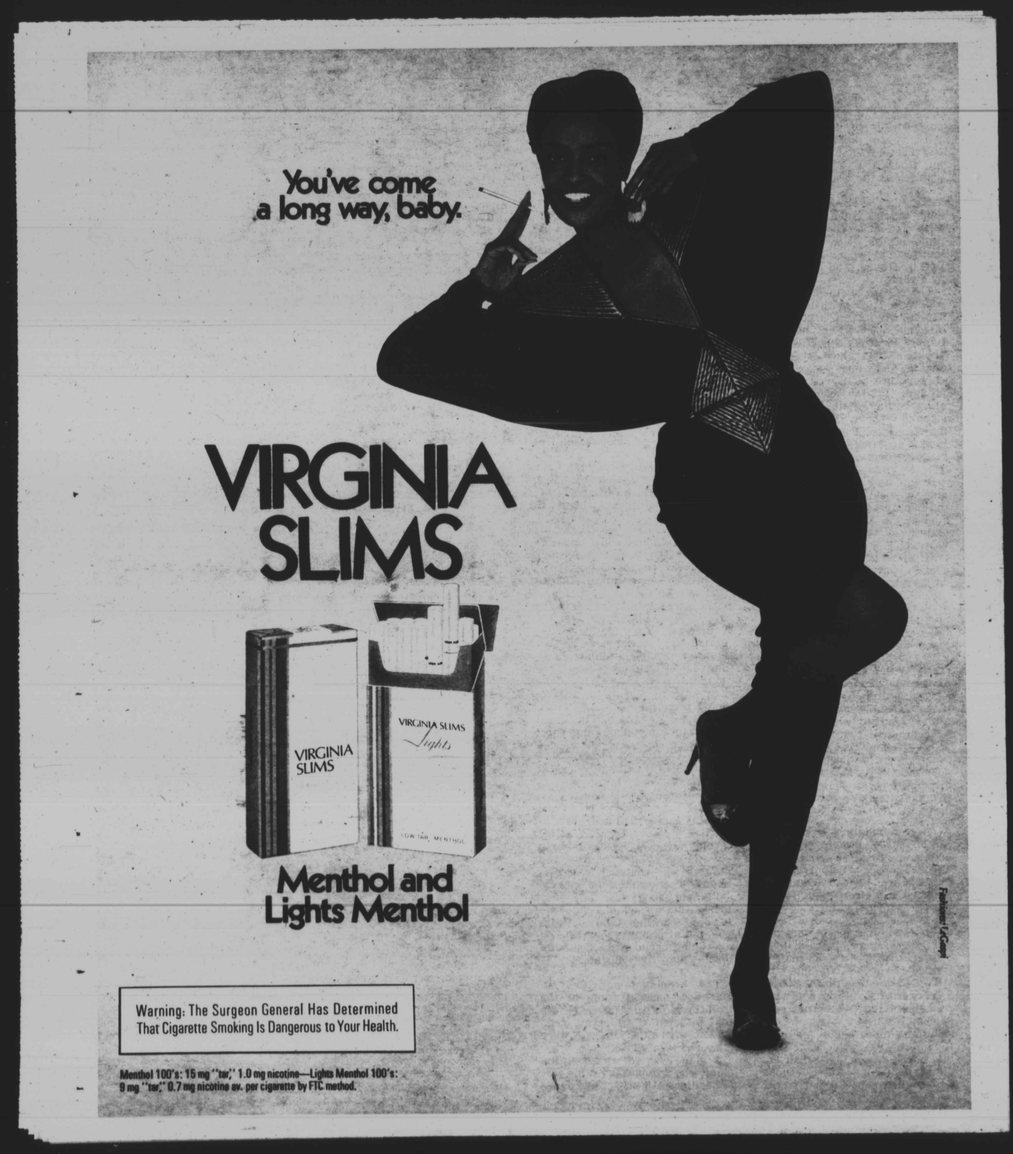

WARNING ALL VOTERS!

Know your new voting districts!

The political boundaries have been changed

GET REGISTERED! Make sure you are eligible to vote this fall

See page 5 for important voter information

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Baltimore Afro-American

WE ARE NOW IN OUR 90TH YEAR

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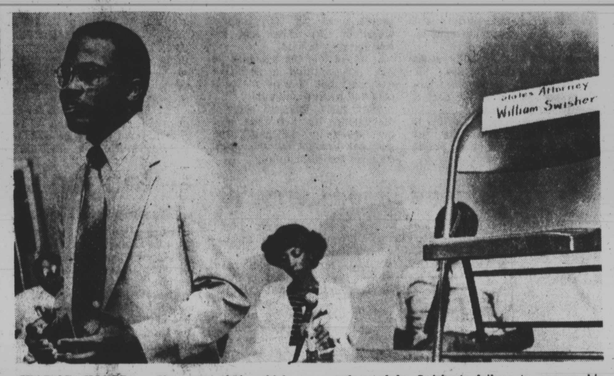
Swisher ducks NAACP showdown



SEAT OF "HONOR" — The empty chair, which had been reserved for State's Attorney William Swisher, was placed on a desk at the NAACP's monthly meeting earlier this week. Apparently undaunted by Swisher's failure to appear, his challenger for the state's attorney position, Kurt Schmoke explains his positions.

A mixture of city residents, elected officials, candidates for the upcoming election and NAACP board members congregated in the basement of the Heritage United Church of Christ to witness what many thought would be a debate between the incumbent State's Attorney and Kurt Schmoke, Democratic candidate for State's Attorney.

Unlike the meeting sponsored by the Mount Royal Democratic Club where William A. Swisher arrived late, he never showed up for the NAACP's monthly meeting.

Honoring the absent incumbent before an audience numbering more than 100, Herbert Singleton, attorney and forum moderator, placed Swisher's vacant seat atop a table with his name card draped over the back of the chair.

Expressing his displeasure with the absence of the state's attorney, Singleton said, "Let us not let Mr. Swisher forget he did not come to spend fifteen minutes with us."

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REAGAN'S VISIT

Park Heights residents stage carnival to combat Reaganomics

There were dozens of rides, scores of games, hundreds of pounds of hot dogs and jelly apples, thousands of smiling faces in Park Heights when President Reagan came to town Tuesday.

And one big irony.

This good old-fashioned country fair spirit was a result of the impact of Reaganomics.

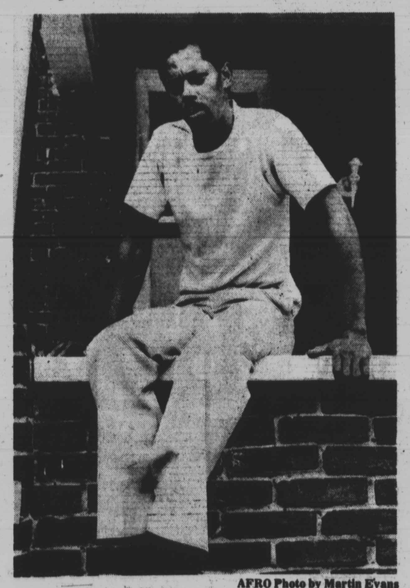
The president's fiscal policies were at least partially responsible for the carnival's happening. To make up for losses in federal block grant aid, the Park Heights Community Corporation (PHCC) took part in organizing the fair, and will gain a percentage of carnival receipts, a PHCC spokeswoman said at the fair's opening Monday.

The next day, Reagan visted the city to promote his "New Federalism" policies which stress less federal assistance to local areas.

"The concept of the carnival is to offset the effects of Reaganomics, the cutbacks in social services," Sylvia Johnson, a PHCC board member told the AFRO, her voice competing with

(Continued on Page 2)

Heights citizens speak on president's trip



AFRO Photo by Martin Evans

JERRY HARRIS — "While he was giving his speech I was out looking for a job."

On a brief, orchestrated tour President Reagan visited Baltimore Tuesday in an attempt to rally support for his sagging "New Federalism" programs. Reaction to the president's visit was less than overwhelming among city, state and county officials, and city residents.

Dropping out of the sky in a helicopter - raised cloud of dust at Druid Hill Park shortly after 9:30 a.m., the president made a brief stop at a Park Circle Industrial Park bindery, before motoring downtown to address the National Association of Counties' annual convention at the Convention Center, and dining at a $50 dollar-a-plate World Trade Center luncheon with business and civic leaders.

He then was taken to Fort McHenry for an early afternoon helicopter ride back to Washington, completing a day in

(Continued on Page 3)

Restauranteur Bryant blasts politicians who woo blacks but spend 'white'

Despite the excitement being generated by a host of black candidates for various political offices, there are mutterings of dissatisfaction from several black businesses who claim they are not getting a fair share of political accounts.

Kenneth Bryant, co-owner of the Soul Shack Restaurant, recently slammed the black political community for their "unwillingness to put their money where their mouths are."

"They come to us asking us to buy black, but they don't seem to be willing to spend their money in our community," Bryant said.

Bryant said his facility is designed to accommodate almost 300 patrons, but few political figures have booked affairs there.

"Everytime I pick up the AFRO, I read about black leaders having an affair at Martin's West, the Forum, or one of those places. I seldom see them taking their business to the Gatsby, Pascal's or one of the black-owned and operated facilities. I think this is hypocrisy on their part," Bryant said.

Another black businessman, Al Maddox of Time Printers, agrees with Bryant. "I feel that I'm getting a fair to middling amount of their work," Maddox said. "It could be more, but too many aspiring politicians are hung up with having the 'union bug' on their literature."

The "bug" is a small emblem affixed to campaign literature which certifies that the work was done in a union shop. When asked if union identification was that important, Maddox said no.

"There's no way I think that the bug is that important," he said. "But some say it is. Since there are no blacks in the printers' union, that's like telling politicians that they have to spend their money with whites."

Bryant pointed out one black 5th district State Senator who recently participated in two fundraisers, at Martin's West and the Lyric Theater.

"That's strange, because he is running in an integrated district, the 39th, and he knows he can't win without black support. But where does he spend his money," Bryant asked.

Maddox concurred, "if a black is aspiring for office, he has to depend on his black constituency, so it should be incumbent on him to spend as much money as he can in the black community."

(Continued on Page 2)

A day in court

Would-be hooker warned, beer-drinker fined as justice grinds

He sits in his black robes watching and waiting as one person after another is marched before him on charges ranging from loitering, to jumping bail at Central District Police Court.

A tall slender, inarticulate black man in jeans and a striped T-shirt, is called from the court gallery to answer charges of drinking beer in public.

The man in black on the bench is Judge Alan B. Lipson.

"You have the right to an attorney...or you may defend yourself and we will proceed," the Judge tells the defendant adding, "the maximum penalty is $100."

The man wants to proceed.

The accuser is a blond, uniformed police officer, who gives his account of the arrest. The accusee had a partially consumed Lowenbrau in his hand in front of a store, according to the policeman. When informed it is illegal to drink in public, he said the man with the beer walked away and that is when he arrested the man.

When the defendant took the witness stand, he admitted to drinking a beer in public, but accused the policeman of harrassment, because he had testified against the police officer

(Continued on Page 2)

Provident Hospital awards $100 million insurance contract to minority firm

A minority owned insurance agency was recently awarded some $100 million in contracts to fully insure Baltimore's oldest community health institution, Provident Hospital, in Northwest Baltimore.

Tyrous "Terry" Addison, president of Atlas Insurance Agency confirmed this week that his agency has been assigned the task of providing all of Provident's insurance needs.

Addison told the AFRO his agency will be handling an insurance services package totaling some $100 million in coverage ranging from property and health insurance, liability insurance and the hospital's employee pension plan.

Atlas won the contract with a successful bid in open competition.

"There was a great deal of competition, but our company Atlas, fairly and successfully outbid competitors," he said.

Atlas replaces Riggs, Council, Michael and Downs, the agency which previously handled the hospital's insurance account.

Addison also stated, "Atlas has handled many contracts for various businesses and citizens, including a large account with the World Trade Center in 1980."

Addison, a Morgan State University graduate, founded Atlas nine years ago, and his firm currently represents more than 18 major insurance companies in the U.S. and abroad, among them Aetna Life and Casualty, the Hartford Insurance Group, INA Insurance Co. and Lloyds of London.

Atlas is associated with the

Terry Addison

brokerage firm Insurance Inc., in Towson.

Addison is, through his associations with such organizations as The HUB, the Association of Black Insurance Brokers, Employees and Agents, and his personal business ventures of the past, a familiar name in Baltimore's black business community.

Before landing his own business, he worked in federal government programs, gaining experience in administering federal and state government insurance programs through his work at the Social Security Administration.

He also had operated digital computer systems at Aberdeen Proving Ground.

"By using the same techniques that won us the Provident contract, we hope to expand our clientele and provide more services in the health field," said Addison.

JUL