



long with the arrival of cooler fall weather, Patriots of years past returned to University Hill to kick off the holiday season at DBU Homecoming 2009. The week's festivities provided ample opportunities for food, fellowship, and fun among friends and family as hundreds attended dinners, luncheons, a musical celebration, and the annual DBU Homecoming Basketball Game. This year

marked the 20th anniversary of the Class of 1989 and the 30th anniversary of the Class of 1979.

During the annual Alumni Homecoming Banquet, held on Friday, November 20, DBU presented the 2009 Distinguished Alumnus Award to Mike Arnold, President of Arnold Stone, Inc. A former DBU baseball player and graduate of the Class of 1995, Arnold went on to earn his Juris Doctor degree from SMU's Cox School of Law. In 2001, DBU dedicated the Mike Arnold Fitness Trail. a lovely and oft used course which was made available by provisions from Arnold and his family. Arnold is a member and a past chairman of the DBU Board of Trustees.

An Honorary Alumnus

Award was presented to Dr. Ed Spann, former dean of the DBU College of Fine Arts. Previously, he served as a chaplain's assistant and band master in the U. S. Army, head of the church music department at Shorter College in Georgia, and missionary in residence and music education professor at Houston Baptist University. Notably, Dr. Spann was instrumental in founding the Department of Sacred Music at the Faculdade Teológica Batista de Sao Pãulo in Brazil, where he and his wife served as Southern

Baptist missionaries. He has also written many books, including his co-authored 2008 release of *Presidential Praise: Our Presidents and Their Hymns*.

Once the banquet drew to a close, alumni and guests were treated to phenomenal entertainment at the Homecoming Extravaganza, featuring performances by alumni, students, faculty, and staff. Current student

groups included DBU's contemporary Christian ensemble Legacy, the international group DiverseCity, the Anointed Voices of Praise, the staff of Residence Life, and the DBU Patriot Cheerleaders.

In addition, current faculty and staff performances were given by the Faculty & Staff Choir, under the direction of Ron Bowles; plus Christy Gandy, Daniel Park, Maria Ovcharov, Bob Brooks, Jim Graham, Ozzie Ingram; and a special piano solo by Sue Mitz. An exciting patriotic finale featured several soloists and the entire cast of more than 100 performers.

The weekend of festivities culminated in the annual Homecoming

Basketball Game, held on Saturday evening. The Patriots battled hard in front of a full house of loyal fans in the Burg Center but lost to Southwest Baptist University, who at the time was ranked third among all NCAA Division II squads. During halftime of the game, the Homecoming Court was announced and Chad Rosell was named the 2009 Homecoming King while Kailea Williams was named the 2009 Homecoming Queen. Earlier in the week, Hayden Moore was named the 2009 Mr. Big Chief.

