

# Around the State

May 8, 2008

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## Around the State

- **Hardin-Simmons University's [Logsdon School of Theology](#)** has named its outstanding students. Kimberly Williams of Comanche received the Logsdon School of Theology Award, traditionally considered by the faculty to be the school's highest award for comprehensive achievement and all-around fitness for ministry. Also honored with scholarships were Robyn Holtmeyer, Emma Ellis, Jacob Snowden, Krista Toten, Caleb Groteluchen, Kara Donaldson, Alyson Morton, Will Ricketts, Megan Dick, Erin James, Matt McGowen, Megan Donohue, Brendan Kelso, David Tankersley, Charles Glidewell, Emily Burrows and Michelle Moore-Mitchell.
- **Julie Welker**, associate professor of communication at [Howard Payne University](#), has been named the recipient of the Travis G. Jones Memorial Outstanding Coach Award by the National Christian College Forensics Association. Welker has coached HPU's forensic speech team since it began competing two years ago.
- **[East Texas Baptist University](#)** has honored several of its students for academic excellence. Lee Ann Melton of Frisco received the Robert L. Hunt Accounting Award and the Florence Wood Quinn Achievement Award for the highest grade point average among business students. Denise Tomme of Diana was named the outstanding business student. Zane Gruzina from Latvia received the Edwin F. Moore Award for excellence in economics. Craig Cohen of Carrollton received the Dr. Harm Harms Award, presented to a student who excels in any area of business study. Emily Foster of Mount Pleasant received the Earl Thames Award, given to the student who

best exhibits outstanding Christian character. Rebecca Rinehart of Orange received the Chase Bank Award, presented to the student voted by the business school faculty most likely to succeed. Matthew Huffman of Ennis received the Outstanding Management Information Systems Student award.

- [Dallas Baptist University](#) has named Bob Burgin faculty member of the year. Burgin has taught in the college of education since 1999, serving as associate dean of the college, as well as assistant professor of education and director of the secondary education department.
- **Jerry Bawcom**, president of the [University of Mary Hardin-Baylor](#), recently was named a 2008 distinguished alumnus of the College of Education at Texas Tech University.
- **Richard Singleton** has been named program supervisor of the counseling program at [STARRY](#), a nonprofit organization based in Round Rock that provides counseling to children and families in Williamson County at no charge.

### **Anniversaries**

- **Juan Sanchez**, 10th, as pastor of Oakview Church in Lockhart, March 15.
- **Stephen Hatfield**, 15th, as pastor of First Church in Lewisville, April 25.
- **Ron McGee**, 10th, as music minister/instrumental and worship media at First Church in Lewisville, April 27.
- **Allen Moers**, 10th, as pastor of First Church of Rockport, May 1.
- **Larry Blackmon**, 15th, as pastor of First Church in Hearne, May 18.
- **L.C. Stout**, 15th, as pastor of Faith Church in Deport, May 23.

- **Trey Bledsoe**, 10th, as minister of students at College Creek Church in Temple, May 31.
- **Houston Garner**, 45th, as pastor of Hebron Church in Bells.
- **Scott Talbert**, fifth, as pastor of McDade Church in McDade.
- **Jerry Howe**, 10th, as pastor of Second Church in Levelland, June 8. The church is sending Howe and his wife, Kathy, on a trip to the Holy Land beginning the next day.
- **Baptist Temple Church in Houston, 100th, June 8.** The worship service will include proclamations from the mayor's office, the governor's office, the White House, the Baptist General Convention of Texas and Union Baptist Association. Daniel Vestal, national coordinator for Cooperative Baptist Fellowship, will be the keynote speaker. Former music minister Gerald Ray will lead the music, along with a choir made up of current and former members. Kelly Burkhart is pastor.
- **Willow Springs Church in Alvarado, 120th, June 15.** The church will celebrate with homecoming services and a lunch. Former director of missions Bill Roe will be the guest speaker. No Turning Back will present the special music. Wilma Reed will make a historical proclamation. Michael Simons is pastor.

## **Deaths**

- **Benito Hinojoso**, 70, April 14 in Plainview. He was pastor of Iglesia Alfa y Omega in Plainview 31 years. He was active in Caprock-Staked Plains Association, holding several leadership positions through the years. He was preceded in death by his daughter, Teresa Hinojoso. He is survived by his wife of 53 years, Eloisa; sons, Joel and Ismael; daughters, AnnaBell Mirelez, Rachel Esquivel and Ruth Hinojoso; brother, Santos; sisters, Aurora Nevarez and Amelia Lopez; nine grandchildren; and five great-

grandchildren.

- **Cameron Byler**, 79, April 28 in San Antonio. Byler was director of Baptist Men and coordinator of disaster relief for the Southern Baptist Convention Brotherhood Commission from 1985 to 1989. Byler joined the staff of the Tennessee Baptist Convention in 1989 in a similar position at the state level until his retirement in 1995. He also served as brotherhood director for the Alaska Baptist Convention and was state Royal Ambassador director for the Baptist General Convention of Texas. Byler was preceded in death by his first wife, Joyce, in 1988 and his second wife, Andrea, earlier this year. He is survived by his daughter, Barbara Garland; son, Chris; three grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren.

- **Elsie Wheelless**, 85, April 29 in Arlington. Her husband, Bill, is a retired long-time employee of the Baptist Standard. She had been a member of Fairview Church in Grand Prairie since 1980. She is survived by her husband of 66 years; and sons, William Jr. and Robert.

- **Bill Schibler**, April 30 in Temple. He entered the hospital for a hip replacement but subsequently suffered a stroke. At the time of his death, he was pastor of Grace Memorial Church in Clifton. He also had been pastor of churches in Golinda, La Grange, Cranfills Gap, Glen Rose, Hico, Cleburne and Meridian. He was preceded in death by his wife, Nita. He is survived by his daughters, Rita Ann Love, Vicki Cheek and Geraldine Walker; son, Gary; 13 grandchildren; and 19 great-grandchildren.

## **Events**

- **Calder Church in Beaumont** held a luncheon for laypeople to meet Randel Everett, executive director of the Baptist General Convention of Texas. More than 110 people from 10 churches attended the April 29 event and shared a time of food, music and fellowship. Everett met with area pastors earlier in the day. Jim Fuller is pastor.

## Ordained

- **Sam Rodriquez** to the ministry at Primera Iglesia in Mathis.

## Revivals

- **First Church, McLean**; May 18-22; evangelist, Robert Barge; music, Jeff Gore; pastor, Kenneth Martin.
- **First Church, Desdemona**; June 1-4; evangelist, Ron Owen; pastor, Jess McCabe.

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