

# Minority Opportunity News

Established 1991

"The Paper of Choice"

Volume 8, Number 24

## NATIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

### Minister Louis Farrakhan hosts Jewish delegation

Recently, Minister Louis Farrakhan, head of the Nation of Islam met with a high-level delegation of rabbis from New York. The spokesman of the group, Rabbi David Weiss, said the meeting was held to, "clarify what is a Jew and what our position is to all the nations of the world and specifically what our position is to the Nation of Islam and the Honorable Minister Farrakhan."

Reportedly, some Jews regret that many members of that fair have attacked Min. Farrakhan's name, Rabbi Weiss said the voice of Zionism. "The issue is the mistake in the notion that Judaism and Zionism are synonymous", said Rabbi Chair Fryman.

### HUD files housing discrimination charge Against New York landlords

The federal department of Housing & Urban Development (HUD) has filed a housing discrimination charge against two New York landlords accused of evicting Ann O'Dea, a white grandmother. The elderly lady had planned to share care for her three-year-old biracial grandson. The eviction is believed to have come as a reaction to that family decision.

According to HUD Secretary, Andrew Cuomo, eyewitness testimony and evidence presented, prompted the charges filed against Laura and Augustino Craveiro, who are also white. The suit's legal basis is the federal Fair Housing Act.

The Craveiros have denied the allegations. Mrs. Craveiro told investigators that she initiated the eviction based on O'Dea's failure to pay rent. However after O'Dea was told to move out, a stop payment was made on her first rental check. If the case goes to trial, up to \$44,000 or more could be awarded as damages.

Dallas to host National Conference of Black Mayors Plans are well underway for Dallas to host the April 2000 meeting of the National Conference of Black Mayors. Recently Mayor Ron Kirk welcomed a delegation of colleagues to Dallas. Pictured here (left to right) are: Waxahachie Mayor, Chuck Beatty; Ames Mayor and president of the Texas Conference of Black Mayors, John White; the conference's executive director, Ms. Michelle Kourouma; and Dallas Mayor Ron Kirk.



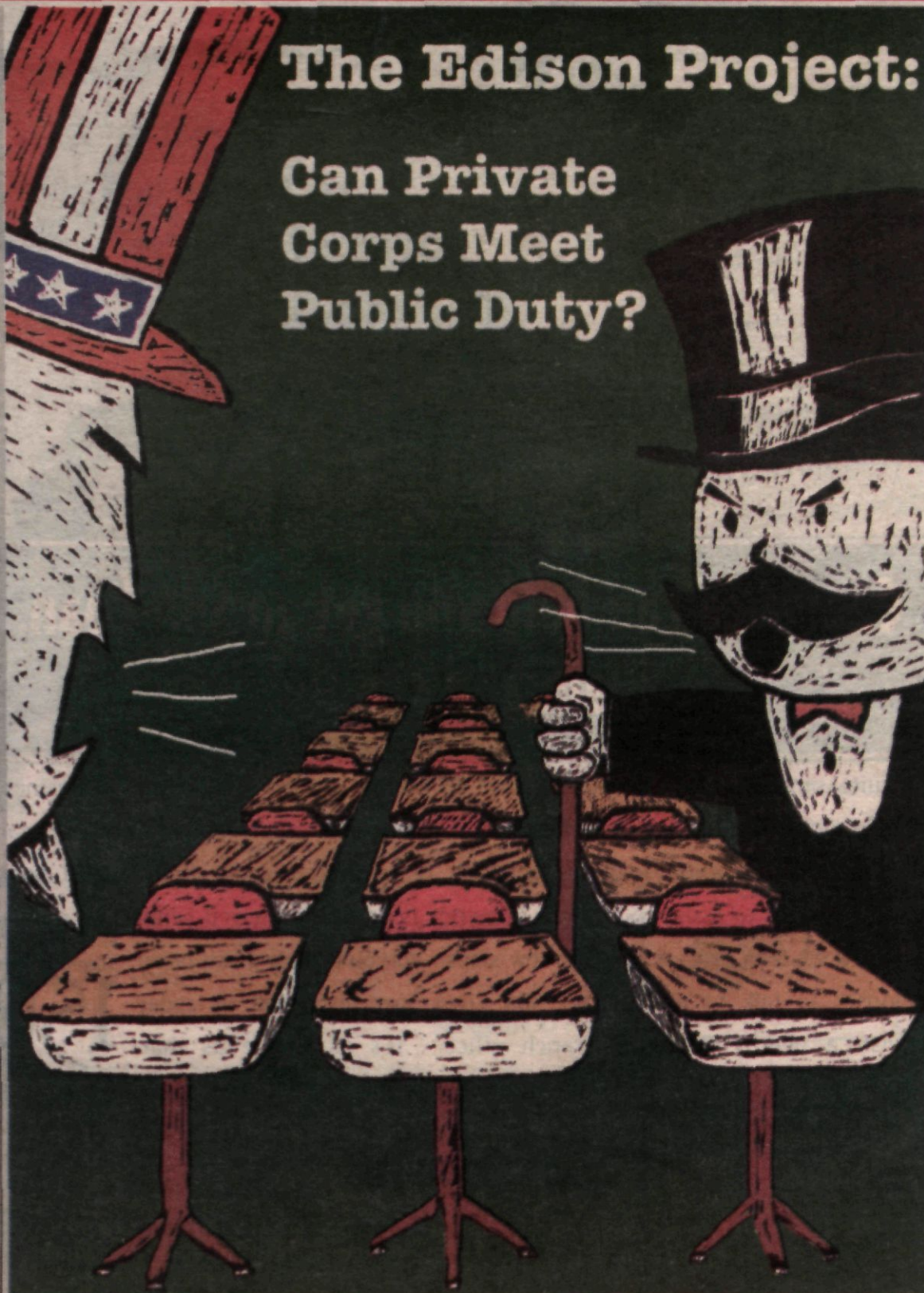
Dallas Black MBAs lead western region

John Dudley E-schemes and E-scams



## The Edison Project:

### Can Private Corps Meet Public Duty?



## MILLENNIUM COUNTDOWN

DEC 15-31

- 16 1834 George Ruffin is born in Richmond, Virginia. Later, he becomes the first African-American to earn a law degree from Harvard University.
- 18 1971 Rev. Jesse Jackson announces the formation of Operation PUSH, a new political and economic development organization. In resigning from SCLC's Operation Breadbasket, Jackson said, "the problems of the 1970's are economic so the solution and goal must be economic".
- 23 1867 Sarah Breedlove was born in Delta, Louisiana. Later she became known as Madame C. J. Walker, the first female African-American millionaire.
- 24 1936 The Count Basie Orchestra debuts at the Roseland Ballroom in New York.

### Spotlight: Dec. 19, 1875

#### Birth of Historian Carter G. Woodson

On this date, the man who would come to be known as the "Father of Black History" was born in Canton, Virginia.

Working as a coal miner to finance his education, he earned his Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Chicago. In 1908 he began studies in Asia and in Europe, including a year at the world-renowned Sorbonne in Paris. In 1912, he received a doctorate from Harvard University. His dissertation was the history and historical roles of black people.

Later, he published many of his findings in the *Journal of Negro History*, the *Negro History Bulletin* and in several books. His most popular book was *The Mis-Education of the Negro*. In 1926, Woodson's organization, the Association for the Study of Negro Life and History, established National Negro History Week, which later evolved into today's February observance of Black History Month.

Dr. Carter G. Woodson, 1872-1950



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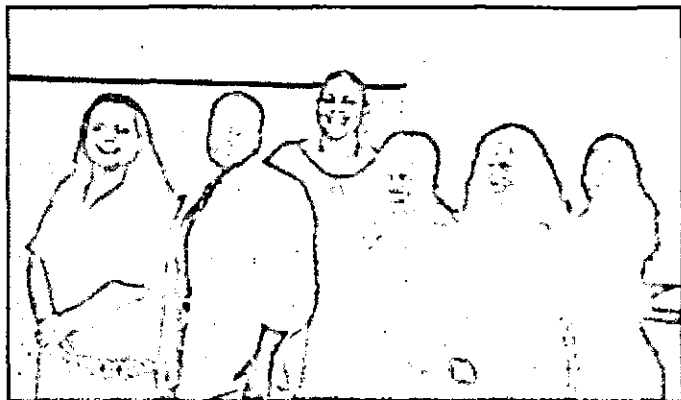


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## Next Edition Features

### 40 Dallas women get a new career in the New Year



Professional Development class members appear with their trainer, Ms. Cheryl Taylor (center). (L-R) The students are Angelina Perez, Melody Thomas, Cheryl Taylor (Trainer), Gwindale Boson, Virginia Rodriguez and Paulette Smith

Some 40 Dallas area women will have a New Year and a new career, thanks to a program jointly funded by the Texas Workforce Commission Board and the Dallas County Work Source Board. In our first 2000 edition, investigative reporter Jamila Thomas shares the remarkable success stories of these single mothers, determined to live free from welfare. This is the same program that HUD has also honored with its "Best Practice" Award.



Dr. David Satcher,  
U.S. Surgeon General

### Next Edition Wellness Feature:

### U.S. Surgeon General steps up HIV/AIDS action

New data from the Centers for Disease Control report that African-American adults and adolescents accounted for 46% of all AIDS cases reported from July 1998 to June of this year. For Black men aged 25-44, HIV is the number one cause of death.

In MON's next edition, Wellness takes a look at the Surgeon General's strategy to halt the spread of HIV/AIDS.

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*"I'm a man... just following my dreams and taking advantage of opportunities that come my way"*

Shaquille O'Neal

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## Privatization of public education finds its way into Dallas schools

Of all the obligations of government, the right to a decent education stands shoulder to shoulder with voting rights. For it is most often through education that opportunities are discovered and pursued.

When it comes to Dallas public schools, the quality of education is a nagging issue. Unlike many urban locales, Dallas still offers a significant tax base to fund public education. But as the complexion of Dallas schools has changed to predominantly children of color, it appears that measurable student performance is far from

competitive. School board members and superintendents have come and gone. But the children of color are still there - waiting and hoping for a chance at the American dream.

The Dallas School Board is to be commended for trying to put its money to good use. Education salaries are woefully below par. The base salary for a Dallas teacher is \$33,000, with a cap of \$54,821 -- Not a lot in today's economy.

So when it was time to hire a superintendent, the board tried to remove the compensation issue as a factor. Supt. Waldemar Rojas cannot complain that he, nor his top aides, are underpaid.

In an effort to measurably improve student performance, the superintendent presented the Edison Project. While the school board agreed to a scaled-down version of the plan, a basic question has yet to be answered:

What happens to a very basic public obligation when for-profit entities are no longer interested?

As a corporation, the Edison Project is entitled to earn profits. But what is to happen to our children's futures if profits are not there, or if profits are inadequate to retain Edison's interest?

True, only a few of Dallas' schools will be affected; but should not every child count and have a chance? If the Edison plan does improve performance in selected elementary schools, what about the rest of Dallas' elementary students? What is the plan for

them?

Beyond the students, what is to become of the teachers now assigned at schools that will benefit from the Edison plan? Will Dallas' teachers become Edison employees? Or will they be transferred? And what will happen to their pensions and benefits? Don't these working men and women deserve to know what their futures with the Dallas public schools will bring in the New Year?

This kind of practical and reasonable information has not yet been shared. Public schools belong to the people. And the people have a right to know. That fact should not be lost on the superintendent or the school board.

Minority Opportunity News hopes that these and other relevant matters can soon be shared openly and honestly by those who have accepted leadership roles in educating our children.

## On ringing in a new century

As 1999 draws to a close, the nation and the world will soon witness the dawning of not just a New Year, but a new century. This generation is blessed to witness an event that happens only once in a thousand years.

And when we consider what has happened in just the last 100 years, there is much from our recent history that at such moments we are obliged to recall. As African-Americans, there is a particular pride in sharing just a few of the milestone moments that contributed to an entire people's progress.

At the dawn of the 20th century, the innumerable consequences of key Supreme Court decisions, such as *Plessy v. Ferguson* gave a green light to Jim Crow laws. Whatever Reconstruction had accomplished for the descendants of former slaves, the era of Jim Crow, the Ku Klux Klan and White Citizens Councils collectively sought to return to the 'good old days'.

It was the courage and sacrifice of those who simply refused to accept injustice that forged and sustained social, educational and political upheavals by the mid 20th century. Unfortunately, many of the remarkable men and women who took those proud and progressive steps towards freedom are seldom remembered. As a publication, Minority Opportunity News takes pride in its ongoing efforts to recall those that many historians would otherwise ignore.

As much as we rightfully revere Mrs. Rosa Parks, as a people we also owe a debt of gratitude to the black gentleman who bailed her out of jail and encouraged a talented young minister, new to Montgomery, Alabama, to lead the Montgomery Improvement Association. E. D. Nixon, a local NAACP official and Pullman Car porter understood the historical crossroads Montgomery and black Americans faced in 1954.

When we celebrate the legacy of the late Dr. Martin Luther King, it would be wise to remember those who welcomed him to their cities and their homes at tremendous personal risk. Rev. Fred Shuttlesworth was one such minister. For all the accounts of what happened in Birmingham, Alabama's Kelly Ingram Park when water hoses and police dogs attacked school children, Rev. Shuttlesworth made sacrifices to freedom's quest that many times are ignored.

When Thurgood Marshall left Clarendon County, South Carolina, it was a largely

unknown Rev. Joseph DeLaine that took more than a year to gather the necessary signatures to support a legal challenge to segregated education. As a result, Rev. DeLaine not only lost his job, but his family's home when arsonists burned them out.

The sum of these and other civil rights efforts hold lessons for those who are open to learning: The things that lead to major change are often begun by ordinary people who simply hear their conscience and in response do extraordinary things.

When Mrs. Parks refused to give up her seat on a bus, she was alone. When Muhammad Ali refused to fight in a war that he felt was immoral and as a result was stripped of his world heavyweight title, he certainly must have known a lonely struggle. For all the 'first' designations that countless

African-Americans have achieved, there was a lonely and personal price for opening doors of opportunities that others could enter.

And as we face the 21st century, we are obliged to build upon that progress. For all the athletic prowess demonstrated in game after game, African-Americans do not own professional sports teams. Despite our winning records and smiles, our professional athletic careers seldom move from the field or the court to the front office.

As talented and commercial as our music is, few of us control the publishing rights to the music we create. Fewer still control distribution of recorded music. And the truth is, who ever controls distribution, also controls profitable revenues.

In locales throughout America, we have elected officials serving in federal, state and local government. But running successful elections cost dear dollars, usually short in our own communities. Many are the African-American officeholders who has upon occasion felt obligated on policy as a result of major campaign donations.

From one industry to the next and from one city to another, there remains much work yet to be accomplished. As a nation or a people we can and must pursue our own American dreams.

Minority Opportunity News wishes its readers a happy holiday season. Once the obligatory celebrations are over, let us all resolve in the next millennium to forge freedom in all of its dimensions.



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**Thomas Muhammad**

For many years African American owned businesses in North Texas cried out for an outlet that would provide a creative opportunity for their products to reach area African American consumers. A number of institutions tried on numerous occasions to answer that call.

The issue was so hot that African-American formatted radio station personalities hosted hundreds of radio talk shows on the subject. Black newspapers following the their leads, wrote endless articles on the topic. Sensing that something of major importance was in the air, local television stations too tried to answer the call by hosting taped and live audience participation on the subject. Black business groups held countless community workshops highlighting the importance of doing business with Black owned companies.

All these events coming day after day, week after week even year after year created an atmosphere that turned out to be just ripe for KwanzaaFest. Having been a guest speaker on countless formats and then hearing these same complaints as he took to the air to host his nationally popular radio talk

show aired on KKDA- (730) AM, Dallas County Commissioner John Wiley Price decided that he too had to try and answer the call.

He did. And the answer turned out to be probably the best idea that anyone had thought of yet.

Nearly ten years ago Commissioner Price's vision came to fruition with the creation of the idea of KwanzaaFest. Thanks to the very capable organizing skills of his then Administrative Assistant Cheryl Smith who, with help from the Warriors and the New Black Panther Party, KwanzaaFest became a household name to many area existing and up starting businesses. Smith, an award winning journalist with a strong Afro-centric conscious, worked with the Commissioner to create an idea based on the seven principles of Kwanzaa and to create an opportunity for Black owned businesses to showcase their wares. For the two of them, this criteria was the only way they could do it, because they both held a strong belief in doing business with African American owned companies.

As Commissioner Price would ask each night on "Talk Back" his radio show "Did you shop with an African American business

today? Well, if you didn't, then who in the hell do you think did?" Of course the Commissioner had been a believer in this position long before his nightly statement became fashionable. In fact he's lived it all his professional life.

First held in Lincoln High School, KwanzaaFest drew an unprecedented number of Black owned vendors, to ever have assembled under one roof. Everywhere people looked they saw colorful booths full of products to fill the needs of every member of the family. The smiles of the vendors seemed to light up the entire place with pride as they set up their booths displaying their wares. Initially only the gymnasium was to be used for the event. However, because the demand was so great, all hallways and classrooms were filled with booth tables. Vendors who had not signed up in advance for booth space came in to rent booth space right on the spot. Probably the only place not occupied that day was the office of the late great principal Dr. Napoleon Lewis. And no, no one had the nerve to even attempt to ask! Smile.

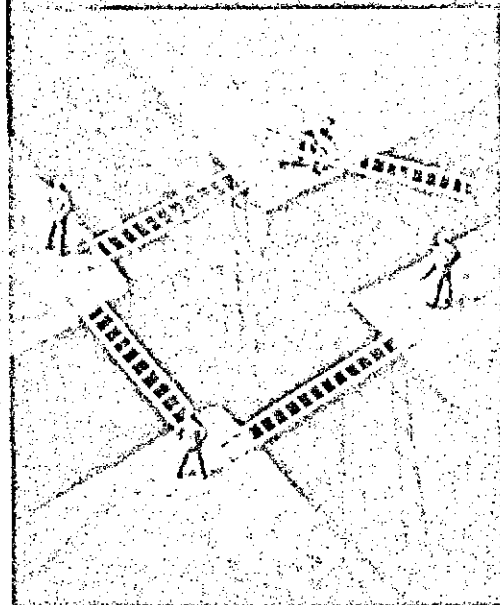
However, there was one huge problem



BET's Tavis Smiley appeared at Kwanzaafest during that first and second year that KwanzaaFest was held at Lincoln High: It was too crowded. There were so many vendor booths, that there was hardly any room

...continued on page 7

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## Reports cite black and brown families lack opportunity to build assets

By Charlene M. Crowell

Despite America's record economic expansion, black and Hispanic families have yet to equitably share in opportunities to develop wealth. That finding and others were recently reported by the U.S. Census Bureau in a publication entitled "Household Income at Record High".

From 1997 to 1998, a year of overall economic boom, black median income did not rise; but rather remained at \$25,351. Hispanic median income, for the same year, increased 4.8% to \$28,330; but still represented only 58% of white median income. The percentage of black or Hispanic households with zero or negative net worth, i.e. greater debt than assets, is twice as high as that found for white households. Despite this economic lag, the Census study also reported that poverty rates have fallen among African-Americans and Hispanics.

In short, the wealth gap between America's two largest minority populations remains huge.

Access to home ownership, was also found to economically restrict blacks and browns. Their rate of homeownership is two-thirds that of white households. Employment, lending and other discrimination were also cited as contributing factors.

In another published study, *Shifting Fortunes* co-authored by Chuck Collins, Holly Sklar and Betsy Leondar-Wright for New York University, household income was tracked for 1995, the latest year for which the researchers had complete data. For that year, the top one percent of households owned 40% of the nation's wealth, twice the share they had in the mid 1970's.

By contrast, most households now had lower net worth, adjusting for inflation, than they did in 1983. Among minority groups, the figures were worse:

- The median black household had a net worth of \$7,400 in 1995 – only 12% of the \$61,000 in median wealth for whites.
- The median Hispanic household had a net worth of only \$5,000 in 1995 – just 8% of that for whites.
- 31% of black and 38% of Latino households had zero or negative net worth, compared to 15% for whites.
- Homeownership rates tallied 47% for blacks, 44% for Latinos, and 69% for whites.

According to Collins, who is also co-director of the organization known as United for a Fair Economy, "To have a sense of economic security, families need savings to fall back on during hard times and investments for retirement. The gains from the economic boom of the 1990s have gone disproportionately to wealthy white male asset-holders, leaving most black and Hispanic families economically insecure."

Collins' organization advocates several steps to address America's racial wealth gap. Reversing the erosion of the minimum wage and expansion of the Earned Income Tax Credit are two recommended steps. The organization also is calling for full enforcement of anti-discrimination policies, and authorization of Individual Development Accounts (IDAs). IDAs would allow low and moderate-income households to have their savings matched by public or private funds. A small wealth tax and increasing capital gains taxes to the same rate as taxes on wages could help pay for a program like an IDA.

United for a Fair Economy is a Boston-based national organization that spotlights increased economic inequality and offers proposals for shared prosperity. Copies of the full report *Shifting Fortunes* are available by telephoning 617-423-2148.

## Texas job training program receives national honor

By Jamila H. Thomas

Texas' efforts to reform and equip former youthful offenders with employable skills have now led to a national honor. The National Youth Employment Coalition chose the Reintegration of Offenders program, also known as Project RIO, as one of the most promising and effective job training programs in the nation.

The honor marks the first time in the four-years of the award that a program run by a state agency has been feted. As a result of the award, Project RIO will now join 51 other programs in the coalition's national network. The selected programs serve as models of what works and should be replicated by other states.

The program functions as a partnership between the Texas Youth Commission and Texas Workforce Commission. The success of the partnership aided the Lone Star State's program to emerge as one of eight selected from a national field of 33 competing programs. According to coalition officials, "The ties to current workforce development systems are noteworthy and could serve as an example to others. Project RIO Youth appears to have good ties to employers."

There is more than just an appearance of employers, according to Project RIO officials. "Of the nearly 600 young men and women Project RIO Youth served so far this year," said TWC Chair Diane Rath, "59 percent have found jobs. That's particularly striking" continued Rath, "given that these offenders are so young and that no other form of intervention has worked for them. Studies show that adult offenders who find work are three times less likely to offend again. We think that's true for juveniles,

too."

A particularly attractive incentive for employers to utilize the program is the accompanying tax breaks for hiring Project RIO clients. To date, more than 20,000 Texas businesses in industries such as service, manufacturing and construction have used the program.

"Employers have been extremely receptive to hiring workers in Project RIO," Rath said. "They're very willing to give these young people another chance."

The Texas Workforce Commission and the Texas Youth Commission target youthful offenders aged 16-21. Participants receive vocational assessment, workforce development training, counseling and work while still serving their sentences with the Youth Commission. The offenders are notified about this program before they are released.

TYC Director of Communications, Larry Jones stated, "When they are at TYC at each facility they have a workforce development counselor that talks to them about Project RIO. That is the first time they hear about the program," and before they are released it clear "that this is not an optional program it is a part of their parole. If by any chance someone did not know their parole officer would certainly" inform them," said Jones.

Following release, the state's local workforce development boards assist them in finding work, training and education in their home community. The objective of this program is to "create a long-term job", said Jones. "This program ensures them that their life has not come to a dead end."



### Langston University Langston, Oklahoma

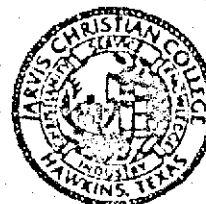


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for buyers and sightseers to get up and down the aisles. It was a maintenance personnel's nightmare because they could not get to booths and other areas fast enough to solve repair problems.

It also created a headache for security personnel as well. However, I'm pretty sure if asked a business owner would probably see an overflow crowd of customers as one great headache to have. Of course a determined group could manage, if it really came down to it. Commissioner Price and members of the New Black Panther Party proved it when they ejected some obviously confused brother who was dressed up like Santa Claus. But, for the most part, participants shopping for products were only able to go one way, as booths were just too close to allow enough room to turn around.

It was for that reason and a few others that KwanzaaFest was moved to the Automobile Building in Fair Park. Since the move, the event has been held there each year. The program begins at 10:00 AM to 8:00 PM Saturday and 11:00 AM to 6:00 PM Sunday, December 11-12, 1999. KwanzaaFest is the largest venue of its kind in the country and is free to the public.

With an annual attendance of between 7,000-13,000 participants each year, folks attending can buy anything from televisions to satellite dishes, to African cultured dolls and dresses. Or one could purchase anything from books to paintings and jewelry. If you got hungry, you could buy fresh snacks like fruits to veggie burgers to curry chicken. Or try jerk chicken with wholesome brown rice. Even fruit shakes can be had; and if that doesn't do it for you try a soda or just plain old fashion bottled water. Of course it goes without saying that African clothing can be found throughout the area.

Then there are those shops that specialize in unique gift items made only by African Americans that are sure to please any of your family members or friends. And yes, major corporations are usually there as well from grocery store chains to high tech companies. Anytime a venue can bring together as many consumers as KwanzaaFest can, you would be hard pressed to try and keep giant corporations out.

There is also entertainment as well and live lecturers of some of the most dynamic African-American speakers in America


today. The Reginald Broadus Lectures Series hosts the speakers. African American drummers usually perform on stage throughout the day. Last year's speakers were noted psychologist Dr. Na'im Akbar and natural health guru Dr. Laila Afrika. This year's featured speakers are "BET Tonight" talk show host Tavis Smiley and the man who is up on everything happening in America and the World scene, Brother Steve Cokely.

#### History of Kwanzaa:

Started by Dr. Maulana Karenga over 25 years ago, Kwanzaa was created as an African American holiday. The holiday is also observed in African countries and the Caribbean Islands. Kwanzaa is based on seven principals that are practiced each day during the season. Participants light a candle each day in commemoration, beginning with a lone black candle in the middle first. The other six candles are red and green and should be placed on either side of the black one. Individuals and families are encouraged to practice a principle each day of Kwanzaa observance, which begins December 26th and ends January 1st. The seven Kwanzaa principles are Umoja (Unity), Kugichagulia (Self-determination), Ujima (Responsibility), Ujaamaa (Cooperative Economics), Nia (Purpose), Kuumba (Creativity), and Imani (Faith).

Many believe as I do, that we would all fair much better as a people if we would practice these principles each day. Wouldn't you agree?

Until then the struggle continues....




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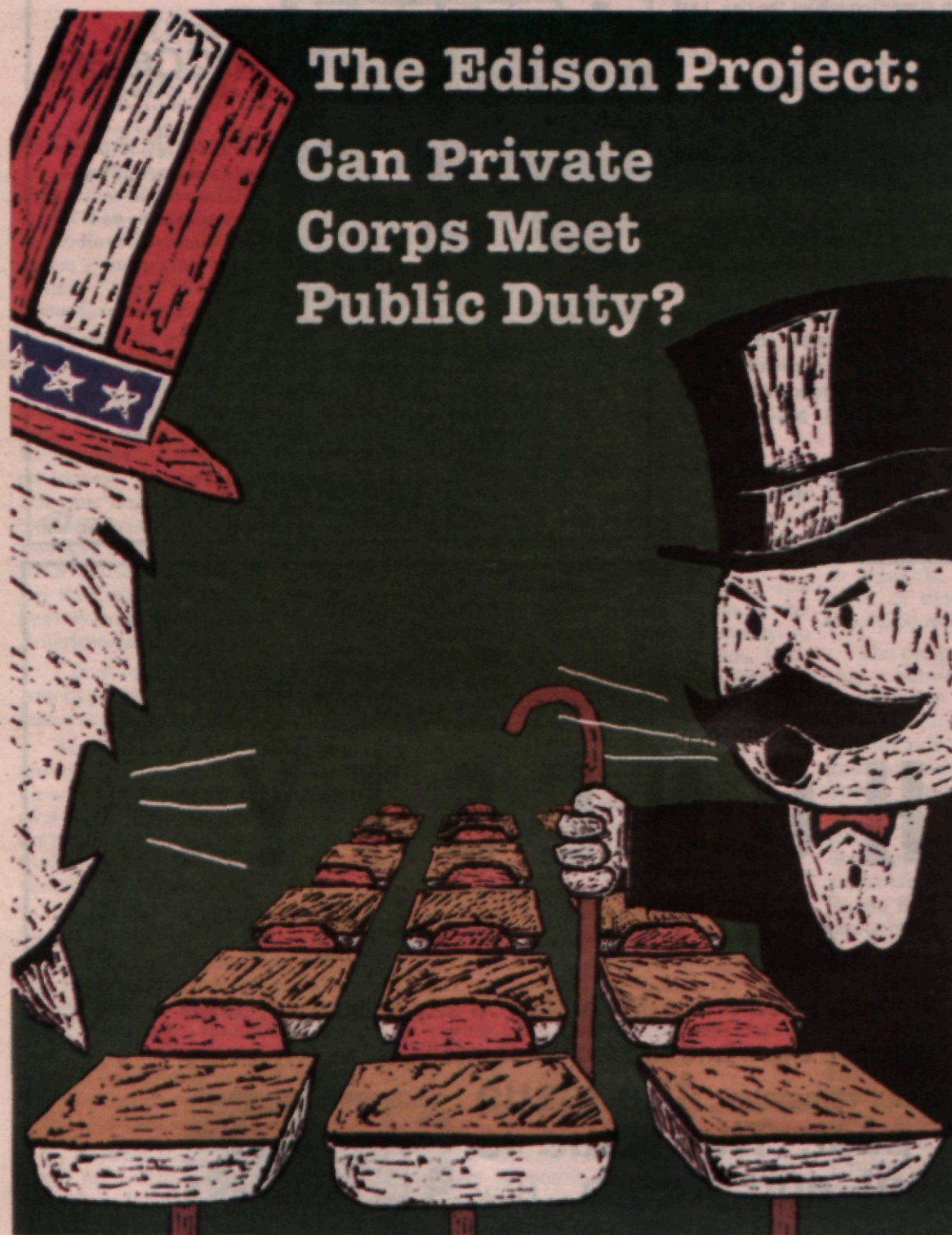
Your kids ask if you ever used drugs. What do you say? You want to be honest because you love them and respect their intelligence. It's a very difficult question. But remember, **the issue isn't your past. The issue is their present and future.** How you respond is entirely up to you. (Perhaps tell them when they're older.) What's important now is that your kids understand that you don't want them to use drugs. Studies show that parents who give their kids **clear rules and reward them for good behavior** are far more effective in keeping their kids off drugs than those who don't. For more information, visit [www.theantidrug.com](http://www.theantidrug.com) or call 800.788.2800. We can help you.



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Illegal drugs are estimated to cost America over \$110 billion each year in treatment, enforcement, incarceration and social damage. But what else could you buy for \$110 billion? Well, you could build 1,692 new hospitals. Or operate 632 universities. Or 3,667 national parks. You could hire 2,955,956 new high school teachers. Or you could put 758,620 new buses on the road. This message is brought to you by the Office of National Drug Control Policy/Partnership for a Drug-Free Texas and America. For information or assistance, call the Greater Dallas Council on Alcohol and Drug Abuse, 214.522.8600.





## The Edison Project: Can Private Corps Meet Public Duty?

### The Edison Project - DPS's hope for educational reform

By Jamila H. Thomas

**1** 995 marked the first year that the Edison Project, a New York-based corporation, began operations in four schools. That development capped three years of concentrated research and development to bring a new approach to teaching and learning. A private, for-profit corporation was beginning to assume what many people believe to be the most important public obligation of our nation: basic education.

Today, some four years later, more than 37,000 students in 79 public schools, including charter schools, attend 79 Edison partnership schools. The charter schools operate under local school districts and charter school boards.

Edison schools are public schools that are open to all students and are funded with tax dollars. Equally noteworthy is the fact that in November of this year, the initial public offering of 6,800,000 Edison shares was completed.

Locally here in Dallas, the Edison Project is about to embark on yet another journey in its corporate development. The Dallas Independent School District's board has approved the Edison Project to begin operating in several elementary schools.

Yet, despite board endorsement of the private entity, many educators and citizens alike continue to have questions regarding the Edison Project. For most interested persons, the questions are basic: "Just what is the Edison Project?" "What will the Edison Project do to improve Dallas Public School (DPS) student performance?"

Recently Minority Opportunity News (MON) had the opportunity to speak with representatives of some of the schools now partnering with the Edison Project.

Scobee - Edison Junior Academy in San Antonio, Texas has been involved with the project since 1998. Its principal, Ms. Helen Hargis, noted that teacher attitudes towards the plan are positive. "They choose to participate," said Ms. Hargis. "They do not have to commit to the amount of work they do. The teachers have worked with me over the years and there has been no friction with other non-Edison faculty members. At my school, the parents' involvement is high and it helps the students to realize that there are higher expectations, because this is what their parents want."

Continuing she adds, "There are not many students lost because of the plan. The ones that move to another school relocate where they live. Some are military families. It seems as if we do not lose any students within a year's time; 200 moved out and 200 moved in. According to school records, the absentees are approximately 96.8 percent, rated the 13th best in the state."

Washington Elementary School Primary and Elementary Academies in Sherman, Texas have partnered with Edison since 1995. Yet, Fall '99 is the first year that Principal Chuck Holiday has been part of the school. Holliday reports that, "Presently, I find the teachers to be supportive of the Edison program design and committed to implementing the Edison program design. Our most recent teacher satisfaction survey had 91 percent giving the school a grade of A or B. Some teachers have gone to other schools. I do not know why they

Washington Elementary School Primary and Elementary Academies Average TAAS Scores				
Grade	Students Passing all Test	Reading	Writing	Math
3	69%	89%	N/A	66%
4	42%	50%	69%	52%
Scobee- Edison Junior Academy Average TAAS Scores				
Grade	Students Passing all Test	Reading	Writing	Math
6	N/A	86%	N/A	83%
Dallas Public Schools Average TAAS Scores				
Grade	Students Passing all Test	Reading	Writing	Math
3-6	63%	74%	76%	72%
7-8	50%	72%	76%	70%
10	61%	80%	83%	70%

...continued on page 9



went to other schools because this is my first year."

According to world language teacher Ms. Ginger Box, who has been at the school for three years exclaimed, "I absolutely positively love it. The support that we get from all of the people in Edison throughout the United States is phenomenal. Our technology and our resources are second to none. Teachers are given personal laptop computers and we are all hooked up to the network. Students are also given laptops which allow us to communicate."

At Ms. Box's school, students are not just given computers as a learning tool. Parents must first come to the school and sign a contract that assumes responsibility for the equipment. The parent signatures make them personally responsible for any damage that may occur with the computer, Box stated.

Beyond access to computers, Edison implemented other changes. "We do have a area where we post important information, 'The Common.' If a student is absent I put the homework on 'The Common' and a child can pull the assignment we did in class that day off the computer. I feel we are very technologically advanced," Box said.

According to Box, the salary that each individual teacher makes is the same as with public control. However, the fact that an additional hour a day and a month is included in the year allows teachers to make more money from



Ms. Kathleen Leos, District 8 representative DISD School Board

extra days.

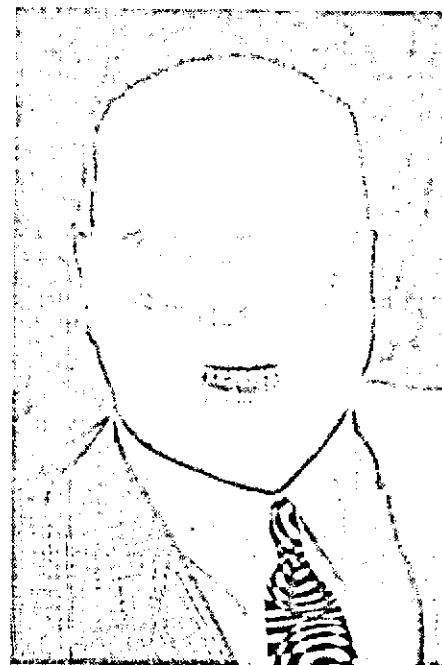
That financial incentive could mean a difference to DPS teachers. DPS has a school calendar of approximately 180 days; the Edison calendar posts approximately 220 school days.

Other objective measures are student and parent reactions to the educational changes. An Edison student satisfaction survey held that 82 percent gave the school a grade of A or B. Says Ms. Box, "The students are eagerly and actively engaged in learning activities and enjoy the visual and performing arts programs. We currently have an active PTA. About 78 percent of our parents attended the Quarterly Learning Contract conferences in October of 1999. Our most recent parent satisfaction survey yield 87 percent of parents giving the school a grade of A or B."

Two DPS Board Members offered their individual perspectives on the Edison Project. When asked about the reason for the change in her vote against and later for the Edison Project, District 8 representative Kathleen Leos, said during the first meeting, "I didn't have sufficient information to make a good decision. All of us attended a couple of sessions about what they wanted to do." After researching the Edison project on the Internet, "I thought, let us give this a try. Look at the district, look at the Iowa Test of Basic Skills (ITBS) scores, yes! There has been an increase for Texas Assessment Academic of Standards (TAAS) which test basic skills. The ITBS measures how we teach our students."

During the next meeting, Leos stated that the contract was renegotiated and the schools directly under Rojas' contract, were down from ten to six. "I am still not 100 percent sold on it," exclaimed Leos.

In addition to all the other adjustments, there will be a reduction in the average amount of money spent per student. That amount will decrease from \$6700 to \$5700. "The teachers will be retrained. Those that do not have some of the best teaching skills will have a year to teach and if improvement is not made, they are gone. They will not be able to teach because they will have shown that their credentials are not



Mr. Ron Price, District 9 representative DISD School Board

at a great level to teach," Leos said.

Mr. Ron Price, District 9's representative stated that he abstained during the first meeting, due to several unresolved issues that concerned the protection Dallas' African American community and other school funds being removed from other campuses to assist with the project. Following a meeting with Supt. Rojas, however, he decided to go with the project on the second vote. The meeting with Dr. Rojas and attorneys addressed the decrease in the number of affected schools and other language.

According to Price, the reason for six schools instead of ten was because "I felt highly uncomfortable with six up front and based on performance and the students academics maybe the following year we can go with additional four schools," Price said.

Price continued adding, "This is a company that has not shown us to be a panacea. For when it comes down to education, they are talking about taking students from level one to ten automatically. Yes, they have had gains over the past and I'm willing to give them an opportunity, with the assurance that no dollars will be taken from another school's budget. And that is in the contract," said Price.

Which DPS schools will be affected remains a question. Leos advises that as far as what schools this plan will be directed to, "the selection process has not started yet." Leos is hoping that Hernandez Onesimo Elementary

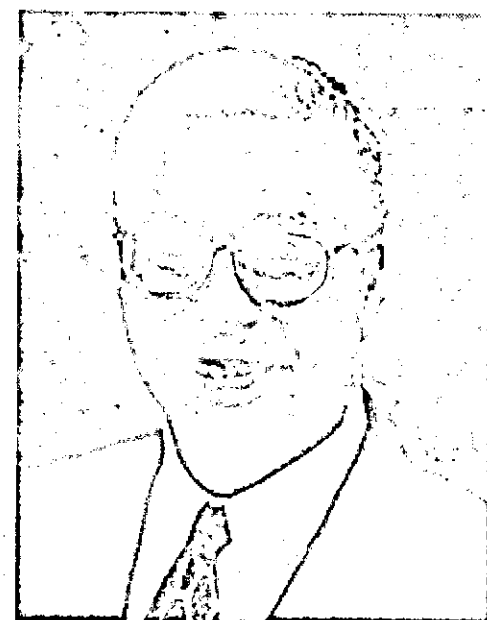
School will step forward. "The intention is to work with the majority of low performing schools."

Not all six of the schools will be low performing; however, the majority of them are expected to be. Price says that there are about twelve schools asking for the program already. "Hopefully by the end of January the public will know the schools it will partnership with, the project goes into effect fall 2000," stated Price.

Leos also underscored that the Edison Project is an educational management plan, doing things differently on campuses, mandating certain kinds of training for teachers and utilizing a highly regarded curriculum. The plan puts emphasis and is dedicated to the classic educational concerns, such as sharpening teaching skills and language. Technology is highly regarded also. "If it doesn't work, cut it," Leos concluded "We've lived with failure - are we afraid of failure or success?"

Despite the hopes of DPS's Board or Supt. Rojas, the Edison Project remains a controversial issue. Many who do not support the project and also declined to be quoted, say they are still unaware of the plan, and therefore cannot prepare for change. It should also be noted that despite repeated requests, no one from the superintendent's office was available for comment.

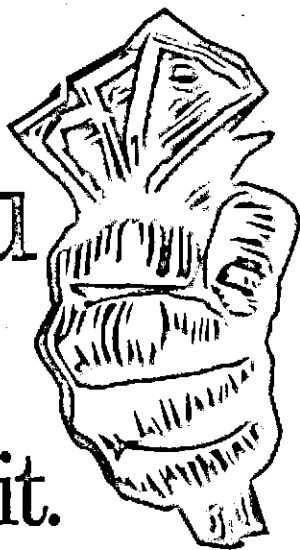
Regardless of the level of information, it appears the general consensus is that DPS is in need of a change. Students, parents, teachers and administrators appear on the brink of change.



DISD General Superintendent Waldemar Rojas, Ed. D.



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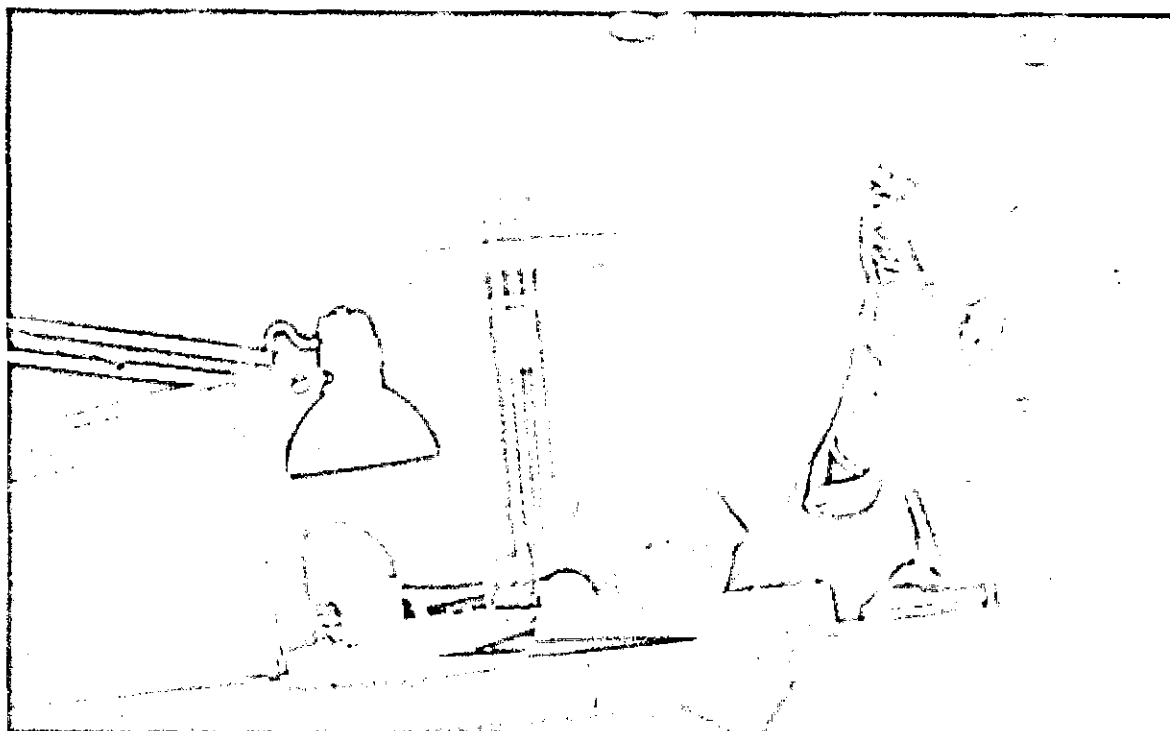
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**John  
Dudley**

## E-schemes and E-scams: What investors should know about Internet investment fraud

As with virtually all industries, the Internet continues to have a tremendous impact on the investment community. For many investors it is an invaluable research tool that assists in evaluating investment opportunities and learning about different strategies and techniques. However, it has also become a playground for unscrupulous individuals looking to take advantage of investors. A variety of schemes and scams already have caused financial harm to unsuspecting individuals.

In October 1998, the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) helped investors understand the magnitude of Internet investment fraud when it filed charges against 44 stock promoters. According to the SEC, these individuals failed to disclose to investors that 235 companies had paid them millions of dollars in cash and stock shares in return for Internet-based promotion efforts that were designed to raise stock prices.

Providing inexpensive, convenient access; anonymity; and an attentive, affluent audience of millions, it is no surprise that the Internet is a popular medium for con artists. In response to the growth of online investment fraud, the SEC, Federal Trade Commission, and National Association of Securities Dealers have all devoted resources to help lessen fraudulent activity. Despite these enforcement efforts, however, the use of investment scams will likely continue. It is therefore extremely important that investors educate themselves on scams and thoroughly investigate all investment opportunities and information disseminated through the Internet.

Three Internet forums are especially popular with con artists: online investment

newsletters, bulletin boards, and e-mail.

### Online Newsletters

Newsletters can easily be made to look like unbiased information sources that offer access to research and expert stock picks. These appearances make them a choice medium for con artists looking to prey on unsuspecting investors. Masquerading as outlets of credible information, some individuals who publish online newsletters accept money from companies in exchange for promoting the stock of the company. In an effort to maintain credibility with investors, many of these newsletters will fail to disclose this arrangement.

Another common tactic the SEC has linked to illegitimate newsletters is to spread inaccurate information or promote worthless stocks in an effort to drive up the price of their personal holdings. Once the price has risen sufficiently, the individuals who touted the stock will quickly sell their shares and reap the profits.

### Bulletin Boards

Consisting of "threads" that are made up of individual messages referring to a particular stock, bulletin boards are a popular forum for investors searching for information on specific companies. Unfortunately, they are also another tool used by individuals looking to defraud investors.

Because many bulletin boards allow participants to disguise their identity with an alias - there is no way of determining the credibility of information. Fraudsters often pretend to reveal "inside" information on a company or attempt to pump up a company's stock price by posting multiple positive messages under different aliases. This tactic gives the impression that there is widespread interest and support behind a

particular stock. Referred to as "pumping and dumping" this ploy is usually involves small-cap stocks. These stocks are less heavily traded and consequently, their prices are more easily manipulated.

### E-Mail

The popularity and convenience of e-mail provides con artists with an effective means of reaching countless investors with hardly any effort or cost. By sending personalized messages to thousands of individuals in broadcast e-mails, con artists can communicate false information about a company or promote a baseless investment opportunity. In many cases, e-mail has replaced cold calling and mass mailing as a means of targeting individuals to solicit their participation in a particular scam. Con artists also use e-mail to draw attention to their own fraudulent online newsletters and bulletin board threads.

While investment fraud can be a problem facing investors who use the Internet for advice and research, it is important to note that there is a significant amount of legitimate information on the Internet. By taking a few precautionary steps, investors can successfully tap into the wealth of knowledge available on the Internet. Here are some basic tips for investors who use the Internet to research investment opportunities:

- Do not make investment decisions based solely on information in an online newsletter, bulletin board, or e-mail. Consult a qualified financial advisor who is capable of analyzing financial statements, verifying claims about new products, and reviewing the quality of management before an investment decision is made.

- Avoid investing in companies that do not regularly file reports with the SEC. This can be checked by accessing the SEC's EDGAR database online or by calling the SEC at (202) 942-8090.

- If you are at all unsure about the legitimacy of an opportunity after doing research, contact the SEC or your state securities regulator and check to see if any complaints about the company or its promoter have been filed.

- Beware of investments that use terms like "guaranteed," "risk-free," "limited offer," "high return," "fast profits," "insider information," and "safe as a CD." Remember, investments that sound too good to be true, are usually just that.

- Exercise particular caution when evaluating offshore opportunities and investment opportunities in other countries. In the event that something goes wrong, getting answers or locating your money is often extremely difficult.

A well-informed investor is a scam artist's worst enemy. And while the vast majority of Internet resources are credible, falling victim to an Internet investment fraud can be a very expensive lesson to learn firsthand. To find out more about researching investment opportunities and protecting yourself against investment fraud, contact your financial advisor.

*Editor's Note: Prudential Securities is not a legal or tax advisor. However, interested readers are encouraged to choose their own financial advisors to work with other professional services such as accountants and attorneys. For copies of previous columns by John Dudley, contact him at 214.761.5142.*



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## Dallas Black MBAs lead Western region

By Charlene M. Crowell

Twenty-five years ago the National Black MBA Association (NBMBAA) was founded as a non-profit organization with a mission to create economic and intellectual wealth in the African-American community. Today, the Dallas chapter of this professional organization has grown to include more than 225 members who offer a year-round program of community service, all designed to serve the same community goal: fostering individual growth, notably including young people.

The chapter's Leaders of Tomorrow program is an illustrative example of how local professionals are mentoring Metroplex youth. Dallas' program is part of a national effort whose adopted mission is to foster student empowerment.

As high school students meet Dallas area professionals from a variety of fields, the students are assisted in developing skills and attitudes necessary for success. Mentors guide the students through a challenging program that includes workshops and events that emphasize leadership, professional development, community service, goal setting and attainment and scholarship. As teens are provided positive reinforcement, and become more aware of their own goals and talents, program participants are better prepared to transition into higher education and

its opportunities.

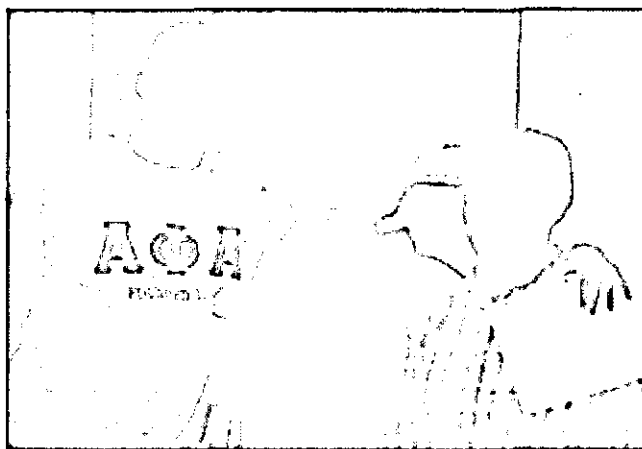
Each year an average of 50 students representing a cross-section of Dallas-Fort Worth schools are selected for the program. Schools participating in the 1999-2000 school year include A. Maceo Smith, Townview, Skyline, South Oak Cliff and Kimball High Schools. Once selected, students elect their own governing body with officers that include a president, chief financial officer and four vice-presidents. This executive team works in concert with the adult mentors to develop activities, serve

the community and represent the full group's interests.

The 1999-2000 Executive Team members include: President & CEO Tamika Stevenson, a senior at Kimball High School; Chief Financial Officer Daphne Small, a junior at South Oak Cliff High School; Executive Vice-President & General Marketing Manager Keegan Forge and Controller Crystal Chism, both seniors at the School of Business & Management at Yvonne Ewell Townview Magnet Center; and Vice-President of Community Service LaCheryl Whitlow, a junior at Kimball High School. 11 other students also serve on the Executive Team and function as managers, assistant managers, and assistant vice-presidents.

A key component of the Leaders of

...continued on page 17



(left to right) Mentors Wayne Greene and Arlissa Sanders with Shagayer Robbins, now a student at UTA-Arlington.

## Dallas Urban League seeks share of \$1 million grant boosting technology in under-served communities

By Glenda Williams Goodson

As a new century begins, business leaders are increasingly utilizing technology to gain a competitive advantage in the market place. However, despite technological advances, identifying and retaining a skilled labor force is a nagging business challenge. A recent SBC/National Urban League Alliance could very well provide a solution to these human resource issues.

Thanks to a \$1 million grant awarded the National Urban League Endowment Fund, a network of technology centers in inner city neighborhoods will soon be created. When the centers open, anyone interested in investing their time into training will have an opportunity to acquire skills that will help them pursue their own American dream. The SBC Foundation, the philanthropic arm of SBC Communication, will help support the education and economic success of minorities and enhance access to technology. SBC is the parent corporation for such telecommunications giants as Southwestern Bell, Pacific Bell, and Cellular One brands. The grant is a first step in helping narrow the growing separation between those struggling to land lucrative contracts and those who have ready access to advanced technology.

The centers are scheduled to open early next year and will provide basic information technology skills for children and adults in low-income areas.

According to Dr. Beverly Brooks Executive Director of the Urban League's Dallas Branch, the possibility of additional funding from the national office will propel the center, already launched in the Dallas Branch, to spin out to meet the needs of the public. "There is a need for these types of contributions in our community...and we would hope that the National office considers the Dallas branch." Earlier this year the

Dallas Urban League relocated its branch offices to a remodeled Minyard's Food Store on Lancaster Road, in the heart of Oak Cliff.

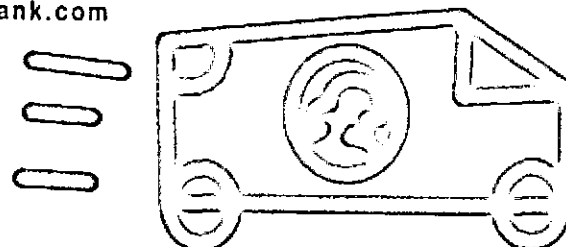
Brooks agrees that communities can use new technologies to address social and economic issues. "There has been a growing gap between our community and the mainstream. (We're delighted that) SBC recognizes that this type of technology is needed for people in our community to succeed." While North Dallas businesses, along with suburbs such as Plano are literally begging for individuals with technical knowledge, Dr. Brooks bristles and warns, "the gap is wider than ever. The biggest single step that can be made in Dallas is to bridge this digital divide."

Located in the heart of Southern Dallas with its large and youthful labor pool Dr. Brooks thinks these centers can change the cultural make up of both north and south of the Trinity. "The Urban League is in a position to accomplish this task (of providing technical employees) to implement this type of grant." The Dallas Branch's big push is to acquire niche players such as permanent instructors as well as purchasing needed equipment.

Since 1996 the SBC Foundation has given more than \$12 million in technology-related grants. Most recently, Ameritech, a subsidiary of SBC, granted the National Urban League \$350,000 to fund five technology centers. An SBC spokesperson stated that SBC is very active in providing grants and donations of money and scholarships to many diverse organizations, especially in the areas of technology and educational initiatives.

Southwestern Bell, another subsidiary of SBC, has provided free computer training to more than 60,000 people through its TeleCommunity Center which is open to all interested citizens.

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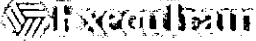
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**Ron Shaw**

## What do you believe?

John 11:26

One of the major issues facing our society today is the race issue. As a matter of fact, it is an issue that has always faced our society. Unfortunately, because few people have dealt with it at the place where it really counts, it continues to derail every step we make toward mankind's advancement.

A great society is built upon the foundation of its people and people act according to what they believe. A few months ago I was in juvenile court with a parent and their child. The reason we were there is because the child actually believed they could get away with what had been done. For most people, that idea is why we do things.

We go to work because of what we believe. We develop our relationships based on what we believe. We succeed or fail because of what we believe. The racial tensions that affect various ethnic groups are based on what one believes about the other.

In other words, what we believe in our hearts determines the actions we take. Let me give you a few facts about 'believing' that will help you.

What you believe is a matter of choice. No one ever accidentally believed something. Thomas made a choice to disbelieve the other disciples when they reported having seen Jesus. Since this is true, it is a fact then that there is nothing you can do about what another person believes. We alone are responsible for what we believe.

Our reason for righteous living should not be because of what others believe, but rather what we believe. You can make every effort to persuade a person toward a particular viewpoint (and there's nothing wrong with that); but in the final analysis it is what that person chooses to believe that will determine the action they take.

Consider our text. Martha, the sister of Lazarus, is distraught over the death of her brother. Upon Jesus returning to their hometown, he confronts her about what she believes concerning him. Then he asked her a pivotal question, "What do you believe?"

That question is also pivotal for us in every situation we face. Whether in death or life, the question posed to Martha is also ours to answer. In every crisis, in the midst of every problem, in the face of every storm,

the question is "What do you believe?"

People rob others because of what they believe. People give to others because of what they believe. Men dog women and women dog men because of what they believe. If our believing is messed up, then our actions will also be messed up. Each of us is faced with sets of facts; we are all given information. We make a decision about what we will do based on what we believe the information tells us or if we believe that information.

At this very moment, there are people who are fearful and frantic because of the decision they have made concerning the Y2K dilemma. In other words, they have chosen to believe something that causes their fear.

Since believing is a choice, why not choose to believe the right information? As we wind down this year, examine what you believe concerning God, Jesus, your life, who you are, what you will do and have. Take inventory of what your beliefs are concerning others. The way you treat others is based on what you believe about them. What do you believe about your family? How about other relationships in your life?

It is obvious what God believes about us because of what He's done for us. Our believing can be seen in our actions. It can be heard as we speak. Out of the fullness of the heart, your mouth speaks. Whatever you are full of, is what will proceed from your mouth. As you evaluate your beliefs, those that are unproductive, ungodly, and unhealthy, you alone must decide to change.

How do we change what we believe? We must change the information we receive. In short, the same information leads to the same believing; false information produces false believing. As we change the information we take in, we are able to change our believing. If all you see on television is lazy black folk and racist white folk, or arrogant Asians and listless Hispanics, then your believing will be accordingly. If all you see and hear about is abusive men and manipulative women then your believing will be based on this. However, when you change the information you take in, you can change what you believe.

Before you enter 2000, ask yourself, what do I believe about the future?



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# The Wellness Diary

## America's obesity challenged by Atlanta physician

by Delmetria L. Millener

For approximately 70 million Americans, the word obesity can be frightening. Beyond the vastness of this health problem, it also costs the American economy approximately \$100 billion each year.

Just mentioning 'obesity' can cause many to cringe and race to the gym to shed or prevent unwanted pounds. But what exactly is it? And how does it differ from just a 'few extra pounds'? For those who suffer with this health condition, the inevitable question is, "Can it be controlled?"

of a holistic approach to the problem. Through his internal medicine practice, and research of published weight loss studies, he has concluded that the best treatment for obesity is to address behavior modification.

His theory on weight loss led to the publication of his book, *Lifestyles For the 21st Century: A New Way of Life*. Dr. Wells' book connects the health effects of obesity with other factors detrimental to a healthier well being such as love and sex, society, culture and gender. He names lifestyle management as essential towards weight manage-

pound Carolyn McTier tried many weight lost gimmicks, to no avail, the fifty-five year old Miami woman wrote to Dr. Wells who immediately flew to her side in Miami. "When I stepped off of the plane I knew that I had done the right thing," said Dr. Wells. "I was her dose of hope. Here was a lovely woman who has battled obesity, breast cancer, and all of the ills that accompany a sobering disease like obesity, such as osteoarthritis."

After providing holistic counseling and researching McTier's past, Dr. Wells tailored for her a systematic weight loss plan. On the plan, small steps are viewed as positives that have the effect of touching your life in other areas. Dr. Wells now acts as a personal and motivational consultant to Ms. McTier, in conjunction with her Florida physician. How does a country with a wealth of accessible health information become obese? Dr. Wells blames an inactive society. Stressful, sedentary jobs, take most people from work to a drive-through windows and orders of fatty, fast food eaten before a television.

Recent studies show obesity and inactivity accounting for over 300,000 deaths each year in the United States. However, Dr. Wells believes that if we want to change this statistic, behavior modifications, setting realistic goals, discipline, a low-fat diet and low-impact exercising is fundamental to anyone's permanent weight loss success.

ment and notes how a patient's emotional health plays a major role in holistic therapy methods. According to Dr. Wells, a total character and emotional metamorphosis occurs when a patient loses weight, and realizes that someone cares about them.

After a depressed and 360



Dr. Marcus L. Wells teaches Carolyn McTier how to take control of her weight

According to an Atlanta physician and weight loss author, Dr. Marcus L. Wells, people who are desperate to lose weight often fall victim to hypnotists, uncertified exercise gurus, and other opportunists. When one considers that over half of all Black women are overweight, Dr. Wells is an advocate

### Tips on avoiding holiday extra pounds

by Delmetria L. Millener

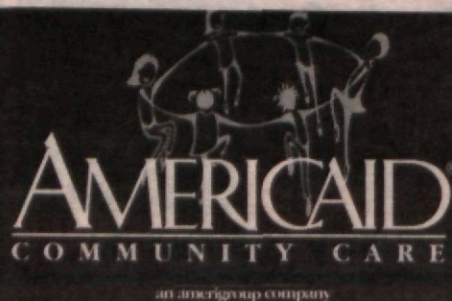
The joy of the season is supposed to bring good will, good cheer and lots of good food. But too much of the edible holiday delights can lead to unwanted pounds, and uncomfortable clothes. A few easy steps can help keep unwanted pounds off and still leave room for holiday festivities:

- Before each meal, drink a full glass of water. Most people fail to daily drink an adequate amount of water. By drinking the water first, you are likely to eat less and still feel satisfied.
- Practice control whether you're enjoying a meal or a snack. Portion control is key to avoiding overeating. At a party or reception, take a saucer-sized plate instead of a larger one; when sampling buffets, take only a tablespoon size portion. Then think twice about refills. If you listen for your own body signals, you will know when to take a break from food.
- Choose more fruits and vegetables, less meat and salt. Remember that even when visible fat is trimmed, meat has more fat, cholesterol and calories than vegetables or fruit. Too much salt can lead to bloating and certain discomfort.
- No matter how busy the holiday schedule, find time for exercise. By exercising more, you can also eat with less worry. Remember that walking and dancing are forms of exercise that help to burn calories. By staying active, your body will burn more calories. Working out on vacation with friends and family can make workouts a social occasion. Be creative!

Have safe and joyous holidays! Remember: In through the lips, out through the hips!

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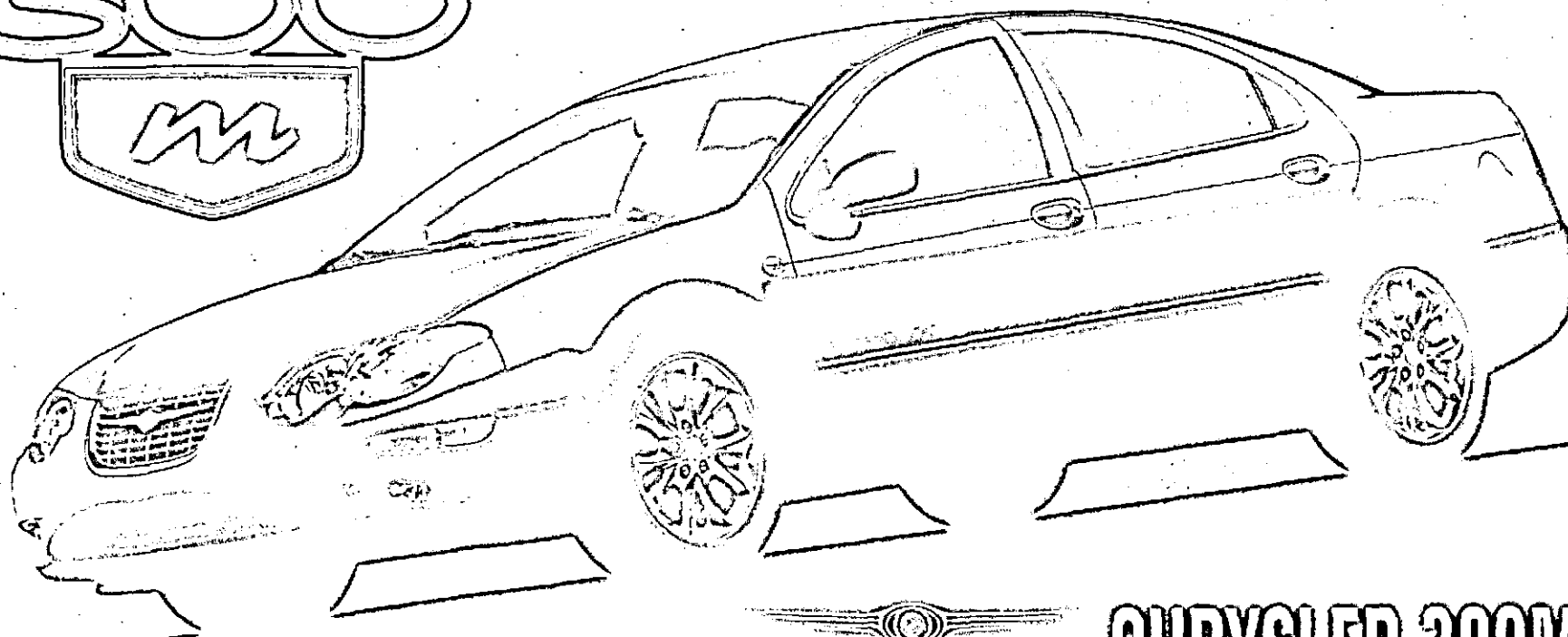
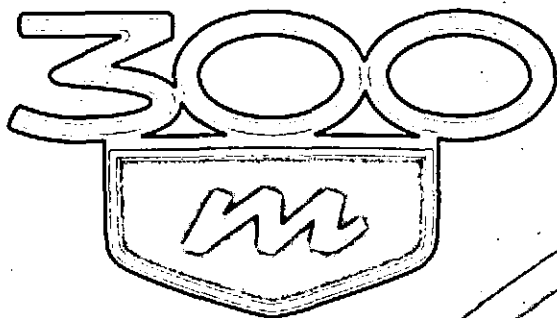
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## Dr. Charles Richard Drew: One Blood

by Josef Spencer



Dr. Charles Drew in the laboratory, circa 1941

*As you know, there is no scientific basis for the separation of the bloods of different races except on the basis of the individual blood types or groups. —Charles R. Drew, 1942*

At the fragile age of fifteen, Charles Richard Drew watched his sister die of tuberculosis. It was then that he conceived his desire to be a doctor. Born in Washington, D.C. on June 3, 1904, his life ended in an auto accident, just two

months before his 46th birthday. The intervening years were crowded with achievements, learning and sharing his knowledge to benefit all mankind. Of these achievements two are his contribution to blood preservation and blood plasma. Most importantly, he applied his knowledge to the creation of practical blood-bank operations when they were most needed, in the heat of World War II.

Drew had been considering a career in medicine, but as an All-American athlete at Amherst College where his football coach praised him, his professors were less enthusiastic with his academic potential. As a result, he sometimes neglected his studies. Following graduation he went on to Morgan College in Baltimore to coach and teach. After two years he resigned from Morgan and decided to continue pursuit of his dreams in

the medical field. He applied to Howard University's School of Medicine. But because he lacked sufficient English credits, he was denied. He told his brother Joe "Someday I'll come back and run this place." In just over a decade, his pledge would come true.

His medical education began during the Great Depression at McGill University School of Medicine in Quebec, Canada. Though Drew worked as a waiter while a student at McGill, he graduated second in his class of 137. Elected to Alpha Omega Alpha, Drew later became vice president of the medical honor society. He was granted two fellowships and in 1933 he earned his doctorate of medicine and master of surgery degrees.

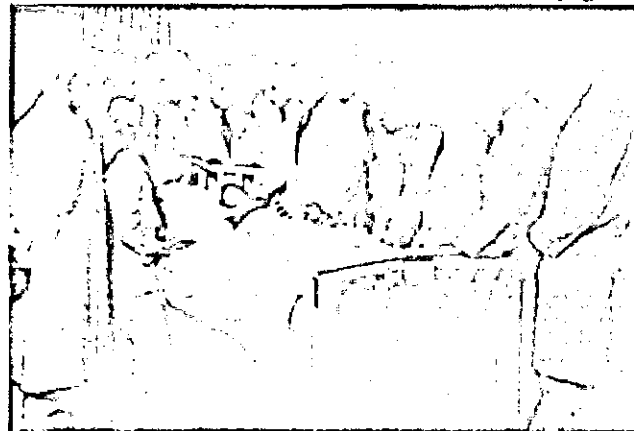
Following internships at Royal Victoria Hospital and Montreal General, in 1935 he returned to the United States as a pathology instructor at Howard University. In two years, he advanced to assistant professor of surgery. In 1938 he was recommended for one of the Rockefeller fellowships at New York's Columbia University, aimed at promoting and advancing all fields of medicine. It was through this fellowship that he met and began study under Dr. Scudder, an assistant professor of clinical surgery at Columbia University. At the time, Dr. Scudder was achieving national recognition for his research findings relating to body fluids.

When Dr. Scudder was asked to give overall direction for the Plasma for Britain Project, he recommended Dr. Drew. Early in 1940, Dr. Drew prepared a 200 page thesis entitled "Banked Blood: A Study in Blood Preservation" which alerted Dr. Scudder to the keen mind and talents of his pupil. Later, when Dr. Drew graduated, he became the first African American to receive that institu-

tion's MD Sc degree (doctor of science in medicine).

As war raged across Europe in 1940, blood was urgently

...continued on page 17



Dr. Charles Drew (center) on duty as chief of surgery at Freedmen's Hospital

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### ...continued from page 12

Tomorrow program is a monthly workshop that focuses on professional and personal development. Topics for these sessions have included:

- 7 habits of highly effective teenagers – led by a certified instructor, students learn the value and ways to become proactive in their own lives
- African-Americans & the Law – a discussion of the particular concerns blacks face with the criminal and civil justice systems
- African-Americans & the Media – a 2-part workshop helping youth to understand the media as an industry, as well as how it shapes and influences perceptions
- Resume and interviewing skills – students are walked through the process of finding a job and how to maximize positive impressions while sharing experience and skills
- Entrepreneurship – relates the joys and pitfalls of beginning and sustaining a business

As a culminating activity, the Dallas chapter sponsors 22 students, including air fare, room and meals to attend the national Leaders of Tomorrow Conference in Anaheim, California. The 4-day gathering brings together high level executives, celebrities, and youth in one of the largest career fairs in the country.

Beyond this program sometimes referred to as "the Fabulous 50", the Dallas Chapter also sponsors a free, private SAT/ACT tutoring course. All participants enrolled in the intensive, 10-week program are introduced to sample questions and answers, test taking strategies, practice tests and a schedule of testing dates. If privately secured, such a session could cost approximately \$800. More importantly, students who have completed the tutoring have improved test scores by as many as 200 points.

At an annual awards reception, normally held in the fall, the Dallas chapter recognizes parents, corporate partners and youth whose contributions in the past year have fostered continued program success. A highlight of the awards is the announcement of scholarships for both full-time and part-time students. Scholarship recipients are enrolled in both undergraduate and graduate levels of study.

If all of these programs seem impressive, others have felt the same way. For the third year in a row, the Dallas chapter was named Western Region Chapter of the Year. Dallas was chosen because of its outstanding achievement in six key areas: fund development, membership growth and retention, leadership, public relations, program implementation and chapter governance.

For more information on the Dallas chapter, visit its website at [www.nbmbaa-dallas.org](http://www.nbmbaa-dallas.org) or telephone the group's hotline at 972-554-5984.

### ...continued from page 16

needed for wounded troops. During the Plasma For Britain Project, which in five months collected, processed and transported 14,500 units of plasma, Dr. Drew gained international recognition as the head of the program. His scientific research helped revolutionize blood plasma transfusion, dramatically improving opportunities to save lives.

On learning that the British had successfully modified an ordinary cream separator to separate plasma from the red cells in blood, Dr. Drew ordered two of the machines rushed to New York and then constructed similar equipment to produce the clear plasma on a mass scale.

Dr. Drew emerged as a leading authority on mass transfusion and blood processing methods. Fearing the U.S. would be drawn into World War II, the American armed forces requested his assistance in the development of a similar blood collection system. In February of 1941, Dr. Drew was appointed Director of the first American Red Cross Blood Bank. The outgrowth of this project was the American Red Cross Blood Donor Service Program during World War II.

Despite Dr. Drew's talents and achievements, a segregated military affected his own blood bank's operation. Military orders barred black donors; only "white" blood was deemed acceptable. Drew himself was prohibited from donating blood in the program he headed. At a later time the policy was modified to allow African-American blood donations; but the "black" blood would be segregated for use only with black servicemen.

Drew was infuriated, in part because his colleagues in the medical community remained silent about the outrageous insult even though they possessed scientific proof that all human blood was the same—categorized by type; but no different from one race to another. Drew resigned his directorship.

Returning to Freedmen's Hospital as Chief of Surgery and on to Howard University as a full professor and chair the Department of Surgery, Dr. Drew made what he considered to be his greatest contributions to medicine: teaching and helping to certify hundreds of black surgeons.

Unfortunately, it is not only the life of Dr. Charles Richard Drew that

leaves its legend, but also the myth of his tragic death. At 2:15 a.m. on April 1, 1950, Drew and three other black physicians left Washington by car for Tuskegee, Alabama, to provide care at a free clinic. He had been through an exhausting day and had slept only two hours. In Petersburg, Virginia, Drew took the wheel. Two miles north of Haw River, North Carolina, he dozed off. Drew was left hanging out of the car with his right foot caught under the brake pedal. Suffering from shock, his left leg was nearly severed and he had internal injuries. He was in shock.

Rushed to Alamance County General Hospital, in Burlington, North Carolina, three white physicians worked

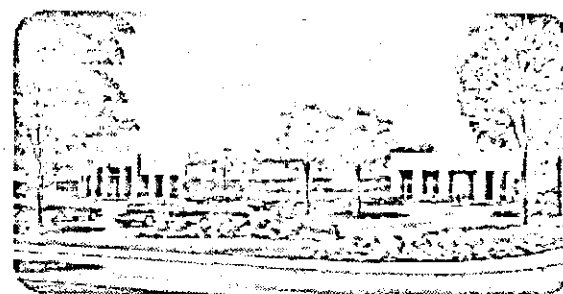
desperately but unsuccessfully to save Dr. Drew's life. Somehow the tale arose that Drew, the "developer of blood transfusion," bled to death on the steps of a white hospital that would not admit him because he was black. Considering his experiences with the military and the nature of life in the South in 1950 and the segregated policies of hospitals in North Carolina, the story was certainly plausible. But it simply was not true.

The truth embedded in science and our common humanity—the truth Charles Drew bore witness to—becomes a truly powerful lesson: that we all indeed are one blood.



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## New careers open up for court reporting

By Sherelyn Roberts

The history of court reporting dates back to ancient times when a freed slave, Marcus Tiro used a form of shorthand to record the speeches of Cicero and other Roman orators in the 4th century B.C. The ampersand (&), one of his shorthand devices, is still used today.

That ancient emblem however is one of the few things that have not changed for court reporters. Today, court reporting is a highly trained and specialized field. Those practicing this skill must gather information and preserve it in formats that are quickly accessible and ready to use. They must also be adept with a stenotype machine and computers. Court reporters also provide real time captioning, which benefits the hearing impaired and for cyber-conferences.

In today's marketplace, those who acquire these skills can reap lucrative careers. But before the money is earned, court reporters must have a degree from court reporting school. The Professional Career College is the oldest court reporting school in North Texas. Marie Thompson established the College in 1971 and over the years it has earned a respected reputation.

In 1984, Ardith I. Spies moved to Dallas from Lubbock and enrolled in the college. Her goal was to complete her studies and pursue the development of her own career as a court reporter. Near the end of her training, she noticed the school enrollment was declining and the owner was having some health concerns. Due to Spies' previous involvement in public relations and fundraising, she thought had some ideas that might help with recruitment and improve the quality of the school. Although sharing a few suggestions was all that she intended to offer, when she met with Thompson the possible sale of the school came up. Negotiations began and shortly thereafter, Spies became the new owner.

Today the campus, located at 1401 N. Central Expressway in Richardson, offers medical, legal and computer training, courtroom and deposition procedures, speech, English, humanities and psychology courses in an



Professional Career College's  
Ardith I. Spies

Associate of Applied Science curriculum.

"We teach students the skills needed to serve as an official reporter in a courtroom, a freelance reporter hired by lawyers for pre-trial depositions, a captionist helping the deaf community in classrooms and meeting and the closed captionist that provides text to television viewers.

Approximately 250 students are enrolled in day and night classes.

Eight administrative personnel support a faculty of eight instructors. The average age of students is 29. "We have a lot of older students who are just entering the workforce or entering after their children have started school or are upgrading their skills to a more professional level and some students are right out of high school" said Spies. "The high salary court reporting jobs commands is another enticement."

A survey by two national court reporters foundations found that the typical official court reporter had an average salary of \$43,366. Spies says they are able to place all of their students in jobs upon completion of their courses.

Two students she is particularly proud of are Joe Strickland and Vikki Ogden. When Strickland enrolled at the college he wanted to own his own business. Midway through his studies he came up with an idea to take his skills to Congress because his interests went beyond depositions

...continued on page 19

## DFW Board names new Director of Public Affairs

By Jamila H. Thomas

As the millennium and its numerous changes approach, the Dallas-Fort Worth Airport Board recently announced a change of its own. A new Director of Public Affairs, Ms. Melba Williams, is now the new voice for one of the nation's largest and busiest airports. Her responsibilities will include the direction of Public Affairs department, as well as serving as the chief spokesperson for the airport.

Ms. Williams came to DFW's Board following her role as a public relations consultant to Waste Management. With the solid waste giant, she focused on the corporation's projects in Louisiana and Atlanta. She has also represented the firm as its Southwest Group's manager of Public Affairs.

She now brings to DFW's concerns over seven years of public affairs management experience in the corporate sector, in addition to eight years of news reporting and anchoring experience at television stations in Louisiana.



Newly elected Director of Public Affairs, Melba Williams takes on the challenge of directing DFW Airport's communications efforts.

...continued on page 19

# Home for Christmas

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6:00 pm

Camp Wisdom UMC  
1300 West Camp Wisdom Road  
6:00 pm





...continued from page 18

and court work. Upon graduation he did captioning at a radio station. "He came back to us for assistance in getting him in that field," said Spies. "We placed him with a firm in Washington, D.C. where he made contact with offices on Capitol Hill and now he is in the House of Representatives taking daily debates on the House floor." A picture of Strickland captioning

The State of the Union Address hangs in the college's lobby.

Vikki Ogden feels her career in court reporting was a result of a calling from God. When she was 30 years old a friend gave her a brochure from the college. She completed the program and now owns her own court reporting firm. Her advice to anyone entering the field is "make sure you have a passion for it otherwise it is harder to stick to it." Ogden says

she doesn't have a lot of free time but having her own company is fulfilling.

Spies looks ahead to see where the field of court reporting is going. "The school must continue to update the curriculum to keep pace with the constantly changing world," she said. "My goal is to inspire adults and young people alike to live up to their potential, to realize their skills and talents and use them to broaden their horizons.

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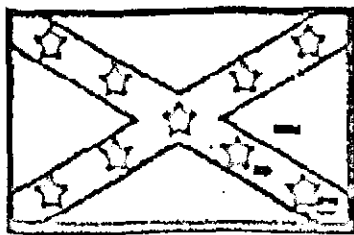
According to the airport's Executive Director, Mr. Jeffrey P. Fegan said, "We are very excited about Ms. Williams joining the Airport Board; we believe she brings a wealth of experience and an abundance of enthusiasm which will serve her well in her new role."

"Given the complexity of DFW Airport and the job of managing its public and community relations activities", stated First Deputy Executive Director for Governmental and Public Affairs, Kevin Cox, "we were looking for someone who possessed a number of talents and could step in on day one and make an impact. We believe that we were fortunate to find and attract Melba Williams to this critical position."

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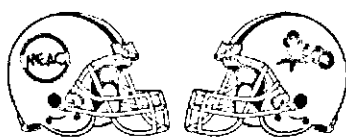


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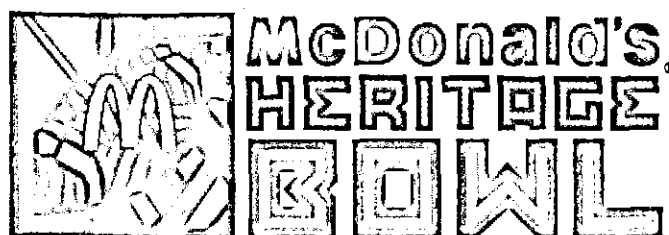
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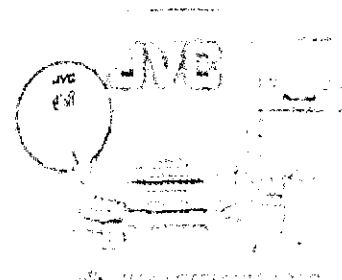
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Entries must be received by January 6, 2000. You may submit as many entries as you like, but only one entry per envelope, mailed separately. Sponsor not responsible for lost, late, incomplete, illegible, undelivered, postmarked, or misdirected entries, all of which will be discarded. No mechanically reproduced entries will be accepted. All entries become sole property of the sponsor and none will be returned. 3. DRAWING: On or about January 7, 1999, a random drawing will be conducted from all eligible entries received to award the prizes. The drawing will be conducted by an independent judging organization whose decisions are final and binding in all respects. The odds of winning depend on the number of eligible entries received. Eligible entries must contain the correct half time or final score for each team in the Heritage Bowl Game. Entries selected in the random drawing will be notified by mail and/or telephone of the address or phone number provided on the entry form and must verify all information at these Official Rules. Limit one prize per person or household. Winner will be required to sign an affidavit of eligibility and release of liability, where legal, within seventy-two (72) hours of notification. Non-compliance within this time period or return of any prize notification as undeliverable may result in disqualification with an alternate selected from the random drawing. Winner's prize will also be required to execute a Liability Release. If any of the winner's prize is a travel prize, the prize will be forfeited and awarded to an alternate winner. 4. PRIZE / QUANTITY / PRIZE DESCRIPTION / APPROXIMATE RETAIL VALUE: 1ST PRIZE: JVC® Home Entertainment System (1). Winner will receive a Home Entertainment System which includes a 34" TV (JVC26760), DVD Player (JVC DV101), Digital Satellite Receiver (JVC DSR100), 1 Year Best Network Programming, Professional Best Network Instruction, VCR (JVC26760), Audio Receiver (JVC26760), Mini Disc Recorder (JVC26760), CD Player (JVC26760), Laser Disc (JVC26760), Surround Sound System (JVC26760), 25 Pack Digital Recording Tape (JVC26760), 20 Pack MD Disc (JVC26760), Headphones (JVC26760), Component Rack (JVC26760), and Stereo Rack (JVC26760). 2ND PRIZE: Renaissance Jamaica Grande Resort (5). Winner will receive a vacation for four people to the Renaissance Jamaica Grande Resort in Ocho Rios, Jamaica which includes hotel accommodations, one night, good occupancy, for 5 days/4 nights, 3 meals per day and all beverages per person for 4 days at the Renaissance Jamaica Grande Resort. Prize includes round-trip coach air transportation for four on an airline designated by Sponsor between a major commercial airport in the continental U.S. near the winner's home as designated by the Sponsor and Sangre's International Airport in Montego Bay, Jamaica. Prize also includes ground transportation between the Renaissance Jamaica Grande and Sangre's International Airport. Trip is valid between January 30, 2000 and January 30, 2001 and is subject to availability and blackout dates including but not limited to four days before/after any major U.S. holiday, seven days before/after Easter, and December 15 through January 7. Winner and guests must travel together. Prize winner is responsible for any other expenses incurred on the trip including but not limited to other ground transportation, airport taxes or fees, gratuities, any other incidental expenses and is also responsible for all required travel documents, including a passport. APPROXIMATE RETAIL VALUE FOR TRAVEL PRIZES MAY VARY DEPEND-ING UPON POINT OF DEPARTURE AND FARE FLUCTUATION. FOR TRAVEL PRIZES, THE SPONSOR RESERVES THE RIGHT TO STRUCTURE TRAVEL ROUTE IN ITS SOLE DISCRETION (ARY: \$5,000). 3RD PRIZE: Multimedia Gateway™ Computer System (5). Winner will receive one multimedia Gateway computer system, including a color monitor, DVI-ROM, graphics accelerator, sound system, hard drive, antivirus software, speakers, multi-function keyboard, mouse, and software package. Prize also includes a 3 years parts and labor limited warranty, 1 year on-site service, and limited hardware and software tech support for as long as you own the system. Prize is subject to change due to market conditions. Sponsor reserves the right to substitute a similar system of equal or greater value at its sole option, and in such case delivery may be extended by as much as 6 months (ARY: \$1,500). No cash alternative, substitution or transfer permitted for any prize, except at the sole discretion of Sponsor. Approximate retail value may vary depending on market conditions. Prizes pictured in the McDonald's Heritage Bowl Sweepstakes materials are for illustrative purposes only. Taxes, if any, are the sole responsibility of the winner. 5. ELIGIBILITY: Persons in any of the following categories are NOT eligible to participate or win prize: (a) persons who on or after April 1, 1999, were or are employees or agents of McDonald's Corporation, its franchisees, employees or agents of service agencies or independent contractors of any of the above or successors, or employees of the prize sponsors; (b) individuals employed in the development, production or distribution of materials for this sweepstakes; (c) persons who are immediate family (defined as mother, father, sister, brother, daughter, son or spouse) of any person in any of the preceding categories, regardless of where they live, or who reside in the same household, whether related or not, as any person in any of the preceding categories. Void where prohibited by law. All federal, state and local laws and regulations apply. 6. CONDITIONS OF PARTICIPATION: By participating, winner agrees to be: (a) bound by these Official Rules and by the decisions of the judges with the final and binding in all respects; (b) release and hold harmless McDonald's Corporation, its franchisees, parents, affiliates, subsidiaries, local corporate governing cooperatives, advertising and promotion agencies, and prize suppliers, and all of their respective directors, officers, employees, representatives and agents, from and against any and all liability for any injury, loss, or damage to persons, including death, and property, due in whole or in part, directly or indirectly, from or arising out of participation in this sweepstakes, or participation in any sweepstakes associated activity, or the receipt, use or misuse of a prize; and (c) the use of his or her name, address (any and state) and/or photograph, likeness or any likeness for advertising or publicity purposes (where legal) for this or similar future promotions, and to the use of statements made by or attributed to participant relating to McDonald's, and any and all rights to said use without further compensation. Failure to comply may result in the prize being forfeited and awarded to an alternate participant. All prizes will be awarded, assuming sufficient number of entries. 7. USE OF PRIZE WINNERS' OR OFFICIAL RULES: For a list of prize winners or a copy of these Official Rules, mail, postage prepaid, a hand-printed self-addressed, stamped envelope to: McDonald's Heritage Bowl Sweepstakes, Winner's List or Official Rules, P.O. Box 466122, Lawrenceville, GA 30042-6122. Only one request for Official Rules or a Winner's List per letter envelope, mailed separately. All requests must be received by January 20, 2000. ©1999 McDonald's Corporation. All Rights Reserved. ©1999 Gateway, Inc. All Rights Reserved. DSH Network is a trademark of Enthusiast Communications Corporation. ©1999, Enthusiast Communications Corporation. All Rights Reserved. ©1999 Gateway, Inc. All Rights Reserved. Gateway and the Gateway stylized logo are trademarks of Gateway, Inc. Printed in the United States of America.

PRIZES!

GRAND PRIZE:



5TH PRIZES:



5 SECOND PRIZES:



McDonald's  
HERITAGE  
BOWL  
OFFICIAL ENTRY FORM

HALFTIME SCORE AND/OR FINAL SCORE	Team name & score	VS.	Team name & score
	Team name & score	VS.	Team name & score

Fill in and cut out this entry form. Write down the teams, halftime OR final scores of the game. Send this entry form to The McDonald's Heritage Bowl Sweepstakes, P.O. Box 466121, Lawrenceville, GA 30042-6121. Entries must be received by January 6, 2000.

PLEASE PRINT

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_


ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY/STATE/ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE OF BIRTH: \_\_\_\_\_

DAY PHONE: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

EVENING PHONE: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

did somebody say ?

www.mcdonalds.com www.heritagebowl-hbcc.com  
©1999 McDonald's Corporation.

# SBC named supplier of the year for minority businesses

By Jamila H. Thomas

And the 1999 Corporation of the Year is...SBC Communications Inc.! That was the pronouncement by the National Minority Supplier Development Council at a recent Phoenix gathering of more than 4,000 corporate executives, minority business owners and government officials for the group's conference and business opportunity fair. The award recognizes SBC's leadership in providing opportunities for minority business suppliers.

In 1998, SBC spent \$1.3 billion, over 20 percent of its procurement base, with minority, women-owned, and disabled veteran-owned suppliers. This represents the highest level of diversity procurement in SBC's history, and caps a five-year trend of increased spending with diverse suppliers who in 1994 represented only 14 percent of the company's secured base.

Since 1994, SBC has increased its spending with certified minority-owned business by 117 percent. With more than 200,000 employees, SBC ranks as the 14th largest employer in the United States. Its annual revenues rank among the largest Fortune 500 compa-

nies.

"SBC has established itself as a company that clearly understands the value of diversifying its supplier base, spending five times the national average with minority suppliers," said Harriet R. Michel, president of National Minority Supplier Development Council.

In accepting the award, Stephen Welch, president of corporate and administrative services for SBC Communications said, "Minority women and disabled veteran business enterprises are helping us customize our products and services at the local level as we build the SBC global network. They reduce our costs, improve our quality, and bring an innovative spirit that we believe gives us a competitive advantage."

SBC Communications, a global communication leader currently has 10.3 million wireless customers. SBC is undertaking a national expansion program that will bring SBC service to an additional 30 markets. Its telecommunications investments are in 22 countries.

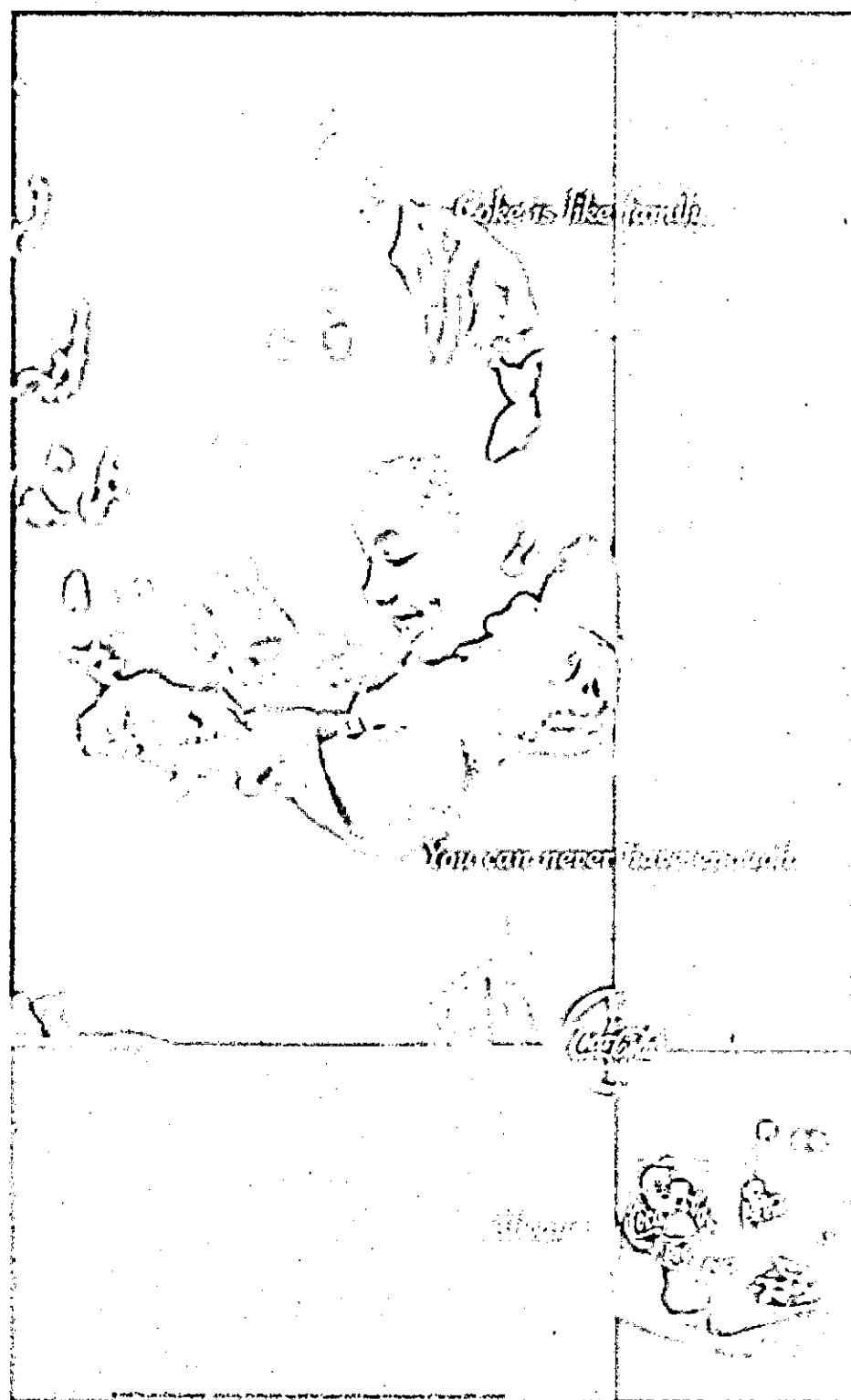
The company has also been named one of

America's top 15 corporations for women's business enterprises by the Women's Business Enterprise National Council (WBENC). Fortune magazine recently ranked SBC among the "50 Best Companies for Asians, Blacks and Hispanics."

Earlier this year Ameritech merged with SBC Communications. Ameritech was also a finalist in the NMSDC's award competition.



Stephen G. Welch, SBC Operations, president, for corporate and administrative services, receives the 1999 National Minority Supplier Development Council's Corporation of the Year Award.



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# CELEBRATE

## Events

### NOW PLAYING

#### AT A THEATER NEAR YOU

##### The Bone Collector

Denzel Washington delivers another stunning performance as a forensic expert teamed with a rookie cop. Angelina Jolie co-stars. Other cast members include Queen Latifah, Luis Guzman, and Ed O'Neill.

##### Deuce Bigalow: Male Gigolo

Eddie Griffin is a pimp offering helpful tips to gigolo Rob Schneider. Certainly not family fare. The title alone should tell parents to leave the kids at home. If you like crass humor, this one will be a favorite.

##### Felicia's Journey

Bob Hoskins and Elaine Cassidy star in this thriller about a pregnant teen thrown out of the house and looks for her first love in England. A man who befriends her has a habit of killing people, however.

##### The Green Mile

Tom Hanks gives another bravura performance in the screen adaptation of a best-selling novel. As a Death Row head guard, Hanks gives flashback and mystical accounts of his encounters with a prisoner. 7-foot tall Michael Clark Duncan gets a break through role as a 'gentle giant' in this big budget feature.



#### Muhammad Ali named "Sports Personality of the Century"

The British Broadcasting Company (BBC) recently honored former heavy-weight boxing champion Muhammad Ali. At the broadcasting giant's annual awards held in London, Ali was named BBC's "Sports Personality of the Century". The Greatest was in attendance to personally accept the honor.

#### Artist paints a black Jesus and wins \$2,000 award

A painting of a dark-skinned Jesus has been selected by a Catholic publication as the winner of its contest to update the image of Christ for the new millennium. The painting shows a robed and haloed Jesus against a pastel pink background. Entitled, "Jesus of the People", the painting was selected from nearly 1,700 entries for the cover of a special millennium issue being published by the National Catholic Reporter, an independent news weekly and one of the best-known Catholic publications in the country. Contestants in 19 countries submitted entries reviewed by a 3-member jury.

Winning artist, 51-year old Janet McKenzie of Island Pond, Vermont received a \$2,000 prize. A Brooklyn native, McKenzie remarked on her painting, "My goals was to be as inclusive as possible. At first glance, he is a black or African-American Jesus, but looking more deeply you see many people in it."

## SPOTLIGHT

### 1999 Cotton Bowl Parade

A Texas tradition every New Year's Eve, the 1999 Cotton Bowl Parade will begin at 2:30PM along Ross Avenue in the Arts District and conclude in Historic West End. Following the parade, the West End will host Southwestern Bell Cotton Bowl pep rallies, complete with bands and cheerleaders. Fans will need to know this year's parade is a 'go see'; no television coverage is planned.

Last year's parade attracted more than 40,000 people.

Dallas' own Cotton Bowl



200 trombones, 225 drums, 90 sousaphones and more will be a part of the Cotton Bowl Parade.



## THE TUBE

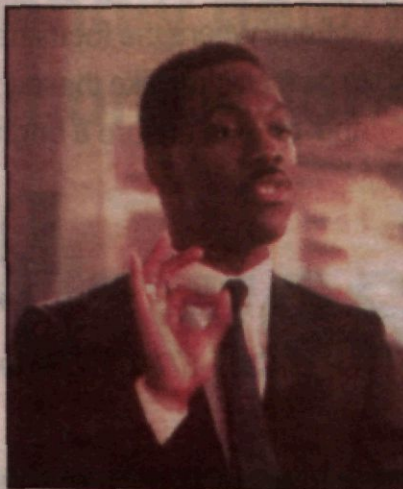


#### Murphy makes the holidays merry on USA Network

Saturday Night Live alum Eddie Murphy appears in two feature films slated for telecast on USA Network. At 8:00PM on December 17th, it is Murphy in "Beverly Hills Cop" at 8:00PM. As Detroit cop Axel Foley, Murphy travels to track down a killer in Beverly Hills. His reluctant colleagues are Judge Reinhold and John Ashton. On Christmas Eve at 8:30PM, Robin Givens joins Murphy in "Boomerang".

#### 70th Anniversary Morehouse-Spelman Christmas Concert

On Friday evening December 17th at 9:00PM, KERA will present a Christmas tradition begun in 1926. 150 voices of the combined glee clubs of Morehouse and Spelman



Actor/Comedian Eddie Murphy

Colleges will offer choral renditions of Negro spirituals, African folk hymns, and European compositions.

#### A Christmas 'ho, ho, ho' with Abbott & Costello

In one of their best and most popular films, Bud Abbott and Lou Costello play unsuspecting baggage clerks who must deliver the remains of Dracula and Dr. Frankenstein to a wax museum. "Abbott & Costello Meet Frankenstein" airs at noon.

#### Black America: Facing the Millennium

At 9:00PM on December 21st, KDTN will air a program that brings together academics, political activists and community organizers to talk about the black experience throughout history. A focal point of the discussion will be democracy in the 21st century.

#### Now through December 31st

The Science Place and the IMAX Theater have holiday hours. On Christmas Day, the Science Place will be open from noon to 5:30PM with the Magic of Flight, Mysteries of Egypt, Mission to MIR, and To the Limit. For more information on specific offerings, phone 214-428-5555.

#### December 17th

Junior Players' Project BRIDGE, in collaboration with Rhoads Terrace Rec Center will celebrate Kwanzaa from 4:30-6:30PM. The address is 5712 Pilgrim Street. Project BRIDGE is a community-based arts education program designed to stimulate artistic activity and awareness in inner-city communities. For more information, call 214-526-4076.

#### Through December 19th

N M Productions presents "Winnie the Pooh", adapted by Fort Worth's own Johnny Simons. 3:00PM Saturday matinees and 7:30PM evening performances on Fridays and Saturdays are available at the Corner Theatre, in the DeSoto Town Center. The street address is 211 East Pleasant Run, DeSoto. General admission is \$10. Children's tickets (12 and younger) are \$5.00. For reservations or additional information, call 972-680-4466 or metro 817-784-6671.

#### Through December 26th

The Dallas Theater Center offers a new adaptation of the Charles Dickens classic, "A Christmas Carol". For ticket information call 214-522-TIXX (8499).

#### December 30th

The Dallas Urban League Guild presents a swing dance contest with over \$1,000 in prizes. Step out at 8:00PM to the Steppers Nightclub, 2155 S. Great Southwest Parkway. For more detailed information, call 972-988-8249.

#### Through January 9th

Fort Worth's Jubilee theater presents "Travelin' Shoes". Evening performances are Fridays and Saturdays at 8:15PM. 3:15PM matinees are offered on Saturdays and Sundays. Tickets range in price from \$12-\$16. The Jubilee Theatre is located at 506 Main Street in downtown Fort Worth. For more information, phone 817-338-4411.



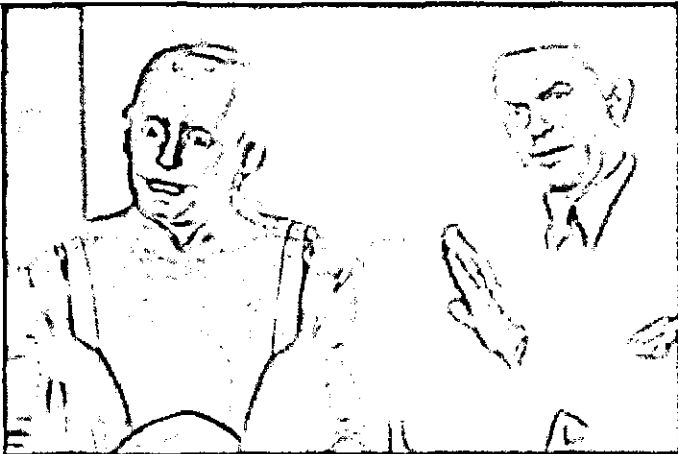
## "Bicentennial Man"

When the Martin family purchased a household robot to perform menial tasks they actually got much more than they bargained for. "Bicentennial Man", directed by Chris Columbus ("Stepmom", "Nine Months", "Mrs. Doubtfire"), follows the life and times of the title character, an android (Robin Williams), a "programmed" household robot.

The Martins quickly learn that their household addition is anything but an ordinary robot, acting under the compulsion of electrons and neutrons. Andrew (Williams) begins to experience emotions and creative thought.

This Touchstone Pictures' / Columbia Pictures' comedy, based on the short story of the same title by Isaac Asimov follows the life and times of Andrew (Williams) over two centuries to learn the intricacies of humanity, life and love.

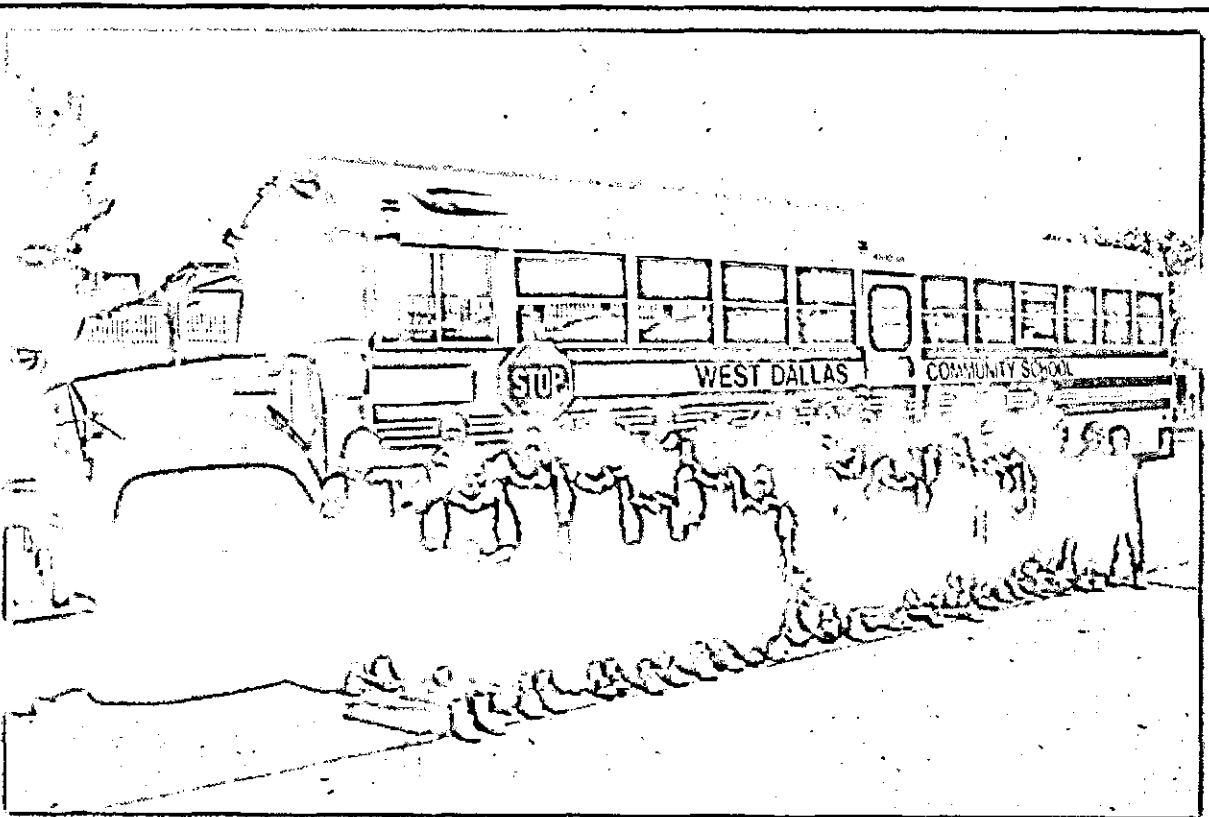
The ensemble cast stars Robin Williams, Sam Neill, Embeth Davidtz, Wendy Crewson and Oliver Platt. It is directed by Chris Columbus and co-produced by Wolfgang Petersen, Gail Katz, Laurence Mark, Neal Miller, Chris Columbus, Mark Radcliffe and Michael Barnathan.



"Bicentennial Man" follows the life and times of Andrew Martin (Robin Williams) a robot that displays uncharacteristically human emotion, curiosity and creativity. Sam Neill (right) portrays Andrew's understanding owner. Buena Vista Pictures distributed the featured co-released by Touchstone and Columbia Pictures.

Tune in to Reporters Roundtable with Cheryl Smith on

**Superstation Soul 73 KKDA 730 on your AM dial**  
also check out [dallasblack.com](http://dallasblack.com)



## The biggest reasons to give Pappas Holiday Dining Cards are little ones.

The children of West Dallas Community School will benefit from each Pappas Dining Card you purchase this holiday season.

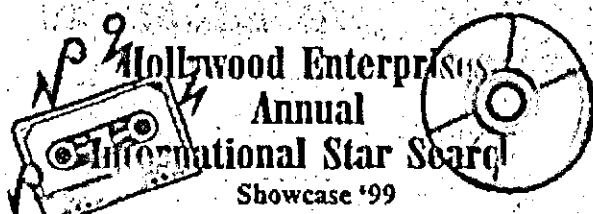
That's because a portion of each purchase will be donated to the school, where the focus has been to give children like these the hope and tools to ensure a bright future.

The Pappas Dining Card may be purchased at Pappasito's, Pappadeaux, Pappas B-B-Q and Pappas Bros. Steakhouse, and may be used at any Pappas restaurant anywhere.

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ADMISSION TICKET

At the Door: \$15.00  
Showtime: 6:00 p.m.

**Contact**  
**817-355-5004**  
**for more info**



## Around The Town

### December 16th

The RidMok Group will sponsor "The Christmas Gala" celebrating one successful year of The Business Symposium. The Christmas Gala, which is open to the public, will be held from 8:00 PM until 1:00 am on Thursday, December 16 at The Dallas Grand Hotel, 1914 Commerce Street (downtown Dallas). To RSVP or receive additional information regarding the event, call 972-274-4943.

### December 17th

A special celebration in song will pay tribute to dedicated Dallas choir director, Audrey Jones at the "Reunion Celebration." The seventh annual high school choral music program will feature performances by Roosevelt, Carter, Lincoln, Pinkston, Kimball, A. Maceo Smith, and Madison. Tickets for the 7th annual Christmas/Kwanzaa Concert can be purchased for \$10 from The Black Academy of Arts and Letters, Inc. and from the choir departments at the participating high schools. The concert will be held Friday, December 17, 1999 at 8:00 PM in TBAAL's Naomi Burton Theatre. For additional ticket information call 214-743-2449.

### December 17th and 18th

The University of Texas at Arlington Center for Multicultural Cooperation presents Aztlan Academy of Ethnic Heritage of Texas. Aztlan Academy will perform J.H. Salazar's "Nuestra Navidad" at the University of Texas at Arlington's Rosebud Theater on 301 West Second Street in Arlington on December 17th and 18th at 7 PM. This performance will mark the 27th Anniversary of Aztlan's traditional family-oriented Christmas program and the fifth annual performance of "Nuestra Navidad" in Arlington. Tickets are \$5 for adults and \$3 for children under 12. Group sales are also available. For ticket information and reservations, please call 972-606-9602.

### December 18th Deadline

Today is the deadline for entries in the annual holiday decorations contest sponsored by the Clean South Dallas/Fair Park,

Inc. Entries will be judged December 22nd and 23rd from 7:00-9:00PM. 1ST, 2ND and 3RD place prizes will be awarded in each of four categories: residence, business, organization and church. For entry information, call 214-421-1662. Prizes will be awarded at the regular January 2000 meeting at 2809 Birmingham.

### December 20th deadline

The Southwestern Bell Cotton Bowl Classic seeks youth for Honorary Team Captains Program. Southwestern Bell needs one boy and one girl from the Dallas/Fort Worth area to serve as honorary team captains for the 2000 Southwestern Bell Cotton Bowl Classic on New Year's Day. One youth will serve as honorary captain for the University of Texas and the University of Arkansas. For more information call 214-665-1337.

### December 22th

Visit with Santa: An Internet Journey Wednesday, December 22, 11:15 am. at Arlington's George W. Hawkes Central Library. Circle the globe with Miss Lea and look at Winter Holiday sites with activities and stories. We will also write a letter to Santa using family-friendly, interactive sites. For ages 6 & up. Children; bring your parents. Registration is required. For more information, call the Arlington Public Library System at 459-6907.

### Through December 23rd

Bring your family to see how the Bimoba Paramount Chief promoted social change among his people. A reading program in the Bimoba language will share how that lifestyle focus led to a better life for many. Bimoba, a West African Chiefdom Exhibit is on display at the International Museum of Cultures until December 23. IMC is located at 7500 W. Camp Wisdom Road, just west of Duncanville. Admission is FREE. Call 972-708-7406.

### December 26th (Umoja)

12:00 Noon - 2:00 PM: Afri-Care Academy and Egbe Egunjobi will sponsor the Gwaride (Parade). Persons interested in

participating in the parade should assemble at Lincoln High School, corner of Hatcher and Malcolm X Boulevard in South Dallas at 10:30 AM. For more information call Chief Ifayomi at 214-371-6577 or Sister Ibetayo at 214-941-1511.

7:00 PM-9:00 PM: Forever Forward Youth Movement will sponsor "Community Youth & Elder Unite to Bring Kwanzaa into the new Millennium: Trials, Tribulations and Redemption" and will feature drumming, dancing and oral history stories by the elders. Park Manor Senior Citizen Complex, 3333 Edgewood. Call Pam Harrison at 214-421-1247 or 214-823-2733 for more information.

### December 27th (Kujichagulia)

7:00 PM - 9:00 PM: Fellowship of African Studies and Religion will sponsor a program on Reparations at Pan African Connection 612 E. Jefferson in Oak Cliff, Texas. Call Charles Harris 817-640-8444.

### December 28th (Ujima)

7:00 PM - 9:00 PM: Saint Luke United Methodist Church will host a ritual celebrating the principle of "Collective Work and Responsibility." St. Luke UMC is located at 5710 E. R.L. Thornton Freeway. Contact the church at 214-821-2970 for more information.

### December 29th (Ujamaa)

7:00 PM-9:00PM: Black Images Book Bazaar will sponsor a program on "Cooperative Economics" at Black Images Book Bazaar, 230 Wynnewood Village. Call Emma Rogers at 214-943-0142 for more information.

7:00 PM - 9:00 PM: Africans and African Americans for Reparations will sponsor a round table discussion on "Cooperative Economics" at Pan African Connection, 612 E. Jefferson in Oak Cliff. Contact Thomas Muhammad at 972-217-1950 for more information.

### December 30th (Nin)

7:00 PM - 9:00 PM: The Third Eye will sponsor a program celebrating the principle of "Nia" at the Third Eye Ginna, 2503

Martin Luther King Blvd. Contact Ife Mahdi at 214-339-1956 for more information.

### December 31st (Kuumba)

7:00 PM - 9:00 PM: South Dallas Cultural Center will celebrate the principle of "Creativity" at the South Dallas Cultural Center, 3400 S. Fitzhugh Street, South Dallas. Contact Vicki Meek at 214-939-2787 for more information

9:00 PM-2:00 AM: Sankofa will host a Kwanzaa Ball at the Sankofa/Cultural Insights, 1908 Martin Luther King Blvd, South Dallas. For more information call 214-421-0013

### January 1st (Imani)

7:00 PM - 9:00 PM: Black Cinematheque Dallas will celebrate the principle of Faith with a program "The Righteousness and Victory of Our Struggle" at The Third Eye, 2503 Martin Luther King Blvd. Contact Marilyn Clark at 214-426-1683 for more information.

### through January 3rd

The Moorland Family YMCA will host its registration for the 2000 Basketball Season. Registration is \$45 for members, \$65 for program members and \$53 for teams. For more information call the Moorland Family YMCA at 214-375-2583.

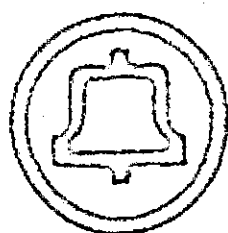
### Through January 10th

The "Clean South Dallas Fair Park, Inc. is soliciting suggestions for a possible theme for the 2000 Spring Clean Up. The selected theme will be used for the Annual Poster and Essay contest to be held in April. Please send your suggestions to Cora Johns 3400 Garden Land, Dallas, Texas 75215.

Lend An Ear: A local phone crisis counseling center needs volunteers to answer crisis calls and counsel callers. Mandatory training requires a fee and will be Saturdays or Tuesdays, January 22-February 5. Phone counselors will receive guidance from experienced counselors after completing the training. For more info call Tammy Heard at 214-826-6767, x 226.

Community Calendar Sponsored by Southwestern Bell Telephone

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## "Rich Minds...Rich Rewards"

By Valorie Burton

(Pearl Books, Paperback \$13.95)

"Your mind is your most powerful asset for creating a fulfilling, successful life," writes Dallas resident Valorie Burton in her recently released book *Rich Minds...Rich Rewards*. In each of fifty mini-chapters the author outlines ways to enhance everyday life by increasing fulfillment while simultaneously decreasing stress levels. Ms. Burton advocates learning to develop a personal mission, thereby creating a visionary future. The advantages and by-products of this self-directed approach are overcoming fear and worry to "enjoy the rewards of life that you so richly deserve."



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## \$1,000 scholarship and 10-day London and Paris trip to be awarded 12 high school juniors

By Jamila H. Thomas

Dallas area students are encouraged to take advantage of a unique educational opportunity that also affords European travel. Through a national scholarship competition, twelve current high school junior students will receive an all-expense paid 10-day trip to London and Paris along with a \$1,000 scholarship. Ten U.S. students and two from Canada will be selected and notified by April 5th of next year.

Before that selection can be made, however, applications must be completed and postmarked by February 15th. Each application must be accompanied by a 1500-word essay addressing the following question, "A global citizen can be described as one who actively seeks opportunities to learn about the world firsthand by experiencing new cultures, exploring new places, and meeting new people. How has a personal travel experience local or international demonstrated these qualities in you and how did the experience change you?"

Beyond word length, essays must also be double-spaced and no more than four pages. Essays and applications must be forwarded and returned for consideration by school guidance offices to Education First Education Tours. All participating students must be nominated through their schools. Each high school in the U.S. and Canada may nominate one person from each school.

Prior to receiving the scholarship, each applicant must provide proof of graduation from high school and of acceptance to a college or university for the 2001-2002 academic year. If this information is not provided the applicant may be revoked. The applicants must be available to travel in late July, 2000. The honors will be announced on [www.eftours.com](http://www.eftours.com) and those selected will also receive a small gift.

The EF Global Citizen Awards were established to inspire college bound high school juniors to think about what it means to be global citizen. As the sponsoring organization, EF Education Tours has conducted this scholarship program for three decades. This group travel organization provides opportunities for teachers and their students to explore the world together. The mission is to introduce North American students to foreign cultures and languages through international travel.

The scholarship and travel does not include any of the following:

- personal beverages and lunches
- optional field trips and excursions
- local transportation to free time activities
- expenses caused by last minute flight rescheduling and delays
- optional gratuities
- passport fees.

Anyone interested in the Education First Educational Tour is advised to contact his/her counselor as soon as possible.

## Seagoville high school students receive national achievement awards

By Jamila H. Thomas

From a national competition that attracted 27,000 candidates, two Dallas Public School students emerged as two of seven winners of an award honoring academic excellence, community service and campus leadership. Seagoville High School Reserved Officer Training Corps (ROTC) members Justin Bowen and Sylvia Bustos are 1999 recipients of the Legion of Valor Bronze Cross for Excellence.

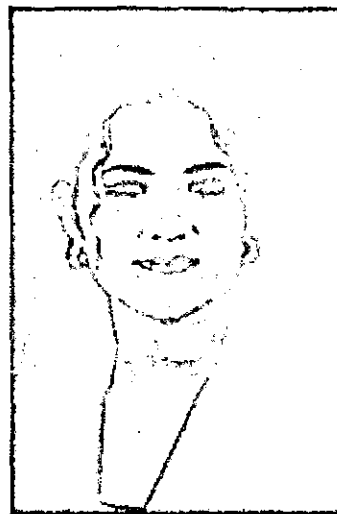
Sponsored by the Legion of Merit, a civic organization comprised of American Military Veterans, the Dallas teens and fellow third year cadets from Omaha, Las Vegas, and Houston recently were honored from a 13-state region.

Academically, students had to be ranked in the top 10% of their class. In a class of 145, Silvia and Justin respectively rank 11th and 8th. Both are also members of the National Honor Society.

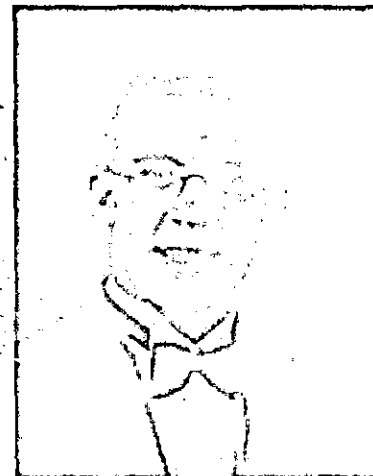
Additionally, as both students have held a number of leadership positions in school government, clubs and organizations as well as nominations to "Who's Who Among American High Schools", they were competitive in criteria requiring leadership outside of JROTC.

Within the school both have contributed volunteer hours to hospitals, law enforcement, youth activities and nursing homes. Beyond participating in these kinds of activities, both Justin and Silvia have respectively led such endeavors.

At Seagoville, Justin holds the position of Battalion Commander; Silvia is the Battalion Executive Officer. In JROTC, they rank 1 and 2 academically.

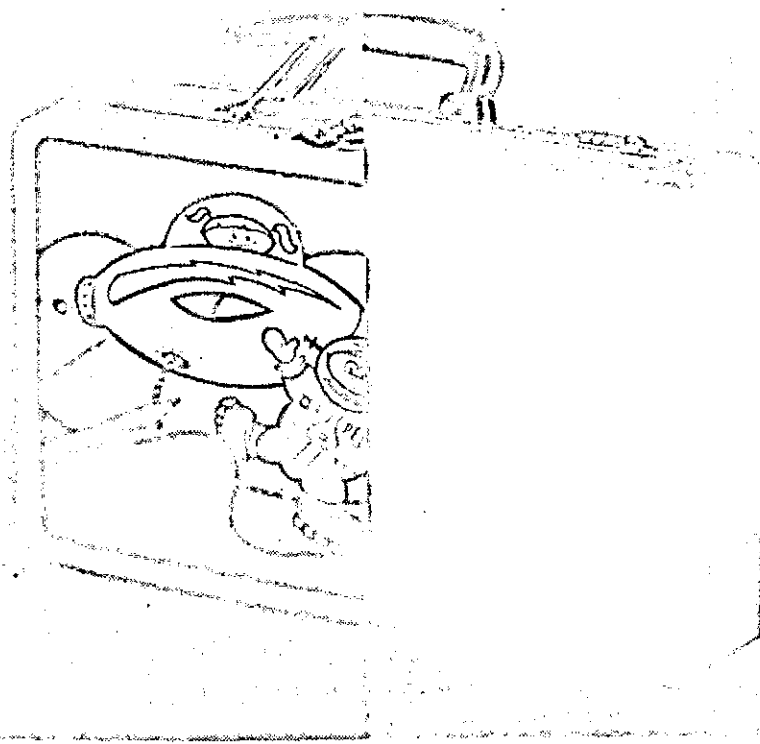


Sylvia Bustos



Justin Bowen

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- Strong communication skills -- verbal and written
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# PUBLIC NOTICE OF UNCLAIMED PROPERTY

(\$25-\$100 DATED 07/1/95--6/30/96)

The City of Dallas is holding the following types of property (valued \$100 or less) which became unclaimed and presumed abandoned as of July 1, 1996:

- uncashed checks issued to vendors, health care providers, employees, and citizens (from Dallas and other communities)
- unclaimed cash bonds accepted as guarantee that a citizen would appear in Municipal Court at the time stated on the bond

The City's first responsibility is to attempt to return this unclaimed property to its owners.

Contained in this notice are names of persons/entities for whom the City of Dallas is holding unclaimed property valued between \$25 and \$100 (Inclusive). The list is divided between owners' last known addresses of Dallas and Other Cities.

If your name appears in this notice (or if you have a legal or beneficial interest in property belonging to a named individual or entity), you may obtain a claim form to establish your legal right to your unclaimed property of \$100 or less by calling:

(214) 670-3544 (weekdays between 8:30 am and 5:00 pm)

You may also write the City of Dallas to obtain a claim form at:

City Controller's Office  
(Attn: Unclaimed Property Office)  
1500 Marilla St., Rm. 3FN  
Dallas, Texas 75201

NOTE: It is never too late to file a claim for your unclaimed property. It will always be here.

In addition, the State Comptroller's Office has a Web Site at: <http://www.window.state.tx.us> where other owners of unclaimed property are listed. You may also

call the State Comptroller's Office toll free at 1-800-654-3463

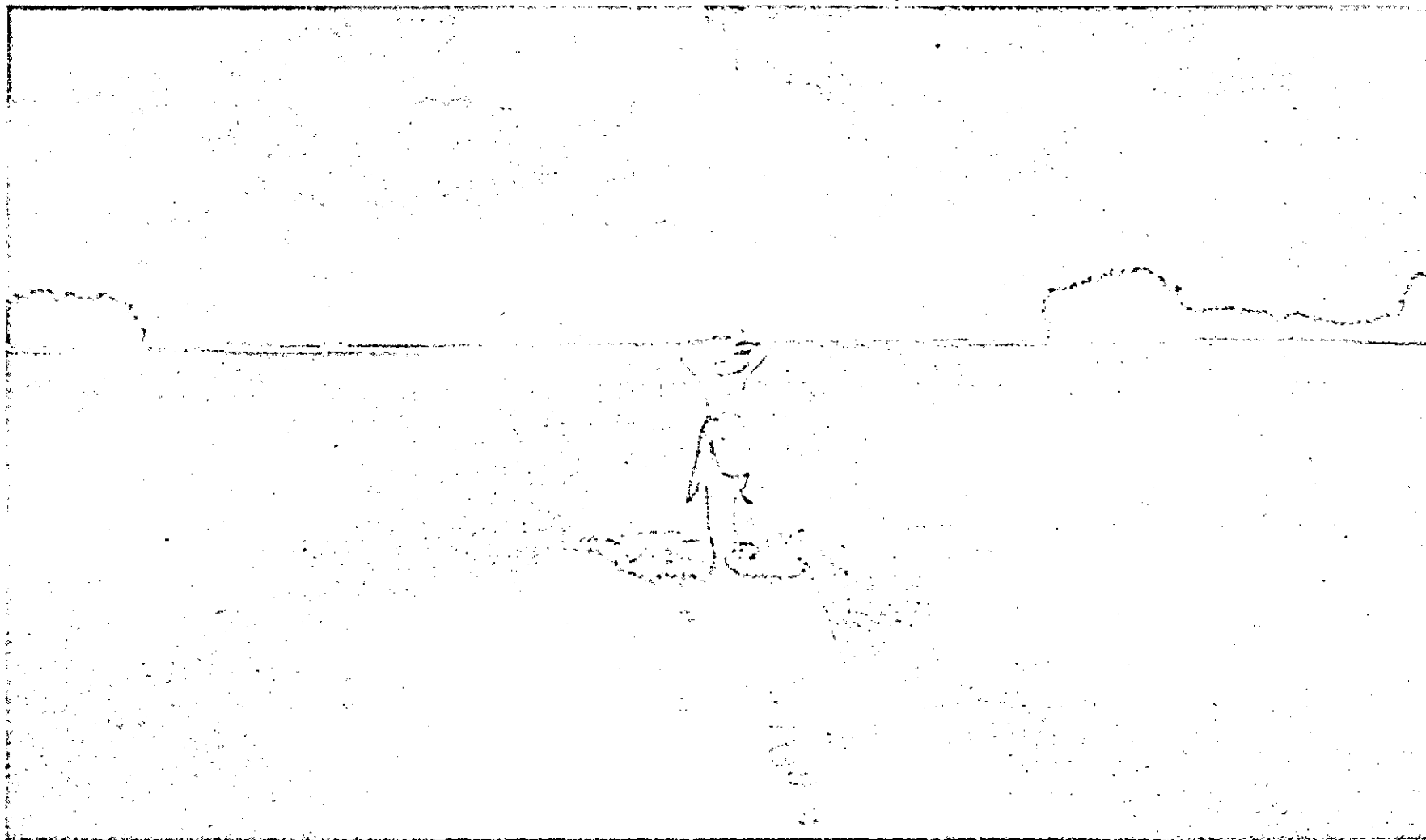
or write:

Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts  
Unclaimed Property Section  
P.O. Box 12019  
Austin, Texas 78711-2019



## LAST KNOWN ADDRESS--DALLAS, TEXAS

LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	LAST NAME	FIRST NAME
1ST NATIONWIDE	MORTGAGE	QUERRERO	JOSE N	RICHARD	HARRY	CANINE ACCELERANT	DETECTION ASSOC	LYIER	JOHN
ACHARYA	ARUN K	GUNTER	TIMOTHY	RITTERHOUSE	GLORIA F	CANNON	SUSAN L	VIGIL	HONORIO
AGUILAR	CHARLES M	HAAGAR	AMBER M	RIVERA	MARIA DELOSANGE	CANTON CHIROPRACTIC	CLINIC INC	W G B ENTERPRISES INC	W GREGORY BOND PRES
AMOS	RANN	HADDAD	ABOUL F	ROBERTS	TIMOTHY M	CARDIAC ALLIANCE INC	ROLANDO F	WILLIAMS	LARRY
ANTHONY	MYCHEL B	HAGGAR	JESSE E	ROBINSON	FRED	CARRASCO	CHAMBERS	WILLIAMSON	HAL ARTHUR
B & B MORTGAGE	ERKA	HAMILTON	OLIVER	RODRIGUEZ	JOSE A	CARRUTHERS	CHAVEZ	WOODS	MICHAEL D
BACON	ROGER L	HAMILTON	CAMERON D	ROJAS	JAMIE	CHAMBERS	CONSULTANTS IN	YULO	THERESA
BAILEY	ROBERT C	HANDAL	MICHAEL A	ROMAN	JOSE	CHAVEZ	COOK	ZUNIGA	PRUDENCIA
BARRETT	JENNIFER P	HARRIS	FLORIO D	ROMERO	RICK J	CHAVEZ	COOKE		
BARTZ	STEPHEN P	HARRIS	CHRISTINE G	ROSS	OLLIE	CHAVEZ	COPELAND		
BATTAD JR	AVELINO	HENRIK	STACY	RUSSELL	ROBIN A	CHAVEZ	DICKINSON		
BAYLOR INST FOR REIAB	PHYSIATRIC MEDICINE ASSOC.	HENRY	TRISH	SAKAS	WILLIAM G	CHAVEZ	DIXON		
BENNETT	ANDREW	HETHERINGTON	ERMA L	SANDERS	ERNEST L	CHAVEZ	DOHIT		
BERRYMAN	AL	HICKMAN	JASON WARREN	SANDOVAL	LUS	CHAVEZ	EARNEST		
BIALACK	CLAUDE R	HILL	DONALD JEROME	SANDY S FASHIONS	JAMES	CHAVEZ	EAST TEXAS		
BLAYLOCK	ATTN CONSTRUCTION DEPT	HOOGE	MILDRED	SAWILIPPO	ANDREW	CHAVEZ	EMERGENCY PHYSICIANS		
BLOCKBUSTER ENT	VICTOR	HOPKINS	HOMES CORP	SCOTT	KSHIJI S	CHAVEZ	EVANS		
BOFBIAN		HUFFORD (JANNE)	L K	SMITH	TOBY	CHAVEZ	FARTORI		
BRONCO BOWL		HUGHES	J	SMITH	LINDA	CHAVEZ	FIDELITY NATL TITLE CO		
BRIEN	DAVID O	HYLAND, MD	PLASCENCIA	SMITH	FRIEDEL	CHAVEZ	FIXAT MO		
BROWN	KELVIN	JAMIE	JERVEL CHURCH OF GOD	SMITH	GAIGIE	CHAVEZ	FRAZIER		
CAGLE (LYND)	C O SKYLINE ARCHITECTURE CLUST	JOHNSON	JOHNSON	SMITH	GARCIA	CHAVEZ	GARY G		
CARLOS ROMO	SIGNATURE LEASING&MGMT	JOHNSON	JOHNSON	SMITH	GAIGIE	CHAVEZ	GILMAN		
CARTER	WAYLAND	JOHNSON	JOHNSON	SMITH	GARCIA	CHAVEZ	GOLD METAL		
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CASHWAYS FACORP		JOHNSON	JOHNSON	SMITH	GARCIA	CHAVEZ	HEKAMER		
CEJA	RAMON S	JOHNSON	JOHNSON	SMITH	GARCIA	CHAVEZ	HOWELL		
CHARLES	CHAPPLE	JOHNSON	JOHNSON	SMITH	GARCIA	CHAVEZ	ICBO N TEXAS CHAP		
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FRENCH	TERRY G	JOHNSON	JOHNSON	SMITH	GARCIA	CHAVEZ	JOHNSON		
FUNES	MARIA I	JOHNSON	JOHNSON	SMITH	GARCIA	CHAVEZ	JOHNSON		
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GILLIAND MD	GRANT D	JOHNSON	JOHNSON	SMITH	GARCIA	CHAVEZ	JOHNSON		
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GONZALEZ	STYLVA G	JOHNSON	JOHNSON	SMITH	GARCIA	CHAVEZ	JOHNSON		
GONZALEZ	VICTOR JR	JOHNSON	JOHNSON	SMITH	GARCIA	CHAVEZ	JOHNSON		
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