Banker, historian, publisher to receive USC honorary degrees

From Staff Reports

R.S. banker "Hootie" Johnson, Pulitzer-prize winning historian Daniel Boorstin and educator publisher Frank Wardlaw will receive honorary degrees at USC's commencement exercises May 16.

Johnson, chairman of the board and chief executive officer of Bankers Trust of South Carolina who received the university's Distinguished Alumni award in 1981, will be awarded an honorary doctor of laws degree. Boorstin, who has served as the librarian of Congress since 1975 and who has written numerous prize-winning historical books, will be awarded an honorary doctor of humane letters degree.

WARDLAW. AN S.C. native who started and headed university presses at Carolina, the University of Texas and Texas A&M University, will receive an honorary doctor of laws degree. In addition, television journalism legend Walter Cronkite, who will deliver the spring commencement address, will be awarded an honorary doctor of humane letters degree.

"The university is extremely pleased to be able to honor such a distinguished group of Americans, each of who has made major contributions in his field," USC President James Holderman said.

"Hootie Johnson is one of the state's leading businessmen who has given generously and unselfishly to the community, the university and other higher education institutions. Walter Cronkite is without peer in the field of broadcast journalism and is a leader in the field of historical scholarship, and hundreds of scholars owe the publication of their works to Frank Wardlaw."

"WE ARE PROUD that these distinguished individuals have agreed to lend their names to Carolina's commencement exercises and that they will allow the university to honor them," Holderman said.

The university will award degrees to about 2,644 students, including 1,934 undergraduate, 604 graduate, 31 medical and 193 law students.

The commencement exercises will begin at 1 p.m. in Carolina Coliseum.

Johnson has been active in local, state and higher education activities since he graduated with a degree in business administration from Carolina in 1933.

THE GREENWOOD native is a member of the USC Business Partnership Foundation and the USC Educational Foundation boards, and he serves as a trustee for Benedict College. He is also a former Concerned Converse College trustee. He is a former state legislator and served as chairman of the S.C. State Ports Authority, on which he worked for 16 years.

He served as chairman of the governor's blue ribbon committee to develop a desegregation plan for the state's public colleges and universities, and has been active with the local and national Urban League.

Johnson has received numerous honors for his civic and educational activities. In 1965 he was chosen South Carolina's Young Man of the Year; in 1971 he was honored with USC's Alphonse Sydney Sullivan Award for his service to the university; in 1975 he received the B'nai B'rith Outstanding Citizen Award; and in 1981 he was awarded the Order of the Palmetto.

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Banker lectures on male/female relationship psychology

By Nancy Young

The women stood on the seats in Gambrell Hall Auditorium, looking into the eyes of the men standing underneath them. They held their partners with a firm grip around the waist and clasped hands.

Warren Farrell was conducting an experiment in role reversal in a program Monday night based on his upcoming book, "Why Men Are the Way They Are."

Open Door and Ideas and Issues sponsored the program.

"It felt powerful," said one woman. "I felt good."

"I felt sorry for him," said another woman. "I felt uncomfortable. Plus, I didn't know him."

"I felt short," said a man. "It felt different."

"It felt good," said another man. "I didn't think I'd have to initiate anything. She would have to do the initiating." Farrell, who holds a Ph.D. in political science, is a full-time author and lecturer. He authored "The Liberated Man" and has appeared on the "Today Show," "The Tomorrow Show," and "Donahue."

He said he receives many questions from women concerned about men's behavior. How do men turn me off? I take the initiative? Why can't men be more honest? Why are there no available men?

"Notice all of those questions are criticisms," Farrell said.

Many men and women are pressured to succeed in the "performance syndrome," Farrell said. "It starts with watching sports and then it continues into work."

Farrell told the story of Ralph, a successful lawyer, as an illustration of the "performance syndrome." Ralph spent more of his life getting promotions than spending time with his family.

"Ralph's said I will always remember," Farrell said. "He said, 'I spent 16 years of my life turning into someone I didn't like. I lost my wife and kids in the process.'"

Farrell turned attention to sex. "Pornography is based on sadomasochism," he said. "And pornography is a larger industry than the movie industry and the record industry. There are more pornography shops than there are McDonald's."

Pornography is based on the messages given to males and females, according to Farrell. "For girls, the message is that there are conditions for which they may engage in sex. These conditions are based on emotional commitment. They range from marriage, if you're from an old-fashioned family, to if a girl has been dating a guy for months, or after three dates.

"For boys, the message is to overcome those conditions that have been placed on girls."

Consequently, Farrell said, men have a fear of rejection.

"It is easier to be rejected by a sex object than a human being," he said. "Turning women into sex objects makes rejection easier."

So in that respect, Farrell said, "Pornography makes a lot of sense."

The result of the messages men and women get is contempt for the other sex, Farrell said, and honest communication is lacking between men and women.

"Not that I know all this, what should we do?" one woman asked. Farrell let a young man in the audience answer, "Talk with men honestly."

Warren Farrell, author and lecturer, spoke Monday night on the sexual relationships between men and women. His lecture was sponsored by Open Door and Ideas and Issues.

Nancy Young