

Tornado rips roof off Conroe church_53104

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Tornado rips roof off Conroe church

By John Hall

Texas Baptist Communications

CONROE-A tornado slammed RiverPointe Baptist Church, ripping off a large section of the sanctuary roof and damaging much of the facility's interior.

Flood leaves pastor praising God for volunteers_53104

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<p>Maria Rodriguez, temporary emergency child care volunteer from First Baptist Church in Magnolia, plays with a toddler.</p>	 <p>Larry Blackmon, pastor of First Baptist Church in Hearne, helped his grandchildren escape rising water by lifting them through a window.</p>

Flood leaves pastor praising God for volunteers

By John Hall

Texas Baptist Communications

HEARNE—In two weeks, Larry Blackmon went from watching furniture float in his swamped home to singing the praises of Christian workers who helped him and his town after widespread flash flooding hit May 13.

Pastor sends potent picture postcards to patrons of 'adult' businesses_53104

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Pastor sends potent picture postcards to patrons of 'adult' businesses

By Erin Curry

Baptist Press

KENNEDALE-Jim Norwood got so fed up with the negative impact sexually oriented businesses were having on his local community he began an unusual campaign to run them out of town.

REBECCA ST. JAMES: Preaching purity_53104

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REBECCA ST. JAMES: Preaching purity

By Leann Callaway

Special to the Baptist Standard

NASHVILLE—At age 26, Rebecca St. James has been voted the most influential woman in Christian music by Crosswalk.com and listed as one of the top 50 evangelists under age 40 by Christianity Today.

Brazilians hear language of love from Singing Men_53104

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The
Singing
Men of
North
Central
Texas
perform
at
Theatro
Municipal
in Rio de
Janiero.

Brazilians hear language of love from Singing Men

By John Hall

Texas Baptist Communications

RIO DE JANIERO, Brazil-Police escorts, a packed arena and large crowds may sound like a rock and roll tour, but it was all part of the experience for a group of Texas Baptists during a recent trip to Brazil.

Church collects letters to Congress opposing legal redefinition of marriage_53104

May 28, 2004

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Church collects letters to Congress opposing legal redefinition of marriage

By Gregory Tomlin

Southwestern Seminary

FORT WORTH-Members of a Fort Worth church mailed 750 letters supporting the biblical definition of marriage to Republican Texas Senators Kay Bailey Hutchison and John Cornyn in Washington, D.C.

Website becomes handiest item in toolbox as church seeks to attract, contact visitors_53104

May 28, 2004

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Website becomes handiest item in toolbox as church seeks to attract, contact visitors

By John Hall

Texas Baptist Communications

ALLEN—First Baptist Church believes its website looks good. But more important to Minister of Education Jeff Humphrey, it is pulling people out of cyberspace and keeping them in church space.

Around the State_53104

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Red Lick First Church in Nash recently held groundbreaking ceremonies. Participating were Parker Linamond, Neil and Deborah Adams, James Brinkley, Evelyn Wright, Sandy Brinkley and Pastor Homer Wright.

Around the State

♦ **Winfred Moore** will be honored at the Texas Baptist Elder Statesman Celebration June 6 at Independence Church in Independence. The program, sponsored by Independence Association and the Baptist Distinctives Committee/Texas Baptist Heritage Center, will begin at 10 a.m. Moore was pastor of First Church in Amarillo 30 years.

♦ The College of Business and Economics at Houston Baptist University presented awards of excellence to **Sarah Emmer**, accounting; **Allison Fox**, business; **Anita Garcia**, computer information systems management; **Brett Mosher**, economics; **Steven Koehler**, entrepreneurship; **Abbey Moore**, finance; **Gabriela Anchundia**, management; and **Debra Hanna**, marketing. In addition, **Natalie Knox** received the accounting excellence award from the Texas Society of CPAs, **Anami Patel** the Accounting

Education Foundation Scholarship, **Joshua Baird** the Financial Executives International Scholarship and **William Cotton** garnered the Robert Griswold Outstanding Teaching Award.



John and Marie Chiles of Dallas were presented Baylor University's Milton T. Gregory Distinguished Award during the April 17 meeting of the Baylor Development Council. Baylor President Robert Sloan made the presentation. The Chileses were organizers and members of the founding board of directors of the Strecker Museum Associates. He served as that board's first president from 1989 to 1993 and again from 1997 to 1998. He also is a past president of the Baylor Law Alumni Association, life member and past director of the Baylor Alumni Association, member of the Torchbearers Society and chair of the executive steering committee to raise \$23 million to construct the new facility for Baylor's Strecker Museum and the Ollie Mae Moen Discovery Center. The new facility, the Harry and Anna Jeanes Discovery Center, centerpiece of the Sue and Frank Mayborn Natural Science and Cultural History Museum Complex, opened to the public earlier this month. The Gregory award is named for a 1935 graduate and university trustee who served the school more than 50 years by promoting its interests at every opportunity.

◆ Members of Wayland Baptist University's faculty have been approved for promotions beginning July 1. Promoted to professor are **Glyndle Feagin**, religion, and **Polly Lackey**, library science. New associate professors are **Elise Adamson**, mathematics; **Cindy McClenagan**, English; **Joshua Mora**, Spanish; **Adam Reinhart**, biology and chemistry; and **Ann Stutes**, music.

Barna reports increased giving to nonprofit organizations last year_53104

May 28, 2004

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Barna reports increased giving to nonprofit organizations last year

By Adelle Banks

Religion News Service

WASHINGTON (RNS)-The average amount of money given to nonprofits-including churches and other houses of worship-rose significantly last year, the Barna Group reported.

Baylor CFO announces plans to leave university, return to private business_53104

May 28, 2004

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Baylor CFO announces plans to leave university, return to private business

WACO-David Brooks, vice president for finance and administration at Baylor University, has announced plans to leave the school at the end of July to return to private business.

Brooks, who was named to the chief financial officer position in August 2000, came to the university from a career in banking, real estate development and investments.

He will resume a more active role in McKinney-based Independent Bank Group, of which he is founding chairman.

David Brooks

Gay-rights rally organizer strikes plea bargain with Baylor_53104

May 28, 2004

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Gay-rights rally organizer strikes plea bargain with Baylor

By Robert Marus

Associated Baptist Press

WACO (ABP)—A recent Baylor University graduate says he signed, under protest, a statement admitting he violated the school's conduct code by organizing a gay-rights rally because he feared he wouldn't be allowed to graduate if he refused to sign.

BGCT staffers to resign NAMB appointments_53104

May 28, 2004

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BGCT staffers to resign NAMB appointments

By John Hall

Texas Baptist Communications

DALLAS-Five Baptist General Convention of Texas employees appointed by the North American Mission Board will end their relationships with the Southern Baptist agency and become fully supported by the Texas convention by the end of the year.