

# Around the State: HPU scholars named

March 6, 2015

**Four [Howard Payne University](#) students** have been recognized as Currie-Strickland Scholars in Christian Ethics and Theology. They are Kelsan Wolverton of Lampasas, Samuel Marich-Edwan of Arlington, Jessi Jordan of Spurger and Paul Warren of Salado (see photo above).

**Jep Robertson**, of *Duck Dynasty*  Jep Robertson of A&E's *Duck Dynasty* expressed his gratitude to East Texas Baptist University after University Chaplain and Vice President for Spiritual Development Scott Bryant presented him an ETBU Tiger athletic jacket following his chapel speech. (Photo by Brendan Sceroler/ETBU). fame, was the guest chapel speaker at [East Texas Baptist University](#). Robertson's family is the subject of a reality television show and is known for their strong faith in Christ and long beards. He explained to the capacity crowd that he is a normal guy with struggles like everyone else, but his faith in Jesus Christ and his desire to tell others about him keeps him grounded.

**A prayer service** in response to terrorism and Christian persecution will be held March 26 at 7 p.m. at [North Hills Baptist Church in Whitesboro](#). There will be no preaching or promotion of any political agenda—just a gathering of churches of all denominations coming together to pray. For more information, [click here](#).

[Dallas Baptist University](#) honored **Lou Esparza** for her 25 years of service to the school. She began working at the school in both undergraduate admissions and development before being named academic projects administrator, where she is responsible for developing and editing the class schedules.

## **Anniversaries**

Westover Baptist Church in San Marcos, 75th, March 29. The service will begin at 10:45 a.m., and a meal will follow. **Jeff Latham** is pastor.

**John Isom**, 35th, as pastor to senior adults and worship leader at Waller Baptist Church. He previously served the church as pastor.

**Charles Cole**, 10th, as director of missions for FIRM Baptist Area.

## **Event**

The **Dennis Ivey Band** will be in concert at Bedias Baptist Church in Bedias March 29 at 6 p.m.