

Southern Bell Creates New Scholarship For Minorities

Citing a commitment to education and respect for individual achievement, a top Southern Bell executive recently announced a college scholarship program for women and minorities in North Carolina.

Joseph P. Lacher, vice president for North Carolina operations, said the company will award five Southern Bell Math and Science Scholarships this year to students interested in pursuing degrees and careers in technical fields.

The scholarships are for \$2,000 annually and are renewable. Recipients will also have the opportunity for summer internships or co-op employment with Southern Bell.

"Southern Bell has a long history of supporting education in general and education for women and minorities in particular," Lacher said. "These scholarships reaffirm that commitment. They are the first in the four-state Southern Bell area to be offered to bachelor's degree candidates."

The scholarships have been established in cooperation with five North Carolina universities: the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, North Carolina State University, the University of North Carolina at Charlotte, North Carolina A&T University and Appalachian State University. Faculty members at the institutions will select the scholarship recipients based on their knowledge of the students and Southern Bell's guidelines.

Students competing for the awards must be enrolled in a degree program in math, computer science or engineering and must be rising juniors when they initially receive the award. They must have a B average or be in the top half of their class and must demonstrate leadership on campus.



Chambers

"One of our company values is the pursuit of excellence," Lacher said. "The students who receive these scholarships have demonstrated by their behavior in the classroom and in the campus community that they subscribe to that value."

"Of course, we do have another reason for creating this scholarship," he said. "A better educated work force benefits this state's economy in general and Southern Bell will benefit from increased support for math and science."

Lacher said the inaugural winners of the scholarships are: --

Celeste D. Chambers, a civil engineering major at UNCC from Charlotte;

-- Andrea Virginia Duvall, a mathematics major at Chapel Hill from Greensboro;

-- Patricia Ann McClay, a computer science and physics major at ASU from Lenoir;

-- Kimberly Ann Thompson, an industrial engineering major at NCSU from Raleigh; and

-- Kiletti Littrice Walker, an electrical engineering major at NC A&T from Decatur, Ga.

Lacher said Southern Bell will invest \$10,000 in the scholarship program this year. He said

the amount will increase to \$20,000 beginning next year as the number of recipients doubles.

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Black Student Orientation At UNCC

Charlotte, NC - UNC Charlotte will offer a three-part review course on consecutive Saturdays, September 10, 17 and 24 for high school students planning to take the Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT).

The course, "Preparing for the SAT," offers practice in and analysis of the verbal and mathematical portions of the SAT under the direction of Thom Clark, UNCC education professor, and Kay Tawney of Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools. Each session is scheduled for 8:30 a.m. - 4 p.m. in the university's Friday Building. Cost is \$80, which includes all materials. Enrollment is limited.

The three-part series will also be offered October 15, 22 and 29, 1988 and February 18, 25 and March 4, 1989. For more information, call the UNC Charlotte Office of Continuing Education and Extension at 704-547-4447 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays.

SAT Prep Course

Charlotte - Thirty-nine students have completed UNC Charlotte's University Transition Opportunities Program (UTOP) designed to help black students make the transition from high school to college.

The program, in its third year and funded by the Z. Smith Reynolds Foundation, allows students scheduled to enter UNC Charlotte as freshmen in the fall the chance to earn seven hours of college credit over the preceding summer. The students live on campus, attend daily classes and study sessions, and receive academic and personal assistance. UTOP is directed by Dr. Herman Thomas of the university's religious studies department.

This year's UTOP participants from Charlotte are: Sherri Cantey, Wanda Chandler, Agnes Johnson, Robert Nelson, Felicia Palmer, George Rhynes, Marsha Tate, Sheronda Watkins, Kenneth Wiley and Brenda Williams.

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