City's first snowfall brings blanket of beauty

DECORATED TREES — Trees along Green Spring Valley Road were trimmed in snow after the city's first snowfall left four inches of the white stuff.

AFRO photos by Roman Hankewycz

SLEIGHIN' TOGETHER — A group of youths got together Wednesday for a bit of sleigh riding before the city's first snowfall began to melt.

AFRO photo by Martin Evans

ALMOST GONE — William Freeman of the Bureau of Parks shovels away snow in the 1300 block of Druid Hill Ave. near Lafayette Ave.

Designer jeans inspire designer beans

Designer jeans have inspired designer beans and if you're tired of Gloria Vanderbuild, what do you do about Gloria Vanderbean?

The promotional gimmick is the work of inventors of Joe Greenfeld and his wife Diane, who said Wednesday they want to sell novelty jelly beans to people who are sick of hearing about designer jeans.

The result is 12-ounce printed cartons that resemble a blue denim pocket, with flavored assortments of the candies tucked inside.

The beans are packaged under six "designer labels," including Gloria Vanderbean, Dian Van Furstenbean, Calvin K. Bean, Godfrey Bean, Teddy Penderbean and Cheryl T. Bean.

"It's primarily intended to be a gift item," said Greenfeld, "It's a tongue-in-cheek thing."

The Greenfelds said the jelly beans come in exotic flavors such as coconut, tangerine, watermelon and pina colada.

"Designer Beans" are being hawked in department stores and gourmet shops, but have not yet made their way into fashionable clothing shops. And if you have to ask how much the beans cost, you probably cannot afford them.

Curry named to UMES post

Chancellor William P. Hytche has named Dr. Milton King Curry Jr. as interim director of development at the University of Maryland Eastern Shore. The appointment became effective Dec. 1.

In making the announcement, Dr. Hytche said, "Dr. Curry possesses the necessary enthusiam and driving motivation to carry out successful program funding activities on this campus. I am fully confident that he will be a great asset to our institution."

Asked what he hopes to achieve in his new capacity, Dr. Curry commented; "I plan to make full use of my office facilities in order to obtain the funding beyond that provided by the state of Maryland. I look forward to a very gratifying yet challenging experience as development director at UMES."

Before coming to UMES, the Magnolia, Texas native was president of Bishop College in Dallas, Texas, where he held that position for 28 years.

He has served as president of the United Negro College Fund and 10 years as secretary for the National Association for Equal Opportunity in Higher Education.

Several milestones in his professional career include: past president of Butler College in Tyler, Texas; chairman of the mathematics department at Edward Waters College in Florida; pastor of the Antioch Baptist Church in Wichita Falls, Texas; secretary to the Texas Baptist Convention; and assistant principal and history instructor at Booker T. Washington High School in Texas.

Dr. Curry and his wife, Marjorie, will make their home in Salisbury.

Dr. Milton King Curry Jr.

A&P to close several Md. stores

The A & P Supermarket chain plans to shut down 21 of its Maryland stores early next year as part of a plan to get rid of unprofitable outlets, the company said.

The decision is expected to affect about 525 A & P employees in the state, and the company acknowledged it would not be able to rehire elsewhere all the workers who would be laid off.

The union representing many of the workers, The United Food and Commercial Workers, was notified Tuesday of A & P decision.

Most of the stores on the A & P list are located in the Marvland suburbs of Washington, DC.

Four other doomed outlets are located in Baltimore, and five are on the Eastern Shore and in Delaware.

A & P lost $43 million nationwide in 1981. Although the company declined to release local figures, union officials estimated losses totaled $13 million in the Baltimore, Washington and Richmond divisions.

The plan was the second mass shutdown of supermarkets in Maryland in recent months. Last August, Pantry Pride closed 61 stores in theregion.

Groups unite for political clout

Various individuals and organizations which have traditionally been involved in politics in the black community are trying to pull together to gain political strength.

"There are so many factions in Baltimore: east versus west, this renown family versus that renown family," Emmet Burns, Middle-Atlantic Director of the NAACP, said.

"If the leaders would ever come together they could really get something done."

Burns said businessmen, politicians, labor and church leaders could form a vital axis of political strength in the black commu nity. He said efforts are being drawn to tap that potential

"There are literally acres of black people in Baltimore," Burns said. "If we could only get them to register and vote we could be another Atlanta..."

Although Burns is impatient with the level of political involvement in the black community, others are more positive.

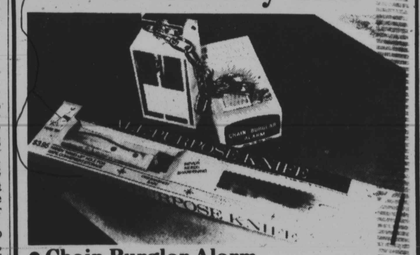
The Rev. Vernon Dobson, pastor of Union Baptist Church, said blacks in Baltimore have had a history of "tremendous activism." He cited the election of Parren Mitchell and others to various federal and local level legislative and judicial positions as evidence of their political clout.

"We have more to do and the formula for our previous success must be re-instituted," he said.

AFRO photo by Roman Hankewycz

AFRO AWARDED — Anne Arundel County Executive Robert Pascal presents a proclamation to John H. Murphy III, chairman of the board of the AFRO - AMERICAN Newspapers, recognizing the paper on its 90th birthday.

Great Holiday Gifts



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FRANK KUSH
New Colt's Coach

'Kaptain' Kush to rescue?

By Sam Lacy
AFRO Sports Editor

The replacement made by the Baltimore Colts on Monday looks encouraging — on the surface, at least.

But, whether or not the change in head coaches is the answer to the multitudinous ills that afflict the team, is strictly a matter of conjecture.

It won't.

(Continued on Page 2)

Good neighbors help AFRO'S Mrs. Santa come through for needy families!

See column 1, pages 8, 9

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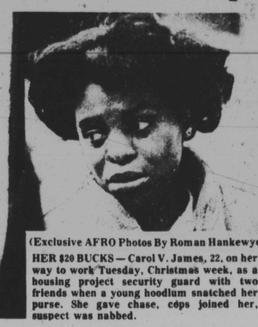
Carol's Christmas Story



(Exclusive AFRO Photos By Roman Hankewycz

HER $20 BUCKS — Carol V. James, 22, on her way to work Tuesday, Christmas week, as a housing project security guard with two friends when a young hoodlum snatched her purse. She gave chase, cops joined her, suspect was nabbed.

'I wasn't afraid, I chased him'

It was a damp, but clear late Tuesday afternoon of this holiday week, when Carol James, 22, was walking downtown Baltimore on her way to work as a housing project security guard.

She was accompanied by two girlfriends.

Suddenly, a slightly built young man, wearing a white knit cap, ran up behind her. The man pushed Ms. James, grabbed her small, burgandy-colored clutch bag and ran.

Ms. James saw red. Twenty dollars of her money was in the purse and she was not about to let her assailant have a merry Chirstmas at her expense.

She gave chase. Her friends did not follow her.

"He just ran up behind me and grabbed my pocketbook. I started running after him," Ms. James said.

The incident occurred at about 3:50 p.m., a police report said. The long, winding chase began in the 700 block of Franklin St. It ended with her assailant's arrest moments later at the corner of Druid Hill Ave. and Eutaw St.

Unfortunately, this story does not have a happy ending.

As the angry and startled Ms. James gave chase, she was joined by several men. Tactical Squad officer G. W. Oliver and his police dog, were sitting in their patrol car, parked in a lot.

At first, when he saw the suspect running, Officer Oliver said he did not think much of the sight, the man was just jogging. Then he saw Ms. James and her followers in dogged pursuit.

Officer Oliver started his patrol car and roared after them.

Somewhere, somehow in the excitement and confusion of the chase, the suspect apparently decided he did not want Ms. James' pocketbook after all. Ms. James said she also lost sight of her assailant for several blocks, before spotting him again.

"He (the suspect) said he didn't know where he threw it," officer Oliver said.

At the chase's end, in the parking lot, the sight of the policeman's dog apparently convinced the suspect to surrender, peacefully. He was searched; no pocketbook was found.

(Continued on Page 2)

Feds eye cuts in disability benefits

12,400 in city face aid review including sickle cell victims and mentally impaired

If 40,000 Marylanders, 12,400 of whom live in Baltimore City, are unable to prove to the federal government's satisfaction they are permanently disabled, they could face discontinuence of their benefits checks, a spokesman for the Social Security Administration told the AFRO.

In Baltimore, some of the disabled persons who could be affected, include those suffering from Sickle Cell Anemia and the Sickle Cell trait, a blood disorder that primarily strikes blacks.

A spokeswoman for the Association for Sickle Cell Services Education Research and Treatment Inc. (ASSERT), said she knows of at least one ASSERT client who may be affected by the SSA reviews.

Jim Brown, of the SSA in Washington, D.C., said the SSA has "no intention" to take anyone off the disability rolls simply as a measure" to balance the budget.

But, the agency is concentrating its efforts "to remove people from the Social Security rolls, who no longer are disabled under the meaning of the law," he said.

Those people, across the nation, as well as in Maryland and Baltimore, who have been classified as among the permanently disable used to face review of their cases once every seven years, Brown said.

However, a government study, conducted a year ago, found "many people were not disabled and were able to return to work," he said.

(Continued on Page 2)

Coalition wants school bd. chief out

A local activist group, dissatisified with the performance of the school board president, is calling for his removal.

The Anti-Drug Coalition wants school board president David Daneker fired and base their reasons on his approval of a five-year-plan that calls for the use of computers in the classroom.

The group states, in a petition that will be circulated throughout the various councilmanic districts, "Mr. Danekes's recent actions indicate he is neither inclined nor competent to provide the children of this city with a quality classical education.

"He has, in fact, rejected this quality of education in favor of a program of learning which would produce a population fit for little else than the human scrap heap."

Debbie Freeman, regional director of the coalition which is a national group, stated that the group is seeking a city councilman to introduce a resolution to remove the board president.

Once the legislation is introduced, a hearing would be convened, testimony heard and the council would then vote on the president.

"Several city council members have expressed concern about the five-year plan," said Ms. Freeman, who declined to name the individuals.

(Continued on Page 2)

Legionnaires help Mrs. Santa

Memorial Post 213 American Legion at the Baltimore Post Office as part of their Help the Needy Program collected and donated 20 boxes of clothing to the AFRO's Mrs. Santa Store. It took three hours just to get the clothes in the store. They included toys, suits, winter coats, shoes. With Mrs. Santa are J. Koger, junior vice commander; Ralpha Bacate, color guard; Harold Wilson, past commander and awards chairman; Albert Orange, commander; W. Wright, Ralph Benton, first vice commander.

Is there life after basketball?

Poly players look beyond the hoop

You could see what was going to happen before it happened.

The powerhouse Dunbar basketball team made a house call at Poly last Friday and was in the process of administering some rather bitter medicine.

Dunbar's David Wingate had slipped inside and pulled a rebound. Teammate Reggie Williams had a long, gliding step on his man as they broke up court.

Wingate dribbled the ball once and launched a long, arching pass which met Wingate in full flight. Soaring up from somewhere near the foul line as if propelled by the volume of the roaring crowd, he brought the ball over his head and spiked it through the rim with an authoritative, backboard-swaying, thundering dunk.

The crowd exploded to its feet, howling with delight and the walls of the gymnasium strained to contain the waves of excitement that whipped through the stands.

But this is a story about the other guys.

Poly has some guys that can fill it up, too. Al Wells, picking up the slack left by the injured Ralph Lee, pumped in 24 points, many of them on long jumpers from the perimeter.

But he and his teammates are more concerned with where they are going after the excitement of the latest "in-your-face" fades into memory.

Lloyd VanLandingham typifies the balanced attitude of his Poly teammates. An enthusiastic player, he also is diligent in his schoolwork. Despite being tied up 10 to 12 hours per week with practice or a game he makes time for homework and study each day.

"If you really want to get the work done you have to give a little more," he said.

Lloyd plans to continue his studies at college, citing U. South Carolina and U. Southern California as ones he is most interested in.

(Continued on Page 10)

AFRO Photo by Martin Evans

LEAN ON ME — Lloyd VanLandingham, Poly forward and wing guard, gets a hug from his sister after a 77-47 losing effort against Dunbar last Friday night at Poly. Lloyd said he gets a boost from the support of his family, both in sports and in academics. Coach Bucky Kimmitt thinks the team has "a lot of character," and said "Our kids can all go to college."