

# Lack of highway contracts questioned

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abled white males. Alston isn't the only person wondering why black contractors aren't getting a larger percentage of the work. Last month, state lawmakers asked DOT to update a disparity in contracting study that was originally completed in 1993.

Some state officials, however, defend current efforts to increase black participation in the highway bonanza and contend that North Carolina is doing all it can to give black contractors opportunities to make money off road projects.

Douglas Galyon, for example, believes the state is doing an admirable job of including black contractors in the industry. Galyon is the Greensboro representative on the state transportation board.

"The department has done an outstanding job in that area," he said in a brief telephone inter-

view. Galyon was asked if he had received any calls from people in his district regarding the participation of black contractors in state projects. He said he had not. Furthermore, he said he was not personally worried about the disparity.

"The state has a very specific procedure" that ensures black firms get a shot at work, but declined to describe that procedure.

Construction companies owned by white women actually do more business with the state than firms owned by black men, according to George Gibson, head of DOT's contractual service division. Firms owned by ethnic minorities participate in only 3.9 percent of all federally funded road work on state highways while firms owned by white women were awarded 7.1 percent of those jobs. On federal projects, a black woman is counted as an ethnic minority, not

a woman. According to Gibson, the level of minority participation expected is a "goal, not a quota." The goals are set by a committee, which takes into consideration such variables as the availability of certified contractors in the area where the road work is to be performed. A goal compliance committee, which includes the chief engineer and a representative from the state Office on Civil Rights, reviews contracts awarded to determine if the prime contractor exerted a "good faith effort" to use black-owned subcontractors.

He added that the state does not keep statistics that indicate whether black firms are used primarily as prime contractors, responsible for the complete project, or subcontractors who do a portion.

"The disparity study may determine that there aren't sufficient

companies out there for the state to meet its goals on minority contracting," Gibson said.

The report is scheduled to be presented during the short session of the General Assembly in the spring.

# Haitians dispute American policy

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that standard was toughened. Last Wednesday, Congress granted permanent residency to thousands of Nicaraguans, Cubans, Salvadorans, Guatemalans, and Europeans, under the comparatively lenient rules that existed before 1996.

But about 14,000 Haitians were left out, although President Clinton and many spiritual leaders have asked House Speaker Newt Gingrich for parity.

"The Haitian community is nobody's constituency," explained Alix Cantave, president of the Haitian studies Association at UMass-Boston. "Haitians are perceived as non-entities unless there is a crisis, or unless we create a crisis. Otherwise, we are forgotten."

The 14,000 Haitians who fled a 1991 military coup were allowed into the United States when the Immigration and Naturalization

Service found that their political views placed them in danger in their native land.

Hundreds landed in Boston. "We are happy that some of our fellow Central Americans may be able to adjust their status based on being victims of Communism," Pierre Imbert, executive director of the Haitian Multi-Service Center in Dorchester, said. "But we do think that Haitians fit the same criteria for being victimized."

# Property revaluation meetings

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actual property taxes." The tax rates that apply to the new assessed values will be set in June and will be reflected in tax bills that will be mailed in August and September.

Tax office personnel are going to community meetings to help property owners understand the intricacies of revaluation and answer questions about the process, something that can't be

done in an office. "Having conducted previous revaluations, I can attest there will be numerous questions from property owners about how the revaluation is conducted and the timing of each stage, including opportunities for appeals," Petoskey said.

"Instead of merely sitting in our offices with calculators and computer printouts, we're going out into neighborhoods to meet with people face to face to address as many questions and concerns as

possible." The revaluation public meetings start at 7 p.m. at the following: Nov. 21: Pleasant Grove Methodist Church, 1915 Oakdale Road; Dec. 2: Beatties Ford Road Branch Library, 2412 Beatties Ford Road; Dec. 4: Steele Creek Branch Library, 9124-F S. Tryon St.; Dec. 8: Mint Hill Town Hall, 7151 Matthews-Mint Hill Road, Mint Hill; Dec. 10: Pineville Town Hall, 118 College St., Pineville; Dec. 11: West Boulevard Branch Library, 2157 West Blvd.

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## DIVISION of LIFELONG LEARNING (Adult Evening and Weekend Classes) SPRING 1998 SCHEDULE

(Classes available subject to enrollment and teacher assignment)

DAY/TIME COURSE/SECTION	COURSE DESCRIPTION	ROOM#
<b>MON/WED, 6-7:25P:</b>		
MKT-331 T	PRINCIPLES OF MARKETING	HUM-110
LS-233 T	STUDIES IN SOCIETY I	HUM-111
SPA-132 T	ELEMENTARY SPANISH II	HUM-112
MGT-433 T	MANAGEMENT RESEARCH & ANALYSIS	EDU-201
MTH-131 T	BASIC MATHEMATICS I	SHA-201
LS-242 T	SCIENCE, TECH, ETHICS II	SHA-106
(4 credits)		
ENG-230 T	STUDIES IN WORLD LITERATURE	SHA-207
RHC-192 T	FRESHMAN RHETORIC II	EDU-303
<b>MON/WED, 7:40-9:05P:</b>		
MKT-334 T	PRINCIPLES OF RETAILING	HUM-110
LS-234 T	STUDIES IN SOCIETY II	HUM-111
MGT-435 T	BUSINESS POLICY	EDU-201
MGT-334 T	PERSONAL MANAGEMENT	EDU-303
MTH-137 T	PRECALCULUS I	SHA-207
MGT-333 T	PRINCIPLES OF MANAGEMENT	HUM-112
<b>TUE/THUR, 6-7:25P:</b>		
MKT-335 T	FUNDAMENTALS OF SELLING	HUM-110
REL-131 T	SURVEY OF GREAT LIVING RELIGIONS	HUM-111
RHC-191 T	FRESHMAN RHETORIC I	HUM-112
ACC-235 T	PRINCIPLES OF ACCOUNTING I	EDU-201
EDU-395 T*	THE SECONDARY SCHOOL CURRICULUM	EDU-204
(To 9p, Tue only)		
EDU-330 TW*	FOUNDATIONS OF EDUCATION	EDU-203
(To 9p, Thu only)		
SPE-130 T	FUNDAMENTALS OF SPEECH	EDU-303
LS-130 TW	IDENTITY: CITIZEN AND SELF: A CULTURE	EDU-115
CSC-131 T	COMPUTERS IN SOCIETY	SHA-201
PSY-131 T	GENERAL PSYCHOLOGY	SHA-207
LS-331 T	STUDIES IN WORLD CULTURES I	MCH-204
EDU-312 T*	JR. PRACTICUM IN SECONDARY ED.	EDU-204
(1 credit)	(5-6p, Tue only)	
<b>TUE/THUR, 7:40-9:05P:</b>		
MKT-332 T	ADVERTISING	HUM-110
ART-231 T	ART APPRECIATION	HUM-111
MGT-436 T	ORG. BEHAVIOR AND DESIGN	EDU-201
ACC-236 T	PRINCIPLES OF ACCOUNTING II	EDU-303
CSC-132 T	CONCEPTS IN COMPUTERS	SHA-201
MTH-132 T	BASIC MATHEMATICS II	SHA-207
SPA-131 T	ELEMENTARY SPANISH I	HUM-112
LS-332 T	STUDIES IN WORLD CULTURES II	MCH-204
<b>SAT, 8-10:40A:</b>		
PSY-237 TW*	PSYCHOLOGY OF ADOLESCENCE	HUM-110
ECO-232 T	PRINCIPLES OF ECONOMICS (MICRO)	HUM-111
MKT-435 T	INTERNATIONAL MARKETING	HUM-112
EDU-296 T*	PSYCHOLOGY OF THE EXCEPTIONAL	EDU-201
<b>SAT, 10:50A-1:30P:</b>		
ECO-231 T	PRINCIPLES OF ECONOMICS (MACRO)	HUM-110
BUS-233 T	BUSINESS STATISTICS	HUM-111
BUS-234 T	QUANTITATIVE METHODS IN BUSINESS	HUM-112
EDU-220 T*	EARLY EXPERIENCES IN TEACHER ED.	EDU-201
(2 credits)	(To 12:50P)	
<b>SAT, 8A-12:50P:</b>		
LS-241 T	SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ETHICS I	SHA-210
(2 credits)	(Incl. lab)	
<b>SAT, 9-10:50A:</b>		
HED-121 T	PERSONAL HEALTH	GYM
(2 credits)		
<b>SAT, 11A-12:50P:</b>		
PED-125 T	RHYTHM AND DANCE	GYM
(2 credits)		
W = WRITING CLASS	*TEACHER LICENSURE CLASS	
ALL CLASSES ARE 3 CREDIT-HOURS, EXCEPT AS NOTED.		