

Kentuckians and gospel survive China uprising

by Kima Jude
State Correspondent

On the evening of their welcome home supper at Thornhill Baptist Church in Frankfort July 8, Glen and Rose Davis wore t-shirts emblazoned with the words "I survived China."

The phrase has special significance for the Davises, who recently left China on the advice of the American consulate and Cooperative Services International, the Foreign Mission Board organization which sent them there last August.

In the aftermath of the student uprising and subsequent bloody Sunday massacre at Beijing's Tiananmen Square, they fear some of their students and friends will not survive.

But they are sure the gospel will survive. Indeed "Jesus Christ is alive and well in China," Davis says.

Until the massacre the Davises taught conversational English to Chinese students at the China Pharmaceutical University in Nanjing, which is located in the central part of mainland China, halfway between Beijing and Hong Kong.

After the massacre they departed the country where they had spent the past 10 months, arriving home three weeks early for an already planned trip back to the states.

The Davises say there was demonstrating in Nanjing but no violence and they never felt personally threatened. However, because of potential problems, they were advised to return home.

They plan to return to China in August for another year provided circumstances will allow it.

They went to China to teach conversational English and writing to university students, most of whom are professionals who know English grammar, but cannot read or speak the language and have trouble writing idiomatically.

Davis is retired from the Kentucky state Department of Education Division of Adult Education. Mrs. Davis previously taught home economics at Kentucky State University and the University of Kentucky. Their work in China is, according to Davis, adult education at its highest level.

Their purpose as representatives of Cooperative Services International (CSI), an arm of the Foreign Mission Board, is to set a Christian example in China. CSI sends lay people into countries where missionaries are not allowed.

Proselytizing is forbidden by Chinese law, although the China constitution guarantees freedom of religion. The Davises can give away a Bible and answer questions about Christianity if someone asks.

Their actions also comprise a great witness. Some students questioned their continued church attendance when they knew the Davises could not follow the Chinese church service. As a result many students asked to go with them to church.

Chinese churches which proclaim the gospel do exist and are growing, although there are not enough of them, Davis says. In fact, the Chinese are so hungry for the gospel one must arrive at church a couple of hours early just to get a seat. Many stand for two or three hours to hear the gospel.

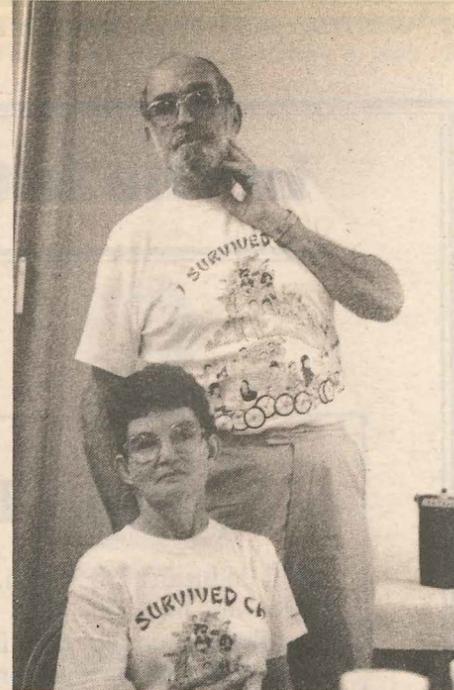
The biggest problem is Christian leadership. Most of the Christian leaders are old and near death and the country needs an influx of young leadership, according to Davis.

The Davises speculate on how Christianity will be affected since bloody Sunday. The government's attitude prior to that was one of toleration.

It is possible that the house church might flourish more than the open church now, Davis says.

Immediately following bloody Sunday, opportunities to witness by faith and action were increased, according to Davis, as devastated students sought their opinions.

However students who once sought them out no longer did because of fear of



Glen and Rose Davis field questions from members of Thornhill Baptist Church. The church had a welcome home dinner for the Davises after they returned to Frankfort following the student uprising in China.

not knowing who might be watching them talk to foreigners.

Arriving back home in Frankfort and their home church Thornhill Baptist, where the Davises have been members for the past 18 years, Mrs. Davis notes the things she now really appreciates. Topping the list is personal freedom.

western recorder

Kentucky Baptist Convention
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Pressler pick for top government ethics job?

by Marv Knox

Paul Pressler, Houston judge and vice chairman of the Southern Baptist Executive Committee, reportedly has been picked to direct the U. S. Office of Government Ethics.

Pressler, a judge on Texas' 14th Court of Civil Appeals, is being considered by the Bush administration to direct the office, according to a July 20 report in the Houston Post.

If nominated and confirmed, Pressler would succeed Frank Nebeker, who has been appointed chief judge of the new

U.S. Veterans' Court of Appeals.

Baptist Press, the news service of the Southern Baptist Convention, attempted to contact Pressler, who was vacationing in Europe, but was unable to do so.

The Office of Government Ethics operates "the ethics program for the entire executive branch" of the federal government, deputy director Donald Campbell told Baptist Press.

Each executive branch agency conducts its own ethics program, usually headed by a person from the general counsel's office in that agency, Campbell said. The Office of Government Ethics then gives advice to those ethics officials, he added.

For example, it helps to examine and maintain standards of conduct and watch for conflict of interest within the agencies, he explained. It also reviews the nomination statements of the presidential appointees that require Senate approval, about 1000-1100 positions. The office, which has 35 employees, also reviews the ethics programs in the agencies, looking for weaknesses and strengths, he said, giving "advice and guidance to the ethics officials."

The office can request agencies to conduct internal ethics investigations and, if they decline, advise the president, Campbell said. And when "ethics matters of high level officials in the executive branch" are involved, the office can conduct the investigation, buttressing the efforts of the agency's own ethics official, he added, citing the investigation of former attorney general Edwin Meese as an example.

Legislation passed last year by Congress elevated the office—which now is

under the Office of Personnel Management—to the status of an independent agency, effective Oct. 1, Campbell noted.

Appointment to the ethics post involves "an extensive confirmation process," an aide to the Senate Committee on Governmental Affairs told Baptist Press. The process includes an FBI background check, actual nomination of the candidate, written questioning by the Senate Committee on Governmental Affairs, a hearing with the committee and votes by both the committee and the full Senate, the aide said.

Attempts by Baptist Press to confirm the nomination were unsuccessful.

"I don't have anything on Pressler," said Cheryl Kienel, special assistant to the director of the White House Media Relations Office. "We don't have anything yet."

The Office of Government Ethics' Campbell told Baptist Press, "I've heard the same rumor. That is as much as I know. I've heard they have floated his name in Congress to see what the response would be."

Pressler, 59, has been one of the architects of the conservative movement within the Southern Baptist Convention. Conservatives have won the SBC presidential elections—the key to controlling the selection of trustees of convention agencies and institutions—the past 11 years.

In 1984 Pressler was elected to the SBC Executive Committee, which acts on behalf of the Convention between its annual meetings. Executive Committee members elected him to a one-year term as vice chairman this summer.

If nominated and confirmed, and if

Pressler accepts the government post, his new status is not expected to affect his standing with the Executive Committee, observers noted.

Normally when a person moves to a new state and changes church membership, the person gives up membership on the Executive Committee, which is allocated by states. However when former Executive Committee member Alan Sears, then an attorney in Louisville, took an assignment with the Justice Department, he maintained his residence and church membership in Kentucky. Observers noted Pressler, a member of First Baptist Church, Houston, could function similarly.

A lifelong Democrat, Pressler shifted to the Republican party in September 1988. During a press conference to announce the change, Pressler said, "Now I recognize that the (Democratic) party has changed. It has left me. It has moved to the far left and has abandoned the principles which have made us a strong nation and a great people. For this reason I can no longer remain in the Democratic party. It is with deep conviction that I join the Republican party in order to stand for those same principles which my former party once stood."

At that time, Pressler also told Baptist Press that with the victory of conservative SBC president Jerry Vines in the summer of 1988, conservatives had gained control of the denomination.

"For the past 12 years (since the conservative effort began), I have not been able to pay attention to anything but family, work and the SBC," he said. "Now I am free to look at some other things I want to do." (BP)

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August 8, 1989

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in the interim

Through a dark and foggy world . . .

I left Paducah at 10:30 p.m. The board of directors of Western Recorder had concluded its listening session at Lone Oak Baptist Church. The meeting had been productive and happy, but one at which the "brethren" (including this one) had waxed a little long. I intended to drive back to Bowling Green that night in order to conduct a funeral for a member the next morning. Paducah is just a long hop, skip and jump from Bowling Green via I-24 and U. S. 68, not an especially long drive. I would be home by 12:30 a.m.

A mile or so out of Paducah the fog set in. It was not dense, just the "patchy" brand. Cruising along the interstate at reasonable speed, I slipped in and out of one patch after another. At length I came to the U. S. 68 exit and eased off to take on gas and call my wife to tell her I'd be home soon. Yes, I told her, there was a little fog, but I knew the road; it was my old familiar path to and from home. Cadiz, Gracey, Hopkinsville. I could drive it blindfolded. No problem.

Turning the car to the east, I ran into very dense fog just a mile or so toward Gracey. The road was well marked and I dropped the speed to 40 or so. I had five or six car lengths of visibility in front. So, passed the graveyard of my grandmother, passed the West Union Church where I was first exposed to Baptist ways, passed the side roads of boyhood I went through the night. The fog eased some at Hopkinsville and I set aside the thought that I had of aunts and cousins with whom I could spend the night. Surely the road ahead was better than the one behind.

It was not. Fairview jumped out of the mist at me. I couldn't see the bottom of the Jeff Davis monument, let alone its top! Then passed Fairview it was as though the bottom dropped out of the road. No side markings on the road, only a dashed and dim middle line. I was driving 20 miles an hour, could not see the sides of the road and was focusing only on one yellow dash after the other. It was now that I realized I was in a bad situation. What would it be? Missing a turn and taking a ditch or being run over by someone who saw my tail lights too late? I started quoting scripture.

I crawled into Elkton at 12:50 a.m., vowing as I groped that I would park the car and stay until sunrise. The town cafe was open, a cup of coffee and sympathetic company waiting. We talked about the fog and other things. A police officer wandered in, Steve Parker by name. It turned out that he was a

member of Hillcrest Baptist Church in Hopkinsville (where I had preached my first sermon 31 years ago) and we fell into the easy conversation two Christians can have even on their first meeting. It was Steve who suggested that I follow the next east bound truck home. So outside we went to the sidewalk to wait and continue our talk about his work and the hard side of dealing with people in trouble.

Around 2:20 a.m. a truck eased through the town square. Steve shook hands with me and I got behind the wheel and went after the trucker. He (I guess it was he) was carrying a load of bricks. If he hit anything in that fog, he'd win! At the edge of town, the trucker took off — first 40, then 50, and finally 60 miles an hour; and right behind him followed one sweaty-palmed Baptist preacher. I focused on his tail lights. When he braked, I braked. When he turned right, I turned right. You get the idea. I followed that guide through the worst fog I had ever seen, at speeds higher than I would have reached on my own. At 2:50 a.m. we flew into Bowling Green, safe and sound.

As we drove together, this unknown trucker and a Baptist preacher, I thought of one verse of scripture: Psalm 119:105. "Thy word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path." We live in a dark and foggy world. We can't find our way, can we? We need a guide through the fog to get us safely home. It's foggy in our homes, at the workplace, in our relationships and even in our church life. Danger is on every side. The word of God, faithfully followed, will get us through the dark night of the world. If I could follow that word as closely as I followed that trucker, I would not need to fear anything. We all need it so desperately—preachers, Sunday school teachers, seminary professors, church leaders, fathers, mothers, children.

I'll tell you one last interesting thing. Not three blocks from my house, that fog lifted! I thought, "That's what the word of God will do for us all. When we come to the end of the journey, the fog will lift, we will have been delivered to the safety of the father's house by our guide and the journey will be a memory." There are hundreds of thousands of Kentuckians still out in the fog of life, wandering around, moving slow. They'll never make it without a guide. Let's give them the word, the witness, the willingness that the Lord himself has provided.

Richard W. Bridges

western recorder

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Curtis C. Mooney
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homes for children



Excitement and sadness

Marilyn Clark, who has been a houseparent at Dixon since it opened in 1983, has decided to return to school to finish her degree. We are excited for her but we are saddened to lose such a capable worker. Her husband Don will continue working with us part time in maintenance.

Her letter of resignation expressed in such a special way her feelings toward this work that I want to share part of it with Kentucky Baptists.

It was in 1983 that I came to the Dixon shelter as a single houseparent. A year later I married and my husband was graciously accepted by my supervisors as a member of the family and staff. The Dixon shelter was our first home together as man and wife. In 1986 our daughter, Valerie Elizabeth, was born. I remember my coworker bringing six teenage girls to see the new arrival...

This has been more than employment for Don and I. It has been a way of life. This is a much needed ministry requiring selfless dedication to long hours and emotional stresses with seemingly little reward at times. There have been many new faces passing in and out of the shelter, some of which have left a lasting memory. I will never forget the little boys who removed our license plates and threw them into the woods, nor the girls who sculptured designs in my hair with shaving cream. I'll remember the many trips to Garden of the Gods, the laughter and excitement on the boys' and girls' faces, many of them in the outdoors and on picnics for the first time in their lives. I'll not soon forget the heart-aches; the girl whose mother died while she was living with us, the girl who cried and cut her wrists because her parents didn't want her, the 16-year-old with a baby and no home....

Nevertheless being an active part of Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children these past six years has been a privileged experience. I would not trade any of the bad or the good because both have given me more awareness of the world we live in and the need for Christ proclaimed through parental example and love shared.



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

on mission together

It pays to know where you're going

"Bill," the caller said quietly before pausing to assemble carefully his next words. "We had you down to be with us this morning." It was already 1:31 p.m. in Louisville and a two-and-a-half hour drive from Gamaliel, near the Tennessee line.

I paused, scrambling for my calendar. "Bob," I groaned, "I have it down for tomorrow!"

Kindly he replied, "I was afraid there might be a mix-up."

"I can come right now, Bob."

"No, don't do that. We have adjusted the program already. You just come on tomorrow and speak to us then."

"I'm terribly sorry," I countered.

"It's alright. Don't worry about it. We'll see you tomorrow." Like many flexible directors of missions, Bob Bottoms had learned to make adjustments.

And it was my mistake. As I reviewed correspondence and the program which had come later, I had been changed from Thursday to Wednesday but hadn't noticed.

With an hour and twenty minutes before the Monroe Baptist Association annual meeting was to begin, I explored the small town.

Seeing the cemetery on the outskirts, I inched and paused along the trail of gravestones. I was struck by the number of persons who had lived to be more than 80. And if the markers were accurate—no death date yet inscribed—there were folks living around there who were well into their nineties and beyond. Is this what living in a small town does for you?

Leaving the hallowed site, I parked in front of a small bargain store. I rummaged around and bought a couple of things at a great price (one of which my wife wonders if I'll ever use).

At 20 minutes till 10:00, I drove to the church. No cars. I went inside. Nobody. Panic! I ran to the car, opened the file, and, sure enough, the meeting on Thursday was to be at Indian Creek. It had been at Gamaliel yesterday.

I suppose I broke all previously held speed records in getting back up the road to the church I had passed about 10 miles back.

At one minute till 10:00, I walked into the church, trying to look composed. Bob smiled (and I later told him the story). During the fellowship meal which followed, I felt at home—forgiven, even appreciated. Good old Baptist folks!

I guess they realized that tired, old executive secretaries don't always know where they are supposed to be either.



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

clear creek chronicle



Clear Creek logo

The Clear Creek logo hangs on the wall behind the chapel pulpit. It is a daily reminder of our school purpose.

The shield: "Above all, taking the shield of faith..." (Eph. 6:16). The school operates by faith Kentucky Baptists and other committed friends will supply the resources for our ministry. Students in this theological school have taken the shield of faith, burning bridges of security behind them by responding to God's call to prepare for Christian service.

The spirit: "...I will pour out in those days of my spirit; and they shall prophesy" (Acts 2:18). The school maintains an interest in Baptist preachers who have yielded to the call to preach after they have reached mature years.

The Bible: "...take...the sword of the spirit, which is the word of God" (Eph. 6:17). From our beginning, Clear Creek has trained men and women who prefer a Bible school. Our only major is Bible. Ministerial preparation centers around the study of the English Bible. We prepare individuals for leadership in Southern Baptist churches. Our accredited degree is accepted for seminary graduate study.

The mountains: from the beginning the school has considered the southern Appalachian mountain region as its distinctive field and works to supply improved Christian leadership for this area. Although the school's special ministry centers in the Appalachian region, students come from some twenty states in the Southern Baptist Convention.

The cross: "That in all things he might have the preeminence" (Col. 1:18). Christ is the center of the school's life. Faculty, staff and students desire to obey Christ's command to bear the cross and share in the ministry of the gospel.



James H. Cox
Associate Editor

fourth estate

Keeping in stitches

When the names of my wife and me went on prayer lists at church and work, friends who had not heard our summer plans reacted with surprise.

I remember someone asking, back at the start of summer, where we planned to spend vacation. "We're taking separate vacations this year," I replied. "Sharon's going to Baptist and I'm going to Suburban."

It was so.

Age is gaining on us (on me a little faster than on Sharon). We realized months ago that a little repair work was in order for both of us this year. It wasn't to be cosmetic, mind you. I could suggest that you can't improve on perfection but you wouldn't buy that. The truth is, we've probably passed the time when cosmetic surgery might have helped if it had been tried, at least in my case.

We've collectively given the same surgeon four shots at us in the last 17 months. Sharon thought we might schedule our most recent surgeries for the same week, a sort of two-for-the-price-of-one deal. "The family in stitches together sympathizes together," she reasoned. But we still have a teenager at home who doesn't drive. It seemed better for one parent to be mobile for transporting while the other was confined. Thus, we set our surgeries 24 days apart.

Each of us had a small facial wart removed about an inch under our right eyes. From that point, the similarity of our scars and stitches ended.

The surgeon took three fairly good-sized tumors from Sharon's thyroid which were, gratefully, benign. He did some follow-up repair to my now famous and near fatal perforated diverticulum operation of 1988. I had developed an incisional hernia in the same spot in my abdomen where surgery was required then. Its removal was successful.

Both of us are now back on our feet and thankful for God's manifold blessings. One of the obvious manifestations of his care has been the outpouring of love from those dear to us at work and church.

My brush with death last year was recorded in the August 1989 issue of *Home Life* ("A Second Chance"). In it I mentioned two discoveries made as a result of that experience: *life is so precious and God is so good!*

I know a lot of roses that I overlooked before have never smelled sweeter. I believe I am here due to the creator and sustainer of life. In him I place my trust and to him I give my allegiance, knowing he can and does deliver. When you walk through the valley of the shadow of death, life will never be quite the same again.

baptist news briefs

Richmond First hosts media workshop Aug. 26

Church media librarians and those interested in media ministry have an opportunity for further training at a statewide church media library workshop at First Baptist Church, Richmond, Aug. 26.

"The Aug. 26 church media library training event will provide an excellent faculty which features the talents of our own special media library workers in Kentucky," explained Denise Hawkins, promotions specialist and church media library state consultant, Kentucky Baptist Convention. "All four leaders have been directors of their respective local church media library staffs and have been president of the Kentucky Baptist Media Library Association."

Faculty and their workshop topics include Margie Bowling, director, media library, Lyndon Baptist Church, Louisville, "TACMO and Bold Mission Thrust: Touching Lives Through Establishing, Developing and Strengthening the TACMO Ministry;" Nancy Hastings, Little Flock Baptist Church, Shepherdsville, and current KBMLA president, "Promotion;" Clara McCart, Crescent Hill Baptist Church, Louisville, "How to Start a Media Library/How to Revive an Existing One;" and Judy Yandell, director, media library, First Baptist Church, London, "How the Church Media Library Can Assist Sunday School Workers Effectively:

Mediagraphies, Training Workshops, Demonstration Teaching, Using Bible Study Helps."

The workshop begins with registration from 8:15-8:45 a.m. A brief assembly precedes the first conference session at 9 a.m. The last conference session concludes at 2:30 p.m. Registration fee is \$15 per person and includes a catered luncheon, some materials and program personnel expenses. Fee deadline is Aug. 18.

For information: Denise Hawkins, Communications Division, Kentucky Baptist Convention, (502) 245-4101.

Baptists are too similar to Pharisees, says Lewis

Southern Baptists are not reaching unchurched people because Southern Baptists are too similar to the Pharisees of Christ's day, the president of the denomination's Home Mission Board said.

Larry Lewis spoke to about 500 pastors and lay people during the board's annual national mass evangelism conference at Two Rivers Baptist Church in Nashville.

The denomination stands in judgment before God for its lack of true evangelistic zeal and concern for a dying world, Lewis said. "The Pharisees were our kind of people. They were big on stewardship, espoused high moral standards, believed the scriptures and were faithful in wor-

ship. Isn't it strange that Jesus released his most biting rebuke on people who were so similar to ourselves?" he questioned. Just as Christ condemned the Pharisees for their hypocrisy, he also is calling Southern Baptists to repentance today, Lewis said.

Southern Baptists are guilty of false evangelism, "at times so anxious to get 'joiners' that we do not spend time to be sure the conversion experience is valid." Lewis continued, "When we draw people to the Lord, we need to be sure we are calling them to commitment and sacrifice rather than to membership in the church on the corner."

In addition the denomination has grown indifferent to people in need outside the doors of the church, Lewis added, explaining that eloquent prayers and sermons never will replace ministry and evangelism.

"If we reach our cities and towns for Christ we'll do it one way, through ministry. Food distribution, job training programs, alcohol rehabilitation programs—the church that is truly the living body of Christ will never run out of prospects if it is committed to ministry in its community," he said, noting such programs should not be ends in themselves but should be redemptive, resulting in conversion and discipleship. (BP)

Nonresident inactive growth is malignant

Any numerical increase concerning Southern Baptist churches usually is perceived as good. But when the jump reflects a gain in nonresident inactive membership over resident membership, it is malignant growth a consultant said.

For three of the past four years, the number of new nonresident inactive church members or those who move away from their churches and do not see fit to join another has far outgrown the number of new resident—active and inactive—church members, said Glenn Smith, a consultant in the growth section of the Baptist Sunday School Board's Church Training Department.

"That means we are losing from the participating membership in larger quantities than we are gaining," Smith said.

"It is great to grow in Sunday school, discipleship training, baptisms and active resident membership. But when nonresident inactive membership (29.6% of the denomination) is growing at 55,000 a year and resident membership is growing at 35,000, that's a growth that will kill you."

Active resident members are those who live within commuting distance of their churches and who have attended or supported their churches financially at least once in the last year. They make up about 50% or 7.4 million of the 14.8 million Southern Baptists, Smith said. Inactive resident members are those who live within commuting distance of their member church and are physically able to attend but have not supported the church in any way within the past 12 months, he said. They number about 20.4% or about three million in the denomination.

To combat the downturn, churches should reach new members and converts at three places: counseling at the point of a decision, extensive biblical training following a decision to accept Christ and new member training in Baptist doctrine and church polity, Smith said. (BP)

Texas pastor considers Annuity presidency

Texas pastor Paul W. Powell has asked for more time to consider an offer to become the president and chief executive officer of the Annuity Board of the Southern Baptist Convention. Powell would succeed Darold H. Morgan, who has asked to retire Mar. 1 1990 after 18 years in the position.

The 17-year pastor of Green Acres Baptist Church in Tyler, Powell agreed to reconsider an earlier decision to decline nomination after trustees voted unanimously to ask him to accept.

Powell, a trustee for five years, was the choice of a seven-member search committee chaired by George H. Balentine Jr., a South Carolina industrialist.

Balentine said the committee had considered 41 persons to head the \$2.8 billion pension and insurance agency before settling on Powell. "We were so convinced that he is the one God wants for this position that we told Paul we wanted to nominate him in spite of his answer of 'no.'"

Green Acres Baptist Church, with 7000 members, is a leader in Texas Baptist Bible study, evangelism and missions. Some 2500 gather each week for Sunday school. In addition to baptizing from 175-200 persons per year and contributing 10 percent of its budget to the Cooperative Program, the church sponsors eight local missions: two Hispanic, one black, one Korean and four Anglo. The church's 1989 budget is \$2.5 million. Sunday school attendance in the missions totals 500 a week.

Acknowledging the difficulty of deciding to leave a happy and growing pastorate, Powell said, "I'll share openly with my people. They are a mature, praying people who want me to do what God wants."

European Baptist Congress largest ever

More than 5000 people registered for the European Baptist Federation Congress in Budapest, Hungary, making it the largest federation gathering ever.

Congress participants came from every country of western Europe and East Germany, Poland, Czechoslovakia, the Soviet Union and, for the first time, Bulgaria. Participants also came from as far away as Ghana, the Philippines and Cuba as well as the United States.

The opening session included an address by Hungary's National Assembly president, Matyas Szuros, who praised Baptists, explaining they are contributing in making needed "structures of a new society." He spoke appreciatively of the "values of the democratically controlled model in Baptist churches."

The president's speech was praised by Janos Viczian, himself a member of the Hungarian Parliament. He is president of the 11,000-member Hungarian Baptist Union. "Our political situation has changed," Viczian said. "We have a real reform situation in Hungary."

Evangelist Billy Graham addressed the July 29 closing session, an evangelistic rally in People's Stadium. (BP)

THE KENTUCKY BAPTIST CHORALE IN SACRED CONCERT

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Mr. Ken Goforth, Instrumental Conductor

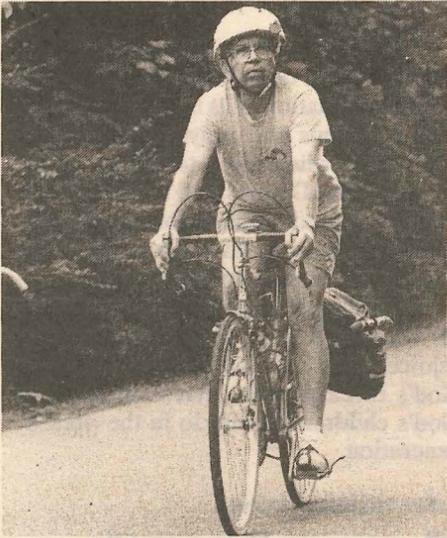
August 14-17, 1989

Concert Schedule

Day/Date/Time	Location
Monday, August 14, 7:30 p.m.	First Baptist Church 307 Center Street Henderson, KY
Tuesday, August 15, 6:30 p.m.	Deer Park Baptist Church 1733 Bardstown Road Louisville, KY
Wednesday, August 16, 6:15 p.m.	Immanuel Baptist Church 3100 Tates Creek Road Lexington, KY
Thursday, August 17, 7:30 p.m.	Harrodsburg Baptist Church 312 South Main Street Harrodsburg, KY

Free Admission

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Kentucky Baptist Convention



Stanley Howell takes his trip to Ridgecrest (N. C.) Conference Center on bicycle.

Former Kentuckian bikes to Ridgecrest

In 1948, as a young staffer at Ridgecrest Baptist Conference Center, Stanley Howell made up his mind to ride a bicycle from his home to the conference grounds near Asheville, N. C. some day.

Forty-one years later, Howell, manager of the growth section in the Baptist Sunday School Board's Church Training Department, has finally fulfilled that promise he made to himself while dipping ice cream behind a counter at the nibble nook.

On July 8 the 64-year-old Howell, formerly of Louisville, hopped aboard his Shogun touring bike and began the 320-mile trek to the Church Training Leadership Conference, a trip that took him seven days and six nights to complete.

Howell took up bicycling as a hobby in 1988 after a visit to the doctor. "A while back my doctor told me I ought to do something great, something important I could say I did, and finish it," Howell said. "He said to get rid of some of my stress at work, I needed to have a hobby outside my work, something I could get wrapped up in."

Howell took his doctor's advice and bought a \$99 bicycle last August, the first he could ever claim all his own. He rode that for several months to determine if he would like biking. Then in March he graduated to the 18-speed touring bike he now peddles.

The 320-mile trip to Ridgecrest is not the culmination of Howell's biking goals. He wants to ride 100 miles in one day, a feat he believes his body can handle, but perhaps not his watch.

"I think I can do it physically. I just have to find the time." (BP)

Glen Dale resident places in national angus show

by Beth Prassel

Residents at Glen Dale Children's Home have raised cattle for years as part of the 4-H program. Youth who choose to participate in cattle projects are used to showing their animals at county fairs and other competitions. However Glen Dale recently sponsored a resident for the first time in the National Junior Angus Show.

Seventeen-year-old Rebecca Kessenger, a resident at Glen Dale for five years, showed her heifer, Velvet Sky, in the national competition held at the Kentucky State Fairgrounds, Louisville, July 17-20. Out of a class of 14 cows, Miss Kessenger's animal won seventh place.

Kessenger says she "was expecting a lower rank." This year is only her second in cattle showing and she is pleased with her place in the competition.

Originally from Owensboro, Miss Kessenger says she had never seen a cow before coming to Glen Dale. "All the animals I had ever seen were on TV."

Carl "Butch" Nunn, Glen Dale livestock director and supervisor of cattle projects, says he was elated with Miss Kessenger's showing. Nunn recalls how Miss Kessenger first became interested in cattle. When one calf, Independent Lady, was born in November 1987, the mother rejected it and would not care for it. "Becky loved the calf and wanted to

mother it."

For seven months, Miss Kessenger bottle fed the baby calf. "I don't recall her missing a feeding," says Nunn.

She, like all other Glen Dale youth who have animal projects, went through a long process in preparing to show her heifer. According to Nunn, one who wishes to show an animal must "achieve and maintain a consistent level (of care and responsibility). That person first must take care of home chores and responsibilities (before continuing an animal project)."

Each youth becomes acquainted with and builds trust with the animal. "(An animal project) goes a long way in teaching our kids about trust."

After the youth gradually learns how to feed and care for the animal, Nunn teaches him or her "sportsmanship and showmanship. You are not able to show well," he says, "without ring awareness, a constant awareness of everything going on inside the show ring." A contestant, explains Nunn, must watch the judges, the other contestants and the animal.

Judges for the national show evaluate cattle in several areas, according to Nunn. They look for correctness in standing and walking and consider "how well the animal is put together." Cows are also judged on femininity. Nunn says a feminine cow has, among other characteristics, a long narrow head, shoulders that blend in with the rest of the body and an angular appearance from front to back.

Sponsored by the Kentucky Angus and

Junior Angus Association, the show was held in Kentucky for the first time since 1977, says Nunn, who also serves on the board of directors for the association.

Although participants in the show do not have to be members, Glen Dale Children's Home does hold membership in the association. Its benefits include communication with other Kentucky angus breeders and encouragement of good breeding and feeding principles.

Nunn feels fortunate to have the support of the Kentucky Angus Association. "We owe it to them to do the best job we can in developing our herd."

Nunn testifies that many youth at Glen Dale have been led to turn their lives around through the livestock projects. "I have seen a marked difference in many lives....We can teach life, death and responsibility with livestock projects."

Miss Kessenger's heifer represents a second generation of cattle born and raised at Glen Dale. She cared for Velvet Sky from her birth in March 1988. She says she has learned confidence in raising the cow and preparing to show her.

For Miss Kessenger the most rewarding aspect of competition is "to be able to show (Velvet Sky) well and know that she's mine, that I worked toward it. It makes me feel good about myself."

Miss Kessenger plans to leave Glen Dale in September to try independent living. After high school, she wants to attend college and study to become a veterinarian or an occupational therapist.



Rebecca Kessenger shows Velvet Sky at the National Junior Angus Show.

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Barkley Moore
President
Oneida Baptist Institute
Oneida, KY 40972

oneida journal

Midnight moonlight tour

I awoke to a beautiful Saturday morning and a slight breeze. I just knew it was going to be a special day. Each day is given to us by God to do something for him.

I stopped by the gym to find volleyball practice going strong. We have a group of very fine girls on the team and a new coach, a native of Alaska, that God has led to our work. She and her husband, a graduate of our school, were married here last spring. Both are teaching and very committed.

From there I walked on to the student workshop where a group of our boys were sorting several truckloads of equipment, much of it new, donated to us the day before by a Lexington company. Included were a number of high quality small wooden table tops that we can put legs on for study tables in dorm rooms. The boys sorted out at least \$1000 worth of new kitchen equipment and carried it to our kitchen.

Looking beyond the shop I found another large crew gathering watermelons, pumpkins and beautiful tomatoes. The melons have been especially tasty this summer and I could visualize the pumpkin pies. The tomatoes are being frozen for juice this winter and to be used for soups on wintery days.

My attention was directed to a tree-shaded portion of our track where our cheerleading squad was yelling during one of their first practices of the year. My memory flashed back forty years when I first became aware of cheerleaders.

Looking beyond I saw and heard our marching band at work. They are working daily on their show for our Homecoming. I learned they were to play that afternoon at a neighboring school's football game.

As I started to cross our new swinging bridge over Goose Creek, I turned back to look at the main campus. There have been so many additions that the view is now quite different. A large number of our cross country team came running by for morning practice with a three mile run. Leading the group was a girl from Texas who has been with us three years. Her aunt graduated from here in 1975.

A chain on our potato digger had just broken when I got to the farm. Already hundreds of bushels had been dug in the morning hours and seven of our boys were busy carting the filled wooden crates into our large underground potato cellar.

I paused for a delightful hour-long visit with Mr. and Mrs. Henry Walters, who came to join our work this summer as volunteers. Mr. Walters was a public school teacher and assistant principal for thirty years who most recently pastored Great Crossing Baptist Church for 15 years. Now he is teaching full time at OBI and Mrs. Walters is working with our guidance counselor. They are both "loving it."

Walking back across the bridge I could hear the noontime chimes echoing across our beautiful valley. I walked up the stone steps laid in the past month from the athletic field to the main campus and went on to eat in the dining room. There I met a man and his wife who had just arrived with 915 bushels of shelled corn as a gift to the school. I showed them our new film and gave them a campus tour. During the film I went through the day's mail.

The remainder of the afternoon was spent showing a 1931 graduate and longtime teacher recent improvements. Then a former trustee and his wife came with a pastor and his wife from Florida. I spent several hours with them, as well as with the grandparents of one of our students who arrived from Michigan.

Then I ate supper and watched a Walt Disney movie with our students. Afterwards I spent several hours with some of our former students preparing to go back to college. At 11:25 p.m. one of our '88 graduates arrived with her boyfriend from Alabama wanting him to see everything! We did, by the light of a full moon, getting through at 2:25 a.m.! Another day!

Reprinted from Western Recorder, Sept. 13, 1988.



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

sunday school lessons

Lessons for Aug. 13, 1989

Life and work series

Obeying God

Psalm 1:1-3 In these verses the writer tells of the blessedness of the godly man and makes it clear that abiding happiness is not dependent upon what we have in our hands but upon what we have in our hearts.

The godly man does not walk in the counsel of the self-willed. He shuns bad company. The godly man does not stand in the way of sinners. Their way is sure to end in disappointment, misery and regret. The godly man does not sit in the seat of the scornful. A scorner has a proud spirit of self-sufficiency and a contempt for God.

The godly man delights in the word of God. He reads it gladly, frequently, thoughtfully, prayerfully, submissively and profitably. In it he finds enrichment for his mind, cheer for his heart and God's message for his soul. The godly man also flourishes perennially. An informed child of God has three qualities similar to a tree: firmness, fruitfulness and freshness.

Psalm 119:97-106 By the term "law" the psalmist meant the written revelation of the will and ways of God. In contrast with those whose minds were at enmity with God and who rejected the written word, the psalmist delighted in that word

and gave great devotion to it. Because of his high estimation of its intrinsic value, he gave it serious and prayerful study and applied its wholesome teachings to his personal life. Determined to walk in the way which God outlined for him he persisted in removing whatever might cause him to walk in the wrong way.

The psalmist sang praises to God for all that God had done for him. He rejoiced that he had yielded to doing God's revealed will. That is what all of God's children should do in the present generation.

International series

The commitment of Ruth

Ruth 1:1-8 To escape a terrible famine in their own land, Elimelech and his wife Naomi and their sons, Mahlon and Chilion, migrated to the land of Moab, a pagan country on the opposite side of the Dead Sea. After leading his family in paths of disobedience to God, Elimelech died.

Mahlon and Chilion married Orpah, both of whom were Moabite women, which was something God had forbidden. Within ten years both Mahlon and Chilion passed away, and the three widows were left in seemingly destitute circumstances.

Heartbroken and lonely and craving the fellowship of her own people in the hour of trial, Naomi decided that it was time for her to go home and spend her last days among her friends of former years. Her devoted daughters-in-law started on the journey with her and accompanied her to the border between Moab and Judah. Three times she urged them to return to their homes because she was exceedingly anxious about their future welfare. Orpah yielded, but Ruth refused due to her love for Naomi and God.

Ruth 1:16-18 In begging to go with Naomi, Ruth promised to stay with her at all times and to identify herself with Naomi's people. She expressed her resolution to travel with Naomi anywhere, to live with her in any place, to accept Naomi's people as her own, to adopt Naomi's belief in God and to die with her at any time. Ruth clearly declared, "Whither thou goest, I will go; where thou lodgest, I will lodge; thy people shall be my people; thy God shall be my God; where thou diest, will I die and there will I be buried."

mountains to the mississippi

personnel

James B. (Jim) Lewis announced his intention to retire from a 21-year pastorate at Westport Road Baptist Church, Louis-



Lewis



Hurt

ville, Long Run Association, effective Dec. 31, 1989. A native Louisvillian, Lewis will turn 65 Oct. 15. He is believed to be the first person to serve three Kentucky Baptist pastorates in his native city, including Ormsby Avenue (1953-55) and Rockford Lane (1959-68). Other pastorates include Clarks Creek Baptist Church, Grant County (1950-52) and First Baptist Church, Corbin (1956-58). During his tenure at Westport Road the church has quadrupled membership, built an educational facility and a new worship center, remodeled an existing building, significantly increased offerings and missions giving and gone from one to three full time staff ministers. Lewis was president of the Kentucky Baptist Convention in 1984-85.

Billy G. Hurt presented his resignation as pastor of First Baptist Church, Frankfort, Franklin Association, at the church's regular business meeting July 19. In announcing Hurt's decision, Jacques Burkhart, chairman of the personnel committee, noted that the official records of the church would show "...that Hurt's resignation was not asked for by the church, is not the result of dereliction of duty, moral failure or inadequate performance of his pastoral tasks, but is rather the result of his belief that at this point in the life of First Baptist Church, leadership is needed to positively and enthusiastically guide the church to the realization of its plans for the future." Hurt further described his decision by stating, "I do not consider that I am leaving the ministry to

which I sincerely believe God in his grace and purpose has called me. Instead I will simply not be exercising my call and gifts as pastor of First Baptist Church Frankfort." He expressed a hope and desire to be of service to churches as interim pastor, supply speaker and Bible teacher. Hurt and his wife Schar plan to make their home in the Paducah area where Mrs. Hurt has been employed by the Paducah Independent School Board.

Hurt has served the Frankfort congregation since October 1977. The church recently voted overwhelmingly to remain in its historic downtown location.

Liberty Baptist Church, Tates Creek Association, called Bill Pack as pastor.

SWBTS official gains support, doesn't ask people for money

by Scott Collins

John Seelig has a simple method of raising support for Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Ft. Worth, Tex. — don't ask people for money.

If success is any measurement, Seelig's method has worked to the tune of more than \$65 million during his tenure as chief development officer at the seminary. Those funds are used by the school to supplement gifts from the Cooperative Program.

Seelig's successes as a seminary fund raiser and his other contributions to Southern Baptist life led members of the seminary's national Alumni Association to award him their distinguished alumni award for 1989.

Since joining the seminary's staff in 1960 as assistant to then president Robert Naylor, Seelig has been "telling the story of the seminary" to anyone who will listen.

"The joy of the last 30 years has been introducing people to the seminary. Every time I do, they are amazed at what they find."

While many people would find financial solicitation uncomfortable, Seelig called it "natural; it is the joy of my job because it's working with people. I have not asked very many people for money," he said. "What I've tried to do is to present the seminary and the needs of the seminary and let them speak for themselves.

"My philosophy is that I care more about the people than what they give to the seminary. I'm interested in their total lives. I'm interested in their stewardship development and in seeing them do with their material possessions what they feel God wants them to do and to show how their resources can become a permanent investment in the kingdom of God."

Perhaps the greatest contribution of Seelig's 30 years at Southwestern has been the man himself.

"You could not overstate the contribution of John Seelig to the seminary," said Naylor. "His sense of personal debt, his total loyalty, his creative mind and his ability to be a team player — all of these have combined to make up one of the most prolific contributions in the life of this institution."

Seelig, vice president for public affairs at Southwestern, has used his office to direct the seminary's fund raising efforts, public relations, news and information and alumni activities.

And while raising money and directing public relations for an institution may not fit the standard definition of "ministry," for Seelig, proclaiming Christ through the training of ministers is very much a ministry.

"If you're called to be a minister you're to be a minister no matter what you're doing," he said.

That call came to Seelig through the prayers of friends at Hardin-Simmons University in Abilene, Tex., where he was a student in the 1940s.

Raised in a staunch German Lutheran home, Seelig went to Hardin-Simmons at the urging of a high school teacher.

"I argued for three and a half years that there was no way you could know that you were saved. That was foreign to my think-

ing. But because of the influence of some very outstanding Christian students who prayed for me, I accepted Christ during a campus revival," Seelig said.

The call to ministry came while Seelig was teaching at Schreiner Institute, Kerrville, Tex., in 1946. He sensed a call to student work and enrolled in Southwestern in 1947. That same year he married Virginia Garrett on Oct. 16.

At Southwestern Seelig came under the influence of Floy Barnard, professor of educational arts and dean. "She did so much more than teach," he said. "Her whole life was an inspiration and challenge."

Uncertainty about future ministry led Seelig back to Schreiner Institute after he graduated from Southwestern in 1949. He taught another year then got a telephone call from B. O. Baker, now the retired pastor of Plymouth Park Baptist Church, Dallas.

"He told me he didn't think it was right of me to be doing what I was doing. He said I needed to get back in the ministry," Seelig said.

Baker's church at the time, Birchman Avenue Baptist in Ft. Worth, called Seelig as minister of education in 1950. He later rejoined his seminary friend Loyed Simmons at Highland Baptist Church in Dallas and served with the Dallas Baptist Association and the Baptist General Convention of Texas.

In 1958 Seelig joined the staff at Travis Avenue Baptist Church, Ft. Worth, where Naylor was pastor. A month later J. Howard Williams, president of Southwestern, died and Naylor took over in August.

In December 1959 Naylor invited Seelig to visit him at Southwestern. "The first thing he said was, 'How would you

Southern Baptist sound may change after 1991 with orchestration of new Baptist hymnal

by Charles Willis

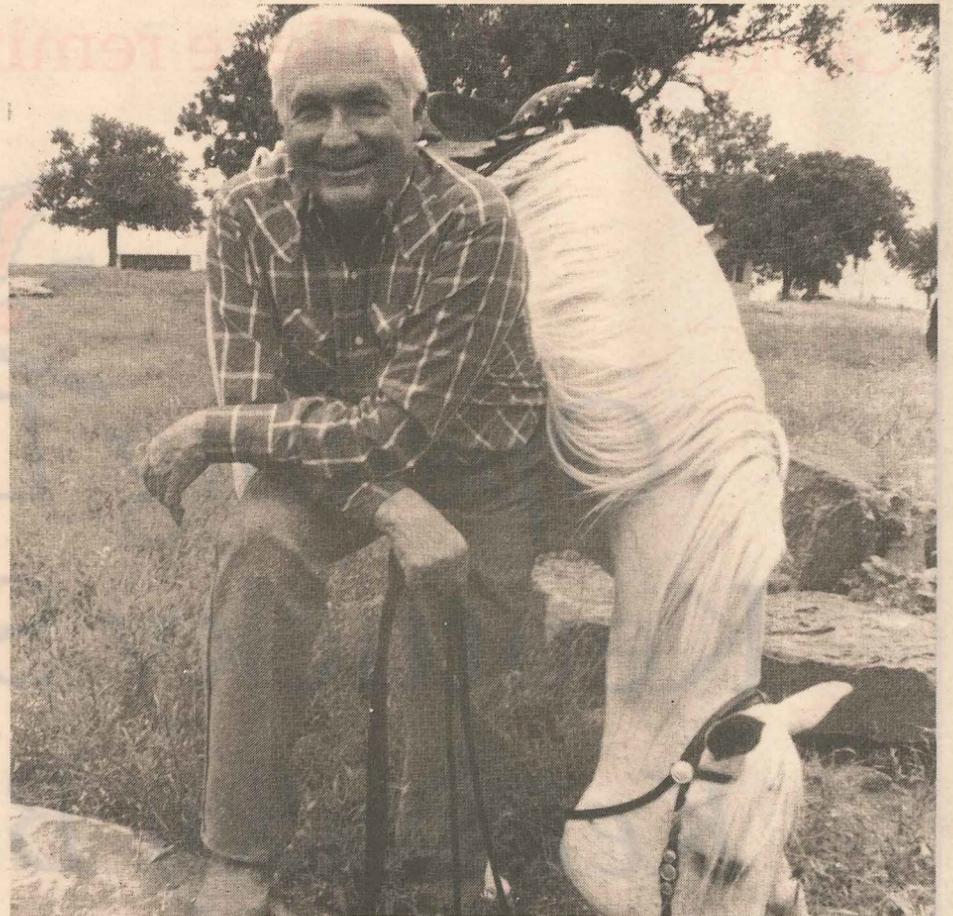
After 1991 Southern Baptists will be able to sing hymns and choruses to the accompaniment of a guitar and flute duet, a group of handbell ringers or a full fledged orchestra.

Work has begun on 17 instrumental editions of the Baptist Hymnal with some 25 Southern Baptist instrumentalists from churches, colleges and seminaries working on hymns already selected for the book.

Camp Kirkland, composer and clinician from Jacksonville, Fla., and coordinator of orchestration for the project, said orchestration of all the anticipated 565 to 570 hymns will be done for specific instruments, including handbells and guitar. In contrast only selected hymns were orchestrated after release of the Baptist hymnal 1975 edition and those used a choir format with parts for soprano, alto, tenor and bass instruments.

"Our goal is to have varied styles," Kirkland said, "while offering consistent format, range and level of difficulty."

The creative music director will be



John Seelig relaxes with his Arabian horse Icy Blue.

like to go into the school business?"

Seelig went to work as assistant to the president on Feb. 1, 1960 and was soon in charge of the seminary's public relations, plowing new ground and "feeling our way as we went."

Among that new ground has been civic involvement. Seelig believes ministers can "have their greatest impact as a witness." In 1988 he was elected as a director of the southwestern exposition and livestock show in Ft. Worth, a direct result of his hobby — horses.

Today, Seelig owns four Arabian and rides regularly as a form of relaxation

which he calls his "salvation physically" since suffering a heart attack in 1965. He also enjoys cooking and raising African violets.

After 30 years at Southwestern, Seelig continues "to feel more of God's definite, specific leadership" in the work of the seminary. His wife Virginia has been a part of that work as associate professor of voice until her retirement in 1985.

"The seminary has become my life and everything I am or have or ever will have is because of Southwestern Seminary. It's given meaning and purpose to me," Seelig says.

able to adapt instrumental editions for any situation, Kirkland said.

"Different instruments can be used to create the flow of the hymns. By varying the instrumentation among stanzas, unique orchestral arrangements can result, giving the congregation a sense of singing an involved, specially written arrangement."

"... Southern Baptist are leading the way in instrumental church music ..."

Kirkland said some hymns will have special last-verse harmonization "that will provide a more climactic, more meaningful sound."

Another feature of the 17 editions will be sequential printing of certain hymns and choruses that can be played as medleys, with transitional material provided. Kirkland said such medleys can be the basis for minimusical services for special

events, emphases and seasons.

To aid instrumentalists in identifying with the messages of the hymns, Kirkland said all texts will be included in all editions, "so when the instrumentalists are not playing, they can sing."

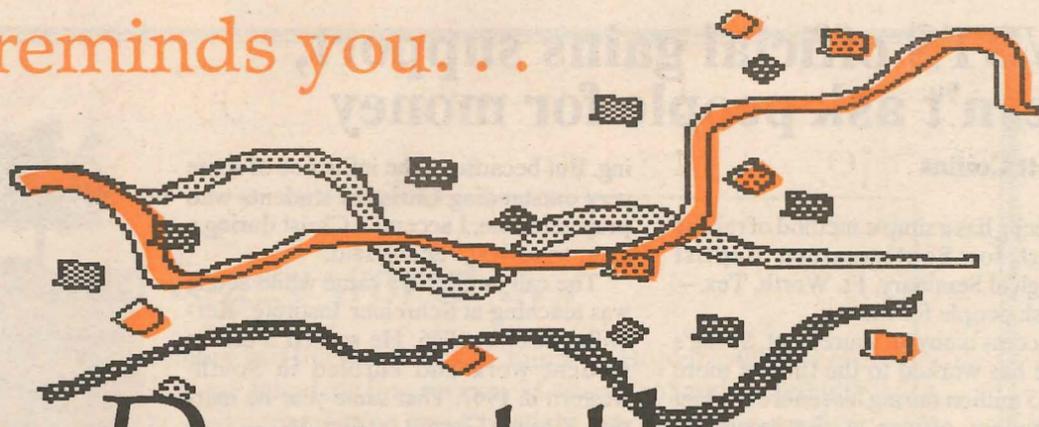
He said complete orchestration of the hymnal is "a massive, expensive project but a ministry tool. Because Southern Baptists are leading the way in instrumental church music, we want this hymnal to be a viable ministry tool for them."

Kirkland estimated there are more than 40,000 instrumentalists who play in Southern Baptist churches today. While churches that use instruments may not have full orchestras, he said instrumental editions will coordinate with organ and piano editions so any number of combination of instruments can be used.

Editions in addition to handbell will be obbligato, flute, oboe, clarinet, trumpet one and two, trumpet three, French horn, alto saxophone, trombone one and two, tenor saxophone, C bass, violin, viola, percussion, rhythm (with guitar chords) and a complete conductor's score.

"...Southern Baptists are leading the way in instrumental church music..."

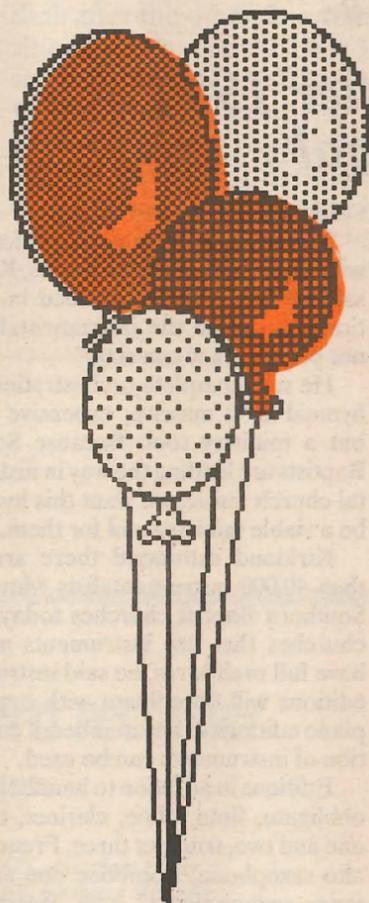
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**Thursday, August 17, 1989 from
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