—The Mitchells

(Continued from Page A1)

by civil rights leaders nation wide.

The Mitchell brothers, from a prominent civil rights family of Baltimore, MD. are each aiding and abetting the obstruction of a Congressional investigation in connection with the "Wedtech Scandal" that was beginning to surface in 1986.

They are the sons of former Washington, D.C. NAACP Director and lobbyist Clarence Mitchell, Jr., and Mrs. Juanita Jackson Mitchell, a noted Civil Rights attorney and the first black women to receive a law degree in the state of Maryland. She is another co-counsel for her son.

Kunstler led the appeal with co-council, John McDarmot. They asked the Court to consider why the Mitchells have been in prison for a year on a conviction of obstruction of a congressional investigation when "no investigation wa authorized" during their involvement and there was "no evidence"of wrong doing. If the obstruction charge is reversed, then the wire fraud charges should also fall, Kunstler argued.

He also told the court that the strike of black jurors during the original case in the District Court in Baltimore was "pure subterfuge." The case was heard there in 1987 by a jury of nine whites and three blacks.

Pressed by the Court, U.S. Attorney, Gary Jordon, could not substantiate to the judges that an investigation had in fact been authorized by Congress or give substantial reasons why potential black jurors had been removed.

Charges were lodged against the Mitchells after their Uncle, then Congressman Parren J. Mitchell, on Nov. 14, 1986, asked Attorney General Edwin Meese to secure an independent prosecutor to investigate apparent misconduct between the Wedtech Corporation, a Bronx, New York, Hispanic Defense Contractor, Meese, and others.

On April 8, 1987, the Mitchells were indicated by the Meese Justice Department on charges of conspiracy to impede or obstruct a congressional investigation, but they were found not guilty of conspiracy. However, because of "inappropriate jury instructions," guilty findings prevailed on wire fraud and the obstruction count that flowed from the alleged conspiracy, according to Kunstler.

Having been denied bail, denied family furloughs, denied legal furloughs, and denied halfway house accommodations, the Mitchells were also denied permission to attend their appeal.

However, friends, relatives and supporters filled the courtroom, many wearing yellow ribbons symbolizing that the Mitchells are "hostages of the current political system."

New York Senator Andrew Jenkins and House Representatives David P. Richardson, Jr. of Pennsylvania were among those present.

Jenkins called the case "an attempt to silence strong outspoken legislators" who have been protesting the Reagan policies and practices that were undercutting the progress made for Civil Rights.

The chairman of the Committee to End Harassment of Black Elected Officials, Jenkins said the Mitchell case is a perfect example of the "creative prosecution of minorities." Richardson, who appointed the Committee, said its purpose to educate the public on how the "system is geared toward the destruction of African - American legislators and officials across the country.

The Mitchells have garnered tremendous support from black leaders such as Rev. Jesse Jackson, former Congresswoman Shirley Chisholm, Los Angeles Mayor Tom Bradley, and Congressman Walter Fauntroy, among others.

Kunstler said he felt "very encouraged" by the presentation. It is uncertain when the Court will rule on the appeal.

OUTREACH FOR SMALL AND DISADVANTAGED BUSINESS PERSONS IN CONSTRUCTION AND RELATED TRADES

WHEN: April 27, 1989
WHERE: Prince George's Community College
Largo, Maryland
Rennie Forum
Time: 5-8 P.M.

Morgan State University
Jenkins Bldg. Room 104
Time: 8-12 A.M.

Sponsored by the Maryland Stadium Authority
In conjunction with
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WILLIAM DONALD SCHAEFER, GOVERNOR

—AFRO 'contests'

(Continued from Page A1)

subscriptions; and, highlight the top churches in on the Living Church page.

Additionally each church keeps 20 per cent ($5.20) of each $26.00 subscription. Churches big and small are encouraged to sign up. Subscriptions may be sold to friends, relatives, co-workers, neighbors, as well as church members.

In the May 6 edition of the AFRO an interim listing of participating churches will be published, along with the number of subscriptions each has submitted. Reports must be received by May 3, to be included in this interim listing.

MOTHER OF THE YEAR

Less time, however, remains to vote for your favorite Mother. On this page, you will find a ballot that can be clipped out and mailed or brought to the AFRO, 628 N. Eutaw Street, on or before April 26.

Our first place Mom will receive a weekend for two package, courtesy of the luxurious Tremont Suite Hotels in downtown Baltimore.

The second place Mom and her guest will attend a dinner theater production compliments of Autumn Productions (Encore Dinner Theater) at the Forum; and the third place Mother will enjoy a dinner for two at the Prime Rib, one of Baltimore's premier restaurants.

All winning mothers will receive flowers courtesy of Crip Florist, 721 Poplar Grove St., and balloons and singing telegrams from Balloon Orchids of Mondawmin Mall.

Additionally, the AFRO will highlight the favorite Mothers in the May 6 edition.

—Voodoo murderess

(Continued from page A1)

large sums of cash, fine clothes, flashy automobiles and the luxurious lifestyle which Aunt Geraldine surrounded herself that shaped Renee's decision to assist her Aunt as a murderess - apprentice.

Those were the reasons Renee gave for deciding to adopt her mother's sister as her role model, thinking that maybe she too could have some of the finer things in life.

"From the time she first approached me with an opportunity to make some big cash I knew that I was interested in having some of the same material things that she had. She had the stuff so therefore she was the best person in the world to show me how to get those things for myself," said Renee.

Renee said, "As for the multiple marriages without ever divorcing, and the baby selling, incest, torture and satanic rites involved in what Aunt Geraldine represented to some people, I did not get that picture. Not all at once anyway. Things were slowly revealed to me about my Aunt and for that matter, my entire family."

"The first time I was approached I must have been about 18 years old (Renee is now 21). Aunt Geraldine called my house where I was living with my mother and stepfather and asked that I meet her to discuss something that she called important.

"The only thing that she would say over the telephone is that she wanted me to ride up to New Jersey with her so that she could go to the bank.

"When she came to the house she said that she wanted to go at night and I thought that it was awfully strange that she would be going to the bank at night. After all, what bank is open at night?"

Renee said that her Aunt "told me to get one of those guys that I know and persuade them to travel with us, the money would be good for both him and me.

"She kept making cracks about how we spent our time on small potatoes, like minor drug deals when she could show us how to make some really big cash if we hung with her."

Lionel Robinson was the man Renee chose to accompany them on their bizarre journey to New Jersey.

Renee said that "The reason why my aunt wanted us to go to New Jersey was to kill Albert Robinson (no relation to Lionel) for her. She painted a picture of Robinson as a tired old useless wino who would make an ideal murder victim for us because he would be easy prey and he would not be missed by too many folks."

Niece Renee says, "Like she did with all of her victims Geraldine first became the beneficiary of their life insurance policies adding them to a list of persons from which she could later 'tap' for needed funds when she killed them and later collected their insurance."

"Another tactic used by Parrish was to marry her victim and later collect their insurance money. It was easier to collect if you had a connection like marriage.

"People ask me how and why I got into something like this, they have to understand that I grew up with these people. My step-father has stopped speaking to me because of this incident but he's the same guy who married Geraldine Parrish for money in New Jersey over 15 years ago.

"That's why my mother and him never married, he was still legally married to Geraldine the entire 15 years that he lived with my mother as man and wife.

"Aunt Geraldine never came to the house much when my mother was alive. Mom died in 1987 and Geraldine promptly went to the jail where my father was and told him that I had poisoned my mother, causing her death. From then on he stopped having anything to do with me," Renee added.

The combination of the trial and my testimony at the trial and the fact that Geraldine told my step-father that I murdered my mother by giving her some poison orange juice have made me run scared since this trial started.

"The police have given me a place to stay that nobody knows about. I have a 16 month old son that I have to think about now.

"There will be more murder trials coming up, and I will be called on to testify in them I hope that all goes well."

When the AFRO contacted Jack Lessor of the State's Attorney's office, he would only identify Renee Burns as the indicted co-conspirator in the first Parrish murder case.

He declined to answer questions regarding Burn's placement in a State witness protection program or the possibility of her being called upon to testify or be indicted in the upcoming murder trials of Geraldine Parrish.

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—Union

(Continued from Page A1)

timidate union workers and influence their vote in an upcoming election.

From May 1 to May 26, District 1199E-DC, along with other union members, will vote in a referendum style election on whether or not to affiliate with an international union and which union they will affiliate with.

Two international unions, the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees, (AFSCME) and the Service Employees International Union, (SEIU) are vying for affiliation with 1199E-DC.

The union that acquires the smaller National Union of Hospital and Health Care Employees, will become the largest health care workers union in the United States.

The leadership of District 1199E-DC supports affiliation with SEIU and they claim that a majority of their union members favor SEIU as well.

Marjorie Taylor, executive secretary of 1199E-DC held a press conference in protest of Moore's arrest, in front of Northern District Police Headquarters, where he was being held.

Taylor says that up until the time of Moore's arrest, union meetings had been conducted without incident.

In a statement issued during the press conference, Taylor said, "We are here to declare that nowhere else, but in a facility where AFSCME supporters are trying to attack our leadership have we had any incidents, let alone the arrest of our district president."

Taylor also said that union members were "appalled" by the arrest of Moore.

At AFRO press time, Moore who has been released from jail, was not available for comment.

FIRST ANNUAL MOTHER OF THE YEAR CONTEST

The Baltimore Afro-American Newspaper will hold the First Annual "Mother of the Year" CONTEST.

Think of all the wonderful things your mother has done for you. All the special moments you have shared. Plan to truly celebrate Mother's Day, May 14, 1989. Nominate your mother and have your relatives and friends send in their ballots also.

MOTHER OF THE YEAR CONTEST RULES

1. Each person must complete the following ballot, print or type legibly.
2. Acceptable ballots must be original ballot cut from the Afro-American Newspaper. No photocopies accepted.
3. The Mother receiving the largest number of ballots will be determined the First place winner. Second place and Third place prizes will also be awarded.
4. All ballots must be received no later than April 26, 1989.
5. Your nominee must be a resident of the metropolitan Baltimore Area.

BALLOT
My choice for mother of the year
MOTHER'S NAME: _____
Address: _____ Zip: _____ Tel: _____

My name: _____
Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____
TEL: _____

Mail or bring ballot to:
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Newspapers
Attention: Lynda Sharp
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728-8204

Baltimore teen gets new start

When 16-year-old Kathryn Cannon of Baltimore left her home last summer, she had hopes of learning valuable job skills and beginning a new life.

She is getting both the skills and confidence she needs to enter the workforce as a clerical worker, thanks to her federally funded Job Corps training program operated by the G.E. Service Company in Washington, D.C.

Ms. Cannon lives at the Potomac Job Corps Center, one of 13 in a region that includes Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, West Virginia and Washington, D.C.

There are 107 Job Corps centers across the U.S., including Hawaii and Puerto Rico. They are operated under contracts with the Office of Job Corps, U.S. Department of Labor.

After 11 months of intensive training, she will have skills for typing manuscripts, letters and memos, filing documents, operating mail-handling equipment and adding machines, preparing requisitions, and keeping petty cash records.

Ms. Cannon, like more than 66,000 other Job Corps trainees this year, is also learning much more — how to live and work with other people.

Job Corps is a 25-year-old partnership of government, labor and the private sector that provides job training and social skills to economically disadvantaged, unemployed young people aged 16-21.

Ninety-five percents of graduates go on to full-time jobs, college, additional vocational training or the military. Jobs Corps offers corpsmembers basic education to earn a G.E.D., as well as vocational training, work experience, driver education, on-site counseling and employment assistance upon graduation.

Ms. Cannon, who attended Douglass Senior High School, looks forward to going to college after she graduates.

In addition to trades like nursing, business/clerical and culinary arts, young women in Job Corps can learn non-traditional trades including construction, plumbing, warehousing, landscaping, building maintenance and auto mechanics.



KATHRYN CANNON learns how to type manuscripts as part of her clerical training program at the Potomac Job Corps Center.

Corpsmembers are provided their rooms, all meals and medical and dental care while they train at Job Corps centers.

In addition, each corpsmember receives a monthly allowance ranging from $40 to $100, a clothing allowance, and all necessary uniforms for training.

Job Corps also provides a readjustment allowance for each student that begins accumulating after six months in the program. This allowance, paid upon graduation, can be used for a car, apartment or any other expense while the graduate adjusts to a new lifestyle.

Ms. Cannon enjoys center life at the Potomac Job Corps Center, formerly known as Junior Village, located on a 60-acre campus in southwest Washington, D.C., overlooking the Potomac Rivers. She especially enjoys her G.E.D. class.

Young women and men who would like to find out more about the program should call 1-800-872-4696.

Two join housing board

Mayor Kurt L. Schmoke has announced the appointment of two new members of the Board of Commissioners of the Housing Authority of Baltimore City.

They are Larry E. Jennings of the Public Finance Department of Legg Mason Wood Walker, Inc., Baltimore, and Jack I. Lesser, Supervisor of the Felony Trial Division of the Baltimore City State's Attorney's Office. Both men are residents of Baltimore City.

They replace outgoing Commissioners Dr. Earl Jones of the Baltimore City Department of Education, and Thomas Guidera, Jr. of Financial Associates of Maryland.



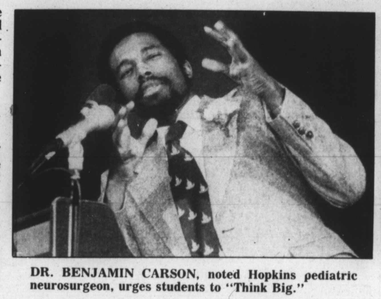
PAT ONLEY, editorial director for WJZ-TV was all smiles as he handed a check to Sondra Stafford, chairperson for Aidswalk '89 to officially include the television station as one of the sponsors for this year's walk. Aidswalk '89 is scheduled for June 18, 1989 at 9:00 a.m. All participants will step-off from the Baltimore Museum of Art on Charles Street and walk 3.1 miles around the area and return to the Museum. All walkers who raise $100.00 or more will receive a commemorative AIDSWALK '89 T-shirt. For more information or to register for the walk, call 685-1230 weekdays from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Other sponsoring members of AIDSWALK '89 include the AFRO-AMERICAN Newspaper, Blue Cross and Blue Shield, and Patuxent Publishing.

Dundalk CC hosts minority confab

Hundreds of area middle and high school youth flocked to Dundalk Community College April 12 to participate in the college's annual "Empowering Minorities for the 90's" conference.

Dr. Benjamin Carson, noted pediatric neurosurgeon, urged the young people to "think big." "Life is full of obstacles. For some it may be the color of their skin or a handicap.

Success is determined by whether one chooses to be contained by obstacles or use them as hurdles which will strengthen and condition them for obstacles in the future," Dr. Carson said.



DR. BENJAMIN CARSON, noted Hopkins pediatric neurosurgeon, urges students to "Think Big."

Following Dr. Carson's stimulating remarks, a panel of distinguished business people shared their success stories with the students and talked about the role education played in their various career choices.

Jean Ross of radio station V103 moderated the panel that included George Arnold, manager employee relations the Bendix Corporation; Charles Byrd, attorney; Frances M. Draper, president AFRO-AMERICAN newspaper;

Charles Gaston, director Small Business Administration; Paulette Hall, executive director office of employment services; Barbara Knox, director underwriting systems and support department, Blue Cross/Blue Shield of MD.;

Vernon Reid, principal Reid McCoy, Inc.; and, Hattie Washington, specialist, compensatory education and supplemental programs Maryland State Department of Education.

Karen Bond is the director of the Office of Minority and Multicultural Affairs for Dundalk Community College. Martha Smith is president.



HATTIE WASHINGTON makes a point during Dundalk Community College's "Empowering Minorities for the 90's" conference.

African American Summit includes Md. delegation

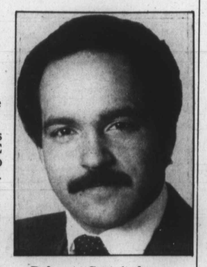
Delegate Curt Anderson, (D.-Baltimore City) will be the chairman of Maryland's delegation to the African-American Summit in New Orleans this weekend.

Anderson, chairman of Maryland's Legislative Black Caucus, was selected at an organizing session of the delegation. Marylander's top priorities will be an increase in federal education spending and several health issues.

More than five dozen Marylanders are expected to take part in the historic event planned for April 21-23 at the Hyatt in New Orleans.

AFRO president, Frances Draper and Bethel AME pastor Frank M. Reid are also expected to be in attendance.

Maryland elected officials planning to attend include Congressman Kweisi Mfume, Senator Larry Young (Baltimore), Senator Albert Wynn (Prince George's County), Delegate Clarence Davis (Baltimore), Delegate Juanita Miller (Prince George's County) and Councilman Vernon Gray (Howard County).



Delegate Curt Anderson

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