

Aggie Awards

By DAMON FORD
THE CHRONICLE Reporter

Dressed to impress and ready to party was the call to order for N.C. Agricultural & Technical State University's first Aggie Awards.

More than 500 people from the university and community gathered to honor six distinguished Aggie supporters at Embassy Suites last Friday.

"We salute you for all you've done for this community and this world-class university," said A&T Chancellor Edward Fort. "The legacy you built will last forever and ever."

Four alumni Aggies were given awards.

"Over the years I've been involved trying to make things better in the community," said Ralph Shelton who received the Individual Champion Award.

Shelton is the founder and president of Southeast Fuels,

Inc.

Shirley Frye garnered the Community Servant Award.

"What I got from A&T has helped me be who I am today," stated Frye who is Vice President of Community Relations for WFMV-TV.

Two Distinguished Alumni Awards were given to Sylvester Daughtry and Dr. Velma Speight.

Daughtry served the city of Greensboro for 11 years as Police Chief. He retired this past January.

Speight retired as the Director of Alumni Affairs last year but still serves as a member of the Board of Trustees. Her tireless work and giving will be forever remembered by administrators, faculty, students and alumni of A&T.

"She's a very committed individual (and) she cares so much for the students. She would fight

for them and take money out of her own pocket to pay for student's tuition," said new Alumni Affairs Director Alan Hooker. "I call her the Michael Jordan of Alumni Affairs because it's like replacing a Michael Jordan in this industry."

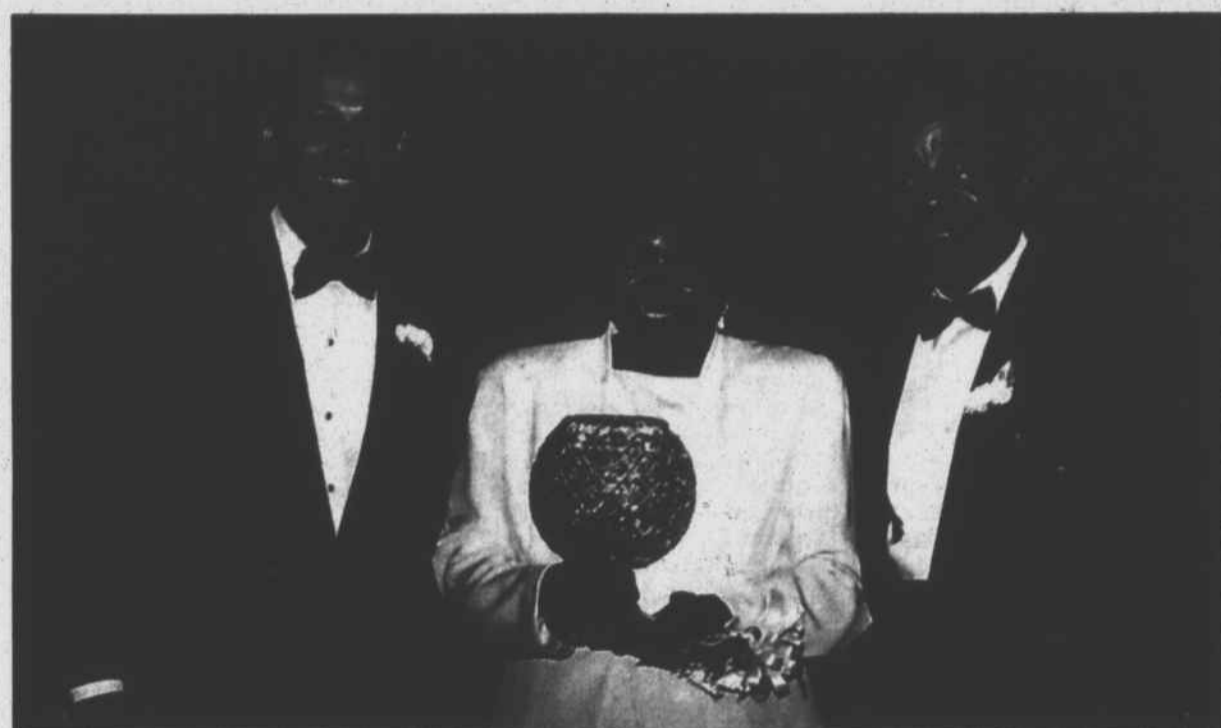
The Foundation Supporter Award went to the Joseph M. Bryan Foundation of Greater Greensboro. The Bryan Foundation seeks the implementation, improvement and enhancement of programs, facilities, projects and organizations that promote the economic, cultural and recreational enrichment of the lives of Greensboro citizens.

The Corporate Supporter Award was given to Dr. Alexander Spears, Chairman and CEO of Lorillard Tobacco Company.

Money raised from the benefit will be used for academic and athletic scholarships.



Retired City of Greensboro Police Chief, Sylvester Daughtry (middle), is joined by Joseph Colson Jr., (left) honorary Chairman of Aggie Awards and N.C. A&T Chancellor Edward Fort (right) during the presentation of the Distinguished Alumni Award. Daughtry served 11 years as Police Chief.



(Standing L-R) Joseph Colson Jr., honorary Chairman of Aggie Awards; Dr. Velma Speight; and Edmond Fort, Chancellor of N.C. A&T were all smiles last Friday night. Speight, the recently retired Director of Alumni Affairs at A&T, was the recipient of the Distinguished Alumni Award.

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