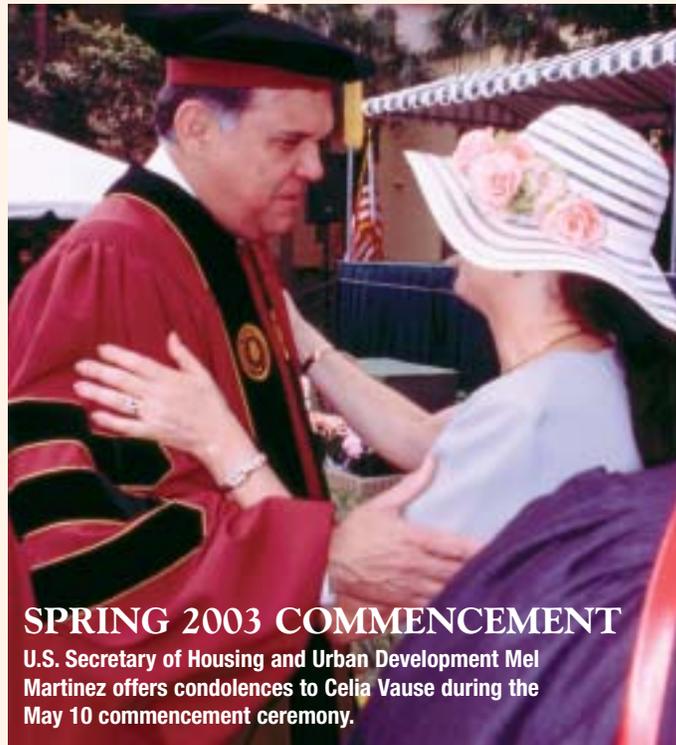


Graduations bring mixed emotions

Every commencement ceremony brings with it a mixture of feelings for the Stetson community: joy for the celebration of great accomplishments, sadness at the thought of leaving friends and professors, and excitement for unknown challenges ahead. Stetson's Spring 2003 ceremony was especially filled with emotion, as students, faculty, staff and friends coped with the news of Dean Gary Vause's death one day earlier.

"While it is hard to imagine sadder news for the Stetson community, I do know that today would have been among the happiest days of the year for Dean Vause," said Interim Dean Darby Dickerson at the May 10 ceremony. "Nothing brought a smile to his face more than the prospect of watching a new class of Stetson-trained lawyers going forth into a world that so desperately needs clarity and justice."

Stetson conferred 236 J.D. and LL.M. degrees at the December 2002 and May 2003 ceremonies. Thirty students received the joint J.D./M.B.A. degree.



SPRING 2003 COMMENCEMENT

U.S. Secretary of Housing and Urban Development Mel Martinez offers condolences to Celia Vause during the May 10 commencement ceremony.

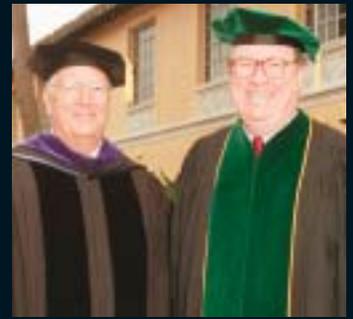
FALL 2002 COMMENCEMENT

Dean Gary Vause, right, awards Karmika Rubin '02 with her J.D. diploma as Judge Thomas E. Stringer Sr. '74 looks on.





From left, graduates Monica Barnes, Jason Bankowitz, Leslie Armstrong, and Drew Baldwin await the start of the May 2003 commencement ceremony.



Dean Gary Vause poses with American Bar Association President and Commencement Speaker A.P. Carlton before the December 2003 ceremony.



Above, President Doug Lee, Commencement Speaker Mel Martinez, Judge Thomas E. Stringer Sr. '74, Board of Trustees Chair Jay Landers, and Dean Darby Dickerson pose before the Spring 2003 graduation ceremony.



Fall 2002 commencement speaker A.P. Carlton challenged graduates to live their careers with integrity and strong ethics, and encouraged involvement in Bar associations.



Commencement Speaker Mel Martinez greeted May 2003 graduates before the ceremony.