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Fashions: Marion Abigail

'Schaefernomics' hits our classrooms!

See column one

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Baltimore Afro-American

WE ARE NOW IN OUR 90TH YEAR

Shirelles' singer dead at 41

(See Showtime)

90th Year No. 90

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BALTIMORE, MD. JUNE 19, 1982 LATE CITY EDITION 35 CENTS

Coed survives 10-day kidnap ordeal

City Council hears new plan for low-income housing

A bill designed to open city-owned abandoned housing to lower income individuals was introduced before the City Council Monday.

The measure, if enacted, could allow many members of the black community to own their own homes and get in on what some have referred to as a middle-class homesteading bonanza.

The measure's sponsors said the bill represents a creative response to the problems presented by the city's ownership of the buildings, many which are crumbling in disrepair.

But others, both in and out of government, said the bill is misleading, and will not significantly increase access to homesteading opportunities by lower income individuals.

The proposed housing bill, sponsored by councilmembers Walter Orlinsky, Mary Pat Clarke, Clarence Du Burns, Kweisi Mfume, Nathan Irby and George Della, enjoys broad support in the the council.

The bill would require the city to publish a list of all abandoned city-owned properties, and to streamline the proceedure by which individuals could take possession of homes.

Housing units would be available to prospective owners who could arrange financing for the elimination of major code violations within 90 days, and who could bring the structures into compliance with the building code within two years, according to the bill.

Many of the units could be made habitable with an investment of $15,000 or less, sponsors said.

The bill also provides that cheap loans would be obtainable with the aid of a city agency, the Baltimore Advisory Commission for the Disposition of Vacant City-Owned Properties. The Commission also would advise the city on ways of taking posession of abandoned properties for conversion into private hands.

The abandoned properties cost the city hundreds of thousands in lost property tax revenues annually, drives down surrounding property values, ently draws crime and vermin infestation, and often is in violation of the city's own housing codes, factors which are a source of embarrassment to the city, Orlinsky said.

Urge rehabbing of abandoned properties

At least one community group, the Baltimore Housing Alliance, immediately endorsed the bill. The Alliance said tabandoned buildings represent a vast stock of affordable housing which should be made accessible and community serving.

"People are really not aware of the extent of the vacant housing program," George Buntin, the Alliance's vice president said, referring to the city's large holding of abandoned properties.

But Bill Scriven, director of the Baltimore City Tenants Association said most of the city-owned properties would require investments beyond the means of lower income individuals.

Scriven said although he has no opposition to the substance of the bill, he thought its emphasis on lower income access is dangerously misleading.

The middle-class would be the big winner, as it has been in past homesteading programs, Scriven said.

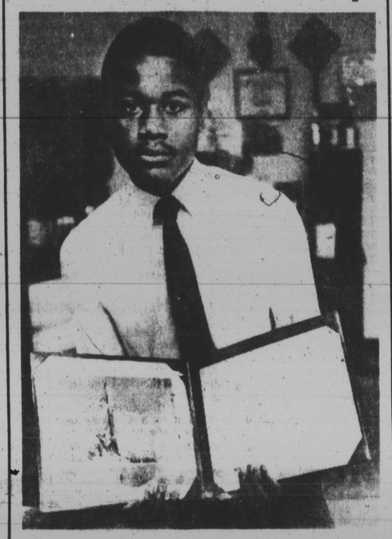
"The bill's sponsors are smart enough and shrewd enough to tack on the term 'lower income' to gain support for the bill," Scriven said.

"How many people have credit (for rehabilitation loans)?," Scriven asked.

Deputy Housing Commissioner Mark Sissman echoed many of

(Continued on Page 2)

Dunbar grad wins $70,000 scholarship



(AFRO Photo By Roman Hankewycz)

SCHOLARSHIP WINNER — John Williams, 17, of the Hollander Ridge area of Baltimore, will have his college education paid for during the next four years. See story below.

John Williams, 17, who graduated from Dunbar High School last week received a $70,000 scholarship to the United States Air Force Academy, the largest scholarship awarded to a Dunbar student in recent history.

Williams, who also is an athlete, said it was a dream come true.

"I always wanted to go to the Air Force Academy, plus I wanted to get a college education. So I saw that as a means of getting both at the same time," he said.

Maintaining an 88 point average during his four years at Dunbar, Williams said science and math are his favorite subjects and hopes one day to become a scientist.

Dunbar school officials confirmed his award, saying it was

(Continued on Page 2)

Student, part-time Sphinx Club waitress held hostage

An AFRO Exclusive
By Pam Widgeon

It was almost like some classic horror movie such as "Halloween." An attractive young woman being stalked by a love-sick young man.

Or taking a page from current news, the case of John Hinckley Jr., the accused would-be assassin of President Ronald Reagan who worshipped and harrassed film star Jodie Foster.

On June 3, pretty, young Priscilla Carr caught a cab to her parttime job at Baltimore's fabled Sphinx Club on Pennsylvania Avenue where she worked as a waitress. She paid her fare, stepped to the sidewalk and was grabbed by a man who forced her into a car.

Thus began a 10-day horror



Priscilla Carr

(Continued on Page 2)

Workshop zero in on readership trends

Governor Hughes welcomes NNPA conventioners

"The market is out there, you just have to attract it."

More than 50 black newspaper publishers and editors from across the country heard this message Thursday morning as workshops and seminars of the 42nd Annual Meeting of the National Newspaper Publishers Association began at the Hyatt Regency Hotel.

The series of meetings and sessions over a three-day period, which began Wednesday and will end Saturday morning, has been devoted to such topics of interest to publishers as "Changing Editorial Trends," "Production Trends," Newspaper Financial Management," "Newspaper Advertising," and "Circulation."

Joint hosts for the numerous dinners and luncheons were the AFRO-AMERICAN Newspapers Inc. and the Afro-American News and World Report, published by Ms. Catherine Pugh.

Highlights of the conference included a Thursday afternoon luncheon featuring Gov. Harry Hughes, and other city and state officials.

A Thursday evening reception was hosted by Reg Murphy, president and publisher of the Baltimore Sunpapers. This was followed by a gala banquet that offered an address by Rep. Parren J. Mitchell, D-7th, and a salute to the AFRO-AMERICAN's 90th anniversary year by Clarence M. Mitchell Jr., former

(Continued on Page 2)

'Schaefernomics' hits schools



AFRO Photo by Martin Evans

INDIVIDUALIZED ATTENTION, a necessary ingredient in improving classroom skills, may be reduced next year as teacher layoffs will mean larger classes. McKinley Watson, a first grader, gets help in spelling from teacher, Reba Coates at School No. 256.

By Martin Evans
AFRO Staff Writer

Baltimore city school teachers already had been disgruntled by what they saw as being forced to take a back seat to other budgetary concerns annually.

But insult was added to injury among their ranks when the mayor's budgetary priorities, Schaefernomics, placed police and fire department budgets above education in drafting the fiscal 1983 budget. More than 1,000 school employees were sent termination notices as a result.

(Continued on Page 8)

Politics' 1982

Mitchell will seek 7th term, Vernon Gray to run in Howard Co.

Cummings enters 39th

Congressional, state and city candidates are revving up their campaign motors as the political season, which in some cases began very early, moves well underway.

Monday, Congressman Parren J. Mitchell filed for re-election as he seeks to continue his representation of the 7th Congressional District for a seventh term.

While proclaiming he is proud of his record, Mitchell also used the occasion to squash rumors he plans to run for mayor in 1984.

"These rumors are totally untrue," he said. "It is my hope to continue to represent the 7th Congressional District of Maryland as long as my strength and commitment and health shall endure."

He faces opposition this time out from Elizabeth C. Gray, a Coppin State College professor, who entered the race early on.

Elijah Cummings, of the law

(Continued on Page 2)



'MISS TALENTED TEEN, MD.' for 1982 is Tracy Hamlin, age 15, who was crowned at the 'Miss Talented Teen Maryland' Pageant held at the Holiday Inn Inner Harbor, Sunday, June 13 under the directorship of Mrs. Pinnie L. Ross, pageant director for the state of Maryland. See story on Page 9.

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