

BUSINESS FOCUS

Briefs

NCCU chancellor among first recipients of Harlem Week Award

DURHAM — N.C. Central University Chancellor James H. Ammons was recognized recently as a recipient of the "2002 Guardian of Our Legacy Award" given at the first annual Harlem Week National Black College Fair and Expo.



Ammons

Ammons was one of four leaders of historically black colleges and universities selected for the inaugural award.

"This was a hard choice because a lot of university leaders have done exceptional things for their institutions," said Winston Majette, Expo co-chair. "North Carolina Central University has jumped leaps and bounds under Dr. Ammons' leadership there. He was one of the logical choices."

Majette said the organization was aware of the local and national attention that NCCU has received since Ammons' arrival in June 2001. Additionally, several committee members were familiar with him not only as chancellor at NCCU, but also with his work while an administrator at Florida A&M University.

Ammons received the "2002 Guardian of Our Legacy Award" along with fellow honorees John Garland, president of Central State University; Dr. Algeania Freeman, president of Livingstone College; and Dr. Dorothy Crowder Yancy, president of Johnson C. Smith.

Family of Cisco's John Chambers gives \$1 million to Wake Forest

The family of John and Elaine Chambers has given Wake Forest University \$1 million to encourage student entrepreneurs at the university.

John Chambers is the president and chief executive officer of Cisco Systems, the worldwide leader in networking for the Internet. Chambers delivered the commencement address and received an honorary doctor of laws degree from Wake Forest in May 2000, the same year his daughter, Lindsay, graduated from the university with a bachelor of arts degree.

The family's gift was granted to the university through the Chambers Family Charitable Trust at the Fidelity Charitable Gift Fund. The donation will create the Chambers Family Endowment Fund for Entrepreneurship, which will be used to finance projects and courses at the university that support entrepreneurship using the Internet or electronic commerce.

Chicago council bill aims to disclose firms' slavery profits

Special to the NNPA — The Chicago City Council is considering legislation to make it the first U.S. city to require firms to disclose whether they profited from slavery in order to secure city contracts.

Under the "Slavery Era Insurance Disclosure" ordinance, businesses would have to provide an affidavit to the city to verify that they had searched their records for connections to slavery. Companies that fail to comply with the law could have their contracts voided; however, firms that truthfully disclose that they profited from slavery would not be penalized.

African-Americans across the country are suing companies with alleged financial ties to slavery. The firms include FleetBoston Financial Group, the Aetna Insurance Co., tobacco company R.J. Reynolds and railroad powerhouse CSX.

Earlier this year California passed a law requiring insurers doing business in the state to disclose if they had paid claims to slave owners when slaves died.

Peacemaker editor to be honored

The Secular Franciscan Order of the USA has selected Carolina Peacemaker editor Hal Sieber, 71, to receive its U.S. Peace Prize of St. Francis for 2002 for his lifetime of work on behalf of human rights, justice and peace. The Peacemaker is published in Greensboro.

Presentation will be made in Rochester, Minn., in late October, according to Min. Bill Wicks, SFO, of Santa Maria, Calif., American head of the contemplative order founded eight centuries ago by Francis Bernadone of Assisi, Italy.

Among the previous recipients of the national award for contributions as peacemakers have been Ralph Bunche, Mother Teresa and Martin Luther King Jr.

Coretta Scott King, widow of the 1963 recipient of the award said of Sieber, "A strong supporter of my husband, Martin Luther King Jr., Hal has continued to serve as an energetic and dedicated champion of non-violent movements to end poverty, racism and violence."

Freeman appointed to board

SALISBURY — U.S. Secretary of Education Dr. Roderick Paige appointed Livingstone College President Dr. Algeania W. Freeman to the Historically Black Colleges and Universities Capital Financing Advisory Board. The appointment will begin Oct. 1 and will end Sept. 30, 2005. The board advises the secretary and the designated bonding authority on colleges' and universities' financial needs, how to best implement approximately \$350 million of construction financing on campuses of HBCUs and the best means to address those needs through the program. The board also makes recommendations on how to improve program implementation and operation.



Freeman

BE names top black executives

SPECIAL TO THE CHRONICLE

NEW YORK — The October issue of Black Enterprise features the magazine's editors' picks for the top 50 African-Americans on Wall Street, which represents significant expansion from the 25 individuals featured on the 1992 and 1996 BE lists.



Raines

Wall Street has long been recognized as the capital of free-market America and the seat of global financial power. For African-Americans, "The Street" is also a powerful symbol of the continuing

struggle for full and equal access to economic power. Today, despite the intense pressures, high turnover rates, and brutal performance standards of the financial industry, African-Americans are continuing to move forward, shattering barriers to advancement and raising the bar of excellence.

The BE top 50 are investment bankers, traders, analysts, asset managers, or top executives with management experience over these areas. Two of the executives on this list, Fannie Mae's Franklin D. Raines and American Express' Kenneth I. Chenault, are CEOs



File Photo

American Express chief Kenneth I. Chenault tees off with Tiger Woods and Woods' father, Earl, at a news conference.

of multinational corporations with serious impact on markets. A third, E. Stanley O'Neal, will take over as CEO of Merrill Lynch in December, making him the first African-American to lead a major Wall Street firm.

Another 25 hold partner or managing-director level positions at some of the world's largest financial insti-

See BE on A10

Former player makes jump to agent

SPECIAL TO THE CHRONICLE



File Photo

Eugene Parker

While his players take the field every Sunday — making fleet-footed runs and earth-shattering hits — Eugene Parker has always preferred to stay out of the spotlight, letting his clients do the talking and the tackling.

But then Parker — who represents some of the top players in the game, like Emmitt Smith, Curtis Martin, Rod Woodson and Derrick Brooks — is not your typical sports agent.

After a basketball career that included four years starting at Purdue University, induction into the Indiana Basketball Hall of Fame and getting drafted by the San Antonio Spurs in 1978, Parker gave up sports to practice law near his hometown of Fort Wayne, Ind. His first "client" was also a friend from home and a Purdue basketball teammate, Roosevelt Barnes. As a favor, Parker helped Barnes negotiate his contract with the Detroit Lions when he was drafted in the 10th round after playing just one year of college football.

Fast-forward 20 years and Parker has built one of the top football player representation practices in the country, negotiating landmark contracts for Deion Sanders and Curtis Martin along the way. His Maximum Sports Management, now part of Assante Corp.'s sports management division, prides itself on maintaining an intimate, small-town feel. Parker says that keeping his business in suburban Fort Wayne — far from the bright lights of New

See Parker on 10

I.T. savvy alum to return to N.C. A&T

SPECIAL TO THE CHRONICLE

GREENSBORO — A&T alumnus Thomas A. Farrington, president and CEO of Farrington Associates Inc., will be the keynote speaker for N.C. Agricultural and Technical State University's annual Founders Day Program. The event will be held at 10 a.m. Oct. 10, in Harrison Auditorium.

Farrington is a widely recognized information technology (I.T.) entrepreneur and business executive. In 1969 he founded Input Output Computer Services (IOCS) and became a pioneer in I.T. services, participating in the evolution of the major industry.

Serving as the president and CEO of IOCS, Farrington grew his company to more than a 400-person organization.

The company received numerous achievement awards, including the National Minority Service Firm of the Year in 1985 and was also recognized as one of the nation's top 100 black-owned businesses for more than 12 consecutive years. In 1994 Farrington founded Farrington Associates Inc., a technology consulting firm.

In 2001, Farrington authored a book titled "Battling the Killer Within." The book is about his experiences and the experiences of other men in treatment with him as he faced prostate cancer. This book has been widely hailed as an important contribution to fostering education and awareness about this disease, especially for African-Americans and other men at high risk.

Farrington has been involved extensively in industry, civic and community activities. He currently serves on the board of directors of the Greater Boston Chamber of Commerce and the Massachusetts Technology Park Corp.

Farrington graduated from A&T in 1966 with a degree in electrical engineering. He continued his education at Northeastern University's Graduate School of Engineering in Boston, Mass.



Farrington

Banks work out plan to help William Brandon

SPECIAL TO THE CHRONICLE

Mayor Allen Joines announced Monday that actions have been taken that will allow William Brandon to reacquire an interest in the East Win-

ston Shopping Center. Due to a foreclosure on this property, the shopping center was purchased by a local investor group, which pledged to allow Brandon an opportunity to regain an ownership position.

In order for that to happen it was necessary to work with the bank consortium to obtain certain actions.

Joines and Brandon said the following banks made it possible for Brandon to have an interest in the shopping center: Bank of America, Wachovia, BB&T, Centura Bank, First Citizens Bank, Piedmont Sav-

ings & Loan, Lexington State Bank, and Mechanics & Farmers Bank.

Joines and Brandon acknowledged that the banks made a tremendous effort in 1994 to make loans that allowed Brandon to purchase the real estate and build Eastway Plaza Shopping Center in East Winston, thereby helping to support the economy of the area.

Representatives of the banks and the city came together to work with Brandon, other local business owners and members of the community for about two years before the loan finally came to fruition.

When financial and other problems arose two years ago, the banks, led by Bank of America, worked with Brandon, the city and many concerned members of the community to attempt to keep the shopping center open because of its positive influence on employment and the economy in East Winston.

In a statement, the mayor and Brandon praised the banks for their previous actions and for their recent cooperative efforts to support Brandon's continued involvement with Eastway Plaza Shopping Center.



Brandon



Supermodel Iman models a Fashion Targets Breast Cancer T-shirt as part of her duties as spokeswoman for the breast cancer awareness program. The T-shirts were on sale at Saks Fifth Avenue stores, and all proceeds from shirt sales over the Sept. 20 weekend went to breast cancer support programs all over the nation. Ralph Lauren designed the shirt.