



November 2004

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## Dear Board Members, Contributors and Governmental Leaders:

This edition of the *SC Econ Index* focuses on *Merrill Lynch Presents the South Carolina Stock Market Simulation* and its two offshoot programs, the *Mayor's Blue Chip Investors Program* and *Hootie & the Blowfish Take Stock in South Carolina*. It also gives an update on teacher training programs sponsored by *Ford Credit*, *SC Farm Bureau's Ag in the Classroom*, and **Mike Switzer**, host of ETV Radio's *SC Business Review*.



**Merrill Lynch**

**Merrill Lynch Presents the South Carolina Stock Market Simulation**

**Jeff Adams**, *Merrill Lynch* vice president and director of the Columbia Complex, and **Sonia Montero**, administrative manager's assistant, presented a check for \$75,000 to SCCEE at the board of director's meeting on Friday, November 19. Funding will be used to promote participation in the stock market simulation and also supports:

*Merrill Lynch Young Entrepreneur Award* which honors middle and high school students who demonstrate a keen entrepreneurial spirit. Winning entrepreneurs will receive a cash prize at the awards banquet in April 2005 and are featured in the stock market television program produced by ETV and broadcast to South Carolina classrooms participating in the simulation during both fall and spring semesters. This year's winners are:

**Samuel Hall**, *York Comprehensive High School*, York One, junior

Works on family farm specializing in an off-season strawberry crop

**Krystal Harrell**, *Dutch Fork High School*, Lexington Five, junior

Sells jewelry, pajamas, hand bags and "jazzed up" flip-flops

**Stephen Love**, *Marlboro County High School*, freshman

Produces video tapes of community events and other special occasions

**Natalie Morris**, *Pendleton High School*, Anderson Four, junior

Designs and sews pocketbooks

*Merrill Lynch Distinguished Advisor Award* honors one full-time teacher advisor for creative use of the simulation. The winning teacher receives a \$750 cash prize and an expense-paid trip to attend the New York Stock Exchange's Teacher Workshop Program during the summer.

## Mayor's Blue Chip Investors Program

In this initiative, teams compete for the best portfolio and win the honor of having dinner with their mayor. Sponsorship from the mayor covers the \$16 per team registration fee.

**Mayor Hank Johnston**, Bluffton, and **Mayor Bill Barnett**, Spartanburg, are currently sponsoring the program for their students and we are developing the program with **Mayor Doug Echols** for his students in Rock Hill. Please let me know if your mayor is interested in sponsoring this program. The more, the mayories.

## **Hootie & the Blowfish Take Stock in South Carolina**

In the Hootie Stock program all the rules apply as in the traditional simulation except that teams invest only in 75 companies important to South Carolina's economy. This semester four teacher advisors are piloting the program:

**Amy Bartholomew**, Gold Hill Middle School, York Four

**Linda Longe**, Paul Know Middle School, Aiken School District

**Tom Johnson**, New Prospect Elementary School, Anderson Five

**Annette Hoover**, University of South Carolina, Department of Retailing

As of November 23 one of the elementary school teams is leading the Hootie Stock competition with a portfolio valued at

### **Program for Adult Learners**

Due to the overwhelming success of the October retirement seminar, SCCEE and **Mike Switzer**, host of *South Carolina Business Review* on ETV Radio, will again sponsor *How to Make the Most of Your Retirement Plan* on Tuesday, January 25 at Charleston Southern University, 7 to 8:30 p.m. Participants will learn the basics of asset allocation, the power of tax deferral and how to withdraw money from your retirement plan penalty free before age 59 ½.

Registration is \$25 per individual and \$40 per couple. A portion of the registration fee will be given to a school PTA/PTO as indicated by the participant. To access the registration form, go to [www.sceconomics.org](http://www.sceconomics.org).

This program is made possible through a grant from **Ford Motor Credit Corporation**.

### **Teacher Training Program**

**The Environment and the Economy**, March 19 to 22, Embassy Suites, Columbia  
Scholarships to this four day institute are provided by the Foundation for Teaching Economics and cover the cost of lodging, substitute reimbursement and most meals for 30 teachers.

The program is cosponsored by the **South Carolina Farm Bureau's Ag in the Classroom**.

Warm regards,



Helen Meyers