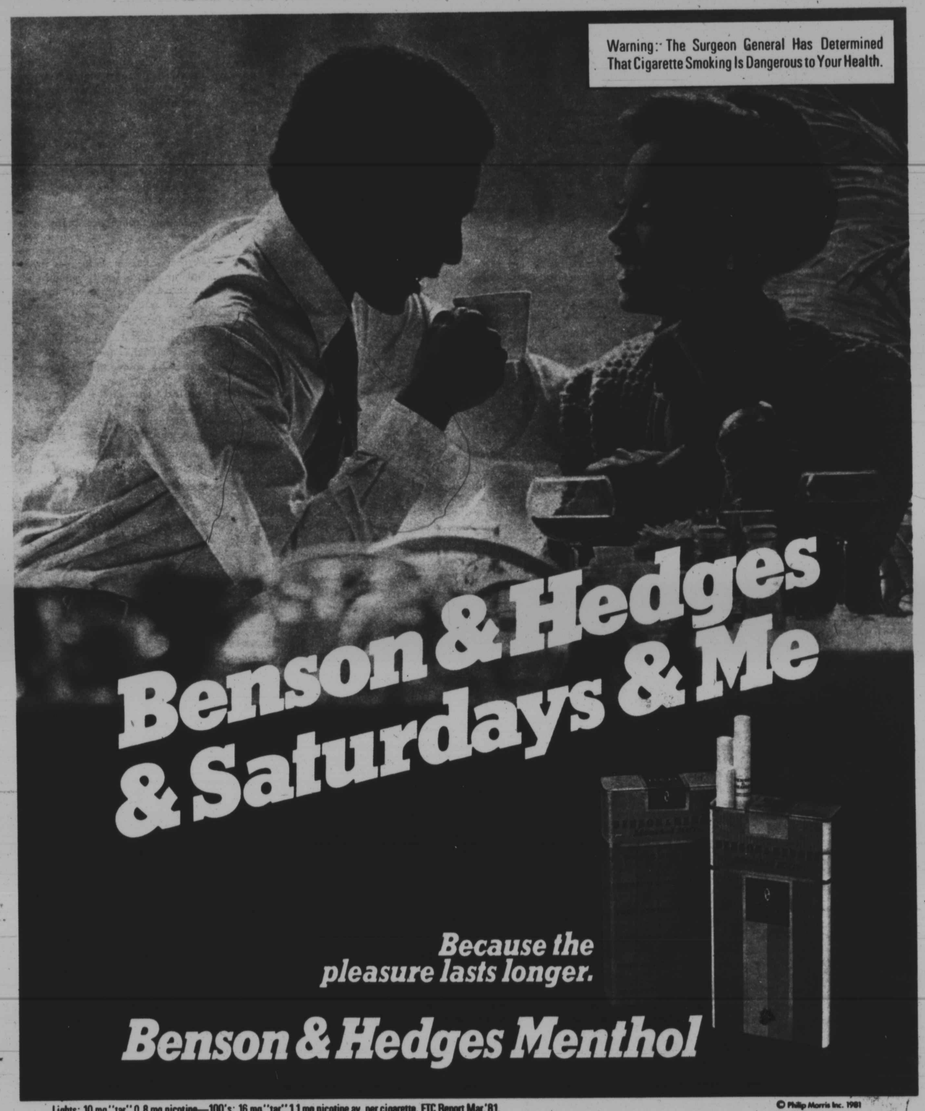
Warning: The Surgeon General Has Determined That Cigarette Smoking Is Dangerous to Your Health.



Lights: 10 mg "tar," 0.8 mg nicotine—100's: 16 mg "tar," 1.1 mg nicotine av. per cigarette, FTC Report Mar.'81.

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Two teens held in slaying of gospel singer

(See Column 1)

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Baltimore Afro-American

WE ARE NOW IN OUR 90TH YEAR

90th Year No. 12

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SUGAR RAY'S TRIUMPH!

See Sam Lacy and full photo coverage inside

Court says 'no' to prisoners

Double-celling will continue

By Patricia Tatum
AFRO Staff Writer

A federal appeals court has given the nod to Maryland prison officials to continue double-celling inmates as a "temporary" means of relieving overcrowded conditions, but a union official said such "temporary" measures have a way of becoming permanent.

Ed Davis, president of Local No. 1678 of the American Fedcration of State, County and Municipal Employees which represents some of the states prison guards, told the AFRO once public clamor has ceased double-celling may lose its temporary status.

This state is notorious for slinging that word, temporary, around with reckless abandon. But after the public clamor dies down, all of a sudden that word, temporary, takes on the appearance of permanent," he said.

The 4th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals ruled Sept. 15 that prison officials may continue to double-cell inmates at the House of Corrections at Jessup and at its new annex.

The ruling overturns a lower court decision which had rejected the state's double-celling plan as unconstitutional.

Although Tuesday's ruling allows the double-celling or double-bunking of dormitories to go on, Maryland still faces a serious problem of overcrowding in its prisons. Almost 8,700 inmates are housed in a system with 6,800 cells.

The decision allows prison officials to double-cell 244 inmates at the Jessup annex and move 150 bunks into the house of Corrections' dormitories.

Continued on page 2

'Temporary measures have a way of becoming permanent...' Ed Davis prison guard union official

Stand up to Reagan—'Solidarity Day' free buses will depart Metro Plaza

Baltimore is gearing up for Saturday's Solidarity Day march on Washington, which may be the largest such protest in the nation capitol ever witnessed.

Busses willbe leaving from a variety of locations oughout the city. For those in the Mondawmin area, buses will be loading from 6:45 to 8:30. Those who go should expect to be in Washington from 10 a.m. until 5 p.m.

The march has the backing of organized labor leaders across the nation, and locally, the Interdenominational Ministerial Alliance?, has endorsed the plan.

Last Sunday was billed as Solidarity Day by area ministers, who exhorted their congregations to join in the demonstration.

The national AFL-CIO is spearheading the effort, and the local chapte is providing free bus service to any church group of forty persons or more.

For further information on transporation arrangement, call Rev. Vernon Dobson at 523-6880 or Ray Clark of the AFL-CIO at 837-7278.

Rep. Parren J. Mitchell has endorsed the march, and last Monday, the Baltimore City Council passed a resolution backing the plan.

"It's time that we let the Reagan administration know that they were not given a mandate last November," urged Mitchell. "It is past time for talking, let's demonstrate. Let's put our bodies on the line. Join with me to protest the budget cuts."

'Welcome Traveler' singer slain

By Pam Widgeon
AFRO Staff Writer

Silas Bridges, 56-year-old lead singer with the Welcome Travelers was killed Sept. 11, around 8:40 p.m. after leaving his produce stall in Lafayette Market.

Police report Bridges, who had been shot in the chest was found lying on his back in the 600 block of Laurens St.

Robert Davis, 16, of the 500 block Gilmor St., and Vernon L. Carter, 17, 1200 block Argyle Ave., were arrested Sept. 12 and charged as adults with homicide.

Police believe the teenagers had attempted to rob Bridges. For more than 10 years, Bridges was the proprietor of Sam's Produce Stall and owner of a grocery store at Cumberland and Calhoun Street.

He had been a member of the Welcome Travelers gospel group for 16 years. Bill Sturgis, former lead singer who had been with the group for 25 years said he had talked with Bridges an hour before he was killed and said he was fine.

Sturgis described Bridges as a "cheerful giver." During his 16 years with the Welcome Travelers, the group recorded three records and were planning on recording an album. One of their most popular songs is Peace In The Valley.

The family will recieve friends today (Friday) 6 p.m. at Mount Olive Freewill Baptist Church, Fremont Avenue and Saratoga Street. Funeral services will be held 6:30 p.m. at the church. Bridges is survived by his wife, three sons and a daughter.

Silas Bridges

Mayor's new aide embroiled in bitter property dispute

The mayor's new top aide, Dr. Hilbert Stanley, former Lake Clifton Senior High principal, is trying to retain total ownership of his home in downtown Baltimore.

As his legal problems continue, a person or persons unknown are intent on using the property dispute in a negative way as Stanley assumes his new City Hall post as human resources director.

The legal battle, involving Stanley and Elmore Roundtree Jr., began in 1979 when Roundtree filed suit asking the court to declare that both parties owned the house in the 400 block of George St.

A ruling came in June of this year that both Stanley and Roundtree did own the house and the court appointed a trustee to sell the property.

Since then, Stanley has filed an appeal and his attorney, Paul Cockrell, stated that he "is confident the decision will be reversed on appeal."

The case, however, has not been scheduled yet for a he to be heard before the Court of Special Appeals.

Continued on page 2

NEW ADVANCE DRIVE - IN — Advance Federal Savings and Loan Association's new drive - in branch office is open at 3411 Clifton Ave., in the Walbrook Shopping Center. Official opening, with ribbon - cutting, is this Saturday, Sept. 19, at 10 a.m.

Fledgling minister seeks new government

A fledgling clergyman and former 7th district congressional candidate says that the only solution to America's present woes is a true "multi - racial government."

Theodore McKinley Williams, a GOP congressional candidate in 1980, believes that "the present constitution is not representative of the American body politic," and calls for a new constitution which would ensure participation from all ethnic and racial groups in the nation.

"The basic problem with American government is that it was formed by a small group of wealthy whites. Blacks and Indians were not included and as a result, the constitution is the embodiment of racism," he said.

Williams said that since there were no provisions for blacks or any other minorities in the constitution, government policy for these groups traditionally have been stop - gap efforts.

"Decisions affecting minorities by this government were made on a piece - meal basis, but the ultimate condition is still defacto discrimination."

He said that even those pieces of legislation which were allegedly intended to improve the lot of minorities may have been sponsored with an ulterior motive.

"The Civil rights laws have failed to liberate blacks," he pointed out. "Often housing, affirmative action and the Civil Rights Act, (of 1963), have been a way of cutting off black protest."

Continued on page 2

Inmate shot in city jail escape attempt

A Baltimore City Jail inmate is in stable condition today at Johns Hopkins Hospital following a foiled escape attempt that resulted in his being shot by a jail corrections officer.

Police spokesman Mike Bass told the AFRO Willie Hudson, 26, was shot as he climbed the south wall of the jail grounds, after he refused to heed officers' warnings to stop.

According to Bass, several warning shots were fired into the air after Corrections Officer Stanford Burke spotted Hudson climbing the chain fence.

When Hudson, who was awaiting trial on breaking and entering charges, refused to stop his attempt, the officer fired six rounds from a service revolver and four rounds from a shotgun, hitting Hudson in both arms, both legs and the back, Bass said.

Hudson was taken to Johns Hopkins Hospital by ambulance, where he was later listed in stable condition.

Congratulations AFRO

(Photos restored by Glasco Ryales)

THE AFRO'S 90th YEAR EDITION (coming soon) will feature such priceless pictures as the one above with the two ladies driving a motor car in 1910. Other historic photos, stories and events will come in this once in a lifetime edition. And, there will be more in that AFRO for your dough . . . to light up your life. Watch for it. For 90 years the AFRO has recorded the history of the times. You'll be proud to have the Special 90th Year Edition on your coffee table

'Du' Burns ambushed by strikers

By Sue Williams
AFRO Staff Writer

Striking members of the East Baltimore Medical Plan met City Councilman Clarence "Du" Burns at the door of City Hall this week, demanding answers to concerns they say he refuses to address.

EBMP employees have been on strike for over a month pressing for union representation and better benefits, in addition to a new contract.

Despite repeated attempts for a response, however, the employees say Burns and Senator Robert Douglass, who head EBMP, have refused to listen to their complaints or heed their requests.

Burns, looking somewhat flushed and surprised, was escorted to his car by policemen with jeering strikers following.

He refused to talk to either strikers or reporters as he walked, but did say later that EBMP is operating "on a very tight budget."

EBMP employees began their strike Aug. 10 after failing to get Burns and Douglass to listen to their demands.

Primary on their list of concerns, they said, was union representation, especially in light of the fact that management at EBMP sought to decrease their benefits and give them only a 10 cents an hour wage increase.

So far, however, according to strikers, neither Burns nor Douglass have agreed to listen to them.

Ronald Hollie, president of Union Local 1199E, which represents hospital and health care workers from all over the state and which EBMP seeks membership, said Burns and Douglass would like to "cut off all negotiations."

Citing the attempt by EBMP management to reduce vacation and sick time, Hollie said his organization warned the medical plan in July that unless things changed a strike would occur.

He said the union was promised that the employees would be given a "decent offer."

By August, however, no offer had been made, and the strike began.

So far, Hollie said, 30 people of the negotiating team have joined the strikers; nine members of that group have remained on their jobs.

Other personnel have been hired temporarily to fill in the positions left vacant by strikers.

Employees are calling for Burns and Douglass, as elected officials, to "clean up their own houses" before attempting to serve the masses of people on more popular, political issues.

They have urged the city to take a good look at Sen Douglass' attempt to secure a cable television franchise here, saying the venture should not be allowed unless and until EBMP employees are treated better.

At AFRO presstime, there had been no progress in the strike talks.

SEP