotel and Motel Association: Virginia residents call (804) 220-3330; out-of-state residents, (800) 446-9244, toll free.

Plantations dot the entire Tidewater region. Saw "Berkeley & Westover" — "Shirley" has been occupied by members of the same family since 1723.

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Ken Dallison

Cops witnessed fatal rape

see column 2

The new jail: Last round coming see page 7

Baltimore Afro-American

WE ARE IN OUR 86th YEAR

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AFRO war on crime-Part III see page 4

Teachers: 'it's still a mess'

Union execs charge classroom situation getting worse

By Clarence W. Hunter
AFRO Staff Writer

A national representative of the American Federation of Teachers told the school board Thursday night no progress has been made toward reducing overcrowded classrooms and supply shortages in the Baltimore city schools.

"The situation is bad," said Mrs. Mercedes R. Hill, AFT national representative. "Teachers are deeply concerned about the multiplicity of problems that exist in the Baltimore city schools . . . and the school board appears to be insensitive to the plight."

Mrs. Hill, who came to Baltimore to help investigate the problem of overcrowding and supply shortages presented the school board with a follow-up report compiled over the 10-day school vacation by the United Teachers of Baltimore City on shortages.

The report, according to the teachers' union, shows that despite efforts of school officials to correct some of the system's shortcomings, the situation is still very bad.

"School enrollment allegedly is decreasing," said Mrs. Hill. "Class size is increasing. It would seem logical that class size should decrease as the school enrollment decreases."

(Continued on Page 2)

Property owners get tax break

Called the most meaningful law reform enacted this year by some legislators, the Maryland General Assembly has passed the property tax package that would give homeowners up to $77 million in relief.

Acting Gov. Blair Lee III is expected to sign the bill sometime before the end of next week.

The package, which was put together by the House and Senate leadership, won full approval from members of the Maryland Legislative Black Caucus, who quickly joined with other legislators to approve the series of bills this week.

Sen. Arthur H. Helton Jr., D-Harford, one of the architects of the package, said: "There's never been anything like this done before in this state. There's something in it for every homeowner."

(Continued on Page 2)

Summer in April

DONNA "LOVE TO-LOVE YOU, BABY" SUMMER — Tantalizing vocalist who began as the singing sex kitten of disco at her appearance at Painter's Mill over the weekend proved she is a more versatile vocalist than her smash gold record groan and moan hit single "Love to love you" indicated.

AFRO Photo by Robin McGinty

New prexy at U of Md.

COLLEGE PARK, Md. — Dr. John S. Toll, saying he had "come home," announced Thursday he was accepting the presidency of the University of Maryland, where he had once been chairman of the Physics Department. Toll, 54 currently president of the State University of New York at Stony Brook, told a news conference he accepted the Board of Regents' offer of the presidency, effective with the 1978-79 school year.

"In accepting the presidency of the University of Maryland, I am coming home," he said. "Much of my life has been spent in Maryland — from grade school through military service and then during periods of research at national laboratories and then for 12 and one-half years as a professor at College Park."

44th AFRO Clean Block campaign set

The 44th Annual AFRO Clean Block Campaign opens officially next Friday, April 14 at noon with a planning meeting to be held in the AFRO editorial offices on the third floor at 628 N. Eutaw St.

Members of the AFRO Clean Block steering committee as well as representatives of the city and state government as well as the business community have been invited to participate in planning for a long, hot summer.

Panel participants include Edward J. Moore, Sanitation chief, Baltimore City; George L. Parrish, Bureau of Consumer Research; L. Clements Nixon, Bureau of Recreation; Mrs. Marguerite Campbell, Mayor's office.

Director of the 1978 campaign is Mrs. Ida Peters. Mrs. Arnetta Lottier is deputy director.

59-year-old woman dies 3 days after assault

Suspect, 22, held in fatal rape

A 59-year-old woman known to her neighbors in the 1300 blocks of W. Pratt and Lemmon Sts. as "Miss Alice" died Tuesday, April 4 in University Hospital as a result of a rape and beating in broad daylight that was seen by officers arriving on the scene in response to her screams for help.

Held without bail is Melvin Clayton Smith, 22, of the 1100 block Hollins Street. Smith is white.

After a brief, violent chase, report police, a suspect was apprehended as he ran down Pratt Street.

"Miss Alice," suffered rape April 1 and died April 4 of injuries of the head inflicted by a jaggered piece of brick and wounds of the inner left thigh.

On April 1 arresting officers charged Smith with rape reporting that they saw him on top of the victim. After the April 4 death of the victim, they added the charge of murder.

Miss Alice died without gaining consciousness at University Hospital.

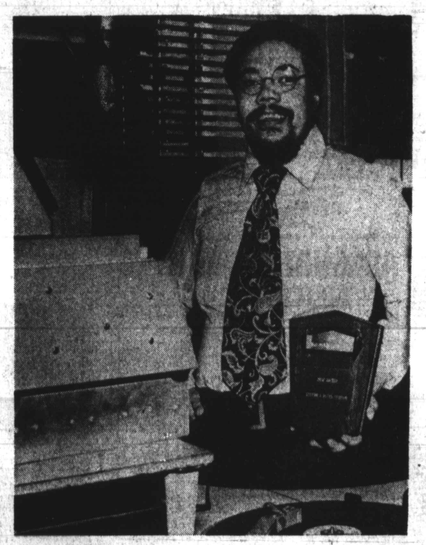
Smith is currently confined to City Jail awaiting trial.

In unusually detailed reports, Southern District Officers Gary Hoover and Donald Waltemeyer describe the incident which occurred in a small alleyway running north and south between the 1300 block W. Pratt Street and the 1300 block Lemmon Street, in broad daylight.

(Continued on Page 23)

Last rites here April 8

Farewell, 'Fat Daddy'



DISC JOCKEY — The late Paul "Fat Daddy" Johnson in familiar surroundings — WWIN radio. (An AFRO file photo)

Funeral services for Paul "Fat Daddy" Johnson, 40, national promotion director for Capitol Records, will be held April 8, 1 p.m. at the Evans Funeral Home, 2325 York Road, Timonium, Md.

Mr. Johnson died in Los Angeles April 3.

Memorial services were held April 5 at the Church of the Hills, Forest Lawn Memorial Park in Hollywood Hills.

Mr. Johnson was admitted to Broctman Memorial Hospital on March 13 for a real and checkup. He was to have stayed only three days, according to his secretary, Miss Ann Alston.

He died of a heart attack and stroke after a kidney operation April 3 at 11:30 a.m.

At his bedside were his mother and father, Mr. and Mrs. Oliver Johnson (Julia) and his wife, Mrs. Carole Johnson.

The body was flown to Baltimore April 6, accompanied by his wife and parents.

Other survivors include his grandmother, Mrs. Suez Ellison.

Instead of flowers, the family requests donations be sent to the National Kidney Foundation, 2 Park Ave., New York, N.Y. 10016.

For more on Paul Johnson, see What's Happening.

AFRO Church of Year winner is St. Martin's

It's over and the first place winner in the AFRO-Church-of-the-year contest is St. Martin's Church of Christ, 2118 Madison Ave. The Rev. P. H. Franklin is the pastor and the church will receive $1,000 from the AFRO-American Newspapers.

St. Martin's Church of Christ had a total of 238,500 votes in the AFRO Church-of-the-Year contest. The AFRO was not able to contact Rev. Franklin at AFRO presstime to see what the church plans to do with the money.

Congratulations also to Berean Baptist Church, 5200 Denmore Ave., that turned in 173,700 votes and will receive $500.

Highway Church of Christ, 3100 North Ave., is the third place winner and will receive $250. Another North Avenue church that was the fourth place winner is St. Abraham Baptist Church. The church turned in a total of 103,500 votes and will get $100.

There are 10 other churches in the contest that will receive $50 each.

All churches will be notified when their checks will be ready.

A total of 93 churches entered the AFRO Church-of-the-Year contest.

Continue reading your AFRO to see what the next contest will be.

Provident Hospital starts $3.5 million fund drive

Provident Hospital is inaugurating a five-year $3.5 million capital development campaign, reports Ms. Rosetta Sand, president of the hospital's board of trustees.

"Our Future Is Now" is the theme of the campaign, which is directed to the updating, modernizing and replacing of hospital equipment. The monies will also be used for other needed capital improvements in the hospital.

State Sen. Clarence Blount is general campaign chairman. Ms. Alice Pinderhughes is chairman of the fundraising committee of the Provident Hospital board of trustees.

Provident Hospital opened its new building at 2600 Liberty Heights Ave. in December 1970 and has overcome many obstacles in providing comprehensive medical care for a large segment of the Baltimore community.

After an exhaustive study of the hospital's overall operation and the needs of the community, the board of trustees has set the $3.5 million to be raised over a five-year period.

(Continued on Page 2)

Bay College staffers sue for wages

Will Bay College survive?

This is the burning question buzzing through the halls of the predominantly black two - year school as it struggles to keep its financial head above water.

Some board of trustee members claim the school's financial trouble is not as bad as everyone thought and its academic situation is sound.

But eight faculty and staff members who were discharged for financial reasons several weeks ago have asked the Circuit Court to take charge of the college's assets so that paychecks due them can be issued.

(Continued on Page 23)

MSU dean fired again

Maybe one day the fire-rehire-fire syndrome at Morgan State University will end. Dr. Gerald McCants, fired a year ago as a vice president of Morgan has been fired again.

After McCants was fired the first time, he was later rehired and given a faculty position as a result of his protests. The University announced this week that he has been informed that his contract will not be renewed.

(Continued on Page 23)

But they're fighting back

2 black men, 2 firings

John McGee and John Martin don't look alike nor do they know each other. But the situations that they find themselves in are very similar — they were both fired from their jobs, they are both filing discrimination complaints.

McGee and Martin both maintain that simple excuses were the devices used to get rid of them.

McGee, had been employed with Robb Tyler Inc., a Baltimore based company, since 1971. During his employment, he was a welder on trash compactors.

McGee was terminated, according to his release notices, because he "extensively used profane language against a supervisor."

(Continued on Page 2)

A P R