



Marshall Bass (center) presents the Business Award to Carl Russell Jr. (left) and Chris Russell.



Chapter President Ken Love (left) presents the Sigma Man of the Year Award to Rev. Christopher Astrop.



Ken Love (left) and Robert E. Brower present the Excellence in Education Award to Dr. Elva J. Jones.

# Fraternity honors Jones, Mack and Russells.

SPECIAL TO THE CHRONICLE

The Delta Sigma Chapter of Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity Inc. held its 81st Annual "Founders Day" Observance at the Anderson Conference Center on the campus of Winston-Salem State University on Jan. 11. This year's theme was "Continuing the Legacy Through Service."

The Nu-Tau Zeta and Rho Zeta chapters of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority Inc., the undergraduate chapters of Delta Alpha of Phi Beta Sigma Inc., the Omega Chapter of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority Inc., and the Delta Sigma-sponsored youth organization Sigma Beta Club participated in the event. The program was dedicated to the memory of the late attorney James L. Lassiter, a 53-year Sigma who recently passed.

The day began with a power-charged, spirit-filled worship service at Union Baptist Church, where the Rev. Dr. Sir Walter Mack Jr., is the pastor, and ended with the celebration luncheon at the Anderson Center.

The event is the annual celebration of the founding of Phi Beta Sigma on Jan. 9, 1914, on the campus of Howard Universi-

ty to the department during her tenure as chairman of the computer science department at Winston-Salem State University.

In her remarks, Jones said: "We all must understand the value of education in our lives for without it success becomes more and more difficult. I have tried and will continue to let young people know that education is the key."

The Bigger and Better Business Award is named in honor of Brother Marshall B. Bass. Bass is a successful businessman and philanthropist, who continues to give of his time, talent and means to many causes in the community. The award is given to an individual or company that has made a valuable contribution to the well-being of our community and its citizens. This year's honoree was Russell Funeral Home family.

Cedrick Russell commented: "The business is run by committee; there are no big I's and little you's." That comment symbolizes what this community has come to know as honesty and deep appreciation for the privilege of serving. In his remarks Russell also commented that "receiving an award named after Marshall Bass

ideals and purpose of Phi Beta Sigma as mandated by its national constitution. This year's recipient is Rev. Christopher Astrop (former chapter president), who Love stated has been the one who, no matter what, answered the call of "Culture for Service and Service for Humanity" throughout 2003. Astrop, who was totally surprised by the

award, commented that his love of God, his fellowman and Sigma are driving forces in his life.

The chapter president was also honored for his outstanding leadership over the past three years. Love was totally surprised as he unknowingly actually introduced himself to receive the award by reading a script prepared by members of the chapter.

Nearly 150 friends of the honorees and Sigma attended the event.

The Delta Sigma officers for 2004 are: President Kenneth Love, First Vice President John Jackson II, Second Vice President Frank K. Thomas, Secretary Terrell Carter, Treasurer Julian Harding, Financial Secretary Tracy Webb, Chaplain Gerald Pauling,

and Parliamentarian Rev. Christopher Astrop.

The celebration was concluded with remarks by President Kenneth Love, who stressed the importance of continuing to be a positive difference maker and a leader in the community to help enhance the quality of life for our youths, especially young black males.



Ken Love (left) presents the Social Action Award to Dr. Sir Walter L. Mack Jr.

ty-by Brothers A. Langston Taylor, Leonard F. Morse and Charles I. Brown. The celebration centered around honoring leaders in our community in the areas of business, education and social action, which are the three major international programs of the fraternity.

Additionally the Delta Sigma Chapter honored those chapter members who have made outstanding contributions to Sigma, as well as the community, state and nation.

The program began with a welcome from Kenneth Love, president of the Delta Sigma Chapter. Greetings were brought by state Rep. Larry Womble; Northeast Ward Councilwoman Jocelyn Johnson; Brother Darryl Prince, N.C. State director of Phi Beta Sigma; Juanita Penn, president of the Nu-Tau Zeta Chapter; Soror Danetta Fitts, president of the Rho Zeta Chapter; Brother Regan Starkie, member of the undergraduate of WSSU; and Soror Keisha Holloway, first vice president of the undergraduate Omega Chapter of Zeta Phi Beta at WSSU.

Chapter Chaplain Gerald Pauling brought the invocation, which was followed by a soul-stirring selection by local recording artist April Blair.

The Excellence in Education Award is named in honor of 50-year Sigma Brother Robert E. Brower and the late Brother Everett L. Martin. Brower and Martin had more than 30 years each of commitment to educating the youths of our community.

Sister Juanita Penn of Nu-Tau Zeta introduced Dr. Elva J. Jones, the recipient of the award this year, to the audience.

Jones has been responsible for procuring and overseeing over a million dollars worth of grants

is an honor we will never forget." Marshall Bass participated in the presentation. The family also recognized the presence of Deacon Willie Fair, who has been with the business since it opened.

The Social Action Award is named in honor of the late Dr. David R. Hedgely Sr., former pastor of First Baptist Church, who for 50 years championed the cause for human rights in this community, state and nation. The award is given to an individual who exemplifies the spirit of Dr. Hedgely by enhancing the quality of life for all people through social action. This year's recipient is Dr. Sir Walter Lee Mack Jr., pastor of Union Baptist, Mack has been at the forefront of social change in this community and the nation through the many ministries at Union Baptist Church.

Mack is devoted to the promotion of education and dedicated to continual advancement of the person both physically and spiritually.

Special service awards called Spirit of Sigma Awards were given to Brothers Willie Conner Jr., Darryl Prince, Frank K. Thomas Jr., Terrell Carter, Derrick Newkirk, Benjamin Piggott, John Jackson II, Tracy Webb, Gerald Pauling and undergraduate chapter member Regan Starkie. The chapter president selected the award recipients, for exemplary service to the chapter during 2003. A special appreciation award was given to April Blair, who has on several occasions given her time and talent to the fraternity in other programs.

The final award of the evening was presented by incoming President Kenneth Love and N.C. State Director Darryl Prince. The Sigma Man of the Year award is given to the chapter member who best exemplifies the

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