

Johnson buys stake in fast-food burger chain

An investor group led by Earvin "Magic" Johnson has purchased the Fatburger restaurant chain.

The group plans to build 100 restaurants across the nation in the next five years. The Fatburger chain, whose motto is "The Last Great Hamburger Stand," is currently in more than 10 states.

The acquisition is the latest for Johnson. The former NBA superstar has opened a chain of movie theaters in urban areas during the last decade.



Johnson

Ward, an African American, named CEO of U.S. Olympic Committee

Lloyd Ward, the former chairman and chief operating officer for the Maytag Corp., has been named the CEO of the U.S. Olympic Committee.



Ward

He took office three months before the Winter games begin in Salt Lake City.

Ward, who in 1995 was named "Executive Of The Year" by Black Enterprise magazine, was elected unanimously at an Oct. 21 meeting of the USOC's executive committee, beating out USOC's interim CEO Scott Blackmun and former Baltimore Mayor Kurt Schmoke.

Said USOC President Sandra Baldwin to reporters: "Lloyd has great charisma, is an excellent speaker and understands marketing. He will bring the USOC not only charismatic leadership, but a great sense of being able to elevate the organization to the next level."

Census estimates 31 million foreign-born residents live in the United States

WASHINGTON - Roughly 8 million illegal immigrants live in the United States, early estimates from the 2000 census show. Their presence swells the U.S. foreign-born population to more than 31 million people.

More detailed figures are due from the Census Bureau in the next month, and a final count of the foreign-born population will be released next year.

If the estimate of undocumented Americans holds up, it would be about 1 million more than an unofficial forecast by the Immigration and Naturalization Service early this year.

The 2000 census count of 35.3 million Hispanics nationwide was about 2.5 million higher than previously estimated. Hispanics now rival blacks as the largest U.S. minority group.

The Census Bureau does not ask about citizenship status on its forms and stresses that it keeps all answers confidential. The bureau uses INS data to help estimate undocumented Americans.

The 1990 head count found 19.8 million foreign-born residents. The latest estimates come at a time when Congress is scrutinizing the U.S. immigration and visa systems after the Sept. 11 terror attacks.

Is the bus museum buys for \$492,000 the one Parks refused to give up seat on?

MONTGOMERY, Ala. - A Michigan museum has paid \$492,000 at an Internet auction for a bus whose owners say was the one on which Rosa Parks refused to give up her seat to a white man in 1955.

Steve Hamp, president of the Henry Ford Museum, called the bus "the most important artifact in civil rights history" even as some wondered if it is the actual vehicle.

Parks was fined \$10 for violating a city ordinance when she refused to give up her seat. Her arrest set off a yearlong boycott of Montgomery's buses, bringing national renown to a young Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. and helping forge the Civil Rights Movement.

No bus number was written down on police records when Parks was arrested, and there have been questions over the years as to whether it would be possible to identify the vehicle.

The bus sold at auction was bought in the early 1970s by a Montgomery man, Hubert Summerford, who used it to store tools. Summerford died in 1985, leaving the bus to his daughter, Vivian Williams, and her husband.

Ray White, project manager for the Rosa Parks Museum and Library in Montgomery, said the documentation that accompanies the bus shows it was driven by James Blake, the driver who had Parks arrested Dec. 1, 1955.

White said he's still not certain it was the bus Parks was on when she was arrested.

-From staff and wire reports



Parks

UNCF offers college scholarships to children of victims of Sept. 11 attacks

SPECIAL TO THE CHRONICLE

FAIRFAX, Va. - The children of victims of the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks will be eligible to receive full scholarships for college education at the United Negro College Fund's 39 member colleges and universities.

New York Mayor Rudolph Giuliani announced the new program at a news conference at the New York Marriott Marquis Hotel last Thursday.

I would like to commend the United Negro College Fund for establishing a special scholarship fund for those children who lost their parents or guardians during the terrorist attacks on September 11th, including the attack at the World Trade Center," Giuliani said. "These scholarships will undoubtedly have a strong, positive effect on the lives of thousands of young people who have suffered so terribly by ensuring that they will receive a first-class education."

The first three recipients are UNCF students who lost parents or guardians in the tragedy. Tiffany and Yolanda Smith, freshmen twins at Johnson C. Smith University, lost their father, Leon Smith Jr., a New York City firefighter, Ladder Company 118, in the World Trade Center attack.

Vernessa Richard, a senior at Johnson C. Smith University lost her father, Capt. Vernon Richard, a New York City

Candidates

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housing communities in the ward, including Ladeara Crest and Burke Village, which is named in her honor.

Burke said she is running because she is not done yet. There are neighborhoods she still wants to see revitalized.

Burke's opponent, John Davenport, has been critical of Burke and other board members for interjecting race into board debates. Burke freely admits that she has often spoken up for minority and women's issues. She says she has no regrets about doing so. One of Burke's pet peeves is the lack of diversity in some city departments. She has also spoken out in favor of better wages for sanitation workers and other lower-level city employees.

"When you are in this position, you are supposed to represent people and people have needs...I will continue to speak out for equality to try to touch the consciousness of people in this community."

Burke has adopted the campaign slogan, "Let the Record Speak." The slogan appears on her campaign signs and other literature. She is confident that her record will speak loud and clear Tuesday when voters send her back to City Hall.

"I have always felt that God has a plan," she said. "I have always felt good about his plans. Things will be wonderful."

John Davenport

John Davenport, 33, thinks he can be a new leader for the Northeast Ward for the new century. Davenport is running unaffiliated against Vivian Burke, a veteran board member. Because he is not



New York City Mayor Rudolph Giuliani announced the UNCF scholarship program for children of the attacks at a news conference last week.

firefighter, Ladder Company 7, in the World Trade Center attack.

Scholarships will be offered to any child, regardless of age, who lost a parent or guardian, as a result of these tragic events. UNCF will not establish a special fund for this initiative. It is making this commitment from support UNCF has already received from its donors.

A large portion of that support has come from corporations, individuals and foundations in the New York community.

"In this critical time for our country, it is imperative to meet the needs of children whose lives were devastated by the attacks," said William H. Gray III, president and CEO of UNCF. "I am pleased

that the United Negro College Fund has launched a new scholarship program that will guarantee that all of the children of victims will be able to pursue higher education."

"The presidents of UNCF member institutions agreed to support this scholarship program because we're committed to providing access to higher education to thousands of young people," said Dr. David L. Beckley, president of Rust College and chairman of UNCF presidents. "Over the next 20 years, we will open our doors to the children of victims of this unspeakable tragedy."

"We are deeply saddened by the loss of lives in the September 11th attacks and the personal impact the tragedy had on some of our students,"

said Dr. Dorothy Yancy, president of Johnson C. Smith University. "However, it is comforting to know that all children who have been touched by this tragedy will have the opportunity to get a college education as a result of this initiative."

UNCF administers more than 450 scholarships and fellowships to students and faculty who attend our member colleges and universities, other historically black colleges and universities (HBCUs) and majority institutions throughout the country. In its 57-year history, UNCF has raised nearly \$1.8 billion to promote higher education achievement and has helped more than 300,000 students earn undergraduate and graduate degrees.

everybody and let them listen to my platform," he said.

Many people in the ward want change, he said, and many like the issues he's talking about. His main issues include finding ways to retain the city's dwindling 18- to 34-year-old population, economic development and a plank he calls "leading with unity."

"I believe I am going to win," he said. "I am looking forward to serving the community in the capacity of alderman."

Davenport doesn't think he's being premature. He has been busy himself as of late, knocking on doors and attending community forums.

"I want the chance to meet

to be victorious.

"I want the chance to meet everybody and let them listen to my platform," he said.

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See Candidates on A9

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