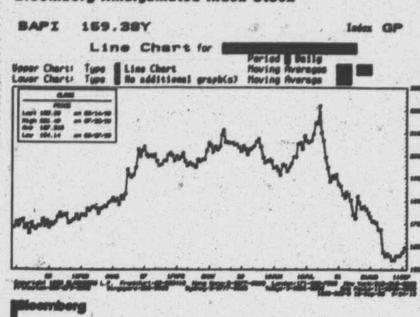


Bloomborg Amaigamated Index Stock



The Bloomberg Amalgamated Index is an equal dollar weighted index of publicly-traded companies that are either owned or operated by African-Americans. The index was developed with a base value of 100 as of December 30, 1994.

Bloomberg Amalgamated Index 10 Stocks

BTV (BET Holdings) n.a. ENR (Environest) 15 **UAH** (United American Healthe CARA (Caraco Pharm Labs) AULT (Ault Inc.) 4 1/16

GBTV (Granite Broadcasting) 7 1/16 CNY (Carver Bancorp Inc.) 9 1/4 AMS (Amer Shared Hospital) CIC (Carsons, Inc.) 3 3/4 BYFC (Bdwy Financial Corp) 8 7/8

The Bloomberg Amalgamated Index rose led by Granite Broadcasting Corp. The equal dollar weighted index of companies that are either owned or operated by African-Americans rose 2.16 to 159.38. Broadway Financial Corp rose 5/8 to 8 7/8. Carver Bancorp Inc. rose 1/8 to 9 1/4. In the broader market, the Standard & Poor's 500 index rose 20.22 to 1,029.72. The Dow Jones Industrial Average rose 149.85 to 7,945.35. The Bloomberg Amalgamated Index was developed by Bloomberg News in cooperation with Amalgamated Publishers Inc., an organization that represents more than 200 African-American newspapers across the United States.

Paxson Communications

Partners With EPCOM

Corporation has entered into a non-minority broadcasters, partnership agreement with Bud Paxson and Paxson EPCOM, L.L.C. to sell its Communications have shown Cedar Rapids station, KPXR- that major broadcasters can do TV-48, to the minority-owned broadcast company. Paxson will also assign various contracts and rights that the Company controls to EPCOM to construct good business." four new television stations. The agreements allow EPCOM, founded by minority broadcaster, Ed Parker, the former President and Chief Financial Officer of Blackstar L.L.C., to own, manage and operate the five stations under an affiliation with PAX TV.

Under the current FCC rules, Paxson would hold nonvoting minority equity in EPCOM as a result of the agreement, but both EPCOM and Paxson will petition the FCC to allow Passon to own 49% of the voting stock of EPCOM and for Paxson's interest in the five stations not to count toward the FCC's 35% national ownership limitation.

Paxson's Chairman, Lowell "Bud" Paxson said, "This unique partnership with EPCOM is just one example of the many initiatives we proposed in July to undertake to encourage and assist new minority and nonminority entrants with building and acquiring broadcast properties. Ed Parker is a historically successful minority broadcaster who we believe will play a very strong role in the expansion of minority broadcast ownership across the country. This transac-tion with EPCOM will bring to a total of 13 the number of broadcast licenses held by minority broadcasters who Paxson has assisted in the financing, construction and operation of their television stations."

Ed Parker said, "I am excited about this opportunity. Through numerous successful

Paxson Communications ventures with minority and good and well at the same time. Investments and strategic alliances with qualified minoribroadcasters is just

> Pax Communications owns and operates the nation's seventh and newest broadcast network - PAX TV, the national family entertainment network.

Bloomberg News

U.S. Makes **Buying Treasury** Securities Easier

The U.S. Treasury is making it easier for individuals to buy government securities by lowering minimum purchase amounts and expanding online access. This comes as government debt has become the world's most popular security. Global investors stampeded into the relative safety of Treasuries this year as economic turmoil in Asia and Russia spreads through global financial markets.

Treasury bills and notes have traditionally been viewed as the domain of large institutional investors such as pension funds and insurance companies. With the Treasury lowering the minimum investment for bills maturing in one year or less to \$1,000 from \$10,000, more individuals can now take part in the \$4.5 trillion govern-ment debt market. Individual investors can buy securities through the government's Treasury Direct program on the Internet at the Bureau of Public Debt's website. The address is:

www.publicdebt.treas.gov. Treasury Direct, set up in Michael R. Bloomberg Receives the "Bridgebuilders Award"

The Reverend Jesse L. Jackson, Sr., The Rainbow/PUSH Coalition and the Citizen Education Fund honored Michael Bloomberg, of Bloomberg founder Financial Markets, with its Wall Street project's "Bridge-builders Award" at this year's annual conference. "Bridgebuilders Award" recognizes Michael Bloomberg's efforts to build a bridge between the minority community and the world of finance.

Commenting on the award, the Reverend Jesse L. Jackson thanked Michael Bloomberg for his multi-mildollar gift BLOOMBERG terminals to the United Negro College Fund as well as the creation of the Bloomberg/API Index (BAPI) which has given much needed visibility to African American-owned or operated publicly traded companies. He said, "Michael Bloomberg is a man of great integr ity. His incredible and unique relationships with African American newspapers and urban radio stations, exemplify the message of our Wall Street Project; that 'inclusion is the key to economic growth."

Michael Bloomberg commenting on the award said, "The Bloomberg agreements mean greater coverage of the stock market, African Americans in the business community as well as investment advice on a weekly and daily basis. There is great wealth in the African American consumer market and we are glad to help make a difference in this underserved financial market."

"Michael Bloomberg is a man of great integrity."

Bloomberg Financial Markets, founded in 1981, is a global multi-media based distributor of information services, combining news, data and analysis for financial markets and businesses.

Bloomberg News

Anthony Grant Named President of PAABG

Anthony T. Grant, the newly named president of the Professional African-American Banking Group NationsBank, will work closely with professional African-Americans to provide them with appropriate resources to manage and preserve wealth. The group will also create new products to meet the expanding borrowing needs of this

growing market.

PAABG is an expansion of the NationsBank Professional African-American Marketing Development Group, which was created in 1995. The expansion of the group to a line of business is unprecedented among financial institutions.

"Our mission is to be the bank of choice for African-Americans," Grant said. "By intensifying our focus, we will increase our ability to meet their needs and develop a strong financial partnership with the African-American community."

Grant, a 16-year banking executive, is currently the NationsBank chairman of Asset Quality Review. He is responsible for providing executive management and the board of directors with an independent system for monitoring and evaluating loan portfolio quality and the effec-tiveness of the bank's credit management process.

A dedicated civic volunteer, Grant is a recipient of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity's 1998 National Achievement Award, presented to individuals who have demonstrated leadership in their chosen professions. For his service to the state of South Carolina, Grant received the Order of the Palmetto in 1994, the highest state honor a civilian can receive, and in 1995, he was investors and government appointed by South Carolina agencies in 46 states and in Governor David Beasley to major markets around the head the

Commission Relations.

NationsBank's regional president said, "Tony's extensive banking knowledge and credit expertise give him the ability to broaden and strengthen our commitment to this growing segment of the population. He has demonstrated outstanding civic and business leadership for the entire community and within the African-American community. He clearly understands the importance of building and cultivating customer relationships."

"For his service to the state of South Carolina, Grant received the Order of the Palmetto in 1994, the highest state bonor a civilian can receive."

NationsBank Corporation, with \$315 billion in total assets, is the third largest U.S. bank with full-service operations in 16 states and the District of Columbia. NationsBank provides financial products and services to more than 18 million households and one million businesses as well as institutional Governor's world. Bloomberg News



allows individual investors to open an account with the government. The system credits interest payments electronically and automatically reinvests maturing securities into new Treasuries on request. One benefit of the program is the avoidance of transaction costs and management fees associated with buying bonds through a broker or investing in a mutual fund. U.S. securities can be sold for a smaller fee than required by most brokers. In October, investors with Treasury Direct accounts will also be able to buy securities with a touch-tone phone.

"Bills and notes are most popular with individuals because they're seen as equivalent to cash."

Deregulation in finance and banking has led to looser control of the capital flow, with money market funds serving many of the roles that savings accounts played in the past. Still, Treasury bills and notes offer higher returns than most bank certificates of deposit. Treasuries maturing in six months yield 5.10 percent, compared with an average of 4.69 for six-month CDs. Those returns don't take into account the exemption to state and local taxes that all U.S. government debt carry. That can add up to a significant savings in high tax states.

Bills and notes are most popular with individuals and international investors because they're seen as equivalent to cash. They're favored by investors in times of turmoil because they get their principal back quickly and the securities are among the most easily traded.

Bloomberg News