



The Rattler Times

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE LEON COUNTY CHAPTER
FLORIDA A&M UNIVERSITY NATIONAL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

Volume 7, Issue 1

Tallahassee, FL

January 2010

Send your email address to myfam@myfam.com to be added to the Leon County List Serv. By joining the List Serv, you will be continuously updated with the news and other pertinent information about the Chapter.



- Jan. 16 FAMU BB DH vs. MD Eastern Shore, Lawson Center, 5:30 pm
- Jan. 18 MLK Exhibit, 219 Black Archives Union Bank, 219 Apalachee Pkwy, 10:00 am - 4:00 pm
- Jan. 18 FAMU BB DH vs. Coppin State, Lawson Center, 5:30 pm
- Jan. 27 FAMU Spring Career Expo, TLH Leon County Civic Center, 8:30 am - 3:00 pm
- Jan. 30 FAMU BB DH vs. Winston Salem St., Lawson Center, 5:30 pm
- Feb. 1 FAMU BB DH vs. S. Carolina St., Lawson Center, 5:30 pm
- Feb. 11 FAMU Black History Convocation, Gaither Gymnasium, 10:10 am - 12:10 pm
- Feb. 16 FAMU NAA LCC General Membership Meeting, FAMU Faculty Clubhouse, 6:00 pm
- Mar. 12 FAMU NAA LCC Roast & Toast, Civic Center, 7:00 pm

SAVE THE DATE

Florida A&M University National Alumni Association, Leon County Chapter

6th Annual ROAST & TOAST

HONORING: ELDER ERNEST FERRELL
Pastor, St. Mary Primitive Baptist Church
President/CEO, Tallahassee Urban League
President, National Primitive Baptist Convention

Friday, March 12, 2010

Reception @ 6:00 pm

Toast @ 7:00 pm

LOCATION:
Tallahassee-Leon County Civic Center

TICKET PRICES:
\$75.00 Individual Ticket
\$600.00 Table (8)

**PROCEEDS TO BENEFIT THE LEON COUNTY
CHAPTER SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM**

For additional information, please contact
Curtis Taylor at (850) 251-3025



THE ELECTION RESULTS ARE IN!!!

from FAMU National Alumni Assoc.

On January 9, 2007 at the Office of Alumni Affairs, the FAMU National Alumni Association (NAA) "Elections Committee" convened to tally the ballots for the 2009 FAMU NAA election of officers. There were 991 certifiable ballots returned to the "Elections Committee". The following are the results of the tally of those ballots:

- President (983 votes cast)**
Thomas Mitchell, Sr.* 607 (61.75%)
 James Moran 376 (38.25%)
- 1st Vice President (972 votes cast)**
 Roy Bell 394 (40.53%)
 Greg Clark 368 (37.68%)
 Fabiola Fleuranvil 210 (21.60%)
- 2nd Vice President (955 votes cast)**
Doris Hicks* 552 (57.80%)
 Charles Lewis 403 (42.20%)
- 3rd Vice President (975 votes cast)**
Dr. Leila Walker* 547 (56.10%)
 Clinton McGill 428 (43.90%)
- Recording Secretary (961 votes cast)**
Mary H. Smith* 961 (71.07%)
 Andrew Lawyer, II 278 (28.93%)
- Financial Secretary (958 votes cast)**
Andrew Lawyer, II* 772 (80.58%)
 Tirrell Hamilton 186 (19.42%)

(SEE ELECTION, page 3)

MARCHING "100" TO PERFORM: SUPER BOWL XLIV PREGAME SHOW

FAMU Public Relations Office (edited)



TALLAHASSEE, Fla. - Florida A&M University's (FAMU) Marching "100" has been selected to perform in the Super Bowl XLIV pregame show scheduled for Sunday, February 7, at Dolphin Stadium in Miami Gardens, Fla. This is the third time in five years that the Marching "100" has been invited to participate in a Super Bowl.

According to Julian White, director of bands and chair of FAMU's Department of Music, he received a telephone call from the entertainment director for the National Football League notifying him that the "100" had been selected. When asked what the "100" will perform to dazzle the audience, White quickly responded by saying they will salute the King of Pop - Michael Jackson.

(SEE SUPER BOWL, page 2)

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Rattlers,

The FAMU National Alumni Association (NAA) election has come to one phase of completion. Most of the nationally elected officers have been determined and the transition to new leadership in ongoing. Keep us in your prayers.

I would like to thank each and every one of you that exhibited your confidence in my leadership and ability by casting your votes for me for Financial Secretary and Recording Secretary (smile). Your trust in me is heartfelt and very much appreciated. I pray that I will elevate my performance to new levels and fulfill the position requirements. For those of you who may not have cast your vote for me, I pray that over the next few years that I will exhibit the professionalism and dedication that will win over your support in the future.

I have been asked and accepted the responsibility to chair the Election Run-Off Committee. So, please stay tuned for more information on that endeavor.

This Chapter is embarking on a new year. With that comes the responsibility to address Chapter membership renewals. We are now in the "HOT" phase of Chapter membership renewal. Please, begin renewing your membership now. You can send you checks to us at our P.O. Box or go online at <http://www.myfamu.com/?section=membership> to make your payments online. Also, please remember our Chapter Annual Funds - V.L. Elkins Scholarship, University Support, and the Rattler 100 Club. Your membership renewal notices will be arriving in the mail in the next couple of weeks.

We are also in the midst of planning another exciting Chapter Roast & Toast. Our honoree is Ernest Ferrell, Pastor - St. Mary Primitive Baptist Church, President/CEO - Tallahassee Urban League, and President - National Primitive Baptist Convention. This event has long been the marquee event of the Leon County Chapter. This year's event should not be any different. The event in March 12, 2010 at

7:00 pm. If for some reason you are not able to attend this endeavor, please consider supporting its purpose by making a 100% tax deductible contribution to the V. L. Elkins Scholarship Fund. We thank you for your continued support.

And, always remember that true Rattler will always Strike, Strike and Strike, again!!!

In true Rattler Spirit,



Andrew Lawyer, II, President
FAMU NAA Leon County Chapter

SUPER BOWL, from page 1

The "100" has performed the 1969 Super Bowl III halftime performance (Miami, FL), the 1983 Super Bowl XVII half time performance (Tampa, FL), the 2005 Super Bowl XXXIX pregame performance (Jacksonville, FL), and the 2007 Super Bowl XLI halftime performance with Prince (Miami, FL).

According to White, the past year has been really electrifying for the "100." "The weekend prior to the Super Bowl on January 30, the "100" will participate in the 8th Annual Honda Battle of the Bands in Atlanta, Ga.," White said. "Just last year in January 2009, the Marching "100" was preparing to participate in President Barack Obama's inaugural parade. A year later, we are preparing to perform at the Super Bowl. We are indeed America's favorite college band."

MOBILE GIVING INITIATIVE

from Office of University Relations

Great things are happening for FAMU! North Carolina Public Radio produced a segment about FAMU's Mobile Giving Initiative. The segment was excellently done and it shows that FAMU's innovative strategies and ideas are being noticed throughout the nation by other universities. Please view this segment by clicking the following link - <http://wunc.org/programs/news/archive/Nli1125.mp3/mediafile.view>.

FAMU would also like to thank everyone who participated in FAMU's Mobile Initiative. FAMU is proud of all the support

that was shown from more than 1,800 donors.

Currently, FAMU is on the edge of this being a \$10,000 campaign for athletics. However, to reach the \$10,000 mark, FAMU still needs your help. If you have already participated in this campaign, please consider sending an additional text. If you have not participated, now is your chance. FAMU needs the support of all Rattlers at this time. Click on the following link to make a donation - <http://www.famu.edu/index.cfm?GiveToFAMU&MobileGiving>.

ESSENCE: WILL YOU MARRY ME CONTEST

from Jasmine Harris



Greetings Rattler!

I am a Fall 2007 graduate of CIS, I currently work in VA for Lockheed Martin. I am soliciting the help of all FAMU Alumni and their friends and family. My fiancé proposed to me in the pages of Essence Magazine (hits stands this month). We are in the Will You Marry Me Contest and have a chance to win a dream wedding (valued at \$50k). As all graduates know, student loans are a beast, and this opportunity will truly be a blessing to me and my fiancé.

The world has the chance to vote for a couple and their proposal on www.essence.com starting January 4th and will last for 6 weeks. If you could tell all members of the alumni chapter along with anyone else, it would be greatly appreciated.

Gabriel Sheffield and Jasmine Harris: jasminen.harris@yahoo.com

Thank you in advance for your help and God bless your Alumni Chapter and our university!

"Success is a journey, not a destination."

THE 2010 MEMBERSHIP CAMPAIGN IS UNDERWAY

By Lisa Lang, Membership Chair

It's that time again. The 2010 Leon County Chapter Membership Campaign has begun.

Your membership dues help the Association support Florida A&M University (FAMU) and its mission through many programs, from student recruitment to alumni relations. However, we cannot do it alone, we need your help. Part of our membership campaign will be "each one bring one." We will also work to keep recent graduates connected to the University and continue targeted membership recruitment at the three college campuses; city, county, and state government; Leon County school teachers and administrators; and churches, civic groups, fraternities, sororities, retirees, etc.

You will be receiving your membership renewal notices in the next couple of weeks. Please return the completed forms with your checks payable to the Leon County Chapter NAA as soon as possible. Make sure that your name is among those individuals who are committed to sustained giving and support of the University and Dr. James Ammons. Thanks to all alumni who have already renewed or joined the Alumni Association for 2008. We look forward to serving the University with you. Through January 12, 2009, seventeen (17) membership dues and/or renewals had been received!!! Namely, the newest paid members are: **Carla E. Adams, Teresa L. Baker, Ada Puryear Burnette, Delores Coachman, Willie C. Cook, Thomas Gant, Lillie Gardner, Rolhala Hargrett, Wilbur Johnson, Andrew Lawyer, II, Thomas Mitchell, Sr, James Moran, Jr., Stephanie Brown Roeser, Charles R. Russell, M. E. Williams, Anna J. Williams-Jordan, and Catheren Sack Wilson**

ELECTIONS, from page 1

Lenard Franklin won the position of Treasurer (unopposed) and Tomia Austin won the position of Corresponding Secretary (unopposed).

There will be a run-off between Roy Bell and Greg Clark for the position of 1st Vice President. Be on the look out for

your runoff election ballots in the coming month.

The Election Committee was comprised of the following individuals: Dr. Willie L. Bryant (chair), Mrs. Dedra O'Neal, Dr. Beverly Barber, Mr. Victor Gaines, and Mrs. Alice Bacon.

ANDRE DAWSON: HALL OF FAME

from www.TheRattlerBoosters.com (edited)



NEW YORK - Andre Dawson was elected to the Hall of Fame on Wednesday in his 9th try, while Bert Blyleven and

Roberto Alomar fell just short of earning baseball's highest honor.

Florida A&M University's Andre Dawson received 420 of 539 votes in voting announced by the Baseball Writers' Association of America, 15 more than the 75 percent necessary to gain election. The eight-time All-Star outfielder had fallen 44 votes short last year.

"It was well worth the wait. I can't really describe the elation," Dawson said during a telephone conference call.

Florida A&M University has sent two of its former players to the Hall of Fame within one calendar year, with the induction of Bob Hayes into the Football Hall of Fame in Canton, Ohio and now Andre Dawson into Cooperstown.

Dawson was the 1997 National League Rookie MVP, 1987 National MVP, 8 time Gold Glove Winner and 8 Time All-Star. During his career, Dawson had 438 home runs, 1,591 runs batted in, and 314 stolen bases.

FAMU'S ACCREDITATION REAFFIRMED FOR 10 YEARS

FAMU Office of Public Relations (edited)

The Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC) announced that FAMU's accreditation has been reaffirmed for a 10-year period with no further reports required and no recommendations. "We are proud of the work of our accrediting team and the campus community," said FAMU President James H. Am-

mons. "Two years ago scathing financial audits hinted toward fiscal instability and uncertainty at FAMU. We have met our challenges, completed the accrediting process and are focusing our energies on creating a 21st Century Learning Center second to none. We have been through some challenging times and it is ironic that at the SACS annual meeting this year we were the presenters this time, telling others how to weather the storm. I can truly say that achieving this milestone was a team effort and confirms the academic and administrative strength of the university."

"We had a very competent staff and we are pleased with the outcome," said C. William Jennings, chair of the FAMU Board of Trustees. "This is yet another great milestone achieved under Dr. Ammons' administration." FAMU has been accredited by the SACSCOC since 1935.

MY BROTHERS

by Masekela Mandela

Many of us point to the historical fact of female "dominated" families/communities during slavery & Jim Crow days. Surely there was a modicum of discipline and order of some sorts, even with the absence of many fathers, similar to today's absence. What we must realize is that males were actually under control of the oppressive system of overt racism/white supremacy and not females.

When Jim Crow ended and so called freedom was ushered in, the lack of male control within the family/community was magnified through the negative behavior of many of our males. The female was still the figurehead of our families/communities but she no longer had the support and backing of overt racism/white supremacy against "wayward" males. "Freedom" without mature male domination had unleashed anarchy, chaos, and confusion among us.

During slavery & Jim Crow days the white man had been overtly our father (THE MAN) through his white supremacy/racism mechanism. Today he covertly remains the same. Until BLACK MAN POWER, not black woman power, is realized all is lost, the status quo remains.

Plant you now & dig you later...

RATTLER STRIKES

- **FAMU'S LEROY VANN WAS NAMED MOST VALUABLE PLAYER** award during the inaugural Russell Athletics HBCUs Senior Bowl in Montgomery, AL, 12/19/09. During the game, Vann saw time on defense at CB on offense at WR and returned a punt 81 yards for a TD. This bowl pitted All-Star players from the MEAC and CIAA (East team) versus players from the SWAC and SIAC (West team). The East team, coached by FAMU's Joe Taylor, won the game 26-21. FAMU defensive linemen Cameron Houston, 3 sacks, and Demetrius Lane, 2 sacks, also represented FAMU well. FAMU QB Curtis Pulley was held out of the game due to an aggravated groin injury.
- **FAMU'S SIMPLY MARVELOUS** Women's Flag Football team, coached by FAMU Alum Marvin Green, posted a 10-0 record between 12/28/09 and 1/5/10 and won two National Championships. On 12/31/09, Simply Marvelous won the American Collegiate

Intramural Sports 31st Annual National Flag Football Tournament in New Orleans, LA by defeating Sam Houston State Univ. 18-14. On 1/5/10, Simply Marvelous won the National Intramural-Recreational Sports Association National Campus Championship Series Championship defeating the Univ. of South Florida 14-13. This championship game was televised Sunday, 1/10/10 at 7:00 pm on CBS Sports Network (CBSC, DirecTV 613). FAMU previously won both of these tournaments in 2007. CONGRATULATIONS, LADY RATTLERS!!!

- **ALUMNA ANIKA NONI ROSE STARS AS THE VOICE OF DISNEY'S FIRST BLACK PRINCESS** - FAMU alumna Anika Noni Rose will star as the voice-talent for Walt Disney's first black princess, Princess Tiana, in an animated film, "The Princess and the Frog." The movie will be released in theatres across the nation last month. Rose recently performed "Almost There," Princess Tiana's theme song, on "Good Morning America" and is also

featured on the January 2010 cover of Essence magazine.

- **FAMU'S COLLEGE OF LAW ASSOCIATE DEAN AND PROFESSOR OF LAW DARRYL K. JONES** appeared on CNBC's Power Lunch on Friday, January 8, 2010. Jones talked about taxing carried interest. To view the video clip, click on the link below or copy and paste the link into your Internet browser. http://taxprof.typepad.com/taxprof_blog/2010/01/jones-war.html

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Great discoveries and achievements
invariably involve the cooperation of
many minds.
- Alexander Graham Bell

THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH

General Membership Meeting
January 19, 2010
FAMU Faculty Clubhouse
6:00 pm - Reception
6:30 pm - Meeting

The Rattler Times is published monthly by the Leon County Chapter of the Florida A&M University National Alumni Association. News and information should be sent to Rattler Times Editor, FAMU NAA Leon County Chapter, PO Box 10136, Tallahassee, FL 32302 or alr1st.com. Friday, February 5, 2010 is the deadline for submitting news for the next issue.