

Harmonious meeting characterizes executive board

by Jack Sanford, Editor

The harmonious spirit which prevailed during the November meeting of the Kentucky Baptist Convention was carried forward last week in the December meeting of the KBC executive board.

For the first time in three years Cooperative Program receipts exceeded KBC operating budget needs. The excess, \$160,314, was distributed to the conventions' institutions and agencies.

There was also an excess in reserve requirements which totaled \$603,259. These funds were designated for missions, evangelism and facilities maintenance.

This situation was typical of the way things went throughout the two-day meeting.

Executive board chairman J. Howard Cobble, president of the KBC and pastor of Severns Valley Baptist Church, set the tone for a harmonious meeting with his gentle spirit of grace and humor. In opening remarks, Cobble reminded board members of the great achievements of the past, including the Kentucky-Kenya project and the Kentucky-Ohio link. However, he warned we must not rest on our laurels but must go forward. He mentioned the need for advance in starting new work, looking forward to another mission partnership, replacement of key retiring personnel and action on such important Kentucky matters as the state lottery.



During the December meeting of the executive board, recognition for a job well done was given to those who served as leaders of the Kenya partnership. (l-r) G. Allen West, Benton Williams, Wilma and James Whaley.

Executive secretary-treasurer William Marshall presented his report through the most recent "Southern Baptist Report: Kentucky Edition." The video tape, produced by Media Department director Paul Lee, tells the story of missions in Kentucky and is available to churches and associations.

The retirement of Eugene Quinn, director of the Church Music Department, was announced. Quinn has served Kentucky Baptists more than 31 years. Prior to his work in Kentucky he was in the Music Department of the Illinois Baptist

Convention nine years, giving him a total of more than 40 years of denominational service. Quinn will leave his position Mar. 1, 1988.

A seven-member committee was appointed to study long range space needs in the Baptist Building. Committee members are Bill Cubine, chairman, Paducah; Mel Crosson, Glasgow; John Penick, Mt. Sterling; E. W. Greenwalt, Greenville; Denzel Dukes, Owensboro; Terrance Freeman, Lexington; and Brad Johnson, Springhill.

In order to properly fund the KBC's

share of the Expanded Church Annuity Plan (CHAP), the board voted to designate \$15,000 per year for 13 years and decided to reduce Cooperative Program allocations to KBC institutions and agencies, the SBC and the executive board for the same period.

The proposal met with no opposition since all members of the KBC family will share proportionately in funding CHAP. The dollars withheld from the various entities are not significant, according to Marshall, and no hardship will be imposed on any organization.

The Kenya partnership was in the spotlight briefly as James and Wilma Whaley and G. Allen West were recognized for their work in this highly successful mission venture. Kenya artifacts and memorabilia will be on permanent display in a cabinet in the Baptist Building. A bronze plaque with the names of the 721 Kentuckians who went to Kenya also will be on display.

William and Alice Marshall were given a standing ovation in appreciation for the five years they have worked with Kentucky Baptists.

Following the Monday evening session there was a time of fellowship to honor Doris Yeiser, Eldred and Marjorie Taylor and furloughing missionaries.

The final session of the board included a concert of Christmas music by noted pianist Betty Jean Chatham, member of First Baptist Church, Shelbyville.

Next meeting of the executive board will be May 2-3, 1988 at Cedarmore.

Citizens against state lottery calls for help

by Jack Sanford, Editor

A statewide organization was formed in 1985 to fight the proposed amendment to Kentucky's constitution which would allow the establishment of a state-operated lottery. A loose network of individuals across the state was developed and letter writing, phone calls and press releases to legislators made up the first efforts to influence the legislators.

The time has now come when more than a few volunteers is needed if the fight against a lottery is successful. Citi-

zens Against State Lottery (CASL) is asking individuals and groups who will support the effort to defeat any proposal to establish a state-operated lottery to help in the fight.

Ways to help CASL include gifts of money, persons to work on task forces or be contact persons, persons to serve on a state-wide steering committee, office space, office equipment and solicitors of funds across the state.

Target groups who can help are people in education, in business, older age groups, social service organizations, civic clubs and churches.

The Kentucky Baptist Convention, during its annual meeting last November, endorsed the purposes of CASL and has encouraged Baptists across Kentucky to help where and when possible.

Contact person for Baptists is Jim Holladay, 400 East Chestnut Street, Louisville, KY 40202. He is pastor of East Baptist Church and his phone number is (502) 587-6735.

If proposed lottery legislation is defeated it will take thousands of letters and personal contacts between voters and members of the General Assembly. The legislature meets in early January, 1988 and letters and phone calls should be made as soon as possible.

On page 8 of this issue Western Recorder has printed the names and mailing address of every member of the House and Senate of the Kentucky General Assembly.

No paper next week

In keeping with tradition, there will be no Western Recorder Dec. 29. Look for the next issue Jan. 5.

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December 22, 1987

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*The light shines
in the darkness,
and the darkness
has never put it out.*

—John 1:5 TEV

sanford's perspectives



Jack D. Sanford

A little child shall lead them

Isaiah looked down the corridor of history and, under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, declared "...and a little child shall lead them." Those prophetic words envisioned the world when the Lord's Messiah would deliver the world from the terror of Satan and the example of children would be the norm for all mankind.

Now, after thousands of years, we still have not seen the full deliverance of God, nor do we approach the innocence of children. But an example of childhood wisdom and compassion has been acted out by the elementary-aged children of Immanuel Baptist Church in Lexington as a model for all of us who name the name of Christ.

Ed Spaulding, minister to children at Immanuel, said the children in grades 1-6 became concerned about two years ago when the tragedy of Ethiopia was a prominent feature of television news programs. They saw those terrible pictures of starving children and were moved to act in their behalf.

The children wanted to do something to help provide African boys and girls and so Spaulding provided about 200 little Bible banks. He told the children to save their money and if they collected \$1000 he would send that money to Ethiopia and take the children of Immanuel on a trip to the

moon. This unique venture had the full support of Immanuel pastor Ted Sisk and the entire congregation.

Now, two years later, \$5703.40 has been sent to Ethiopian World Hunger through the Foreign Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention. It is the sum collected by those concerned children who live in the virtually poverty-free environment of the Bluegrass. The pennies collected required a hand truck to take them to the bank because they were so heavy.

Spaulding was true to his word. A space ship was constructed, a trampoline was converted into a make-believe moon and the trip was on. The Immanuel children not only walked on the moon they also helped save life in the still hunger-ravished country of Ethiopia.

As this year of tension, pain and hunger draws to a close, can we learn the lesson of compassion and Christian sharing from these little children?

Millions of people around the world are hungry and we have plenty. An offering for hunger relief, sent to our FMB, would be a perfect way to close 1987 and open 1988 on a positive note.

Thanks to the children of Lexington's Immanuel Baptist Church for reminding us of the continuing needs of others.

Isaiah was right, "a little child shall lead them."

Angry words prevent reconciliation

As this year comes to a close the inflammatory rhetoric which has been such a prominent part of Southern Baptist life continues to fill the pages of our newspapers and aggravate tension in our convention.

A word from the apostle Paul is reason for pause as we approach another new year and another new beginning.

Writing to the Christians at Corinth he said the Lord has "given to us the ministry of reconciliation." Does that word from the Living Word still have application to Christians today? Every true Baptist would say it does because we believe the Bible is the guide for all our existence and is the inspired word of the Lord.

Then we must ask, "If we believe so strongly in the Bible, then where is the spirit of reconciliation in our relationship to each other?" How can we proclaim loyalty to the Bible and faithfulness to our Christian calling when we act in ways that do not reconcile but drive us further apart?

The beginning of reconciliation is a willingness to be spent and used for the glory of God and for the reconciliation of men to God. The example is Jesus who gave himself "as a lamb before his shearers is dumb" and "opened not his mouth." He died in order to effect reconciliation and reconciliation cannot be achieved until someone is willing to give himself away.

We do not act that way at all but instead we speak then speak again and often our speech is filled with anger and suspicion and hurtful remarks about brothers and sisters in the Lord. We appear to have no thought of self-giving, but rather protect our turf with snarls and vindictiveness.

There will never be reconciliation until we learn to practice the truth of the Bible which we claim to believe.

Among other things that Bible commands disciples to "turn the other cheek" and "go a second mile." This is not an "interim ethic," as some Bible scholars have claimed, but rather an absolute ethical demand of the gospel laid upon all who claim Christ as lord of life.

We have been accused of many sins as the staff of Western Recorder. Among those accusations is that we are unfair and biased in our point of view. We admit we are products of where we have been, what we have learned and what we hope for in life. Thus we speak out of this context and some of the brethren think we are sinners above all the rest.

But we do not engage in inflammatory rhetoric toward our fellow Baptists but try to turn away wrath with a gentle word of reconciliation. We have been tempted, on many occasions, to edit from Baptist Forum words used by others which we deem improper in Christian relations. Yet we have let those words stand, not because we accept that method of handling difficulty, but because we believe every Baptist has the right to be heard in his own words and judged accordingly by his peers.

Maybe it is naive to expect Christians to live by the teachings of the Bible when they feel their cherished ideas are threatened by fellow believers. At any rate this is what we believe and our prayer for the new year is that we would take seriously the call for a ministry of reconciliation and lower our rhetoric and try to love one another...even as he loved us.

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Earnestly contend for the faith which was once for all delivered to the saints.—Jude 3

mountains to the mississippi



Leon Simpson
President
Clear Creek Bible College
Pineville, KY 40977

clear creek comment

Sights, sounds, celebration

I enjoy the *sights* and *sounds* of Christmas more than any other time of the year. It is a time of joy and celebration at Clear Creek.

We begin the season by observing the Lottie Moon Week of Prayer for Foreign Missions. We observed the lighting of a tree of witness to our Lord's birth and we bless our Bell County area with a live manger scene. Our various choirs perform often and beautifully, for music is a vital part of Christmas.

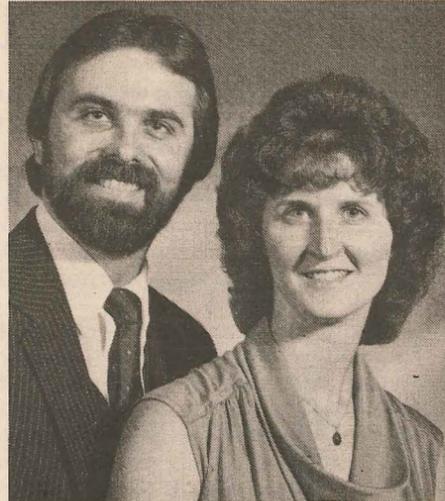
This year I am especially impressed with the *celebration* of that first Christmas. In Luke 2, it is recorded that *the angels* celebrated Christ's birth "praising God and saying glory to God in the highest..." (2:13-14). *The shepherds* searched until they found the babe, and then they "returned, glorifying and praising God..." (2:20).

Simeon "blessed God and said, Lord, now lettest Thou eyes have seen Thy salvation... a light to brighten the Gentiles and the glory of Thy people Israel" (2:28-32).

Aged Anna, the prophetess, "gave thanks likewise unto the Lord and spoke of him to all them that looked for redemption in Jerusalem" (2:38).

These well-known biblical characters demonstrated a spirit of celebration which we should all experience during this Christmas season. It was expressed long ago by John Byrom in his "Hymn for Christmas Day":

"Christians awake, salute the happy morn/Whereon the saviour of the world was born/Rise, to adore the mystery of love/Which hosts of angels chanted from above:/With them the joyful tidings first begun/Of God incarnate, and the virgin's son/Then to the watchful shepherds it was told/Who heard the angelic herald's voice—Behold!/I bring good tidings of a saviour's birth/To you, and all the nations upon earth/This day hath God fulfill'd his promis'd word/This day is born a saviour, Christ, the Lord/In David's city, shepherds, ye shall find/The long foretold redeemer of mankind. Let us, like these good shepherds then, employ/Our grateful voices to proclaim the joy/Like Mary, let us ponder in our mind/God's wondrous love in saving lost mankind/He that was born, upon this joyful day/Around us all, his glory shall display/Sav'd by his love, incessant we shall sing/Of angels, and of angel-men, the king."



Mr. and Mrs. Jeffrey Vann

personnel

Delbert Jones Jr. has resigned as pastor of Red Bud Baptist Church, Upper Cumberland Association.

Jim Frost has been called as minister of education and activities at Crestwood Baptist Church, Sulphur Fork Association. Frost is a graduate of Southern Seminary and has been on the staff of Immanuel Baptist Church, Frankfort. Thomas R. Kinman is pastor.

Ray Kuzmaul has been called as pastor of Hardyville Baptist Church, Liberty Association.

Bill Vaught accepted the call to pastor Epley Baptist Church, Logan Association.

Mrs. Lucille Pickett was honored by First Baptist Church, Newport, Northern Kentucky Association, for faithful service as church secretary 40 years. Norman M. Willie is pastor.

Robert Wryth was called as pastor of Wallins Baptist Church, Upper Cumberland Association.

Anthony B. (Tony) Carson has been called as pastor of Shively Heights Baptist Church, Long Run Association. Carson was pastor of Emmanuel Baptist Church, Jenkins. He is a graduate of Cumberland College and the International Bible Seminary, Orlando, Fla. He is a Kentucky member of the SBC Home Mission Board.

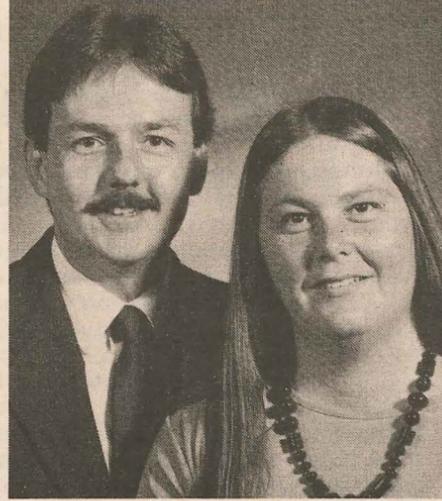
Toby Nunn has been called as pastor of Richardsville Baptist Church, Warren Association. He goes to Richardsville from Cave City where he has been youth minister and associate pastor.

David Bass resigned as minister of music at First Baptist Church, Middletown, Long Run Association, to begin as minister of music and outreach at First Baptist Church, Headland, Ala. Charles R. White is pastor.

congregations

Grace Missionary Baptist Church was constituted Nov. 22 as one of the 400 works envisioned by the Kentucky Baptist Convention.

Grace Baptist Chapel began Nov. 26, 1977 as a mission of Rose Hill Missionary Baptist Church, Greenup Association. Steady growth through the years led the congregation to request they be permitted to constitute as a cooperating Southern Baptist church.



Mr. and Mrs. Gary Stone

Pastors who have pastored the Grace congregation include Tim Noel, Bill Wellman and the present pastor, Bill Dillion. Charles E. Stewart is pastor of the sponsoring Rose Hill church.

Second Baptist Church, Muhlenberg Association, has completed a successful capital stewardship campaign that raised \$815,000 in gifts and commitments to enlarge the sanctuary and construct a new educational building.

Pastor Rick Shannon calls attention to the phenomenal growth of the 38-year old church. In recent years average Sunday school attendance has increased 35 percent, total giving increased 47 percent and mission gifts increased 35 percent.

Eastview Baptist Church is the newest congregation to be established in Christian County Association.

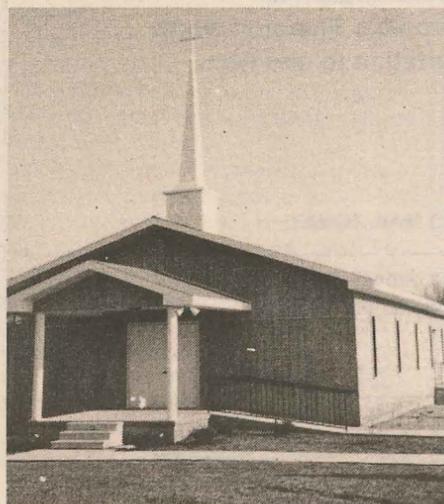
Eastview had its beginning July 8, 1984 when Dalton Stallons, former pastor of Bethel Baptist Church, met with 10 people at the home of Robert Outland Jr. near Fairview, Ky.

The group continued to meet each Sunday and Wednesday for Bible Study and grew to an average attendance of 20 people. Stallons was called as pastor Aug. 8 and continued until Mar. 19, 1985, resigning due to ill health.

The small congregation then called Robert E. Locke, former pastor of Pembroke Baptist Church, who began duties in April 1985. The church also chose the name Eastview Baptist that month and became officially organized June 2 with 17 charter members. Ernest Petty and Robert Outland were recognized as deacons and regular services were held at the Outland home.

The Eastview congregation purchased two acres about five miles from Hopkinsville and started construction.

The last service at the Outland home was held on Mother's Day, May 11, 1986. The following Sunday the members



Eastview, Christian Association

moved to a new sanctuary, with a capacity of 150.

The church celebrated its first anniversary May 24 with 88 members.

missions

Mr. and Mrs. Gary T. Stone and **Mr. and Mrs. Jeffrey L. Vann** were among 30 people named missionaries by the Foreign Mission Board Dec. 8 at Mt. Vernon Baptist Church, Richmond, Va.

The Stones were appointed as Southern Baptist fraternal representatives to Australia. He will be starting and developing churches and they will be involved in a variety of outreach ministries.

A native of Anderson, S. C., Stone is pastor of West End Baptist Church, Hampton, S. C. He received the BA degree from Clemson (S. C.) University and the MDiv from Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville.

He has been a self-employed painter in Louisville. He also has been a summer missionary in South Carolina, sponsored by the S. C. Baptist Convention; a FMB journeyman in Ecuador; and a chaplain to Hispanics in Louisville, sponsored by the Kentucky Baptist Convention.

The former Lily Pascoe of Williamston, S. C., Mrs. Stone received the BS from Clemson and achieved registered nurse status by examination in North Carolina. She has been a health specialist in Louisville. She served with her husband in South Carolina and Ecuador.

The Vanns will live in Jordan, where he will be starting and developing churches. He is currently pastor of Webster Groves (Mo.) Baptist Church.

Born in Mayfield, Ky., Vann is a graduate of the University of Kentucky, Lexington, where he received his MDiv from Southwestern Seminary and also attended graduate studies at Murray (Ky.) State University.

Born in Louisville, Mrs. Vann, the former Susan Coleman, is the daughter of Everett S. Coleman of Sacramento, Ky., and Rose-Marie Fain of Orlando, Fla. She grew up in Sacramento.

After receiving a BS degree in nursing from the University of Kentucky, Mrs. Vann achieved registered nurse standing by examination in Kentucky. She has been a nurse in Paducah.

deaths

A. W. Walker, 80, a retired Baptist minister who held several positions with the Kentucky Baptist Convention, died Dec. 12 at Humana Hospital-Suburban in Louisville.

Walker was recording secretary of the KBC 1972-80 and had been on its executive board. He also had been director of the KBC's Annuity Department in Middletown.

The Henderson County native retired as director of missions of Sulphur Fork Association in 1985. A former chairman of the executive board of Long Run Association, he was pastor of Carlisle Avenue Baptist Church, Louisville, 1943-64, and Shively Baptist Church, 1934-43.

Survivors include his wife, the former Mary L. Carter; a son; a daughter; a brother; two grandchildren and a great-grandchild.



baptist news in brief

Boston, Pittsburgh study centers to open in fall

Context will be the key to training at the Northeastern Baptist School of Ministry, set to begin classes next fall.

Teachers and students alike will be from the Northeast. And the school's curriculum will be custom-designed to train ministers to work in the region, where the predominant lifestyle is urban and secular and where Baptists are thought of as a minority sect.

"The school will open with centers in Boston and Pittsburgh, with future expansion expected for other cities in the 12-state region," said Larry Martin, chairman of the Northeast Task Team on Theological Education.

"The school's 'contextualized approach' to training will enable students to prepare for ministry that is unique to the region, a setting foreign to the environments of at least five of the six Southern Baptist Convention-affiliated seminaries," he said.

"For example, whereas traditional

seminary training teaches people to respond—to respond to a sermon, to respond to pastoral care, to respond to Bible teaching—much of what we will teach will be to initiate new work of all types," he noted. "Also, we will really be giving a lot of training that is contextualized in the sense that the mindset of the Northeast—where people do not have the church mindset that others do—will be approached."

"The school will train students to minister in urban settings, in multi-ethnic communities and in areas where most people do not think much about church or God," Martin said, noting, "The context will reflect the demographics of the Northeast."

"We want to work in the context here," echoed school coordinator Doran McCarty, who is resigning a professorship in missions at Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary to head the Northeast school. "That means teaching

should be from people who are in the context—people who work in it, live it, breathe it unconsciously."

"Shapers of the new school must embrace the philosophy 'of a school that is based on an educating-for-mission strategy (in an area) that is and will for a long time be mission territory,'" he added.

"We're going to have as part of the curriculum programmed learning studies, in which the students will be able to work at their own speed in the areas of biblical studies, theology, missions, ministry and denominational life."

In addition to the degree program, the school will offer contextual continuing education courses for ministers who already serve in the region. "That, too, is a blessing," said Wallace A. C. Williams, executive director of the Baptist Convention of Pennsylvania/South Jersey. (BP)

Northeasterners start school of ministry

Southern Baptists in the Northeast have launched a school for training ministers in their region.

"The Northeastern Baptist School of Ministry will open next fall," announced Larry Martin, chairman of the Northeast Task Team on Theological Education, which has spearheaded the effort."

"The school will provide on-site theological and ministry education in the 12-state region," said Martin, director of missions for the Greater Boston Baptist Association. Initial classes are to be held in Boston and Pittsburgh, with eventual expansion planned for other cities.

"The school will grant a master's degree as well as ministry diplomas," he added, noting "the training will be very practical, with each student working with a mentor, someone who already is practicing the kind of ministry the student plans to do."

Southern Baptist state conventions participating in the endeavor are District of Columbia; Maryland/Delaware; New England, which includes Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, Vermont and most of Connecticut; New York, which also includes northern New Jersey and southwestern Connecticut; and Pennsylvania/South Jersey.

Financial support for the school will be provided by the five state conventions, the Home Mission Board and the Seminary Presidents' Council, Martin said: "It's a three-way partnership. We also have a resource committee working on other sources of funding." (BP)

Three labeled exemplary bivocational ministers

Pastors of churches in Alabama, Texas and Washington were honored as exemplary bivocational ministers during the Southern Baptist National Council of Bivocational Ministries.

Glenn Bentley, pastor of Mamre Baptist Church, Bynum, Ala., was honored for leading his church to baptize 23 people last year, making it the church with the highest ratio of baptisms per member in Calhoun Baptist Association. Bentley, who supports his ministry as a commercial flooring contractor, is president of the associational bivocational ministry fellowship.

Andy Stowe, pastor of Glen Garden Baptist Church, Ft. Worth, Texas, received recognition for changing the direction of an urban church that four years ago had only seven members and considered disbanding. Stowe, a paint contractor, last year baptized 38 new members and reported 48 decisions for Christ during vacation Bible school. The church now is averaging about 50 participants in Bible study and worship attendance.

John Hastings, pastor of Pascoe Baptist Church near Richland, Wash., in the southeastern part of the state, was honored as an exemplary bivocational pastor of a mission church. Hastings, a program manager for the Westinghouse-Hanford nuclear reactor, became pastor of the mission about four years ago. Two years ago, membership in the church dropped to only eight after 7,000 people lost their jobs in the area. Hastings has led the church to grow to more than 140 members.

"The three pastors are success models other bivocational ministers could admire, respect and emulate," Holloway said. (BP)

Bivocational ministry now seen as goal of many

A new breed of bivocational minister is emerging, members of Southern Baptist's National Council for Bivocational Ministries were told during their annual meeting.

The new breed is both young and old who support themselves financially with a secular job while serving in a church-related ministry.

It includes young people who inten-

tionally decide as college or seminary students to become bivocational ministers and older ministers who continue their ministries after retirement.

In the keynote address to about 40 Southern Baptists attending the council's annual meeting, David Q. Byrd, dean of the Boyce Bible School at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, described the trend of re-

tires serving as bivocational ministers.

Dale Holloway, national consultant for bivocational ministries with the Home Mission Board, said, "Southern Baptists in recent years seem to have developed a new attitude toward bivocational ministers."

"In the past," Holloway said, "bivocational ministers were considered second-class, uneducated failures who could not make it as a real minister. Within the last few years, however, Baptists seem to have caught a new vision of how God can use the gifts and talents of bivocational ministers."

Holloway, a bivocational minister from Florence, Miss., credited James Y. Greene, director of youth and campus ministries for the Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, with coining the phrase "intentional bivocational minister" to describe college and seminary students who decide early in life to learn a secular trade, skill or profession that will help support their ministry in the local church.

Byrd, in the keynote address, said, "the new breed of bivocational includes not only young students who decide early in life to become intentional bivocational, but a growing number of retired Baptist ministers who serve local churches and the denomination for 20 years after retirement."

"Ponder the potential," he suggested, "of thousands of senior Southern Baptist ministers who welcome an opportunity to serve after retirement. They don't need much salary—they just need a challenge and a place to serve." (BP)

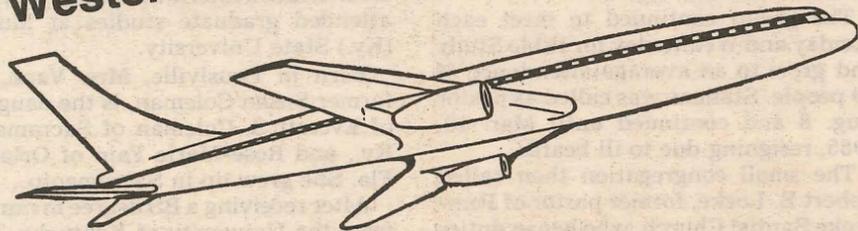
"For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, which is Christ the Lord."
Luke 2:11

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Panel rejects Georgia Baptists' will, ousts veteran editor Jack Harwell

by Leisa Goad and Jim Newton

By a vote of 57-54, Jack U. Harwell was ousted as editor of the Georgia Baptist Convention's weekly newspaper by the convention's executive committee.

The action came during a closed executive session after more than an hour's debate Dec. 15. Much of the discussion focused on whether the 120-member executive committee or the 10-member Christian Index board of directors should deal with the question.

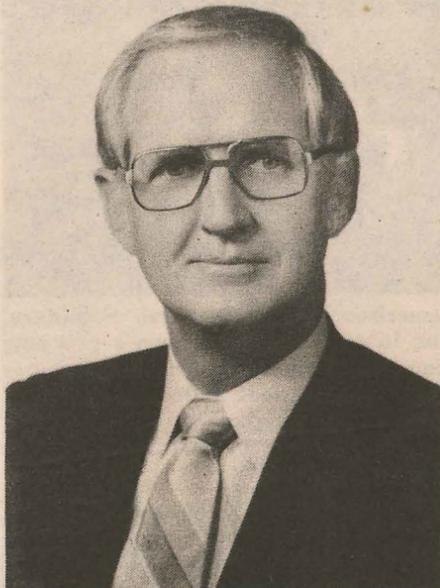
Less than a month earlier, messengers to the Georgia Baptist Convention in Savannah expressed "profound gratitude and appreciation" for Harwell and voted overwhelmingly to "respectfully request" the 55-year-old editor to reconsider plans to take early retirement. The convention also voted to dismiss a review board that had threatened to fire Harwell if he wrote one more editorial it considered unacceptable.

Harwell had announced plans in October to retire after 21 years as editor because he felt he could no longer continue with editorial freedom and integrity.

At the convention in Savannah Harwell told a cheering, standing crowd that in the light of the affirmation he had received he would accept the invitation to reconsider his retirement, subject to negotiations with the Index board and the convention's executive committee.

The Index board met nearly three hours Dec. 14 concerning Harwell's employment and voted to refer the decision without any recommendation to the executive committee the next day. The Index board pointed out the executive committee is the final authority on personnel matters.

Committee members debated parliamentary procedure over what group has the proper authority to deal with the issue. The committee voted 57-40 to sustain the ruling of the chairman, Gene Tyre, pastor of First Baptist Church of Newnan, Ga., that the executive committee is the proper authority.



Jack U. Harwell

The executive committee then went into executive session for the first time in the memory of many members, voting 57-54 with one abstention against a motion asking Harwell to continue as editor and pledging to him the support of the committee.

Chuck Bugg, pastor of First Baptist Church, Augusta, Ga., who made the motion asking Harwell to remain as editor, said he is shocked and disappointed by the vote. "I think it was a severe mistake for the executive committee to disregard and ignore the strong sentiments expressed by messengers to the convention in Savannah," he noted.

Harwell said afterwards he is deeply disappointed and surprised: "I am truly sorry because I wanted to stay and thought the convention wanted me to stay, but I have to honor the vote of the committee. They are my employers."

Harwell will retire Dec. 31, with the benefits and severance pay previously approved by the Index board—a year's

salary, ownership of the Index car and medical insurance. His retirement pension will not be in effect until age 65. He is considering almost a dozen job offers, he reported.

Harwell told reporters "the issue (surrounding his retirement), is not Jack Harwell. The issue is editorial freedom and integrity."

The executive committee members wanted him out because he was controversial, he said: "They think when I'm gone they'll feel peace again. But the controversy is not settled and I don't think it will end for a long time."

Tyre said he was surprised by the vote but observed it was not a clear-cut issue of "moderates versus fundamentalists."

Many of the executive committee members were "tired of the controversy" in the denomination and felt it would be best for Harwell to retire as he had planned so "we could lay it to rest," Tyre said.

Some executive committee members feared the action by the convention set a dangerous precedent by instructing the executive committee—which has final authority over hiring and firing of personnel—in what to do with regard to the employment of specific persons.

Bob Claytor, pastor of Fellowship Baptist Church, Rome, Ga., added if Harwell had been allowed to continue Baptist messengers would perceive they controlled all personnel policies, and that such issues cannot be handled effectively from the floor of the convention. "I think what this shows is that the perceived moderate turn around was emotional," he said. "All the votes are still very close."

Both Tyre and Billy Smith, chairman of the Index board, said they did not consider the convention action affirming Harwell to be a mandate to the executive committee.

Tyre explained 57 members of the executive committee felt more strongly that Harwell should retire than they felt they should uphold the action of the convention. "That's the bottom line," he said.

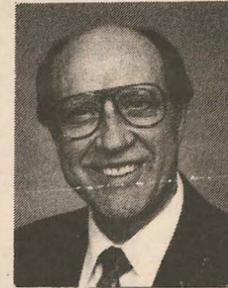
Smith, pastor of Sherwood Baptist Church, Albany, Ga., said the convention did have the authority to abolish the Index review board but not to instruct the executive committee on personnel matters.

Kirby Godsey, president of Mercer University, which also was affirmed and supported by messengers to the convention in Savannah, said the executive committee vote was "arrogant and inappropriate."

Godsey, who attended the meeting as an observer, said he felt it was "inconceivable that a committee of the convention would reject the will of the whole convention."

Jack Lowndes, the convention's director of church-minister relations, will become acting editor Jan. 1. Lowndes, a former pastor from Savannah and former executive director of the Baptist Convention of New York, has previously been editor of The New York Baptist.

A search committee composed of Nelson Price, pastor of Roswell Street Baptist Church, Marietta; Ron Gaynor, pastor of First Baptist Church, Tucker; Smith as chairman; plus Tyre and James N. Griffith, executive director of the convention, as ex officio, will nominate an editor to the Index board and executive committee, Smith said. (BP)



Eldred M. Taylor
Executive Director
10801 Shelbyville Road
Middletown, KY 40243

homes for children

Christmas is

Christmas is singing the beautiful carols and enjoying the marvelous music that heralds the story of the coming of the Christ Child and celebrates that wonderful event.

Christmas is reading and hearing the Christmas story as told in Luke's gospel. No matter how many times it is heard, it remains fresh and filled with beauty, mystery and wonder. We stand in awe of the miracle.

Christmas is enjoying the lights, colors, decorations and seasons greetings and festivities that are encountered everywhere.

Christmas is pausing to look again at a Nativity scene or enjoying a play that retells the story of his coming in a dramatic way.

Christmas is gathering with family and friends for a time of visiting, sharing, and eating Christmas goodies.

Christmas is carefully selecting a gift for a dear one and having the fun of wrapping it and giving it.

Christmas is decorating the Christmas tree and getting ready for guests or to go visit someone.

Christmas is enjoying children as, in their wonder and excitement, they anticipate Christmas.

Christmas is remembering that there are many lonely people who have no family to gather with at Christmas. Also, there are many who are in great need, and children who will have no Christmas unless someone helps. So, Christmas is giving and helping others.

Christmas is giving thanks—thanks to God for the miracle of his love, for he sent Jesus, his unspeakable gift. Indeed, God loved us and sent his Son.

Christmas is not only thanking God, but thanking others. At Baptist Homes for Children, Christmas is helping children, many of whom have never before experienced a real Christmas that honors Christ and tells the story of his love. Christmas also is saying "Thank you" to all who participated in the annual Thanksgiving Offering. This offering is so important in the support of this ministry. Christmas is saying "Thanks" to all who have supported us through 1987. Christmas is expressing our gratitude for the many people who have worked in the Beyond This Time endowment campaign this year. Also, we thank all who have made a commitment to this great campaign.

Christmas is wishing all of you a Merry Christmas.

FMB staffs overseas reporting assignments

The Foreign Mission Board has moved to within one step of completing overseas staffing of a communications system which will feature the firsthand reporting of missions by professional missionary correspondents assigned to four regions around the world.

The board has named Mike Creswell, associate editor of the FMB's magazine, The Commission, as overseas correspondent and communications consultant for Europe, the Middle East and North Africa.

Creswell, 38, joins two others already in the system, career missionaries Michael Chute, 37, for Asia and the Pacific and Craig Bird, 38, Africa. Together the three have 50 years of professional communications experience.

At its December meeting the board appointed Creswell and his wife Christie Hanshaw Creswell, as career missionaries. She will be a church and home worker and assist him in his regional duties.

Earlier, the board reassigned Chute from the overseas correspondent and communications consultant role for the Americas region to the same role for

Asia and the Pacific. His wife, Katherine Benge Chute, who has 10 years of professional communications experience, will work as communications projects coordinator for the region.

Chute, assigned to the post for the Americas shortly before returning home on furlough in early 1986, previously was communications coordinator for the South Brazil Mission in Rio de Janeiro. He was managing editor of the Missouri Baptist news journal, Word and Way, before appointment in 1982.

Bird, former feature editor of Baptist Press, news service of the Southern Baptist Convention, and his wife, Melissa Jackson Bird, are completing language study in Kenya.

The addition of the Creswells leaves a vacancy only for the Americas, the region which covers mission work throughout Latin American and Canada. The board will seek a person who meets both the professional qualifications of the position and all normal qualifications for missionary appointment, said Robert O'Brien, FMB overseas correspondent manager, who directs the correspondent system. (BP)

christian education

Campbellsville repeats reduced tuition offer for special students

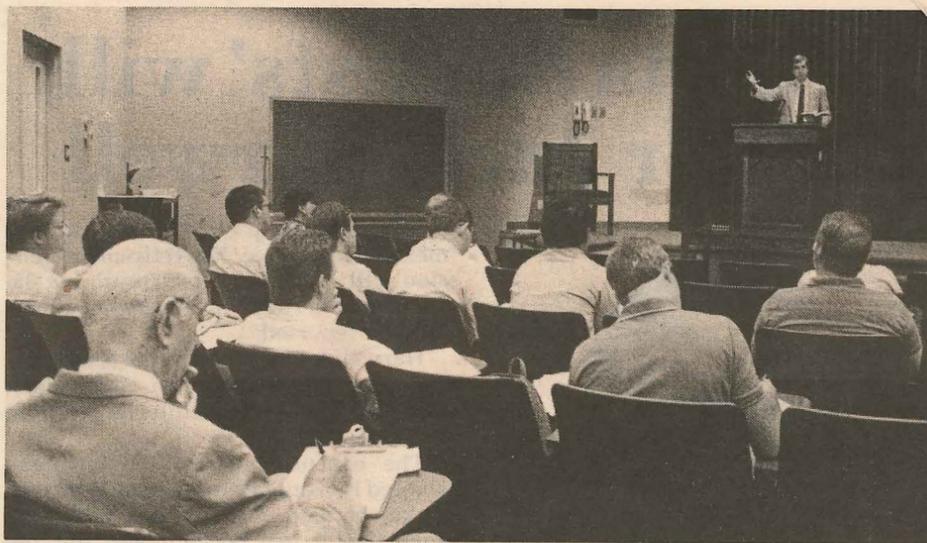
Campbellsville College is once again offering reduced tuition for special students. The reduced tuition is offered to non-traditional students, those who have not attended college or did not complete their college studies, those wanting to see what college is like and professionals who want to upgrade their skills.

The cost of the reduced tuition is \$150 for each three- or four-hour course. The regular fee for a three-hour course is \$450 and \$600 for a four-hour course.

The special students may choose from any of over 300 courses offered at Campbellsville College. They may take a maximum of two courses in this program.

Campbellsville College is offering the reduced tuition in support of the "Forward in the Fifth" program. Philip Hanna, director of admissions, said that the "Forward in the Fifth" program is an effort to promote the fifth congressional district in the area.

Hanna also said, "We sit in the middle of a district that is surrounded by all ages and categories of people who need



Jesse Northcutt, professor of preaching emeritus at Southwestern Seminary, evaluates the sermon of a student preaching in one of the seminary's two new preaching labs. The old Scarborough Hall chapel was renovated during the summer to provide two smaller, state-of-the-art labs. Seminary trustees, at their fall meeting, named the new preaching center for Tom and Evelyn Linebery of Midland, Tex. Each lab is equipped with two television cameras which record student sermons for later evaluation.

to continue their education. We are making an investment in the people of this district."

For more information or an application, contact Philip Hanna in the admis-

sions office at (502) 465-8158. Applications are due in the admissions office Jan. 22, 1988, which is the last day to register for the spring semester. There is no application fee.

Physical plant head hired at Georgetown

James O. Roberts of Great Bend, Kansas, has been employed by Georgetown College to fill the newly created administrative post of director of physical plant. He will begin his tenure with the college Jan. 1.

College president W. Morgan Patterson noted, "For a number of years there has been a growing need to provide additional leadership for the housekeeping, maintenance and security departments at Georgetown College.

"This need is based on several factors, all of which significantly affect the physical plant. Some of these include an expanding summer camp program; an emerging role of the physical plant for recruitment of students, faculty and staff; the aging of the campus' elements; and consequently the need to modernize systems serving the campus."

His education background includes a BA degree in business management from North Carolina State University and a Master's degree in public affairs from Western Carolina University. His professional career began in 1978 at Mars Hill, N. C., where he was employed as assistant director of physical plant.

Merry Christmas

Jack Sanford

Margaret Sanford

James A. Cox

Ray Hayes

Danita Hayes

Ann Tatum

Joy Jordan

Holly Griffin

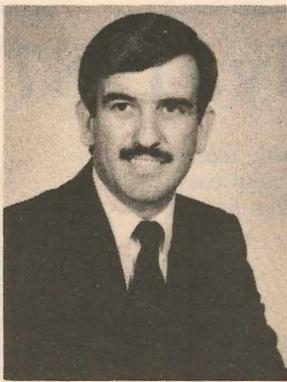
Sandy Trague

Todd Deaton

Western Recorder staff:



Barnette



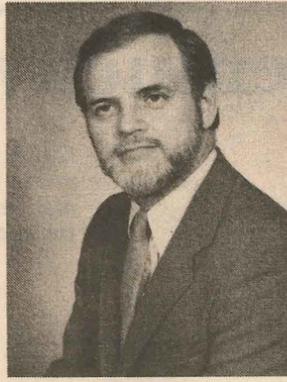
Bennett



Bozarth



Burden



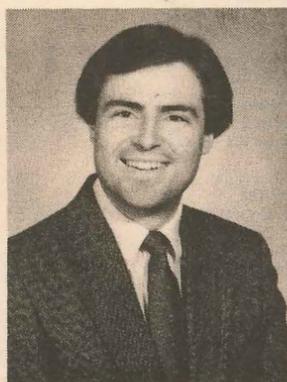
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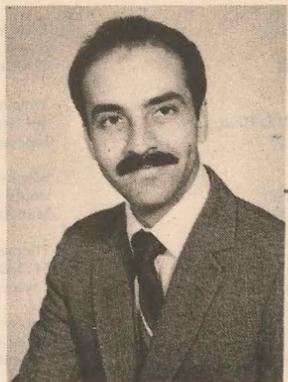
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Cruse



Dever



Edwards



Gray



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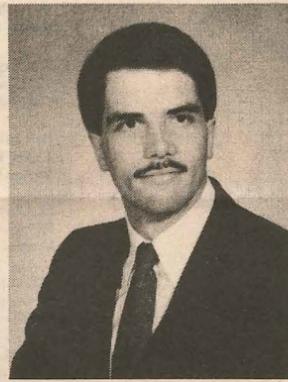
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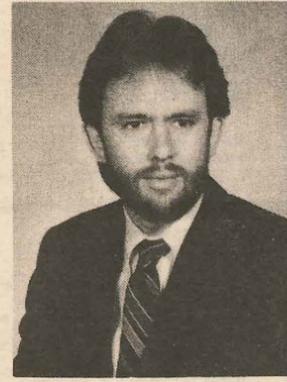
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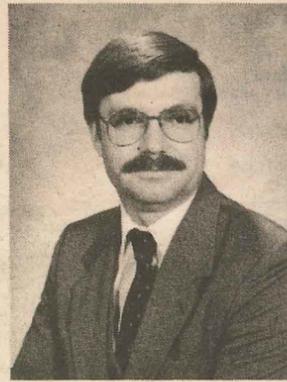
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Stoess



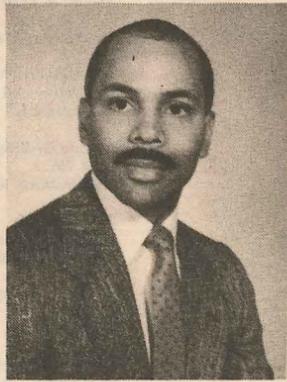
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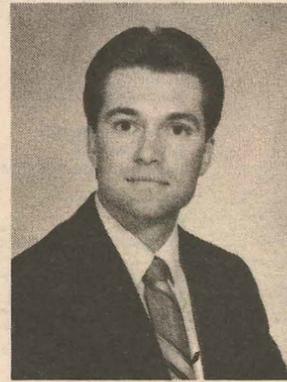
Waits



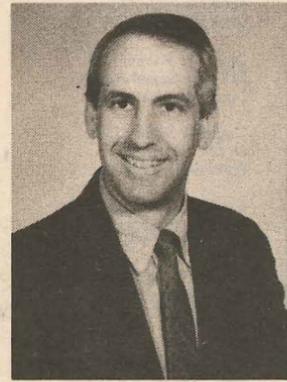
Ward



Williams



Witham



Wright

Southern Seminary graduates 29 Kentuckians

Twenty-nine students from Kentucky were awarded degrees from the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary during the school's 160th commencement, December 18.

The Kentucky graduates were among approximately 205 persons to receive degrees from the schools of theology, church music, Christian education and social work.

Dr. Landrum P. Leavell II, president of New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary, delivered the commencement address.

The Kentucky graduates included the following:

Doctor of Ministry—Gary Coleman Bennett, Corbin; Stephen Lemoine Hadden, Elizabethtown; John Wesley Slider, Louisville.

Master of Divinity in Christian Education—Melissa Lynn Cruse, Georgetown; Yolonda Shea Lysle, Louisville.

Master of Divinity—Danny Lee Russell, Ashland; Alan K. Witham, Campbellsville; Larry Gayle Redding, Frankfort; Thomas Boian Edwards, Irvine; Mark Edward King, Lexington; Gary William Bozarth, Gene Covington, James Curtis Patton, Timothy Louis Waits, all from Louisville; Bill B. Wright, Mount Ver-

non, Gayle Todd Toole, Nicholasville; Larry Wayne Stoess, Pewee Valley; John L. Benton, Princeton; Jackie Dean Ward, Richmond; Judy Carol Gray, Cadiz.

Master of Theology—Mark Edward Dever, Terry Lynn Burden, both of Madisonville.

Master of Arts in Christian Education—Steven Edward Cook, Patricia H. Wagner, both of Louisville.

Diploma of Christian Education—E. Thomas Priddy, Sonora; John Wayne Watts, Springfield.

Doctor of Philosophy—Douglas Wayne Hager, Lexington.

Doctor of Education—Helen Poarch Barnette, Louisville.

Doctor of Musical Arts—Philip Eugene Quinn, Louisville.

Roy L. Honeycutt is the seminary's eighth president.

Photos provided to Western Recorder by Southern Baptist Theological Seminary Office of Communications. Some pictures not available.

Kentucky General Assembly, 1987-88

Listed below are the names of the members of the General Assembly which meets next month in Frankfort. If anti-lottery letters are sent now each member of the legislature will have time to reflect on citizen opinion before the session begins.

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Write or phone the Foundation for a free packet of information that will get you started toward the developing of an estate plan: Kentucky Baptist Foundation, P. O. Box 43433, Middletown, Kentucky 40243, 502/245-4101.

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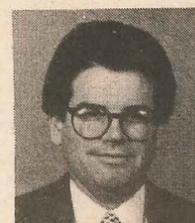


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Barkley Moore
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oneida journal

Countdown to Christmas

Dec. 2 was a cold, nippy starlit night with the feel of Christmas in the air. The church was filled to see Mr. and Mrs. Mallard's video tape of their nearly two months in Spain last summer where they visited various mission stations and Baptist work. This is their sixth year teaching with us, he in science and she in Spanish. They are a wonderfully dedicated Christian couple who took a \$28,000 cut of income to serve at OBI. Several weeks ago we had an equally large crowd as Mr. and Mrs. Rackley gave their presentation of their three-week missionary trip to Kenya.

Dec. 5 was a gorgeous sunny Saturday with students off for six differing events in eight buses. The single biggest event was our Marching Band marching in the Lexington Christmas parade.

Dec. 6 was another beautiful Sunday. I took three of our students and spoke at Mt. Tabor Baptist Church, a few miles from Berea. Many generous friends of OBI worship there. They wanted to feed us but we rushed away to get back to Manchester in time for the annual

Christmas parade. I got to personally see our Band as they led the parade.

Our Middle School Choir, teacher Patrica Schmittendorf leading, did an excellent job at evening worship singing "A Gathering At The Manger." Scores of those involved with the Fellowship of Christian Athletes went caroling afterwards in our community.

Dec. 8 our Marching Band reportedly did a superb job representing Clay County in the Governor's Inaugural parade. I saw them on film tonight over TV while visiting with our hardworking farm manager, Jack Tillman, and his wife who teaches our piano classes. Besides those 70 being away all day, nearly 40 swimmers and divers had to leave for Covington right at chapel time. Unfortunately these 110 missed a tremendous message at our daily chapel by Dr. Tal Bonham, executive secretary-treasurer of the Ohio Baptist Convention. His son is one of our students. Tonight 57 of our international students and Baptist Women had a wonderful meal at Mr. and Mrs. Rackley's with food representative of some favorite dishes of the ten foreign countries our students come from. Such a dinner is held annually to share some Christmas cheer with many who are thousands of miles from home and family.

Dec. 9 several were baptized, the church monthly business meeting was held, and the Baptist Women had a fine presentation on foreign missions. A reception was held in the pastor's home afterwards for the "singles" of our school staff family.

Dec. 10 Oliver Hawkins, in his 11th year of service here, preached a wonderful Christmas message at chapel. Tonight our cheerleaders along with their staff sponsors, Mrs. Robinson and Ms. Creech, were Christmas caroling. I became aware of this when I heard them singing outside my office door. Our business manager and bookkeeper, Tim Erwin, in his 6th year of service joined me in responding to their special salute.

Dec. 11 a fine musical group from Tennessee Temple University led our morning chapel.

Dec. 12 OBI was visited by members of Calvary Baptist Church, Berea, bringing over 1200 home baked Christmas cookies, candy canes, etc. for our 550 students. Many of these were enjoyed immensely by our girls in their annual dorm Christmas party after "free time" tonight. Deans Mary Scott, Suzy Garrett and Lisa Muncy are a real team as they care for our girls.

God bless you and yours.



H. C. Chiles
Clear Creek Bible College
Pineville, KY 40977

sunday school lessons

LESSONS FOR DEC. 27, 1987

Life and work series

Jesus Christ: our example

Phil. 2:1-2 Each of these four grounds of appeal on which this exhortation to unity is based is in the form of a conditional clause, which assumes in each instance that the condition is true. The first ground on which this appeal was based was the stimulus in Christ (2:1a). Right relationship to Christ stimulates the noblest efforts in Christian service. The second was the incentive of love (2:1b). The love of Christ flowing to the heart of a believer should be a sufficient incentive to live for Christ. The third was the fellowship of the Holy Spirit (2:1c). When Christians are controlled by the Holy Spirit, they are free from bickering and strife, their hearts are filled with compassion and their chief interest is in living to please and glorify God. The fourth was compassion in the heart (2:1d). God's children should manifest affection for, sympathy with and compassion towards others.

Phil. 2:12-18 Salvation is never a work of humans for God, but a work of God for humans, a work that was accomplished by Christ on the cross. Verse twelve emphasizes human responsibility and verse thirteen emphasizes divine enablement. The Lord gives the Christian the desire to do his will and then

provides the power to do it.

Paul penned the incisive exhortation: "Do all things without murmurings and disputings." Murmuring is displeasing to God; therefore, it should not be indulged in by the Christian. It takes a lot more Christlikeness to shine than it does to whine and to complain.

International series

Jesus begins his ministry

Matt. 4:12-25 After Christ had won his complete victory over Satan, who had assailed him with all the seductive temptations in the realms of appetite, adventure and ambition, he began his public ministry.

Matt. 4:12-17 Christ went to Nazareth where he had resided as a child, a youth and a young man, but there he was rejected. Upon leaving Nazareth in the sparsely populated valley, Christ went to Capernaum, which was a populous and flourishing city located on the northwestern shore of the Sea of Galilee.

Christ called upon the people to repent of their sins and also for their wrong opinions concerning a temporal kingdom of the Messiah. He admonished them to relinquish their erroneous beliefs concerning justification by works and salvation through the observance of ceremonies urging them to accept the true plan which proclaims pardon, salvation, peace, righteousness, joy and eternal life as gifts from Christ. His preaching centered around two great doctrines—repentance and faith.

Matt. 4:18-25 As Christ walked by the Sea of Galilee he saw two pairs of brothers, one pair of whom was fishing and the other was mending nets. His call to them was not to salvation but to service.

Without attempting to excuse themselves, Peter, Andrew, James and John gave up their gainful employment, severed their home ties, and went with Christ, believing that he was able and willing to supply all of their needs. Because of their obedience to Christ, he trained, led, blessed and used them in a great way.

In ministering to the intellectual, spiritual and physical needs of the people who were willing to receive his help, Christ added healing to his teaching and preaching. As his reputation for healing spread, many were brought to him with various diseases and he healed them. Such a wonderful ministry attracted attention and many followed Christ.



William W. (Bill) Marshall
Executive Secretary-Treasurer, KBC
Box 43433
Middletown, KY 40243

on mission together

A Woman's touch

Call it "sexist" if you are so inclined. However, I believe it because I have seen it for years, with my own eyes: "Christmas wouldn't be Christmas without a woman's touch."

Start with a theological basis. God selected Mary's special touch to deliver for all of us a Messiah. He didn't create Jesus out of the dust of Galilee; or out of Joseph's rib. He birthed our Lord in the womb of a woman who had a name. And the touch of Mary upon Jesus from conception to passage into life was God's doing.

History has carried us a long way from that event to the Christmases I have known. The sensitive touch of a woman has made family Christmases something to remember! It isn't that dad didn't have his part. I always looked forward to the Saturday that he would take us out to cut our tree he had spotted weeks

before. And, though only to a child's degree, I was aware that it was "daddy's job" that paid for the gifts.

Sometime soon after Thanksgiving, evenings would include "making candy" and momma's fantastic "pecan cakes." The latter would have to "season" several weeks and it was often Christmas eve before we got our first taste.

But the candy and cookies were something else. Each of us children considered it special to either "lick the spoon" or "clean the pan." Usually, momma would leave a lot extra on the spoon for one of us and a good bit in the pan for another.

I can still see the fudge, with black walnuts taken from the two fruitful trees in our front yard. The chocolate puddle, poured out upon the marble slabs, was a delightful temptation to "cut around" the edges and sample. The caramel candy, rich and buttery, lay there too—the same recipe my "little" brother Les still makes each Christmas

and shares as a gift to the rest of us.

All the good smells of Christmas must have originated in momma's kitchen. Glory, I'd love to walk into that kitchen again and hug her plump body and tell her what I too often failed to tell her when I was young and she was alive. Life is loaded with "too lates."

Even on her last Christmas, when at 48 she lay in the hospital bed, she had insisted we have Christmas at home. We had a tree, some gifts and tried to make our little brother as happy as we could. She died the next day.

But even in death she left a special touch for me. She knew that Alice and I wanted to be married and that our means were meager. She had asked daddy to give me her engagement ring.

Five nights later on New Year's eve, I placed my mother's ring on Alice's finger. It was momma's way of touching us even after she was gone.

Thank you, Lord for "momma" and the special touch of women at Christmas.

Southwestern Seminary plans two construction projects

Two construction projects planned at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary will benefit music students, alumni and campus guests.

Drawings have been finalized for additions to Cowden Hall, home of the school of church music and construction of a new Visitor/Conference Center.

Work on both projects will begin as soon as funding is available. Approximately \$1.6 million in Cooperative Program funds has been allocated for the Cowden Hall project through 1992. Other funding for both projects will come from individual donors.

Renovation and construction on Cowden Hall is planned in three phases.

The first phase will construct a new music library at the southeast corner of the building for \$1.45 million. Currently the music library is housed in the basement of Cowden Hall. Professors, administrators and accreditation teams alike have cited the need for expanding this library.

The second phase will renovate the existing space in Cowden Hall for \$2.19 million.

No major renovation has been done on this building as the music faculty and student body have expanded. Storage rooms and practice rooms are being used as offices and studios.

The third phase will construct a music education wing on the south side of Cowden Hall for \$3.14 million. This

wing will include a second recital hall and additional classrooms and practice areas.

The \$5.7 million Visitors/Conference center will provide conference facilities and guest rooms on campus.

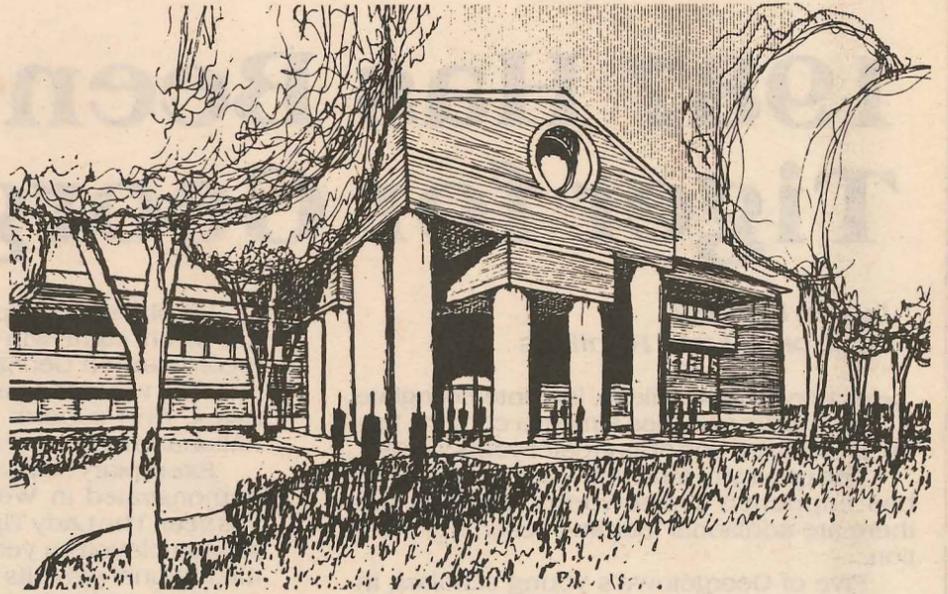
Primary users of the building will be those attending any of Southwestern's 80 continuing education events each year. Seminary president Russell Dilday has said Southwestern is committed to continuous training of ministers.

Alumni, parents, donors and others will also be able to use the facilities when they visit the campus. The guest rooms will enable those seeking additional study to lodge near Southwestern's A. Webb Roberts Library, one of the nation's largest theological research centers.

The Visitor/Conference Center will be constructed on the southeast corner of the campus, across the street from the Baptist Book Store. It will include a visitors center, nine conference rooms, 82 guest rooms and a restaurant.

Both the Visitors/Conference Center and Cowden Hall projects are key elements of Upward 90, Southwestern's \$50 million strategic plan for the 1990s.

For information on either project, contact John Seelig, vice president for public affairs, Southwestern Seminary, P. O. Box 22000-3E, Ft. Worth, Tex. 76122.



Future visitors to Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary will be housed in a \$5.7 million Visitors/Conference Center slated to be built on the school's Ft. Worth campus. The three-story building will provide accommodations for students returning for continuing education events, ministers and scholars doing research in the seminary library and other campus guests. The structure will include a visitors center, nine conference rooms, 82 guest rooms and a restaurant. It will be built on the southeast corner of the campus, across the street from the Baptist Book Store. Construction will begin as soon as funding is complete.

Ron Ragan answers God's call to a higher office

by Mark Wingfield

Ron Ragan knows the importance of a name.

Since Ronald Reagan of California was elected president of the United States in 1980, Ron Ragan of Texas hasn't even been able to order pizza under his real name. Clerks don't believe him.

Ragan also knows the importance of a name because of his business. His job has been to get attention for others' names as vice president and general manager of the McCann-Erickson advertising agency in Dallas.

And although Ragan can't give up his own attention-getting name, he has given up his successful career of dealing with the names of others. His goal now is to tell others about the world's most important name, Jesus Christ.

Ragan, a student at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, is preparing to become a missionary to Africa. He will direct the Baptist media center in Nairobi, Kenya, under appointment of the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board.

Although Ragan's secular experience had taken him to Kenya for a few years, he had no plans to return there as a missionary. "When I got on that airplane to leave Kenya I thought I'd never be back. My goals at that time were very success oriented."

While working with Caterpillar Tractor Co. in Kenya, Ragan and his wife, Lynda, met several Southern Baptist missionaries. Through that contact Ragan began to ponder the impact he could make in Christian service.

"God dealt with me over a long period," Ragan recalled. "I began to struggle with the idea that God had given me a certain amount of talent and that the time had come for me to repay that with a full time ministry."

Zeb Moss was one missionary acquaintance who never gave up on Ragan. So after moving to Dallas, Ragan called one night to talk with Moss in Nairobi. As he had in every conversation previously, Moss closed by asking Ragan, "Have you ever thought about missions?"

In the days that followed, Ragan made himself face that question. "In prayer, God really dealt with me," he said. Finally, he and Lynda agreed that foreign missions was God's plan for them.

They also felt strongly about returning to Africa for media work. So they contacted the Foreign Mission Board. They began the application process even though no media positions were open in Africa.

Against the advice of the Foreign Mission Board, Ragan quit his job, sold his house and moved to Ft. Worth to begin seminary training, even though he and Lynda had not yet been approved as missionary candidates and no position was open for them.

Once at seminary they continued to struggle with their desire to go to Africa and the lack of an opening there. "I felt God was calling me to Kenya, and I closed my mind to any place else in the world," he said.

Finally the Ragans decided to let God place them wherever he desired. "We made a conscious decision to open our consideration to any place else," he said. Ragan then called Jim Riddell, their FMB candidate consultant, with that news.

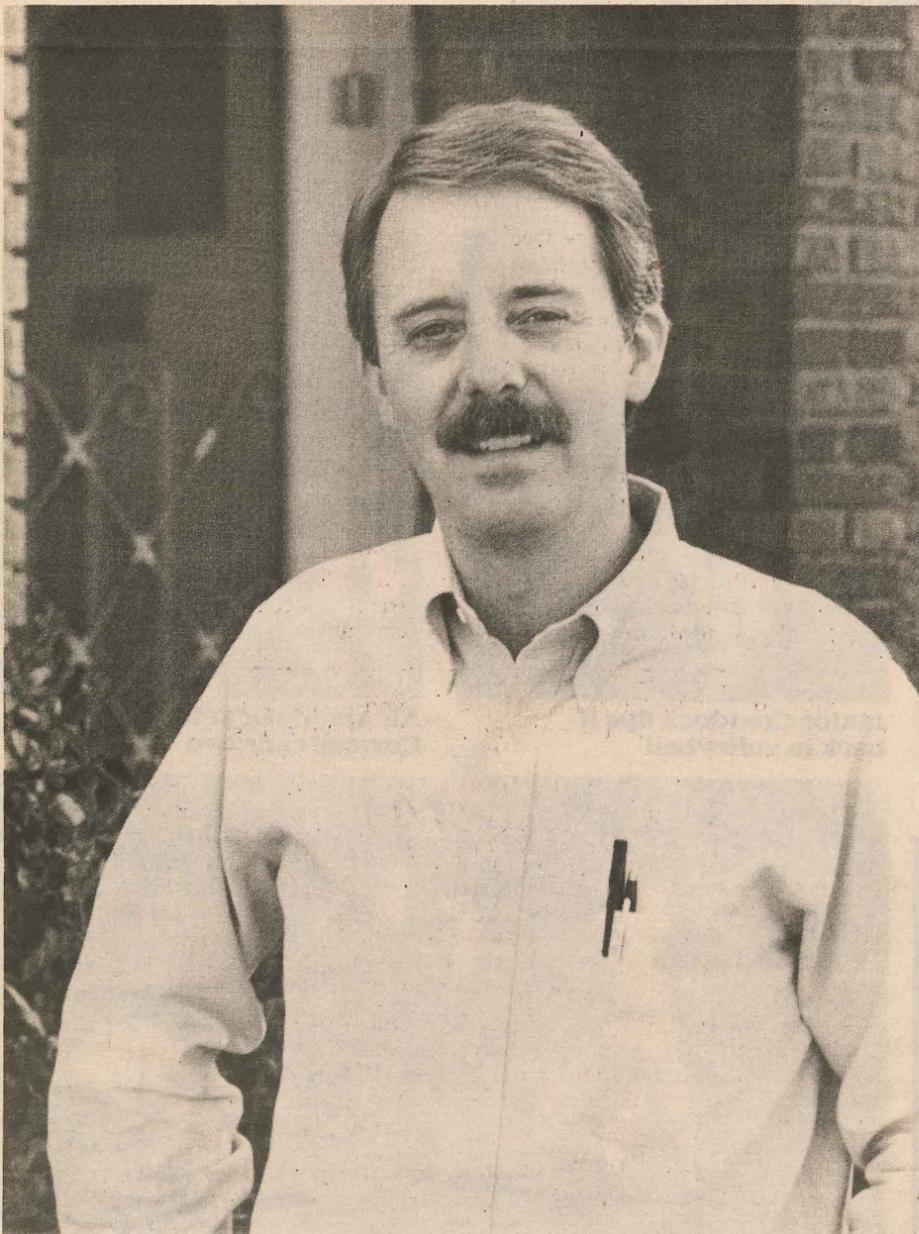
Riddell also had news for the Ragans. A position had just become available in Nairobi for a director of the Baptist media center.

Ragan believes his mission is urgent. The Nairobi media center produces support materials on radio, television and slides for missionaries on the field. These tools allow missionaries to multiply their efforts in spreading the gospel, Ragan said.

This new work will not be a step down from Ragan's previous occupation, he said. "I've been training to use mass communications to influence people. I'm still going to do that. But I'm going to do it for the Lord Jesus.

"I see foreign missions as a challenge 10 times greater than anything I did in the business world," Ragan said.

But he's not afraid of failure, because he has the best message any communicator can have. "When you're starting out with a product as beautiful as Jesus you can't fail," he said.



Ron Ragan, a student at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Ft. Worth, Tex., left a successful career in advertising to become a media missionary to Africa. But Ragan can't give up his attention-getting name. He sees his secular work experience as preparation for telling others about Jesus.

1987 Has Been the Year of the Tiger for Georgetown College

by Ken Fendley
Director of Public Relations

Georgetown College, into intercollegiate athletic activities almost a century, has enjoyed one of its greater years in 1987.

The quality of athletics would make what has happened praiseworthy enough, but there are additional features deserving mention.

Five of Georgetown's young scholars, in addition to physical skills have displayed in company with athletics, academic strength... they have been named to Academic All-American Honors.

Doubtlessly, there is no other college/university in the country that can make such a claim to athletic academic honors during 1986-87 as Georgetown's.

Those chosen for the Academic All-American honors include: Gerryl Wood, Football, Hawesville, Kentucky; Randy Palmer, Football, Winchester Kentucky; Shanda Lee Jones, Cross Country, Holton, Indiana; Don Butcher, Basketball, Milford, Michigan; and Mark Thomas, Cross-Country, Lexington, Kentucky.

Once again, for the second time in three years, the College's football program has produced a Kodak All-American. This is a top drawer honor which has come to football center Chris Reed, a junior from Winchester, Kentucky.

He played a major role in leading the Tigers to an eight win-three loss season. The record earned Georgetown College mention near the top in the national polls for small colleges. And a berth in its first post-season national championship football tournament.

Exemplary skills and teams strength were demonstrated in Women's Volleyball again this year. The Lady Tigers, building on the post season playoffs a year earlier, came closer to the national playoffs in 1987 with a record of 31 wins and five losses.

The coach, Mrs. Donna Hawkins, who completed her eighth year at the helm, lay claim to 200 victories... a remarkable coaching feat for such short term.

Moving to another dimension and one in which Georgetown College takes special delight... a former member of the College football cadre, quarterback Ty Vandergrift, was chosen Kentucky's Christian Athlete of the Year by the Fellowship of Christian Athletes. He also served as president of the Georgetown College chapter last year.

Earlier on, Georgetown College's men's 1986-87 basketball team advanced to the final four in the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletic's 32 team tournament held last March in Kansas City Missouri. The Tigers, displaying mental toughness, played exceptionally in the final month of the season and emerged with a 30 win-eight loss record, the

best yet on the wins per season side.

Three of the basketball Tigers were given special mention for their play in Kansas City. These included senior Don Butcher; junior Keith Currens and sophomore Donald Hanson.

The College enjoyed its first-ever exposure over national television during the tournament.

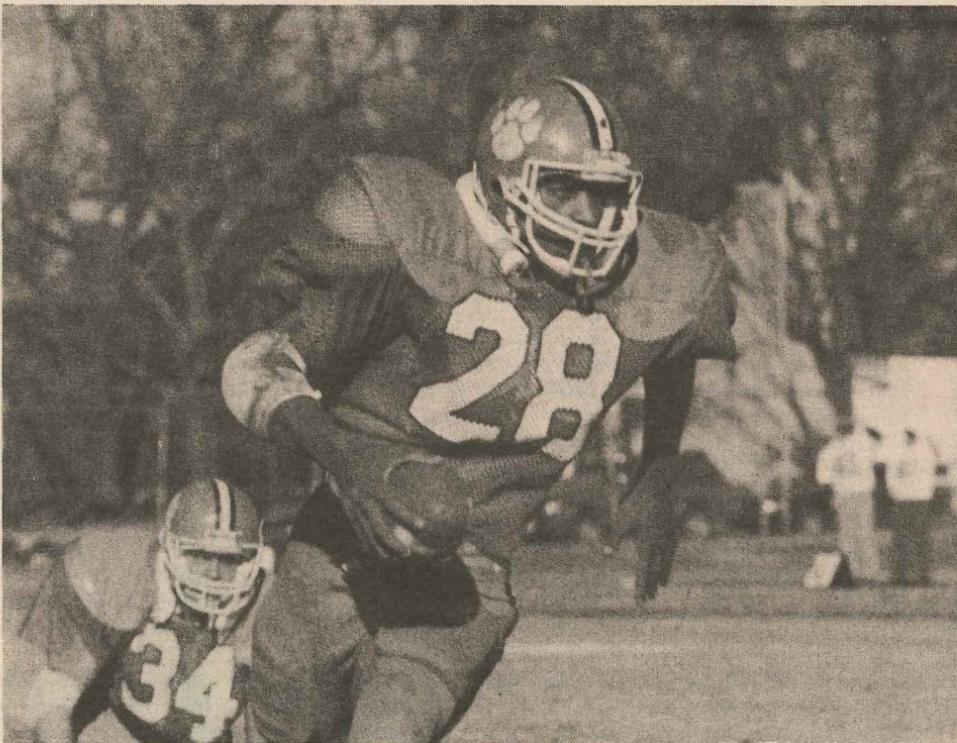
Spring sports at Georgetown have been highlighted with outstanding baseball and softball teams during the recent decade.

The 1987 baseball Tigers once again earned the privilege of playing in a post season N.A.I.A. Tournament.

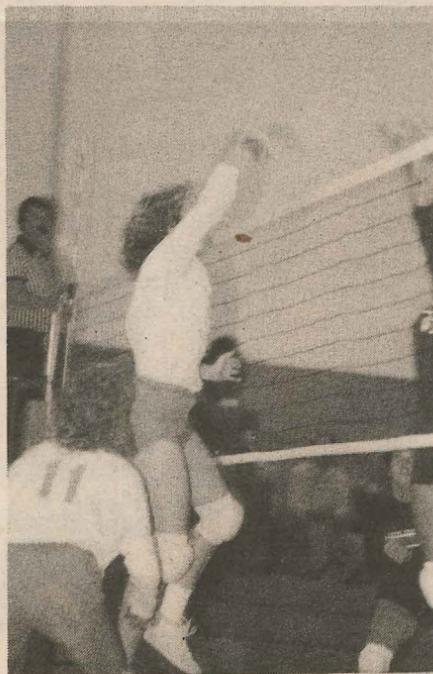
A member of that squad, All-American catcher Tim Redmon, was signed by the St. Louis Cardinals and played out the season with one of the organization's farm clubs.

The baseball team has been a perennial champion for 9 years and claimed an enviable record of 32 wins and four losses last Spring.

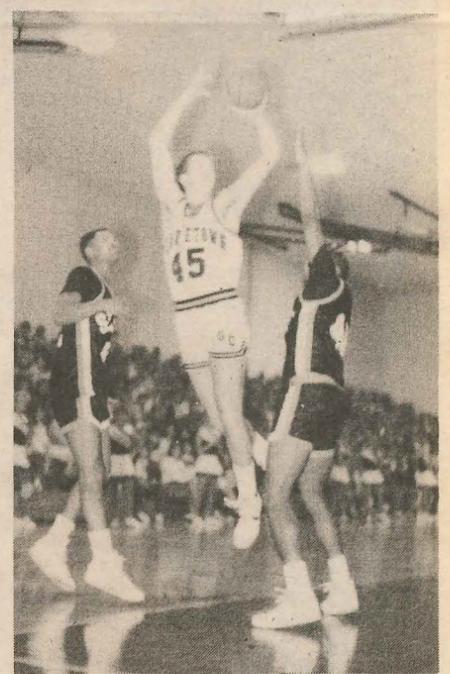
The College feels that every student participating in athletics is gaining physically, emotionally, mentally and spiritually. The 96 year history of athletics at Georgetown College has produced major benefits to participants and fans according to students, alumni, faculty and administration.



Tailback Mitch Winburn enroute to a T.D.



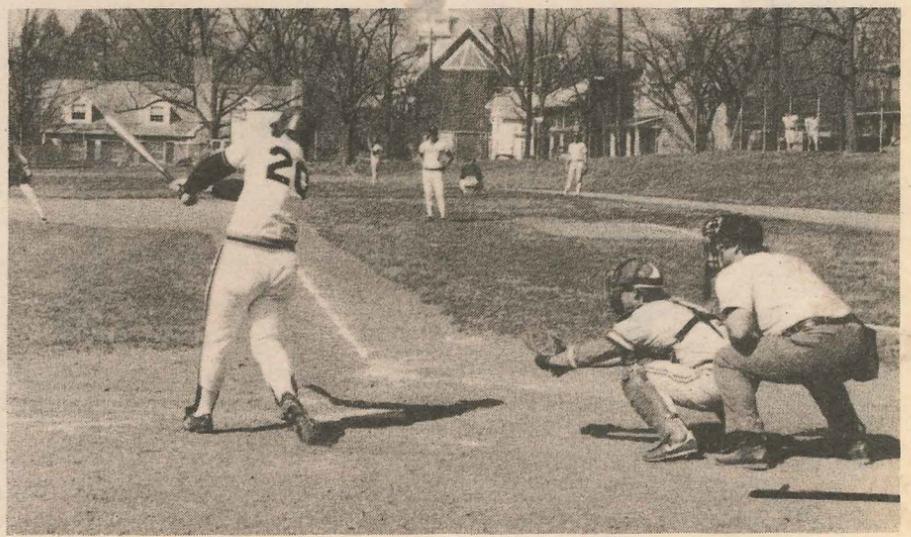
Janice Craddock tips it back in volleyball



All American Keith Currens cans two



X-country academic stars Mark Thomas and Shanda Jones



A baseball rides over the wall