

## Textile Students Eligible For Foundation Merit Awards

The North Carolina Textile Foundation and the School of Textiles have established an outstanding new scholarship program for textile majors.

Starting in the 1981 school year, four Textile Foundation Merit Awards have been given annually to entering freshmen.

These scholarships are funded at \$3,000 per year, plus tuition differential for out-of-state residents, and constitute an overall award of \$12,000. Textile Foundation Merit Awards are made possible by the textile and allied industries of North and South Carolina through the N.C. Textile Foundation. They are the capstone to an already established \$150,000 scholarship program at the School of Textiles, which includes 43 Prestige Scholarships valued at up to \$1,500 each.

### Eligibility

Students must apply to the School of Textiles and be entering freshmen for the 1983-1984

academic year. Generally, recipients will be in the top 10 percent of their high school graduating class with SAT scores of over 1100, but leadership potential as demonstrated through extracurricular and community activities will be an important factor in the selection process.

### Application Procedures

If interested, you should request an NCSU Merit Scholars Application Packet as soon as possible which contains an application as well as the required supporting documents - three recommendation forms, a high school transcript request form and other information. Request your application packet as soon as possible from: Textile Foundation Merit Scholars Program, School of Textiles, North Carolina State University, P.O. Box 5006, Raleigh, North Carolina 27650.

The completed application and supporting information must be returned by Feb. 28, 1983.

## Quality And Productivity Teams

Five additional Quality & Productivity Teams will be implemented by May 1. New teams will be formed on second and third shifts in the Weaving and Twisting Departments and on the first shift in the Maintenance Department. Leadership training will be given by Johnette Mitchell to the new Quality & Productivity Team Leaders in February.

The two pilot teams have adopted nicknames—the First Shift Weaving Team has named themselves “The Shuttle Masters,” and the First Shift Twisting Team has named themselves, “The Beam Masters.”

“The Shuttle Masters” have two new members, Keith Cochran and Buster Stiles. Members have completed their training and are actively working on several projects. One of their projects is identified as “Not Enough Spare Spools Left on the Creels.”

“The Beams Masters” are also completing their training. One of their projects is identified as “Respooler Clocks Being Covered.” Denise Glenn, team member, discussed this problem with the respoolers on all shifts.

During the month of December, David Hirsch, Purchasing Manager, attended a meeting of “The Beam Masters” and answered questions presented by team members regarding the procedures for ordering parts and supplies.

If you would like someone to listen and try your ideas, volunteer as a Quality & Productivity Team member. As a member, you will have the opportunity to identify problems and suggest solutions. For an application form, see your supervisor or contact Gail Cook, Quality-Productivity Team Coordinator.

We look forward with great anticipation to increasing the number of teams and team members.

## Settlement Reached

Firestone has agreed to settle a class action suit filed in 1978 on behalf of all persons who purchased Firestone stock between Dec. 1, 1975 and July 24, 1978. The suit arose out of the ‘500’ recall, and although the company believed its defenses are meritorious, the suit was settled to avoid the substantial continuous legal expenses and the involvement of management personnel.

In general, all persons, including Firestone employees who purchased shares during the period either as individuals or through the Stock Purchase and Savings Plan, may be entitled to share in a fund set up by Firestone as part of the settlement.

The amount Firestone has agreed to contribute to the settlement has already been agreed upon and will not be changed by the number of claims filed. Your decision to file a claim will in no way be against the company's interests. Each decision is solely the employee's own.

A notice describing the settlement and attaching a proof of claim form was mailed by the clerk of courts on Jan. 5, 1983 to those identifiable as having potential claims. If you purchased shares of Firestone stock during the period between Dec. 1, 1975 and July 24, 1978, or acquired shares through the Stock Purchase and Savings Plan and did not receive this mailing from the court, you may obtain copies of the notice and the proof of claim form by calling Denise Pesich at (216) 379-7589. Claims must be submitted by April 5, 1983.

If you purchased stock during the period, you are entitled to submit a claim even if you subsequently sold your stock or if you previously mailed a form asking to be excluded from the class action. The amount of money, if any, that you receive as part of the settlement will be determined by the formula described in the notice. The formula was

established by the plaintiffs and approved by the court. The administration of the settlement is being handled solely by the plaintiffs.

To assist employees who may want to file claims and who purchased their shares through the Stock Purchase and Savings Plan, Firestone will send information to all who participated during the relevant period indicating the number of shares they purchased during that time and the average price of their purchases. The information will be available in the next few weeks. Plaintiffs have agreed that they will accept this information as proof of purchases through the stock plan.

If you have received the court's notice, and have questions concerning the procedures for filing a claim on stock purchased through the Stock Purchase and Savings Plan, it is recommended that you do not contact the company until after you have received this additional information.

## 11 Percent Increase For Tires

The truck tire replacement market will demand more new tires in 1983 than it did in 1982, Firestone forecasters say. Shipments are expected to increase by 11 percent this year.

“We saw indications of improvements in the truck tire replacement market late in 1982 and we are optimistic that this demand will accelerate as 1983 progresses,” says William Hanlon, marketing manager of heavy-duty truck tires.

“We're anticipating that the industry will increase its shipments of replacement tires for medium and heavy-duty trucks from 10.2 million units in 1982 to some 11.2 million tires in 1983,” he adds.

Hanlon indicated that the demand for radial ply tires in the truck tire replacement market will increase in 1983. He forecast that half the replacement tires for medium and heavy-duty trucks will be radials, compared to 45 percent last year.

## Corporation Citizenship Program

Last year, Firestone gave more than \$2 million to educational and charitable organizations and to aid academic and research activities through the company's nationwide corporate citizenship program.

More than \$1.8 million was donated by the company and the Firestone Trust Fund to educational institutions, health and welfare agencies, civic and community organizations, culture and

arts programs and scientific and literary groups. In addition, more than \$300,000 was allocated for college scholarship aid for sons and daughters of employees.

Educational institutions received gifts totaling \$770,000 with Firestone contributing about 34 percent of that amount of match employees' gifts to colleges. Firestone donations to United Way drives in locations across the country were about \$435,000.

## Firestone Stock

During December, 1982, Firestone common stock was purchased at an average price of \$17.14 per share for accounts of employees participating in the Stock Purchase and Savings Plan. Currently there are 5,306 employees enrolled.

Company stockholders will be asked to re-elect nine men to the board of directors at the annual meeting set for Tuesday, Feb. 22,

beginning at 9:30 a.m. at E.J. Thomas Hall in Akron. They are Leon R. Brodeur, Kimball C. Firestone, Richard Laster, John

J. Nevin, Donald S. Perkins, William G. Phillips, Paul A. Vatter, M. Brock Weir and J. Tylee Wilson. Not seeking reelection

are Leonard K. Firestone, Victor H. Brown, Herbert E. Markley and David R. Waters.