

Jim Jones elected, \$20,542,289 budget ok'd as Kentucky Baptists meet on banks of the Ohio

With few surprises, the Kentucky Baptist Convention's ship of state sailed through calm seas last week, prompting some recent messengers to attempt to remember when, if ever, the convention had dealt with seriously divisive controversy.

In two words, it was a "love feast" and while most of it ran as predicted, it was a reflection of the continuing harmony Kentucky convention-goers have become used to for more than a decade.

Rumors had circulated shortly before the meeting virtually on the banks of the Ohio River at Owensboro's First Baptist Church that there would be four candidates for the convention presidency. They would be available to succeed J. Howard Cobble, pastor of Severns Valley Baptist Church, Elizabethtown. Two were laymen; two were well known pastors.

The four—and only those four—contended last week.

The laymen, perhaps lesser known by the messengers, were eliminated on the first ballot. In a run-off, James E. Jones, pastor of Campbellsville (Ky.) Baptist Church, was elected.

Others serving with Jones include Harold F. Skaggs, pastor of Cadiz (Ky.) Baptist Church, first vice president; Robert F. Browning, pastor of First Baptist Church, Somerset, second vice president; Doris Yeiser, Middletown, part time KBC archivist, secretary; and G. Allen West Jr., Louisville, retired minister and denominational servant, assistant secretary.

In other business, the convention adopted a 1989-90 budget set at four percent above the present one, voted to delete a half-day from future annual meetings and accepted several constitution and bylaw changes proposed by a convention committee.

The new budget, with an operating goal of \$17,717,289, is viewed as "a realistic projection" by convention officials. In addition to the basic operational goal, there is a challenge section of \$1.3 million, the same as in the pres-



ent budget, plus \$1,525,000 in estimated additional income. This brings the total budget projection for 1989-90 to \$20,542,289, a grand total 3.7 percent greater than this year's \$19,813,194.

By a previously defined formula, the percentage of gifts going from Kentucky to Southern Baptist causes will be increased .625 percent in the 1989-90 projections to 38.75 percent. This is a dollar increase of \$6,865,449.

The convention is gradually increasing gifts it shares with the SBC to 40 percent, a goal scheduled to be reached in 1990.

With no discussion and few dissenting votes, the messengers at Owensboro agreed to eliminate the traditional final half-day of their annual sessions, beginning in 1990. The proposal by the executive board consolidates seven sessions into six. When effective, the convention will open Tuesday morning and conclude Wednesday evening.

A constitutional and bylaw change reflecting this vote was readily adopted. In addition, the messengers approved on second reading a change to assign to the convention's committee on nominations responsibility to nominate candidates for vacancies on the executive board between annual meetings. In a housekeeping matter, the convention spelled out the fact two members of the committee on arrangements must be elected each year, an oversight when an expanded committee was approved in 1987.

The convention adopted a covenant agreement with Western Recorder, declaring its ownership of and responsibility for the assets and liabilities of the

weekly news journal. The convention then thanked and dismissed a special committee studying the liability, ownership and dissolution provisions of all KBC agencies and institutions after four years' work. Covenants with the other convention entities were adopted in previous annual sessions.

In one of the few matters introduced at Owensboro by messengers, the convention dealt with a motion concerning an SBC agency.

Malcolm G. Lunceford, pastor of Immanuel Baptist Church, Frankfort, requested financial assistance for the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs, Washington, D. C. The agency was partially defunded by the SBC in annual session at San Antonio, Tex. last June.

Lunceford's motion asked Kentucky Baptists to appropriate \$2500 from unrestricted funds this year, and additional funding in future years based on a "proportional share" formula if BJCPA funds continue to be withheld.

After considerable debate on the question, the convention voted to refer the matter to an ad hoc committee of seven for study and recommendation to the 1989 convention. The committee is to be named by outgoing KBC president Cobble.

Another messenger's suggestion that the convention hold annual meetings "no later than the last week in October" was referred to the committee on arrangements for study. Still another which would integrate the committees of the executive board into the committees of the convention was referred to the constitution and bylaws committee.

The convention selected Louisville attorney Henry B. Huff, a former KBC president, to preach its annual sermon in 1989. William Robert DeFoor, pastor of Harrodsburg (Ky.) Baptist Church, will be alternate.

By previous action, next year's convention session will be held at Capital Plaza Civic Center, Frankfort, Nov. 14-16, and in 1990, at First Baptist Church, Paducah, Nov. 13-14.

The messengers meeting last week at Owensboro set the 1991 session at Immanuel Baptist Church, Lexington, but approved no date for it.

Baptist layman and professional comedian Jerry Clower "brought the house down" in Owensboro's Sportscenter at a Wednesday night presentation incorporating comedy with spiritual and moral overtones. Several thousand area Baptists swelled the ranks in addition to convention messengers.

Others addressing the KBC during the week included Cobble; Wendell Belew, a Home Mission Board vice president, Atlanta, Ga.; J. Robert White, pastor of Paducah's First Baptist Church; James H. Taylor, Cumberland College president; and Alma Hunt, of Roanoke, Va., former executive director of SBC Woman's Mission Union.

The lone resolution of the meeting was indicative of the serenity of it all. It praised host church, city and convention officials for their hospitality and leadership during the convention's 151st annual session.

—James H. Cox

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sanford's perspectives

A peaceful time in Owensboro



Jack D. Sanford

From the opening gavel to the closing benediction, the Kentucky Baptist Convention was a time of genuine fellowship and peace.

The music was superb; the preaching and devotional periods of the highest quality; business was dispatched with care and consideration. Not a sour note was sounded and that is a measure of the quality of Baptist life in Kentucky.

Much of the credit goes to the officers of the convention who presided with even-handed fairness. No messenger was put down and no messenger was denied the opportunity to make his ideas clear.

A measure of how well we get along these days came when former KBC president Don Mathis led some good natured ribbing of executive secretary-treasurer William W. Marshall. It is to the credit of our executive secretary-treasurer that he can take a joke, even on himself, and move on with good will. Not every executive in every state has that kind of security with his constituency. Bill Marshall's good will and gentle ways contribute greatly to our feeling of peace and fellowship throughout the state.

Willis Henson and the special committee finished the long and difficult task they have struggled with for a long time. With the adoption of the KBC-Western Recorder covenant the task was finally completed. The process has taken four years but now every agency and institution in the state has a firm working relationship with the KBC with all agreements spelled out in clear detail. This will save all of us a lot of grief in the event of unforeseen legal entanglements in the future.

Perhaps the most significant step we took last week was the beginning of a volunteer mission venture with the Brazilian state of Espirito Santo. We look for hundreds of Kentuckians to make the venture into South America, just as they did to Kenya during our partnership agreement with that African nation. This sort of mission involvement is the wave of the future for Southern Baptists in the nations of the world and pays rich dividends not only for the country where we visit but for us as well.

Even the election of officers had little partisanship and few political overtones. The variety of nominees for office in our convention spanned the spectrum with a preacher, a family physician, an evangelist and a bivocational minister put before the convention.

The theme interpretations, given by lay people, were an inspiration and a blessing at every session. Those persons who presented devotionals gave a good account of the ministry of lay people. They were Roy Keith Sr., Garry Smith, Mike Melloan, William Snowden and Dixie Mylum. They set the tone of good will for the sessions and indicated just why more lay leadership should be forthcoming in future meetings of the KBC.

First Baptist Church, Owensboro, has been a strong leader among Kentucky Baptist churches for many years. The church was especially good this past week as host for the KBC. Pastor David Nelson, the staff and the people did a wonderful job entertaining the messengers and no doubt the

annual meeting will return again to this river city which demonstrated great hospitality. Even the city fathers were generous issuing no parking tickets for overtime on street parking during our annual meeting.

In the Wednesday morning business session an item was acted upon which could have had divisive effects on the meeting. That matter was a motion to restore some of the funds denied the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs by the San Antonio meeting of the SBC. Those in agreement and those opposed contended with each other in a spirit of Christian concern and good will. Even such a potentially explosive motion as this caused no harm to the spirit of the meeting. It goes without saying that Baptists are at their very best when they disagree as loving brothers, not enemies. The conclusion of the matter was that the motion to restore funds was referred to an ad hoc committee for study with a report to the annual meeting next year.

The report on conventionwide education was rejected by a vote of 107-124. No doubt many messengers thought it inappropriate to include in the report schools which are not supported by the convention.

One area of the convention continues to be a concern for some Baptists. That is the practice of moving the meeting from a local church house to a civic center or convention hall. Of course crowds make this necessary but something of the spirit of worship and Christian fellowship is lost in that transition. This year was no different as the convention moved to the Owensboro Sportscenter for the Wednesday evening session. The hall was adequate but the sense of worship was not as strong as it had been at First Baptist Church.

Jerry Clower, famous for his wit and country charm, gave a stirring testimony accepted by even those who are not country fans. Clower has made a lasting impression for God across the world and Kentucky Baptists are fortunate to have had him address our annual meeting. His message was timely, on target and heard willingly by the multitude who were present for the session.

Kentucky Baptists seem to be marching together. This was reflected in the annual meeting as we moved forward in missions and evangelism emphasis. We have a vision of what can be done for the Lord when his people work together and that seems to be what we all want more than anything else.

Let all of us thank the Lord that the spirit of partisan politics so prevalent in our national meetings has not found much of a foothold in Kentucky. We need that about as much as we need the pox and our people demonstrated they will not have the life of the Kentucky Baptist Convention disrupted by political shenanigans.

The convention is over. Now is the time for all of us to address the most pressing need of our day, namely, lost multitudes who must hear the gospel and be given an opportunity to accept the Lord Jesus Christ as personal savior. May the grace and power of our Lord be upon all of us as we work together to build not only a better state convention, but a better world for all people.

western recorder

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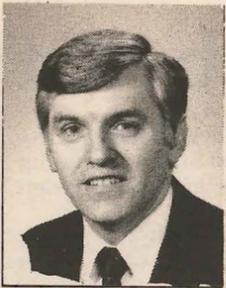
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Curtis C. Mooney
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homes for children

Grandparents

One of our joys returning to Kentucky is seeing our children getting to know their grandparents. When SuEllen's parents visited during the summer and again when my parents visited recently, our children were so excited about the visits. We are also close enough we have been able to drop down for a weekend or just a Sunday visit. The time together and the relationships which are forming are very important to our children now and in the future.

So many families today live as we did in Texas with many miles separating them from grandparents and the extended family. In these situations it is important to recognize that children need to develop relationships across generational lines, and parents and grandparents have to make a special effort to keep in touch.

We had a very special lady in Texas who stayed with our children when SuEllen accompanied me to meetings. To our children, she and some good nursery workers at church helped fill part of the gap the long distance created. In addition we sent video tapes home of birthday parties, Christmas and other special events.

My own memory of grandparents is of the time they spent with me and their willingness to play a game or just talk. I see that same willingness of my children's grandparents to spend time with our children. Unfortunately, as parents we are often too close to the child to be able to appreciate the beauty and the importance of quiet moments spent in sharing and in shaping a young life. Children need someone who thinks they are so special that he or she will drop everything to read a story, go for a walk or play a game of Old Maid.

For the children in the care of Baptist Homes for Children that same need exists. Fortunately, our staff and volunteers from the community have a wide range in age and working together they can take the time to do the special things for the children.

It is said that grandparents love grandchildren because they can spoil them all they want to and then send them home to parents to raise. Though that saying usually brings a smile, it is very true. Actually, all of us need a little spoiling at times. God in his infinite wisdom gave that task to grandparents and other people who are special to children.

Evangelism, Foundation have new leaders; executive board approves Brazilian linkup

Naming two department heads and giving the green light to a three-year partnership with southern Brazil dominated the Kentucky Baptist executive board pre-convention session Nov. 14.

Meeting in a chapel of First Baptist Church, Owensboro, the board filled two staff vacancies—directorships of the Evangelism Department and Kentucky Baptist Foundation—electing current staff members from other areas.

William Dellar Jagers, for the last four years associate in the KBC Direct Missions Department with responsibility for church starting and language missions, became director of the Evangelism Department Nov. 16.

Richard G. Carnes was named director of the Kentucky Baptist Foundation effective Dec. 1. He has been employed by the executive board six years, the last five as director of the Administrative Services Department.

The proposed partnership with Brazilian Baptists received brief comment. KBC executive secretary-treasurer William W. Marshall said Kentucky volunteers might begin travel to Brazil "by late 1989 or early 1990."

As reported earlier, Marshall said a six-member KBC staff team will journey to the state of Espirito Santo, Brazil Nov. 23 on a 10-day planning tour. The group will meet with Baptist officials in the city of Vitoria.

Those going to Brazil, with their spouses, include: Marshall; Mrs. Ray Gilliland, executive director, Woman's

Annuitants set 2nd 'day' Apr. 10 at Madisonville

Coming on the heels of a successful Kentucky Baptist Annuitants' Day last spring at Lexington, a second one will be held Apr. 10, 1989.

Food, fellowship, inspiration and entertainment will be the order of the day, according to Don Spencer, director of the KBC Annuity Department, Middletown. Spencer told those attending the annuitants luncheon last week in an Owensboro hotel the 1989 event will be staged at First Baptist Church, Madisonville.

At the luncheon, an event of many years during the annual sessions of the Kentucky Baptist Convention, Spencer read the names of 64 persons who had retired from active church and denominational service within the state in the last year. Later, Hughlan P. Richey, Madisonville annuitant, led a memorial service for 29 state annuitants who died during the year. Among their number was A. W. Walker, a previous KBC Annuity Department director.

Entertainment for the annuitants luncheon was provided by Mr. and Mrs. Fred Richardson. Richardson is copastor and youth director at Briensburg (Ky.) Baptist Church.

Greetings from the SBC Annuity Board, Dallas, Tex., were brought by Doyle Maricle, an executive vice president with the board.

Named to the 1989 annuitants luncheon planning committee: Ira McMillen Jr., Florence, chairman; J. Chester Badgett, Campbellsville; Randy Davenport, Campbellsville; L. Harold Lee, Jeffersonton.

Archie Oliver, of Elizabethtown, presided over last week's luncheon at Owensboro.

—James H. Cox



Jagers



Carnes

Missionary Union; Robert C. Jones, director, Direct Missions Department; Marshall Phillips, director, Camps and Assemblies Department; Calvin Wilkins, coordinator, partnership missions, Direct Missions Department; and C. Benton Williams, director, Missions and Church Services Division. The group is due to return to Middletown Dec. 3.

The vote to approve the tie linking Baptists of Kentucky with those of Brazil was taken without opposition.

In other action, the executive board ratified a vote it had previously taken by mail establishing 1989-90 budget goals. The proposal projects a four percent increase in the Cooperative Program operating plan, bringing it to \$17,717,289 that year. Of this sum, 38.75 percent, an increase of .625 percent over the current budget, will be channeled to SBC causes, a dollar amount of \$6,865,449. The 1989-90 fiscal year begins Sept. 1, 1989. The state convention is presently on a gradual course of increasing its contributions to SBC causes to 40 percent of total operating budget.

The board referred to its business and finance committee a study of stringent notification procedures by the Annuity Board required of employees facing surgery. It also referred to the same committee a motion to provide \$10,000 to Citizens Against the State Lottery to pay past debts. The executive board had earlier appropriated \$4000 to this cause.

The executive board voted to dissolve the Baptist Ministers' Aid Society established June 21, 1888 to help disabled ministers. Other organizations, it was explained, including the Annuity Board, now render similar services.

Finally, the executive board requested the convention's constitution and bylaws committee to study the wisdom of asking convention presidents to remain on the executive board longer. Past presidents now remain on the executive board one year following their presidencies. Presidents are automati-

cally chairmen of the executive board during the presidential year.

Jagers, the new evangelism director, was born at Bedford, Ind. 57 years ago. Baptized at age nine by Buffalo Baptist Church, Larue County, Ky., he surrendered to preach four years later in the same church. He was licensed and ordained by Severns Valley Baptist Church, Elizabethtown, in 1946. He holds degrees from Georgetown (Ky.) College and Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville.

Jagers' pastorates include Rowletts Baptist Church, Hart County, 1955-58; First Church, Jackson, 1958-62; Irene Cole Memorial Church, Prestonsburg, 1962-77; and Cynthiana (Ky.) Church, 1977-84.

He is married to the former Zorabeth (Dodie) Crowder of Mayfield and they are parents of five grown children.

Jagers is not new to denominational service, having been on the executive board, chairman of Western Recorder's board of directors and on the boards of Magoffin Baptist Institute and Clear Creek Baptist School, Pineville. He was president of the Kentucky Baptist Pastor's Conference, 1976-77, and president of the state convention, 1981-82.

Responding to his election as the convention's evangelism director, Jagers told the executive board he was "deeply honored." He said he hoped for a "turn-around" in evangelism in Kentucky, whose baptism rate has been steadily declining. "Our Lord came to seek and to save that which was lost, and that's our business, too," he added.

Carnes, 34, the new Foundation director, is a native of Albertville, Ala., and a graduate of Samford University, Birmingham, Ala., and Southern Seminary.

Married to the former Karen Goss of Boaz, Ala., he is the father of a one-year-old son.

Carnes was a successful stock broker for Merrill Lynch and E. F. Hutton investment firms, both in Birmingham, before resigning to attend seminary.

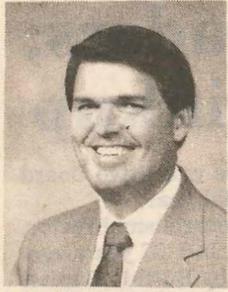
Speaking to the executive board upon his election last week Carnes said he was "pretty much overcome" but thanked the board for its confidence. "If I can be a little part of helping the Foundation accomplish its aims, then glory be to God," he exclaimed.

Members of the executive board completing their three-year terms were recognized by the board in Owensboro. The board's next meeting will be held in the Baptist Building at Middletown Dec. 12-13.

—James H. Cox



EMPHATICALLY COBBLE. Making one of three points in his presidential address, J. Howard Cobble, pastor of E'town's Severns Valley Church, drives it home.



Bill Whittaker
President
Clear Creek Baptist Bible College
Pineville, KY 40977

clear creek chronicle

Thank you Murray

Murray First has long been one of Kentucky Baptists strongest congregations. Two former pastors are now at Clear Creek. Distinguished professor of New Testament H. C. Chiles was at Murray 1948-71 and it was my honor to be their pastor 1976-82. Their loving support encouraged our family while overseas. Paster's secretary Debbie Settle directed the Clear Creek Christmas project in my absence and associate pastor G. T. Moody delivered the annual turkeys to the campus. You can imagine my delight to greet 14 Murray members who made the seven hour journey to my inauguration. We just didn't have enough time to visit. Woody and Katie Herndon brought a 50 pound bag of Calloway County's famous Blue Ribbon popcorn.

Missions is synonymous with Murray and their varied ministry with Murray has literally impacted the world. In the early 1900s pastor Boyce Taylor began the unified budget plan and his leadership influenced the development of Southern Baptists' Cooperative Program. J. G. Love, Foreign Mission Board secretary, introduced Boyce Taylor to the 1922 Brazilian Baptist Convention as "pastor of the greatest missionary church in the world." Over 60 members have gone as home and foreign missionaries, pastors and Christian educators. Mission teams have worked on the Montana Northern Cheyenne Indian Reservation for 15 summers while other teams went to Jamaica and Brazil. Outreach to Murray State students has been a priority as evidenced by the donation of land for the new BSU center. For nearly three decades Murray had a ministry training school headed by Boyce Taylor. Students studied for three years in a curriculum grounded on God's authoritative word and equipping students with practical ministry skills.

Greg Earwood now pastors this historic church and is adding to their mission heritage. Greg always receives former pastors with gracious hospitality and appreciative affirmation. Murray recently sent \$1000 to our Miracle in the Mountains campaign and will also contribute monthly. While working to retire their own debt they unselfishly gave to lower ours. Thank you Murray for again giving Kentucky Baptists an example of cooperative missions.

New president an evangelist at heart

James Jones treasures the spear that was pressed into his side during a mission trip to Kenya in August 1987. For a grueling half-hour or so, he thought the Massai warrior standing on the other side of it was going to kill him.

It was a hot August day last year, and Jones and a native Kenyan guide were walking through the bush country witnessing in remote African villages.

As was the custom, they stood 50 feet or so outside the village as his guide voiced greetings announcing their presence.

Suddenly, "a fellow jumped out from his hut yelling in Swahili," Jones recalls, "and three young warriors with spears surrounded us."

His guide, Daniel, told Jones to run. "But they caught up with us, one on either side and one in front," Jones relates.

The warriors, shirtless and bare-footed, dressed in loincloths and hair plaited with mud, pulled at Jones' arm and pointed spears at him.

"I knew I was the problem," Jones chuckled. The guide conceded they'd have to go into the village and Jones said he wasn't sure what was going to happen.

Then an elderly man, wrapped in a red blanket as a sign of authority, directed them in as Daniel explained they had simply come to tell about God and Jesus.

As Jones quietly told about the Jesus who would fill the empty places in their hearts, one warrior motioned that he had a longing for just such a savior.

The warriors brought their wives, and agreed to let Jones pray with them to receive Christ as their savior.

Jones said he wanted badly to take a picture of the group after that long afternoon, but knew they probably wouldn't agree.

Yet they did, on the condition that Jones send a copy of the photo back. Missionary Walter Allen with the Massai people on the Tanzania border presented those pictures some months later, and in return received one of the spears as a gift to Jones.

"I was scared, there was no question



about it," Jones declared. "But I think the Lord used what could have been a bad situation."

Allen reports that Jones' trip has opened up a whole new area of witness. The missionary and his wife pitched a tent outside the village and stayed a week, showing films and witnessing. At last count 13 had made professions of faith.

Jones, the newly elected president of the Kentucky Baptist Convention, believes in missions.

"I want everyone to know what I've found, that Jesus Christ can change a life," he explained. He's excited about partnership evangelism projects, such as the one Kentucky just finished in Kenya and the upcoming one with south Brazil.

"Whenever you get a pastor or his wife or laypersons going to a mission field they get a taste and are sold on missions," he declared.

But he deplored the trend developing

in the convention where baptisms are declining in the United States, including Kentucky, and are on the rise in foreign mission fields.

"A lot of other countries have caught what we had," he noted. "We need to pay particular attention to reaching our own country for Jesus. If we lose our home base, we're in trouble."

Jones said U. S. churches shouldn't be in a position where they choose between emphasizing evangelism at home or abroad. "It's both."

"But we really need to make sure the gospel gets out in the United States."

He would like to see more of an emphasis on lifestyle evangelism, "the way we live day by day." Personal witnessing should be stressed and evangelism brought to the forefront.

"We've just got to win this country to the Lord."

That's why he'll be heavily involved in planning for the simultaneous revivals scheduled for 1990, Here's Hope America.

"Doing it together generates excitement," he explained. "I definitely think the effort is worth it."

He added that once persons make professions of faith in Christ, they must be channeled into local churches for discipleship training.

Jones, pastor of Campbellsville Church near Campbellsville College for eight years, also said higher education is one of his concerns.

"I long to see the time when all Baptist students in our churches will want to go to a Baptist college," he mused.

Jones said churches can do a better job of promoting Baptist colleges among their young people. And the convention needs to "fund Baptist colleges at an adequate level."

His own 2200-member church emphasizes including college students in its "good, loving fellowship." Campbellsville through the years has been a strong missions minded church, now giving 25 percent to the Cooperative Program in addition to other missions giving.

At present, the church is in the midst of a \$1.6 million building and remodeling program, building a Christian Life Center and remodeling its educational space.

Originally from Birmingham, Ala., he graduated from Samford University and received BD, MDiv and DMin degrees from Southern Baptist Theological Seminary.

He pastored Valley View Church in Louisville and Eastern Hills Church in Montgomery, Ala., before coming to Campbellsville.

He was president of the Pastor's Conference this past year and is on the state's committee on nominations.

Also, he is on the Executive Committee of the Southern Baptist Convention, serving on the program and budget subcommittee and chairman of the institutions workgroup.

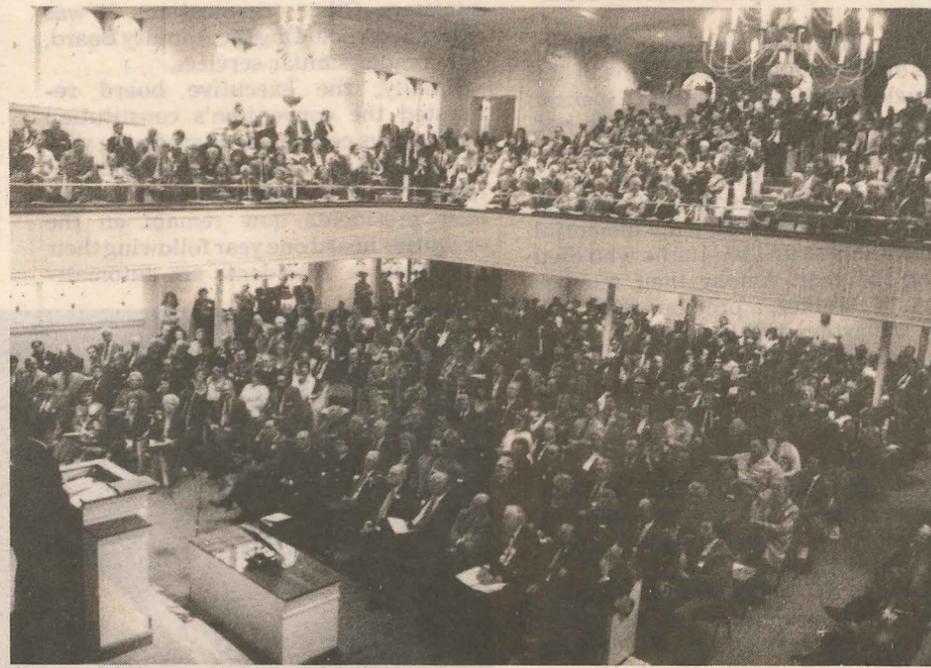
He proudly notes that his wife Martha was a cheerleader at Auburn and has three children, Angela, Darlene and Byron.

His own emphasis on evangelism stems from a childhood where he "grew up not thinking anybody cared" and was introduced to Christ by a friend.

"I want to spread love," he concluded, "the love of Christ, love for each other and love for the lost."

"If I can lead in that, that will be my moment in time."

—Suzanne Darland



BEHIND THE SCENES. Suzanne Darland for this coverage issue of *Western Recorder* was Chiffie Parland, Elizabethtown. Assistant: Ray Hayes, Middletown. Reporters: Virginia Flanagan, Campbellsville; Beth Wyatt, London; Todd Deaton, Mary Royals Driskill, Jack D. Sanford, James H. Cox, all of Middletown.



IT'S OFFICIAL. Some of the convention's leadership take it all in from front lines.

RE crowd is told how to relate

Kentucky Baptist Religious Education Association president Harold Price of Louisville told that group last week at Owensboro: "We have a responsibility to each other, our church and our Lord and sometimes this is a difficult thing. God called us to minister and we need to minister where we are."

WR covenant approved, committee discharged

After four years of prayer, study and meetings, a special committee authorized to "review relationship documents" of Kentucky Baptist Convention agencies and institutions presented its final report and was discharged from its assignment of determining ownership and dissolution provisions.

The report of the special convention committee on ascending and descending liability, given by chairman Willis W. Henson, Paducah, consisted of a covenant agreement between the KBC and Western Recorder Inc. The committee moved that since Western Recorder is owned by the convention through its board of directors, the convention is liable for its operations.

The covenant agreement approved by KBC messengers allows for "the independence of Western Recorder and the freedom of the editor" and states that the KBC is responsible for any assets or debts incurred by its state newspaper. The terms of the agreement are to be in effect for three years and cannot be subject to change without two thirds consent of both the convention and Western Recorder's board of directors.

Covenants with Campbellsville, Clear Creek, Cumberland and Georgetown colleges, Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children, Baptist Hospitals Inc. and Oneida Baptist Institute were notarized as approved by the 1986 KBC. Because the KBC exercises no authority over friendly and fraternal organizations the convention is not liable for these organizations, the convention decided.

Calling the adoption of all of the covenants a "historical moment in Kentucky Baptist life," executive secretary-treasurer William W. Marshall expressed appreciation for the special committee's work in creating "not only contracts, but heartfelt covenants between these agencies and institutions and the Kentucky Baptist Convention." Marshall presented a painting by Paul Sawyer to each committee member.

—Todd Deaton

Paul Duke, pastor, and Robert G. Fulbright, minister of Christian education, both of Kirkwood Baptist Church, St. Louis, Mo., were principal speakers before KBREAers.

Listing tenets for developing ideal staff relationships, Fulbright stressed, "The place to begin is in the interview. Clearly articulate job expectancy, acceptance of yourself and a feeling of security where you are. Maintain a respect for each person as a person of wealth and value. Have the ability to work under someone else's supervision, objectively managing conflict resolution."

Duke added, "Everything we do and how we do it is evidence of what we stand for in the church. We must grow toward maturity and acceptance."

Newly elected officers of the KBREA: Jim Preston, minister of education and administration, First Baptist Church, Somerset, president; Mike Harmon, minister of education, First Church, Princeton, president-elect; Mrs. Jo Garnett, minister of education, Lexington Avenue Church, Danville, secretary-treasurer.

—Beth Wyatt

Williams president-elect of music organization

Kentucky Baptist Music Association, meeting Nov. 14 at Third Baptist Church, Owensboro, named a Lexington musician its president-elect.

William B. Williams, minister of music at Immanuel Baptist Church, Lexington, will take the KBMA reins from Richard Ham.

Ham, former president-elect and minister of music at First Church, Richmond, succeeded Kenneth Goforth, of Scottsville, as president during the KBMA meeting in Owensboro.

Others elected: Mrs. Becky Johnson, Ralph Avenue Church, Louisville, council member-at-large; Marvin Reynolds, Beacon Hill Church, Somerset, chorale committee representative; Larry Earhart, First Church, Somerset, secretary-treasurer.

Ham urged the musicians to assist in establishing an all-state youth choir, suggesting Kentucky is "behind our sister states" in this regard.

Principal speaker who also led the KBMA in a music worship experience was Wesley Forbis, Nashville, director of the Baptist Sunday School Board's Church Music Department.

—James H. Cox

BSSB leader, ministers encourage, empower 900

More than 900 pastors were encouraged and empowered to minister at the 1988 Kentucky Baptist Pastor's Conference by an Orlando, Fla. pastor, a Baptist Sunday School Board Administration Department official and three Kentucky ministers.

Keynote speaker Jim Henry, pastor of First Baptist Church, Orlando, delivered two messages on "The Man That Makes a Difference" and "The Church That Makes a Difference" at the Owensboro conference.

"Every one of us has the opportunity by the precepts we set to be a man that makes a difference," Henry declared. "Most of our folks won't remember five sermons we've preached, but they are sure going to remember how we lived among them."

"If we're going to fight against sin and immorality, we will be at odds with the world," Henry warned pastors. "God has called us to be salt and light and there's a time to make a difference and it comes when we are in the pulpit," he remarked.

"The church that makes a difference is one that stands on principles, shows a willingness to change, develops a principle of discipling, recognizes the power of godly disciples, possesses a generous heart and stresses the primacy of worship," Henry noted.

In a message titled "Living with the Walk-on-Water Syndrome" Brooks Faulkner, senior manager of the church staff support section, Church Administration Department, BSSB, asserted, "God doesn't require you to walk-on-water. He just requires that you do what he asks."

The 22-year veteran BSSB staffer advised, "If you plan to attempt walking on water at your church, you'd better pick a shallow creek, know where all the stones are, have a strategy for getting to the other side and possess faithfulness."

Counseling pastors on improving staff and congregational relations, Faulkner pointed out that "a bulldog can whip a skunk but it just isn't worth it."

"We may have the emotional and spiritual prowess of a bulldog when we go into a ministry in a Baptist church, but you and I also know there are those people who like to stink things up."

Faulkner suggested several ways to maintain composure in adverse situations: work through anger before it becomes a sin, remind people to be subject to authority, don't slander, always re-

flect redemption by mercy, shun controversy, stay away from contentious people and pay attention to priorities.

The pastors elected as their president last year's vice president William Meser, pastor of First Baptist Church, Ashland. Jimmy Gentry, pastor of Lewis Lane Baptist Church, Owensboro, and Barry G. Allen, director of the Kentucky Baptist Convention Business Division, were named vice president and treasurer. All three were elected by acclamation.

Jeff Eaton, pastor of First Baptist Church, Russell Springs, reminded pastors "God's call to ministry is a call to obedience."

Developing his thoughts around the anachronism O-B-E-Y, Eaton advocated being obedient to God's leadership, recognizing one is branded for turning the world upside down, acknowledging the call of eternal commitment and saying "yes" to God's will.

Retired pastor Dennis Rush of London brought a message from his experience, urging pastors to "practice what you preach."

"If you never preach another sermon, if you never walk into your pulpit and hold up Jesus Christ again, for heaven's sake, live it," Rush exhorted. "Live it because Jesus Christ gave his all for us."

"We've got to preach the gospel and missions with concern because we believe in it and practice it!" he exclaimed.

Focusing on God's promise to Abram in Genesis 13, Jerry Lowery, pastor of Main Street Baptist Church, Williamsburg, challenged pastors to recapture the dream that God will use them to accomplish miracles on their church fields.

"As far as you can see claim it, as far as you can see capture it for the glory of God," he urged. "With God's help you can do it."

Proclaiming that God deals in a tremendous program reaching out to the ends of the earth, Lowery warned, "Little programs produce little churches—not in size, buildings or budgets, but in their visions of faith and what God is doing in the world."

"Little programs produce little members with little faith, commitment and excitement," Lowery explained. "Our little programs will not challenge big men and big women. Real satisfaction comes when we get into God's program as he wants it done," he asserted.

—Todd Deaton



GLORY TO GOD. Singing with the Severns Valley Choir before pastor/convention president J. Howard Cobble speaks is Cobble's wife Norma (foreground), E'town.

Jones, of Campbellsville, elected

James E. Jones, pastor of Campbellsville (Ky.) Baptist Church, was elected president of the Kentucky Baptist Convention in a spirited four man race last week at Owensboro.

Serving with him as the convention's first and second vice presidents, respectively, will be Harold F. Skaggs, pastor of Cadiz (Ky.) Baptist Church, and Robert F. Browning, pastor of Somerset's First Baptist Church.

Reelected secretary and assistant secretary without opposition are Doris Yeiser, Middletown, part time KBC archivist, and G. Allen West, Louisville, retired minister and denominational servant.

In addition to Jones, the election for president included contenders Glenn Durham, Harlan businessman; Terry L. Norris, Owensboro dentist; and T. A.

Prickett, pastor of Owensboro's Seven Hills Baptist Church.

No candidate received a plurality on the first ballot. Durham and Norris were eliminated. In a runoff, with 807 votes counted, Jones garnered 432 to Prickett's 375.

In a three-way race for first vice president, Skaggs was opposed by Kuttawa evangelist Don Short and Florence physician Herbert Booth. Booth was eliminated on the first ballot. Skaggs was elected in the run-off, 188 to Short's 185 votes.

Browning handily defeated bivocational minister Jerry Norsworthy for second vice president, 462 to 157. Norsworthy is pastor of Blood River Baptist Church, Murray.

—James H. Cox

Minister's wives are compared to instruments

Owensboro ministers' wives delighted their counterparts with "A Lament of the Minister's Wife" to the tune of Sixteen Tons during the annual wives' dinner at Owensboro's Third church Nov. 15.

Daughters of a Beaver Dam minister, Glenna Metcalf and Gwen Shelton, also provided special music.

Nancy Futral of Middletown gave a devotion from Romans and I Corinthians on recognizing and using gifts. "What kind of instrument are you?" she inquired. "How we use our time is the determining factor in the music we make."

Officers for 1989 include wives from the Frankfort area: Schan Hurt, president; Penny Hartung, vice president; Virginia Bauscher, program chairman; Julie Whitworth, secretary-treasurer; Ann Carter, publicity chairman.

—Beth Wyatt



HONOREES. Mrs. Eldred M. Taylor gives well-wisher Wendell Belew of Atlanta, Ga. a hug as Taylor approves. Formerly of Baptist Homes for Children, Taylor is among retiring executives feted at a reception. Others: Ben Brewer, Baptist Hospitals Inc.; Randy Davenport, Campbellsville College.

Nasby C. Mills named year's missions director

Kentucky Baptist Director of Missions Fellowship named Nasby C. Mills, of Upper Cumberland Association, its DOM of the Year.

Ralph T. McConnell, of Christian County Association, made the presentation on behalf of the group.

Meeting Nov. 14 at Owensboro's Lewis Lane Baptist Church, the DOMF tapped Billie C. Wright, of Laurel River Association, as president-elect.

Other officers: Richard Robbins, Blackford and Breckinridge associations, secretary-treasurer; Harold L. Greenfield, Caldwell-Lyon Association, editor. Leslie M. Huff, Green Valley Association, assumes the office of president after being president-elect.

New directors of missions, retired directors and past presidents of the fellowship were recognized.

New criteria for selecting DOM of the Year was approved by the group. Janus E. Jones, Mt. Zion and South Union associations, presided in Owensboro.

George Clark, editor of *Church Administration* magazine, published by the Baptist Sunday School Board, Nashville, addressed the body. Preceding the business meeting the group was hosted for dinner by Georgetown (Ky.) College.

—Virginia Flanagan



A TELLING STORY. Vote-counters carefully tabulate results of contested races for convention offices. In two cases, run-offs were required to determine winners.

Women strengthen schools, churches ties

Colby's Restaurant did not have a room large enough to accommodate the fifth annual gathering of Women in Ministry Nov. 15 at Owensboro.

Carolyn Hale, of Georgetown, was spokesperson for the gathering that attracted women in ministry from across the state and their male supporters.

During the business session Lela Hendricks and Loretta Reynolds were recognized for their service to the steering committee, their terms having ended. New members: Barbara Haun, deaf ministry, Newport; Susie Cobban, director of housing and women's ministries, Wayside Christian Mission, Louisville; Nancy Byers, director of preschool

ministries, Immanuel Baptist Church, Lexington.

The group announced plans for a March retreat in central Kentucky.

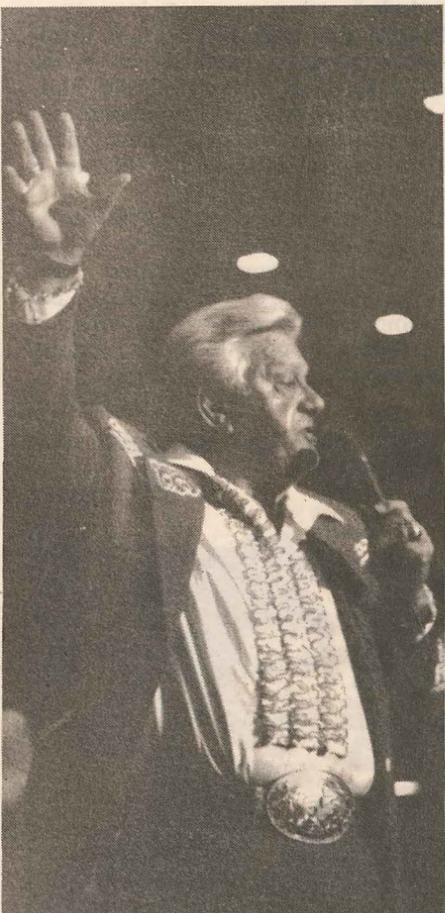
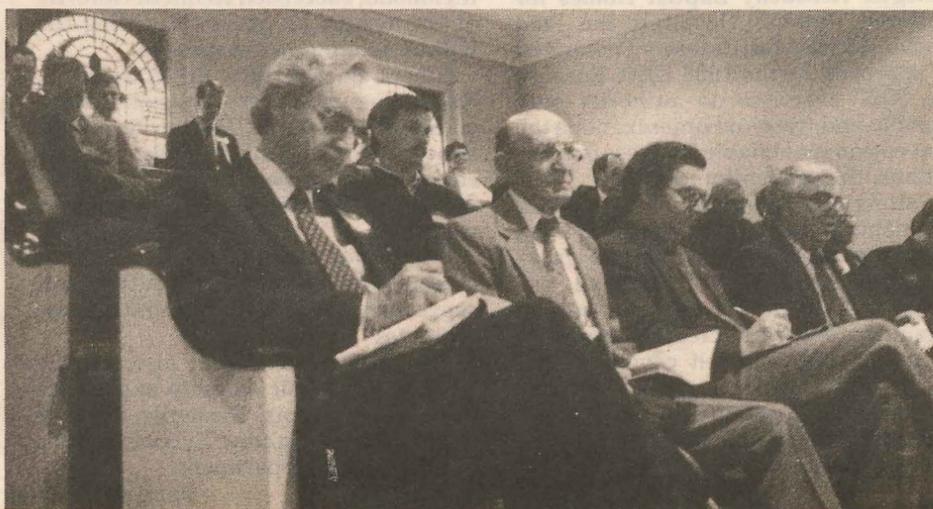
Kim Alley, Southern Baptist Theological Seminary student, and Kathy Ramsey, University of Louisville student, presented special music.

The program's emphasis on strengthening ties between college, seminary, church and people was presented by a panel including: Pat Brunner, Baptist campus minister, Berea (Ky.) College; Paula Burba, Georgetown (Ky.) College student; Kim Alley; and Malcolm Lunceford, pastor, Immanuel Baptist Church, Frankfort.

—Beth Wyatt



YOUNG AND OLD ALIKE. While their parents deliberate, the tykes above are well treated in nursery facilities provided by the host church. In the photo below, Harold Greenfield (foreground), messenger and director of missions in Caldwell-Lyon Association, takes notes on the major addresses and convention actions.



WAVING GOOD-BYE. Layman/entertainer Jerry Clower earns a warm response at Owensboro's Sportscenter.

Evangelism, servanthood, missions topics selected by KBC speakers at Owensboro

Three themes surfaced in as many addresses before messengers to the Kentucky Baptist Convention last week in Owensboro. They included evangelism, servanthood and missions—three of the bedrocks of Southern Baptist thought and practice.

In the convention sermon, J. Robert White, pastor of Paducah's First Baptist Church, emphasized that the denomination has been drawn off course from its main priority.

"The Lord called us to reach the lost and equip the church," said White. "Our calling is spiritual but we have become political."

Referring to the current controversy raging between moderates and conservatives, he declared, "We argue about the Bible but the Bible is not our problem. Our problem is us!" Continuing, he inquired: "Whatever position you hold with regard to Southern Baptists, can we agree together that we have been called to go with the gospel to a lost world?"

Citing a baptism rate of 17,595 five years ago and 14,829 last year, White said, "It appears either we are not doing evangelism or we are not doing it right."

He admonished his listeners that "there is no substitute for going. You can discuss methods and how you feel about soul winning but the fact is Jesus called us to do it and we had better get to it."

White went on: "I know of some so-



White



Taylor



Belew



Miss Hunt

called 'moderate' churches that are reporting glorious numbers of baptisms and others that are not. I know some so-called 'fundamental' churches that are reporting glorious numbers of baptisms and others that are not. Do you know what I believe God would have us do? I believe he would have us rejoice over each salvation regardless of whose church. If the angels in heaven rejoice at the salvation of a sinner, can we do less?"

In summary, White added, "Let us go

back (to our places of service) with a new enthusiasm to see the salvation of souls. Let us get back on course, . . . making the main thing the main thing!"

Later that same day, James H. Taylor, president of Cumberland College, Williamsburg, delivered the annual Christian education address to KBC messengers. He called the five schools operated by Kentucky Baptists "servants" and their administrators "servant leaders."

Acknowledging that religion has become "big business," Taylor asked, "Where is the awe, the mystic, the majesty and reverence for the Lord? What has happened to the concept of servanthood?"

"Servanthood makes us more aware, more sensitive, more patient, more gentle and forgiving," said Taylor. "In contrast to servanthood, raw power is ugly and breeds arrogance and corruption."

Taylor went on to recount the achievements of Cumberland College, celebrating its 100th anniversary Jan. 7, 1989. He suggested those who built and sustained the college through its earliest years "faced and overcame almost insurmountable odds."

But he concluded: "Today Cumberland College, I truly believe, maintains its servanthood. The founding fathers envisioned young people from humble homes coming forth from its portals with their faces radiant with the light of learning. For 100 years the college has been true to its vision."

Then, he admonished: "Let us work for a higher calling than a mere title, and a nobler calling than a mere profession as we turn our eyes upon Jesus and let the things of the world grow strangely dim in the light of his wonderful love."

In a Tuesday evening address, M. Wendell Belew, associate vice president for missions strategy interpretation, Home Mission Board, Atlanta, Ga., told messengers: "The church's reason for being is to glorify God."

"The mission of the church is to make Jesus known. It is the presentation of the gospel of Jesus Christ to all the people of the world with the purpose of leading them to personal faith in Christ and obedience to his will," he continued.

Turning to the thrust of his remarks, he suggested, "If the children in the marketplace extend their message they must start new churches. You in Kentucky are leading the SBC in this. Starting new churches has long been one of your virtues. Your mountain mission program became the pioneer mission program for all Southern Baptists and saw the establishment of churches in all the states and territories."

In conclusion, Belew surmised: "It may be that our churches can again become indigenous to the sick and hurting inner cities of our land, that we can preach good news to the poor and sometimes heal the brokenhearted, that evangelism may once again regain the image given by the evangelists."

The convention concluded with a stirring address in recognition of the 1987-88 centennial observance of Woman's Missionary Union. The speaker was Alma Hunt, Roanoke, Va., retired executive secretary of the SBC WMU, Birmingham, Ala.

—James H. Cox

James H. Cox
Associate Editor

fourth estate

An attitude of gratitude

Come before his presence with thanksgiving (Ps. 95:2).

On one of those late night radio talk shows I heard an interesting dilemma. The lady caller said she had recently taken a job as secretary to an executive, having earlier worked for several other firms. She told the radio host that on that particular day she had gone into her bosses' office with some paper work. As he received it, he thanked her profusely for the contributions she was making to him and to the company.

"I had never been thanked by anyone for doing anything any place I had worked before," she said. "I was so stunned, I dropped the papers on his desk and walked out of his office without saying anything." She asked the host how to 'handle' compliments.

Imagine! Gratitude in such short supply she didn't know how to respond when it came her way!

I thought about that incident for awhile. Then I thought of a loving heavenly Father whose graciousness to me is manifest at every turn. I wondered if my appreciation is evident to him.

Along with so much else, God has given me what I consider three basics for a happy life. I'm presuming one has already had exposure to the gospel and opportunity to accept Jesus Christ as savior and share him with others. Given that, what more could we ask besides these three?

1. *Health.* If you don't have good health—physical, emotional, mental—much of life's pleasure is diminished, for you—and for those who love you.

2. *Friends.* What possible joy could there be in life without caring people to share the journey with?

3. *An altruistic nature.* Possessing an unquenchable thirst to improve the quality of life for someone else significantly adds to the purpose and value of our existence.

If I "had it all," these would be among my imperatives for a happy life.

I was curious as to what the radio talk show host would say to his caller. He allowed that it is unfortunate many Americans take so much for granted, including appreciation. He suggested that the employe return to her office the following day and say to her boss, "I must apologize for my actions yesterday. I was so overcome by your words of praise I simply was unable to respond. Thank you for saying what you did."

While you and I have plenty for which to thank the Father, let us ask for one thing more—abundantly grateful hearts. Mine is overflowing with love and praise because I have been given much. I pray that I will be a good steward of it all.

Bivocational ministers affirmed

Kentucky's bivocational ministers were affirmed for their unique contributions Nov. 16 at Owensboro's Third Baptist Church during the first annual bivocational ministers' banquet.

One pastor and one minister were recognized as exceptional bivocational ministers: Jerry Norsworthy, pastor of Blood River Baptist Church, Murray, Blood River Association, and Gus Kalos, minister of music, First Baptist Church, Prestonsburg, Enterprise Association.

Criteria for recognition included tenure at present position for at least five years, significant church development, uniqueness in ministry, community image and other areas.

Twenty-five percent of Kentucky pastors are bivocational. When the Kentucky Baptist Convention began there was only one full time pastor. "We still have a vast resource who are bivocational," said C. Vernon Cole, director, resource development, KBC.

Each recipient was presented a plaque

by executive secretary-treasurer William W. Marshall.

Home Mission Board consultant for bivocational ministers Dale Holloway delivered the address. "Bivocational ministry is as old as the carpenter's bench in Nazareth," said Holloway. "Real ministry takes place in the marketplace."

Norsworthy has been pastor at Blood River 11 years. His church adjusted the VBS program to Wednesday evening enabling them to get more parents and children involved. He has also worked with his associational BSU, missions committee and is director of Kentucky Baptist Builders in his association. He is a carpenter by trade.

Kalos directed the Music Department at Prestonsburg Community College 23 years prior to his retirement in 1987 and is a general contractor by trade. He was general contractor for the building of Prestonsburg First Church's 14,000-square-foot educational addition.

—Mary Royals Driskill



AT THE ARENA. Many local Baptists brought their families to the Sportscenter.

Clower power: Baptist layman Jerry still wower

Declaring if he lived in Kentucky he'd "be a part of y'all," Baptist layman and country comedian Jerry Clower had Kentucky Baptists rolling in the aisles with his homespun humor last week at Owensboro.

Speaking at the city's Sportscenter before an audience which included several thousand area Baptists in addition to the messengers to the 151st annual meeting of their state convention, Clower allowed:

"If I moved to Kentucky, I'd first make sure I was saved, then the first Sunday I was here I'd put my membership in a Southern Baptist church.

"I'd make 'em a good hand," Clower went on, tickling the audience by adding, "I'd even consider joining the WMU!"

Clower suggested that lots of speakers before a Baptist convention "tell you they've paid their dues," emphasizing

that he had "done been to dinner on the ground!"

Clower, flashily attired in his bright red stage suit, gave a 47-minute presentation intertwining funny stories while underscoring moral values. "Jesus is enough" was his theme. "Christianity works, and it ain't complicated," he declared.

"There's just one place there ain't no laughter," said the Grand Ole Opry comedian. "That's Hell for sure, and I've done made arrangements to miss it."

Clower said that, after he had joined a Southern Baptist church and become an active member, he'd be a "storehouse tither."

"I wouldn't rob myself of the blessing of giving," he averred. "God blesses me when I give. A lot of folks ain't gettin' cause they ain't givin'."

Clower also said he wouldn't be a "nit picker."

"Anytime you got somebody who's nit picking in the church, give 'em a prospect card and let 'em spend their time witnessing. When that prospect walks down the aisle, 99 and 44/100ths percent of their nit picking will be over."

The man voted country music's comedian of the year 10 times asked: "Are you making the mistake of worrying about 'do dinky' things? We may not have much time," he warned.

"Them Eskimos tended to them whales long before we knew they was up there," referring to the nation's concern over three trapped whales. Clower said when he talked by phone a few days later to a seven-year-old lad dying with leukemia, "I haven't thought about them whales since."

Clower gives several days annually to what he calls "tithing days," when he performs for church groups without honorariums, as he did in Owensboro.

He said he had given more "tithing days" in Kentucky than any other state.

"I love you Kentucky folks, and I like the way you conduct your business," he closed with a wave to a standing, applauding crowd as he left the platform.

Clower's appearance before the Kentucky Baptist Convention was preceded by musical presentations by a massed choir, orchestra and congregational singing.

—James H. Cox

God ain't never made mistakes, Clower proclaims

"Do the best you can with what you've got and do it now" is the motto that country entertainer Jerry Clower uses in making his long range plans.

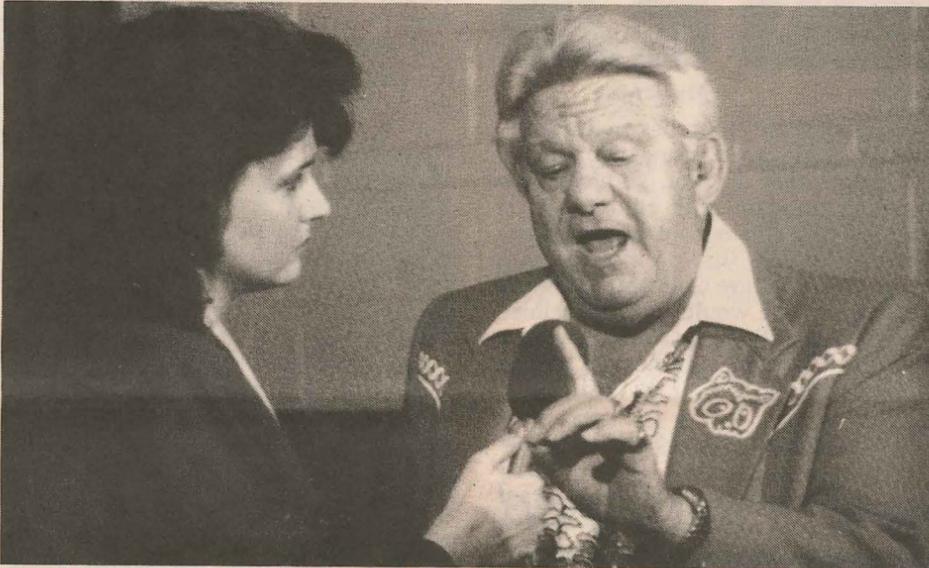
In an interview with the popular Christian entertainer prior to his appearance at the Kentucky Baptist Convention, Clower declared, "God ain't never made no mistakes and he's not going to make one with me."

When asked if he felt his entertainment career was a calling from God Clower said "he was like the apostle Paul in that he was content in whatever state he was in." Clower said he gave thanks for all things and it was sometimes hard but that was how he tried to be and if that was a calling then yes, he felt he did have a calling.

In looking to the future Clower is confident whatever happens will be God's will, just the fact he has enjoyed the success he has he attributes to being in the center of God's will.

Clower loves being part of meetings such as the Kentucky Baptist Convention. He tithes one such engagement a month. He says he can't out give God.

—Virginia Flanagan



FUNNY MAN. Comedian Jerry Clower grants interviews prior to appearing before Kentucky Baptists. He's here with KBC communications staffer Denise Hawkins.

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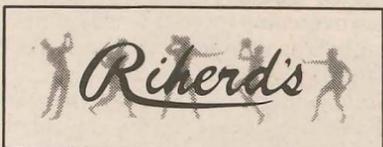
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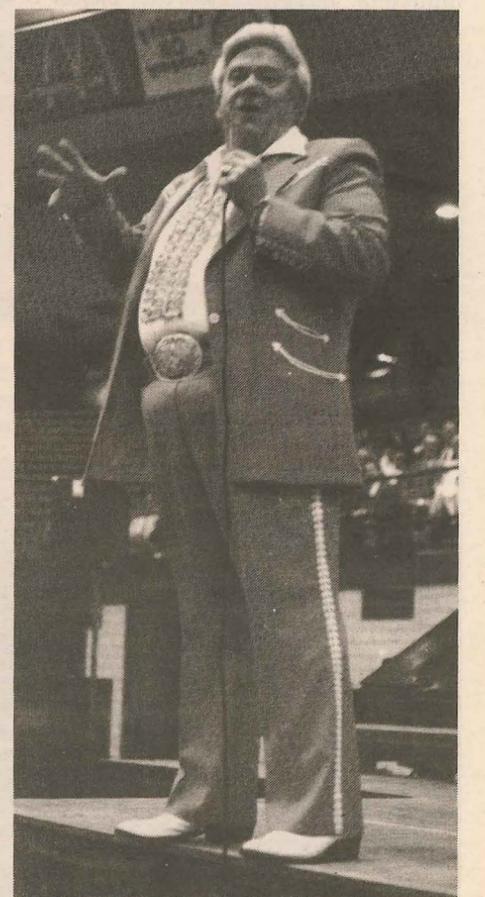
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TURNING 'EM ON. The crowd is with him as Clower tells his funny stories.



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Elaine Greer



Kinna Jude



Glenn Mollette



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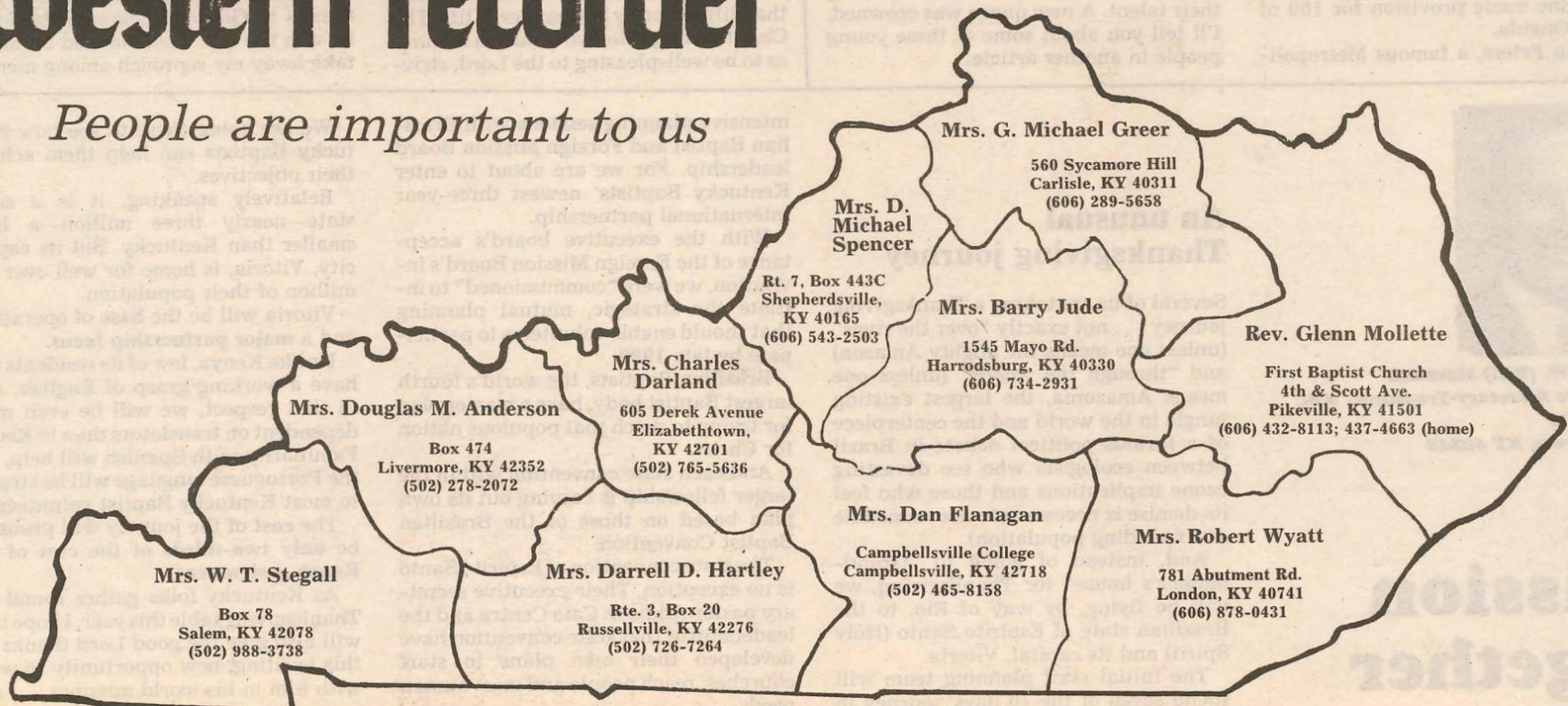
We're all in this together

Ten Kentucky Baptists, journalists by trade either vocationally or avocationally, are committed to bringing us informative stories about timely subjects. These 10 Western Recorder state correspondents, strategically situated across the commonwealth, keep Kentucky Baptists abreast of what's going on among their people and their churches.

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western recorder

People are important to us





Barkley Moore
President
Oneida Baptist Institute
Oneida, KY 40972

oneida journal

Winners all!

Mrs. Judy Rose, who graduated from Oneida in 1956, recently was chairman of a benefit concert performance at the University of Kentucky for its College of Fine Arts. A total of \$33,500 was raised that evening for the college.

Judy and I were schoolmates here at Oneida in our teenage years. She was a beautiful girl. She was always full of enthusiasm, had a great smile, was very outgoing, had a beautiful singing voice, was a hard worker and had excellent character. All those things can be said of her still. She is a successful business-woman. She and her husband have been a tremendous team in coal, banking and patrons of charity. Judy has a most successful marriage, a wonderful husband and two fine children. The oldest son, an outstanding young man died in a car accident several years ago, so she has known tragedy and heartache as well.

Through it all, Judy has not forgotten her "roots." She gets back to Oneida for Homecomings and other special occasions. She has encouraged and aided several nephews and nieces to attend Oneida. She has contributed.

At the recent concert, Judy was not only the organizing chairman but contributed some thousands of dollars. She invited the Oneida choir and band to be guests at the nearly three hour performance. She made provision for 100 of us from Oneida.

Roberta Peters, a famous Metropoli-

tian Opera star who has performed for every U. S. president since Kennedy at the White House, was the star attraction. Other artists also performed in a variety of music, drama and visual arts.

It was a wonderful opportunity for our young people. One never knows quite how young people are going to react to anything, but even the youngest of our group was enthusiastic. We got back home with our three busloads at 1:45 a.m.

Several days later 15 of our foreign students with four accompanying staff members left for the annual international BSU retreat held this year at Jenny Wiley State Park. This was our 14th year to take part with the internationals who attend the varying colleges and universities of the state. We have the only Kentucky high school BSU, one of the few in the entire nation.

Friday evening a Middle School basketball invitational tournament began on our campus extending to Saturday evening with a round-robin of games between Hazard, RedBird, Lee County and ourselves. We won all three games and the tournament.

In the meantime, our varsity academic team left on Saturday at 4:00 a.m. for Harrison County High School and competed all day long with 14 mostly larger schools statewide. OBI senior, Andy Balzer, came home with the top speaking award in the mock Congress.

That same day our cross-country team was competing in the state tournament at the Lexington Horse Park. All of our boys team had qualified for the state meet as had four of our girls. Senior Jeff Kelsey came in fourth of the hundred competing. He was offered a college scholarship on the spot. This young man has always made us proud but never prouder than the following Sunday evening when he gave his testimony at the evening worship service. Many others of our young people also gave their testimonies, sang or prayed. They never cease to amaze us though we work with them daily and know their abilities and potential. We also know the many hardships and difficulties overcome. That gives added inspiration and joy.

On Saturday night, we had our 32nd annual Yearbook Queen pageant. Ten of our girls had been nominated by their schoolmates. Each had been extensively interviewed by a panel of three outside judges. Then each performed showing their talent. A new queen was crowned. I'll tell you about some of these young people in another article.



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

sunday school lessons

LESSONS FOR DEC. 4, 1988

Life and work series

Continuing to grow

Acts 20:31-32 Disappointed upon hearing of Paul's forthcoming departure, the Ephesian elders were wondering if they would be able to carry on as faithful undershepherds over the Lord's people.

Paul emphasized that for three years he had been tireless in his efforts to fortify them against such errors and they should be faithful in sounding the warning trumpet at the approach of the adversary.

Eph. 4:19-25 Prior to an experience of salvation, one is in a state of alienation from God, spiritual ignorance and hopelessness. Each believer in Christ has experienced a visible, admirable, thorough and permanent change. Only a complete break with the habits prior to salvation will satisfy the demands of Christ and bring spiritual enrichment to the Christian.

When a person has put off the carnal manner of life and put on the spiritual, one is to "be continually renewed in the spirit of the mind." The person is rightfully expected to practice and exemplify the Christian virtues. When one becomes a child of God, one must lay aside lying once for all. The break is to be as definite as a severing of a limb.

Eph. 5:6-10 Unlike the unsaved person, the Christian should demonstrate that difference by his manner of life. The Christian ought to live in such a manner as to be well-pleasing to the Lord, striv-

ing to do his perfect will day after day. Let those of us who have passed from darkness into light, walk as children of light.

International series

God's promise to Zacharias

Luke 1:5-13 Zacharias, a descendant of Aaron who automatically became a priest, married Elizabeth, "of the daughters of Aaron," whose father was also a priest. Both Zacharias and Elizabeth were righteous and sought diligently to obey the commandments of God.

One day while Zacharias was faithfully performing his duties in the temple he sensed the presence of an angel of the Lord. When he saw the angel Gabriel fear came over him. Gabriel commanded Zacharias to "calm your fears." That command was followed by a message: "Thy prayer is heard; and thy wife Elizabeth shall bear thee a son, and thou shalt call his name John." Gabriel informed Zacharias that the birth of his son would bring to him and his wife great joy, and that many others would rejoice in his arrival.

Gabriel assured Zacharias that his son would "be great in the sight of the Lord," that he would never drink fermented beverages, that he would be filled with the Holy Spirit and empowered by him for effective service. Through him and his ministry many would be turned to the Lord and come to know him as their personal Saviour.

Luke 1:18-20 Zacharias was hesitant about believing the prediction of Gabriel. God had commissioned Gabriel to convey that message to Zacharias, but he refused to believe it. His doubt caused Zacharias to be stricken speechless. Nine months of enforced silence was the penalty for his unbelief. God enabled Zacharias to inform his wife of the visit of the angel Gabriel. Together they accepted the promise from God and awaited its fulfillment.

Luke 1:24-25 Elizabeth's heart overflowed with gratitude when she received the promise of God that she was to become a mother in her old age. In due time Elizabeth gave birth to John the Baptist and her relatives and neighbors rejoiced with her. She immediately gave thanks to God and acknowledged that he was the one who, "looked on me, to take away my reproach among men."



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on mission together

An unusual Thanksgiving journey

Several of us are taking a Thanksgiving journey . . . not exactly "over the river" (unless one means the mighty Amazon) and "through the woods" (unless one means Amazonia, the largest existing jungle in the world and the centerpiece of a furious political debate in Brazil between ecologists who see devastating ozone implications and those who feel its demise is necessary to accommodate an expanding population).

And, instead of going to "Grandmother's house" for Thanksgiving, we will be flying, by way of Rio, to the Brazilian state of Espirito Santo (Holy Spirit) and its capital, Vitoria.

The initial staff planning team will spend seven of the 10 days' journey in

intensive planning sessions with Brazilian Baptist and Foreign Mission Board leadership. For we are about to enter Kentucky Baptists' newest three-year international partnership.

With the executive board's acceptance of the Foreign Mission Board's invitation, we were "commissioned" to initiate the strategic, mutual planning that should enable volunteers to participate by late 1989.

Brazilian Baptists, the world's fourth largest Baptist body, have a master plan for trying to reach that populous nation for Christ.

And each state convention within the larger fellowship is carving out its own plan based on those of the Brazilian Baptist Convention.

The state convention of Espirito Santo is no exception. Their executive secretary pastor Addison Caio Centra and the leadership of that state convention have developed their own plans to start churches, reach people and meet human needs.

We are going there to see how Kentucky Baptists can help them achieve their objectives.

Relatively speaking, it is a small state—nearly three million—a little smaller than Kentucky. But its capitol city, Vitoria, is home for well over one million of their population.

Vitoria will be the **base of operations** and a **major partnership focus**.

Unlike Kenya, few of its residents will have a working grasp of English. And in that respect, we will be even more dependent on translators than in Kenya. Familiarity with Spanish will help, but the Portuguese language will be strange to most Kentucky Baptist volunteers.

The **cost** of the journey will probably be **only two-thirds** of the cost of the **Kenya assignment**.

As Kentucky folks gather round the Thanksgiving table this year, I hope they will also give the good Lord thanks for this exciting, new opportunity to work with him in his world missions . . . and remember us on our journey.

Where were you the week of November 13-17?



Kentucky Baptist Instrumental Ensemble rehearses during the state convention at Owensboro's First Church. Left to right are Ken Vison, Bill Tiemann, Ron Sholar and Bruce Richardson.



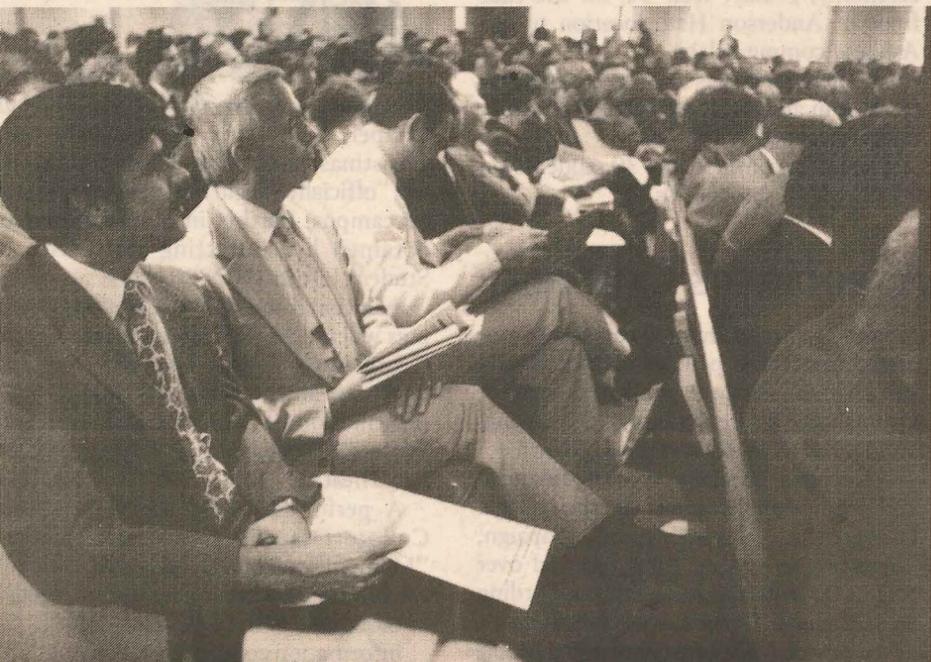
Several hundred converge at Owensboro's Sportscenter for business, singing and to hear Christian entertainer Jerry Clower. Clower said Hell's a place where there's no laughter.



Ministers, left to right, Gary Belcher, Bruce Richardson and Steve O'Neal, have the opportunity to look over several styles of choir robes at the E. R. Moore commercial exhibit.



Louisville's Baptist Book Store sales floor supervisor Margaret Chaney writes up an order for Western Kentucky University, Bowling Green's Baptist campus minister Clay Mulford.



Messengers examine the covenant agreement between Kentucky Baptist Convention and Western Recorder during the special committee report presented by chairman Willis Henson.



Retired president of Campbellsville College Randy Davenport and retiring president of Baptist Hospitals Inc. Ben Brewer and their wives receive well wishers during the reception held in their honor.

GEORGETOWN

T • O • L • L • E • G • E D • A • Y

College Grad Program Thrives

The graduate program in education continues to thrive after 30 years of existence at Georgetown College. This news comes in a recent report prepared by Dr. James Pack, professor of education and dean of graduate studies at the liberal arts college.

During the 1988 summer school sessions, Georgetown's graduate program witnessed an impressive record enrollment. According to Pack, over 553 students were enrolled. This was a gain of more than 55 students from the previous summer.

The fall semester at Georgetown College is no exception. Enrollment figures indicate the college has 443 students. This is an increase of almost 30 students, remarked Pack.

When asked why the continued growth, Pack pointed out two main reasons.

"First," said Pack, "Georgetown offers a number of extension sites. We try to

make it convenient for the students, many of whom are teachers."

Presently, the college hosts six extension sites in central and northern Kentucky. Those sites are Lexington, Frankfort, Paris, Dry Ridge, Florence and Shelbyville.

Pack continued, "The second reason for our success is our summer mini-terms. This is something peculiar to Georgetown College."

The summer graduate mini-term format features five two-week sessions. Students attend class three hours a day.

"This mini-term format appeals to teachers," commented Pack. "Our format doesn't restrict their busy schedule. They can spend some time during the summer with their families and even go on vacation. When they're ready, these teachers can come back and take a two-week class."

Pack also attributes Georgetown's popularity to the comfortable, campus atmosphere and the personalized treatment students receive.

"We largely serve classroom teachers. The college's atmosphere is less tedious for them," said Pack.

Serving as the dean of graduate studies for three years at Georgetown College, Pack is also excited that the college has offered the Rank I Program since 1981. Approximately 60 people enroll each year in the training curriculum.

Students Attend BSU Convention in Lexington

Approximately 70 students from Georgetown College attended the Kentucky Baptist Student Union Convention at the Gardenside Baptist Church in Lexington, Oct. 7-9.

Dave Bennet, evangelist and former pastor of First Southern Baptist Church, Dwango, CO, was the keynote speaker. Mack and Cilia Blake, who were recently selected as Outstanding Christian Artists by the ACTS Network, led the music.

According to Dr. Jack Birdwhistle, campus minister, the annual BSU convention is a spiritual inspiration for those who attend.

Georgetown College Associates Convene

The Georgetown College Associates, a group of alumni, parents of alumni and students, former trustees, and friends of the college, met Sept. 30 for the organization's biannual meeting.

Dr. W. Morgan Patterson, president, welcomed the group of more than 60 people and thanked them for their support. In his report Patterson highlighted recent campus events. He praised the efforts of alumni Don and Chris Kerr Cawthorne of Georgetown who have established an Excellence in Teaching Award at the college. The cash awards are a first at Georgetown.



Maria Stotz (l.) and Melodie Marquess (r.) encourage Andrew Walt and others to register to vote.

Ashland Oil Foundation December To Feature Christmas Events

The Ashland Oil Foundation has provided initial funding for a computer lab at Georgetown College.

According to J. Richard Carlton, vice-president for development at Georgetown College, Ashland's gift amounted to \$50,000.

Officials from Ashland Oil and the college were recognized at a dedication ceremony, Friday, Oct. 14, on the first floor of Anderson Hall, location of the Ashland computer lab.

The new facility is used as a computer classroom and is also utilized by students during evening hours.

The lab accommodates 30 students on 15 IBM PS/2 Model 30s.



The joy of Christmas is quickly approaching as the student body and faculty of Georgetown College prepare for seasonal festivities.

The annual "Hanging of the Green" will take place in the John Hill Chapel, Sun., Nov. 27 at 8:00 p.m. Christmas music and a worship service will "officially" begin the Christmas season on campus. Further information may be obtained by contacting the Office of Student Life at (502) 863-8147.

Additional music and Christmas readings will follow with a performance by the Georgetown College Chorale, Dec. 2 at 8:00 p.m. in the John Hill Chapel and a presentation of "A Child's Christmas in Wales," December 5 at 7:30 p.m. in the Lab Theatre.

A performance by the Georgetown College Oratorio Chorus of Handel's "Messiah" will highlight the college's celebration of Christmas, Thurs., Dec. 8 at 8:00 p.m. in the John Hill Chapel.

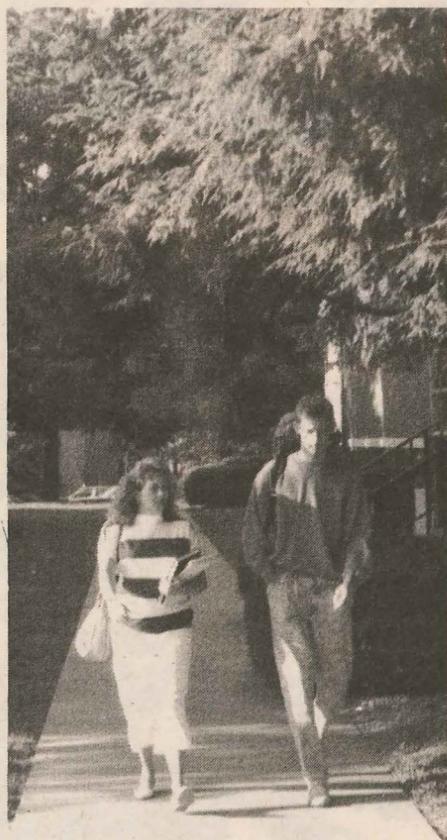
Information concerning Christmas productions at Georgetown may be obtained by contacting the Office of Public Relations at (502) 863-8174.

Georgetown College Today



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Students enjoy a leisurely walk through campus as fall arrives.