



▲ HARLEY DAVIDSON HOOKS UP WITH JOYNER

Syndicated radio and TV personality Tom Joyner (center) accepts a \$10,000 donation from Harley-Davidson Motor Co. on behalf of the Tom Joyner Foundation and its efforts to support educational programs at Historically Black Colleges and Universities. The donation was made during a live radio broadcast of Joyner's Sky Show in Raleigh, N.C.



▲ THE WINNERS OF THE 2006 DAIMLERCHRYSLER FINANCIAL SERVICES/NNPA FOUNDATION ENTREPRENEURIAL AWARD were announced during the National Newspaper Publishers Association Foundation's annual banquet. Pictured from left to right are: Matthew Scott, personal finance editor, *Black Enterprise* magazine and part of the selection committee; Inez McCullough, *The County News*; honorable mention winner Mason McCullough, publisher, *The County News*, Statesville, N.C.; Brian Townsend, executive director, NNPA Foundation; selection committee member Stephan Koller, senior manager, corporate communications and public relations, DaimlerChrysler financial services; grand-prize winner Raymond H. Boone, senior publisher, *Richmond Free Press*; Jean Boone, *Richmond Free Press*; selection committee member Vincent Barnes, executive director, Rebirth of Englewood Community Development Corporation; and selection committee member William Reed, editor, *Black Press International*.

LESTER PILOTS NEXTEL CUP ENTRY

Bill Lester piloted the No. 23 Nextel Cup entry for Bill Davis Racing at Atlanta, making him the first African-American driver to attempt to qualify for a Cup Series race in 20 years.

The last African-American to start a Cup event was Willy T. Ribbs at Michigan in 1986. Before that, George Wiltshire and Randy Bethea each had a run at a Cup race in 1975.

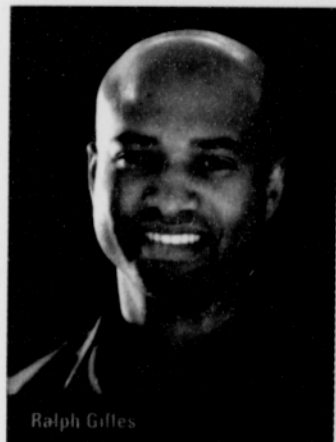
Lester was the first Black driver to compete in a Busch Series event in 1999, the first to start a Craftsman Truck Series race in 2000, the first to win a pole for a modern-era NASCAR race in 2003, the first to win \$1 million in NASCAR and the first to lead a top-division NASCAR race in more than two decades.

TOP CAR DESIGNER GILLES PROMOTED

Ralph Gilles has been promoted to vice president, Jeep/Truck and Component, Chrysler Group, replacing retiring Ricardo Aneiros. Gilles has held several roles of increasing responsibility since joining the automaker in 1992.

"Ralph has emerged as a true talent not only in our organization but in the automotive design community," said Trevor Creed, the Chrysler Group's senior vice president of design.

Gilles, most popularly known for his role



Ralph Gilles

in managing the design of the Chrysler 300C sedan, has a bachelor of science degree in transportation design from the Center for Creative Studies, and a master's degree in business administration from Michigan State University.

TOYOTA HELPS MENTOR YOUNG BLACKS

If you've ever had a mentor, you know they can play a pivotal role in career development and goal setting.

Amber Ewell graduated from Toyota's Young Black Scholars mentoring program in 2002 and now works for Lexus in Torrance, Calif. It was her former mentor who exposed Ewell to corporate life at Toyota and served as a source of inspiration.

"She was living proof that if you set your mind to something, it can happen," said Ewell, who graduated in three years with honors from San Diego State University. "Her example and words of encouragement planted seeds of confidence and