

100 Men

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ing them to the event by limousines and outfitting them with tuxedos and ball gowns.

Seven students were selected as "top achievers" because of their fine academic and behavior record.

Students mentored by the 100 Black Men attend Williams, Jo Mackey and Fitzgerald elementary schools. Williams students were: Christian Brown, Juan Garcia, Antonio Garcia, Deon Color, Dion Brown, Trejon Mochie, Derrick Webster, Antonio Ward, Dotoryion Edmond, Deonte Edmond, Dilino Albritt and Brandon Lucas.

Jo Mackey students were: Michael Davidson, Montana Files, Nicholas Topacio, Tamarriane Wilson, Deonne Cobb, Ishma Arroya, Diedra Hooper, Darrion Coleman, Christian Diaz, Shamyia Harris, Robert LaSpina, Cahji Richmond, Derylle Spears, Shamarlo Tucker, Naomi Turner, KeVon Smith, Jacquar Sprinkle-Parker, DeVon Davidson, and Dejon Scott.

Fitzgerald students were: Latralle Moore, Darion Brooks, Kevonte Mills, Taiko Wright-Brown, Ngushion Brown-Board, Dovonte Flanagan, and Jacobi Owens.

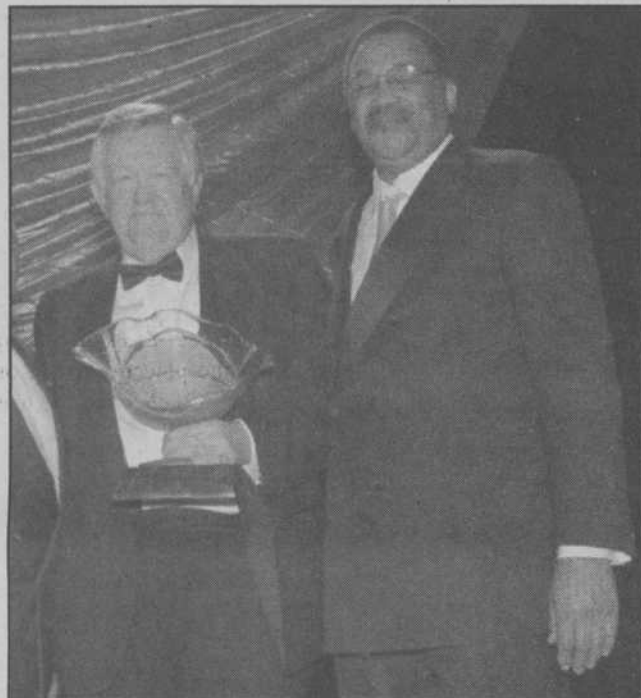
The children received a standing ovation as adults recognized them for their scholastic effort. President and founding member Larry J. Mosley reminded guests in the audience that the work of the chapter is really about the youth and encouraged each pupil to continue to strive for excellence.

For Mosley, the night was largely about the children the organization helps, but it was also about chapter members turning another corner.

Mosley passed the gavel on to President-elect Theodore Watkins. Nevada State Supreme Court Justice

Michael Douglas performed the swearing in of Watkins and other newly elected board members.

In his final message to the organization as president, Mosley said: "Who would have thought that in the past four and a half short years that the 100 Black Men of Las Vegas would be one of the largest chapters of the 100's on the West Coast. We are especially proud of the work of the men associated with the 100 who have vol-



Caesars executive vice president Steven Bell, right, stands with CEO and president Wallace Barr. Earlier this year, the company gave \$60,000 to a special education project.

unteered their time and commitment to making a difference in the lives of our young people. We have 42 children here from three different schools that we mentor who have made the honor roll or have not displayed any problems of behavior all year. When we meet these children, they are greeted with a handshake and a hug. We demonstrate that these children are loved and appreciated.

So I am happy to announce that over \$60,000 in scholarships will be available to these

children as they pursue their academic advancement beyond high school."

Money for the scholarships was made possible by donations from corporate sponsors including Caesars Entertainment, Cox Communications, MGM Mirage, Mandalay Resort Group, United Parcel Service, Aetna Life Insurance, Bank West of Nevada, Wells Fargo Bank, ING Insurance Corporation, Prudential Insurance, Fitzgerald's Hotel & Casino,

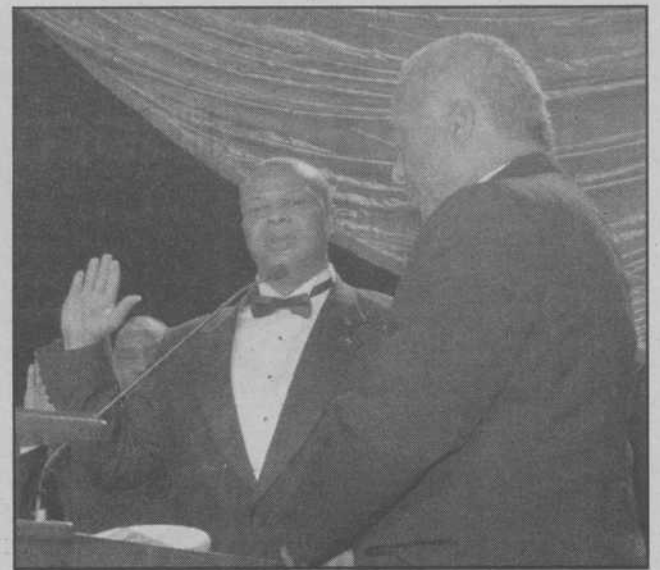
and State Farm Insurance. Proclamations and congratulatory letters of appreciation for the work done by the 100 Black Men was received from the offices of Gov. Kenny Guinn, U.S. senators Harry Reid & John Ensign, Congresswoman Shelley Berkley, the Clark County Board of Commissioners and the Las Vegas City Council.

The evening was filled with acknowledgments and thanks along with some formality in the form of a very poignant keynote address

given by Xermona Clayton, assistant vice president for Urban Affairs with Turner Broadcasting System, Inc. Clayton is the executive producer of the annual Trumpet Awards and has an autobiography titled, "I've Been Marching All The Time," a reference to her many years of involvement in the Civil Rights movement.

In her brief presentation Clayton, among the first African-American women to host a television show, shared: "I was a television host of a talk show in 1967, a long time ago, and I saw Black men from different perspectives. I said then, "what they see is what they will be." So, it was important to have African-Americans on television because we have young people who watch television. And, hopefully, they will see the good things from our people and emulate that. So, I was delighted to have broken the color barrier many years ago," Clayton said.

She put to the audience a question she raised many years ago as a journalist: Are Black Men an Endangered Species? "Well the answer is that



State Supreme Court Justice Michael Douglas, right, swears in new local 100 Black Men president Theodore Watkins.

Black Men aren't an endangered species, they are Endangered," Clayton said.

"We love Black Men. The 100 Black Men of America have made their mark...I want each of you to know how proud we are for their leadership because we recognize, as you do, that service is a choice, not an argument; it is a decision, not a debate; it is a commitment, not a controversy, it fulfills the needs in your heart, and it changes the lives for all those who you come in contact with. So, thank you, (100) Black Men, (of America) for all that you

do." Later, sharing his thoughts about the event, Mosley said: "Tonight was more than a blessing: it's what this chapter had dreamed about in terms of all the segments of the community coming together... and, again, just the tremendous support of the community, corporate sponsors, banks, schools and most of all it was for the children. We had 42 students here tonight that we brought here in limousines, and they are our future. So, we of the 100 Black Men are truly blessed to be apart of their lives."

Parents, guardians of youth and youth, are you looking to get more involved in the positive aspects of being a young adulthood?

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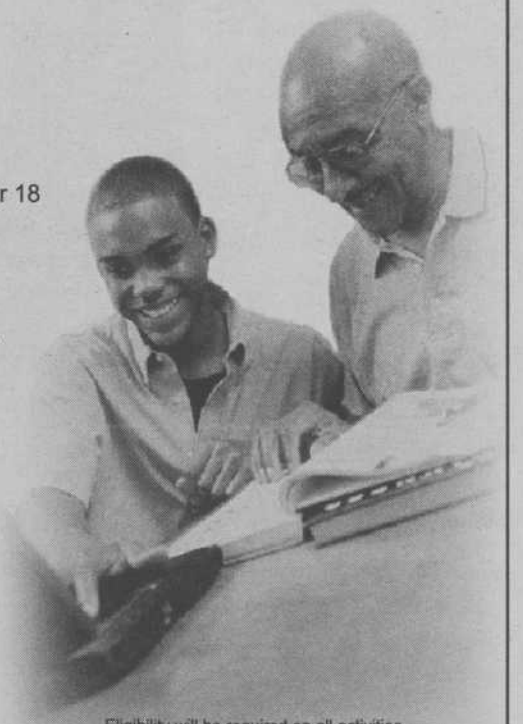
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