



BASEBALL BANQUET

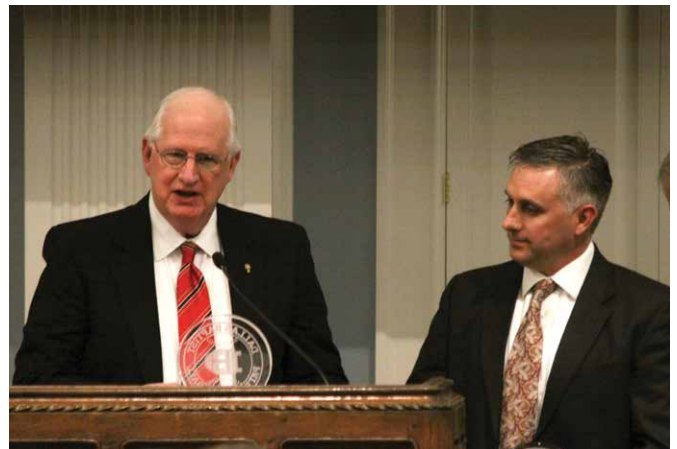
Dallas Baptist University hosted its 22nd annual baseball banquet on Friday, January 31, which kicked-off the beginning of the 2014 Patriot baseball season.

The evening was particularly special as three former Patriots were the first to be inducted into the program's *Ring of Honor*. The three honorees (pictured top, left to right), Brandon Bantz (Seattle Mariners), Victor Black (New York Mets), and Ryan Goins (Toronto Blue Jays) all made their major debuts during the 2013 Major League Baseball season.

The evening also provided an opportunity to pay tribute to two individuals without whom the new Horner Ballpark would not be possible. Ron Skaggs, DBU trustee and former chair of the architecture firm HKS, Inc., and his son, David, who currently works as an architect for HKS, received the 2014 Patriot Special Recognition Award for their work in designing Horner Ballpark (pictured middle). HKS is known for its design of the venues for the Dallas Mavericks, Dallas Cowboys, and Texas Rangers, to name just a few, and through the help of Ron and David Skaggs, the group designed the award-winning new home of the DBU Patriots.

In addition, the Dallas-Fort Worth chapter of the Society for American Baseball Research presented former DBU player Duncan McAlpine as their 2013 Metroplex Player of the Year. Duncan (pictured lower middle, with Bo Carter (left) and Paul Rogers from SABR) had a standout senior season and was drafted last year into the Detroit Tigers organization.

"This year's baseball banquet was one of the best that I have had the privilege of attending since being at DBU," said Connor Smith, who serves as the Acting Director of Athletics. "DBU Head Baseball Coach Dan Heefner has done a wonderful job producing players of this caliber, but even more, he has done an exceptional job training young men to be servant leaders for Christ."



DID YOU KNOW?

As of 2013, DBU has had 115 baseball players drafted into professional baseball. Of those, 14 have played in the major leagues.

Stay up to date with the Patriots this season by visiting DBUPatriots.com.