

Howard Zehr '65 Receives Prestigious Justice and Peacebuilding Award

THE COMMUNITY OF CHRIST has honored Howard Zehr '65, founder of the first victim-offender reconciliation program in the United States, with its International Peace Award, one of the world's top awards for work in the peace field.

The award includes a sculpture and a \$30,000 donation to an organization designated by the recipient. Zehr's choice was the



Howard Zehr '65

Center for Justice and Peacebuilding at Eastern Mennonite University in Harrisonburg, Va., where he is co-director. He plans to use the award to assemble and publish the research of some of the center's master's degree graduates.

The award is in recognition of Zehr's role as "one of the founders of the contemporary restorative justice movement," according to the organization's website, www.cofchrist.org/peaceaward.

Additionally, *The Journal of Law and Religion* has given Zehr its "Lifetime Achievement Award" at an Oct. 5 ceremony at Hamline University in St. Paul, Minn.

Zehr has written or edited seven books, including the widely-cited "Changing Lenses: A New Focus for Crime and Punishment," which is in its third edition and has been published in Russian, Ukrainian and Japanese. An easy-to-read version of Zehr's ideas is contained in his "Little Book of Restorative Justice," which also has been translated into multiple languages.

Zehr, who graduated from Morehouse in 1965, holds a master's degree from the University of Chicago and a doctorate from Rutgers University. Before coming to EMU in 1996, he served for 19 years as director of the office on crime and justice for the Mennonite Central Committee. A former professional photojournalist, Zehr often uses photography and interviews for his documentary work on restorative justice topics. ■

Edward G. Long '71 Named Police Chief in Portsmouth, Va.

EDWARD G. LONG '71 has been named the police chief of Portsmouth, Va.

Long began his career as a uniformed street police officer on the Atlanta Police Department in 1969. He served that department for 20 years and left with the rank of captain as a night chief of a force of 1,700 police officers.

He served as a major with the Dayton, Ohio, police department from 1986 to 1990; as chief and executive vice president with Eastern Shield Security Systems Inc. in Washington from 1990 to 1996; and as chief of Housing Police and Security Services with the Cincinnati Metropolitan Housing Authority from 1996 to 1998. He joined the Portsmouth Police Department on March 1, 1999, as an assistant chief and was serving as interim chief.

Long earned a bachelor's in business administration from Morehouse in 1971, studied toward a master of business administration degree at Atlanta University (now Clark Atlanta University) and earned a J.D. from Atlanta Law School in 1980.

Edward is younger brother of fellow alumnus and Region 8 vice president Donald Long '69. ■

Thomas C. Chatmon Jr. '79 to Run Orlando's Downtown Development Board, Redevelopment Agency

THOMAS C. CHATMON JR. '79, president and chief executive officer of Albany Tomorrow Inc., the agency that handles redevelopment in the southwestern Georgia city, has been hired to run Orlando's Downtown Development Board and its Community Redevelopment Agency, which oversee development of the city center.



Thomas C. Chatmon Jr. '79

Chatmon was instrumental in developing and executing the \$210-million Albany Downtown Riverfront Master Plan. Other projects on Chatmon's watch included the Flint RiverQuarium, the Turtle Grove Play Park and the Hilton Garden Inn Hotel and Conference Center. ■

1960s

Julius Coles '64 recently received the 2007 James Madison Medal from Princeton's Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs. Coles, a 1966 graduate of Princeton, is currently the president of Africare and previously served for 28 years with the U.S. Agency for International Development. The Madison Medal, named for the nation's fourth president, recognizes an alumnus who has had a distinguished career, advanced the cause of graduate education or achieved an outstanding record of public service.

1970s

Ralph B. Everett '73 is the new head of the Joint Center for Political and Economic Studies, the nation's premier black think tank. Since 1989, Everett had been a partner with Paul, Hastings, Janofsky & Walker, where he served as managing partner for the firm's Washington, D.C., office and co-chair of the federal legislative practice.

Bruce E. Gipson '79 recently returned to his hometown of Denver to serve as HIV/STD Prevention Case Manager/Individual Level Intervention Specialist with

the program, Brothas4Ever. Brothas4Ever is one of several programs from "It Takes a Village," an African American non-profit agency whose mission is to coordinate and collaborate with other agencies in the distribution of various services to target populations with the ultimate goal of reducing health and social disparities among underserved people of color in the Greater Denver area.

1980s

Timothy Tee Boddie '81 recently received the National Conference for Community and Justice Humanitarian Award in Hampton, Va. The award is presented annually to individuals who have promoted respect and understanding among people of diverse racial, ethnic and religious backgrounds.

Eric J. Troy '84 was recently appointed director of the Bell National Resource Center on the African American Male at The Ohio State University. Troy will oversee initiatives and programming targeted to increase the academic performance, retention and graduation rate of African American male students. He previously served as

program manager and manager of public relations and special projects for the Center and Office of Minority Affairs.

Sanford E. Watson '85 has joined the law firm of Tucker Ellis & West, LLP with offices in Cleveland, Los Angeles and San Francisco. Prior to joining the firm, he served as the director of public safety for the city of Cleveland.

1990s

Stephen Barr '91 was recently named the national advertising director for sports/fitness within the Hearst Magazine Group. Barr oversees advertising for *Men's Health*, *Bicycling*, *Runner's World*, *Backpacker* and *Best Life* magazines. Previously, he served as general accounts director for *Esquire Magazine*, also part of the Hearst Magazine Group.

Arvon J. Perteet '91 was recently sworn in as a practicing attorney in the state of California. He plans on practicing in the Bay Area.

Rollin Fitzpatrick Jackson Sr. '92 recently earned a doctorate in career and technical education with an emphasis on human resource education from the University of Missouri-Columbia.

Tony Lamar Burks II '93, the founding principal of North Carolina's first early college high school, has been

named director of Magnet and Choice Schools for Guilford County Schools in North Carolina. Burks and a team of educators developed The Early College at Guilford into a national model. Since the school's inception in 2002, North Carolina has launched the New Schools Project, Learn and Earn and other



Tony Lamar Burks II '93

innovative initiatives designed to establish smaller learning communities and reform high schools statewide.

Paul Stewart '93 was recently chosen named alderman for the 18th Ward of the Cook County (Ill.) City Council. Stewart previously worked for the Chicago Department of Planning and Development, the city Department of Streets and Sanitation and the Chicago Housing Authority.

John Easton '95 was featured in the March 2007 issue of *Black Enterprise*

Profiles *in* Leadership

Implementing Social Change

Charles "Chuck" Hobbs II '94 and Richard Keith Alan '94

Behind one of the year's most high profile cases—Florida's first ever hazing trial—are two defense attorneys whose legal roots can be traced back to the halls of Kilgore on the Morehouse campus.

Attorneys Charles "Chuck" Hobbs II and Richard Keith Alan II, both in the class of 1994, are the defense attorneys for five members of the Florida A&M University chapter of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity Inc. who are being tried by Florida under its new hazing law for allegedly hazing a pledge.

The case has received widespread attention, with coverage on ABC News, CBS News, CNN, Court TV, Forbes Online and Fox News, as well as in news media in Japan, France and the United Kingdom.

After a mistrial was declared back in September, a new trial began in December.

Although the case is significant to Florida and national history, for Hobbs and Alan, the significance goes much deeper. The duo's dream of practicing law and making a difference together was declared while they were roommates at the College.

"As roommates in Kilgore Hall room 207 our junior and senior years, we both realized that our interest in the law could be used as a tool to implement social justice," Hobbs said.

Hobbs said Morehouse allowed them to reach for higher heights.

"Upon entry into Morehouse most, if not all, of our classmates were top students in their respective hometowns," Hobbs said. "Knowing that, there was a friendly competition among us to succeed in hopes of becoming future leaders."

Alan agreed.

"Morehouse offered an atmosphere of free expression and intellectual debate amongst a diverse student body," Alan said. "This gave me an opportunity to develop the patience and objectivity needed to analyze differing points of view."

Alan is a 1997 University of Miami School of Law graduate, a South Florida trial attorney licensed to practice in Florida's state and federal courts. He also handles civil and criminal litigation.

Hobbs graduated from Florida A&M University in 1995 with a master's in social science and from the University of Florida College of Law in 1998 with a J.D. He started his legal career as an assistant state attorney and has worked for several prestigious groups, including the Law Offices of Frank Sheffield, P.A. and Knowles & Randolph. Hobbs also has served as an adjunct professor at FAMU and is a



Charles Hobbs II '94 fields questions from reporters.

popular local newspaper columnist, as well as a respected source for such news media as ESPN.

Hobbs also was a defense lawyer in the 2003 high-profile case in which NFL player and then-Florida State University quarterback Adrian McPherson was on trial for gambling violations. The case ended in a mistrial with a deadlocked jury.

Morehouse professor and Honors Program director Jocelyn Jackson remembers coaching Hobbs on the Morehouse brain bowl team.

"He was very forthright and very aggressive," Jackson said. "He was very, very capable. I saw him as an emerging leader, being in charge of something. He was somebody who was able to give confidence to others, making them believe in themselves."

Hobbs said that his professors at Morehouse, like Jackson, planted a seed in him that is still growing today.

"My professors at Morehouse went to great lengths to establish a love for learning that went deeper than rote knowledge," he said. "In particular, Dr. Marcellus Barksdale and Dr. Giles Conwill in the history department helped to increase my understanding of the historical degradation of black people with respect to human rights and due process under the law."

Both young attorneys have a passion to inspire the next generation. Hobbs plans to join a group of other black male professionals in establishing a mentoring program for young black men. He wants youth to know that all things are possible and the sky is the limit when it comes to their career aspirations. ■



John Easton '95

magazine (page 58). Easton, an award-winning multimedia producer, was contacted by the magazine to support the development of an article covering YouTube, an online media phenomenon. His expertise was important in providing expert analysis and real-world examples on how businesses can take advantage of this growing opportunity.

Jeff Barton '96 was recently appointed to the position of deputy budget

and research director for the City of Phoenix. Barton is responsible for coordinating and managing approximately 50 percent of the city's \$3.6-billion operating budget. He also recently was appointed chairman of the audit committee for the Arizona Federal Credit Union.

Kevin Johnson '96 was recently chosen to become the senior pastor of Bright Hope Baptist Church in North Philadelphia. Johnson, who will be the church's first new senior pastor in 35 years, will take over leadership of the church following the retirement of the Rev. William H. Gray III, former head of the United Negro College Fund, who has served as pastor since 1972. Johnson holds a master of divinity degree in religious



Kevin Johnson '96

education from Union Theological Seminary and is a doctoral candidate at Columbia University.

Leonard Sledge '96 was recently appointed assistant director of economic development at The College of William and Mary. In this position, Sledge will play a lead role in managing projects and identifying grant opportunities. His responsibilities also include working with faculty and local companies in the areas of manufacturing and workforce development.

Jonathan L. Walton '96 has successfully defended his doctoral dissertation to earn the doctorate from Princeton Theological Seminary. His dissertation engages televangelism in the African American community as a form of popular and political culture and was awarded the highest distinction of summa cum laude. Walton has relocated from Princeton to assume

the position of assistant professor of religious studies at the University of California, Riverside.

Abdullah Birdsong '99 recently completed requirements for the master of music degree at Samford University in Birmingham, Ala. He currently serves as CEO of Rhema Release Media LLC, a Christian media firm specializing in web design and book publishing.

2000s

Jeremiah Thompson '01 has been named the 2006-2007 senior resident chaplain at Emory University Crawford Long Hospital in Atlanta.

Robert Wall Jr. '01 was recently named superintendent of buildings and grounds for Jackson State University. Wall oversees facility operations and assists in the development of an energy management division for the university. Prior to assuming this position, he was operations project manager for the Jackson Medical Mall Foundation.

Chaz Arnett '03 was recently chosen as one of *Essence* magazine's 2007 Do-Right Men. Arnett, a recent graduate of Harvard Law School, was recognized for the work that he is doing to transform his community. The former Morehouse



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Profiles *in* Leadership

Scoring in Banking

Darryl Green '87

Darrell Green '87 may share a name with a former seven-time All-Pro defensive back for the Washington Redskins, but he's making impressive moves of his own—in the banking arena.

A 1987 graduate with a degree in business administration with a concentration in banking and finance, Green is first vice president for commercial sales administration at SunTrust Bank, the seventh largest bank with 33,000 employees and assets topping \$100 million.

"I was in sales for 18 years. I knew I wanted to do something greater. I did the research," Green said. "I took the best of what I did in sales and, now, I serve a different client – an internal customer."

In his current role, Green manages incentive programs for the bank and supports all the relationship managers for the commercial side of the bank. The company recently asked him to develop an ethnic affinity group, a community with similarities—such as black MBAs or Asian American journalists.

Green got his start at National Bank of Detroit—now JPMorgan Chase—as a commercial loan representative/credit analyst, where he established and managed a \$30-million commercial loan portfolio and built an account base from zero to 27 first-time commercial clients in Dayton, Ohio. It was also in Dayton that senior executives noticed his potential and recognized him as the Top Sales Performer in Ohio.

In 1996, Green made the decision to join Atlanta-based SunTrust Bank as an assistant vice president. Recognizing his talent for sealing the deal, SunTrust promoted him to vice president and finally to director of sales administration/first vice president, Commercial Banking Group. At SunTrust, he has managed a portfolio consisting of \$40 million in commercial loans and more than \$11 million in deposits, with an aggregate annual profitability of more than \$1 million. He built a portfolio from zero to more than \$35 million, earning responsibility for business customers with annual revenues ranging from \$5 million to \$200 million.

Green's work earned him "stellar" performance rating for the year 2003, when he generated \$14 million in new loan volume in 2003 and established relationships with five new clients. He also is actively involved in hiring/training of new associates. When he was a relationship manager, he was ranked 4th among 44 relationship managers in the SunTrust organization.

In his work at SunTrust, Green has traveled all over the Caribbean and Mexico, rewarding employees for their hard work.

"I credit Morehouse for my success," he said. "My eyes were opened thanks to Ben McLaurin, who took me on the Spring Tour. It all started at Morehouse.

"Going to Europe at 19 and places like the Louvre changed my life. I never thought I would have gone to the places I have been," he said.

Green said the key to success is to "cast a wide net, find a passion and explore." ■



Darrell Green '87

—Rori Blakeney

Bonner Scholar resides in Baltimore.

Martin L. Woods '04 recently was featured as a soloist for the Chicago Symphony Orchestra's first complete performance of "All Rise" by Pulitzer-prize winning composer Wynton Marsalis. "All Rise" breaks new artistic ground with its harmonious fusion of the classical, jazz, gospel, blues, and folk music genres.

Donald Washington '06 was recently honored by the Student Non-Violence Coordinating Committee for his service to the Atlanta community. Washington currently serves as founder and executive director of The Peacemakers, an organization that provides King-inspired nonviolence training to Atlanta youth. He also was featured in the January 2007 issue of *Ebony* magazine.

Births

A. Benjamin Spencer '96 and his wife, Marlette, recently celebrated the birth of their third child, James William Spencer. The family, which also includes two daughters, Mya and Isabella, lives in Richmond, Va. Spencer is a law professor at the University of Richmond School of Law and author of *Acing Civil Procedure*.

Rollin Fitzpatrick Jackson Sr. '92



and his wife, Akasha, are the proud parents of a daughter, Paige Makenzie, who was born on Sept. 28, 2006. She weighed 7

pounds, 4 ounces at birth. The couple also has a son, Rollin Jr. ■

Passages

Otis Smith '47 had legacy of breaking sports records, racial barriers that still stands



Otis Wesley Smith '47

OTIS WESLEY SMITH '47 earned the nickname "Will Shoot" and still holds the record for being the only documented athlete to letter in four varsity sports at Morehouse. However, the arena where his mark would prove to be indelible is the medical field.

Smith, Georgia's first practicing black pediatrician, died on February 5 2007, of complications due to Alzheimer's. He was 81 years old.

He, along with fellow physicians Albert Davis, James Ellison and Roy Bell, led the effort of the Doctors' Committee on Implementation to document the inequities based on race within the American health care system, particularly within Atlanta, and to expose them to full public view. The four physicians traveled to the White House to meet with President Lyndon Johnson to demand action. Documents enforcing the health care provisions of the Civil Rights Act were signed and executed. The doctors' courageous work helped to desegregate all hospitals in Georgia. As chairman of the committee, Smith was instrumental in revolutionizing America's health care system.

Later, Smith joined the Fulton-DeKalb Hospital Authority, the governing board of Grady, and would see the hospital's West End Health Center named in his honor.

Smith, who earned an M.D. from Meharry Medical School, had been honored extensively for his unselfish involvement in and dedication to community service. Morehouse awarded him the first

ever Bennie Service Award in 1989. He was named physician of the year by the Georgia State Medical Association and the Atlanta Medical Association. He also received citations from three Georgia governors.

He was a 1946 initiate member of the Alpha Rho Chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity. He was a member of the Butler Street YMCA, the Atlanta Medical Association, the Georgia State Medical Association, the National Medical Association, the West Fulton Rotary, and is a life member of the NAACP.

Among numerous other organizations, he was a member of the board of trustees of the St. Mark AME Church, the board of trustees of the Turner Theological Seminary of ITC, the advisory board of Morehouse College, the board of directors of the Sickle Cell Foundation, the board of directors of the Southside Comprehensive Health Center, the Fulton-DeKalb Hospital Authority, and a member and former president of the Atlanta Chapter of the NAACP.

The Fulton DeKalb Authority (Georgia) dedicated a medical building on Martin Luther King Jr. Drive in his name. He also received the prestigious Trumpet Award for his work with the Doctors' Committee on Implementation. On Feb. 26, 2007, he was posthumously inducted into the Civil Rights Walk of Fame.

His ties to author Margaret Mitchell began in the 1940s, when she anonymously provided scholarships for Morehouse students to support their undergraduate and medical school education. As a recipient of one of those scholarships, Smith spoke publicly and frequently about the Pulitzer Prize-winning author's humanitarian works.

Smith and his wife, Gwendolyn, had one son, Ralph, a 1985 Morehouse graduate. His funeral was held in King Chapel on Feb. 12. ■

T. Herman Graves '43 died in September 2006 of apparent kidney failure in Atlanta. He died on this 87th birthday. Graves was a major contributor to the College and a long-time member of the National Alumni Association. He had a very successful career as a football coach at Howard High School in Atlanta, among other schools in the area. In 1971, he became an executive with the Atlanta Braves. His funeral was held on September 14 in the King Chapel.

Julius B. Bailey '51 died on February 12, 2007.

William "Tex" Robinson '64 recently died after a lengthy battle with cancer. While at Morehouse, Robinson served as captain of the Morehouse Tigersharks swimming team. He practiced law in Norfolk, Va., and served for many years as a state legislator.

Charles "Pie Man" Jackson '65 recently died of cancer in a Florida nursing home.

Robert A. Durant Jr. '71 died on Feb. 12, 2006, in Dillon, S.C. Durant was the owner of Disability Associates in Latta, S.C., which specializes in obtaining social and medical benefits for deserving individuals.

Donald Womack '75 passed away on April 20, 2006, of a heart attack in Los Angeles. He was a member of the varsity basketball team from 1974 to 1975.

Kenneth D. Thomas '79 passed away on October 29, 2006, in Michigan. He was owner of A1 Tax and Accounting Company in Romulus, Mich.

Kenneth Hardwick '85 recently died in Las Vegas as the result of a homicide. He was a real estate and business broker in Las Vegas, where he resided for the past five years.