

In Touch: Congratulations to Bible Drill winners and competitors

May 15, 2015

Hello, Texas Baptists! I was happy to be at your Baptist Building Saturday, May 2, for the finals of the State Bible Drill Competition and Speakers Tournament. Those students worked diligently to make it so far and really are remarkable.




David Hardage Two weeks ago, I worshipped at First Baptist Church of Lolita. Thank you, Pastor Dennis Phariss for the invitation. I spent Mother's Day with [First Baptist Church of Georgetown](#). It was a joyful morning celebrating the mothers and motherly role models we have in our lives.

The 2015 Childhood and Family Ministry Summit will be held Aug. 7-8 at First Baptist Church of Arlington. The summit provides an opportunity for professional growth in the areas of family, preschool, children and weekday ministry. Go to the "Events" section of www.texasbaptists.org/childhood for more information.

May is the month when Baptist Student Ministry thoughts turn to all those who will be graduating from high school and entering colleges and universities across the state this fall. Knowing this can be a difficult

transition for students and their families, we want to remind you that we have a website to assist churches in connecting students with a BSM at their prospective schools. Go to www.texasfreshmen.org to begin searching.

 [Howard Payne University's](#) Guy D. Newman Honors Academy: The Program for Civic Leadership and Public Policy recently celebrated the 50th anniversary of its first graduating class. The school hosted Jim Angle, former chief national correspondent for FOX News Channel, as their guest speaker. Texas Baptists are proud of HPU and the quality education they provide.

[The University of Mary Hardin-Baylor](#) announced the formation of its Center for Innovation. With this center, UMHB intends to keep the school at the forefront of Christian higher education by incubating new ideas and programs. I look forward to seeing the exciting things to come out of this initiative by UMHB.

It is a joy to serve you.

David Hardage is executive director of the Baptist General Convention of Texas Executive Board.