

# Emmanuel Baptist holds African Liberation Day

CHRONICLE STAFF REPORT

Emmanuel Baptist Church held its first African Liberation Day recently as a way to bring together people of African descent. The theme for the gathering was "Honoring the African Diaspora: Uniting as One." The Sunday morning congregation dressed in African attire while the pastor, The Rev. Dr. John Mendez, delivered a sermon on the African presence in the Bible.

During the afternoon program, more than 250 people met in the fellowship hall of the church for the unity celebration. The room was framed by some of the flags from the more than 50 countries of Africa, Jamaica, Haiti, the Caribbean, and other countries where people of African descent live. The Otesha Creative Arts Ensemble led the Opening Recessional, and one of the storytellers from the ensemble offered a spoken-word poem called "It's Nation Time-Wake Up!" Dr. Fleming El-Amin also shared a poem with the group that focused on the need and purpose of building family relations.

Dr. Olasope Oyelaran, director of International Programs Winston-Salem State University, offered the libation statement and taught the audience the importance of staying connected with ancestral teachings, spirituality and values.

Wandella Ridgill planned a special soul food meal for which church members and audience participants could sample dishes from various countries.

Dr. Debra Boyd introduced the audience to one of her six films from her study and travels in the Sahel. The film she introduced was entitled "Griot of Goree Joseph Ndiaye" Rev.

The guest speaker for the gathering was Yomi Durotoye. Following his presentation, Rev. Mendez called persons



Deacon Walter Murray performs a song.



Dr. Olasope Oyelaran performs the libation.

from the audience to offer historical remarks about their various countries.

International designer Tisha Jackson caused a spirited stir in the audience when she sponsored an African Fashion Show

using models from the church and from the audience. Models included Rachel Todd, Esther Bouleware, Ms. Bianca Beverly Baldwin, Naaborle Baldwin, Jackie Baldwin, Rochelle Joyner, and Marion Wilson. Many



Young people take part in face and body painting.

of the models purchased Jackson's unique designs.

Deacon Nadyne Brown presented awards to the essay contest winners. Children and adults wrote about the topic "What Does Africa Mean To Me?" Winners included Mary Jordan, Rachel Todd, Reynita McMillan, Asha Piggott and Jackie Baldwin.

Members of the Morning Bible Study honored Rev. Mendez by singing a special song in his honor. Jamilla Mendez, director of the Emmanuel Baptist Church Kemet Academy, directed students from the program in reciting the African Pledge written by Dr. Maya Angelou in honor of Rev. Mendez. The children of the Kemet Academy also made a special tribute to the elders in the audience and presented each of them with a copy of their pledge.

Rev. Dr. John Mendez, Dr. Loraine Stewart and Dr. Felicia McMillan served on the planning committee for this event.

## WSSU picks up prestigious award

SPECIAL TO THE CHRONICLE

Winston-Salem State University is the recipient of a prestigious Council for Advancement and Support of Education (CASE) award.

WSSU's Division of University Advancement is winner of a 2003 CASE/Wealth ID Award for Exceptional Fundraising, which honors superior fundraising programs across the nation.

WSSU is among an exceptional group of colleges, universities and independent schools named to the circle of excellence for overall improvement in fundraising. The award was made on the basis of judges' analysis of the data WSSU submitted to the Council for Aid to Education's annual Voluntary Support of Education survey for the last three-year period. The Council for Aid to Education is a national source of private giving to education.

WSSU was recognized and received the Circle of Excellence Award at the recent

CASE International Assembly in Washington, D.C. WSSU was the only Historically Black College or University in the nation to receive the honor.

WSSU's Office of Media Relations in the University Advancement Division has been the recipient of two other CASE District III awards for Excellence in Publication over the past three years. While CASE District III includes the nation's Southeast region, WSSU was the only HBCU in the nation to win the honor each year it was awarded.

Headquartered in Washington, D.C., CASE is an international association of education advancement officers, including alumni administrators, fundraisers, public relations managers, publications editors, and government relations officers. CASE membership includes nearly every one of the more than 3,000 institutions of higher learning in the United States, Canada and Mexico.

## Jones accepts position with NRCS



Jones

(This story is being rerun because of a printing problem with last week's edition)

SPECIAL TO THE CHRONICLE

E. Eugene Jones II has accepted a soil conservationist position with the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), a division of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, in Denton, Md. Jones will be responsible for analyzing selected

soil sites in Caroline County, Md. (on the Eastern Shore), designing conservation strategies, and training property owners in conservation methods.

Jones is a 2000 graduate of Winston-Salem State University with a major in biology and a double minor in chemistry and music.

He earned a master's degree in plant and soil science with a concentration in environmental

science from N.C. A&T State University in December 2002. He also was awarded a certificate in waste management from N.C. A&T in May 2003.

He is a member of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Psi Phi Chapter. He is a member of Emmanuel Baptist Church, where he served as assistant superintendent to the Sunday school adult department and church percussionist. He is the son of Emory and Elva Jones.

## City native inducted into Livingstone College Athletic Hall of Fame

SPECIAL TO THE CHRONICLE

Winston-Salem native Johnny Stoutamire Jr. was inducted into the Livingstone College Athletic Hall of Fame on June 28.

He attended West Forsyth High School in Clemmons, where he participated in varsity football, basketball and track. He received Best All-Around in basketball and a leadership award for football during the 1972-1973 season. The next season, he was honored with All City-County in football. All-Conference in football and basketball, All-Northwest in basketball, MVP for basketball and track. He also ran on the record-setting 440, 880, and mile-relay teams, and received The Coaches' Award in basketball. West Forsyth Male Athlete of the Year, All City-County in basketball, and All City-County Athlete Award.

On May 30, 1978, he made

history at West Forsyth High School by being the first person ever and the first African-American to have his varsity football jersey (22) retired.

He went to Livingstone in the fall of 1974. He went on to receive a degree in business administration. While at Livingstone, he competed in the same sports he did while in high school. He played football, basketball, and track. Throughout his four years at Livingstone, he received many of his awards in football. He received Rookie Defensive Player Award (1974-1975); Defensive Back of the Year (1975-1976); All-CIAA Team; All-District



Stoutamire

26 NAIA; Pittsburgh Courier All-American Team (1976-1977); All-CIAA Defensive Back of the Week for Sept. 10, 1977; Schlitz Brewing Company Defensive Player of the Game - Nov. 19, 1977; All-CIAA Football Team; All-CIAA Academic Team; Pittsburgh Courier All-American Team; Mutual Black Network All-American Team; Jet Magazine All-American Team.

He signed as a free agent with the Buffalo Bills (1977-1978).

He currently works with the Mecklenburg County Sheriff's Office, where he has been employed since 1981. Since that time, he has been named three-time Super Cop Champion of North Carolina, received a Black Belt in American karate, won the prestigious Battle of Atlanta Karate Tournament, was the first African-American and state-certified field training officer in the Sheriff's Office, was one of two

African-Americans selected and certified as motorcycle officers on the first motorcycle unit for the Sheriff's Office. He earned advanced law enforcement and detention officer certification and assisted in the implementation of the first domestic violence unit for the Mecklenburg County Sheriff's Office.

He is the son of the late Johnny Stoutamire Sr. and Annie Jamison Stoutamire. He has three sisters, all living in Winston-Salem.

He was born in Orangeburg County, S.C., and raised in Winston-Salem. He lives in Charlotte, where he and his lovely wife, Denise Stoutamire, are raising their two daughters; Shervon Le'Nay, age 18, and Johnae LaToi, age 12. He also has one son, Dedrick Dobson, age 28, of Elkin.

Stoutamire has numerous achievements within his current career and his past athletic career.



"I devoted the first part of my life to raising five children and supporting my husband and his career. Now is my time to do what I want to do. There are no words to express the support I've received from my professors at Salem. Each of them has taken time to get to know me — Allfrede! That means a lot to me." — Allfrede Robinson, Clemmons Major: Communication

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## AUCTION

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