

Minority Business: Where are our buffalo?

By Prof. McKinley Burt

A recent CNN television news special featured a broadly smiling native American gesturing toward the wide picture window of his expensively but tastefully appointed office: "The buffalo are back", he exclaimed as the camera panned across a never-ending vista of new homes, apartment complexes, shops and offices (manufacturing was in a different zone).

And last week's comment on the "Million Man March" has produced quite a bit of discussion ("where are the returns on that big investment of social capital?") in fact, enough questions have been raised to spark an updated examination of that entire process we have labeled Minority Business Enterprise or the colloquial Black Economics. What was the agenda? Did one exist?

Washington, D.C. economists have announced that America's black population (12%) will spend "450 billion dollars" in the nation's 1997 marketplace. But, dare we look for the return of our buffalo? The last time African Americans were excited by revelations of their tremendous purchasing power (1949-50), the principal thing that happened was that a class of black entrepreneurs called "black market men" used these statistics to convince the nation's

manufacturers of consumer goods to advertise in their publications: "We represent a captive, loyal market. Try us."

It was in vain that those of the 'self-help, own-your-future group sought to persuade the 'market men' to divert some of their economic action and talent to building inner-city enterprise -- as

some of the African American talent capable of operating enterprises of any size. But there has to be a structure at the base of the pyramid.

Dr. William A. Brown: In the fashion of "Imhotep," who 4600 years ago was Chief Architect and "Step Pyramid" builder for African King Zoser...this ar-

billions of dollars of data processing equipment for the U.S. Air Force. The magnitude of his financial responsibilities parallel that of the tenth-century B.C. Egyptian "Vizers of the Budget" for the "Temple Endowment Funds."

Dr. Shirley Ann Jackson is a world-

Dr. Walter E. Massey: As director of American's most prestigious research facility, Argonne National Laboratories, Chicago, Ill., Dr. Massey supervises the work of hundreds of the nation's best physicists, mathematicians and engineers.

Dr. Ron McNair: This young Black

and Design.

Shurney, Robert: The gift for innovation design has enabled this physicist to develop many of the devices that have made 'manned' space travel possible. Some of Dr. Shurney's specific contributions have been the tires for the 'Moon Buggy,' and the Solar Air Tubes' for the Space Shuttle.

Dr. John Slaughter: this former Academic Vice-President of Washington State University was confirmed in 1981 as 'Director of the National Science Foundation.' This appointment as head of what may... be America's most important government agency caps a most illustrious career. Dr. Slaughter was 1965 "Scientist of the Year," and, presently, is editor of The International Journal of Computers and Electrical Engineering.

Dr. Wynetta Spencer: A mathematician and design engineer at the Los Alamos Scientific Laboratory in New Mexico, she has held a number of important positions at this center for nuclear research.

Dr. William Wiley: Highly recognized as a consultant, this statistical chemist is Director of Research for the Pacific Northwest laboratories of the Battelle memorial Institute. The facility is a division of the nation's most highly respected scientific consulting firm.

'College graduates were being captured by the market men for exploiting the ghetto for the tobacco companies, the distilleries and auto manufacturers.'

opposed to siphoning the resources of the black community for the benefit of others. And to make things worse, the new generation of smart young black college graduates (first in their families) were being 'captured' by the market men for exploiting the ghetto for the tobacco companies, the distilleries and auto manufacturers.

Perceiving their opportunity, new waves of immigrants descended upon America's inner-cities, providing the services blacks would not provide for themselves. Next week we will continue our inquiry into "whether our buffalo will return" but let us finish here by citing

chitect is responsible for all U.S. Airforce facility design and construction around the world. A specialist in mathematical criteria in building standards, Dr. Brown heads a staff at the Pentagon.

Patricia Davis, C.P.A./MBA: Mathematics and Statistics major from Stanford, she is vice president and head of Bank of America's world Banking Division's Financial Service Group (1980). The job is exactly the same as that of "Chief Minister of Finance" to Pharaohs of the Middle Dynasties of Egyptian ancient Africa.

Brigadier General David M. Hall: A logistics mathematician, he manages

renowned physicist who was the first Black female to get a Ph.D at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Advocate of minority education she serves... on the school's Board of Trustees. Dr. Jackson now specializes in solid condensed state physics. Now a researcher for the Bell Systems Labs, she uses computers, imagination and sophisticated mathematics to explain the behavior of physical systems on the microscopic level. she has also been associated with the Fermi National Accelerator Laboratory, and has served as a visiting scientist at the European Organization For Nuclear Research.

Astronaut and expert in satellite-to-satellite communications is also internationally respected in the field of navigational systems. Dr. McNair, and experienced pilot, has designed-invented many of the devices used in space exploration.

Newell, Virginia K.: this Black female mathematician is the principal editor of the first book of its kind in the field: Black Mathematicians and their Works, N.Y. Charles Scribners, 1972.

Dr. Charles Reynolds: A professional engineer, he supervises 40 other engineers at the Westinghouse Defense Center in Baltimore, MD. Dr. Reynolds field is that of Logical Systems mathematics

Aid helps Vancouver workers

Nafta trade act gives some relief to displaced employees

The U.S. Department of Labor has certified approximately 373 workers at Boise Cascade Corp., Paper Division, in Vancouver, Wash., as eligible to apply for assistance and benefits under the Trade Act of 1974 and under the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) transitional adjustment assistance (TAA) program.

Workers at the company produced paper products.

The Labor Department found the company's major customers increased their reliance on imported paper products contributed significantly to the decline in sales, production and employment at Boise Cascade Corp., Paper Division, in Vancouver, Wash. Boise Cascade's Paper Division in Vancouver has closed.

According to the Labor Department's certifications, the workers are eligible to apply for TAA benefits and NAFTA-TAA assistance if they were laid off after September 9, 1995.

The transitional adjustment assistance program is authorized by the North American Free Trade Agreement Implementation Act.

The program became effective Jan. 1, 1994, and covers workers laid off or forced to work part-time because of increased imports from Mexico or Canada or shifts in production to those countries.

Under the program a group of three or more employees who believe they are affected by imports from Mexico or Canada can petition the governor of their state for assistance.

A union or company official, or an authorized community-based organization, also can petition on behalf of a firm's workers.

Petitions are available from state employment service offices or other officials designated by the governor. Based on the petitions, the Labor Department investigates to confirm whether workers were adversely affected by increased Mexican or Canadian imports or by transfer of production to those countries.

After they are certified eligible, workers may apply for benefits at a state employment service office.

The workers may receive a broad range of reemployment and retraining services, including career counseling, job placement assistance, job search and relocation allowances, income support during long-term training, and support services such as child care and transportation assistance.

Benefits are administered by the Washington State Department of Employment Security, with funds provided by the federal government.



Good In The Hood

Young and old alike always enjoy the annual multicultural music and food festival Good in the Hood, scheduled Friday, June 27 through Sunday, June 29, at holy Redeemer Area School. Last year, young people (above) celebrate the festival with a message and kick-off parade.

Marchers Kick-off NNO Activities

The appearance of National Night Out marchers in the Starlight parade marks the first of a number of crime prevention activities this summer.

Always the first Tuesday in August, this year's National Night Out celebration is Aug. 5. On this night, neighborhoods in Oregon and nationwide will hold block

parties to boost neighborhood spirit and strengthen community police partnerships.

People are encouraged to lock their doors, leave their porch lights on, and spend the night outside getting to know their neighbors. As a sponsor of National Night Out, PGE will donate door prizes for the area's block parties.

A National Night Out Kick-off party in downtown Portland's Pioneer Courthouse Square will precede the main event on Monday, July 21.

For more information how to organize a block party, contact the City of Portland Office of Neighborhood Association at (503) 823-4519.

Tri-Met unveils future fleet

Air conditioning and low floor buses coming to a bus stop near you

Tri-Met General Manager Tom Walsh, along with two customers with disabilities, today demonstrated the new fleet of the future -- low floor buses. These buses allow faster and easier boarding for all passengers.

Walsh added that Tri-Met plans to include air conditioning for all new buses ordered, and that all existing MAX light rail trains will be retrofitted for air conditioning. The Tri-Met Board of Directors will vote on the matter at its June 25 meeting.

"Our goal is to provide quality service for all of our customers," Walsh said. "This includes having reliable accessible service, as well as air conditioning for our passengers. We believe that adding these features will help to keep our customers, as well as attract new ones."

Tri-Met is now operating a low floor bus for three weeks on Line 15-NW 23rd/Mt. Tabor. BC Transit in Canada loaned Tri-Met the use of the bus to familiarize customers, operators and maintenance crews about the new bus. This fall, Tri-Met

will receive its first order of low floor buses -- 22 in total. Additionally, 65 high floor buses will also be delivered this fall.

All new buses, including the 87 being delivered this fall, will include air conditioning. Walsh is also committed to retrofitting the 26 existing MAX light rail cars with air conditioning. It's estimated that retrofitting each MAX car will cost around \$140,000, and should be complete by the time Westside MAX opens in September 1998.

New Farmers Market opens

A new farmers' market opens this week on Pioneer Courthouse Square, downtown. You'll find strawberries, raspberries, salad fixings, wild mushrooms, herbs, smoked salmon and oysters, lamb, breads and vegetables of all kinds from 40 of Oregon's best farmers each Wednesday from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. This week's chef demonstration is by David Machado of Pazzo Ristorante. Meet Oregon's farmers face to face at the Portland Farmers' Market at Pioneer Courthouse Square.

The Multi-Cultural Music and Food FESTIVAL

Friday, June 27th 6-10pm
Saturday, June 28th 12-10pm
Sunday, June 29th 12-6pm

Main Stage	Multicultural Stage
FRIDAY, JUNE 27 6:30-6:45 Opening Ceremony 7:00-10:00 Bob Miller's Almost All-Star Band SATURDAY, JUNE 28 12:00-1:00 Boka Marimba 1:30-2:30 Tall Jazz 3:00-4:00 La Mayor Orchestra 4:30-5:30 Obo Addy 6:00-7:00 Chemistry 7:30-8:30 Tamara Stevens and the Solid Rock Speech Choir 9:00-10:00 Soul Vaccination SUNDAY, JUNE 29 12:00-1:00 Jimi and the Blues Masters with Myrtle Brown 1:30-2:30 The Michael Allen Harrison Quartet 3:00-4:00 Norman Sylvester Band 4:30-5:30 Swingline Cubs with Julianne Johnson	SATURDAY, JUNE 28 12:30-1:00 Judy Marsh Dancers 1:30-2:00 The Molly Malone Irish Dancers 2:30-3:00 Youth Olympian Wrestling Exhibition with Roy Pittman 4:00-4:30 Filipino-American Friendship Club 5:30-6:00 Brazilian-African Martial Arts (Gupo de Capoeira Regional do Brasil) 6:30-7:00 Kapakhi Brothers - Hawaiian Music and Hula SUNDAY, JUNE 29 1:00-1:30 Northwest Inupiaq Dancers 2:30-3:30 Los Tres Amigos (Mariachi) Estrella and Alberto 4:00-4:30 The Mein Tribe Dance Group (Laotian) 5:30-6:00 Shoe Horn (Tap Dancer and Saxophonist)

Special Kick Off Event
 Thursday, June 26 from 5 p.m. to 1 a.m.
McMENAMINS
 on Broadway, 1504 NE Broadway
Nii Ardey Allotey
 6 to 7 p.m.
Skip Elliot and Friends with Deborah Lee
 7-11 p.m.
 50 percent of the evening's revenue will go to support the Good in the Hood event!

GOOD IN THE HOOD PARADE
 Blazer Boys & Girls Club 5:30 pm Friday, June 27

ETHNIC MARKETPLACE
 Handmade Arts & Crafts
Special Attraction
The Buffalo Soldiers

Holy Redeemer Area School
 127 N Portland Blvd - 283-5175
 Admission: Families \$5.00, Adults \$3.00, Children \$1.00
 Please note: Times and entertainers are subject to change.
 Sponsored by the Neighborhood Outreach Association and our friends from

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CRAG HOLDEN
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