

UPDATES FROM THE HILL **TIGER PRIDE** EAST TEXAS BAPTIST UNIVERSITY



Tiger Alumni & Students Serve at IF: Gathering

Thousands of women came together for the IF: Gathering in Dallas, Texas on February 8-9. For 30 ETBU students and alumni, this two-day women's conference was an opportunity to serve.

"Serving at the IF: Gathering this year was amazing," Katelyn Cooper ('18) said. "It was remarkable to see that even though we think of our Marshall community as being small, and ETBU even smaller, students are truly making a difference, even in a big city like Dallas. It was a testament to how God is working on our campus, transforming the hearts of ETBU students and using them to spread the Gospel."

IF is an organization that exists to equip women with Gospel-centered resources, events, and community so they may learn more about who God is and disciple other women. Currently, ETBU Alumni Halee Vasquez ('18) and Jordyn Perry ('10) serve on staff to make all of IF's events possible.

"It was beyond my wildest dreams to see so many ETBU students volunteering and using their gifts for the Lord at IF this year," IF Volunteer Coordinator Halee Vasquez ('18) said. "Jesus moved in mighty ways and that is due to ETBU students loving others well all weekend long. I'm so proud to be a Tiger!"



Get to Know Alumnus Carl Barfield ('70)

There aren't many people, who know as much about bugs as Dr. Carl Barfield. For 35 years, Dr. Barfield served as a Professor of Entomology at the University of Florida in Gainesville, Florida. Over the course of his career, he taught 30 different courses, consulted for several government agencies, and traveled to over 30 countries to help the poor in underdeveloped nations. Dr. Barfield's work has taken him all over the world, but none of his other experiences have duplicated the friendships or education he received between 1966 and 1970 in Marshall, Texas.

"I made lifelong friends at ETBC and remain in contact with many of them," Dr. Barfield said. "I was a student at ETBC during a turbulent decade of social upheaval, but the Hill was always a calm sanctuary of education and direction. This speaks volumes of the type of institution ETBU was and is still today."

Not only did Dr. Barfield leave East Texas Baptist with deep friendships, but a well-rounded liberal arts education that carried him through his Ph.D. program at Texas A&M University.

"I was a math and biology major at ETBC, and when I entered my Ph.D. program in entomology, I realized all of my colleagues knew much more about insects than I did," Barfield said. "However, as I progressed through the program, I realized they did not know much else. Many had tunnel vision on insects but lacked the social, historical, and cultural training to interpret their insect studies in the broader context of human culture and society."

That is when I realized the wonderful gift of a liberal arts education provided to me by East Texas Baptist."

Now retired, Dr. Barfield and his wife, Beverly, reside in Gainesville and spend their days giving back to their community.



Acrobatics and Tumbling Hosts First Meet

This year marks the beginning of a new era in Tiger Athletics with the inaugural ETBU Acrobatics & Tumbling Team. Beginning in 2011, Acrobatics & Tumbling is a new collegiate sport that combines gymnastics and competitive cheer. Currently, there are 24 college programs competing with two more colleges joining the sport in 2020. Coach Farrah Dunaway spent last year recruiting the inaugural team that is comprised of 17 student-athletes from Texas, Oklahoma, and Puerto Rico.

"This sport will let competitive cheerleaders and gymnasts from the high school level have another option when they are looking into collegiate competition," Head Coach Farrah Dunaway said. "I love that this sport isn't restricted to one area of athletics, and I can recruit athletes from other sports and build something great with them."

ETBU hosted defending national champion and #1 ranked Baylor University for their first home match on Saturday, February 9. Their next home match is on Saturday, March 23 at 12:00 p.m. against Concordia University of Wisconsin.



Tigers Spend Spring Break Serving Others

Next week, more than 100 ETBU students are using their Spring Break to serve others. Students will be representing Christ and East Texas Baptist in Texas, Alabama, Austria, and Costa Rica.

Here in Texas, Baptist Student Ministry Director David Griffin will be leading a team of 20 students to South Padre Island to serve at Beach Reach. These students will participate in servant evangelism as they prepare meals, offer rides, and share the Gospel of Jesus with spring breakers, who converge on Texas' island coast. In Birmingham, Alabama, Dean of Spiritual Life Dr. Scott Stevens will be leading a team to build a home as part of Habitat for Humanity's Collegiate Challenge. The ETBU Symphonic Band and Concert Choir will be in Austria as part of the *American Celebration of Music in Austria Concert Series*. They will perform in historic venues and participate in a school-based exchange program. In Costa Rica, the Women's Soccer Team will partner with Youth with a Mission (YWAM) for their Tiger Athletic Mission Experience (TAME). The Tigers will conduct soccer clinics for children, participate in door-to-door Bible distribution, and play two soccer games as well.

Please pray for our student missionaries as they travel and represent the Lord over spring break. May God give them strength and boldness to share the love of Christ with those they meet.



Sumpter to Receive James Morgan Day Honor

Every year an ETBU baseball player is given the honor of wearing No. 16 in honor of James Morgan, a former ETBU baseball player who passed away tragically in 2012. This weekend Dylan Sumpter ('18) will be given this honor for the second year in a row.

"Receiving the James Morgan Award is something that will stay with me forever," Sumpter said. "It has been a humbling experience, and I pray I can represent the number well by reflecting God's glory on and off the field."

ETBU Head Coach Jared Hood initiated the award for the 2014-15 season in honor of Morgan for his commitment to ETBU, the Marshall community, and his family. The recipient, chosen by a team vote, is selected for displaying the qualities of Morgan, including athletic excellence, academic integrity, service to the community, leadership, and overall Christian character.

"This award reminds me to never take anything for granted because we are not guaranteed tomorrow," Sumpter said. "I hope to continue to serve and give back in the

same way Morgan did.”

The James Morgan Day ceremony will take place before Game 1 on Saturday, March 9. For full game day coverage, go to www.goetbutigers.com.



WORSHIP AND MUSICAL ENTERTAINMENT FEATURING



The Foto Sisters



Legacy Five



Dr. Jimmy Draper

Registration for Hilltop University is Now Open

Hilltop University, a spiritual retreat for Boomers and Senior Adults, will be held Wednesday, May 29 through Friday, May 31, at East Texas Baptist University. Conference events include corporate worship, preaching, Bible studies, concerts, breakout sessions, and dessert fellowships. During your stay, enjoy our on-campus housing in a residence facility and meals in ETBU's Dining Hall.

This year's worship and musical entertainment will include:

- Dr. Jimmy Draper, Lifeway President Emeritus
- Legacy Five
- Foto Sisters
- Shellie O'Neal

Register before Friday, April 1 to receive reduced pricing! Click [here](#) to view event details.

Register Now



Mark Your Milestone Brick Campaign

The Office of Advancement invites former students to commemorate their time at ETBC or ETBU with a personalized brick for \$100 each. Every personalized brick will be placed outside the Ornelas Student Center in the Quad. As there are only 120 remaining available spaces, don't hesitate to "mark your milestone" on the Hill with an engraved brick.

Engraved bricks can also be purchased as a gift to honor graduates, fellow classmates, professors, coaches, or family members.

Your \$100 donation will serve as a lasting reminder of your contribution to support the continued growth of the University. The Mark Your Milestone brick campaign provides an affordable and concrete way for all alumni to extend their ETBU legacy for generations to come. Click below to order your brick today.

Mark Your Milestone



Help Us Connect with ETBU or ETBC Tigers

We are looking for our East Texas Baptist Alumni and need your help. Please look at the link below to see who we are trying to locate. We want to keep all of our Tiger Alumni informed about the exciting things happening on the Hill! If you see a college friend or

former Tiger classmate on the list, encourage them to submit their current contact information. Please help spread the word on social media as well.

[ETBU Alumni: Project Locate.](#)

Support Christ-Centered Higher Education at ETBU

Stay in touch and share your news with your ETBU Family. Send your career accomplishments and family updates to alumni@etbu.edu or click [here](#) to update your information.

For more information please call:

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