—Uproar over policies

Continued from page 1

he will fail," stated Dr. Nauright.

But according to Dugger, there are many other areas where Dr. Nauright demonstrates an insensitive attitude toward the students.

"Why have there been four revisions in our school's I.D. card policy? Dr. Nauright seems to be more concerned about I.D. cards than he is about the students.

"Why is Dr. Nauright obsessed with security while he demonstrates little concern for warm, positive human relations among the Mergenthaler Family, be they students or faculty?" questioned Dugger in a letter to Mrs. Alice Pinderhughes, superintendent of public instruction.

Dugger contends that at times, it seems that there is an unwritten administrative policy of divide and conquer the faculty members, because Dr. Nauright is unwilling to collectively communicate with the faculty about common concerns.

Mrs. Wortham, who has taught accounting at Mervo for 12 years, agrees with Dugger. "This school is being run like a police state. The attendance policy is discriminatory because it is only applied at Mervo. It was established by the administration and is not used city-wide.

"The attendance policy is so unfair because a student could have been absent 25 times and as long as a mother sends a note, the absences are excused. Some students are only one or two minutes late and they have to be marked absent."

She continued, "We want students to do well. Any of my students can tell you that I am hard on them. I expect a great deal out of them. But you just don't treat children like dogs. We have to be fair."

"When I came to Mervo at the beginnin of this year, "said Dr. Nauright, "there was a great deal of laxness. The lateness problem was not a comfortable pattern to change, but this administration has provided an organizational structure that I hope will handle all the problems."

When asked to comment on specific criticisms of being inaccessible to the teachers and the students, Dr. Nauright responded "I am completely accessible to the teachers as well as the students. I have met with the entire faculty on two occasions during the year and I met weekly with the department heads. Students are free to see me at any time, as I've always maintained an open-door policy."

But Mrs. Wortham pointed out that he is very seldom seen outside the office. He seldom does cafeteria duty and appears to be afraid of outsiders.

Dr. Nauright said, "Mr. Dugger and others are free to disagree with any policy, but decisions are always reached by an administrative consensus. The responsibility of running Mervo goes beyond the perspective of a few teachers."

—AFRO story

Continued from page 1

the lot became known as a place to dump trash.

Small amounts of trash also accumulated on a smaller lot located just across the alley, but less trash was deposited there as it could easily be viewed by passers-by on Lafayette Ave.

When the AFRO showed up Tuesday to witness the cleaning, one resident who asked to remain anonymous pointed to two cars and a van on the lot that he says have been there for going on a year now.

"The people who own those cars don't even live around here. I think the guy who lives over there near where they are parked told their owners that they could park them over there until they get them fixed. It's been a long time."

As the clean-up was underway, area residents, many of whom were present early last week when the AFRO viewed the lot, looked curiously from their stoops and continued in their normal activities.

Nevertheless, about a half a dozen work crew members, clad with gloves and overalls, attacked the rubbish that has plagued this West Baltimore neighborhood for what residents say was over two years.

Sanders, who stood by watching, told the AFRO, "Oh, I'm a bad guy now that they're doing something about this lot now. My neighbors are mad at me now because of the story, but I know if I didn't say anything that trash and those cars would be on that lot forever!"

Another resident, Rennard Johnson, of the 900 block Stricker St. said, "It's about time someone paid some attention to that mess. It was the AFRO story that did it....., it got results.....Well now that the mess is getting cleaned up, there's nothing for the neighbors to complain about."

Meanwhile, Mr. and Mrs. Sanders breathed a sigh of relief as the bright yellow steam shovel rolled forward with a grinding sound to scoop a load of trash.

—News American

Continued from page 1

didn't bother to read it.

"My wife used to read it but I read the AFRO and the Sun," he said.

The News American has held a special significance to black Baltimore traditionally. It catered to the so-called blue-collar segment of Charm City.

"I used to wait for the 10 Star edition for the street number before the lottery was legalized," said another fan.

Lee Lassiter is a black man that was employed 21 years by the paper. He was one of the 500 employees that will have to find other work.

Lassiter's last post was that of the assistant Editorial Page Editor. Over the years, he served as a feature, wire, entertainment, urban affairs, assistant city editor and an education writer.

"The News American gave me an opportunity for a full career in journalism at one place.

"I was always able to write from a black perspective. I've never had a word changed or an issue challenged. In fact, I was always encouraged to do more," he said.

According to Lassiter, television homogenized the thinking of the people.

"There was a time when the Sun served the affluent and we reached the workers. Television changed all of that. There are less differences between people. Democrats and Republicans, all labels now that television has homogenized opinions and points of view.

"The Sun changed strides and ventured into a new arena. It hired blacks and began to change its focus . . . It out distanced us," he said.

Lassiter pointed to other trends that plotted against the survival of the paper as it was.

"We've entered the age of Jello Journalism.

"Which came first? Did the paper turn-off from the hard hitting news, or did the people demand more fluff?

"When you say you've read the paper and you looked at the U.S.A. Today — you have not really read a paper. It's T.V. in print.

"When you've read the Post you've read a newspaper," he said.

Coppin graduation Sunday

Approximately 250 undergraduate and graduate students will receive degrees at Coppin State College's commencement exercises on Sunday, June 1. The Commencement exercises will be held at the Baltimore Civic Center at 3 p.m.

This year's commencement speaker will be the Most Rev. John H. Ricard, S.S.J., who is the auxillary bishop of Baltimore. Rev. Ricard was named auxiliary bishop of Baltimore by Pope John Paul II on May 28, 1984.

Prior to becoming auxiliary bishop of Baltimore, Bishop Ricard was the pastor of Our Lady of Perpetual Help in Washington, D.C. He has also been affiliated with Holy Comforter and Holy Redeemer Churches in Washington, D.C. and St. Peter Claver Church in New Orleans. His career also includes having held an adjunct associate professor position at Catholic University and an associate professorship at Tulane University.

The college held its annual baccalaureate services on Sunday, May 25. The Rev. J. Glenn Murray, S.J., delivered the baccalaureate address. Rev. Murray is the assistant principal of St. Francis Adacemy.

THE BALTIMORE AFRO-AMERICAN (Registered U.S. Patent Office)
Second class postage paid at Baltimore Md.
Circulation audited by Audit Bureau o Circulation (ABC).
Published every Tuesday and Saturday by the AFRO-AMERICAN Company, 628 N Eutaw St., Baltimore, Md. 21201. Phone (301) 728-8200.
John H. Murphy 3rd, President; Mae E Dyson, Secretary; George C. Cottier, Treasurer; Frederick A. Howard, Vice President — Production; Kenneth O. Wilson, Vice President — Advertising; Robert W. Matthews Executive Editor. Paul F. Evans, Associate Managing Editor; Ronald B. Jones, Assistant Managing Editor

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NAACP benefit celebrity gala to be held at Kennedy Center

The NAACP, Maryland State Conference of Branches, announced last week that Reverend Edward V. Hailes, vice chairman of the board for NAACP and Mrs. Ethel Ennis (Arnett), cultural ambassador of Baltimore have been chosen as the honorary benefit co-chairs of the "Celebrity Benefit for Human Dignity at Home and in South Africa."

The benefit will be held on Sunday, June 1, at the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts here in D.C.

The NAACP with corporate sponsors like Safeway Stores and Anheuser-Busch Companies is proud to support the efforts of countless others, who through many approaches ineluding "Hands Across America" of 1986 and the many celebrity "Aid" benefits of 1985 and 1984, are helping in the fight for worldwide human dignity.

Several of the artists of these selfless efforts and contributes to the universal calling of supporting your fellow "man" will be honored at the 8 p.m. fete in the Concert Hall. The NAACP feels a partpership and certainly a kinship, after 77 years in the struggle, with the artists and creators of such acts of human kindness in the true spirit of America.

The benefit is being held in honor of the 77 year old organizations's move to Maryland, (Baltimore City) and a salute to stalwart legislators who have significantly supported the organization including Honorable U.S. Senator Charles McMathias, Jr., U.S. Representative Parren J. Mitchell, State Senator Stewart Bainum, Jr. and former State Senator Aris T. Allen.

A special tribute is planned to the music and recording industry, especially honoring the artists and creators of the "We Are the World" and "Hands Across America" projects of 1985 and 1986. We feel that efforts such as these serve as model examples of people fighting to aid the cause of simple "human dignity" at home and abroad.

Proceeds from the benefit will be used for membership and ongoing programs of the NAACP

Politics '86

Continued from page 1

Assembly, and young Clarence IV will be "shopped around" as a replacement for him in the Baltimore City Council.

POLITICAL GAMES — Why is Baltimore City School Board President Bob Embry trying to entice any group of "reputable" blacks into forming a committee to draft him to run for mayor in 1987? He has often told us that he has no designs on being the next chief executive here.

• • •

GOP GET-TOGETHER — The Maryland Republican Party will throw a Spring Fundraiser on June 3 at the Sheraton Inner Harbor beginning at 7 p.m. Guest speaker is Secretary of the Interior Donald P. Hodel. Tickets are $150 for meals and $250 for a special private reception with Secretary Hodel. Press tickets are $45.

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People in the News

Dr. Constance C. Cooper to University of Akron

The search for a new dean of University of Akron's College of Education ended with the selection of Dr. Constance Carter Cooper, presently dean of graduate studies at Coppin State College in Baltimore.

She will take over the helm August 1 from Dr. John S. Watt, professor of education, who has been the acting dean for the past year.

Prior to serving as dean of graduate studies and dean of education at Coppin, Cooper was on the faculty of Seattle and Northern Illinois universities and had considerable experience as an assistant director and regional administrator in the Detroit Public School System.

"I am looking forward to coming to UA," Cooper says, "because it has an outstanding College of Education that can only become better due to its strong faculty and administration. Also, I am glad to be returning to the Midwest because my family is in Detroit."


Dr. Constance C. Cooper

Blackshear re-elected at Welfare Council

Leonard A. Blackshear has been re-elected to serve a second term as president of the board of directors of the Health and Welfare Council of Central Maryland, Inc. (HWC).


Leonard Blackshear

Active in the Health and Welfare Council since 1977, Blackshear is the president of Associated Enterprises Development, Inc., located in Annapolis.

He is vice president and director of the Maryland Chamber of Commerce, chairman of the Chamber's Small Business Council, former commissioner of the Maryland Small Business Development Authority, and was appointed to the Governor's Employment and Training Council.

He holds a bachelor's degree in physics from the University of Maryland, and an MBA in finance from American University.

Willie McCray to get Violet H. Whyte award

Willie McCray, a former Baltimore City police officer, was selected as the 1986 recipient of the Willie-Whyte Achievement Award.

The Hill-Whyte Achievement Award is given to a past member of the police department whose accomplishments were notable above and beyond the call of duty.

In a letter to McCray, Leonard Hamm, executive vice presdent of the Vanguards says, "It would be a good think if black police officers learned of you and the fight you fought for them."

The Vanguards is an organization of black police officers in the Baltimore Police Department. It was established in 1971, addressing those concerns voiced by McCray back in 1960.


Willie McCray

Subsidized phone service for aged

Subsidized telephone service will become available July 1 for the many as 65,000 elderly and disabled Marylanders who are certified participants under the state-administered General Public Assistance (BPA) or Supplemental Security Income (SSI) Programs. Participants will be receiving more specific information beginning next week.

Called Tel-Life, the new service is the result of a bill which was passed by the 1985 Maryland General Assembly and signed into law last year by Gov. Hughes. The bill was jointly sponsored by Senate President Melvin Steinberg and House Speaker Benjamin Cardin.

According to C&P spokesman Carl Smith, "Tel-Life will ensure that those low-income elderly and disabled individuals who may have the greatest need for telephone service are not precluded from such service due to cost."

Tel-Life service includes local residential telephone service plus 30 local, untimed calls per month. Participants will be billed by C&P for only 5 percent of its approved charges for this service. "At current rates, this equates to $4.40 per month — plus applicable taxes and 911 fees," said Smith. The remaining 50 percent will be recovered by C&P in the form of a credit against its Gross Receipts Tax.

Certain restrictions are built into the program. For example, a participant may not have any other local telephone service in his or her dwelling unit and may not have any premium services such as Call Waiting or Three-Way Calling.

However, since some disabilities preclude the use of regular dial telephone service, touchtone service is available at a 50% discount. Participants in the Tel-Life program are required to pay the full, approved rate for all other services — including the total charges for any local calls after the first 30 — and for all long distance calls.

Approximately 20,000 cases are administered under the GPA Program. Participants are generally adults under 64 years of age who do not qualify for other programs and, for either physical or psychological reasons, are temporarily not employable. The majority are disabled. Some 45,000 recipients of the SSI Program would also be eligible for Tel-Life service. Participants under this program consist of approximately 30,000 disabled individuals and 15,000 elderly persons.

According to Smith, starting May 22, C&P began mailing information about Tel-Life service to existing recipients of SSI and GPA benefits. The information packet will include an application form for customers to mail to the Department of Human Resources. The Department of Human Resources will screen and certify applicants who qualify for Tel-Life service.

Students win cash at fair

Four Hundred Dollars was divided between four students at Johnnycake Middle School, who worked on a project together, creating a prize-winning performance on the "Discovery of the Real Benjamin Banneker."

The research team included: Heather Olney, Erica Anderson, Steve Kuhl, and William Woodson, who portrayed the great astronomer — Benjamin Banneker.

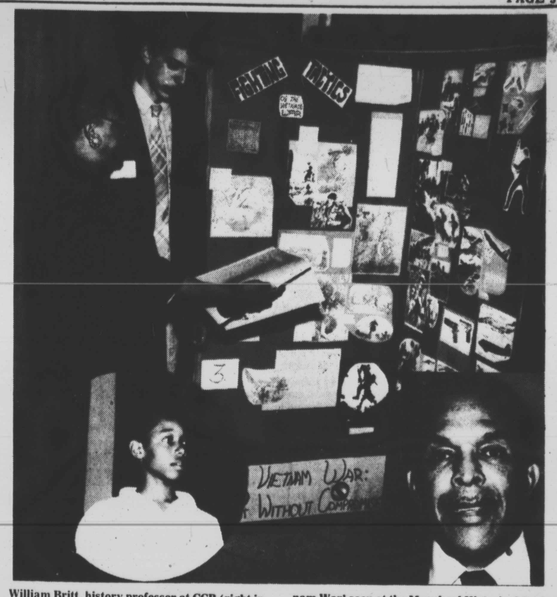
Woodson explained that his name (Benjamin Banneker) wouldn't have meant anything to you 240 years ago, but that you would have thought him crazy and foolish because he fancied himself a Scientist.

Actually, Benjamin was one of the most intelligent people from his particular period of time. He had taught himself everything he knew, because in those days, black people had to educate themselves. There were no public schools available to them.

In cooperation with his classmates, William Woodson (the only black team student) helped to also explain how they found out more about this famous American — Benjamin Banneker.

Their slide-show was created from the work of all four students, with the assistance of their project teacher, Mr. Doyle.

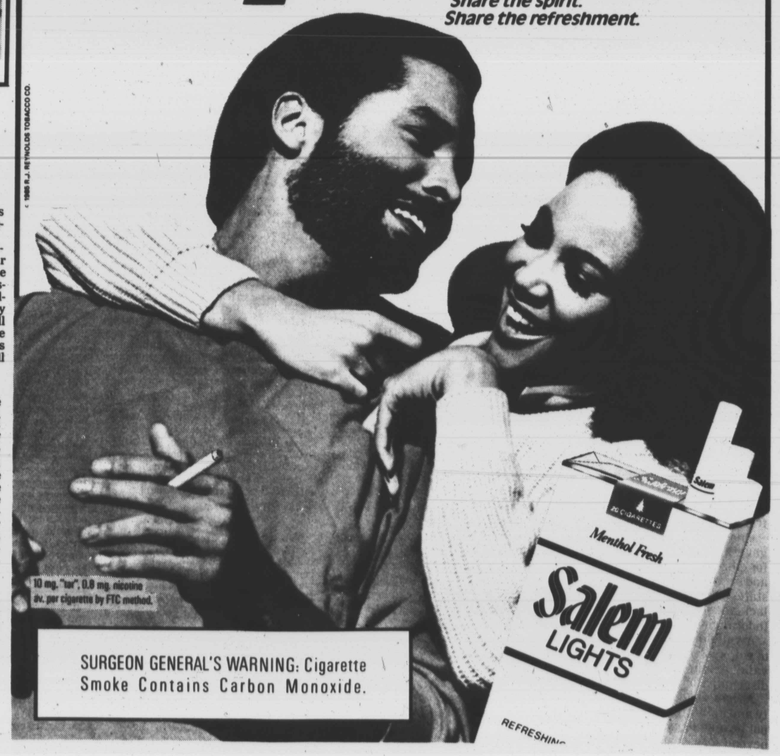
Combined with all the aspects of what they learned as Archeologists, these students from the Johnnycake Middle School learned that it took a lot of patience and time to become an Archaeologist.



William Britt, history professor at CCB (right inset), is director of the Greater Baltimore History Fair held annually at Towson State University for middle and high school students. Shown is a winning senior high school display of Avi Frier's 'Vietnam War' seen at the Maryland Historical Society recently. Reviewing Avi Frier's descriptive document is Serena G. Mills, a local historian. In inset at left is another winner, William Woodson, of Johnny Cake Middle School.

The unusual thing about this craft is that you must destroy things in order to study them, but it must be done in the right way the first time . . . because there is no second time around!

Also, winning an award for 4th prize (trophy), was Avi Frier, a senior high school student from the Talmudical Academy, whose exhibit was displayed at the Maryland Historical Society.

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