

Tennessean, Illinoisan elected to high SBC posts

by Jim Newton

By a 32-26 margin, Alvin C. Shackelford, Nashville, was elected director of Baptist Press by the Executive Committee of the Southern Baptist Convention.

The action came during the Executive Committee's February meeting after efforts to postpone the election until the SBC in June narrowly failed.

During the same session, Ernest E. Mosley, executive director of the Illinois Baptist State Association, unanimously was elected executive vice president of the Executive Committee.

Shackelford, editor of the Baptist and Reflector, newsjournal of the Tennessee Baptist Convention, announced the morning following his election he would accept the position as vice president for public relations, effective March 15.

He succeeds Wilmer C. Fields, who retires March 31 after almost 28 years in the dual role as public relations director for the Executive Committee and director of Baptist Press.

"The issue is not Mr. Shackelford," observed Ed Drake, a committee member and attorney from Dallas. Drake said he felt some other candidate might have been nominated with the support of 75 percent to 80 percent of the Executive Committee, while Shackelford had the support of 55 percent.

The real issue, according to several

committee members, is who will control the policies and day-to-day operations of Baptist Press and who can best maintain balance and fairness in coverage of denominational controversies.

In a personal testimony and statement of philosophy, Shackelford said he had for 22 years as a Baptist editor in Tennessee and Indiana sought to "tell the truth and trust the people." Shackelford said he believes a Christian journalist should present a "true, accurate and unbiased picture of what is going on in our denomination."

During an earlier meeting of the Executive Committee's administration and convention arrangements subcommittee, several committee members questioned Shackelford's record, charging he had not always been fair and unbiased in his coverage. That subcommittee voted 13-6 to recommend Shackelford for election by the full Executive Committee.

In accepting the position, Shackelford said he had "received what I interpreted as a definite indication from God that I should allow my name to be nominated," and to serve if elected.

He pledged "my life and my efforts" to provide a public relations program and press service "that is fair, objective, and balanced—open to all Southern Baptists." He also pleaded for "a year of grace to see if I can fulfill your expectations of this office."

Appellate court judge Paul Pressler said in response to Shackelford's plea, "I will prayerfully support him." Pressler, a member of the Executive Committee who has been critical of Baptist Press, said he had opposed Shackelford's nomination because of "a pattern of unfairness towards conservatives" in the SBC in the last eight years.



The Executive Committee elected two staff leaders during its February meeting in Nashville. Ernest E. Mosley (left), was named executive vice president. Alvin C. Shackelford (right), was elected vice president for public relations.

SBC president Adrian Rogers also had opposed Shackelford's nomination, telling reporters "little is known" about Shackelford. But Rogers said Shackelford's request for "a year of grace" is fair and said Baptists need to honor the request. He added, "The proof of the pudding will be in the eating." Shackelford said a time of prayer with Rogers following the 32-26 vote was a crucial factor in his decision to accept the position.

Both Shackelford and Mosley said they believe the Bible is infallible and inerrant. "I was an inerrantist before I even learned the word," Shackelford said.

There was no debate concerning Mosley's election as executive vice president responsible for program planning and inter-agency cooperation, and he received only one question concerning his views of the scripture. The secret-ballot vote was 58-0.

Shackelford, 54, has been editor of Baptist and Reflector for more than 10 years. Previously, he was editor of the Indiana Baptist and public relations director for the State Convention of Baptists in Indiana for 11 years.

Shackelford is a former editor of The Beam magazine published by the SBC Radio and Television Commission; former sportswriter for the Ft. Worth Star Telegram; and former technical director in the public relations office for the Baptist General Convention of Texas.

A native of Georgia, he is a graduate of Mercer University; the University of Georgia; and Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary. He was pastor of a church in Franklin, Ga., during college.

Mosley, 59, has been executive director of the Illinois Baptist Association for the past six years. Previously he supervised the pastoral ministry program in the Church Administration Department of the Baptist Sunday School Board.

Mosley has been pastor of churches in Sydney, Australia; Honolulu, and Kaneohe, Hawaii; and a staff member of churches in Shreveport, La., and Pine Bluff and Arkadelphia, Ark.

A native of Arkansas, he is a graduate of Ouachita Baptist University and Southwestern Seminary. He was pastor of six churches in Texas and Arkansas as a college and seminary student.

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FMB retains name, elects nine in reorganization

The Foreign Mission Board voted Feb. 11 to retain its present name for stateside use but to register a second name, International Board of the Southern Baptist Convention, for operational purposes abroad.

The decision, recommended by a special transition committee, enables the board to maintain the name with which Southern Baptists have strongly identified through the board's 142-year history. But it also provides flexibility that may be needed to operate more effectively overseas, board officials said.

The new name was recommended in December as part of a major reorganization to prepare for full-scale efforts toward global evangelization. Moving ahead with all other aspects of the new plan, the board elected seven staff members to top-level positions.

The board also created a ninth geographical area, dividing Europe and the Middle East, and redrew the lines for the three areas formerly known as Latin America under a new overall region called the Americas.

Elected vice presidents were Isam Ballenger, Europe, Middle East and North Africa; Don Kammerdiener, the Americas; Davis Saunders, Africa; William Wakefield, Asia and the Pacific; and Lewis I. Myers Jr., Cooperative Services International. Cooperative Services was created in April 1985, as the channel through which Southern Baptists can respond to requests and opportunities in countries not open to a traditional

missionary approach.

Harlan Spurgeon was elected vice president for mission management and personnel, an expanded administrative role which brings together many of the units formerly under separate overseas and stateside support offices. Clark Scanlon will be director of research and planning, coordinating the fact-gathering and interpretation necessary to shape worldwide evangelistic strategy.

President R. Keith Parks will be chairman of the new global strategy group and executive vice president William R. O'Brien will be vice chairman.

The board also elected two associate vice presidents who will work under Spurgeon—Thurmon Bryant as associate vice president for missions management and Tim Brendle as associate vice president for personnel.

Parks noted in a report to the board that one of the strengths of the new organization will be the "fusing of functions to emphasize the unity of the entire Richmond staff in support of the total foreign missions effort. There is no real separation of overseas and stateside functions and the new organization will seek to convey that fact more clearly."

The major item discussed at the four meetings related to geographic regions was selection of replacements for the area directors elected to new posts. The new regional vice presidents are writing missionaries in the areas for their suggestions, and Parks said he hopes many of these positions can be filled at the

April and May meetings. Under the new plan the area directors will live in one of the countries of their area, moving more decision-making closer to the fields they supervise.

Three new areas will constitute the Americas region: Middle America and Canada, Spanish South America (adding Argentina, Paraguay and Uruguay to the area presently known as Western South America), and Brazil and the Caribbean.

The other major area of change involves Asia and the Pacific region. East Asia will remain the same, but the other area will be known as Southern Asia and the Pacific, embracing work formerly in South and Southeast Asia. The new title recognizes expansion of work underway in the Pacific islands.

Three key executives who have announced plans to retire this year will be part of a staff transitional committee that will assist in interpreting the board's reorganization to staff, missionaries and Southern Baptists and to help adjust policy and procedures to the new structure. John Mills, director for work in West Africa, who will be 65 this year, will join Charles Bryan and Winston Crawley, vice presidents whose retirement plans were announced in December. The three will work with Homer Beaver, who will chair the group as part of his new duties as executive assistant to the president.(BP)

sanford's perspectives

At the heart of the kingdom



Jack D. Sanford

The July-August-September issue of the Quarterly Review reveals that 60 percent of the churches in the Southern Baptist Convention have less than 300 members. In Kentucky 63 percent of our 2200 churches have less than 300 members. That means 18,723 SBC churches have less than 300 members.

It seems strange the models for ministry among Southern Baptists are the super churches and the pastors of those giant operations. In these super churches we find multiple staffs and media ministries which are virtually unknown to smaller churches. Yet this has become the model and the small church is often left out when it comes to recognition for significant work in God's kingdom.

Yet there are wonderful stories of advancement and progress among small churches everywhere and I want to tell you only one of them.

The church I have in mind is the Pleasant Valley Baptist Church in rural Webster County, part of Little Bethel Association.

The church has a total resident and non-resident membership of 240, yet they average 140 in Sunday school. That in itself is an achievement of monumental proportions and is a record equalled by few churches, large or small.

Almost 90 percent of the congregation is under age 50 and they average 180 in worship attendance.

The church has averaged 15 baptisms each of the past two years for a baptism ratio which puts most all Southern Baptist churches to shame. In

addition Pleasant Valley has had four young men called to ministry and has ordained three of them.

The church follows the best tradition of the mission spirit of the scriptures and conducts regular youth meetings which average 80-100 per meeting; promotes and carries on an aggressive jail ministry; sends men out to speak for the Gideons; and conducted two sessions of vacation Bible school this past year with 225 enrolled and 189 average attendance.

That mission spirit is reflected in the giving record of this church. Last year the church gave \$19,823 for all mission causes outside the local church. That comes to 30.4 percent of the total offerings which were \$65,115. How about that for a record of missionary involvement?

The church has a fully graded WMU, an active Brotherhood and has persons in the membership who speak in local schools about drug abuse.

Laddie V. Pride is pastor of this vigorous, growing church and can speak with pride when he declares the church's motto: "Come and see what the Lord has done."

Thank God for the Pleasant Valley Baptist Church and the thousands of others just as small and truly just as great in the work of God's kingdom.

It seems it is past time we took a look at the small churches in our midst and honored the pastors and people who carry a large share of the load of witnessing to our lost world.

Hats off to the small church which is at the heart of the kingdom among us and is a model of commitment for all of us.

New SBC executive committee officers

Last week the Executive Committee of the Southern Baptist Convention met in Nashville and elected two men to serve as vice presidents (see page 1).

Ernest E. Mosley received a unanimous vote to the office of executive vice president and has the assurance of cooperation as he undertakes to carry the heavy administrative load of the Executive Committee. He will be responsible for program planning, managing the Cooperative Program budgeting process in addition to other administrative tasks.

The unanimous vote is what Baptists always seek and when it comes it is a delight to share in its warmth. Yet this is not always the way it is among us.

An example of how we often go another way came in the vote for Alvin C. Shackelford when he was presented as vice president for public relations, a job which means he will be responsible for Baptist Press as well as all public relations for the Executive Committee.

Shackelford was elected on a 32-26 vote and asked the privilege of spending the night in reflection and prayer before he gave his answer of acceptance or rejection. When morning came Shackelford declared he felt it was the will of God

that he take the position vacated by the retirement of Wilmer C. Fields in spite of the heavy opposition which had surfaced the day before.

The small majority given Shackelford plus the volatile nature of the position he is to fill leaves some cloud over the future in Southern Baptist communications and hard questions facing all of us.

Will Shackelford be effective as head of Baptist Press when he is opposed by so many leaders? Will this opposition influence the way he handles the news? Will he be able to turn around the opposition and have smooth sailing through the troubled waters of SBC life?

Time will give the answers. For now each of us has an opportunity for specific prayer for these two men who have taken on heavy responsibility. Shackelford asked for a year of grace as he tried to adjust to his new assignment. We owe him that much and in that grace period we also owe he and Mosley our prayers.

The Executive Committee is the convention ad interim and what hurts them hurts us, and what advances them advances us.

This then is a call to prayer for the people we have selected to serve us in key positions. Can any among us do less?

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KBC churches continue to adopt the expanded CHURCH ANNUITY PLAN



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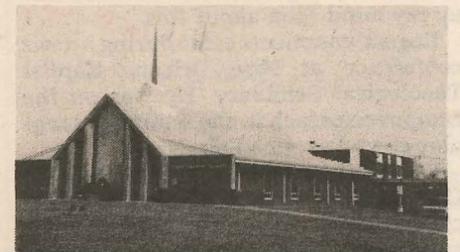
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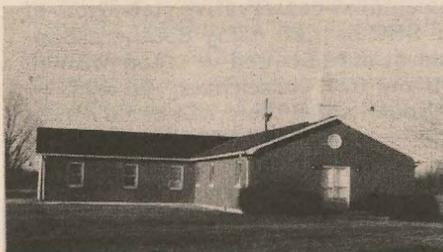
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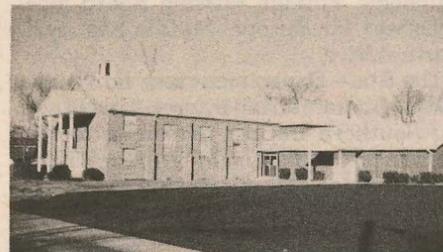
First Baptist Church, Eddyville



Mt. Pisgah Baptist Church, Bremen



Wickland Baptist Church, Bardstown



Kevil Baptist Church, Kevil



Immanuel Baptist Church, Frankfort



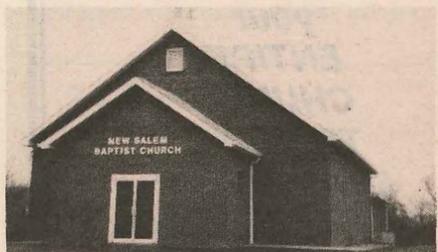
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Macedonia Baptist Church, Mt. Sterling



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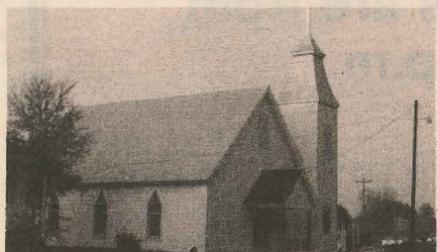
Old Yellow Creek B. C., Middlesboro



Lucas Grove Baptist Church, Upton



Mt. Pleasant Baptist Church, Somerset



Lafayette Baptist Church, Lafayette



Harrods Creek B. C., Crestwood



Oak Grove Baptist Church, Cadiz



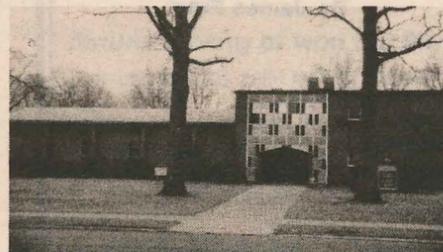
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baptist news in brief

Rogers undecided about second term as president

Adrian Rogers says he has not decided yet whether he will allow himself to be nominated for a second term as president of the Southern Baptist Convention.

However, the current SBC president said, "Probably at this point I'm more inclined to, than not to. But, that certainly is not settled, by any stretch of the imagination, in my heart and mind. I do realize, however, that I need to make up my mind soon about this."

Rogers' comments came during a news conference at New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary. He was on the campus to preach in the seminary's regular chapel service Feb. 10.

Rogers, a member of the SBC Peace Committee, was asked if he expected the committee to recommend that denominational workers be required to sign a statement of theological orthodoxy.

"No, I don't," Rogers said. "I don't think the mindset that I read in the Peace Committee is so much of a statement as it is a standard," he said, adding, "The convention, in toto, must set that standard. And, we have every right to expect those who serve us and receive a salary from us to fairly represent what the constituency wants taught."

Rogers also reiterated his support for the Glorieta Statement made by the presidents of the six SBC-owned seminaries. "The Glorieta Statement said that the Bible is not errant in any area of reality," Rogers said. "Not errant and inerrant are synonymous. . . . The second part, 'in any area of reality,' what is reality? Reality is what's real—history, science, philosophy. So, that's a very strong statement."

However, Rogers said, "The problem is at least two of those presidents went back to their constituencies and to their alumni" and qualified what the statement meant. "Now, if they did not mean that, they should not have said it, and that's the problem, how slippery these things are," said Rogers. "And if they did mean it, then indeed it was a breakthrough." (BP)

SBTS affirms statement; trustees implement plan

The trustee executive committee at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary has unanimously embraced the Glorieta Statement and commended president Roy L. Honeycutt for steps taken to implement the statement.

The 19 executive committee members, acting on a recommendation from board officers, commended the six seminary presidents "for having initiated creative proposals designed to further the cause of reconciliation within the Southern Baptist Convention."

The Glorieta Statement, which later was "affirmed" by the peace committee, set forth seven specific "commitments" related to fairness and balance in teaching and selection of faculty, compliance by faculty members to the seminaries' confessional statements and continued emphasis on spiritual growth, evangelism and missions on the seminary campuses. It also announced a series of three national conferences on biblical inerrancy to be held in the next three years.

The trustee affirmation came after Honeycutt outlined some of the steps taken by administration and faculty.

They included "maximum support" of the Conference on Biblical Inerrancy to be held May 4-7 at Ridgecrest (N. C.) Baptist Conference Center. Honeycutt has been involved in planning the meeting, and several Southern faculty members will be program participants.

Other plans implemented are enlistment of conservative evangelical scholars as visiting professors and "careful review" of student evaluations of professors to ensure all instruction is respectful of varying theological views. (BP)

Lebanon missionaries denied exemptions

The U. S. Department of State has refused to exempt Southern Baptist missionaries from its order that Americans leave Lebanon.

Accordingly, missionaries will begin leaving Lebanon this week, said Isam Ballenger, Foreign Mission Board vice president for Europe, Middle East and North Africa.

The State Department sees no "compelling humanitarian interest" in allowing Southern Baptist personnel to remain in the country, said William Wharton, director of citizenship appeals. "Nor (is it) in the national interest," Wharton said Feb. 12 in announcing the decision.

The missionaries will meet with FMB officials to discuss new assignments and receive a listening ear to "work through some of their feelings, anguish, disappointment, frustration," Ballenger said.

Lebanon "has been a kind of light for Christianity in the entire Middle East," he continued. "Our missionaries wanted to support that—that freedom to propagate the gospel, freedom to move about, freedom to publish, freedom to teach," a degree of freedom unique in the Middle East. (BP)

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Baptist alliance formed to counter 'threat'

A new Southern Baptist organization—the Southern Baptist Alliance—has been formed to counter what leaders call a threat to the denomination's "historic principles, freedoms and traditions." The Alliance was announced Feb. 12 in simultaneous news conferences in Charlotte and Raleigh, N. C., and in Atlanta.

Henry Crouch, pastor of Providence Baptist Church, Charlotte, and chairperson of the SBA, led the news conference in Charlotte. Two Raleigh pastors, William R. Puckett Jr., Millbrook Baptist Church and M. Mahan Siler, Pullen Memorial Baptist Church, led the Raleigh meeting. Jim Strickland, pastor of Cartersville (Ga.) First Baptist Church, headed up the Atlanta news conference.

"We are not a splinter group," Crouch said. "But we want to be a voice of conscience within the convention. The fundamentalist-conservative takeover of the SBC has left many Southern Baptists disenfranchised . . . and we will vote our own consciences," he said.

Crouch noted there will be no candidate for president. "We are not a political group," he said. "Matters of conscience are our concern. We do not plan to escrow any Cooperative Program funds, but we do intend to fund any agencies or programs which are excluded."

He referred to current discussions concerning severing the relationship between the SBC and the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs, which has been under fire from SBC conservatives. Crouch also referred to a decision by directors of the Home Mission Board not to provide supplemental salary support for ordained women who serve as pastors.

During the news conferences the officers of the SBA were announced. They include Crouch, Susan Lockwood Wright, pastor of Cornell Avenue Baptist Church, Chicago, vice-chairperson; Richard Groves, pastor of Wake Forest Baptist Church, Winston-Salem, N. C., secretary; and Bruce Morgan, pastor of First Baptist Church, Greenville, S. C., treasurer. (BP)

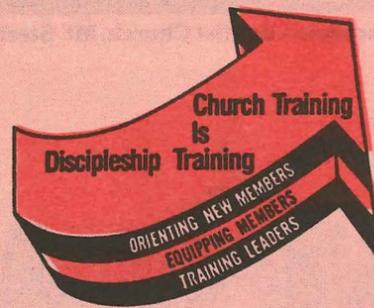
Baptists inch forward with small 1986 gains

Southern Baptists inched forward in 1986, according to Uniform Church Letters, but small gains coupled with losses in three major programs indicate a stagnate year. Bright spots are baptisms, and gains in church music and Woman's Missionary Union.

The gain in baptisms of 3.4 percent, or 12,053, comes on the heels of losses for four consecutive years. Baptisms totaled 363,124 in 1986.

The number of churches in the Southern Baptist Convention topped 37,000

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for the first time. The increase of 137 churches, or 0.4 percent, brings the total to 37,116, for the 57th consecutive gain in number of SBC churches. The 1986 statistical report shows there are now 14,618,567 persons who are members of Southern Baptist churches. This is an increase of 0.9 percent, or 132,164, over 1985.

Sunday school, the SBC's largest program, experienced a decrease this year of 0.2 percent, or 16,823, to a new total of 7,943,973. This loss follows a gain of more than 100,000 last year and increases for six consecutive years.

The next largest program, church training, decreased in enrolment in 1986 by 0.7 percent, or 14,693, to a new total of 1,954,345. This is the third consecutive loss for the training program, which has had an increase of 12.2 percent over the past seven years.

Enrolment in church music recorded its 21st consecutive gain, with an increase of 2.8 percent, or 46,354, to a new total of 1,724,092. Enrolment in Woman's Missionary Union increased by 1.3 percent, or 14,673, to a new total of 1,179,913.(BP)

Southern names vice president

University of Kentucky administrator Donald B. Clapp has been named executive vice president at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville.

Clapp, a 50-year-old Baptist layman, has worked for the University of Kentucky 24 years. Since 1985 he has been executive vice chancellor for administration at the university's medical center in Lexington, managing the administrative and financial operations of a health sciences center with five colleges and a teaching hospital. He also has served the university as vice president for administration, executive assistant to the president and budget director.

At Southern Seminary, Clapp will be the institution's chief administrative officer, with direct responsibility for academic services, business affairs, stu-

dent services, seminary relations and development. He will begin his new responsibilities in May.

Clapp, a native of Lexington, earned the BA and JD degrees from the University of Kentucky. He and his wife Betty are members of Calvary Baptist Church, Lexington.(BP)

Hunger gifts decline but experts hopeful

Southern Baptists in 1986 contributed more than \$9 million to world hunger relief, according to figures released in February by the Home and Foreign Mission Boards.

Although total hunger receipts last year were 23 percent less than the record \$11.8 million given in 1985, hunger experts at the two mission boards and the SBC Christian Life Commission were upbeat about the ongoing responsiveness of Baptists to critical hunger needs.

The 1986 total of \$9,089,279 is still the second largest amount ever given and represents nearly a \$2 million increase over the amount given in 1984.

"I think the overall picture for Southern Baptist hunger relief is encouraging," said Robert Parham, director of hunger concerns for the Christian Life Commission. "The broadening base of support for hunger relief during the last decade is a sign of growing confidence in the hunger programs of our mission boards."

Paul Adkins, director of the Home Mission Board's missions ministries division, credited the increase to ongoing emphases on domestic hunger needs by

the HMB, CLC, Woman's Missionary Union and Brotherhood Commission.

John Cheyne, senior consultant for human needs ministries at the FMB, also underscored the need for continued support of hunger relief, reiterating his view that a "hunger holocaust" remains "a frightening possibility." He said this is especially true for beleaguered Africa, due to factors such as misuse of land, increasing population, drought, war and international debt.(BP)



James H. Cox
Associate Editor

fourth estate

A funny thing . . . II

Last June I wrote a column about the humorous experiences of friends at church. The response to it brought so many smiles, I believe a second on this subject would be welcome.

KBC Communications Division director Greg Hancock recalls a children's sermon he gave at Latonia Baptist Church when he was pastor. He used a rabbit to make a point with the little ones gathered around him that day. He inquired if a child could tell him what had a furry coat, long ears, whiskers, could hop and run very fast.

After a moment's hesitation, a small lad timidly raised his hand. When called upon, he replied, for all the congregation to hear: "Well, I know the answer is probably Jesus, but I'm going to say a rabbit anyway!"

The congregation broke up, and "we should have dismissed the service at that point," Hancock concluded.

I still have some fond memories of working in a preschool Sunday school department many years ago. One Sunday morning the director asked if anyone could tell who led the Israelites across the Red Sea. To which one of our outspoken four-year-olds replied: "Moseth."

Our words and our meanings sometimes become unintentionally confused in and around the house of the Lord.

I remember reading this message printed in a Sunday bulletin the last time the SBC convened in Missouri: "The Kentucky Baptist Convention will be meeting in Kansas City next week." Now I ask you, why would Kentucky Baptists not want to meet in their own state?

Visiting in Nashville with my friend Leonard Hill of the SBC Executive Committee, I mentioned that a state editor whose associate had resigned would be using "a part time woman" to fill in for a while. Hill innocently looked at me and queried: "What is she the rest of the time?"

More than two decades ago, while attending my first conference for writers of Sunday School Board curriculum materials, I listened to some of the pros tell their experiences of bygone days. An editor allowed that misplaced modifiers had often spelled doom, such as the time nobody caught an advertising line on the back of a Sunday school quarterly that read: "Order a picture of Jesus Christ ascending from the Baptist Book Store."

Finally, I was in prayer meeting years ago in Nashville on a Wednesday night when the pastor called upon a Sunday School Board department head to pray. The man, a good friend who shall remain nameless, had obviously done a lot of dictating of correspondence that day, for the first words of his petition were, "Our Father, comma . . ."

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(See page 4)

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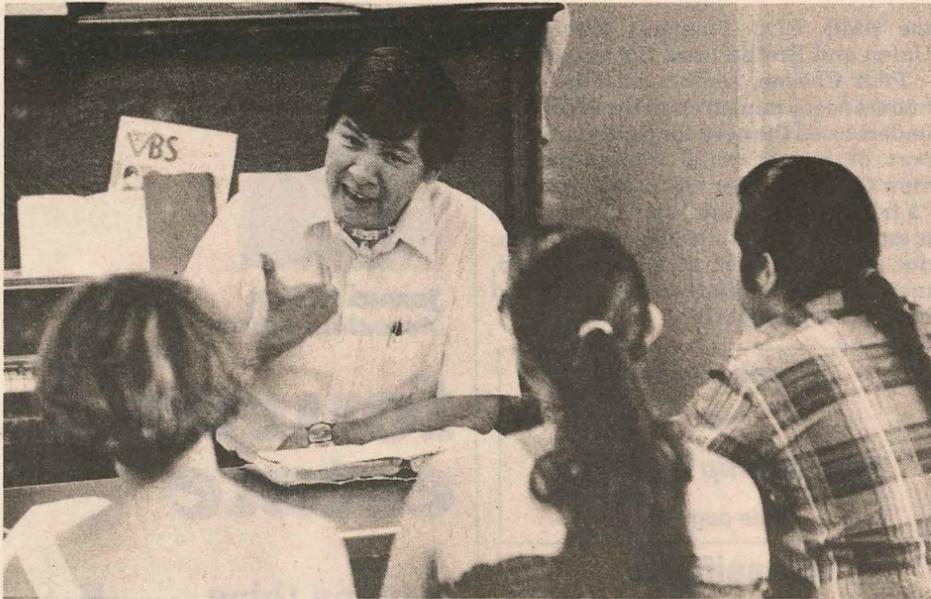
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To win the more than 1.5 million unsaved American Indians, home missionary Jimmy Anderson, a full-blooded Creek Indian, has established a network between the 460 Southern Baptist churches in the SBC.



Home missionary George Russ is working to win America by reaching the cities. As associational director of evangelism for the Baptist Convention of New York, Russ serves a mission field of more than a million people.

Southern Baptists meet needs through home missions dollars

by Barbara Denman

More than 1 million teens each year cross the line from carefree youth to troubled unwed mother.

Southern Baptists, through the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering, are able to extend a helping hand to the almost 100 of those unwed mothers who walk through the doors of the Sellers Baptist Home and Adoption Center in New Orleans, La.

If the 1987 AAEO goal of \$37.5 million is met, the Sellers Home will receive \$190,000 to minister to the spiritual and physical needs of these young mothers.

Special projects supported by the 1987 offering total \$3.9 million are wide and varied. For example, a total of \$30,000 will fund crusades in metropolitan areas. A sum of \$590,000 will fund summer missionaries who provide an extra helping hand to the missionaries on the field. An allocated \$20,000 will help overworked bivocational pastors move to another place of service.

With \$25,000, the Home Mission Board is able to support a consultant on disaster and hunger relief who helps Southern Baptists become aware of the

critical needs in these areas around the country.

The largest bulk of the \$37.5 million Annie Armstrong Easter Offering goal is \$25 million designated to support the approximately 3700 home missionaries and their field ministries.

Michael T. Williams, Christian social ministries center missionary serving as pastor/director of the Harlem Ministries in New York City is one of those missionaries. He is ministering to families within his church who are torn by drugs, especially crack, which is so cheap and accessible.

A total of \$5.36 million will be allocated to the church extension program to support mission pastors, church starters and pastors whose churches cannot fully support them.

Although chaplains are not financially supported by the HMB, \$252,000 will provide training and orientation to meet pastoral and personal needs for more than 1600 chaplains serving in institutions, hospitals and the military.

In 1987, the offering will provide \$50,000 for disaster relief. This money will allow churches to provide financial assistance during natural and man-made disasters.

When 450 families, the entire town of

Cedar City, Mo., found their homes completely underwater during 1986 flooding in their state, Annie Armstrong disaster relief funds were used to help.

Such funds become "a witness to the community that the church does care," says home missionary Don Anders. "We have seen unchurched people won to the Lord by this ministry," he said.

Another allocation of funds, \$8.5 million, is for critical Bold Mission Thrust areas needed to expand Southern Baptist work. Three million dollars in this category are slated to increase the number of missionary personnel in the United States.

Another \$2 million of the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering will train

personnel, identify needs and establish pilot projects to implement new strategies to keep home missions work on the cutting edge.

In 1986, the directors of the HMB instructed the staff to find new ways to reach the cities for Christ. Forty-six percent of the U. S. population lives in the 50 largest cities.

Annie Armstrong gifts of \$1.9 million will respond to the challenge of reaching the cities through evangelism, church starting and ministry to ethnic and language groups.

The 1986 AAEO fell short of its \$31.5 million goal by 15 percent, but represented a 7.4 increase over the previous year's offering.

More than money is needed ...

by Carol Garrett

Unfortunately for home missionary Art Bingham, a dollar bill can't show a Vietnamese woman how to cope with an American supermarket, or tutor a struggling child in math.

As pastor/director of the Stowe Memorial Baptist Center in Columbus, Oh., Bingham says he rarely has a problem getting people to give their money. But getting Southern Baptists to give of themselves is often a different story.

"It's difficult to get people to make a real commitment," he said. And as much as he needs the people who will send money, or food, or clothes, his greatest need is for "live bodies."

The people who do what they can once a year or once a month help enhance the center's ministry. But Bingham says the real core of the center's work has to be done by people who will commit themselves to staffing the ongoing ministries.

Those ministries include sponsoring after-school clubs for children; distributing food and clothing; helping people with physical and spiritual difficulties; and working to help refugees find housing, get jobs and speak English.

Bingham is the only staff member for the center, which serves a 10-block area of approximately 28,000 people. "Without volunteers, we really wouldn't be able to accomplish what we do," he said.

What Southern Baptists are doing through this Baptist center is ministering to people where they are—"where they are in their lives," Bingham said.

"We take them as they are, accept them as the person they are. That means street person, low-income person, uneducated person," he said. At the center, Bingham and volunteers minister to people first, instead of trying to "change them and then minister to them."

The center is also a church, with almost 100 members. Many of the members are people who came for help and had their lives changed. Now they are ministering, both in their own community and through Southern Baptist home, foreign, state and associational missions offerings.

"The people are very receptive and responsive to missions," Bingham said. Last year they gave more than \$250 to home missions through the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering.

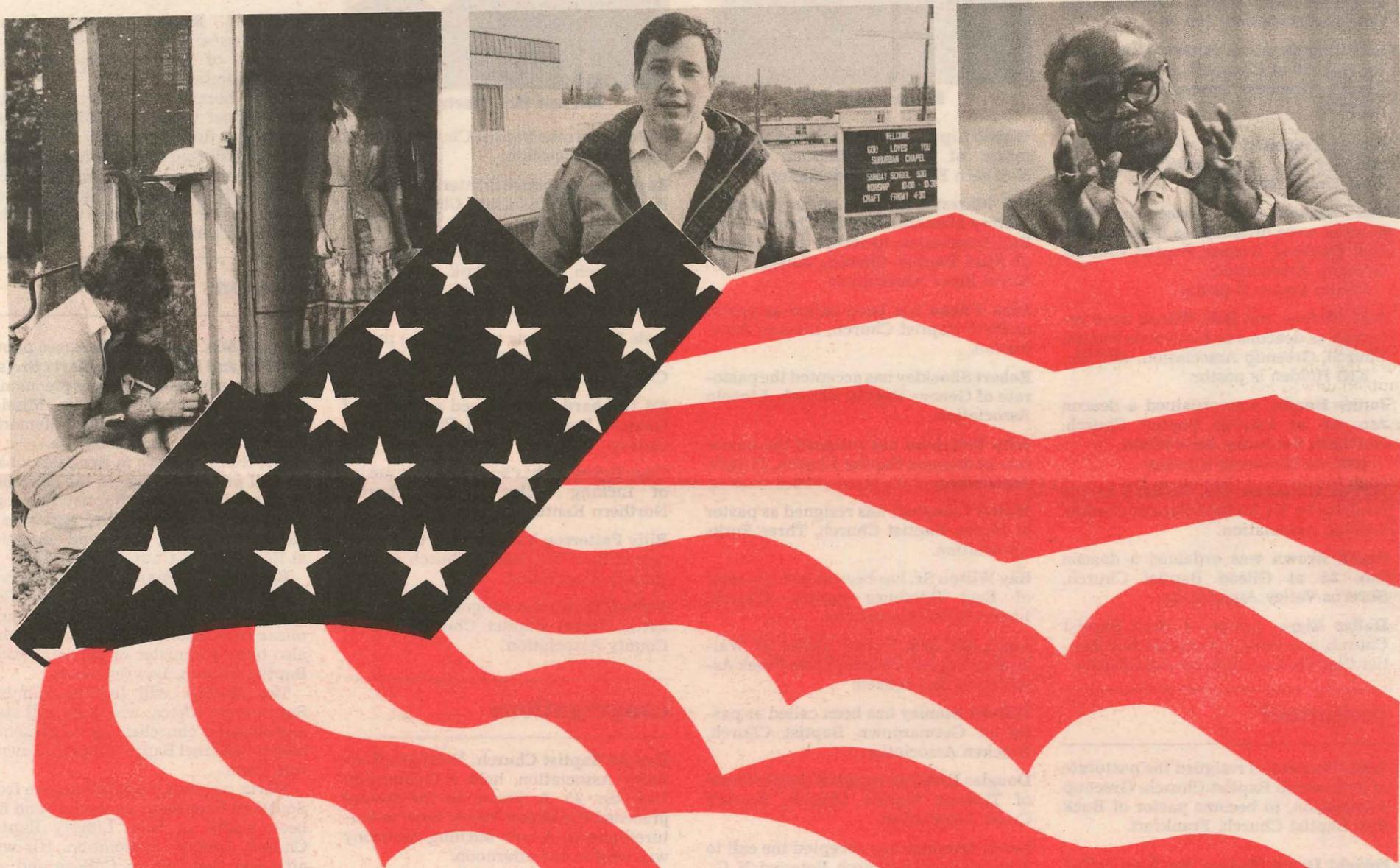
"I've tried to emphasize to our people that since we are recipients of home missions, we should give close to or the same amount to home missions as we give to foreign," he said.

The people at Stowe Memorial Baptist Center know the importance of giving to missions. Without the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering, they wouldn't have Art Bingham. And without him, and the volunteers who help, they might never have met Jesus Christ.

Bingham wants other Southern Baptists to understand the importance of their commitment as they enter the March 1-8 Week of Prayer for Home Missions.

"If we are to win America, we must be willing to go to the cities where the majority of the people live and minister to them—where they are."

Who will win America?



If not you, who?

by Richard T. McCartney

Open your door, step outside and you will be standing in one of the greatest unevangelized nations in the world.

Studies show that more lost people live in the United States than there are people in any of the 108 foreign lands where Southern Baptists missionaries serve.

America, home of almost 17 million Southern Baptists, is our greatest mission field. The tragedy is that this land, which has the highest concentration of evangelical churches, probably is the third most pagan nation in the world. Only China and the Soviet Union have more lost people.

God has transplanted to America a cross section of the world's population. Nations which deny entrance to Christian missionaries have sent their brightest students to study here. Military units and medical specialists come to the United States to train and study.

Refugees from Third World countries settle in the shadow of our churches.

Many of these visitors will return home to share what they have learned in America. Can it be that God has given us an opportunity to reach thousands of persons who would never be touched by a foreign missionary?

In spite of the millions here who have never responded to the gospel, America offers the world its best hope for evangelism. No other nation has the economic and spiritual resources to mount an aggressive, worldwide missions endeavor.

If the people of America are brought to faith in Christ, the rest of the world can be brought under the influence of the good news of the gospel.

The Apostle Paul, that great missionary to the gentiles, expressed in Romans 10:1 that the burning desire of his heart was salvation for his fellow Israelites.

With all the strength he had, Paul carried the gospel to the gentile world, but

he prayed earnestly that God would save his homeland. We must have a similar concern for America.

In all our efforts to win the world, we must not lose America. The last words of instruction Jesus gave to the fledgling church challenged his disciples to begin where they were and carry the gospel to the whole world. That is our challenge also.

The commission of Jesus is personal. It is yours, and mine. We cannot transfer our responsibility to others. The question posed by the theme of this year's Week of Prayer for Home Missions, "Who will win America?", is one each of us must answer individually.

Will you pray, give and work to win America? If not you, who?

mountains to the mississippi

ordinations

Freddie Allgood was ordained a deacon Dec. 28 at Memorial Baptist Church, Blood River Association.

Danny Cunningham and **Billy Pyle** were ordained deacons Dec. 28 at Spring Creek Baptist Church, Blood River Association.

Mike McKeown was ordained a deacon at Beaver Dam Baptist Church, Ohio County Association, Jan. 4.

Ed Ellington was ordained to the ministry Nov. 30 at Elizabeth Jarrell Baptist Church, Greenup Association, where he is pastor.

Edwin Trammell was ordained to the ministry Jan. 25 at Baptist Tabernacle, West Union Association.

Ted Barker, Jack Kazee and **Earl Wooten** were ordained as deacons Jan. 4 at Oakland Avenue Baptist Church, Greenup Association.
Phillip Porter is pastor.

Jake Malone and **Bob Wilson** were ordained as deacons at Flatwoods Baptist Church, Greenup Association, Jan. 25.
Ken Holden is pastor.

James Hamby was ordained a deacon Jan. 18 at Dayton Baptist Church, Northern Kentucky Association.
Johnnie Holloway is pastor.

Daniel Gutenson was licensed to the ministry by Mt. Hebron Baptist Church, Lincoln Association.

Frank Brown was ordained a deacon Jan. 25 at Gilead Baptist Church, Severns Valley Association.

Dallas Riggs, pastor of Hart Baptist Church, was ordained at Slate Hill Baptist Church, Laurel River Association.

personnel

John Charles has resigned the pastorate of Fellowship Baptist Church, Greenup Association, to become pastor of Buck Run Baptist Church, Frankfort.

Dwight David Mauney has been called as pastor of Petersburg Baptist Church, Northern Kentucky Association.



Mr. and Mrs. Rice

Wayne Lipscomb has accepted the pastorate of Fairlane Baptist Church, Northern Kentucky Association.

Bill Marret has resigned as pastor of Victory Memorial Baptist Church, Long Run Association, to accept the pastorate of First Baptist Church, Calvert City, Blood River Association.

John Friend has been called as pastor of Pond Baptist Church, Lincoln Association.

Robert Shockley has accepted the pastorate of Geneva Baptist Church, Lincoln Association.

John Pettyjohn has resigned the pastorate of Sunrises Baptist Church, Pulaski Association.

Walter Campbell has resigned as pastor of Hyden Baptist Church, Three Forks Association.

Ray Wilson Sr. has been called as pastor of East Pittsburg Baptist Church, Laurel River Association.

Louis McCord, former pastor of Walaceton Baptist Church, Tates Creek Association, has retired.

Milford Stanley has been called as pastor of Germantown Baptist Church, Bracken Association.

Douglas Estle has resigned the pastorate of Thomas Baptist Church, Boone's Creek Association.

Lewis Jennings has accepted the call to Potecasi Baptist Church, Potecasi, N. C.

He was formerly a staff member of Clear Creek Baptist School and pastor



Mr. and Mrs. Martz Sr.

of Poplar Grove Baptist Church, Russell County Association.

Raymond Lawrence is interim pastor of Benton First Missionary Church, Blood River Association.

David George has resigned Liberty Baptist Church, Sulphur Fork Association, to accept the pastorate of Quensby Baptist Church in South Carolina.

Dale Etheridge has accepted the pastorate of Thomas Baptist Church, Boone's Creek Association.

Ed Hubbard has resigned as pastor of Okalona Baptist Church, Pulaski Association.

Gary Reynolds has been called as pastor of Licking Valley Baptist Church, Northern Kentucky Association.

Billy Patterson has accepted the pastorate of Bell City Baptist Church, Graves County Association.

Vernon Taylor has resigned as pastor of Little Bethel Baptist Church, Graves County Association.

congregations

Dayton Baptist Church, Northern Kentucky Association, held a Celebration Day Jan. 25. A dinner on the ground preceded the Miami Valley Boys as featured guests. A note burning ceremony was held in the afternoon.

Highland Heights Baptist Church, Northern Kentucky Association, will

hold a conference on cults, dealing specifically with Mormons and Jehovah's Witnesses, Monday, March 2.

Antioch Baptist Church, Mt. Zion Association, was vandalized sometime between Feb. 1 and 4. White paint was smeared over the sanctuary, and papers were strewn across the building. The new bathrooms were also damaged.

Several items were missing and church officials estimate damage at several thousand dollars.

Alonzo Sharp is pastor.

Smithfield Baptist Church, Henry County Association, passed a memorial in behalf of Ernest Staley, longtime church member.

Staley became a member of Smithfield Baptist Church in 1925. He was ordained a deacon in 1939. He served his church during those years as Sunday school teacher and in many other church positions. He had perfect Sunday school attendance for 21 years, and was a faithful church servant.

missions

Mr. and Mrs. Gerald L. Rice (see photo) and **Mr. and Mrs. John R. Martz Sr.** (see photo) were among 43 people named missionaries by the Foreign Mission Board Dec. 9 at Weatherford Memorial Baptist Church, Richmond, Va.

The Rices will live in Ecuador, where he will promote music in the churches. He attends Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, and was a minister of music, youth and education at Ross Baptist Church, Gary, Ind.

Both Rice and his wife Teresa received the BA degree from Cumberland College, and he received the MA in church music from Southern Seminary. He has also been a minister of music at Alton Baptist Church, Lawrenceburg.

The Martzes will live in Namibia, South West Africa, where he will start and develop churches. He is presently pastor of Bethel Baptist Church, Townsend, Tenn.

Martz received his MDiv degree from Southern Seminary, Louisville, and has been pastor of New Liberty Baptist Church, Liberty Association. His wife attended Georgetown College and expects to receive her BS degree from Carson-Newman College.



Leon Simpson
President
Clear Creek Baptist School
Pineville, KY 40977

clear creek comment

Seeking Praise

One of the sins our Lord condemned was that of seeking praise from men. "The hypocrites . . . love to pray standing in the synagogues and in the corners of the streets, that they may be seen of men" (Matthew 6:5). It seems to me that a Christian falls into grievous error when he tries to praise himself or seeks the praise of others.

Of course, it is human nature to want to be appreciated. All of us hunger for a word of praise. Mark Twain is credited

with saying, "I can live for two months on a good compliment." But praise is like a shadow. It follows those who flee from it, but flees from those who follow it.

Praise is warming and desirable. But it is an earned thing. It has to be deserved, like an honorary degree or a hug from a child. Proverbs 27:2 states, "Let another man praise thee, and not thine own mouth." He who sings his own praise is seldom asked for an encore.

V. S. Lean says, "Praise to the face is open disgrace" and Thomas Fuller said, "He that praiseth publicly will slander privately." Someone has said that good men hate those who praise them, if they praise them too much and Florian said, "The praise of a fool is more harmful than his blame."

You don't have to be afraid of praising God too much; unlike humans, he never gets a big head! And you don't need to shrink from recognizing Clear Creek. This is God's work and we praise him for all that he has done here.

We recognize those who have made Clear Creek great because God has used them mightily. L. C. Kelly founded this school amid much hardship and controversy. D. M. Aldridge labored long and faithfully to strengthen Clear Creek.

Myriads of others sacrificed to support this ministry. They will remain unknown and unsung. But Kentucky Baptists and Southern Baptists in recent years have begun to recognize how vital a part of Baptist life Clear Creek is and how valuable its contributions are.

In years to come Clear Creek's leadership in ministry and missions will be seen ever more clearly. This is Clear Creek's time!

I do not ask/For churchly pomp or pageant,/Or music such as wealth alone can buy;/I only ask that as I voice the message/He may be nigh!/I do not ask/That men may sound my praises/Or headlines spread my name abroad;/I only pray that as I voice the message/Hearts may find God!

Ralph Spaulding Cushman



Eldred M. Taylor
Executive Director
10501 Shelbyville Road
Middletown, KY 40243

homes for children

On the campaign trail

The news media currently is reporting on who will be running for election to public offices. Some already have filed officially to run for an office, and others are expected to announce their candidacy. Some already are busy on the campaign trail. They are meeting with groups and speaking wherever there is a hearing. As we approach the time for the primary election, there will be more and more of this.

I am now among those on the campaign trail. However, the campaign trail I am pursuing is in no way an attempt to be elected to an office. This campaign is not for myself, but rather for children. I am on the campaign trail on behalf of the Beyond This Time endowment campaign. This campaign will result in raising three million dollars for endowment for Baptist Homes for Children.

Many need the Christian love and care which Baptist Homes for Children provides for dependent/neglected children. As the future becomes the present, many more will need that care. In order to provide a stable financial base for the continuing care of children who need us, a more adequate endowment is an imperative.

In 118 years of history your children's homes have sought to raise money only for operational costs. The time has come to build endowment to work for children Beyond This Time. This campaign is designed to challenge Baptists and other friends of children to be a part of that which is bigger than one's self and that will continue beyond one's life.

This Beyond This Time campaign is being conducted in four geographical phases with each phase covering about 10 weeks in time. The campaign is presently in full swing throughout the central and north central regions of our state. We also are enlisting persons to serve in the second phase, which will cover the great eastern section of Kentucky.

Yes, I am on the campaign trail. It is a campaign for children. I call on you to pray for victory for children. I also ask you to support this campaign by investing in children. You will never be sorry you helped a child in need.

Coach, chaplain are winning team for Christ

Suzanne Darland,
State Correspondent

Morehead State University's Baptist Student Union director Gene Parr is in a forward drive with the school's athletic program that is scoring some big points.

He's established a relationship with athletes in the baseball, basketball and football programs that is winning them to Christ.

And head football coach Bill Balldrige, himself a Baptist layman, gives Parr no small credit for this past year's 7-4 record for the university's Division 1-AA team, the best season in Morehead's history.

"There's not a guy on the field who isn't free to talk with Gene," Balldrige, a member of First Baptist Church, Morehead, explained.

Balldrige also credits Parr with keeping him in the football program. Last year, after Tennessee Tech had drubbed Morehead 59-6, Balldrige considered getting out of coaching. In his second year at the school, he was desperately trying to turn the losing program around.

"I was torn up. But Gene told me I couldn't lose faith," Balldrige recalled. "I rededicated my life to Christ, and we made a comeback. The team did well."

Another crisis last spring had university trustees thinking about dropping football because it was losing so much money.

That's all changed. But Balldrige, who accepted Christ and was baptized at First Baptist while a student player at Morehead in the mid-60s, says the tough times strengthened team members.

"Guys in a losing season need to find the Lord," he said. "They realize they need him."

Over half the starters are members of the school's chapter of Fellowship of Christian Athletes, noted Parr. "It's not unpopular to be a Christian around here."

As football chaplain, Parr conducts worship services on Saturday mornings before home games.

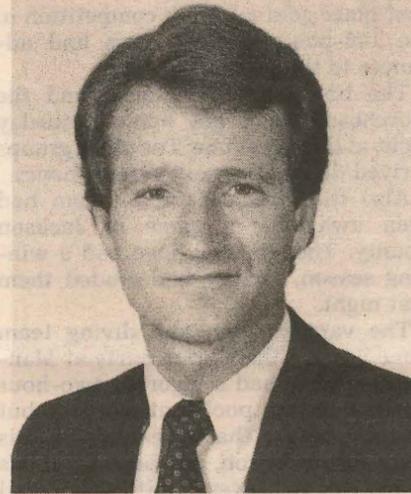
While no one is required to attend, Balldrige notes all 90 young men in the program attend. During games Parr is on the players' bench, and he leads in pre- and post-game prayer.

But Parr's relationship with team members goes beyond these formal expressions.

Team members see him as someone they can talk to about problems with girlfriends and studies as well as those on a spiritual plane.

Balldrige tells about the time Parr combed the stadium parking lot before a game looking for a player's handicapped mother. He had arranged for her to watch her son play instead of listening to the game on the car radio.

"I try to be there, to be their friend," Parr says simply.



Parr

Recently, one football player prayed to receive Christ in Parr's office. Another was saved at a revival, and he told Parr of his influence in the decision.

Balldrige, who came to Morehead three years ago from the University of

Kansas, says what Parr is doing fits in with his concept of college football.

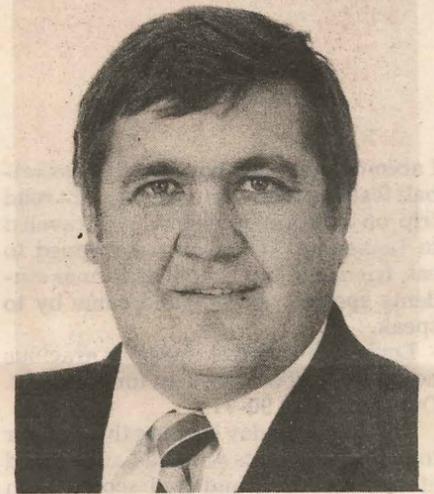
"God didn't put me on this earth just to coach Christians," he intoned. Balldrige takes seriously the time he is entrusted with these college students.

"Some I have two years, some four and some five," he says of the players. "If I can change him, good. If not, maybe I can influence him."

Balldrige's attitude has also changed the tenor of the school's booster club activity.

Alcohol is usually a big part of the hoopla that surrounds alumni and booster club support of college teams. But it doesn't seem to be as prominent at Morehead, Balldrige noted.

"To be a witness is tough as a head football coach," said Balldrige. "But when they serve drinks I take my ginger ale and have just as good a time as they do. I think people respect that."



Balldrige

Balldrige's invitation to Parr's involvement in the football program was a springboard to Parr's work with other sports programs at the school as well.

The graduate assistant in men's basketball, John McCoy, became a Christian while a student at Cumberland College. He and Parr meet for regular Bible studies.

The graduate assistant in men's baseball, Chris Halle, also meets with Parr for Bible study, and holds one with several team members. Halle is a Campbellsville College graduate.

In a prayer room of the Baptist Student Union building, built in 1970, hangs a pencil drawing of the face of Jesus. It was drawn by a member of the women's basketball team who was led to Christ by another team member. She has become active in the BSU and has brought other team members with her.

Those are the kind of involvements Parr treasures with Morehead's athletic programs.

He also leads a full schedule of Bible studies, discipleship groups and worship services as well as fellowships, retreats and ministry training.

"We're here on campus as a Baptist witness, but we cannot deny our responsibility to all students," he stated.

On a walk around campus, a member of the football team came up to Parr. Quietly, Parr took him by the arm.

"I heard what happened," he told the young man. "If there's anything I can do..." The man nodded.

Parr says he feels good about the almost five years he's been at Morehead.

"The gospel is being shared," he added. "We don't make anyone uncomfortable, but we don't compromise the message that Jesus died to save sinners."

Infant daughter's death led Parr to ministry with college students

by Suzanne Darland,
State Correspondent

Gene Parr says he might not be in student work today had God not worked in his life through a tragedy.

He was beginning his second year at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary when his wife Lucy gave birth to their first child, a girl, Bethany.

When she was three months old, doctors discovered she had biliary atresia, a progressive disease of the liver's bile ducts.

After some surgery, doctors told the couple she'd "never really be well," Parr recalls.

Bethany died suddenly when she was eight months old, in June 1979.

Crushed, Parr and his wife moved back to Lexington to be with their families.

"Dad needed help on the farm and we needed help," Parr relates.

"We never felt like God abandoned us," he continues. "We always felt his presence and knew that others were thinking of us."

"We had an unusual sense before

the Lord in prayer."

It was during this time that Parr became involved with the college department at Immanuel Baptist Church, where he and his wife had met and married.

"The students made the program," he recalls. "I really realized how important student work was." After a year's hiatus Parr returned to Southern and completed his MDiv degree.

Parr credits Immanuel pastor Ted Sisk and his wife Ginny with helping him "feel comfortable in sharing my faith in a conversational way" through evangelism training.

And he praises his parents, Dr. and Mrs. Eugene Parr, Lexington, for "being extremely supportive" of their son's faith journey. His parents have helped financially in several BSU projects.

First Baptist, Morehead, and the Bracken Association also contribute to Parr's ministry there.

Parr says he and his wife are now the parents of two "fantastic" daughters: Jenny, six, and Christy, three.



Barkley Moore
President
Oneida Baptist Institute
Oneida, KY 40972

oneida journal

On the road (But not to Mandalay)

I accompanied our boys varsity basketball team on their annual overnight road trip on a recent weekend. We traveled to Louisville. Wherever we stopped to eat, friends of our school or former students spotted our bus and came by to speak.

Louisville Evangel were our gracious hosts, putting our boys up for the night. Our team won 90-71.

That same Friday evening three of our top music students who had auditioned at district level, and had scored high enough for the all-state choir, were in concert with approximately 500 other similarly selected young people from all over Kentucky. Our fine music teacher, Richard Burns, and these students had been in Louisville since Wednesday taking part in the varying events of the annual Kentucky Music Educators Convention.

I visited in the home of Jeff and Mary Minor. Jeff was our 1978 valedictorian and, after college, returned to OBI to teach four outstanding years. He is now attending Southern Seminary. We talked into the wee hours of the morning, got a few hours sleep, then joined our team for a bountiful breakfast.

Then back on the road to the campus of Eastern Kentucky University where our boys defeated their Model school in a hard-fought game, 88-75, for a season record of 17-6 at that point.

In the meantime, six of our students were on another part of the ECU campus attending a workshop for the Kentucky United Nations Assembly which will convene in Louisville in March. Our students and faculty advisor, Mr. Mallard, had left Oneida about 6 a.m.

At that same hour Mrs. Pauline and other members of our academic team left for the campus of Morehead State University. There they participated with students from about 25 other schools in competition preparatory to the "Sweet Sixteen" Academic tournament in March in Lexington. One of our boys qualified for competition in that event, senior Mike Showalter.

Also on the road in the wee hours of Saturday morning was our wrestling team, headed for the district tournament being held at Henry Clay, Lexington. Others competing were Tates Creek, Lafayette, Bryan Station, all of Lexington, Johnson Central, Harrison County, and OBI. Senior Paul Brewer took the first place gold medal in competition in the 145-pound weight class and advances to the Regional.

The boys basketball team and the Morehead group got home Saturday night at the same time. The other groups arrived during the next several hours.

Also the girls basketball team had been away for a game in Jackson County. Though they have had a winning season, victory had eluded them that night.

The varsity swim and diving team came in from their pizza party at Manchester. They had a vigorous two-hour workout in the pool that morning but no competition that weekend. At this point in the season, our boys team has a record of 15-6 overall with 8-0 in dual meets.

Our girls swimming team has a 13-8 record overall, with 5-3 in dual meets. Varying school records have been broken this year, and two of the three sixth graders on the team have already qualified to receive high school letters.

The hundreds still on campus had gone about the normal on-campus routines of work, study, "free time," etc. I noted that all the classroom area halls, etc. had been waxed as is done each weekend by student crews. There was much evidence that our Oneida family had not been idle on campus while so many others had been away representing the school in many places and ways.



H. C. Chiles
Clear Creek Baptist School
Pineville, KY 40977

sunday school lessons

LESSONS FOR MARCH 1, 1987

Life and Work Series

God Answers Prayer

Luke 11:1-10 While Christ was praying in a certain place, his disciples stood nearby. They observed in him a separation from the world, a conscious nearness to God, a delight in the father's presence, and a familiarity in communion with God.

Luke 11:1 Christ's example prompted one of the disciples to make the earnest plea, "Lord, teach us to pray."

Luke 11:2-4 Christ gave them the prayer which had to do with the whole range of human need, temporal and spiritual. It was a model of brevity, simplicity and comprehensiveness. In it three things are indicated—relationship, "Our Father"; reverence, "hallowed be thy name"; and resignation, "thy will be done." Our Lord wants us to pray for the things we need in our everyday lives.

Luke 11:5-8 In these verses Christ gave his followers a specific lesson on importunity and perseverance in praying. The embarrassed host had a real sense of need; also, a friend to whom he could go. He firmly believed this friend could and would help him. He went to

this friend personally and directly. The need of another caused him to be specific, persistent and unselfish in his asking. Intercession, which is born of the needs of others, is the highest form of prayer.

Luke 11:9-10 Christ stressed the fact Christians should persevere in their praying. God wants his children to ask for what they need. Christ taught his followers to "keep on asking and it shall be given to you." It is according to the divine will that Christians should ask for the things which they need.

International Series

Entry into Jerusalem

Luke 19:28-44 Christ and the disciples journeyed from Galilee to Jerusalem to attend the Feast of the Passover.

Luke 19:28-34 As he approached Bethpage and Bethany Christ dispatched two disciples to obtain a colt of a donkey so he might ride into the city. In case someone saw them untying the colt and asked them why they were taking it, they were instructed to reply: "Because the Lord hath need of him." Preparation was being made for an unusual entry into Jerusalem.

Luke 19:35-38 The disciples put their outer garments on the colt. As the procession advanced, others spread their garments in the pathway. They began to rejoice and praise God, and proclaimed Christ as king. Christ accepted the title which they gave him and received their homage, but he was on a different mission than the one which the Jews expected.

Luke 19:39-40 The Pharisees were enraged by the praise from the throngs. They thought the purpose of the procession was to recognize Christ as the Messiah, and they were not willing for him to be recognized as more than a teacher. By Christ's acceptance of the popular adoration, the Pharisees concluded he was claiming to be the Messiah. They demanded Christ rebuke his followers, but he refused.

Luke 19:41-44 Rounding a curve in the road from which he could see Jerusalem our Lord was grieved deeply that its citizens had not taken advantage of their opportunities to know him. Our Lord wept aloud over it. In love and compassion Christ could see the deep distress through which the people would pass when Jerusalem would be destroyed by the Romans in 70 A.D. The walls were to be battered down and the temple burned.



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on mission together

Our Debt: Beyond Control?

In the midst of so many exciting things in Kentucky Baptist Convention life, it's that time of year when we all must deal with the mundane as well, such as meeting the Apr. 15 deadline on filing our 1986 income tax forms.

As executive secretary, I am responsible to the executive board for **not incurring** debt for this convention. My wife and I have the responsibility for keeping our personal debts in line with our income. However, there is a debt that

someone else is making for me, my children and my grandchildren. And, barring an act of civil disobedience, it seems beyond my control to do anything about it . . . except to echo the concerns of a growing number of Americans.

The following information, taken from an article by J. B. Fowler, editor of New Mexico's Baptist paper, is very specific about debt.

"According to the Associated Press, your debt to the federal, state and local governments in 1985 was \$10,048—up 14 percent over 1984.

"But you are not the only one so deeply in debt to the government. Every man, woman and child in the United States owes the same amount.

"According to the census bureau, this is the amount that each of us would have to contribute to eliminate the combined debts of the federal, state and local governments. For the past four years, this debt has risen at double-digit rates.

"Our biggest debt is to the U. S. government. Each of us owes \$7655. Local

governments account for 15 percent of the debt—\$1506 per person. And the average state government debt is \$888 per person—10 percent of the total.

"In 1984, the per capita debt was \$8815. But bureaucratic high flyers managed to increase our personal debt 12.3 percent in 1985, to \$10,048.

"In 1985, federal, state and local governments owed \$2.4 trillion—up \$317 billion over 1984.

"In 1985, the federal debt increased \$251 billion—nearly 16 percent. At the same time, state and local government debts increased \$66 billion—up 13 percent."

I would suggest that Fowler's statistics point to a deeper, internal truth about us and American culture . . . we "want" more than we can afford, and in the widening gap between the haves and have-nots, we "want" far more than we "need" . . . never mind the consequences.

Somehow down the road, there will be a "pay-day someday."

SWBTS students train for Latin America

by Scott Collins and Elizabeth Watson

A relationship with the Great Physician caused the president of the Baptist Seminary in Paraguay to earn a doctorate in philosophy rather than medicine.

As a young man growing up in Asuncion, Paraguay, Dionisio Ortiz wanted to be rich.

"We were poor. The only man with a car and nice home was the physician. I wanted the same life he had," said Ortiz, national guest professor last fall at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary.

But God had other plans for Ortiz.

Through the efforts of missionaries at the Baptist hospital in Asuncion Ortiz accepted Christ at age 16. He became involved in the Villa Morra Baptist Church which grew out of the hospital.

During his senior year in high school, Ortiz worked 40 hours each week at the hospital and became active in the church. He then enrolled as a medical student at the National University in Asuncion.

"I always prayed for the Lord to call my friends into the ministry because they were so intelligent," Ortiz said. "But I soon learned that the Lord was calling me."

Ortiz changed his studies from medicine to philosophy.

After completing studies in Paraguay, Ortiz came to Southwestern where he received the MDiv degree in 1968 and the PhD degree in 1977.

While at Southwestern, Ortiz married Rozanne Eubank, a religious education graduate from Pine Bluff, Ark. They have two sons.

Ortiz served several Paraguayan churches as pastor before becoming president of the seminary. Although the Paraguayan seminary was begun by the SBC Foreign Mission Board in 1956, it has been operated by the national convention since 1967, Ortiz said. The seminary enrolls about 30 full time students and another 110 in extension programs.

As national guest professor at Southwestern, Ortiz taught missions classes and contributed to the programs of the World Mission and Evangelism Center.

Ortiz said he found "an even higher commitment to missions" at Southwestern than when he was there before.

He stressed that commitment in his classes by telling students he is evidence that "the giving, praying and sending

are not in vain—the Lord honors."

Ortiz said he wants to teach students what he learned at Southwestern—to become servants. "I learned from my professors at Southwestern that the goal of academics is to serve people.

"Dr. (John) Newport used to say, 'Always remember the people you're ministering to,'" Ortiz recalled. He said that advice made it possible for him to return to his native country and relate to his own people.

Ortiz said there is still a need for more leaders in theological education in Paraguay. "The more people respond, the more training we need to do."

The National Baptist Convention of Venezuela's version of "Bold Mission Thrust" launched Alirio Eustache into a new life at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary.

Part of the "Million Plan" to enlist one million Baptists by the year 2000 includes equipping national leaders for the Venezuelan Baptist Seminary.

Eustache was the first Venezuelan selected to further his graduate studies at

Southwestern. In 1984 he received the MDiv degree. Next year he will become the first Venezuelan Seminary professor to earn the PhD degree.

But knowing Venezuelan Baptists have entrusted him with the future of their seminary is a weighty responsibility, Eustache said. "Because the doctor of philosophy program is demanding, I often battle fears of failing and letting the convention down."

Eustache has already overcome several barriers. "Meeting all the entry requirements was really tough," he said. And Eustache must work in English rather than his first language, Spanish.

"It isn't enough just to be knowledgeable of English," Eustache said. "I have studied English so much I honestly think I could publish my own grammar book."

Despite his struggle with the language, last year Eustache was listed in *Who's Who Among American Students*. He currently teaches theological Spanish at Southwestern.

Eustache and his wife, Astrid, both teach Sunday school at Fair View Baptist

Church in Grand Prairie. Mrs. Eustache received the marriage and family counseling degree last year and is currently pursuing the religious education degree.

"The doctor of philosophy program has been everything I expected it would be—and more," Eustache said. "It has challenged me even more to develop my own analytical approach. To be successful in this program, one must have a searching, critical mind and be able to communicate thoughts clearly.

"It will all make me a better professor when I return to Venezuela," he said.

Eustache is considering writing his dissertation about the connection between existentialism and liberation theology.

"Existentialism and Marxism are of interest to almost every university student in Venezuela," Eustache said. "Hopefully my study in that area can help Christians understand how to interpret liberation theology, which is sweeping South and Central America, in light of scripture."

Music prof writes doctrine of prayer study

by David Reid

If it seems unusual that a music professor would write discipleship materials and a doctrinal study guide on prayer, think again.

What better choice than a man who has dedicated an entire room in his home to prayer and has missed his daily devotion only once in the past 28 years?

"Ever since 1959, I just can't operate without prayer. I don't see how people get by without it," said T. W. Hunt, professor of church music at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary and an authority among Southern Baptists on the subject of prayer.

"Failure to pray is the failure to realize that God is the real source," Hunt said. "It is he who blesses and directs our work. No true work of God can be done without prayer."

Hunt wrote Southern Baptists' 1987 Doctrinal Study on Prayer, already available in bookstores, and *PrayerLife*, a sequel to *MasterLife* which should be available through the Sunday School Board within the year.

He doesn't think it too extraordinary that a non-theologian should be selected

to write a doctrinal study—especially one on prayer.

"Every Christian ought to be given to prayer and God often chooses to use a layman to teach other laymen," he said.

Hunt teaches about 35 seminars on prayer and the mind of Christ" each year. He has spoken in conferences and churches across the United States and to missionaries in Africa, South America and Europe.

In the process, Hunt came to the attention of the Sunday School Board, which asked him to write the doctrinal study, and Avery Willis, designer of *MasterLife*, who asked him to write *PrayerLife*.

Hunt is most excited about *PrayerLife*, a 13-week study course to be taught to small groups in churches.

"I think we have succeeded in achieving a spiritual orientation which is not mechanical," he said. "The person involved in *PrayerLife*, who is faithful to what we ask them to do, will have an encounter with God.

"It's been the hardest thing I've ever done. It's required the most hours, the most prayer and the most thought," Hunt said.

Although *PrayerLife* is considered a sequel, *MasterLife* will not be a prerequisite. In addition, Hunt has written *Music and Missions: Discipleship through Music*, to be published by Broadman in April, and is writing an article, commentary notes and application material on prayer for the upcoming Holman Study Bible.

'The Masked Saint' forsakes ring to wrestle with pastoral calling

by David Reid

Chris Whaley might be one of the few theologians with insight into Jacob's all night wrestling match with an angel.

That's because Whaley has had first hand experience at wrestling—only against people less than angelic.

The 32-year-old master of divinity student wrestled professionally as "The Masked Saint" before coming to Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in 1985.

"Some people like the thrill of flying, but my thrill was wrestling," said Whaley, who stalked wrestling rings across Florida for eight years.

"I met a man who trained professional wrestlers and he said, 'You can do this.' I lost my first match, but I enjoyed it," Whaley said. "Wrestling is a form of entertainment—it's a story, good versus evil."

As the Masked Saint, Whaley usually played the bad guy, the one the crowd loved to hate. "If you've got a mask on and you body-slam the home town boy, they're going to boo you," he said.

But the biggest fight of his wrestling career was "trying to control my dad," he said. "When someone started choking

me or throwing me out of the ring, he wanted to get involved. He's been taken out by security guys before."

Wrestling hasn't worked out with his seminary career, but it does provide material for a comedy ministry he presents in local churches.

Whaley said he had an unhappy home life before his parents became Christians. Comedy became an outlet for him to express himself.

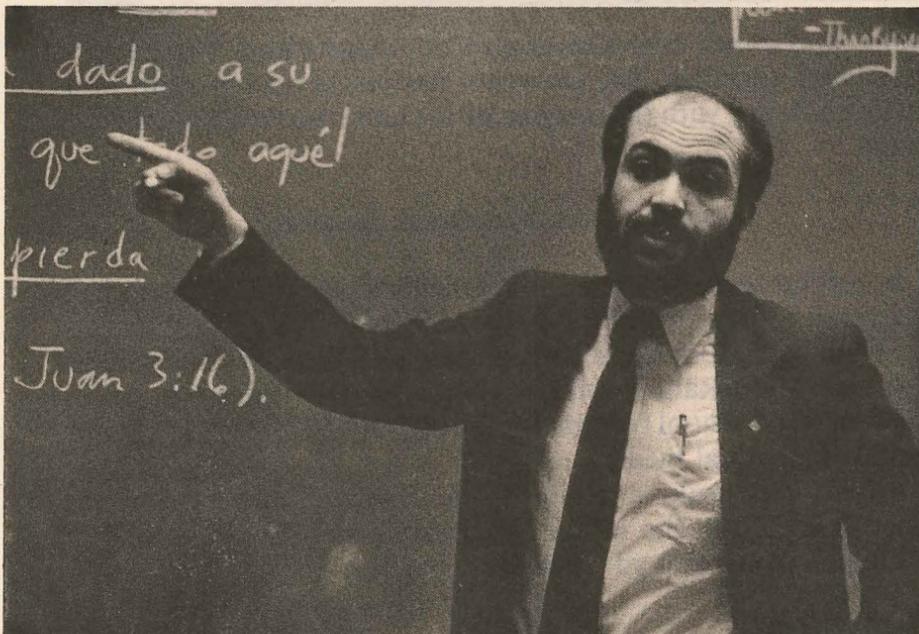
He usually does a monologue of stories and jokes about church life, his family and wrestling. He also does impersonations.

But there is always method to his madness.

"The last five minutes are mine not to be funny," Whaley said. "I always share the reason that I'm able to be funny—the saving knowledge of Christ."

Although he would enjoy being in a comedy ministry full time, Whaley said his call is to the pastorate.

He does use humor in his sermons, "but I know where the line is," he said. "The pulpit is not the place for joke after joke. When I go to the pulpit, I go as a preacher of the gospel, not Chris Whaley the comedian."



Alirio Eustache uses John 3:16 as an example to teach theological Spanish at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, where he is a doctor of philosophy student.

Oneida Girl Invited To Speak At Governor's Mansion



Governor Martha Layne Collins introducing Oneida's Debra Thomas for speech at Governor's Mansion.

Oneida senior Debra Thomas was invited to speak at the Governor's Mansion at the annual dinner of the Board and financial patrons of the Governor's Scholars Program.

Selected to study on a college campus last summer as one of 600 Governor's Scholars statewide, Debra was one of two invited to speak at the Governor's dinner. Among the 110 guests present were the presidents of Toyota, Ashland Oil and Humana.

In her address, Debra compared the versatility and variety of backgrounds of those top scholars of Kentucky to her four-year experience at Oneida attending school with students from many other states and nations as well as all sections of Kentucky.

Having been introduced by Governor Martha Layne Collins, later the Governor in her own address made frequent references to points made by Debra in her speech.

A letter from a Louisville doctor, a member of the Governor's Scholars Board, is a sampling of the reaction to Debra's speech: "It was my distinct pleasure to hear a student at your institution, Debra Thomas, speak to the board and assembled guests of the Governor's Scholars at the Governor's Mansion in Frankfort. Let me say, unequivocally, that she did a superb job representing your institution denoting her participation in the scholars program that was masterful. I am sending a small donation to your organization for general purposes in honor of Ms. Thomas' achievements." Enclosed was a \$100 donation.

Debra will graduate from Oneida May 17th having studied all four of her high school years at Oneida. A native of Ashland, Debra has had a full scholarship.

Selected Oneida's 1987 Yearbook Queen, this 17-year old has been a National Merit semi-finalist, an All American Academic Scholar, and an Honor Roll student every quarter.

Also quite athletic, Debra has won the Regional diving championship as well as the regional shot put and discus championships.

Coyle Chosen Summer Missionary

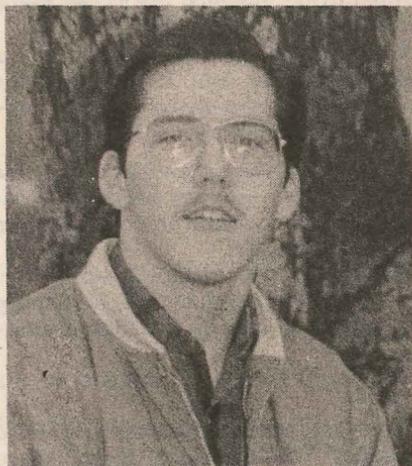
Oneida senior Jonathan Coyle will serve as a summer missionary under the auspices of the Kentucky Baptist Student Union.

Jon has been active in BSU for four years and is president this year. He is also the senior class president, and editor of the yearbook.

On the honor roll most of the time, Jon has been an Academic Team member the past two years. The Oneida team won the district championship last spring, and has won most of its meets this year including two televised competitions against Wolfe County and Paris.

Jon was on Oneida's state championship fencing team his freshman year, and is a four year competitor in varsity cross country and track. He is the manager of the varsity swim team this season.

The youngest of four sons, Jon became interested in OBI as a small child after hearing the OBI choir sing in his Louisville church, Baptist Tabernacle. In the past four years he has traveled over 10,000 miles in choir performances at OBI.



Jonathan Coyle, Oneida's summer missionary.

Brewer Wins Wrestling Championship

Oneida senior Paul Brewer won the first-place gold medal in the 1987 district wrestling championship, 145 lb. weight class, held in Lexington.

Also competing in the district were wrestlers from Henry Clay, Tates Creek, Lafayette and Bryan Station, all Lexington schools, as well as Harrison County and Johnson Central.



Dinner and speech over, Governor Collins and Debra Thomas enjoy a laugh together. The Governor has just given her a gift of a duffle book bag with the insignia of the Governor's Scholars Program.

Oneida Swimmers Break Records

In regular season competition, Oneida's varsity boys team had an overall 15-6 record with 8-0 record in dual meets. The girls varsity team had a 13-8 overall record and a 5-3 record in dual meets.

Junior Mary Ratliff, who has attended OBI since 6th grade, has broken all school records for the 200 and 500 freestyle and for the 200 individual medley.

Aupee Vanapruk, a senior from Thailand, has broken the school's record in the 100 yd. backstroke and ranked second in the region in the 200 yd. individual medley.