Execution by knife?

An anonymous phone tip to homicide detectives led police to the bodies of two men who had been stabbed several times with an unknown sharp object.

Police report Joe Eddie Minyard, 30, was stabbed in the chest and abdomen and was found lying on the kitchen floor in his apartment.

His neighbor Louis Ely, who lived in an adjacent apartment in the 800 block of Harlem Avenue was found lying on his left side next to the stairway bannister in the hallway. Ely had been stabbed in the chest and right side.

According to police, the two men had been stabbed several times. Police report nothing seemed to be missing from the victims apartments and they were still investigating the case at AFRO presstime.

Police state the victims were found around 7:52 a.m. A woman who lives in the apartment building told the AFRO she did not hear or see anything unusual Tuesday morning.

Neighbors said the men had been living on Harlem Avenue for one year and both men were unemployed. Police report robbery was ruled out as a motive.

"It may have been a domestic situation where there was an argument between friends or neighbors," police spokesman Mike Bass said.

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—Kush

(Continued from Page 1)

The writer participated in a panel discussion on the TV "Square Off" program, Oct. 3, and the point of debate was the sorry condition of the Colts, who were then sporting a record of 1-3.

At the time, no one suspected that the team would lose the next 11 games in succession. Yet, all on the panel were aware that the Colts were performing disgracefully and were in dire need of some kind of change.

Under severe fire was McCormack, several panelists insisting that a replacement was needed.

This writer admitted that he has never been a Mike McCormack booster (his losing records in previous jobs being the convincer).

But, it was argued, removing McCormack would not solve all that was wrong with the 1981 Colts. He needed help in stopping the deterioration of morale, in shoring up the team's defense (the general manager's job) and in controlling or correcting the attitude of certain players who were spoiled by high salaries.

Since then, AFRO stories and commentaries have suggested that quarterback Bert Jones might change his questionable racial perspective and that running back Curtis Dickey needs to rid himself of his persecution complex and grow up.

There is nothing to be done about the antics of the irresponsible, unpredictable ownership.

The acquisition of Frank Kush is hailed here — up to a point.

He can mean a difference of five, maybe six, games for the 1982 Colts if he is allowed to do the job as he sees it. But he cannot produce the complete turnaround alone.

Perhaps, the most positive note is the fact that Kush has been given a 5-year contract. This means that he need not be handicapped by a situation in which the coach is stuck with the problem of dealing with athletes who are being paid two and three times as much as he is receiving in salary.

The long term guaranteed Kush lets the players know that, although he may not match them at the pay window, he is operating with the strength of stability. And they would do well to respect that.

But, as stated earlier, the mere removal of the head coach cannot possibly cure the multitude of ills from which the 1981 Colts suffered.

The hiring of the new man is like administering aspirin to an athritic patient who has a hernia, diabetes and an ulcerated stomach.

—SSA benefits

(Continued from Page 1)

Those findings have resulted in a shorter period between reviews, once every three years. Laboratory tests, doctor's statements and other information will be examined by the Maryland State Department of Vocational Rehabilition, before determinations are made in Maryland, Brown said.

If the findings disqualify a person from receiving his disability check, the national average is about a $413 per month payment, that person has 10 days to appeal the decision, he said.

Brown said the reviews have been ongoing since the first of the year and the "government reports a large number of people have been receiving benefits who were not entitled to them."

Sonya Ross, an ASSERT genetic counselor, said Assert presently is faced with one incidence of their clients being affected by the SEA review program and questions exist "about the continuence of service disability" benefits for that person.

ASSERT reaches about 40,000 persons in the Baltimore area through counseling, education, screening for blood disorders and other services. That one incident represents a "very minute" percentage of their case load, she said.

—Coalition

(Continued from Page 1)

Ms. Freeman said that group is "cautiously optimistic" but will consider a class action suit if a resolution is not introduced by the end of January.

The board approved a five-year plan several weeks ago that calls for inclusion of computers in several mathematics areas. School officials report that the computer phase of the plan would cost $700,000.

Several Several parents, teachers and community leaders charged that the board would not be able to implement the plan under the proposed 1982-83 budget that is less than the one submitted last year. This year's budget request, $3 million is about $1.8 million less than last year's.

David Daneker called the group's charges against him "100 percent false."

He said, "The purpose of trying to develop a five-year plan is to ensure that we get the maximum benefit of resources. Our goal is to make sure that all children achieve the highest possible levels."

Daneker called the group's charge that the use of computers would produce functional education in schools "another joke" and pointed out that educational assistants will be provided through the University of Maryland Baltimore County to work with students and the computers.

"They've gotten so far away from the facts and truths that there isn't any way to really respond anymore," he said.

Superintendent John Crew could not be reached for comment.

Crime, $ dominate '82 session

By Martin Evans
AFRO Staff Writer

Crime and fiscal policy will dominate the attention of black legislators in Annapolis during the 1982 General Assembly, sources say. An increasingly conservative constituency has been cited as a reason for the conservative focus.

Members of the state legislature expect a strong push for tougher laws aimed at violent crime and repeat offenders.

They also expect to confront the effects of the Reagan cutbacks on state administered social programs. Concern was expressed that the state find ways of continuing some of the programs and services which have been reduced or eliminated, such as the Aid to Families with Dependant Children and the CETA programs.

Some will take a hard line on crime. Delegate John W. Douglass (D-40th) said he will call for mandatory minimum sentencing for violent crimes, such as rape, burglary or homicide. He would like also to see second and third offenses treated with progressively stiffer sentences. But Del. Troy Brailey (D-40th) feels black legislators should be careful with anti-crime legislation, saying much of it could have a repressive effect in the black community.

"I'm opposed to (crime), but we have to be careful...because the laws are not administered evenly," he said alleging that, as a group, blacks are treated more harshly by the justice system than are others.

Brailey also stated his opposition to mandatory minimum sentencing, saying it would make the justice system less responsive.

"You might as well do away with the judges," he said.

Stiffer gun control laws will be sought by some legislators. Senator Verda Welcome (D-40th) favors removing handguns from all citizens, but expressed doubt such a law could be passed. Del. Howard "Pete" Rawlings said he would co-sponsor a bill modeled after the Massachucets law and which would provide minimum sentencing for carrying an unlicensed gun.

The Reagan cutbacks was mentioned as an area of grave concern by Welcome, Brailey, Douglass and Rawlings.

Douglass, a member of the Appropriations Committee, along with Rawlings said he considered the Reagan cuts a major threat and he would "try to stave off cutbacks which would affect Baltimore's blacks."

Sen. Welcome suggested increasing the cigarette tax by one cent and the amusement tax on coin operated game machines by nine cents to provide additional funds for schools, roads, bridges and mass transportation.

Redistricting, abortion rights, labor laws and the legal drinking age also were cited as controversial issues which will draw a lot of attention during the legislative session.

"We are going to have a hot one," Brailey said.

—Carol's Christmas

(Continued from Page 1)

The suspect was placed inside a patrol wagon and was driven away. A crying and angry Carol James talked with police and several of the men who helped her pursue the suspect. They retraced their steps, looking for the lost pocketbook. It could not be found.

In between her tears, rolling slowly down her face, Ms. James explained she was not afraid when the incident occurred. It was the first time something like this had ever happened to her, she said.

Yes, Ms. James said, the purse snatching would affect her Christmas.

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Residents upset over relocation of drug center

The relocation of the East Baltimore Drug Abuse Center to the 1100 block of Aisquith St. has some of the block's residents and business owners upset, saying the center will increase crime in the area and "dirty" the neighborhood.

However, apparently in the face of little organized opposition, the nine-member board of the city's Planning Commission approved the center's relocation at a Dec. 17 meeting.

The drug abuse center has been at its present location, a large, old church building at 1031 Aisquith, for about 4 years, City Councilman Clarence "Du" Burns told the AFRO. Established in the community 10 years ago, the center serves about 300 area residents.

Approved or not, the center will be an unwelcomed addition as far as Doris Hardy and about 15 other homeowners are concerned.

Mrs. Hardy is the owner of the soon-to-be opened Sub-Itt carry out shop. She said she and others are opposed to the center and fear crime and assaults will increase, when the center is housed in a burned out bakery building.

"We just cleaned up the area, now they're going to come back and dirty it up," she said. "It won't enhance the neighborhood ... or upgrade it."

Mabel Gray, owner of Mabel's Beauty Salon, said she had been in the neighborhood since about 1947 and also lives near her salon.

"I live right up the street (from the proposed site of the center) and I oppose it," she said. "I know it will hurt (her business). It can't but affect (her customers)" as they enter the salon and see the center's clients "congregating up and down the street."

Burns said a series of meetings had been sponsored since he proposed the center's relocation about seven months ago and little opposition was mounted against the move.

"The community was with us 100 percent at the planning committee meeting. Nobody was against us," he said.

In its present location, some residents complained about the center in the past, making the "usual gripes," Burns said. But those problems have been solved. Loitering was the number one complaint.

"We got the police working with us. They got rid of that last year," Burns said. "That was the worst of it (loitering) ...addicts standing around on the corner. People saw how crummy they looked (and were) scared."

The reason behind the center's move is it is too expensive to operate in its present location, Burns said. Money has been obtained from the state to buy and renovate the burned building.

Dogs will be used to sniff out drugs in prison

Special dog patrols will soon be introduced in Maryland prisons in an effort to sniff out drugs and other contraband, the state's prison commissioner said this week.

Commissioner John P. Galley said the Maryland Correctional Training Center in Hagerstown will be the first prison to get the canine teams, probably early in 1982.

"I'd like to cross train the dogs for security purposes as well as drug sniffing," Galley said. "We're eventually going to take the dogs all over the division and use them as searchers."

Galley said the canine teams may help cut down on the special problem of prison employees smuggling contraband into inmates. The warden noted that staffers and their labor unions strongly oppose strip searchers of guards, counselors and other employees who come in close contact with prisoners.

The commissioner said ordinary prison guards will use the trained dogs primarily German Shepherds and Bloodhounds to sniff out drugs in the visiting rooms and security areas of state prisoners.

Galley said after introducing dog patrols at the Maryland Correctional Institution, also in Hagerstown, and at the Maryland House of Correction in Jessup.

Warden Marlin F. Bachtell of the Maryland Correctional Training Center said his facility will need at least six trained dogs in order to reduce drug smuggling by inmates, prison staff and visitors.

At the Maryland Correctional Institution, Warden James P. Tinney III said he has already purchased four German Shepherds and is seeking two more dogs for drug patrol training.

Prison officials concede that canine patrols will not completely eliminate the flow of drugs in Maryland prisons. "You can minimize drug traffic, but you're never to eliminate it," Galley said.

Criminals may pay restitution

The Maryland Court of Appeals ruled that criminals can be required to provide restitution to their victims, but they can not be forced to pay the victims' insurance companies.

In a 5-2 decision, the state's highest court held that Maryland's restitution law was not intended to benefit insurance companies.

The ruling voided a 1980 decision by a Prince George's County circuit judge ordering Joseph W. Montgomery to pay $11,595 to the Maryland Casualty Insurance Company. Montgomery pleaded guilty to breaking into the Potomac Iron Works Co., a firm insured by Maryland Casualty.

Court records showed that Montogmery caused considerable damage to the building while trying to open a safe with an acetylene torch damage that was paid for by the insurance company.

In its opinion, the Court of Appeals stated: "We can only conclude that the term 'victim' in the statue... is limited exclusively to the owner of the property taken or damaged and does not include third party payors, such as insurance companies."

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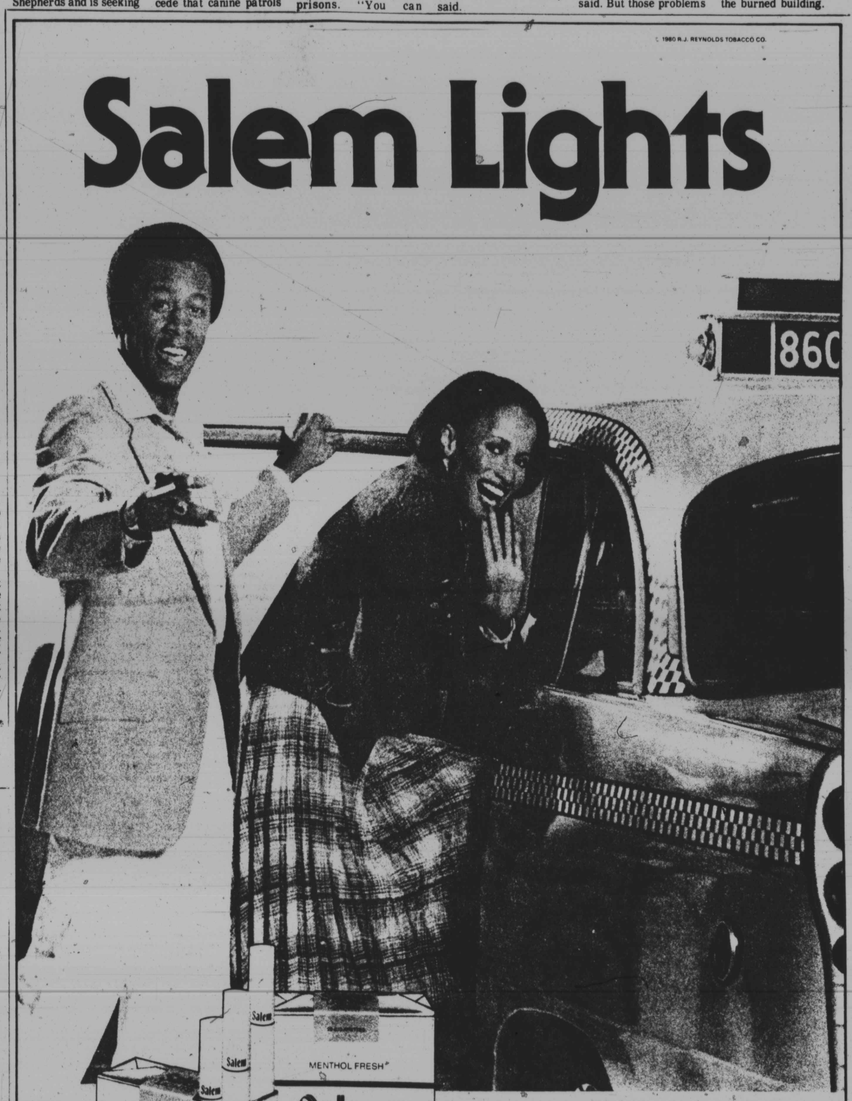

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