Senate kills 'Rights' bill for the jobless

By Ann Sagi

The Senate Wednesday killed a proposed Bill of Rights for the unemployed, a decision the measure's co-sponsor labeled "criminal."

"I think a motion to postpone this bill indefinitely is a criminal move on the part of this body. It's like turning our backs on tens of thousands of people in this state," said Sen. Nathan Irby, D-Baltimore.

The Bill of Rights would only have affected people who had exhausted their unemployment compensation and would only have applied when Maryland's jobless rate reached 7.2 percent. Households with weekly incomes of more than $153, the current maximum state jobless benefit, would have been ineligible.

The legislation would have permitted homeowners to postpone mortgage payments for six months. Tenants living in certain apartments would have been allowed to pay only half their rent for six months.

Sen. Julian Lapides, D-Baltimore, and the measure's principal sponsor, stressed during debate on the bill Tuesday that rent and mortgage payments would have to be made eventually.

But Sen. Howard Denis, R-Montgomery, warned his colleagues that landlords and mortgage holders would have been adversely affected by the legislation.

"A bad bill does not become a good bill because it is called a Bill of Rights," he said. "This bill should be called the Bankruptcy and Foreclosure Act. It would perpetrate a cruel hoax on the unemployed."

Sen. Laurence Levitan, D-Montgomery, introduced the motion to postpone action on the measure indefinitely, which passed by a 27-19 vote.

He praised the intent of the bill, but added the "approach taken is not proper. This would put on the backs of a few individuals the obligations of society and the state."

"The legislation we have on the floor was killed overwhelmingly in the House. I think the overwhelming sentiment of the Senate is this not the road to take," said Levitan.

Sen. Jerome Connell, D-Anne Arundel, invoked the first words spoken by U.S. Astronaut Neil Armstrong when he became the first person to step foot on the moon in 1969.

"This may be one small step for the benefit of mankind," Connell said.

The Bill of Rights for the jobless barely survived two attempts Tuesday that would have killed the measure. Both motions — one to refer the bill to another committee, another to put it on permanent hold — were defeated by single votes.

Blood pressure group to hear Del. Young

Del. Larry Young (D.,30th) is the scheduled keynote luncheon speaker at the Fourth Annual Convention of the Maryland Association of Blood Pressure Measurement Specialists, Inc. "Health and Welfare of Maryland: A Status Report," will be the topic of Mr. Young's address.

The conference will be held Saturday, May 14th, at the Ramada Inn Ballroom, 1701 Belmont Ave., immediately off Baltimore Beltway Exit 17.

Del. Young chairs the House of Delegates Environmental Matters Committee which is assigned most health legislation. His area of expertise as a legislator is health.

Other speakers on the convention program include: Dr. Elijah Saunders, chief of cardiology for Provident Hospital; Dr. Harvey Flack, dean of the School of Allied Health for Howard University; and John Hargraves, community relations specialist for Baltimore Gas and Electric Company.

Conference registration information is available from the Maryland Association of Blood Pressure Measurement Specialists, Inc.

Senate filibusters labor dept. bill

By Ann Sagi

The Senate Wednesday launched into its first filibuster on the 1983 session in an effort to block a vote on a bill that would set up a state labor department, one of Gov. Harry Hughes' pet projects.

The Senate rejected a motion by Sen. Walter Baker, D-Cecil, to delay a vote on the measure until Thursday. Baker claimed he did not have sufficient time to study an amendment offered on the floor during earlier debate on the bill.

At 5:10 p.m., Baker began the delaying tactic.

"Would you please explain to me what this bill does?" Baker asked Sen. Jerome Connell, D-Anne Arundel, chairman of the Economic Affairs Committee that held hearings on the measure.

As about 20 senators walked out of the chamber, Connell explained that the bill would set up a cabinet-level Department of Employment and Training that would establish programs to teach skills to displaced workers.

Several programs currently administered by the Department of Human Resources would be shifted to the new department, Connell said.

The Anne Arundel County senator soon abdicated his role as bill explainer to Sen. Arthur Dorman, D-Prince George's, and vice chairman of the committee.

Baker asked Dorman, "Where is the money coming from to provide the training?"

"The money is coming from existing programs. It's in the budget," Dorman replied.

Baker asked Dorman a few more questions, then Dorman begged off by saying he had to attend a meeting.

The Cecil County lawmaker continued talking, reading a list of existing state departments included in the bill and a letter from Hughes asking him to support the measure.

After Baker sat down at 6:30 p.m., Sen. Raymond Beck, R-Carroll, took over the filibuster, and told the handful of lawmakers still in the chamber: "For some of you who may have missed some of what was said before, let me give a recap." He then reiterating much of what Baker had already said.

Senate President Melvin Steinberg, D-Baltimore County, said there were several reasons for the filibuster.

"If there were 20 people who really opposed it, this bill would be dead. Some of the senators on the floor oppose establishment of a new department," He said. "Maybe individuals are peeved at the governor's position on other matters and this is their way to express their opposition.

"Or maybe they oppose legislation that's not before us yet. If they hold this up, they can hold the other bills up," Steinberg added.

Opponents to other measures passed by the House that are not yet before the Senate, including legislation that would give public school teachers the right to strike and a labor-supported prevailing wage bill, are threatening filibusters if and when those measure reach the Senate floor.

Another possible source of contention is a measure that would establish a new weekly lottery game, the proceeds from which would primarily benefit Prince George's County and Baltimore.

To gain Hughes' assurance that he would not veto the proposed "Lotto" game, Prince George's senators have promised support for the governor's Labor Department Bill.

Girls Scouts naming 'Woman of the Year'

Approximately 70 Marylanders have been nominated for the Girl Scouts' Distinguished Woman Award honoring distinctive leadership, community service, and professional achievements. Of the 70 candidates submitted, 20 finalists will be selected. They will be presented to an official judging panel which will meet soon to decide on one 1983 recipient.

ANNE ARUNDEL County Executive James Lighthizer presents an 'Executive Citation' to Mrs. Alice R. Matthews for 'tireless, able and devoted service' to county residents. Mrs. Matthews, a long-time member of the Anne Arundel County Commission on Aging, has devoted countless hours serving local senior citizens.

Bright spotlight of publicity sometimes blinds star athletes

By David J. Percel

In the high-pressure world of athletics, the bright spotlight of publicity often does more than illuminate a player's qualities; at times, it can be blinding. The light, however, is often harshest outside the narrow beam of publicity, say two athletic officials at The Catholic University of America in Washington, D.C.

"Very good athletes lead a different sort of life than most other people," says Sylvester Conyers, assistant men's basketball coach, and a teacher at De Matha High School in Washington, one of the nation's dominant basketball powers.

"At a very young age you're well known, you get a lot of publicity. It's almost like in the womb, in that everything is given to you. But once the career ends, a lot of athletes have trouble adjusting to real life. They find out that nobody pampers them."

Conyers, who has seen some of the nation's top basketball players begin their careers with De Mat he, insists an athlete's adjustment at the end of his playingdays does not have to be difficult.

"The adjustment isn't tough if the athlete never really had things out of proportion," he says. "The adjustment is only tough when athletics is the biggest thing in your life, when you lived every day to be the star, to play the game, rather than taking care of your education."

Although the end of an athlete's playing career is inevitable, many are not prepared, says Peter F. Sauer, a former sports medicine and nutritional consultant to the National Football League Players Association summer youth programs.

"Very often athletes are deluded while they are playing because of the great adulation they receive, and they tend to neglect their future," says Sauer, who is also the head athletic trainer at Catholic University. "It's a very traumatic experience. They go from a very big high of playing to everything just being over."

Sauer agrees that because athletes are pampered, the adjustment to not playing is difficult. "It's very difficult for them to have to get up and lead a normal life style, not having people carry their bags," says Sauer.

"When you're a pro athlete you've got an entourage that tends to your needs. You have coaches who look after you on the field,, trainers who take care of your health and welfare, and management pays your salary. There's little that you have to do in terms of cerebral thought."

The psychological adjustment to the end of an athletic career can often spur a person to use drugs. "One of the things I've noticed is that there is a considerable amount of drug abuse," says Sauer, who worked with the NFL Players Association for six years.

"As a result of this traumatic shock, guys turn to drugs andor alcohol. They don't know what else to do with themselves."

Conyers, a former athlete at Columbia University, also has seen many athletes turn to drugs when their playing careers ended. "They never could recover from it," he says. "They just shifted into something like drugs, because if you're living in a world of illusion and suddenly that illusion is gone, you might want to perpetuate it. And one way is through drugs."

This can, however, be avoided, with foresight and planning. "Athletes have to adjust to the fact that there is a life beyond sports," says Conyers. "Flexibility is very important. You have to be able to do more than one thing. People who are successful often do more than one thing well."

This is especially important, says Conyers, because many exceptional athletes cannot make it to professional levels. "An athlete always has that impossible dream of being the next superstar," he says.

"But for every star there are hundreds who didn't make it. Part of making it is having a little luck. You talk to any great athlete and they will tell you about guys they played with who were as good as, if not better, than they were. Yet, the other guys didn't make it."

Although the psychological adjustment to the end of an athletic career may continue to be rocky, both Conyers and Sauer say that athletes today are smarter financially.

"Many athletes today get good financial advisers," says Conyers. "The ones that tend to do well are the ones that use their sport to further their careers or better themselves outside of sports."

"The trend is chaning," agrees Sauer. "Athletes are now a bit wiser and are putting money into pension plans and listening to business counsels and lawyers' advice."

COSBY SETS PACE — Entertainer Bill Cosby, center, worked out with the Howard University track team recently as the squad prepares for its indoor season. The recent workout at Howard reminded Cosby of his collegiate days as a trackster at Temple University in Philadelphia.

Federals in Philadelphia seeking second victory

By Frank Lee

Philadelphia's Veterans Stadium with a capacity of 72,000 will be the site where the Washington Federals travel to on Sunday to face the Stars at 1:30 p.m. seeking their second win in a row and second victory in five tries in the United States Football League.

The hosts under the guidance of Coach Jim Mora are on the good side of a 3-1 record after suffering their first defeat at the hands of the undefeated Tampa Bay Bandits, 27-22, on Sunday at their Pennsylvania home.

It will be the first meeting ever of the two teams who are in the Atlantic Division. Philadelphia is tied for the top spot in the league with the Boston Breakers with an identical record.

Washington is resting in third place, two games behind the leaders and one game in front of winless Herschel Walker and the New Jersey Generals who are 0-4.

Amid a downpour of continuous rain the locals captured their triumph against the Michigan Panthers in overtime, 22-16, after receiving the extra period's kickoff and marching 72 yards in six plays.

The final tally came on a 22 yard aerial from quarterback Kim McQuilken to wide receiver Joey Walters who sneaked inside and under a linebacker who was beaten by nearly seven yards.

It was Walters sixth reception of the encounter to bring his season's total to 20. His teammate wide receiver Mike Holmes also had six catches. Walters had two touchdowns for 99 yards and Holmes had one payoff pitch as he amassed 124 yards.

McQuilken who had completed 25 of 47 tosses against the Boston Breakers a week earlier in a losing cause continued his pin pointing by garnering 24 connections in 48 attempts for 324 yards with one interception.

Washington's signal caller was sacked six times for 58 yards in losses, five of them by linebacker John Corker, a 6-foot-4, 235 pound third year pro from Oklahoma State.

Throughout the contest the Federals played aggressively and forced seven turnovers, six fumbles and one interception. However, many of their offensive drives were thwarted by missed field goals or the inability to pick up a yard or two on third down plays—twice they tried fourth down efforts, succeeding once.

As on previous occasions in their earlier games the winners were unable to generate aproductive ground attack, but received very good protection for their passer, except on blitzes that resulted in the sacks.

Defensively the victors' middle linebacker Ed Baxley was everywhere making tackles and assisting. He ended the day with nine tackles and four assists and aided in causing to two fumbles for turnovers.

MIKE HOLMES (84), Washington Federals' wide receiver, leaps high at the 5-yard line for the Kim McQuilken pass which slipped out of his hands.

(Photo by G.R. Tuckson)

The Feds went on to beat the Michigan Panthers, 22-16, in overtime.

Battle of guards

The battle of the guards will be the key matchup this Friday (April 1) at Capital Centre in the 10th Anniversary McDonald's Capital Classic starting at 8 p.m.

The Nation's most prestigious high school basketball event will reflect what college scouts are calling the Year of the Guard. The Capital All-Stars representing the metropolitan Washington area, will have no easy time in trying to tie the all-time series record at five games apiece against the United States All-Stars.

The national team will feature a back court led by Kentucky-bound James Blackmon, considered the country's No. 1 guard prospect, who averaged 31.4 points this season for Marion (Ind.) High.

Also highlighted will be the nation's leading prep scorer, Curtis Aiken of Buffalo, N.Y., who poured in some 40 points per game.

The local team will counter with Tommy Ammaker of W.T. Woodson and Tyrone Bogues of Baltimore's Dunbar High, the top-ranked team in the country. Ammaker, who will play for Duke in the fall, was recently named Washingtonian Magazine's 1983 Mr. Basketball.

The 5-foot-3 Bogues was the sparkplug behind the Poets' 31-0 season and 59-game unbeaten streak.

The half time entertainment will be as spectacular as ever this year. The incredible McDonald's Double Dutch Team will amaze spectators with their precision jump roping. Also, the finals of the week-long slam dunk competition among the players will bring the crowd to its feet.

Prior to the main event, the Scholarship Game will begin the evening's excitement at 6 p.m., involving the talented local seniors who were not selected for the Capital Classic. This game matches the Suburban All-Stars, representing Maryland and Virginia public schools, against the District All-Stars, representing the Interhigh and private schools.

10-match wrestling card set

A 10 - match wrestling card has been scheduled for the Baltimore Civic Center at 8 p.m. April 9.

Texas death style feature pits World Wrestling Federation Heavyweight champion Bob Backlund against No. 1 ranked challenger Big John Studd.

Another champion, the Magnificent Muraco defends against former champion Pedro Morales in an intercontinental title rematch.

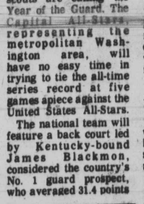
Other matches feature superstar Billy Graham vs. Jimmy "Superfly" Snuka, Ray "Crippler" Stevens vs. Rocky Johnson and Mr. Fugi vs. S. D. Jones.

Meeting in 20 - minute limit one - fall clashes are Mikel Scicluna vs. Johnny Rodz, Charlie Fulton vs. Salvatore Bellomo, Jose Estrada vs. Pete Sanchez, and Mac Rivera vs. Bob Bradley.

Mixing it up in a four - man midget tag team treat will be Farmer Pete and Butch Cassidy vs. Bonny Boy and Tiger Jackson.

USFL schedule

USFL Schedule for the weekend——(Saturday) Chicago at Tampa Bay-8 p.m. (Sunday) Birmingham at Boston-1:30 p.m. Oakland at Los Angeles-4 p.m. New Jersey at Arizona-8 p.m. (Monday) Denver at Michigan-9 p.m.



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