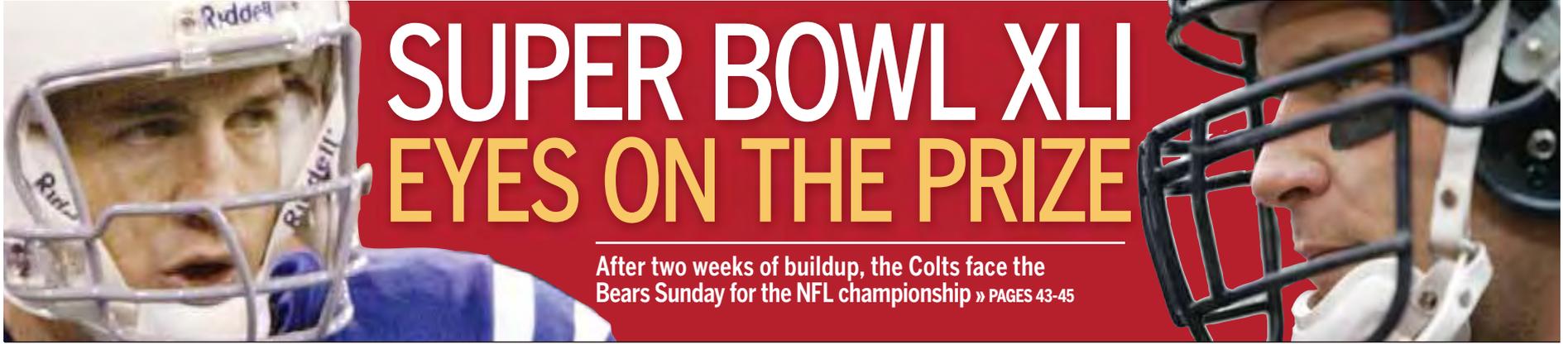


WEEKEND EDITION



SUPER BOWL XLI EYES ON THE PRIZE

After two weeks of buildup, the Colts face the Bears Sunday for the NFL championship » PAGES 43-45

SCHOOL

Students face drug charges

Two students at Archbishop Curley are charged with dealing drugs on school grounds. » Page 4

CHESAPEAKE

Docked skipjack in need of major repairs

Martha Lewis' future could depend on preserving Bay's past

Captain says that the near 50-foot boat was pulled from the water because it needed maintenance. » Page 3

RELIGION



Enduring faith

After 162 years, the Lloyd Street Synagogue still stands tall in Baltimore. » Page 32



ENVIRONMENT

Save the wetlands

Lt. Col. Joseph Knott, Army Compatible Use Buffer program manager, speaks during a World Wetlands Day celebration and the 70th anniversary of Ducks Unlimited, an international conservation organization partnering with the Army in Annapolis. » Page 6
- Arianne Starnes/For The Baltimore Examiner

HEART MONTH

Angry women are more at risk

Study shows volatile women more likely to get heart disease. » Page 14

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WHAT'S MAKING NEWS

POLICE MAKE SEXUAL ASSAULT ARREST AT COLUMBIA HOSPITAL

Howard County police have charged a 27-year-old Columbia man with sexually assaulting a woman while both were patients at Howard County General Hospital.

Police arrested Jerel Mcrae, of Columbia, on Thursday night as he was being released from the hospital. Officers were called to the hospital Jan. 31 for a report of sexual assault. A 19-year-old female patient, who is considered a vulnerable adult, reported to staff that she had been sexually assaulted by Mcrae in the shower room, police said.

Police charged Mcrae with two counts of second-degree sex offense and one count of sodomy. He is being held on \$50,000 bond. — *Luke Broadwater*

HEART OF THE COMMUNITY

The 16th Annual Chocolate Affair will raise money for Health Care for the Homeless, a local nonprofit organization. Local celebrities will judge Valentine's treats created by local restaurants. Guests can also bid on silent and live auctions for prizes like vacations, airline tickets and jewelry. Tropical Heat and Dick Steiner will give live performances. All proceeds from the event will go to HCH, which provides health-related services, education and advocacy to reduce homelessness. The event takes place on Feb. 8 at the M&T Bank Stadium from 6 to 9 p.m. Tickets are \$65-70.



NEWS IN BRIEF

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Harford senator reintroduces Jessica's Law legislation

Sen. Nancy Jacobs, R-Harford, along with half the other senators, is reintroducing legislation known as Jessica's Law, providing stiff mandatory sentences for sexual offenders with no opportunity for parole.

Punishment for sex crimes and supervision of offenders after their release were beefed up in a law passed last year. Jacobs said in a statement that the new law was "a good starting point" but complained that too many provisions were "watered down," especially by allowing parole.

Under the proposed bill, co-sponsored by all 14 Senate Republicans and 10 Democrats, those convicted of a first-degree sexual offense or rape would get a mandatory minimum sentence of 25 years to life with no chance of parole. A second-degree offense would be punished by a sentence of at least five years with no chance of parole. — *Len Lazarick*

Property condemnation limits to be re-examined

Efforts to ban or at least limit the taking of property by government for economic development purposes have again been introduced in the Senate and House this year, with Republicans and Democrats offering competing measures.

Last year, there were a flood of bills on property condemnation after the U.S. Supreme Court in the Kelo vs. City of New London case ruled that a government could take a private property and transfer it to profit-making entity for economic development purposes. None of the competing bills were enacted, partially due to strong opposition from counties and municipalities. — *Len Lazarick*

Bill would allow treatment for first-time drug offenders

Del. Curt Anderson, D-Baltimore City, and other members of the Legislative Black Caucus, introduced a bill this week that would allow first-time drug offenders to enroll to drug treatment programs instead of receiving the mandatory minimum jail sentence. The bill would require the first-time offender be placed on probation with the condition that the person attended treatment or education classes. If the court chose to impose the lighter sentence, the bill would prohibit additional jail time. — *Stephanie Tracy*

ANNAPOLIS

Lenett bucking the stereotype of Assembly's freshman lawmakers

Montgomery senator has been prolific in first term

By **Stephanie Tracy**
Examiner Staff Writer

As one of the newest members of the Maryland Senate, Sen. Mike Lenett, D-Montgomery County, sits in the far rear corner of the historic chamber, about as far away from the president's rostrum as physically possible.

Despite the seniority-ruled seating arrangement, Lenett is one of the most prolific freshman senators in introducing bills — his name is at the top of eight of them — second only to fellow freshman Sen. Bobby Zirkin, D-Baltimore Coun-

ty, who served in the House of Delegates last year and is the lead sponsor on more than 10 bills.

"I promised I would bring a high level of energy to this job and I meant it," Lenett said, sitting behind a desk covered with papers and reports. "I think I have a background that allows me to come in at a point that some first time senators wouldn't."

Though November was his first time running for elected office, Lenett spent three years as counsel to the U.S. Senate Judiciary Committee, and prior to that was special counsel to the Securities and Exchange Commission. Lenett, who holds a degree in securities law from Georgetown, has taken the lead on a number of high-profile issues that have failed in the past, including a ban on assault weapons and a bill

that would direct state funds to embryonic stem cell research.

"Regardless of how far the bills go, I think the value is in the fight," Lenett said. "I have to push the issue forward. ... Regardless of whether the bill passes, I believe in keeping up the public debate."

Traditionally, new lawmakers in both chambers tend to stick to introducing less significant bills and spend most of their time learning the ropes. "I commend anyone who's got the energy to introduce a lot of bills," said Sen. Patrick Hogan, D-Montgomery County, who chairs the county's Senate delegation. "But putting the bill in is the easiest part. It takes a lot of work to get a bill passed."

Hogan, who is now the vice chairman of the Senate budget committee, said he spent most of the first

year of his term listening and learning. Even this year, entering his third term, Hogan is the lead sponsor on only four bills.

"I've seen senators and delegates who've come in and introduced a lot of bills and then others who've sat back and watched," said Sen. Norman Stone, D-Baltimore, who has served in the Senate since 1967. "It depends on the personality of the person ... and he was very well prepared when he came in here."

Lenett said his newbie status has not been a barrier to getting support for his initiatives. Instead, he said his biggest challenge is learning about the concerns of the rest of the state.

"I'm only familiar with Montgomery County, but I represent the whole state," he said.

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Catholic school students charged with drugs in parking lot

By **Stephen Janis**
Examiner Staff Writer

Message to student drug dealers: Don't do business near a teacher's car.

That lesson was hammered home to a pair of 16-year-old Archbishop Curley students Thursday when they were busted by a teacher as they attempted to complete a marijuana deal in the school's parking lot on Sinclair Lane, according to charging documents.

Police were called to the school around 3 p.m. by administrators after the teacher witnessed the transaction, records said. One of the students, a junior, "did possess in sufficient quantity for distribution," according to records. Police said the other student, a sophomore, was charged with possession of marijuana, "a controlled dangerous substance."

Both students allegedly admitted to police that the drugs were theirs.

“The use of drugs is not tolerated; we have policies to address this.” — Barry Stitz, Archbishop Curley vice president

They were arrested, charged as juveniles and booked at the city's juvenile detention center. They were subsequently released into the custody of their parents.

Archbishop Curley vice president Barry Stitz confirmed the incident happened but declined to elaborate. "The use of drugs is not tolerated, we have policies in place to address this," he said.

Attempts to reach the juveniles' parents for comment were unsuccessful.

Archbishop Curley is a parochial high school for boys, with an enrollment of approximately 550 students.

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WORLD WETLANDS DAY

"I get to be a soldier and I get to do something good for the environment," says Lt. Col. Joseph Knott, Army Compatible Use Buffer Program Manager, of the ACUB program on Friday during a celebration of World Wetlands Day and the 70th anniversary of Ducks Unlimited, an international conservation organization, who has partnered with the Army for their ACUB program in Annapolis. See page 6. — *Ariane Starnes/For The Baltimore Examiner*

NEWS IN BRIEF

BLACK HISTORY MONTH

Baltimore's lion roars on screen

"When the Lion Wrote History" plays today at 1 p.m. in Fells Point at the Shipyard Gallery Theatre. The film is the most-acclaimed cinematic biography of Frederick Douglass, the renowned abolitionist who grew up in Baltimore.

"On an afternoon that promises to be cold and cloudy, visitors can come to the museum and get all fired up,"

said Dr. Dianne Swann-Wright, director and curator of the Frederick Douglass-Isaac Myers Maritime Park and Museum. "Douglass is a true American hero."

The screening is presented by the museum.

"Douglass spent his formative years here in Baltimore — from 8 years old to 20," Swann-Wright said. "And many of the things that he considered to be important, he decided they were important when he was here. He is someone who many people can relate to."

"When the Lion Wrote History" previously aired on PBS; Orlando Bagwell directed the film. — *Jessica Novak*

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JOAN ALLEN & DAN COLLINS *Single in the city*

Love's roadblocks can be smallest of potholes

You both look dreamily into each other's eyes. But then, with the impact of a meteor setting off an Armageddon-like explosion, it all comes crashing down. She's a *Yankees* fan! He *hates* cats! Sorry. Hit the road, Jack — or Jill. Is there a way to get past these relationship brick walls, or is there simply no coming back?

DAN: Love is a funny thing. It makes you do things you swear you would never do. I would have sooner done the Lindy with Lucifer than smoke a cigarette. But there I was, standing on my deck, lighting up one of those clove-nail coffins because an absolute stunner in a red dress had offered me one. When you are truly, madly, deeply in love, you find the line that's drawn in the relationship sand can tend to get a little, well, fuzzy.

JOAN: We're talking about deal-breakers on a date. After a pleasant second date with an attractive lady, my friend Marc followed her into the kitchen for a late-night coffee. Her cat jumped up on the kitchen table and lapped up the cream in the pitcher before Marc could pour it. After Marc told her about the used cream, she removed the cat from the table but didn't offer to replace the cream. Traumatized by the unsanitary condi-

tions, Marc never called her again.

DAN: It's likely the lady construed Marc's issue not to be with unsanitary cream but with a dislike of cats, especially *her* cat. Since neither of us were privy to their cat-and-cream morality play, who knows what sort of wonderful facial expressions or body language Marc showed toward the cat. You may not cry over spilled milk, but I guess you can kill a relationship with it.

JOAN: A turnoff for divorced health care consultant Linda Canestraro is personal cleanliness. She says, "If I had a date with someone who looked slovenly or smelled bad, that would definitely be a deal-breaker."

DAN: Issues like personal hygiene are pretty much givens. Obviously, if the guy likes to lounge around in his Sturmbahnfuhrer's uniform or if she considers teaching her kids the finer points of shoplifting an acceptable form of family bonding, you've got a problem. It's the less egregious issues that are the nub of my gist here — she'll endure anything, but if you like

Bono, you're done-oh. He can't stand any woman who prefers the word "sofa" over "couch." What do these obscure caveats say about us? That we're just uber-particular; meat-can't-touch-the-potatoes types? Or perhaps they indicate a fear of intimacy?

JOAN: I have a client who dropped a really nice boyfriend because he started eating dinner before the other guests at a dinner party. What does this mean? Joe Honsberger of Jewish Family Services says, "The question is, why does something as minor as that bother her so much? There's something much deeper going on. Some people tend to sabotage their relationships by making a mountain out of a molehill. They may have had a poor relationship with their parents, have a fear of intimacy and commitment, or feel they don't deserve a relationship because of low self-esteem."



Dan Collins is a terminally single 40-something writer and local PR maven. Joan Allen is a noted matchmaker extraordinaire and author of "Celebrating Single and Getting Love Right: From Stalemate to Soulmate."



Late-breaking
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Groups call for wetlands preservation

By Laura Greenback
Examiner Staff Writer

Waterfowl and wetlands experts — including a soldier from the U.S. Army — outlined plans to protect Maryland's most vulnerable habitat during a celebration of World Wetlands Day.

Ducks Unlimited, a nonprofit organization that preserves wetlands and waterfowl, hosted the event Friday afternoon at its Annapolis headquarters.

U.S. Army Lt. Col. Joe Knott, dressed in fatigues, spoke about the ways the Army collaborates with nonprofits to preserve valuable habitat through the Army Compatible Use Buffer Program.

He helps groups such as Ducks Unlimited conserve land near military training grounds to cut down on the number of neighbors who complain about their midnight gunshots and other noisy activities.

"In Iraq, you don't stop at midnight," Knott said. "I get to protect the land and protect my soldiers."

The next area the Army plans to help preserve is a 142-acre site in Churchville located outside an area where the military tests war vehicles, Knott said.

But saving land is expensive, and it takes strong partnerships between many organizations to get

it done, Knott said.

Representatives from Ducks Unlimited also used the World Wetlands Day celebration as a platform to talk about their ongoing work to preserve wetlands in Maryland this year.

They plan to restore 40 acres of wetlands and grasslands at the Jean Ellen duPont Shehan Audubon Sanctuary, located on a peninsula in Bozman. It will be used as a demonstration site to teach the public about the value of wetlands, said Grace Bottitta, manager of conservation for the mid-Atlantic states branch of Ducks Unlimited.

Ducks Unlimited is partnering with the D.C. Audubon Society, Maryland Department of Natural Resources and United States Fish & Wildlife Service on the project.

Despite all of these efforts, wetlands are increasingly threatened by development and pollution, Bottitta said.

"Wetlands give us our clean water, our habitat for waterfowl, our fish populations. Due to urban development, they are being built upon, piece by piece," Bottitta said.

The United States loses 80,000 acres of wetlands each year, and the lower 48 states have lost a total area equal to the size of South Dakota and Nebraska combined since the 1600s, Bottitta said.

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