—Marijuana use

Continued from page 1

ty youths. "When we crack down on drug traffic, it becomes risky business. As a result, drugs become harder to get and their prices go up. As prices go up, less young people are able to afford them."

Although experts said that drugs continue to be a major problem in Baltimore, O'Leary insisted that the Drug Enforcement Administration has done well in getting some of the drugs off the street in Baltimore. "The problem never ends, but we've done well to put guys like 'Peanut' King and Melvin Williams out of business. It's an on-going problem."

Another negative aspect of drugs mentioned by O'Leary was their deteriorating effect within the communities where they are sold. "These guys who make the profits from drugs indirectly cause crime, poverty, and misplacement of values. Look at a kid who comes from an average family; he sees his father going to work each day on the bus. He goes down on the corner and sees a guy who has never worked a day in his life, owns a Mercedes, and goes to Atlantic City every weekend. It makes him wonder about what is right and what is wrong."

Referring to the recent wave of city drug-related violence, O'Leary stated, "In 1985 we will be working extra hard to curtail the flow of drugs into the city. If we accomplish this goal, naturally fewer young people will be using them, and also the rate of crime will drop."

—State jobless rate

Continued from page 1

tially below the national rate with a sizable gap of 2.4 percentage points. The U.S. rate declined from 7.8 percent in February to 7.5 percent in March. Last March, the national rate was 8.1 percent.

Unemployment among black persons fell nationally from 16.1 percent in February to 15.2 percent in March. For Maryland, black unemployment is estimated annually. In 1984, Maryland's rate was 9.3 percent, a significant improvement over the 13.0 percent recorded for 1983.

In the Baltimore metropolitan area, the unemployment rate fell from 6.6 percent in February to 5.8 percent in March. Baltimore City's unemployment rate declined from 8.1 to 7.4 percent.

Maryland's suburbs of the Washington, D.C. metropolitan area dipped from 3.2 percent to 3.0 percent.

In Western Maryland, the unemployment rate dropped significantly from 12.2 percent in February to 9.9 percent in March. In all three of the area's counties, the rates decreased by more than a full percentage point, as a result of recalls from temporary closings in clothing manufacturing and seasonal hiring in construction and other scattered industries.

In the Balance of State, the unemployment rate declined from 10.3 percent to 8.7 percent in March. Unemployment rates for Caroline, Cecil, Dorchester, Kent, Somerset, Talbot, Wicomico and Worcester counties dropped by more than a full percentage point.

—Labor council

Continued from page 1

and 2610 never did the first thing to ease or end that suffering. So we are suing for the period of 1967 to 1974."

Members of the 21st Century Labor Council are suing Bethlehem Steel for back pay, punitive damages and compensatory damages. In 1976, there were originally 6,000 black men at Sparrows point scheduled to receive financial settlement from the steel industry as a result of a combined ruling between the U.S. Department of Labor and the Justice Department that found discrimination to be widespread throughout the American steel industry. Five thousand of those men opted to accept settlement checks which on the whole averaged $400.

The remaining 1,000 black workers, after determining that the offered settlement was far less than they were justly due, opted to send those checks back to Bethlehem Steel in favor of suing for amore equitable settlement. More than a half million dollars were sent back to the steel giant in unaccepted checks.

"I can't imagine a more vicious form of discrimination than racial discrimination," bellowed West to a packed auditorium of 21st Century Labor Council members. "All that pain, all that suffering and humiliation. We talk about the Holocaust. As black people, don't you ever forget your own holocaust. You people are sort of historic in your own way because you went through the fire at Beth Steel. You did the bullwork, the hardest labor for the least pay."

Continued West, "But now it's up to the 4th Circuit to determine if we can go back into the courts. Will they let us litigate this thing; that's the issue before the circuit court."

Referring to the recent case of black Maryland State Troopers who charged discrimination exists in the hiring and promotional practices of their agency, West commented, "I hope those state troopers have as much determination as you," referring to members of the Labor Council. "It might take them ten years to get it through."

"Filing suit is the easy part," he warned, "staying in is difficult."

—Summer lunch

Continued from page 1

may be eligible to serve at a summer lunch site.

Dawson said of the 350 participants, at least 200 of them are churches, community groups. But that is not enough.

"We need more sites," said Dawson. "We have community liaisons who are trying to dig up sites. Anyone who wants to participate should contact me."

Parents interested in having their child participate in the program must meet specific economic guidelines. The Neighborhood Progress Administration, a sponsor of this program, will provide that information.

For those community organizations interested in participating, please call Harriett Dawson at 396-6155.

There will be no physical segregation or other discrimination against any child because of race, color, age, national origin, sex or handicap.

Application deadline is June 1, 1985.

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—Squeegee task force

Continued from page 1

ly try to adjust or satisfy the differences between the bill as it stands and the changes that the city council wants.

"We're gonna look to see what is best for the citizens of Baltimore and that includes these youngsters," Ms. Willen told the AFRO yesterday.

She confirmed that she too had been involved in an encounter with the squeegee kids, but indicated that it was not an ugly one.

Relaying the dialogue that transpired between the two she said: "Young man what are you doing out of school?" To which the young squeeger replied, "Schools closed early today because of a teacher's conference."

Ms. Willen said that the only unpleasant aspect of the whole affair was that the water poured onto her window was not the cleanest.

About the youngster providing the service she declared. "He was very nice."

Course on Fear of Flying set

Studies indicate that 25 million Americans are grounded by a fear of flying, a fear that costs them business and vacation opportunities. It costs the airlines, too, in lost passenger revenues. To help people overcome this fear, Aerodonetics, Inc., in cooperation with Delta Airlines, Inc. is sponsoring a BECOME A FEARLESS FLYER! seminar at BWI Airport.

Since April 17, the spring seminar has featured class sessions airplane tours, films and a tour of air traffic control facilities. The sessions have been held in the evenings and weekends at BWI. Graduation day will be May 4, when the class will depart for Atlanta on a Delta flight. While in Atlanta, students will tour Delta's training and maintenance facilities and try the pilot's seat on an aircraft simulator.

According to Polly Nielsen, president of Aerodonetics, Inc., the course combines factual information about flying and the aviation industry, a desensitization process and proven relaxation techniques to assist students in confronting and overcoming their fear. The course is taught by aviation professionals, including pilots and an air traffic controller. "I conquered my own fear of flying," M's. Nielsen says, "and I know the benefits of flying fearlessly."

For further information, call Polly Nielsen at (301) 757-5876, or write Aerondonetics, Inc., P.O. Box 8606, BWI Airport, MD., 21240.

BNBL Hall of Fame Banquet slated

Parks and People, The Foundation for Baltimore Recreation and Parks, in conjunction with the Baltimore City Department of Recreation and Parks, is sponsoring a "Hall of Fame" Banquet for the Baltimore Neighborhood Basketball Program on Thursday, June 20, 1985 at Martin's West.

This program, recognized as one of the finest organized recreation programs in the nation, has produced fine athletes, many of whom have received scholarships from major colleges and universities.

Guest speakers at the Banquet will include Coach John Thompson of Georgetown and Coach Bob Wade of Dunbar High School. Also expected to attend are Marvin Webster of the New York Knicks and representatives of the Washington Bullets.

Among the players being inducted into the "Hall of Fame" at the Banquet are Reggie Williams of Georgetown, David Wingate of Georgetown and Tyrone Bogues of Wake Forest.

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2 local bartenders organize crusade against drunk driving in Maryland

Two local bartenders have started a program to stop those who have had too much to drink from getting behind the wheel of a car.

The program, Bartenders Against Drunk Driving, or B.A.D.D., is the brainchild of the co-managers at the Phillips' Harborplace bar who decided to take steps to create alcohol awareness within the restaurant staff and patrons.

The B.A.D.D. program and promotional buttons saying "We're BADD — Bartenders Against Drunk Driving", are being offered to other Maryland restaurants.

"The program will make servers and bartenders aware of the need to stop a person who has had enough to drink from continuing," Keith Gracey, an originator of the idea says.

"It will help drinkers who have had too much, whether or not they are driving. Of course, our main purpose is to stop someone who has had too much from endangering themselves, others or someone's property when behind the wheel of a car," he says.

According to Gracey, the program follows a step-by-step procedure designed to minimize patron embarrassment and inconvenience. The first step is to offer the person an alternative to alcohol, such as coffee, tea or a soft drink. By offering an alternative, he explains, the customer does not feel singled out when a non-alcohol drink is not offered.

Often, the bartender will ask the drinker's friend to suggest that the drinker slow down or stop. With this method, the person drinking may not feel as embarrassed as if a stranger—the bartender — suggested the same thing. If the person is driving, the bartender will try and obtain a safe ride home for him or her.

The B.A.D.D. program is aided by the cooperation of a local radio station and cab company. They sponsor a "Pic-Me-Up" service which gets drinkers home. The radio station and cab company take care of the bill.

"The main reason we have B.A.D.D. is to show people we care. We realize that telling people they have had enough to drink is a touchy situation, but if it saves lives or reduces accidents it is worth it," Gracey says.

"We also want to make the atmosphere enjoyable for everyone. It isn't fair for those who may not be drinking or who are drinking moderately to be disturned by someone who may become noisy and offensive," he adds.

Gracey and his co-manager, Ray Salamone, another originator of the idea, have discussed the program with other bar managers in the Phillip's chain. The managers have responded with interest. But, he adds, the program will be adapted for each restaurant.

Heavier drinking usually occurs during the summer months, according to Gracey. This can be attributed to the warmer weather, the upbeat atmosphere and more frequent parties.

"Some people will always drink. But, now we can help prevent people from having that one extra drink which may impair their actions, possibly causing them to harm themselves or others," he concludes.

Bartenders will wear this button to show their support and participation in the B.A.D.D. program.

Holliday statue frozen forever in grassy clearing

By Racine S. Winbourne
AFRO Staff Writer

There stood the likeness of the jazz singer in a grassy clearing and still missing the likeness of her white gardenia flower in her hair.

Neighborhood Progress Administration officials, who were responsible for locating the necessary funds to pay for the commissioned memorial statue to Billie Holliday, have promised to deliver the bronzed gardenia sometime on Monday.

Nevertheless, for the second time in slightly more than a week, a memorial celebration honoring the late singer who grew up on Baltimore's Eastside was held on April 26.

The affair sponsored by the Upton Planning Committee drew a crowd of 200 young and old spectators, elected officials, and a host of musicians from the golden era of entertainment along Pennsylvania Avenue during the 1940's and 1950's.

They all gathered in the tiny dirt lot near the intersection of Lafayette and Pennsylvania Avenues to eulogize Miss Holliday and listen to the nostalgic strains of tunes from a musical career which reached its heights, but buckled from the weight of numerous scandalous incidents.

Known to her peers and friends as "Lady Day," Billie Holliday was born in the city on April 7, 1915. Later moving to New York as a teenager, she achieved notoriety for her unique vocal stylization and haunting melodies and gained a lesser fame because of her many bouts with alcohol and drug addiction.

She succumbed to complications closely related to her drug and drinking problems while in a New York Hospital, dying at age 44 on July 17, 1959. She is buried in an unmarked grave in Manhattan.

However, the people who filed into this Upton Community two weeks ago didn't really care about her unsavory past and the cloud of controversy still surrounding her name 26 years following her death.

They came to elevate Billie Holliday in the minds of the generations who have come since that time, least they forget who the lady was and where she came from.

"The young woman we honor today went through every deplorable situation she could and survived," remarked Mrs. Lena Boone, the executive director of the Upton Planning Committee, who sponsored the festivities.

One by one, the speakers and performers who stepped up to the stage on that blistering Friday afternoon echoed that portrait and enumerated the many reasons why the bronze statue in the little neighborhood park deserved to be there.

So while Tracy McCleery and the Royal Theatre Band played old jazz and blues tunes, while Lady Rebecca Anderson crooned, while 84 - year - old Doris "Mamma Davis" Rheubottom, a Holiday contemporary and friend, kept perfect time with the beat and pressed two bony hands together, there stood the jazz singer frozen forever in the grassy still clearing.

Doris "Mamma Doris" Rheubottom at the Upton dedication of the Billie Holliday Statue.

Mercy Pediatric open weekends

Keeping the working woman in mind, the Outpatient Pediatric Unit at Mercy Hospital is now open weekends. The unit, which offers a full range of pediatric medical services, will be open Saturdays and Sundays from noon to 10:30 p.m.

Open weekdays from 8 a.m. to midnight, Mercy's Outpatient Pediatric Unit has been a big success, handling 683 cases in February alone.

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#4476 L'Allure sheer sandaltoot	4.50	3.58
#4475 L'Allure queen size sheer sandaltoot	4.50	3.58

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