

# NATIONAL BRIEFS



## BCC calls for boycott of Flowers

One of affirmative action's leading opponents in Georgia, Southeastern Legal Foundation, is being funded by a large food manufacturer. "Through extensive research, we have found some interesting facts about one of SLF's founding members and its largest contributor, Flowers Industries," said Lou Walker, president of the Georgia Black Chamber of Commerce, after he and state Rep. Billy McKinney uncovered the information. Flowers Industries Inc., in Thomasville, Ga., distributes baked, frozen and snack foods nationwide with several outlet stores around the metro Atlanta area. Flowers Bakery products include Roman Meal, Nature's Own, Sunbeam and Cobblestone Mill breads. "When you buy one of Mrs. Smith's delectable pies, you should know that you are supporting Flowers Industries," said Walker. "Flowers Industries also owns controlling interest in the Keebler cookie empire." Walker says that the attempt to abolish affirmative action is a serious problem for all business owners of color. "This is a re-enactment of the sixties," he said. "We must go back to the streets with the rallies and most importantly the marches and the picketing that made an impact."

## NBUF to hold annual convention

The National Black United Front will hold its annual national convention July 22-25 in Kansas City, Mo. under the theme of "Economic Liberation for the Black Nation." "Over the last 20 years, we have had a variety of convention themes addressing various critical issues impacting on the African community in America," said Conrad Worrill, national chairman of the NBUF. "However, we have never addressed, as a convention concentration, the question of economics and the Black Liberation Movement." "The question of finding economic solutions for African people in America and financing our independent black institutions and organizations remains a serious and critical challenge...as we enter the 21st century." There will be six workshops facilitated by economic industry insiders and numerous other convention activities. Call (708) 389-9929 or e-mail: nbufchi@allways.net.

## Hebrew Israelites win settlement against Giuliani

NEW YORK - The Hebrew Israelites religious group was recently awarded a \$54,000 settlement against New York Mayor Rudolph Giuliani's administration for violation of its First Amendment rights. New York Civil Liberties Union filed the suit on behalf of the Israelites. "We believe the city settled this case for this extraordinary amount of money in an effort to shield Mayor Giuliani from what undoubtedly would have been embarrassing revelations about the mayor's use of the Police Department to banish speech he found offensive," said Christopher Dunn, a NYCLU staff attorney. The Israelites, who have been preaching in Time Square for two decades, were issued a "no amplifiers allowed" decree in November 1998 by the New York Police Department. NYCLU represented the group in an initial court appearance. However, Giuliani quickly reversed the decision and reinstated the permit to assemble in Time Square. But, two weeks later the police revoked their permit again, saying they were under orders of the mayor. - New York Amsterdam News

## Howard University Hospital among top hospitals

WASHINGTON, D.C. - U.S. News & World Report's "10th Annual Guide to America's Best Hospitals" listed Howard University Hospital among its top 50 facilities in the areas of rheumatology and hormonal disorders. "We are extremely proud of the excellent medical services delivered in these two areas, which are reflective of the overall quality of care," said HU President H. Patrick Swygert. "Howard Hospital has delivered excellent health care since 1862, and in doing so has clearly distinguished itself as a pioneer in research, an innovator in the delivery of medical services, and a champion of community health care initiatives."

## INTERNATIONAL

### Study: Rural women most neglected

NEW YORK (IPS) - Rural women often have higher productivity than their male counterparts but still remain the most neglected in society, according to a U.N. report recently released. The 13-page study, titled "Improvement of the Situation of Women in Rural Areas," said that women make the most significant contributions to rural economies despite the fact they are mired in poverty and lack productive assets and resources. "By not counting the unpaid work of women on family farms, official figures have consistently undervalued the contribution of women to agricultural production," the study notes. "Women are among the poorest of the poor," said U.N. Secretary-General Kofi Annan at the recent annual meeting of the Economic and Social Council in Geneva. "They work long days, walk long distances to fetch water and must find time and energy for informal sector activities which are their only source of income. Their jobs are truly never done." - Thalif Deen

### World group proposes 13-month calendar

SAN JOSE, N.M. (IPS) - An international organization plans to request the Vatican and United Nations' support in promoting international use of the Mayan calendar, replacing the 12-month Gregorian calendar.

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### This Week In Black History...

**July 23, 1938** - Joe Louis defeats German boxer Max Schmeling to retain his world heavyweight title.  
**July 26, 1847** - Twenty-five years after the first African Americans arrive, the commonwealth of Liberia declares itself a free nation. Joseph Jenkins Roberts, a native of Virginia, becomes the country's first president.  
**July 28, 1903** - Maggie Lena Walker founds and becomes the first president of St. Luke Penny Savings Bank in Richmond, Va. She is the first woman bank president in the nation.

# Problems exist for working women

By MAGGIE JACKSON  
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

They often see themselves as excluded from circles of power and plum assignments, battling a "concrete" - not glass - ceiling to advancement. Black, Asian American and Hispanic women managers also say their companies don't do enough to help them advance or to combat racism in the workplace, according to a three-year study released today.

"There's a theme underlying the barriers that women of color face: a lack of access to influential others," said Sheila Wellington, president of Catalyst, a New York-based organization that released the report. "It's hard to bridge that gap."

Catalyst works to advance women in business. The report, "Women of Color in Corporate Management," is the third and final study by Catalyst into minority women's successes and difficulties in advancing in corporate America.

The study is based on surveys of 1,735 minority women, in-depth interviews with 300 women and a one-year study of 15 companies' diversity programs.

A first report from the study disclosed in 1997 that minority

# Supreme soccer



Photo by Michael Caulfield/The Associated Press  
 United States women's soccer team goalie Briana Scurry describes her game-winning block during the final game of the Women's World Cup to "Tonight Show" host Jay Leno during a taping of his show in Burbank, Calif., last week.

women make up 10 percent of the U.S. work force of 127 million, yet hold only 5 percent of the total 7.5 million management jobs.

They also earn 57 cents for every dollar earned by white male managers. Whites make up 86 percent of female managers, blacks just 7 percent, Hispanics 5 percent and Asian Americans 2.5 percent.

Further, most minority women managers are dissatisfied

with their chances for advancement, and nearly a quarter plan to leave their companies, according to a second Catalyst report, issued last year.

The final report, issued last week, explored some of the reasons why minority women managers believe they aren't making more progress in corporate top ranks.

Nearly half of the women surveyed by Catalyst cited the lack of an influential mentor, in

comparison to 29 percent of white women.

Forty percent of minority women said they lack informal opportunities to network with influential colleagues, while nearly a third said they lack high-visibility assignments. Only a third of the women surveyed said they had a mentor - partly because spontaneous mentoring usually occurs between similar people, and minority women

See Women on A4

# Baptist convention unstable?

Richardson: NBC faces financial challenge

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

ST. LOUIS - A pastor wanting to be president of the nation's largest black denomination says the organization is having trouble making ends meet.

The Rev. W. Franklyn Richardson, 50, of Mount Vernon, N.Y., is one of 12 pastors vying for the head position of the National Baptist Convention.

"We must first fix a flawed, out-of-step, imperialistic institution that leaves out the participation of the people of God," said Richardson.



Lyons

As many as 30 percent of former member churches of the convention have stopped paying dues and are dropped from membership rolls, he said.

The denomination will elect a new president in early September. Much of the blame for the church's problems falls on the Rev. Henry Lyons of St. Petersburg, Fla., Richardson said.

Last month Lyons was sentenced in federal court in Florida to four years, three months for lying, bank fraud and tax evasion. He also was ordered to pay \$5.2 million in restitution.

In a plea agreement March 17, Lyons pleaded guilty to five counts stemming from his business dealings as convention president. He admitted failing to pay taxes on \$1.3 million in income, defrauding a bank and making false statements to a financial institution and to federal housing officials.

See Lyons on A9

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