



May 5, 2003

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Texas Wesleyan University to graduate 375 during
spring commencement exercises**

FORT WORTH, May 5 – The Texas Wesleyan family will grow by 375 on Saturday, May 17, when the University holds its spring commencement exercises at Will Rogers Auditorium on 3401 W. Lancaster Ave. at 7:30 p.m. Debra Morrow, president of Witherspoon Advertising & Public Relations, will deliver the keynote address.

As head of Fort Worth's largest advertising agency, Morrow has earned numerous regional and national awards for her writing and creative direction. In 2002, Morrow was named a Paul Harris Fellow by the Rotary Club of Fort Worth. She was also recognized as a "Legacy of Women" honoree and a "Women of Influence" honoree. Morrow graduated from the University of Texas at Arlington with a Bachelor of Arts in Communications.

Morrow has held membership positions with several community organizations, including the Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Fort Worth (where she is chair-elect), the Child Study Center, Rotary Club of Fort Worth, the Women's Shelter, Senior Citizens Services of Greater Tarrant County, the North Texas Commission and the National Conference for

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Community and Justice. She also serves as a board director and economic development committee member for the Fort Worth Chamber of Commerce.

During commencement exercises, Texas Wesleyan will award Robert L. Hughes an honorary Doctor of Education degree. Hughes, head varsity basketball coach at Dunbar High School in Fort Worth, graduated from Texas Wesleyan in 1983 with a Master of Arts in Education and garnered nationwide acclaim in February when he won his 1,275th game, the most games won by a high school coach in the history of the sport.

About 219 of the students participating in commencement exercises are undergraduates. Forty-seven students will earn a master of education degree, while nine will receive the master of business administration degree. Approximately 100 students will earn a juris doctor degree from the Texas Wesleyan University School of Law.

As a part of pre-commencement ceremonies, Wesleyan graduates will participate in a robing ceremony on Friday, May 16, at 11 a.m. at Polytechnic United Methodist Church at 1310 S. Collard St. Robing is a unique and deep-rooted Texas Wesleyan tradition that began in 1927. For the robing ceremony, graduating candidates select a faculty or staff member whose support was meaningful to them during their studies at Wesleyan to vest them with the cap and gown. The ceremony demonstrates the strong bonds developed between faculty and students at the University.

Other pre-commencement ceremonies include the Texas Wesleyan University School of Law hooding ceremony, which will be held at the Fort Worth Convention Center at 1111 Houston St. on Friday, May 16, at 2 p.m. Each academic year, the law school acknowledges its candidates for the juris doctor degree at hooding ceremonies in December and May. During

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these ceremonies, the dean of the law school presents each candidate with an academic hood, the colors of which are representative of the University and the academic discipline: purple for law.

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