

Business Groups Sponsor Annual Awards Program

The North Carolina Association of Minority Businesses, Inc., eighth annual conference will be held July 26-27 at the Durham Hilton Inn. The highlight of the conference will be the RJR Awards Luncheon address by the Hon. L. Douglas Wilder, lieutenant governor of the Commonwealth of Virginia.

Lt. Gov. Wilder is the highest ranking black elected official in the United States and is currently involved in a campaign to become governor of Virginia. During the luncheon, individuals honored for their contributions to minority economic development in North Carolina.

Julian Brown, executive director of NCAMB, said "As we prepare to exit the '80s and enter a new decade, we perceive total inclusion in the economic picture to be the priority agenda item for the N. C. minority business community." Thus, the theme for the 1989 NCAMB eighth annual conference, and the thrust for the 1990s, is "The NCAMB Challenge: Inclusion in the '90s."

The conference workshops on information and data to prepare business owners for operating successfully in the 1990s. Specific workshops will discuss the impact new technology will have on business development, the importance of the 1990 Census, and how to use Census data to improve and expand your business. Workshops on making effective sales presentation and developing business plans will also be offered. Resource persons will be available to provide assistance and guidance in solving some of the problems confronting minority business owners.

Eric N. Nelson, purchasing and transportation general manager for AT&T Technologies Technology Systems Group, will be the luncheon speaker Thursday. He is responsible for the supervision of purchasing and transportation functions at AT&T manufacturing facilities, Bell Lab and all international locations. He is the principal architect of AT&T New Vendor Partnership Purchasing Strategy and the Vendor Quality Program. Nelson's office is located at the AT&T Guilford Center near Greensboro.

The Tobacco Institute challenged



COMPUTER CAMP—Students attending Shaw University's 1989 computer camp: (l. - r. front row) George Hawkins, Mario Bailey; (second row) Cureton Johnson, William Chamberlain, Ronald Cornwall, Kenneth Barnes;

(third row) Melvin Clayton, Egochukwu Emekauwa, Arminta Cornwall, (fourth row) Tracy Sanders, Larry Barnes, Do Yeong Shin; (fifth row) Scott Mitchell and William Spann (instructors).

Blacks Cite Loan Discrimination Applying For Homes, Real Estate

MILWAUKEE, Wis. (AP)—Being black and having an inner-city address talk louder than substantial assets and excellent credit ratings when it comes to getting a home loan, blacks told a city committee recently.

Residents testified recently at a public hearing of the Fair Lending Action Committee, formed in April by Mayor John O. Norquist and Gov. Tommy G. Thompson to investigate the large disparity in rejection rates between black and white loan applicants in Milwaukee.

The committee, composed of minority and business leaders, was created after a newspaper reported in January that Milwaukee blacks are rejected nearly four times as often as whites when applying for home loans at savings and loans, the greatest disparity among the nation's 50 largest cities.

Appearing before 18 committee members and about 80 audience members, blacks told the stories behind the statistics. George Drinkwater said he tried to get a loan to buy the house he now rents from his landlord, who had offered to sell it for \$14,500. Drinkwater's monthly rent is \$140, while the monthly mortgage payments would have been \$203. Drinkwater said the lending institution denied the loan, saying it could not make any money off loans less than \$25,000.

Jocelyn M. Lee and her husband own a home that was appraised in April 1987 at \$20,800, she said. They have since spent \$21,000 in home improvements.

"I want to reinvest in the home that I've got," she said. "I'm committed to the city."

But when the couple had the home

appraised again in their attempt to seek a loan for more improvements, the home was valued at \$20,000 by an appraiser. As a result, the couple, who together earn more than \$50,000 a year, were denied the \$22,000 loan, Lee said.

"I figured it would never happen to me," said Lee, who worked for eight years at the savings and loan that denied the loan.

The couple had the house appraised by another institution, which put its value at \$30,000. The home improvement loan was approved.

"I'm not shocked; I'm not surprised; I'm saddened," said Verda Sayles, a committee member who represents the Milwaukee Realtist Association, a group of black real estate agents.

The committee's co-chairman, David Balcer of First Financial Bank, said the committee expected to submit to Norquist and Thompson by mid-August a preliminary draft of recommendations on how to rectify the problems.

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GENELL SANDERS HUNTER

Sanders, Hunter Repeat Vows In Church Wedding

Ms. Genell Sanders and Thomas Eugene Hunter spoke their vows of marriage in a 3 p.m. ceremony on Saturday afternoon at New Trinity Missionary Baptist Church, Clayton.

The Rev. Luther Coppedge officiated at the exchange of vows. A program of wedding music was provided by Mr. and Mrs. Luther Cherry.

The bride is the daughter of Leon Sanders of Raleigh and the late Ms. Ella Mae Bryant. The bridegroom is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Willie Hunter, Jr. of Clayton.

Given in marriage by her father, the bride wore a white satin gown with a sweetheart neckline, scalloped with reibrodered Alencon lace. Lace motifs with accenting pearls trimmed the short puffed sleeves. The Basque waistline outlined in reibrodered lace and pearls extended into the flowing cathedral train.

Ms. Freda G. Cole of Raleigh served as maid of honor. Bridesmaids were Sharon K. Eberhardt of Greensboro. Hilda Hunter of Raleigh,

Renee Sanders of Hampton, Va., and Gail Westry, Anaheim, Calif. Ms. Nikki McNeill served as flower girl.

Jimmy Hunter served as best man. Ushers were James Barrett, Raleigh; Michael Hunter, Raleigh; Kevin Lucas, Raleigh; and Leslie Williams, Raleigh.

The new Mrs. Hunter graduated from Winston-Salem State University and North Carolina Central University. She is a teacher in the Wake County School System.

A graduate of Hardbarger Junior College, Hunter is a software production analyst with Northern Telecom-Research Triangle Park.

Final parties included a reception at Raleigh Nights following the ceremony; a rehearsal dinner in the church fellowship hall on Friday evening; a bridesmaids' brunch at the home of Mr. and Mrs. George Newkirk, and a "bon voyage" luncheon at the Tarboro Road Community Center on Sunday afternoon.

Following a wedding trip to Nassau, Bahamas, the newlyweds will live in Raleigh.

Doubts Deepening Over Lucas As Rights Chief

WASHINGTON, D.C. (AP)—William C. Lucas, the Bush administration's embattled nominee for chief civil rights enforcer, came up with a novel reply last week when senators asked him his views on recent Supreme Court rulings.

"I'm new to the law," said the 61-year-old former Wayne County, Mich., sheriff, drawing a gasp from onlookers and sending the nomination deeper into doubt.

Within a day, Rep. John Conyers, D-Mich., withdrew his support, and two senators who had been leaning toward Lucas turned noticeably cool.

Lucas' performance at his confirmation hearing provided new ammunition for civil rights groups who claim he lacks the experience to head the 151-lawyer civil rights division of the Justice Department.

It also dampened prospects for confirmation if the Lucas candidacy reaches the Senate floor, perhaps after lawmakers return from their August recess.

Thus far Republicans are scoffing at any talk of withdrawing the nomination, and civil rights forces are preparing for a showdown in the Senate Judiciary Committee, perhaps as early as Thursday.

"This is the most important civil rights vote that senators will have this year," said William Taylor of the Citizens Commission on Civil Rights.

President Bush would suffer a painful embarrassment if the Senate rejected Lucas, a black and former Democrat who in 1986 switched parties to run an unsuccessful race for governor of Michigan as a Republican.

Republicans expect to move the nomination out of the Judiciary Committee, where it has been marooned for months. Republicans, outnumbered 9-6 on the committee, may need to capture two of perhaps three wavering votes if they are to win a favorable recommendation from the panel for Lucas.

If the committee balks at giving a favorable recommendation, there are other routes to the Senate floor, but the nomination would arrive there under a cloud. And Lucas critics say they have a stronger backing on the floor than in the committee.

"The nomination is in trouble," says Ralph Neas, executive director of the Leadership Council on Civil Rights.

"We have a week to work," said Patrick McGuigan of the conser-

vative Free Congress Foundation as Lucas supporters sought to bring pressure on senators believed to be wavering. By most accounts they were senators Dennis DeConcini, D-Ariz.; Howell Heflin, D-Ala.; and Arlen Specter, R-Pa.

"He needs to get two of them and if he loses two then he is still in trouble," said Sen. Paul Simon, D-Ill. Simon said that after the confirmation hearing he was inclined to oppose the nominee because of lukewarm testimony on civil rights issues.

Judiciary Committee Chairman Joseph Biden, D-Del., expressed the same sentiments, saying he was disappointed that Lucas had not demonstrated more enthusiasm for the civil rights cause.

DeConcini said Lucas could have helped his own cause if he had "coughed it a little better" when he backed the Bush administration's position that there is no reason to be upset over recent court rulings on job discrimination, minority set-asides and other civil rights concerns.

But he said it was unreasonable to expect the nominee to attack the president and his prospective boss, Attorney General Dick Thornburgh. DeConcini did stop just short of expressing full support.

Civil rights groups complained that Lucas had never taken part in a trial, filed a brief or handled an appeal. "It's like me having a medical degree but never practicing medicine and being named to head a team of brain surgeons," said Elaine Jones of the NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund.

Lucas supporters scoff at such complaints and predict they will prevail. "I think there are enough Democrats who realize this is a very fine man who has a good reputation who has done a good job in every job he has held and who deserves this responsibility," said Sen. Orrin Hatch, R-Utah.

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