Page A2 Winston-Salem Chronicle Thursday, August 8, 1991 **No Festival Funds**

sons as to why are a matter of vices. heated debate.

Chamber representatives maintain that a proper proposal was never submitted.

"We did make a proposal to them," said Hamlin. "Ernie Pitt and I met with Gail Anderson, the executive director, and Bill Davis, the chairman of the board, and provided them with a letter requesting funds, a financial statement, and a packet of information about an inch thick."

Chamber officials say they considered that meeting nothing more than an informal, preliminary conversation.

"I left that meeting feeling very pessimistic," said Hamlin, "because they said they couldn't fund the festival because it did not fit into what they considered economic development. They never responded to our request."

Fred Nordenholz, president of the chamber, says representatives from the Black Rep were invited to make a presentation at the June Executive Committee meeting but did not show. Nor did they send a representative to any of the following three meetings.

And, he says, the chamber doesn't fund arts activities anyway.

"We haven't at this point made any kind of a grant to an arts or cultural activity" said Nordenholz. "We have a restricted fund that we use for development infrastructures that have day-in, day-out economic impact in Winston-Salem."

Recently, the chamber designated \$50,000 to fund a development plan for a film school to be created at the North Carolina School of the Arts, Nordenholz says that the film school is seen as part of an economic development infrastructure: a physical facility that will offer on-going ser-

He also points out that the Chancellor appeared twice before the chamber: once before the executive committee and once before the full board, and a member of his technical staff appeared at another board meeting.

Ernie Pitt, Chronicle publisher, says he and Hamlin received mixed messages from chamber board members, and that one member told him that the chamber would probably fund the festival without a proposal being made.

Hamlin and Pitt also say that they made identical presentations to the chamber and to local corpo-. rations including Wachovia, Sara Lee, and BFI. "We got money from them, but not from the chamber," says Pitt.

Fund-raising professionals say it's never easy. "Fund raising for events like National Black Theatre Festival is very challenging and requires the utmost in planning and follow through," commented David Winslow, president of Winslow and Associates, an arts consulting firm in Winston-Salem.

R.J. Reynolds Tobacco Company became the major corporate sponsor of the festival with a \$100.000 donation. "We became involved because we saw the festival as addressing two things of great interest to us: education and economic development," said

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James Johnston, CEO.

The development-related value of the festival has been touted by many, including Winston-Salem Journal editorial editor. John Gates, and Alderman Robert Northington.

"We gain in hotel and motel taxes, sales taxes, familiarity and a new view of Winston-Salem for many who haven't been here before," said Northington. "Hopefully, those people become ambassadors of our city."

Larry Hamlin's years of labor for the festival make him cynical toward those who don't rally around it.

"The chamber is off in their perspective as to what constitutes economic development," maintains Hamlin. "I think the black community should let the chamber know that blacks are capable of making contributions that impact on economic development, and in the future the chamber should be first to lend its support."

Will Jenkins, president and chairman of he board of North Carolina Black Repertory, said this week that he still hopes the chamber will come through with some level of funding for the festival.

"At this point, we have received no funding from the chamber," said Jenkins, but I have talked with them and we are all going to sit down and discuss it after the festival."



This is the 6th year class of students at Shaw in Raleigh

Health Career Opportunities at Shaw

The Health Career Opportunities program at Shaw University has just concluded its 6th Annual Session. Twenty eight high school students from across North Carolina who have expressed their interest in pursuing a professional education and career in one of the health sciences.

Under the guidance of Shaw's science and technology faculty, the students have followed a rigorous schedule of daily classroom studies in both the arts and sciences.

Their typical days began early at 7:30 a.m. breakfast and concludes with a 7-9 p.m. supervised study hall. Biology, Mathematics, **Communications, and Academic** courses were the main daily faire.

Pictured left to right from bottom row are: Domingue Thompson of St. Pauls: Arnold Murray of Fayetteville; Maurice Wallace of Jacksonville: Marcus Washington of Jacksonville; 2nd row - Shawne Martin of Jacksonville; Towanda Crawley of Jacksonville; Tinika McMillan of St. Pauls; Althea Cogdall of St. Pauls; Danyael Davis of Tarboro; 3rd row - Tosha White of Jacksonville; Unjaleka White of Pollocksville; Crystal Burton of Jacksonville; Harvey Campbell of Lillington; Rodney Joe of Jacksonville; Tina Bunn of Whitakers; 4th row -Ralph Glover of Henderson: Al Hinnant of Wilson; Tywanda Monk of Jacksonville: Adrean Knight of Favetteville; 5th row - Talicia Robinson of Henderson; Lateasta Williams of Henderson; Katina Hayes of Henderson; Tamu Shaw of Warren County; George Cosmos of Warren County; Samantyha Douglas of Fayetteville; Katrina Billingsley of Oakboro; and Anechia Wiggons of Currie.



Brown

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firm in High Point. As a young man, he joined the all-white ranks of the High Point police force. He later lived with Jesse Jackson and traveled with Martin Luther King Jr.

He was an FBI agent when black agents were not allowed to initiate cases: they had to convince white agents that a case was worthy of FBI attention.

From 1968-1973, Brown served as special assistant to President Richard Nixon.

Last year, Brown was inducted into the Horatio Alger Association of Distinguished Americans for his triumph against adversity and his generosity to others.

"Bob Brown never lost the common touch," said Dr. Angelou.

"To be black and male and Southern takes courage, insight, and faith. He is truly a man of the people."

Congratulatory telegrams arrived from Richard Nixon, Coretta Scott King, Alex Haley, Julius Chambers, Dorothy Height, and many corporate leaders, honoring Brown as "master of the game" and "a man who brings together people who ordinarily wouldn't have communicated with each other."

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