

Kentucky-Espirito Santo Partnership

Eyewitness says Brazilians 'receptive' to gospel

by James H. Cox, Associate Editor

Accelerating reaching people for Christ is a key reason why Kentucky Baptists will be involved in a partnership with the Brazilian state of Espirito Santo, according to an eyewitness to spiritual and human needs there.

Robert C. Jones, director of the KBC Direct Missions Department, Middletown, added that Kentucky Baptists will start new churches, train people and teach them how to use their Sunday school in evangelism. "There are evangelistic opportunities everywhere," Jones concluded on his return from a 10-day survey of Espirito Santo (which means "Holy Spirit") with a KBC staff committee.

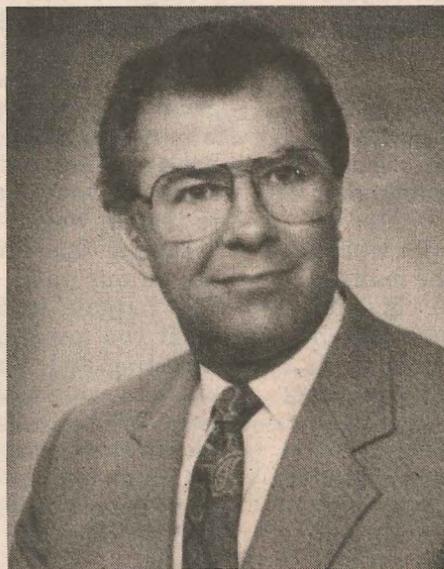
Other Kentuckians in the party included Mrs. Ray Gilliland, executive director, Woman's Missionary Union; William W. Marshall, KBC executive secretary-treasurer; Marshall Phillips, director, Camps and Assemblies Department; Calvin Wilkins, coordinator, partnership missions, Direct Missions Department; C. Benton Williams, director, Missions and Church Services Division; and their six spouses.

Observing that Southern Baptists have been active in the state along the South American country's Atlantic coastline about 85 years, Jones said the exploratory group encountered a "strong mission spirit" on its visit Nov. 23-Dec. 3.

The Brazilians "appreciate what we have" in the United States, Jones said. The people are "most anxious" for Kentucky Baptists to help them. "We go there at their invitation," he allowed.

Interviewed last week by Western Recorder on his return to Kentucky, Jones indicated Espirito Santo is one of Baptists' "strongest works" in Brazil. Situated about 300 miles north of Rio de Janeiro, the tropical mountainous state includes 61 counties or districts. Of its 2.4 million citizens, 1.1 million reside in the principal city of Vitoria. There are three other cities of any size, two with populations of 150,000 each and one with about 190,000 residents.

The economy in Espirito Santo is largely drawn from agriculture, indus-



Jones

try and commerce. Kentuckians learned that iron ore shipping, chocolate, coffee and rubber contribute heavily to the local economy, plus extraction and exporting of marble. Jones said tropical fruits, especially banana, mango, papaya and pineapple are "in plentiful supply."

Unfortunately, inflation is currently running in excess of 1000% in the country. "While you could have a wheelbarrow full of local currency," said Jones, "your buying power might be very little."

He noted, however, that lodging and restaurant prices are "very very reasonable." He cited as an example that six people in their party ate complete meals at a McDonald's restaurant in Rio de Janeiro for "about \$7." On another occasion, about 16 persons ate a catered dinner at a Vitoria hotel for "around \$30." Jones said he believed this financial savings would enhance the partnership among Kentucky Baptists who will raise their own funding for volunteer work in Brazil.

Asked about transportation, Jones acknowledged that the travelers from Middletown saw "only small cars," including Volkswagens and small Chevrolets and Fords, but not their larger American-made counterparts. These cars are produced in Brazil. There is an "excellent" bus system, according to Jones, and two major Brazilian airlines,

Vasp and Varig, both serve Vitoria.

Of Espirito Santo's 2.4 million people, about 50,000 are Baptists, said Jones. Catholics predominate among religious groups, but "spiritists" who practice sacrificing animals are also present in large numbers.

Interestingly, he observed, smoking and drinking are "absolutely forbidden" by Christians everywhere.

Native Brazilians predominate in Espirito Santo, but there is a significant segment of German and Belgian extraction, too.

The language barrier will "probably be our greatest hurdle to overcome," said Jones, since Brazilians speak Portuguese. At the same time, he noted that many of the young people are now learning English.

"This is in our favor," Jones continued, "for 80% of the church members are under 30 years of age." He said there is an "excitement" about Christianity among younger people. Calling them "receptive" to the gospel, he observed that most all of the people the Kentuckians encountered are "friendly, happy, very warm and easy to get to know." Jones later called the Brazilians "hospitable" and "very gracious," adding, "They seem to think all Americans are very wealthy."

He also said they were some of the "most beautiful" people he had ever seen. The women are "strikingly beautiful" and the men are "very handsome," he allowed.

Baptists are "highly thought of" and "well respected" among the Brazilians, Jones suggested.

Jones was one of only two KBC staff members on the recent exploratory trip to Brazil who also went to Kenya in 1984 to survey needs in that east African nation in view of a linkup with Kentucky Baptists. Following the Brazilian excursion he observed that Baptists there are "a lot more organized" than in Kenya. For instance, Baptists in Espirito Santo have planned their calendars and emphases "for the next five years."

He described their church music as "exceptional," stating that some congregations provide large trained choirs,

organ and piano and full orchestra accompaniment. "Obviously," said Jones, "some churches in Brazil would surpass Kentucky Baptist churches in their professional qualities."

While Brazil has been a Southern Baptist mission field for many years, only two Southern Baptist missionary couples are now on the field in Espirito Santo. Another is now home on furlough, and a fourth is about to be appointed there.

There are 225 Baptist churches in Espirito Santo with up to 40,000 Sunday school members. There are 180 Baptist pastors, about half of whom are bivocational. Evening worship services are "better attended" than the morning services.

Brazilian Baptists cooperate in their own unified budget giving plan similar to Southern Baptists' Cooperative Program. Brazilians provide 15 home missionaries in Espirito Santo. The state's Baptists also maintain a seminary with a current enrolment of 200, a camp, good will center and orphanage.

Following discussions with Baptist leaders in the state, Jones said the KBC staff panel agreed to offer eight project-type opportunities to people in Espirito Santo involving Kentucky Baptist volunteers:

1. Leadership training.
2. Evangelism.
3. Christian social ministries.
4. Construction.
5. Teaching English.
6. Seminary teaching.
7. Conference and clinic leadership.
8. Music.

Jones said the group is hopeful Kentucky volunteers may be "on the field" by fall 1989. He pointed out that a wide cross section of Kentucky Baptists will be required to fill needs in the Brazilian state.

Because Calvin Wilkins, the KBC's new partnership missions director, has made four trips to Brazil, Jones believes Wilkins will be especially helpful in matching volunteers to specific needs. "He understands the people and the needs," said Jones, "and is uniquely qualified to lead in this area."

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November 87	958,573	3,608,760
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% Chg.	63.6	7.3
Budget	1,419,655	4,258,964
\$(under)/over	148,712	-387,539
%(under)/over	10.5	-9.1

Year	\$Over/-Under Budget to Date	%Increase Over Prev Year
88-89	-387,539	7.3
87-88	-486,398	2.8
86-87	-390,039	7.1
85-86	-624,023	-1.0
84-85	-303,622	7.6
83-84	-300,290	4.3
82-83	-24,613	13.6



Brazilian and American coordinators of the Kentucky-Espirito Santo Partnership: Ilton Pereira (l), pastor of Vitoria's Igreja Batista Em Boa Vista church, and Calvin Wilkins, KBC partnership missions coordinator, Middletown.

sanford's perspectives

The best bargain in Kentucky



Jack D. Sanford

The American instinct for a bargain is in evidence at Christmas more than at any other time of year. For that reason we propose the best bargain in Kentucky for our Baptist churches, even when it is not Christmas.

The bargain is simply this: put your church newsletter on the back page of Western Recorder for only \$10 per week. If you can find a better bargain than that we would like to know your source.

A church with 350 members, for example, would ordinarily have about 130 families on the mailing list. If you used the back page of the paper to communicate with all the families in your church each week it would cost you only \$1280 per year. That breaks down to a \$780 charge for the paper at \$6.00 per family and \$500 for the back page each week for the 50 weeks we publish each year.

Take your pencil in hand. Add up your cost of paper, equipment purchase, maintenance, and repair, time spent by staff members assembling material, aggravation and cost of folding, cost of postage, cost of postage returns and the sheer drudgery of putting out a paper from the church office each week. You will discover you spend a lot more than \$1280 per year and you still have not put your congregation in touch with Kentucky Baptist nor Southern Baptist life.

We believe every church in the state could profit from use of the back page of the paper. For some churches it would take some getting used to for a short time. We become accustomed to what is normal and routine and any disruption causes us to grumble. However a fair trial, say of one year, and we are confident you will be so pleased with the back page as your personal vehicle of communication with your church you will not want to return to the old ways.

During this Christmas season, when bargains are on our mind, why not take advantage of the best bargain in Kentucky? Take a long look at what you are spending, how much time you are investing and what kind of communication you are delivering with your present method of church news. We believe we have a better way and would like to show you.

Call us and we will not only tell you about the back page but we will help you design, lay out and produce the best page for your individual church.

It is a bargain we think you should investigate and by using what we have to offer save many dollars of the Lord's money each year. That, friends, is reason enough to take advantage of this offer. Call us today and we will respond immediately.

Christmas memories

Some things never change in our celebration of the Lord's birth. We sing the same treasured hymns, hear the familiar Bible story of Jesus' birth as Luke records it and watch the neighborhood light up for the season.

One of the things which never changes with our family is a little symbol we want to share with all of you. We hope our telling about it will stir your own recollections and help you see that the simple things are sometimes the best things, even at Christmas.

Shortly after our marriage in 1945 we bought a simple little creche. The stable was thin cardboard, the figurines were made of chalk and the whole thing cost no more than \$5.00. Yet that creche has become the center of our decoration for Christmas every year since we first brought it home.

Margaret carefully unwraps the pieces and wipes off the dust. She puts the whole thing in a prominent place before the tree. Gifts are stacked around it, ornaments and colored lights cast strange shadows over it yet it is there as a constant reminder of more gentle times in our life and it comforts us to see this symbol of stability at the center of all the fuss at Christmas time.

In our sojourn across this country we have lived in 26 different places, yet the little creche has remained with us and is the first thing we unpack

each year at Christmas.

We see this little gathering of figurines as something calling us to the future even though the figures are bedraggled and worn. The sheep have broken ears. The donkey is chipped and faded. The Holy family really looks like they have just completed a long, weary journey. Even the figure of the Christ child has a tired, faded look.

Yet this is our treasure. We bought it when we were young and eager to tackle the world. It looked beautiful to us then and we spent money we did not have so we could have a strong Christian symbol in our home.

As the years have rolled by we have lost some of our wonder. We are not so eager to tackle much these days and there are times we wish things could be as they once were. Our creche however reminds us each year that God did something wonderful at Bethlehem that has meaning for all of us, even when we are down.

We look at those figurines and feel better. Maybe it is pure sentiment, a denial of reality, but it helps us and we are glad we have had the sense to hang onto a little of our past. We need the memory of other days this little creche brings us and we thank God we spent money we did not have to create what has become through the years one of our great treasures of Christmas.

western recorder

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Students offer traveling sports team next summer

by Todd Deaton, Staff Writer

Next summer will mark the inauguration of Kentucky's fifth student missions team, SonBound, according to Kentucky Baptist Convention student work officials.

"The team's purpose is to sponsor sports day camps for children in the fourth through eighth grades at various churches and associations across the state," Ralph Hopkins, associate director of the Kentucky Baptist Convention Student Department and student missions coordinator, explains.

"Participants will be skilled in basketball and soccer in order to lead clinics. They will also conduct Bible studies, lead motivational classes and share their testimonies with youth."

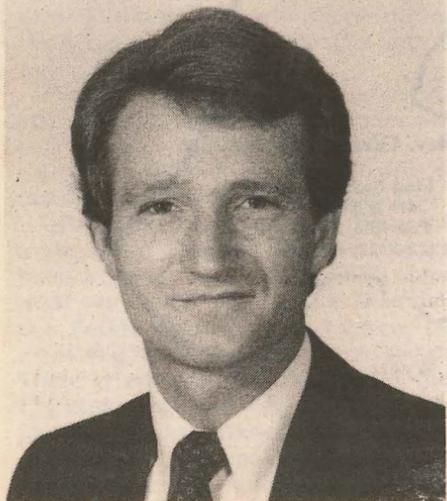
Members on the newest Baptist Student Union missions team are expected to provide athletic ministries in state parks, do street ministry projects and lead in church recreational programs while conducting sports clinics in Baptist churches. Other BSU missions teams include SonShare (drama), SonCelebration (music), SonBurst (creative worship) and SonPraise (revival).

The idea for the BSU sports ministry team originated with Robby Speer, co-director of the Kentucky Baptist Sports Crusaders, an adult sports ministry team formed in 1987. Speer was camp pastor during a state youth week at Cedarmore Baptist Assembly in August 1988.

After discussion with Don Blaylock, state director of student work, the proposal was presented to the student missions advisory committee in September. The proposal for the team was approved and presented at the business session of the state student convention in Lexington where it received approval.

"This program will attract people to missions who never thought they had the necessary skills before," Hopkins claims. "It will also allow students to minister in a way they had never imagined, using an activity which interests them."

"The team will enable churches that have an interest in sports to reach youth in the community," interjects Gene Parr, campus minister at Morehead (Ky.) State University and director of the BSU sports team. He anticipates the team "will reach youth with the presentation of who Jesus Christ is on a level they can understand and through a medium they are intensely interested in."



Gene Parr

Parr says, "The young men and women on the team must feel confident and comfortable sharing how they came to have a personal relationship with God with groups and one-on-one with individuals."

Other goals for the program include providing a quality sports ministry, primarily teaching the basics of basketball and soccer. In addition benefits of physical fitness through stretching exercises, aerobic activity and specific sports skills are to be emphasized.

"We want to stress the importance of being fit for life as well as athletics," explains Parr, who is also chaplain of the Morehead State University football team and advisor of the school's Fellowship of Christian Athletes. "Christians have the responsibility of being well balanced and a part of that balance is physical and spiritual fitness.

"Many of the kids we will instruct



may never be able to compete on a high school or college level, but we want sports to be something that will be a gratifying and rewarding part of their lives," he concludes.

SonBound will be a coed sports ministry team comprised of three males and two females.

Seventeen students have been selected from 38 who expressed interest when the team directors visited approximately 14 college campuses across the state. Following another interview process and athletic skills evaluations Feb. 4-6, team members will be announced by the KBC Student Department.

Dates for scheduling the sports missions team to lead week-long clinics, recreational programming or day camps for churches and associations should be scheduled through the Student Department. Interested persons should contact Ralph Hopkins, Student Department, Middletown, as soon as possible.

'Living Water' aids Brazil drought victims

by Eric Miller

The mayor cried each time he attended the funeral of a child from his town who had starved to death. But he could do little.

A deadly drought had settled in northeastern Brazil.

Djaci Farias Brasileiro is a doctor as well as mayor of Boqueirao dos Cochos, a community of farmers. Before the drought, local people farmed during the four months of rain each year. When the drought came, few crops grew and families had little food or money.

A federal tanker truck brought water each week and drew long lines of thirsty people. The few who had money bought staples from a mobile store that also came once a week.

This was the situation when Southern Baptist missionaries found the people suffering through a five-year drought in the early 1980s. The missionaries and Brazilian Baptists came to their rescue with a \$3 million hunger-relief effort known as the Living Water Project.

The project is one of the largest hunger-relief efforts ever undertaken by Southern Baptists. It encompasses 14 counties in Brazil, three Baptist outreach centers, dentists, nurses, a doctor, three factories, urban water systems, irrigation systems, a model farm, school gardens, agricultural technicians and radio broadcasts. Numerous Brazilian Baptist home missionaries and Southern Baptist missionaries have played major roles.

Overall funding of the five-year project is scheduled to end in January. But parts of the work, such as irrigation, may get continued funding from Southern Baptists. Revenue from the project's factories will support the outreach centers. Funds and assistance also have come from Brazilian Baptist churches, their National Mission Board and the Brazilian government.

Breaking the hunger cycle has been the main purpose of this effort, says Southern Baptist missionary Ed Trott, who is to retire after completing his work as project director. It also is improving the economy of an area populated by 150,000 people and changing many of their lives.

Brick and furniture factories and a model farm have put people to work.

Agricultural technicians have improved farming methods and led Bible studies. Nurses and a doctor are reducing infant mortality. People are taking courses in sewing, cooking, typing and crafts. The gospel is penetrating remote areas and churches are starting, missionaries report.

"Things are different now," says Trott, who is from Vinita, Okla. Before the project came, some families in the area settled disputes with guns. A murder per day occurred in the project headquarters of Itaporanga, a town of 10,000 people. The last murder was six months ago.

"I think the gospel has its influence on the way people act," Trott says. "A chief of police told me, 'I just can't believe what's happened here.'"

The irrigation systems pump water from an artificial lake, built by the Brazilian government, to dozens of farms near Mayor Brasileiro's town, keeping fields green with crops year-round in the drought-prone part of Brazil. Project workers have improved farming methods and boosted yields. They plan to start a guava-processing factory in Boqueirao dos Cochos.

"People say that the gifts that came from the Baptists would fall from the heavens to the city," the mayor says. "The gifts were so good that they never expected anything like this from any people here on earth—that people were not able to do such things, only God."

Only one town in the 14-county region had a permanent water system before the project began. Now all do. More than 60 farms are irrigated. Farmers pool their money to form irrigation associations and maintain equipment.

Others living outside of towns are thankful for the project, too. Joventino Angelo Cavalcante, 48, and his wife Ana live in the mountains by a dirt road in a house made of sticks and mud. They have 12 children.

"We had a very difficult time from 1983 to 1986," says Cavalcante, a farmer who never attended school. Before the project, his family lived off beans, rice and corn.

Cavalcante's neighbor, Terezinha Silva, says welfare funds once were her family's only income. "We almost starved. We would sell a little rice and corn and just barely get by."

Project agricultural technicians showed their rural community how to irrigate and grow 14 vegetables. Thousands of students are eating better and learning nutrition. Project workers enlisted schools to plant gardens to put extra vegetables on school lunch plates.

Before the project started, only one Baptist church and two small mission congregations existed in the area. Now churches and missions exist in nine cities and smaller preaching points are in nine rural areas.

A key church planter in the project is Brazilian Baptist home missionary Cireno Refosco. Visiting congregations and preaching, he drives 3000 miles some months, mostly on dirt roads.

Only one town in the 14-county region had a permanent water system before the project began. Now all do.

Refosco hands out tracts and preaches the gospel to everyone he meets. He has led 300 people to faith in Christ and baptized 165 during the three years since he joined the project. A seminary graduate, he trains lay preachers. He even does construction, painting and wiring of new churches, sometimes working from dawn until midnight.

His wife, pediatrician Regina Refosco, treats between 30 and 40 patients one day per week at the Baptist Outreach Center in Itaporanga.

The Baptist centers provide not only healing for the sick but training for Christian workers. Maria Miguel, 20, is taking seminary extension courses taught by missionary Margaret Oliver of Bay City, Tex.

Other services of the Baptist centers include food distribution, home repairs, dental work for the poor, classes, Bible studies and social work.



Pauline Stegall



Betty Anderson



Bonnie Hartley



Suzanne Darland



Denise Spencer



Elaine Greer



Kima Jude



Glenn Mollette



Beth Wyatt



Virginia Flanagan

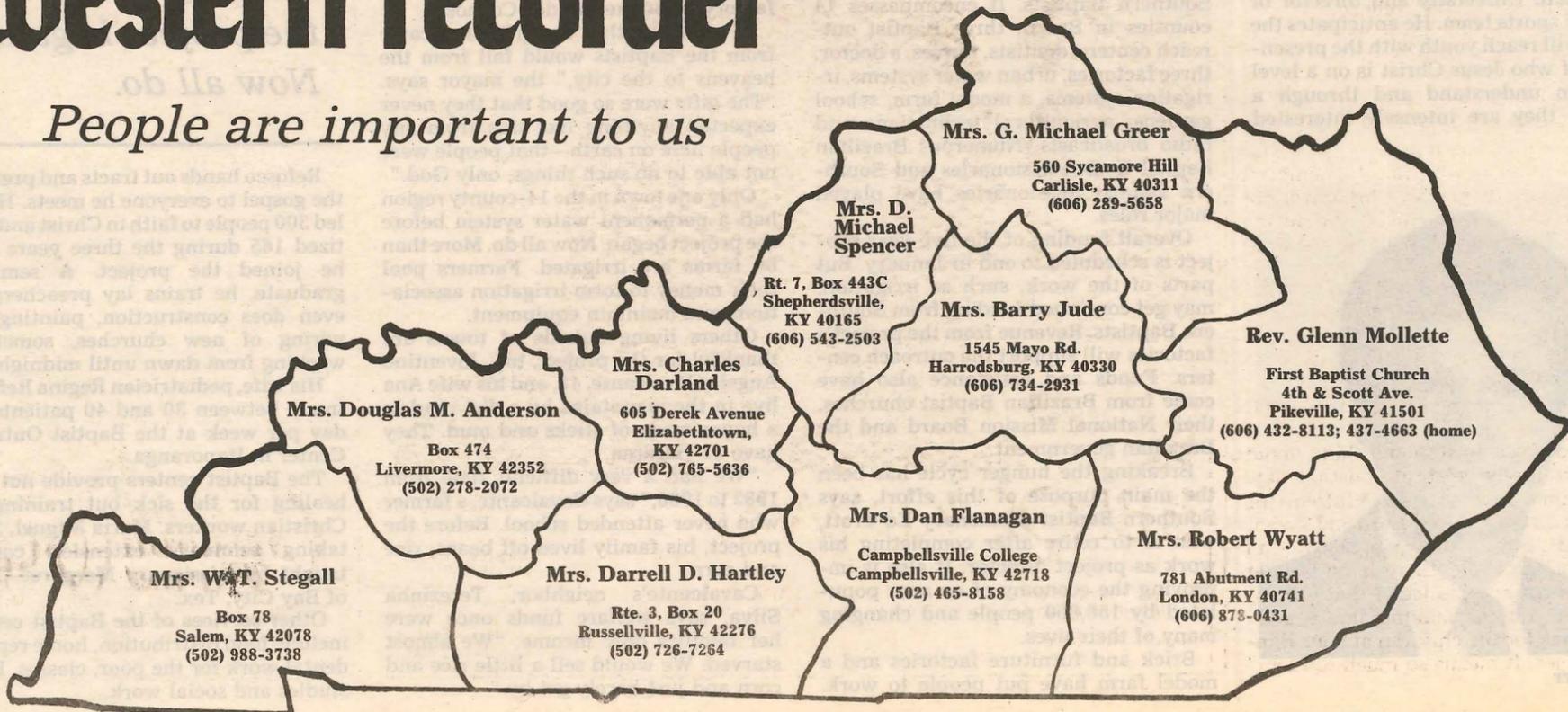
We're all in this together

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.

They're available to help you, your church and your association. You may call or write your regional correspondent with information you'd like to share with readers of your state paper. Ask your church to place your local correspondent on its mailing list for your church mail out. By helping each other, we all do a better job of keeping each other informed.

western recorder

People are important to us



baptist news in brief

Hastey elected as Alliance executive director

The Southern Baptist Alliance elected Stan Hastey as its first executive director during the SBA board meeting Nov. 28-29 in Charlotte, N. C.

Hastey, 44, is chief of the Washington bureau of Baptist Press and associate executive director of the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs. He will assume the SBA post Jan. 1.

The SBA is a coalition of about 40,000 moderate Southern Baptists who have banded together to support ministries and principles they believe are being ignored by current Southern Baptist leaders.

Hastey's entire professional career has been with the Baptist Joint Committee, a Washington-based religious liberty organization, comprised of nine Baptist denominations. He joined the staff in January 1974, immediately following graduation from Southern Seminary. He became Baptist Press bureau chief and director of information services in 1978 and was named associate executive director in 1985.

He has won awards for his news reporting from both Religious News Service and the Baptist Public Relations Association. He has taught at George

Mason University in Fairfax, Va., Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary's Washington Center; and the University of Richmond's School of Christian Studies.

Prior to his election, Hastey spoke to the SBA board. "What most attracts me to the Alliance is the watchword of 'freedom,'" he said. "Everything we Baptists believe hinges on the central biblical ideal of a free conscience—what Roger Williams called 'soul liberty.'"

Prior to his election, Hastey had not

Southwestern professor Franklin Segler dies

Franklin Segler, professor of pastoral ministry-emeritus at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Ft. Worth, Tex., and author of several books on pastoral ministry died Nov. 30 in Ft. Worth. He was 81.

Segler taught at Southwestern from 1951 to 1972. He is best known for his book "Broadman Minister's Manual," which is used widely as a guide for weddings and funerals. He wrote eight books on topics ranging from worship to aging.

Segler combined experiences as a pastor with scholarly study during his teaching career at Southwestern. He was pastor of churches in Oklahoma, Louisiana and Texas from the 1920s to 1950s, including First Baptist Church, Garland, Tex.

Segler joined the faculty at Southwestern after graduates expressed a desire for more pastoral training. He became the seminary's first professor in the department of pastoral ministry.

"His writing ministry will continue the broad expanse of his contribution," said C. W. Brister, professor of pastoral ministry at Southwestern. "His greatest contribution was his insider's perspective of what the pastor needed to know in order to lead and guide—not run and rule—a Baptist congregation." (BP)

been a member of the SBA. He told the board: "I have thought about joining it, but the principal reason I have not is that I have functioned as a journalist in the SBC and felt I would be well-advised not to be a dues-paying, card-carrying member of the Southern Baptist Alliance."

SBA critics have charged the organization is an embryonic denomination, designed to lead churches out of the Southern Baptist Convention. Hastey denied that claim, noting, "I see it as a haven" for disenfranchised Southern Baptists who are seeking ministries and relationships they can affirm."

Hastey's election does not signal the beginning of a new denomination, SBA leaders said.

He is a graduate of Oklahoma Baptist University in Shawnee and of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, Ky., where he earned a doctorate in American church history and church/state relations. (BP)

Vines seeks nominees for SBC appointments

Southern Baptist Convention president Jerry Vines has issued an open letter seeking recommendations of people to be appointed to key committees to serve at the 1989 SBC annual meeting in Las Vegas, Nev.

In his letter to "all Southern Baptists, persons in elected positions and state convention executives," Vines said he is "beginning the process which will result in nominees for the 1989 committee on committees, resolutions committee, credentials committee and tellers committee."

The committee on committees names the committee on nominations and other committees not otherwise provided for; the resolutions committee deals with all resolutions introduced during the annual meeting; the credentials committee oversees registration; the tellers committee tabulates all votes taken at the convention.

Vines asked that the recommendations be sent to him by Feb. 1, 1989 at First Baptist Church, 124 Ashley Street, Jacksonville, FL 32202. The envelopes should be designated on the lower left hand side, "SBC committee recommendation."

He asked that specific information be provided, including the full name of the nominee, complete mailing address, home and business telephones, whether the nominee is in a clergy or denominationally related post or is a layperson.

In addition, the recommendations should include the nominee's church affiliation, the church mailing address and telephone number, total church membership, amount the church gave through the Cooperative Program unified budget during the 1987-88 associational year and the percentage of the church budget the CP gifts represented. (BP)



Curtis C. Mooney
Executive Director
10801 Shelbyville Road
Middletown, KY 40243

homes for children

A child's gift

There are few moments in life that can match the one when a child opens a gift at Christmas. One of the things I enjoy most about my job is knowing that each child in care can experience something very special at Christmas time.

This is the time of year when all of us remember our children and we want to be around children or at least give a gift to a child if we cannot be there in person to see it opened.

Being around children at Christmas is exciting. At our home Andrea and Jason have been making lists and counting the days until Christmas. They insisted that the tree be trimmed early and all of us had a good time decorating it, even though Dad had to have a push from Mom to get on with it.

On our campuses the youth are also excited. On the Spring Meadows campus, which faces heavily traveled Shelbyville Road, an outdoor manger scene is in place and each cottage has a large Christmas card next to the highway. Each building is brightly lit to show the excitement within. Christmas decorations have also been put up at Glen Dale and the group homes in Dixon, Elizabethtown and Morehead.

At each location presents are being purchased and wrapped. In the shelters which might receive a child even on Christmas eve some extra gifts will be provided so that no one will be left out.

Plans are being made for most of our children to visit with family members, sponsors or others over Christmas. For those left behind or who arrive during the holidays, we will make it a special time for them as well.

For our children in college the central office staff is busy baking cookies and candies to send them a care package at Christmas. Most of them will visit with family or sponsors over the holidays.

Like most of your homes Christmas is a very busy time for us. It is not too busy, however, to stop and think about what we really celebrate on that day: our Father gave us, his children, the greatest gift of all—our Lord and savior. There is nothing that can match that Christmas gift and there is no greater joy than the acceptance of that gift.

Thank you for making this a good Christmas for the children at your Baptist Homes. It means so much to them.



Stan Hastey

TRUST



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baptist news in brief

Severns Valley ranks among top 25 churches

One Kentucky Baptist church and one association ranked among the top 25 in the SBC for total church study course awards earned in 1987-88, according to statistics compiled in the church study course records office at the Baptist Sunday School Board.

Kentucky ranked ninth among all states in total awards earned for the year with 37,301.

Severns Valley Baptist Church, Elizabethtown, led the state in total church study course awards with 1130. It also ranked eighth among the top 25 SBC churches.

Living Hope Baptist Church, Bowling Green, was second in the state with 610 awards, and Hillcrest Baptist Church, Hopkinsville, was third with 599 awards.

Long Run Association was 16th among associations with 4938 awards.

Texas led all states in total church study course awards with 97,510. Florida was second with 76,214 awards and Georgia was third with 69,283.

Second Baptist Church, Houston, led in total study course awards received with 4001. Calvary Baptist Church, Lubbock, Tex., received the second highest number of awards with 1998. Central Baptist Church, Bearden, Tenn., was third in that category with 1691.

Union Baptist Association ranked first among associations receiving study course awards with 11,485. Florida's Jacksonville Association ranked second with 7366 awards and Alabama's Birmingham Association ranked third with 7359 awards.

For the year, the number of persons enrolled in the study course system rose 14 percent over last year to 1.16 million,

according to William R. Cox, church study course coordinator at the board.

Cox said 140,794 people or an average of 2700 per week entered the study course award system this year. The number of churches participating has increased from 35 percent in 1978 to 50.1 percent in 1988, he said.

CP reaches lowest ebb in gifts in 37 months

Receipts for the Southern Baptist Convention's unified budget fell to the lowest level in 37 months during November.

The national Cooperative Program received \$9,055,571, announced Harold C. Bennett, president and treasurer of the SBC Executive Committee. The receipts were 4.73 percent below receipts for November 1987.

November was the Cooperative Program's worst month since October 1985, Bennett reported. The budget has posted only three lower monthly totals in the past four years.

The November total was more than \$3 million—or 25.37 percent—below the average monthly total needed to reach the Cooperative Program's \$145.6 million goal for the 1988-89 fiscal year.

The budget's year-to-date total is \$20,007,186. If Southern Baptists are to reach the Cooperative Program goal, the national budget now must receive an average of \$12.56 million for the 10 remaining months in the fiscal year, Bennett noted. (BP)

Reorganization of HMB discussed by state DOMs

Directors of missions from 41 state conventions and fellowships discussed reorganization of the Home Mission Board, met with the agency's two new vice presidents and roasted a retiring vice president during their annual planning meeting in Atlanta.

This was the last meeting for Gerald Palmer as vice president of the missions section. Charles Chaney, vice president-elect for extension, and Paul Adkins, vice president-elect for ministry, met the group for the first time since their appointments.

In an open forum, directors asked HMB president Larry Lewis to clarify the reorganization of the board's Atlanta staff approved by the board of directors in October. Most debate centered on transfer of interfaith witness from the missions section to the evangelism section and the impact of the change on state convention staffs.

Lewis said the change was not set in concrete but asked the state leaders to give it a chance to work. "If we decide later that it was a bad move, I'm open to change," he promised.

State mission leaders reminded Lewis that changes at the HMB affect the structure of state convention staffs. "You are making decisions that impact our organizations, whether we like it or not," Williamson said. Both Lewis and Palmer told directors they did not expect state conventions to immediately alter their staffs to conform with HMB structure. (BP)

Pastor and Laypersons

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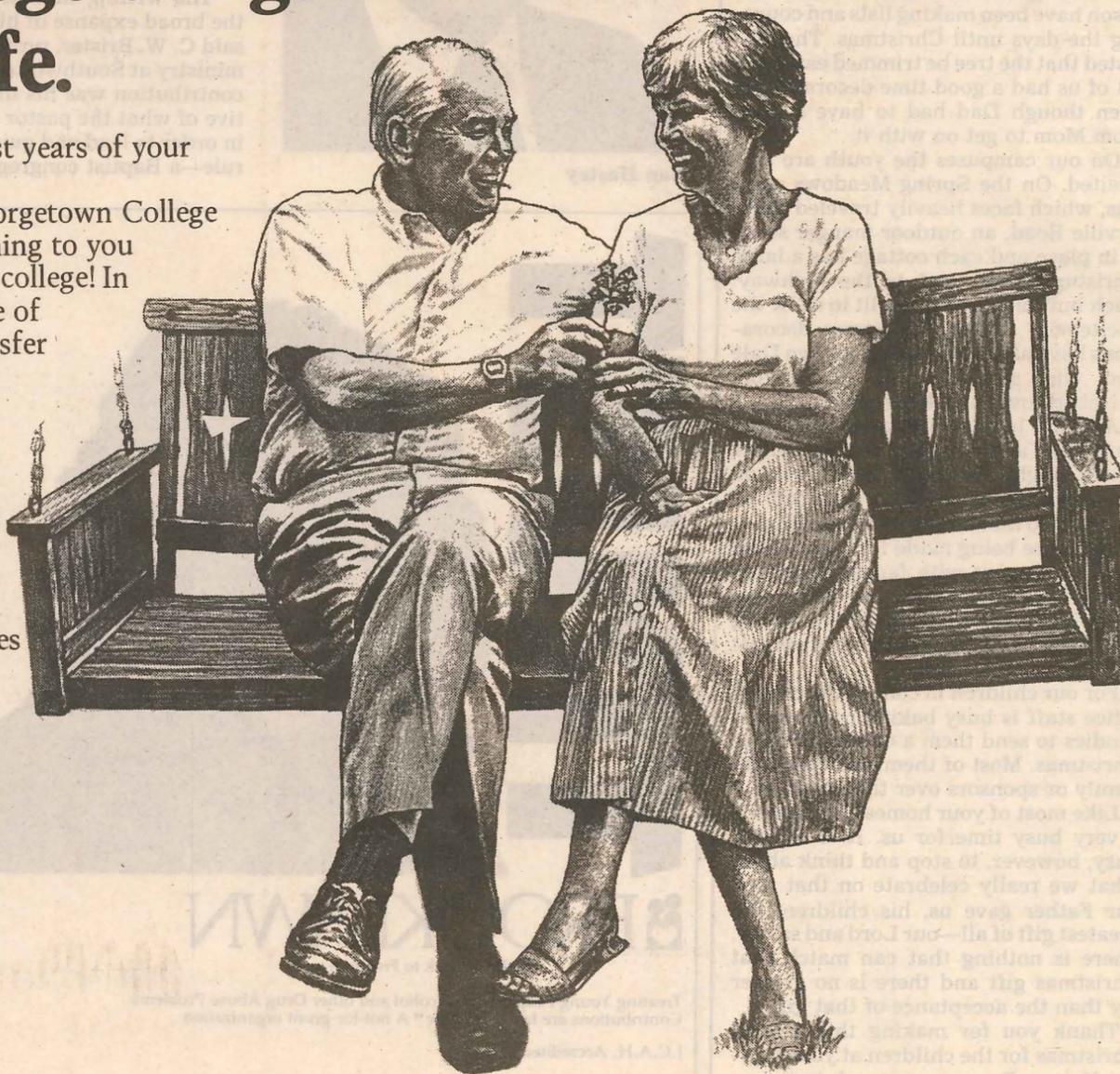
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GEORGETOWN
COLLEGE

Louisville audience told Star Wars could be nuclear deterrent

by Pat Cole

The Strategic Defense Initiative (Star Wars) may help deter a nuclear war or prevent catastrophic destruction should there be a nuclear exchange between the United States and the Soviet Union, a Reagan administration official told a Louisville conference on peacemaking.

Matthew Murphy, public information officer for the U. S. Arms Control and Disarmament agency, said SDI gives the U. S. a choice between increasing its deterrence and protection or "submitting to determinism with a capital 'D'."

Murphy spoke to a Dec. 1-2 conference on "Christian Peacemaking in a Hostile World" at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary. The conference was sponsored by the Clarence Jordan Center for Christian Ethical Concerns at the seminary.

The administration, Murphy said, has not determined whether SDI is possible. "We are conducting a feasibility program," he explained. "We have to be funded to the extent we know the program will work."

In addition to defending against nuclear missiles, Murphy said SDI could be a defense against the growing threat of countries placing chemical weapons on ballistic missiles.

Pat McCollough, executive director of the Louisville Council on Peacemaking and Religion, voiced doubts that SDI would be able to intercept more than 25

percent of the Soviet missiles and also said the system may prompt the Soviet Union to produce enough nuclear to missiles to "overwhelm the system." She added SDI could cost up to \$1 trillion and provides no defense against manned bombers, submarine launched missiles and low-flying cruise missiles.

The real danger in SDI, she said, would be if the system were coupled with a first strike by the U. S. that destroyed 80 to 90 percent of the Soviet missile arsenal. SDI would then, she pointed out, be able to intercept the remaining Soviet missiles.

McCollough said such a scenario makes SDI "highly destabilizing." She likened the situation to "sword and shield" warfare. "You go in with the

sword and protect yourself with the shield," she said.

She insisted that strategic stability must be maintained because there are "50,000 nuclear weapons in the world, 400 of which could destroy the creation."

Murphy denied the U. S. has the first-strike capability described by McCollough. He said the Soviet Union would never have agreed to the SALT II accords if the U. S. had that type of potential.

In order to allay Soviet fears over SDI, Murphy, who noted the Soviets have

their own strategic defense program, said the U. S. has offered to exchange programmatic information with the Soviets on strategic defense. He said the offer included reciprocal visits to strategic defense laboratories and test sites.

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29Then God said, "I give you every seed-bearing plant on the face of the whole earth and every animal that has fruit with seed in it. They will be your food. As for the beasts of the earth and all the birds of the air and every thing that has life in it—I give every green plant as food." And it was so.

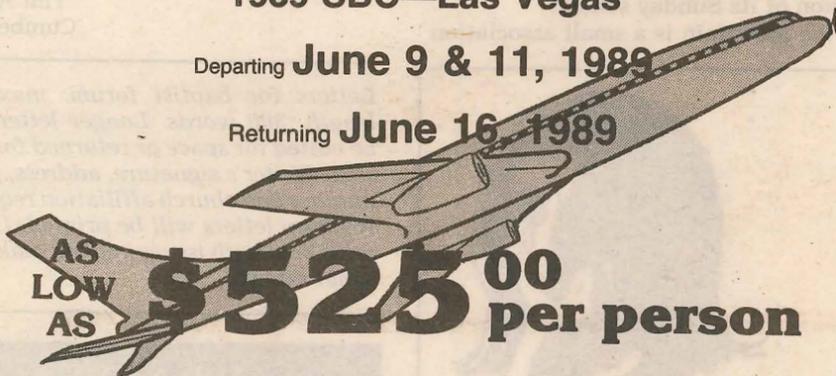
31God saw all that he had made, and it was very good. It was evening, and there was morning—the sixth day.

2:8-24, **GOD, Grace**—The grace of God, in freely seeking to bless, is beautifully expressed in the way God placed the newly created man in a garden and designed for him as a comfortable home. So that he might have the fullest possible life, God created woman for his requirements for

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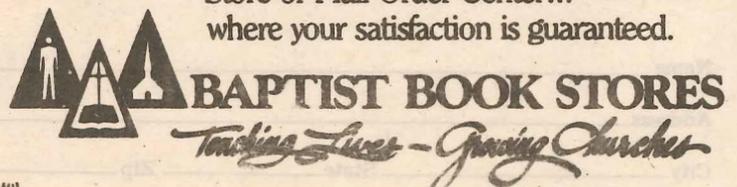
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viewpoint

Christmas: a challenge to give generously to missions

by Glenn Mollette, Pastor
First Baptist Church, Pikeville

The Commission magazine reminds us in the December issue of the sacrifice of foreign missionary Lottie Moon. In her service to the Chinese people she gave all she had to give—from her food to her last ounce of strength.

Inspired by her example we have yearly collected money in our churches through an offering that bears her name. This year marks the 100th anniversary of the Lottie Moon Christmas offering. It has been six years since Southern Baptists have met their goal for this offering. More than ever we are being challenged to rise to the occasion and give generously.

Generous giving has made us the convention we are today. Lottie Moon gave all she could. Untold numbers of others

have paid the price on foreign and home mission soil by following her example.

In my pastoral service I have stumbled across an outstanding layman who exemplifies the very highest caliber in Christian service and giving. Because of the nature of this article he has requested to remain anonymous. I'll call him "Mr. Steward."

A lot of folks have a problem with giving. Speak about the tithe or planned growth in giving and they will look at you like you're mad. However, this is not the case in all circumstances. Mr. Steward is an exception.

Steward is a man who not only practices tithing but yearly goes beyond the tithe. As a matter-of-fact, Mr. Steward was implementing planned growth in giving before the campaign was ever conceived.

For example in 1986 Steward had a gross income of \$109,000. Good salary, right? Someone says, "If I made that much I might be able to tithe." But take a closer look at Steward's giving.

In 1986 he gave \$18,000 to his home church. I believe that is already beyond the tithe. In this same year he gave \$5510 to another church in a neighboring state. He gave \$2000 to a small church in another Kentucky county. His gift to our children's homes was more than \$3000, while his contribution to one of our colleges was more than \$8000. And this is only the beginning.

Add the following: \$200 to a mountain school; \$325 to the cancer society; \$500

to a needy family; and \$1700 to a hospital.

The sum of Steward's total contributions to his church and a multitude of other groups and nonprofit organizations was \$48,856.73 for 1986. That means he gave away forty-four percent (44%) of his income in 1986.

But this is only for one year. Steward has been giving like this for a long time. One might wonder about the nature of this kind of fellow. I know he lives a modest lifestyle. He always has a smile on his face. His attitude and outlook on life is bright and extremely positive. He never tries to control the church budget or raise any objection over church ex-

penditures. He gives with no strings attached.

Steward is emphatic when he says that time after time Malachi 3:10 has been proven in his life.

There must be something to it. In 1987 his gross income was \$163,000. Once again his giving was very generous. And 1988 has been another good year for him so we can expect the same thing.

Imagine what this could mean to the work of Southern Baptists if more of us could develop a similar heart for this type giving. We would have no trouble reaching our Lottie Moon goal nor would we ever be short of funds to do the Lord's work.

baptist forum

Great Sunday school conference

It is one of the inspiring benefits of our state Baptist papers to print good things which happen in our churches. This in turn may bless others. I would like to ask your help in spreading the good word about a recent blessing to our association.

Pine Mountain Association held a Sunday school conference at Cumberland Missionary Baptist Church. It was different than your ordinary Sunday school seminar. This was more a rally than a conference.

Our conference leader was Bill Nash, pastor of Airline Baptist Church, Henderson, Ky. He is marvelous in Sunday school work and we recommend him to any church, regardless of size or organization of its Sunday school.

Pine Mountain is a small association

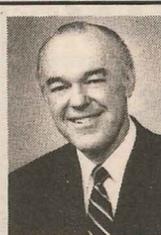
but we had more than 25 people at each session. The program included 45 minutes training in promotion, record keeping, goal setting and principles of growth. A 15-minute break allowed time for fellowship then another 45-minute session of the best motivational preaching for Sunday school you will find in our state convention.

Brother Nash has a tremendous ability to simplify the scripture encouragement for outreach. We met on Thursday and Friday nights. On Saturday morning we had our final session of motivation and training and went out to make contacts. The next morning our Sunday school increased significantly.

Please let other churches in our state be aware that Bill Nash is the man to call for Sunday school growth.

Tim Adams
Cumberland

Letters for baptist forum: maximum length, 300 words. Longer letters will be edited for space or returned for revision. Writer's signature, address, phone number and church affiliation required. No form letters will be printed. Letters must deal with issues and not make personal attacks.



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Mrs. Lillian Tribble has been teaching Sunday School 45 years at Lancaster Baptist Church

congregations

Dry Ridge (Ky.) Baptist Church, Crittenden Association, had a note-burning service and homecoming Oct. 9. Renovation of the sanctuary, piano and organ were paid off at a cost of \$100,000. This was done in two years' time. Willie E. Ailstock III is pastor.

Lancaster (Ky.) Baptist Church, South District Association, recently honored member Mrs. Lillian Tribble for having taught Sunday school for 45 years.

Erlanger Baptist Church, Northern Kentucky Association, celebrated Sunday school high attendance day Oct. 30. The fourth annual round-up day attendance was 900, highest in the 98-year history of the church. William E. Crosby Jr. is pastor.

ordinations

East Hartford (Ky.) Baptist Church, Ohio County Association, ordained **William Leach** and **Clark Tichenor** as deacons.

Munfordville (Ky.) Baptist Church, Lynn Association, ordained **Michael Nichols** as deacon Oct. 23. Nichols is an attorney in Munfordville. Anthony Steele is pastor.

Tom Triplett and **Michael Marlow** were ordained as deacons Oct. 23 by Audubon Baptist Church, Louisville, Long Run Association. Pastor is David W. Green.

Delano Edmondson was ordained as deacon Oct. 30 by Dry Ridge (Ky.) Baptist Church, Crittenden Association. Pastor is Willie E. Ailstock III.

Fonde Baptist Church, Bell Association ordained **James Delano** Sept. 18.

personnel

Elizabeth Howell Price has been called as minister of education at Audubon Baptist Church, Louisville, Long Run Association. Miss Price is a student at Southern Seminary and a native of Russellville. The Western Kentucky University graduate was formerly chaplain at Westminster Terrace Health Care Center. **Tony Brooks** has been called by Audubon church as minister of youth.

Also a student at Southern Seminary, the Samford University, Birmingham, Ala., graduate is a native of Valley, Ala. He was formerly minister of youth, children and activities at First Baptist Church, Talledega, Ala.

Craig Swatt has been called as church pianist for Cove Baptist Church, Long Run Association. Roger Hodge is pastor. Swatt is a senior at the Youth Performing Arts School, Louisville.

Oak Ridge Baptist Church, Covington, Northern Kentucky Association, called **Don Whitis** as minister of music and **Kathy Waters** as minister of youth.

Tom R. Coffey resigned as pastor of Corinth Baptist Church, East Lynn Association, and accepted the pastorate of Allendale Baptist Church. **Timothy Shirley** is the new pastor at Corinth.

Mt. Olive Baptist Church, Boone's Creek Association, called **Ron Montgomery** as pastor.

Ed Taylor resigned as pastor of Berean Baptist Church, Three Forks Association and will go to Virginia.

Gordon Mink resigned as pastor of Roundstone Baptist Church, Rockcastle Association.

Sand Hill Baptist Church, Rockcastle Association, pastor **Clyde Miller** resigned.

Pleasant Run Baptist Church, Pulaski Association, called **David Jones** as pastor.

Jeff Griffin resigned as pastor of Woodstock Baptist Church, Pulaski Association.

Hopeful Baptist Church, Pulaski Association, pastor **David King** resigned.

Calvary Baptist Church, Pulaski Association, called **Jay Padgett** as minister of music.

Community Baptist Church, Pulaski Association, called **Joey Kent** as pastor.

Eubank Baptist Church, Pulaski Association, called **Jimmy Whitaker** as pastor.

Denzel L. Dukes resigned as pastor of Macedonia Baptist Church, Owensboro, Daviess-McLean Association.

Tom Woodson resigned as pastor of Centertown (Ky.) Baptist Church, Ohio County Association.

Fairview Baptist Church, Olaton, Ky., Ohio County Association, called **Merle Ford** as pastor.

Hartford (Ky.) Baptist Church, Ohio County Association, called **David Bullock** as pastor.

Mike Moynahan resigned as pastor of Palestine Baptist Church, Campbells-ville, Taylor County Association.

Lyle King accepted the call as minister of music by Hall Street Baptist Church, Owensboro, Daviess-McLean Association.

Retiring pastor of Lyndon Baptist Church, Louisville, Long Run Association, **Hugh Goldsby** and his wife, **Eloise** were honored for 36 years of service at a banquet Nov. 12 and special services

Nov. 13.

Goldsby retires Dec. 31, completing the second longest term as pastor of a church in Long Run Association. **Goldsby** began as pastor at Lyndon Church Nov. 23, 1952 while a student at Southern Seminary.

He has also worked as division chaplain of the 100th Training Division, U. S. Army Reserves at Bowman Field, and campus supervisor, department of ministry studies, at Southern Seminary.

Wesley Powers resigned as pastor of Eastside Baptist Church, Campbells-ville, Taylor County Association.

James Doyle is the new pastor of Greenwood Baptist Church, Bowling Green, Warren Association.

Riverview Baptist Church, Bowling Green, Warren Association, called **Robert Tarrence** as pastor.

Mike Stacey has been called as pastor of Bethel Baptist Church, Bowling Green, Warren Association.

Jim Gifford has been called as pastor of Woodburn (Ky.) Baptist Church, Warren Association.

Eugene Powell resigned as pastor of Oscar Baptist Church, La Center, West Union Association.

William O. Gamblin resigned as pastor of Providence Baptist Church, Kevil, West Union Association.

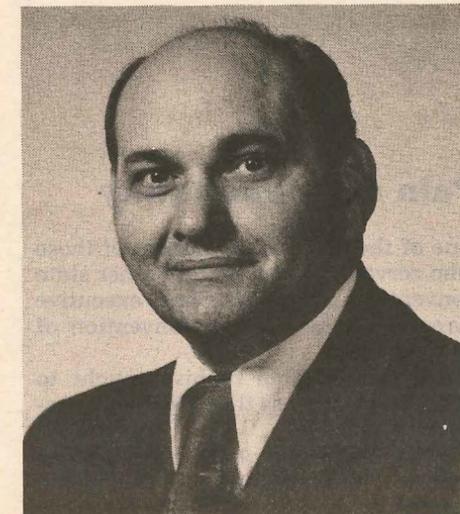
Washington Street Baptist Church, Paducah, West Union Association, accepted the resignation of pastor **Jessie Jackson Sr.**

Retired Kentucky pastor **M. D. Morton** is now a resident at Carnegie Gardens Nursing Home, 1415 Hickory, Melbourne, FL 32901.

Malcolm Lunceford, pastor of Immanuel Baptist Church, Frankfort, Franklin Association, was given a religious liberty award by Americans United for Separation of Church and State. The honor came to Lunceford because of his work in monitoring the Kentucky state legislature.

missions

Ethel Harmon, missionary to Nigeria for 34 years, is now a patient at Hillcrest Nursing Home, American Greeting Card Rd., Corbin, KY 40741.



Malcolm Lunceford was given a religious liberty award by Americans United for Separation of Church and State.



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

clear creek chronicle

Turkey man

Near my desk phone is a wooden turkey call, a gift from my wife and a humorous reminder of the unusual way the Lord led us to Clear Creek. I do owe my job to a turkey!

It began in 1966 when Illinois native Don Burnett graduated from Clear Creek and moved to a pastorate of Andrew Baptist Mission, Bowling Green. The Burnetts rented a home near my student pastorate at Jackson Grove and we became friends. Don remembered student families without adequate resources. He decided to gather funds to give each student and staff family a Christmas dinner turkey. Our church helped and I accompanied Don to Pineville with a pickup of frozen turkeys. Along the way we stopped to eat homemade swiss cheese at Swiss Colony and knocked mistletoe from the tree tops with his shotgun.

The family moved to Prestonsburg in 1969 and Don became Enterprise Association's director of missions. The turkeys were ordered and the funds available to pay the bill for the 1970 project but Don didn't make it back to Clear Creek. A heart attack took him while on a Thanksgiving day hunting trip with his sons.

The following year no one planned to continue the turkey project so I asked school officials if I could assume it. Except for three Decembers we were in the Philippines I have been present for turkey day. Preaching in chapel and distributing the "Gospel Birds" have been a highlight of my Christmas since 1971. During those years students, faculty and alumni have drawn me into the Clear Creek family so that I felt much at home the day we moved to campus.

Hardly a week passes without a remembrance of Don Burnett. He was a grand servant of the Lord. Some called him the "mechanical man" from the distinctive sound of his metal crutches heard long before he came into view. His legs were paralyzed from a World War II Navy injury. Husband, father, pastor, missionary were callings he aptly filled. He was my friend, a man I found so honest and so truly himself. His life taught me many lessons and powerfully demonstrated how God's love can flow through a committed Christian to a lost world. May many more like him come from Clear Creek.



Barkley Moore
President
Oneida Baptist Institute
Oneida, KY 40972

oneida journal

No idle hands or minds

Thanksgiving is well past and Christmas is coming. Nearly every weekend is a crescendo of activity climaxing one busy week and leading into another. The past weekend is a good example.

Friday evening our girls junior varsity and varsity teams both had their first wins of the new basketball season on our home floor. Normally we have a woman coach for the girls, but none of our women teachers this year are qualified for the head coaching position.

Greg Slade who came to us as a sixth grader and was here seven years as a student has taken over the head coaching duties. In his third year of teaching and coaching at OBI, his basketball experience includes his student years and being one of the managers of the UK Wildcats in his college years.

Greg is doing a fine job with the girls, and is assisted by Shari Smith. Shari is a graduate of Baylor University and is in her third year of teaching at Oneida. She normally coaches tennis, the flag corps and is the yearbook advisor. Now she helps Greg with girls basketball, assisting at all practices and each game at home and away. Though Shari was never a student of Oneida, it was in her blood from birth.

Shari's parents met while students at Oneida. Married in their college years they went to teach in Kansas after graduation. When Shari was one-week-

old, they returned to teach at Oneida for several years. For many years, her father Bill has been a college professor of physics, both in Kentucky and Florida. Her mother Peggy, who was the second generation of her family to graduate from Oneida, has been a school librarian for years. This highly qualified and experienced couple plan to serve as full time volunteers at Oneida upon their retirement some years away. In the meantime, they come each summer from Florida to do some volunteer work.

While the girls were playing at Oneida on Friday night, the boys were away in an invitational at Middlesboro. The boys lost that evening but on Saturday night, again at Middlesboro, had a decisive win over Powell Valley High School in Tennessee.

There were basketball games all day Saturday in our Oneida gym against varying schools as there will be this coming Thursday and Friday evenings and all next Saturday as we host the annual tournament of our Three Rivers Conference.

Leading off the play last Saturday was a loss by a squeaker for our freshman boys in their first game of the season, and a win by our junior varsity boys in their first game. The junior varsity and varsity girls again had the Oneida floor in the afternoon for their respective games.

While all the basketball was going on our wrestling team was in an all day competition at Versailles, and our varsity swimmers were having competition in the Eastern Kentucky University pool.

As both these teams left our campus shortly after daylight Saturday morning, 59 of our seniors were leaving for the Berea College campus to take the important SAT exam, so vital for college admission especially in northern colleges. Another large group of seniors will be away next week for the ACT test, also important for college admissions. We have well over 100 seniors again this year.

Two bus loads of our marching band and flag corps were away for the televised annual Lexington Christmas parade. Then on Sunday afternoon they marched and played for well over a mile in the Clay County parade.

On Saturday night I traveled to Falmouth to stay with O. W. and Billie Conrad who taught at OBI, 1973-78, and are still friends of our work. On Sunday morning I led the morning service of nearby Turner Ridge church and returned to Oneida for another busy week.



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

sunday school lessons

LESSONS FOR DEC. 18, 1988

Life and work series

Praying for one another

Acts 20:36 Under the most unfavorable circumstances, Paul sincerely believed the most appropriate thing for him to do was to approach God's throne of grace in earnest prayer. Present-day Christians will certainly do well to follow his example and pray that God will meet their needs and those of their fellow Christians.

Eph. 3:14-21 Possessed by the love of God, nurtured by the working of the Holy Spirit and yielded to the leadership of Christ, Paul prayed this meaningful prayer for the Ephesians revealing God's longings for all his children. Paul prayed: 1. That believers might have spiritual power (verse 16). 2. That Christ might dwell in the hearts of believers by faith (verse 17). Paul prayed that Christ might become a permanent occupant in the hearts of believers. 3. That believers might understand the love of Christ in its four dimensions (verse 18-19a). 4. That believers might be filled with the fullness of God (verse 19a). Christians must be emptied of self and have an implicit faith in God and not in self. Paul declared that God's infinite power far exceeds all that we can ask for or even think.

Eph. 6:18-20 Prayer is vital to right living and effective Christian service. Being dependent upon God for guidance and strength, as we are, each of us needs

to pray earnestly, regularly and frequently. We cannot do God's will acceptably or his work successfully without earnest prayer for endowment from him.

International series

God's promise fulfilled

Luke 2:1-5 Just prior to the birth of Christ, Joseph and Mary were in Nazareth, some 60 miles north of Bethlehem. In order that they might be in the proper place at the right time, God caused Caesar Augustus to issue a decree that all the world over which he had control should be enrolled. Every man would go to the city where he was born with a view to taxation and perhaps military service. Thus we see God employing men of the world as instruments in the working out of his plans. Often men serve God's purpose without being aware of it.

Joseph and Mary wended their way to Bethlehem. Arriving at the inn in Behtlehem, Joseph and Mary were granted permission to stay in the stable.

Luke 2:6-7 While they were there, "The days were accomplished that she should be delivered," and Jesus Christ was born. Mary did not have a physician, a nurse or an attendant in the hour of her great need. That there were none to help was but part of the humiliation connected with the incarnation of our Lord. When the saviour was born, Mary "wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger because there was no room for them in the inn." What foreboding in those words! Lack of hospitality was the experience of our Lord throughout his earthly ministry. Every one of us should make room for Christ in our lives no matter what else or who else must go.

Luke 2:8-14 While lowly shepherds watched over their flocks by night, guarding them and protecting them from robbers and wild beasts, they were visited by an angel who said to them: "Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a saviour, which is Christ the Lord."

Luke 2:15-16 The shepherds went immediately to see the newly born saviour. When they returned, the shepherds were "glorifying and praising God for all the things they had heard and seen." They rejoiced because they had seen the son of God who was to bring so many wonderful blessings to this world.



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on mission together

Pain and opportunity

One of the newer and younger of those who serve in my position in other state conventions is Claude Cone, executive director of the Baptist Convention of New Mexico.

A recent column of his brought to mind an awareness that I had as a pastor.

In an increasingly hostile and secular America, his words are both timely and helpful:

"We have all heard the saying 'Strike while the iron is hot!' There is a spiritual

truth to that.

"In a recent deacon's retreat at First Baptist Church, Hobbs (New Mexico) the following statistics were shared with those present. 'I don't know the source but looking at the years I pastored and ministered to people, I would say these percentages are accurate.

"We want to share the gospel and the following facts reveal the best times people will receive our witness for Christ."

Willingness to Hear
(Percentage of Openness)

Death of a spouse—100%

Divorce—73%

Death of a family member—63%

Personal injury or illness—53%

Marriage—50%

Change in family member's health—44%

Addition to family—39%

Spouse starts work—26%

Trouble with boss—23%

Change in residence—20%

Easter season—17%

Christmas season—12%

I would add further to Cone's column. Because of their calling and the responsibilities of the pastorate, ministers are more likely to be aware of such times in persons' lives.

However, the minister's awareness of such may rarely extend beyond the congregation unless he is made aware by some member of the congregation.

The "world" of a congregation is so much larger, more complex, and in touch with more of those who are not in the family of God.

Very often it can be congregational sensitivity to such crucial times that will enrich the reputation of a congregation. People, whose hurting lives have been touched, will more likely want to be part of a caring congregation and will more likely listen to a word about the love of God for them.

People who have been loved, blessed and helped during a crisis seldom forget.

And it's something minister and congregation must never forget.

Pauline Tyner ministers with BTN in Arkansas *Brazilian brings missions to SWBTS*

by Jim Lowry

Miss Pauline Tyner is the soft-spoken BTN coordinator and chief motivator who translates messages into ministries at Horseshoe Bend (Ark.) Baptist Church.

For the past two years Miss Tyner has given her time to tape messages transmitted on the Baptist Telecommunication Network and then recommend them to church members. BTN is the education and training network of the Baptist Sunday School Board.

Every month approximately 30 church leaders and members in the tiny north Arkansas town use at least one BTN tape, Miss Tyner said. Deacons, Sunday school teachers in all age groups, children's choir directors, deacons' wives, the church training director and WMU members all have used BTN tapes.

With an average of 140 attending Sunday school, the participation level is impressive—but no accident.

"The Lord called me to ministry in BTN," Miss Tyner said. "As I share BTN with others it makes us a better church and better Christians as we reach out to the unsaved."

Miss Tyner works 20-25 hours each week as the volunteer BTN coordinator, taping messages and recommending them to church members and leaders who she believes could benefit from the training.

Pastor, David Johnson, said, "BTN energizes and equips a church in direct proportion to the degree of use."

He said through BTN members of Horseshoe Bend Baptist Church have learned how to visit, how to be effective witnesses, ways to teach learning activities and how to structure a classroom

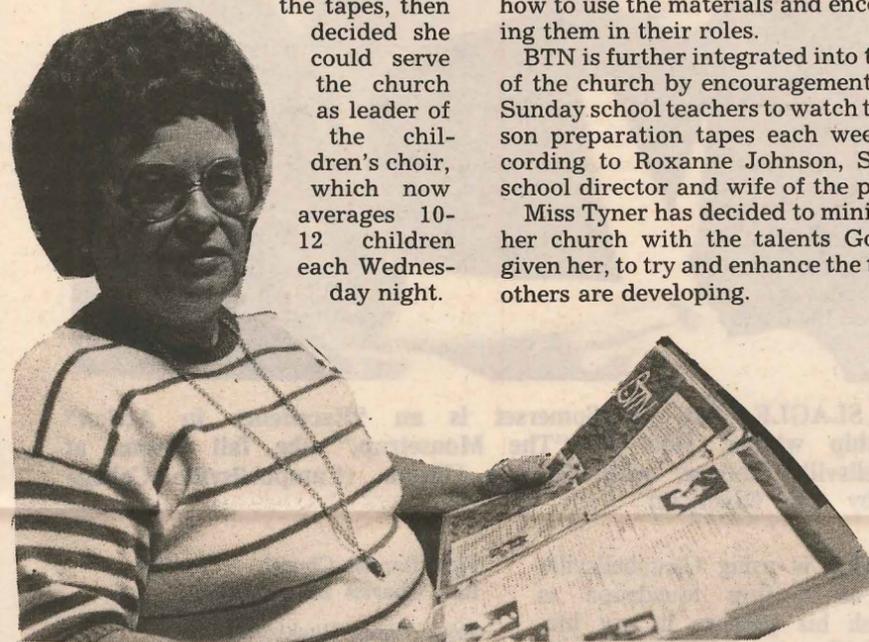
for learning.

"BTN puts names and needs together," Johnson continued. "Our church members can see missionaries on a missions teleconference, hear their needs and see their places of service. This has helped increase our missions giving."

At Horseshoe Bend Miss Tyner used BTN to answer a need her church faced. There was no child care on Wednesday nights during the time adults visited so parents with elementary-age children could not participate.

She watched the tapes on children's choir, invited the children and started a choir which she led for six months. Another church member, Delynn Smith,

recognized the need so she watched the tapes, then decided she could serve the church as leader of the children's choir, which now averages 10-12 children each Wednesday night.



Seminary is family affair for Canadian brothers

by Elizabeth Watson

As far as Richard, Thomas and Melvin Blackaby can trace their ancestry they've had ministers in their family, including four who attended Spurgeon's College in England.

The brothers are proud of their family heritage and faith which they feel divinely called to continue through preparation at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Ft. Worth.

The three sons of Henry and Marilyn Blackaby are attending Southwestern this semester. Richard, 27, is enrolled in the doctor of philosophy program. Thomas, 26, and Melvin, 23, are MDiv students and are taking three classes together this fall.

Their father is an assistant to the Home Mission Board president. Their uncle, John Hopper, is president of Ruschlikon Baptist Seminary in Switzerland. And their grandparents, Melvin and Carrie Wells, are former missionaries to Zambia.

Before their father went to the HMB, he served as director of missions in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada, six years. Prior to that he was pastor of Faith Baptist Church, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, 12 years.

"The church had about 10 members and a 'For Sale' sign out front when we moved to Saskatoon," Richard said. "Dad had to use us for everything."

The Blackaby family's cooperative and pioneering spirit has resulted in three Baptist associations made up of 20 churches and missions which grew

out of Faith Baptist Church.

"We grew up involved in the church. Helping out. It really isn't surprising we all felt called to the ministry," Richard said.

"Our parents never once pushed us into the ministry," Melvin said. "They just made the opportunities available to us for service if we wanted to participate."

"At times—when I wasn't sure about my call—I wanted dad to encourage me to go into the ministry. But it wasn't until after I publicly shared my desire to enter the ministry that he told me he knew all along I was called—but he didn't want to tell me because he wanted me to be sure it was God calling me, not him," Melvin said.

It was respect for their father that helped the Blackaby brothers withstand tremendous peer pressure in high school.

"The schools were very secular in Canada," Richard said. "It was bad enough to be a religious person to begin with—but then to be a pastor's son!"

"Canadian Baptists are seen more as a cult than anything else. So to be a Baptist minister's son was difficult for us going through school. But because we respected our father so much and believed in his teaching we would not participate in things even though pressure was enormous," Richard said.

"When we would have a question he would ask us, 'Have you asked God about that?'" Thomas said. "That way he helped us to accept God every day."

Richard and Melvin plan to return to

Gary Wallace, former chairman of deacons and now church training director used BTN tapes each month in deacon meetings with the pastor and in another session each month for deacons and their wives to provide guidance in areas where the wives were likely to be called for help.

Wallace said the church started a church training program the first of September and now has some 75 enrolled and an average attendance of 40-45. He said BTN tapes have provided the basis for much of the work done to begin the church training program and the content for several of the sessions.

Wallace added that he believes a key ingredient in success for BTN in a local church, after the support of the pastor, is a motivator, showing church members how to use the materials and encouraging them in their roles.

BTN is further integrated into the life of the church by encouragement to all Sunday school teachers to watch the lesson preparation tapes each week, according to Roxanne Johnson, Sunday school director and wife of the pastor.

Miss Tyner has decided to minister in her church with the talents God has given her, to try and enhance the talents others are developing.

Brazilian brings missions to SWBTS

by Scott Collins

Bertoldo Gatz understands the kind of growth Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary has experienced to become the largest theological institution in the world. Gatz understands because he helped lead the Sao Paulo, Brazil, Baptist Theological Seminary to a similar growth.

Since Gatz became dean of the Brazilian school in 1973 the seminary has grown by more than 500 percent, from 83 students to more than 550, added a music degree to its theology and religious education programs and started masters-level classes.

Gatz has brought his knowledge to Ft. Worth to translate those successes to students at Southwestern as national guest professor under the sponsorship of the seminary's World Mission and Evangelism Center.

This fall, Gatz is teaching two courses, The Missionary Message of the Bible and Missions in Latin America. The premise for both courses is the same.

"The effectiveness of mission work has to be based on what the Bible says about missions and not on what we would like it to say," Gatz said.

And Gatz believes that what the Bible says is that missions is "not a professional career. It is something we do as a divine call from God."

"We tend to see the missionary as the one in charge of the task and we give the money," Gatz said. "But every Christian is a missionary and giving and going are related."

The mission enterprise is not new to Brazilian Baptists, according to Gatz.

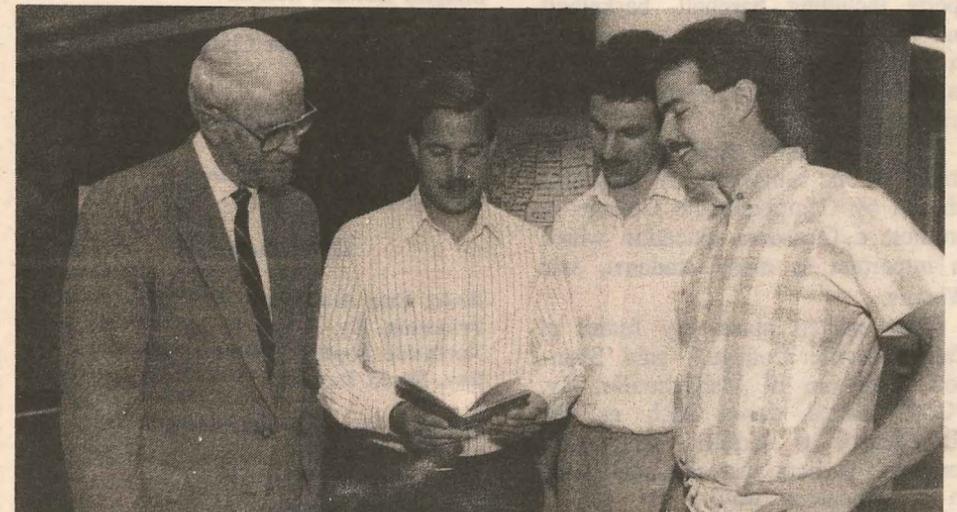
Southern Baptists' first missionaries arrived in the country in 1881 and the Brazilian Baptist Convention today sponsors more than 500 of its own missionaries worldwide.

For nearly 29 years Gatz has helped Baptists in his home country develop through his work at the seminary. In addition to being dean he served as vice president and taught Greek, New Testament and Christian ministry.

Gatz and his wife Dacyr have two children. Their son Marcos will receive a masters of music degree from Southwestern next May and their daughter Priscila graduated from college last May.

During his teaching tenure at Southwestern Gatz said he will emphasize to students the need to be sure of their call.

"If he doesn't have a sense of call he will not make it," Gatz said.



The Blackaby brothers talk with Justice Anderson, left. The brothers are, from left, Thomas, Richard and Melvin.

Campbellsville College's 'Excellence in Action' scholarship is top priority

By WENDY CHESSER
Campbellsville College
Student News Writer

Campbellsville College's "Excellence in Action" scholarship is "one of the things that appears high on the list of priorities to draw churches closer to us," according to Dr. Ken Winters, president of Campbellsville College.

Thirty-three incoming Baptist freshmen from Kentucky, Indiana, Illinois, Ohio and Michigan have been selected as recipients of the annual "Excellence in Action" scholarship. The scholarship is based on outstanding Christian commitment, achievements and leadership as well as the potential for future service to Christ in a vocation or career.

Winters says he is very happy to support such a program and says "it is a fine vehicle to get pastors and their churches involved."

The students' pastors nominated one high school senior for every 250 church members, and the winners were selected by the Campbellsville College Church Relations Council.

The council awards one full-tuition scholarship valued at \$15,960 over four years and two half-tuition scholarships each valued at \$7,980 over four years. In addition, 30 \$750 per year scholarships, which equal \$3,000 over four years, are awarded to outstanding students.

The scholarships are renewable annually, according to Winters, for those students who maintain at least an overall 2.0 grade point average.

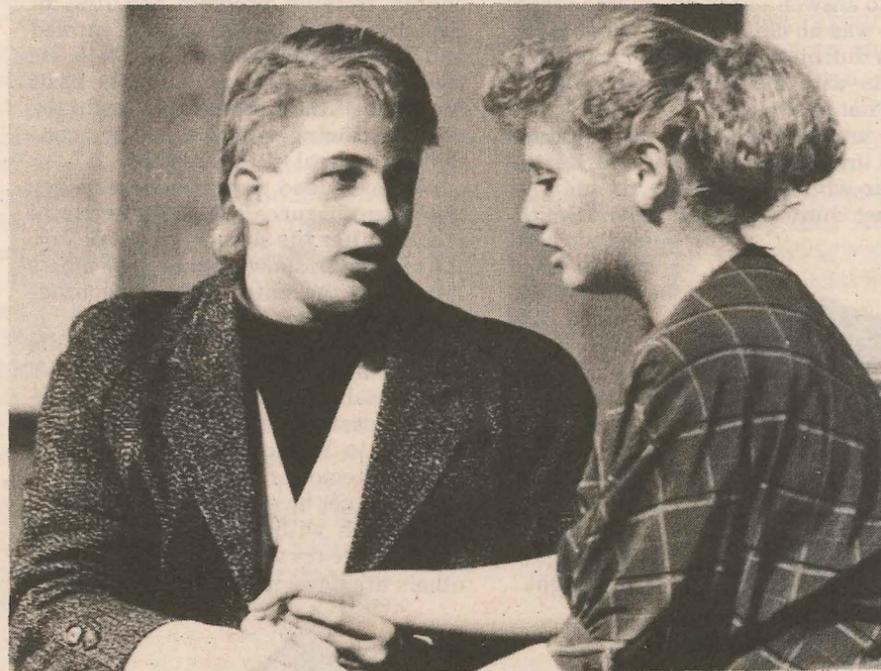
This year's winners are not only active church members but academic standouts. They are members of the National Honor Society, Beta Club, "Who's Who Among American High School Students," Future Homemakers of America, Future Business Leaders of America and Fellowship of Christian Athletes, and have been awarded the Presidential Fitness Award.

They have also been involved in sports including baseball, basketball and football. Many have been active in drama, chorus and debate teams as well as their church youth groups.

The "Excellence in Action" scholarship is one among many programs offered by Campbellsville College to promote a Christian education which is important to many students, said Winters.

"I'm excited about my future at Campbellsville College," said Shannon Blackburn of Madisonville, Ky. "God opened doors such as the 'Excellence in Action' scholarship for me to be here, and he's continuing in a miraculous way.

"In the short time I've been here, I've had so many opportunities for learning, ministry and personal



SEAN SLAGLE, left, of Somerset is an "Excellence in Action" scholarship winner. He's in "The Mousetrap," the fall drama at Campbellsville College, with Tammie Gibson. (Campbellsville College Photo by Ayo Olaniyan)

growth. God is using Campbellsville College as a firm foundation to accomplish his purpose in my life. I'm glad I'm here because this is where God wants me now."

Campbellsville College, affiliated with the Kentucky Baptist Convention, offers 25 academic majors and 26 minor programs. The College, founded in 1906, is a private, four-year college in central Kentucky.

Campbellsville College Excellence in Action Scholarship Winners

1988-89

Full-tuition Scholarship

Melissa Ann Warford
Hardinsburg, Ind.
Fellowship Baptist Church
Rev. Benny Warford

Half-tuition Scholarship

Douglas Edward Martin
Campbellsville, Ky.
Pleasant Hill Baptist Church
Rev. Bob Martin

Nicholas Warren Sandefur
Robards, Ky.
Cash Creek Baptist Church
Rev. Morris Little

\$750 Scholarship

Bruce Eric Alexander
Princeton, Ky.
Northside Baptist Church
Rev. David Royalty

Shannon Elizabeth Blackburn
Madisonville, Ky.
Liberty Baptist Church
Rev. Daniel Knight

Amy Lynn Blumenstock
Beckemeyer, Ill.

First Baptist Church
Rev. Charles Blumenstock

Joyce Renee Buckland
Elyria, Ohio
New Life Baptist Church
Rev. Larry Allen

Stacy Lynne Chelf
Magnolia, Ky.
Buffalo Baptist Church
Rev. David Beeler

Monica Flanagan
Russell Springs, Ky.
First Baptist Church
Rev. Jeffrey Eaton

Nicole Gabrielle Gamble
Central City, Ky.
Ebenezer Baptist Church
Rev. Otis Cunningham

Jamie Lynne Glover
Edgewood, Ky.
Erlanger Baptist Church
Dr. William Crosby

William Ray Gregory
Franklin, Ky.
First Baptist Church
Rev. Ray Cummins

Teresa Helstand
Lebanon, Ky.
Woodlawn Baptist Church
Rev. Charles Overton

Eric Scott LaRue
Leitchfield, Ky.
First Baptist Church
Rev. George Smith

Marlana Mae Molden
Somerset, Ky.
Pleasant Hill Baptist Church
Rev. C.E. Jacobs

Brian Jay Montgomery
New Matamoras, Ohio
First Baptist Church
Rev. Louis Sprowls

Cami Gwyn Moss

Campbellsville, Ky.
Campbellsville Baptist Church
Rev. James Jones

Stephen Todd Owens
Flint, Mich.
Eastgate Baptist Church
Rev. Levi Parish

Earl R. Radcliffe
Louisville, Ky.
Eastern Gate Baptist Church
Rev. Michael Routt

Marla Michelle Rattliff
Eubank, Ky.
Eubank Baptist Church
Rev. Barney Manning

Christina Lynn Rednour
Hardinsburg, Ky.
New Bethel Baptist Church
Rev. John Cook III

Donna Fay Rice
Hickman, Ky.
East Hickman Baptist Church
Rev. Larry Purcell

Tammy Rose Roy
Russell Springs, Ky.
Cedar Point Baptist Church
Rev. Donovan Smith

Eric Marshall Swayne
Westerville, Ohio
Maize Road Baptist Church
Rev. John Kirby

Sean Andrew Slagle
Science Hill, Ky.
Northside Baptist Church
Rev. Bobby Slagle

Tinsley Wayne Tabor
Calvert City, Ky.
First Baptist Church
Rev. William Marret

Faasaviliga Nikolao (Mosi) Tafao
Louisville, Ky.
Farmdale Baptist Church
Dr. C. Wyman Copass

Stacey Michelle Terry
Louisville, Ky.
West End Baptist Church
Dr. Lincoln Bingham

Sharon Gail Thomas
Shepherdsville, Ky.
Pleasant Grove Baptist Church
Rev. Mark Ross

Julie Anne Tinsley
Mt. Washington, Ky.
First Baptist Church
Rev. David Clay

Nikki Lin True
Liberty, Ky.
Chestnut Grove Baptist Church
Rev. John Dean

William Kelly Vincent
Greenville, Ky.
Second Baptist Church
Rev. Rick Shannon

Dena Jill Whitehouse
Lebanon, Ky.
Beech Fork Baptist Church
Rev. John Duncan