A Star-Spangled Celebration
Dallas Baptist University
Members of the DBU family were welcomed back to campus as a part of the Homecoming 2011 celebration. The week included a pep rally, parade, banquets, luncheons, tailgating, and, of course, a Patriot victory on Saturday night.

During the annual Alumni Homecoming Banquet, held on Friday, November 18, DBU honored Garland Mayor Ron Jones and DBU Professor Emeritus Dr. David Fletcher.

A member of the class of 1978, Ronald Jones received the Distinguished Alumnus Award in recognition of his lifetime of service to the church and community. Mayor Jones is the associate pastor of New Hope Baptist Church in Garland, and he was elected as the mayor of Garland in 2007. He and his wife, Peggy, have two sons and many grandchildren.

Dr. David Fletcher received the 2011 Honorary Alumnus Award. He began his service at DBU in 1969 as a professor in the religion department. For the next 41 years, he was a fixture in the department, teaching thousands of students over the years and mentoring countless numbers of future ministers. He and his wife, Helen, have two sons and a daughter and many grandchildren.

Other events during the week included the Red Rally and Homecoming Parade on Friday, complete with the Minutemen Drum Line, the Patriettes, floats, the Homecoming Court, the 2011 Mr. Big Chief, Jonathan Rhodes, and a Grand Marshal, Dr. Steve Mullen, dean of the College of Christian Faith. In addition, hundreds gathered for the Homecoming Extravaganza led by Dr. Ozzie Ingram, associate vice president for administrative affairs. The extravaganza showcased the musical talent of over 100 DBU faculty, staff, students, and alumni.

On Saturday, members of the classes of 1971, 1981, and 1991, gathered for a special luncheon held in their honor. Later that evening, students, alumni, and family gathered for the annual pre-game tailgate party, as they prepared to cheer on their DBU Patriots who were taking on the LeTourneau University YellowJackets. While at the tailgate party, Residence Life was announced as the winner of the float competition.

The DBU Patriot Basketball team took the court on Saturday to round out the week’s festivities, and quickly established control of the game against the YellowJackets. In front of a packed house the Patriots won with a final score of 78-46.

During halftime, members of the 2011 Homecoming Court were announced, and this year’s Homecoming King and Queen, Zac Simmons and Amy Quinn, received their crowns.