

AUGUST 18, 1992 VOL. 166, NO. 32

## FOR THE RECORD

## Missions takes students high &amp; low

By Mark Wingfield  
News Director

Summer has been a season of extremes for Kentucky Baptist college students serving as summer missionaries.

The students report experiencing some of their highest highs and lowest lows during 10-week assignments that have taken them across the state and around the world for a variety of ministries.

At Greentree Center in Bethesda, Md., children struck at Kristen Minks and spat in her face because they were so full of anger. But other children embraced her and begged to go home with her because they were so short on love.

Minks, a student at Murray State University, is one of 77 Baptist Student Union members who served under appointment of the Kentucky Baptist Convention's student department this summer. About 300 additional Kentucky students served in other summer mission roles, some appointed by the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board, Foreign Mission Board or other agencies.

"My word for the summer is learning," Minks said after several weeks of work in the shelter for battered and homeless women and children. "No two days are vaguely similar, and I rejoice in the possibilities for learning each day. Many things have shocked me and hurt my heart here."

Likewise, Jennifer Parks of Spalding University faced new challenges at Baptist Friendship House in New Orleans, where she worked with low-income children, youth and senior adults.

"I have been challenged to give everything I am to God in ways I

In New Mexico, Mary Baldrige of Berea College also discovered ways to meet the spiritual needs of children. "I've seen a lot of things in my life, but nothing compares to seeing a child that is unloved by his family experience the love of God in a very real way," she said.

Sometimes, student missionaries found they learned more than the people they were trying to teach.

Tara Young of Western Kentucky University led vacation Bible schools in Brushton and Massena, N.Y. She met a blind boy at one of those Bible schools, who impressed her with his

personality and wide circle of friends.

"What impressed me most is his trust in his peers," she recalled. "He has complete confidence in their guidance. Do I have that kind of 'blind' faith to simply put my life in the hands of Christ, not knowing where he will

See Summer missionaries ..., page 3

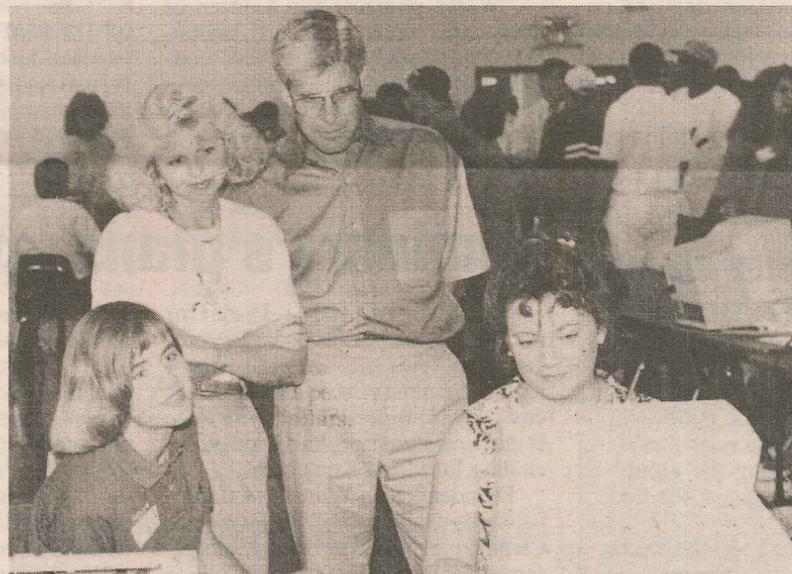
## Back to school

More on page 6:

- Tips for church ministries before & after school
- See You at the Pole planned for Sept. 16

didn't know I could," she said. "I have seen his love embrace the people I have come in contact with."

Further, the questions asked by teen-agers "have challenged my beliefs, and the situations they've had to deal with in their early teen-age years break my heart."



**BACK TO SCHOOL** Donna Deweese (left) and her parents, Karen and Phil Deweese of Franklin, watch as Tammy Lawson enters data for Deweese's enrollment at Campbellsville College. She was among a group of students attending summer orientation prior to the school's fall semester, which begins Aug. 26. Kentucky Baptists support three liberal arts colleges—Campbellsville, Georgetown College in Georgetown, and Cumberland College in Williamsburg. (Photo by Joan McKinney)

## FMB: Pray for rain in Africa

RICHMOND, Va. (BP)—The Foreign Mission Board is asking Southern Baptists to pray for millions of Africans affected by war and drought.

"Several million people are suffering, and many are dying for lack of food. The sight of people hungry and thirsty ... having no hope, that's what drives me to request prayer," explained Bill Bullington, the FMB's vice president for Africa.

This century's worst drought in southern Africa has wiped out between 50 and 90 percent of the region's cereal crops. By September, 30 million people in the region will need outside food assistance to survive, according to the U.S. Committee for Refugees, a private research organization in Washington, D.C.

Bullington also asked Southern Baptists to pray for people in Somalia, where civil war and drought have plunged the nation into a desperate state. Relief workers in the region say the disintegration of the country surpasses the more publicized horrors seen in Sarajevo, Bosnia-Herzegovina.

"A bad day in Sarajevo would be a good day in Somalia," said a relief worker who recently returned from east Africa, where Somalia is situated.

The Red Cross drew a similar conclusion. "The situation in Somalia is the worst humanitarian crisis in the world today," said the director-general of the British Red Cross.

About 5,000 people a week die from starvation in Somalia and 1.5 million are at "extreme risk of starvation in the next few months," concluded the U.S. Committee for Refugees.

The crisis in Somalia offers an important opportunity for the

See FMB urges prayer ..., page 9

## Welcome, student readers!

With this issue, the Western Recorder begins a joint venture with the Kentucky Baptist Convention's student department to send the Recorder to Baptist Students Unions across the state once a month. Students on many of the campuses where there are BSUs will receive a special edition of the Recorder, with a statewide campus ministries newsletter on the back page. Some of these BSUs, such as the University of Kentucky and the University of Louisville, will publish their own campus newsletters on the inside back page.

## Study shows Christians give less, churches keep more

By Mark Wingfield  
News Director

American Christians continue to give a smaller percentage of their income to churches, and a decreasing percentage of what they do give passes beyond the church to benevolent and missions causes.

That's the finding of John and Sylvia Ronsvalle, co-authors of a new independent report, "The State of Church Giving through 1990."

With a grant from the Lilly Endowment, the Ronsvalles have tracked giving patterns from 1968 to 1990 in 31 U.S. denominations, including the Southern Baptist Convention.

In 1990, giving as a percentage of income reached a 23-year low among these 30 million church members, they found.

This indicator has been sliding slowly downward since 1968, when

church members on average gave 3.05 percent of their income to their churches. By 1990, that had decreased to 2.60 percent of income.

Further, the rate of this 23-year decrease accelerated between 1985 and 1990, they found. The percentage of income donated declined 0.19 percent in that five-year period, compared to a 0.26 percent decrease in the preceding 17-year period of 1968 to 1985.

But as Christians have been giving smaller percentages to churches, their own personal wealth has been increasing, the Ronsvalles point out. For example, per capita giving increased only 3 percent from 1985 to 1990, while U.S. per capita disposable personal income increased 11 percent.

Figured in current dollars, total contributions to churches have increased somewhat every year since 1968. But figured in constant 1982 dollars, total contributions decreased in 1990 for the first time since 1975.

Contributions to benevolences—defined in this study as any money that passes beyond the local church to mission boards or other denominational causes—also have increased annually in current dollars. But figured in constant 1982 dollars, contributions to benevolences have declined in nine of the past 13 years.

This trend climaxed in 1990, the only year in which total contributions and benevolence contributions measured in constant dollars decreased but contributions to congregational finances increased. That means churches nationwide collected less in constant dollars but claimed more of that money for themselves while sending less out for benevolent causes such as missions.

This is especially significant, Sylvia Ronsvalle explained, because it is a national trend that cuts across denominational lines and cannot be explained by internal denominational

conflicts.

"While the per-member contribution to benevolences during the 23-year period increased, it was by such a slight amount that one might say support for benevolences was virtually the same in 1990 as it was in 1968," the report notes. Figured in 1982 constant dollars, the average per capita contribution to benevolences was \$53.08 in 1968 and \$53.13 in 1990—a 5 cent difference.

The Ronsvalles' study also examines the effects of economic recession on church giving. They conclude that there is no clear pattern to equate the beginning of a recession with a decrease in church giving.

However, they warn that decreasing financial stewardship among church members could be a contributing factor to America's current social condition.

"If the church has been a guardian

See Christians give less ..., page 9

# BAPTISTS

## BAPTIST BITS

■ **Covenant Baptist Church** in Houston has become the first church to cut its ties with the Southern Baptist Convention to protest actions taken by the SBC in June regarding homosexuality. The 75-member congregation said it will not surrender control to a "religious hierarchy" that creates a test of fellowship based on the one issue of homosexuality.

■ **250 "key churches"** are sought by the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board. These churches would commit to start at least five other churches in the next five years, a method that has proved effective in church growth, according to the HMB's J.V. Thomas.

■ **Baptist leaders** from six Midwest states have appealed to their Southern Baptist churches to share at least 10 percent of their offerings through the Cooperative Program, Southern Baptists' unified missions budget. The appeal was made by leaders from Illinois, Ohio, Michigan, Indiana, Iowa and Minnesota-Wisconsin.

■ **L.H. Moore**, editor emeritus of the Ohio Baptist Messenger and former editor of the Illinois Baptist, died in Salem, Ill., Aug. 10 after suffering the past few months with an inoperable brain tumor. Moore, 82, is survived by his wife, Neoma, and four sons.

■ **Elizabeth Scales**, one of the first American women to teach constitutional history, died Aug. 11 in Winston-Salem, N.C., at 74. The wife of James Ralph Scales, president emeritus of Wake Forest University, she was the first woman to earn a master's degree in politics from the University of Oklahoma. She later taught constitutional history at Oklahoma Baptist University.

## SBC sued for \$2 million in Tennessee abuse cases

CHATTANOOGA, Tenn. (BP)—A \$2 million lawsuit has been filed against the Southern Baptist Convention in connection with child molestation cases that occurred at the Tennessee church where the current chairman of the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board is pastor.

The suit alleges that Ron Phillips, pastor of Central Baptist Church of Hixson in Chattanooga, Tenn., failed to investigate concerns about Donald McCary, who was then minister of music and youth.

McCary was convicted in April of 13 counts involving aggravated sexual battery, assault, sexual battery, rape and statutory rape of four boys who were 12 to 15 years of age at the time the incidents occurred. McCary was given a maximum 72-year sentence and is in the county jail awaiting transfer to a state prison.

Phillips, who serves as the HMB's trustee chairman, was in no way charged in the assaults. However, lawsuits filed against the SBC, the church, the Tennessee Baptist Convention and Hamilton County Baptist Association allege Phillips failed to take action that could have prevented the abuse.

The plaintiffs argue Phillips did not investigate after a member of the congregation, in 1989, raised con-

cerns about McCary's contacts with the member's son.

The church's attorney, Richard Bethea, said he is "absolutely confident the church will be exonerated."

"The church simply did not know any more than the parents of the children knew" of McCary's alleged abuse, Bethea said. "This came as an absolute shock to everyone."

And the allegation that Phillips was confronted and failed to act is "patently false," Bethea added. "At no time did anyone ever report to the pastor or any other church official any concerns that Mr. McCary may be engaging in the conduct that resulted in his arrest and prosecution."

James Guenther, SBC general counsel, predicted the SBC will be dismissed from the suits, as will the Tennessee convention and local Baptist association.

The suits contend McCary was "employed and/or under the direction and control of" the church and the other Baptist bodies.

"We've probably had a dozen of these cases where a plaintiff has undertaken to show that the SBC controls a minister," said Guenther, who has handled SBC legal affairs since 1966. Plaintiffs never have been able to show that the SBC has any control over local church ministers, he said.



**ON THE BEAT** Southern Baptist missionary physician Jean Dickman checks a child's heartbeat during morning rounds at the Baptist hospital in Jibla, Yemen. The hospital has been an isolated outpost of high-quality care for 25 years. But it could be forced to close if the government does not approve increased patient fees for those who can afford it. In the past 25 years, medical workers have registered about 340,000 patients, treating up to 40,000 per year. (BP photo by Don Rutledge)

## Fellowship meets missions budget

ATLANTA (ABP)—Seven months into the budget year, the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship has met its missions goal of \$1 million, prompting the group's coordinator to suggest the goal was set too low.

"The sad thing and the joyous thing is we didn't budget high enough," Coordinator Cecil Sherman said. "We will correct that next year."

Sherman described Baptist response to the Fellowship's mission effort as "more gratifying, more generous than we had hoped." Currently 653 Baptist churches are channeling money through the Fellowship, he said, and the roll increases by about 36 churches a month.

Early success of the Fellowship's mission program has prompted mission leaders to expand the \$2.5 million missions budget established for 1993, Sherman added.

The Fellowship's missions committee, meeting July 23-24 in Atlanta, approved several new projects—including a half-million-dollar outreach into Albania—and set a goal and theme for the Fellowship's first special offering for missions.

Sherman also said many more people have sought appointment as missionaries by the Fellowship than the organization can afford to hire now.

## Seminary's plans upset college presidents

NASHVILLE (BP)—Plans for two new undergraduate degree programs at New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary have drawn strong criticism from presidents of 31 state Baptist colleges and universities, including four from Kentucky.

Presidents Ken Winters of Campbellsville College, Bill Whittaker of Clear Creek Baptist Bible College, James Taylor of Cumberland College and William Crouch of Georgetown College are among the signers of a letter sent June 25 to New Orleans Seminary President Landrum Leavell. The letter asks the seminary not to implement plans for new bachelor of arts

and bachelor of general studies degrees scheduled to begin this month.

After further correspondence between Leavell and some of the 31 signers of the document, a request has been made to the Southern Baptist Convention's Executive Committee for intervention.

Harold C. Bennett, Executive Committee president, agreed with the colleges' protest and has written Leavell to say adding the programs would violate the seminary's program statement as approved by the SBC.

The matter will be on the agenda of the SBC Executive Committee meeting in Nashville Sept. 21-23.

SBC seminaries traditionally have offered graduate-level degrees. Some have offered associate degrees for students who did not have undergraduate-level degrees, but these have been mainly awarded to students interested in church-related vocations.

New Orleans plans to begin the two bachelor's degrees Aug. 25. The programs are for seminary students age 25 and older, the first of their kind offered by any SBC seminary, according to New Orleans officials.

Baptist college presidents have argued the seminary would be duplicating the work their schools already are doing.

## FMB chairman says he's ready to talk with Fellowship leaders

FRESNO, Calif. (BP)—The Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board's trustee chairman says he "will be happy to sit down and talk" with Cooperative Baptist Fellowship leaders to "clear up misperceptions" about how foreign missionaries are appointed.

"Rather than continue the controversy, I want to heal relationships," said John Jackson, pastor of First Baptist Church of Fairfield, Calif.

Jackson was asked to initiate talks with Fellowship leaders during a July 27 meeting he and other FMB trustee leaders had with leaders of Woman's Missionary Union. The Fellowship is a group of moderate Southern Baptists opposed to conservatives' leadership of SBC agencies such as the FMB.

"I don't think I'm a knight in shining armor to alleviate all the problems between the SBC and the Fellowship," Jackson said "I do have a responsibility to resolve misunderstandings ..."

Jackson rejected the notion FMB trustees are refusing to appoint missionary candidates from churches which support the Fellowship.

"We do not appoint churches, we appoint members of churches," Jackson said, explaining most of the FMB trustees don't know who is from a Fellowship church and who isn't.

Churches "might want to send some people we would not send, theologically," Jackson said. But trustees "are not dominated and controlled by where candidates come from."

## CP down in July

NASHVILLE (BP)—July gifts to the Southern Baptist Convention's unified budget dipped 1.89 percent over the same month a year ago, according to Harold C. Bennett, SBC Executive Committee president-treasurer.

"There is still time for us to meet the Cooperative Program goal for 1991-92, and I pray we will respond to the challenge," Bennett said.

After 10 months of the SBC fiscal year, Southern Baptists' Cooperative Program giving stands 0.51 percent below the rate of a year ago.

The July 1992 total was \$11,372,445 compared to July 1991 gifts of \$11,591,867.

## Cumberland says accreditation OK

WILLIAMSBURG—Recent news stories in some secular papers that implied Cumberland College's accreditation was in jeopardy overstated the case, college officials said.

Earlier this month, several newspapers across the state ran stories about the state Department of Education's evaluation team visiting Cumberland and two other schools that train teachers. The stories, and especially some of the headlines, suggested Cumberland might lose accreditation for its teacher-training program.

That is not accurate, President James Taylor responded.

Cumberland's education program was approved "with stipulations." Of 18 standards, Cumberland was cited for needing to improve two: documentation of faculty research and heavy faculty work loads.

These concerns are "technical in nature" and do not imply any weakness in the quality of Cumberland's graduates, Taylor noted. And these issues already are being addressed by the school, he said.

Also, the visiting team expressed concern about a lack of minority students on campus.

But Cumberland officials responded that the school has the fourth-highest percentage of minority enrollment among all private colleges and universities in Kentucky.

Rather than threatening Cumberland's accreditation, the visiting team's report "validates the high quality of Cumberland's education program," Taylor said.

## Richmond church called friend of BSU

RICHMOND—A commitment to students by First Baptist Church of Richmond supplies the lifeblood of the Baptist Student Union at Eastern Kentucky University, Rick Trexler says.

Trexler, BSU director, praises the church for its financial contributions, program support and volunteer labor.

First Baptist contributes \$10,000 annually to Eastern's BSU, a tradition that has been going on for many years, according to Pastor Curtis Warf.

The money is used to fund a variety of activities and supplement expenses for students to attend BSU conventions, training conferences and retreats.

The church makes this annual commitment because they believe BSU is vitally important, Warf said.

Jackson Lackey, a member of First

Baptist, explained that he and other members support the BSU because they remember what BSU programs did for them when they were college students.

"The plethora of negative influences on our college students today reminds us of how important the positive influence of the BSU is," added Syble Miller, longtime director of the church's college department. "Our church will continue to support the BSU because of its continued contribution to the Christian ministry."

First Baptist "doesn't have a corner on the market" in supporting the BSU, Trexler said, noting many other churches help with ongoing activities. "It's the unofficial ways in which First Baptist contributes that are so significant," he explained.

Church members take time to get

to know students and help meet their individual needs, said Stephanie Robinson, a recent EKV graduate and member of First Baptist Church.

"I remember getting encouraging notes from my teachers while I was serving as a summer missionary," she said. "Not only did my Sunday school teachers notice what I was doing, but other church members did too."

"The spiritual growth I received while I was a college student and member of the BSU challenged me to become actively involved in First Baptist Church or wherever I may be a church member in the future," she added.

"I realized through the opportunities afforded me through the BSU and First Baptist Church that there is always a place to serve the Lord if you're willing."

## Summer missionaries found highs & lows

Continued from page 1  
lead me?"

The Kentuckians also faced more basic challenges, such as learning to get around in a new place and keeping pace with a hectic schedule.

The Son Life missions team often sang in five or six places a day in Brazil and traveled through several regions of the country.

Chris Dotson of Georgetown College faced the challenge of navigating his way around Chicago on buses and the elevated train system. "If you ever come to Chicago, make sure you get on the correct bus or you will find yourself on the bus for about two hours," he advised. "It was a nice tour of downtown, and eventually we made it home."

Working at Uptown Baptist Church, Dotson found himself living among 120,000 people in a 10-square-block area—a dramatic change from

an earlier assignment in Oak Grove, Ky., where he estimated there were only 120,000 people in a 20-mile radius.

The summer missionaries also experienced moments of surprise and humor:

■ Paul Curry of Cumberland College showed up at an Owen County church one Sunday night prepared to lead a short youth activity but discovered he was to preach the evening sermon.

■ Mike Wilson of Cumberland College got a surprise introduction to inner-city living while staying in a room off the sanctuary of a Covington church. Police surrounded the building because they saw a light on late at night, not knowing Wilson was living there.

■ The Son Share drama team found an unusual communication barrier when they performed from a house-

boat for an audience on the shore. "They couldn't hear anything we said, and we had a hard time keeping our balance," one team member explained.

But whatever the challenge, the students reported extraordinary satisfaction with every small victory they found.

Tara Nash of Morehead State University led day camps in Richmond for children.

"Whenever I share Christ with them, they listen so intently," she said. "I remember saying, 'OK, guys, it's time for our Bible story.' One of the boys said, 'Ah,' like he was disappointed recreation was over. One of his friends then said, 'Hey, this is the best part.'"

*This article is based on information provided by summer missionaries in correspondence to the KBC student department.*

## State CP needs boost to reach year-end goal

Kentucky Baptists' Cooperative Program unified budget needs to receive a record \$2.3 million this month to reach its 1991-92 operating goal.

The Kentucky Cooperative Program—which provides major funding for Kentucky Baptist Convention causes and helps support Southern Baptist ministries worldwide—closes its fiscal year Aug. 31.

At the end of July, the Kentucky Cooperative Program had received \$15,626,792. That amount is \$2,267,670 below the \$17,894,462 goal.

The \$15.6 million total was \$335,307 (2.2 percent) ahead of total receipts for the first 11 months of last

year's budget. But it was \$776,465 (4.7 percent) below budget requirements for the first 11 months of the current fiscal year.

During the past six years, the 11-month total has averaged 90.5 percent of overall receipts. If that trend holds true this year, the Cooperative Program will receive \$17,267,173 and fall short of the budget by \$627,289.

However, funds available for KBC use are not that far off, since money designated for use in the state has increased this year.

Kentucky-only funds totaled \$34,586 last month. That brought the year-to-date total for Kentucky-only designations to \$322,990—a gain of

\$107,458 (49.9 percent) over the first 11 months of the 1990-91 fiscal year.

Cooperative Program receipts are divided, with 62.058 percent staying in Kentucky and 37.942 percent going to Southern Baptist Convention causes.

Some churches have expressed their displeasure with the national convention by designating their contributions directly to the KBC and specific national agencies. Since the Kentucky money is designated, it is not considered part of the Cooperative Program.

Despite an apparent budget shortfall, the KBC is doing relatively well financially said William W. Marshall, the convention's executive secretary-treasurer.

"Discussions with other executive secretaries of larger Baptist state conventions have shown that Kentucky Baptists are holding their own quite well, given all the economic and political realities of our day," Marshall said.

As evidence, he cited the 2.2 percent gain over last year's receipts, the increase in Kentucky-designated funds and the proximity of receipts to the budget goal.

## Kentucky doctor ministers in Iraq

ZAKHO, Iraq (BP)—This month, a Kentuckian is among the band of Southern Baptist relief workers providing daily aid to the Kurds of northern Iraq.

Merrill Winchester of Whitley City is working during August in the relief effort that has been ongoing since the end of the Persian Gulf war.

Winchester and the other volunteers do this despite increasing Iraqi harassment of foreign aid personnel in the region, Turkish attacks on rebel Kurds and the growing possibility of renewed air strikes.

"I think the Lord opened the door for me to go at this time," Winchester said. "I see no reason to change my mind. I'll just do whatever needs to be done."

Southern Baptist doctors and nurses have seen a little of everything in treating Kurdish refugees and villagers in clinics throughout the area. Other workers drill wells so villages can have fresh water.

## BLUEGRASS BURGEO

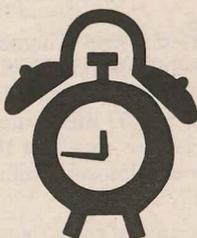
■ **Michael Card** will present a benefit concert to raise funds for Western Kentucky University's Baptist Student Union Sept. 22. Funds raised will help pay for a BSU intern. Tickets are \$8 and may be obtained by contacting Rick Howerton at (502) 781-3185.

■ **Southern Baptist Theological Seminary** will begin offering master's-level courses this fall at Clear Creek Baptist Bible College in Pineville and Mid-Continent Baptist Bible College in Mayfield. For information, call (502) 897-4617.

■ **The American Council on Alcohol Problems** annual meeting will be held in Louisville Sept. 22-24 at Executive Inn West. In addition to business sessions, the meeting will include a workshop on local-option liquor elections and other helps for Christians concerned about alcohol. For details, contact Claude Witt at the Temperance League of Kentucky, (502) 893-8275.

■ **WMU notice:** Information supplied in the E.B. Magazine about migrant kits contained an error. The person to contact at the Kentucky Baptist Convention about the kits is Ken Forman, not Bill Jagers.

### Time running out for year-end contributions



Time is running out for churches to contribute to the Cooperative Program unified budget and other Kentucky Baptist Convention causes during the KBC's 1991-92 fiscal year.

The fiscal year ends Aug. 31, but contributions received Sept. 1 will be credited to churches for the 1991-92 fiscal year.

However, contributions received Sept. 2 or later—no matter what their postmark—will be credited to the 1992-93 fiscal budget.

## WESTERN RECORDER

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

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## Nothing new

"There's nothing new under the sun." The person who coined that phrase knew what he was talking about.

As long as people have existed, some have wanted to be superior to others. A superior race, a dominant sex, the elite society and the only religion with the perfect laws.

Today is no different. The action taken by the Southern Baptist Convention against the two churches in North Carolina and the position taken by Catholic Archbishop Thomas Kelly against the Fairness Amendment in Louisville spotlight the need by some to oppress the rights of others.

The rationale is purely self-righteous, "those people need to be 'ministered to'—they need to become as we are."

Heaven help us all; we need liberating people, not oppressive dictators. We need ministers of reconciliation.

*Pete Sinclair  
Louisville*

## Don't judge

I am writing in response to John Boley (WR, July 21). Both his letter and your title ("Who's the failure?") seem to run in complete contradiction to your own editorial policy and to the basic tenets of the Christian faith. I quote your paper: "Letters ... will be considered for publication, provided they do not make a personal attack on anyone."

Mr. Boley's letter goes all out to portray the attack "advocates of sexual perversions," "radical perversionists" and the individual from Honesty, a group that simply advocates equal rights for homosexuals and bisexuals. And who are you to call someone a failure?

I do not believe that homosexual individuals or practices are sinful. We have been asked to simply love one another, and I don't see any love in Mr. Boley's letter, just a lot of fear and condemnation. As a body of Christ, I find our lack of compassion and acceptance, along with our fear of self-examination and change, both frightening and saddening. Judgment is not our job.

You owe an apology to the person from Honesty, along with all the other people at whom you and Mr. Boley have been taking malarkey pot shots.

## When little is very big

Because eight of our Kentucky Baptist churches received over \$1 million in undesignated giving last year, a casual observer might conclude we are a wealthy convention of churches.

However, the fact is that of the KBC's 2,300 plus churches, only 384 (16.7 percent) received \$100,000 or more last year in undesignated giving, including the eight churches whose receipts exceeded \$1 million.

Five of the eight \$1 million dollar churches are in the top 10 of Cooperative Program giving, two of them providing more

I am tired of self-righteous labels and name-calling. I would instead like to see Christians working together to be worthy of that title.

*Carol Jordan Stewart  
Louisville*

## Take a stand

This letter is prompted by Fuller Harding's letter defending Freemasonry (WR, July 28).

It takes courage and caring to risk friendship and support of lodge members by unveiling to them that their religious system is not godly, but in fact a secret society that conceals and distorts the name of God, the deity of Jesus, the Resurrection of Christ and

the teaching of the Bible, God's word. An example of this is during the ritual for Royal Arch degree, a candidate is asked, "Brother Inspector, what are you?" and he answers, "I am who am." Can you imagine knowing Exodus 3:14 and professing that you are God himself? This is just a small example of the blasphemy that goes on in Masonic ceremonies which Masons are sworn under penalty of death not to talk about. This is no great term for any Baptist to be involved in, let alone defend.

The real meaning (of Masonic rituals) is concealed from the initiate until he is so deeply entrenched that he no longer can perceive this is a cult that takes the place of Jesus in his life.

Southern Baptists now have the distinct opportunity to take a stand in revealing this great deception to all its members.

Will the courage, leadership and love for our neighbor be there? Or will we just wait, perhaps until the topic is not so controversial, while so many souls are deceived and out of fellowship with Jesus Christ. Please give fervent prayer to this matter.

*Janice Bodinof  
Harrodsburg*

## Support the SBC

These are exciting, yet exasperating, days for Southern Baptists.

Much is being said and written concerning the leadership and very life of our denomination. Voices inside and outside the Southern Baptist Convention family are portraying the leadership of our denomination as money-grubbing, narrow-minded

than \$300,000 each last year.

The top 100 churches in cooperative giving may be found among these 384 churches who annually receive \$100,000 or more in undesignated gifts through their offering plates.

In 1990, 81 percent of cooperative giving through the state convention was provided by 500 or 21.7 percent of our convention churches—about the same proportion that surveys tell us members support their churches. You have heard it—20 percent of the members provide 80 percent of the money!

But that really doesn't tell the whole story, does it? It doesn't speak

to the matter of proportion. It doesn't take into consideration Jesus' experience in the temple treasury with the widow and her "mite."

On July 23, this matter of proportion came home to me through a letter I received from Charles Thompson Jr., pastor of Sharpsburg Baptist Church.

In the letter was a check for \$62.57 for the Cooperative Program. It was the money taken through offerings at their Bible school this summer. The letter indicated that their Bible school had been sponsored by the Mayslick Baptist Church of Bracken Association, also a small church.

The letterhead that the Sharpsburg Baptist Church was established in 1842. Simple math concludes that this church celebrates its

150th birthday this year.

Their 1991 statistics reveal that their resident membership is seven and total membership is eight. Their undesignated receipts that year were \$7,045.

But the thing that struck me most was the pastor's final paragraph: "Please continue to remember us in your prayers for our special need of indoor plumbing."

Like the Littlest Angel's humble gift to the Christ child, shining brightly as the Star of Bethlehem, that Bible school check for \$62.57 must surely have experienced the touch of the Heavenly Father who knows humility when he sees it!

*William W. Marshall is executive secretary-treasurer of the Kentucky Baptist Convention.*

## Improve the system

I'm strongly in favor of the voucher program which will improve the education system throughout Kentucky. It will save the Kentucky school system money and put the poorer school system on notice to improve or go out of business. It will solve the problem of the separation of church and state.

Our Baptist leaders should be out front on this issue. Our Christian schools will benefit, and those who do not want to educate their children in a Christian environment will have the choice.

Why cannot our leaders work for peace, unity and love instead of a cultural war? Improve the system; do not destroy it.

*Keith Winfree  
Louisville*

## Make peace

The editorial on peace (WR, July 28) was an excellent balance to the guest editorial by Michael Whitehead of the Christian Life Commission.

Whitehead said one-by-one conversion is the only way to peace. True, the absence of war does not mean peace of spirit, but it does mean less violence, hunger, hatred and more open doors to the gospel.

Did every slave owner have to be converted before slavery ended? Did every factory owner have to be converted before child labor ended in the western world?

Conversion does not guarantee peace in the world. Some of the worst wars in history have been by religious, even Christian, groups. Even if we discount most of those as being by groups with perverted understandings of Christianity, there have been enough Christians who rationalized

## No endorsements

As political candidates square off for the big November showdown, some Western Recorder readers feel compelled to tell the rest of us how to vote.

Their letters will not be published. This newspaper is run by a non-profit, tax-exempt corporation. We will not imperil that status by endorsing—with editorials or letters—candidates or parties engaged in political elections.

Readers may speak to issues of concern to Kentucky Baptists; that right is protected. But we must refrain from political endorsements.

*Marv Knox*

## ON MISSION TOGETHER



William W. Marshall

## Get ready: Back-to-school means back-to-church

The sight of big yellow buses, the smell of chalk dust and the sound of ringing bells soon will take their places in communities across Kentucky again. We've made it through another long, not-so-hot summer.

Teachers and students may or may not be ready for school to start just yet, but you can bet most moms and ministers are.

Mothers' reasons are obvious: The kids have gotten bored with summer, whether they will admit it or not. Working moms have had three months of juggling another set of kids' schedules, child care and their own summer-altered routines. Stay-at-home moms have had youngsters up to their eyeballs for 12 weeks or so. It's time for everyone to get back into the regular, productive routine of school.

Ministers' reasons also are easy to decipher: Summer's often a bummer for church, what with vacation and weekend travel taking so many folks and their tithes and offerings away from the church house on the Lord's Day, not to mention the rest of the week. Churches often increase their activities, especially with children and youth—vacation Bible schools, backyard Bible clubs, mission trips, camp, treks to Kings Island and Opryland—while scrambling to find enough workers just to fill in for people away on vacation. You'll have to look hard to find a church staffer who ends the summer all rested up.

But fortunately, back-to-school often means back-to-church, too. Most vacations have been reduced to snapshots and credit card bills. Members have arrived back home and are ready for the regular routines, including Sunday school and Wednesday evening fellowship meals and—even—committee meetings. Now's the time to promote the children and teen-agers to new Sunday school classes, plan next year's budget and get ready to do something for the Lord.

Thankfully, back-to-school also means back-to-church for folks who weren't around church when school ended last spring. Parents who dropped out of church when they graduated from high school often start thinking of the importance of faith, church and spiritual values when

their own kids get in school. Folks who thought the joys of summer—vacations, long rounds of golf, sunny days on the lake, trips home to see the family—would fill the void in their lives still find that holy place empty, and they look to church for answers. Whatever their reason, significant numbers of non-churched people join regular members back at church when school starts again.

With those friends and neighbors in mind, do two things:

First, try to look at your community the way God sees it. Where are the needs? Where are the hurting people? Look for loneliness—divorce, unemployment, estrangement, even homelessness. Seek out the abused and neglected. Open yourselves to the confused and searching. Use your spiritual creativity and imagine what new ministries should be started to meet the needs and bind up the wounds of people in your town.

Second, try to look at your church the way visitors see it. Are the facilities clean, open and inviting? Do your members warmly welcome visitors into their midst? Openness to visitors begins in the parking lot, where spaces near the best entrances are reserved for them. It takes on a human face at those entrances, where the friendliest members greet them and make sure every member of the family gets to the proper class, where they all are made to feel welcome and where they engage in meaningful Bible study. It includes worship, where they continue to be welcomed and where they participate in an uplifting encounter with God. It extends beyond their visit, to appropriate contacts from church members, who get to know them and their needs and who channel the church's resources to them in the name of Christ. That's not a comprehensive list—we didn't even discuss facilities and programs—but it's a good place to start in making sure your church reaches out to people seeking God at a time when folks are heading back to church.

People are going to come to our churches looking for God; let's do all we can to help them.

Marv Knox

**Back-to-school also is back-to-church time, even for folks who weren't in church when school let out last spring. They'll be coming to your church, looking for "something." Help them find God.**

## Sacrificial giving makes Project Brotherhood a blessing

In recent weeks, God has blessed mightily as the distribution of food and other items in the Commonwealth of Independent States has continued through Project Brotherhood.

Many sacrificial monetary gifts have been received from Southern Baptists and others who represent the full spectrum of ages and means. And the blessings have continued with countless examples of in-

### VIEWPOINT

kind contributions, including medicines, inoculations, packaging materials and other items from business persons who recognize the importance of this opportunity to minister and witness in a nation newly receptive to the message of Christ.

Perhaps the greatest sacrifice, however, came from persons in Kentucky who literally gave themselves as volunteers who went to Moscow

and elsewhere in the country to repackage and distribute these items.

They include Mike Sloan of First Baptist Church of Hindman, who volunteered April 25-May 9, and Ray Tucker of First Baptist Church of Madisonville, June 13-27.

I hope you will join me in welcoming them home in a spirit of thanksgiving for their willingness to serve and for the opportunity to walk through this newly opened doorway

with bread—and with the Bread of Life.

Please continue to pray for the Southern Baptist Brotherhood Commission as we, in behalf of the Baptist World Alliance and in cooperation with the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board, give leadership to Project Brotherhood.

James D. Williams, president  
SBC Brotherhood Commission  
Memphis, Tenn.

**Thanks for helping citizens of the former Soviet Union by supporting Project Brotherhood.**

## If I could build a traffic-light switch, we'd all be miserable

We were, as usual, waiting for a red light to turn green.

The engineers who designed our part of town must've been practical jokers. "What can we do to drive St. Matthews people crazy?" one asked one day.

"We could make sure the sewers back up in their basements when it rains," one suggested. "Too disgusting," the others replied.

"We could wire their electricity for 220 volts and blow out their hair dryers, TVs and stereos," another added. "Too expensive," the chorus chimed.

"We could make sure they have to stop at every stoplight at every major intersection, running every direction," the nerdy one with 14 mechanical pencils and a big ol' slide rule observed. "Perfect," the oth-

ers purred. Then they took off early and went to the Big Boy to celebrate.

So, we were waiting on the light to change when inspiration struck.

"I need to figure out how to build a switch that can turn traffic lights from red to green," I declared with conviction borne of impatience.

"Yeah," said Molly, "so we wouldn't have to wait at these stupid lights." The child's only 5, but she knows possibilities when she sees them.

"Yeah," I said, inspired by her approval.

Immediately, my thoughts turned from pragmatism to greed.

"I'd sell those switches for \$79.95, and we'd be rich, rich, rich," I chortled, still waiting on the light.

I was mentally spending my first million when Lindsay's 8-year-old practicality jerked me down to reality.

"But after a bunch of people bought them, everybody would be able to make the light facing them turn green," she reasoned. Out loud; in the middle of my million-dollar day-

dream. "Then everybody would go when

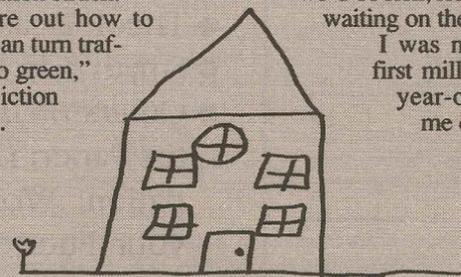
they want to. Then all the cars would be piled up in a wreck, right in the middle of the street."

Lindsay's logic chopped my silly scheme to smithereens. If everybody could switch stop lights, they'd become meaningless. We must trust signs for them to have value. And, Lord knows, we don't trust signs much.

Think of the commercial about early warning signs for heart problems. Ditto for cancer: We'd rather ignore some signs, hoping they'll go away.

We ignore other signs, too. Signs that warn us about crumbling relationships, breaking marriages, degenerating values. May God help us see the realities toward which our life signs point.

Marv Knox



# STUDENTS

**Churches could provide ministries for children before and after school as a way to help a "segment of society left to its own demise" by parents' work schedules, Russ Grelling says.**

## Missionary suggests ministries for before and after school

By Sarah Zimmerman  
SBC Home Mission Board

GLORIETA, N.M. (BP)—As students go back to school this fall, churches can minister by offering before-school and after-school programs, a home missionary suggests.

Such programs are "a method of outreach to non-members and a very positive method of showing concern to the community," Russ Grelling said in a seminar at Glorieta Baptist Conference Center.

Grelling, who serves in Southern California, said 35 million children in the United States have working mothers and 15 percent of elementary and junior high school children are alone after school every day.

"An entire segment of our society is left to its own demise," Grelling said.

Grelling suggested several ideas for such ministries:

■ Phone friends. The church could give out its phone number to school children and enlist a volunteer to be on hand after school each day to answer calls and talk to children who are home alone.

Churches currently using this pro-

gram find children call to report they made a good grade, ask for help with their homework or just talk to someone because they are lonely, Grelling said.

■ Seminars. Churches could offer seminars for children on home safety, for adults on parenting skills or for older children on baby-sitting techniques. Grelling suggested churches could sponsor sessions by the American Red Cross, which provides seminars on such topics.

■ Before-school activities. Many parents take their children to school on their way to work, leaving the children there long before school starts, Grelling noted. This provides opportunities for a variety of before-school activities, which might include breakfast, he said.

■ After-school programs. These programs could bring children to the church after school for anything from Big A clubs to recreation to tutoring.

Additional resources for starting before- or after-school programs are available from Ann Putnam in the Home Mission Board's church and community ministries department, 1350 Spring St. NW, Atlanta, Ga. 30367-5601, (404) 898-7000.

## See You at the Pole set for Sept. 16

Kevin Shrum hopes Sept. 16 will find hundreds of Kentucky Baptist teen-agers looking up and then bowing to pray.

That's the day set aside for the "See You at the Pole" emphasis promoted nationwide by the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board.

The idea is for students to gather around their school flagpoles 30 minutes before classes for prayer, explained Shrum, youth evangelism consultant with the Kentucky Baptist Convention.

Last year, more than 180,000 teens nationwide participated in See You at the Pole, according to Dean Finley, HMB youth evangelism specialist.

Finley said the emphasis is designed to help students carry out the mandate found in Joel 2, to do something about crisis in culture.

That modern crisis, he explained, includes alcohol and drug abuse, sexual relationships between teen-agers outside of marriage, a high teen suicide rate and rampant crime.

Shrum said he has sent a letter to Kentucky youth ministers and pastors encouraging their promotion of See You at the Pole.

"The greatest thing about See You at the Pole is that it's a student-initiated ministry," Shrum said. "Youth pastors can help, but it's basically the students on campus leading their peers to pray for their school and their friends."

Finley explained that See You at the Pole is not intended to be a demonstration, protest, patriotic rally or alternative to prayer in public schools. Rather, it is a united effort by Christians to call attention to the crisis facing American teen-agers and declare dependence on God for a solution.

Among Finley's suggestions for a successful emphasis:

■ Plan a See You at the Pole worship service for Sept. 13.

■ Enlist support from community organizations and business leaders, such as getting the See You at the Pole message put on local mar-quees.

■ If a large group is anticipated, obtain permission to meet or plan to divide into smaller groups.

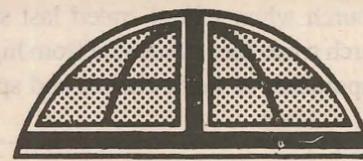
■ Encourage adults to pray for prayer around a flagpole other than the school's, perhaps near their offices, at post offices, churches or city halls.

## "A Gathering"

### Kentucky Baptist Fellowship

Central Baptist Church, Lexington  
(1644 Nicholasville Road)

Saturday, August 29 • 9:30-3:30 EDT



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Fellowship



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Cecil Sherman, *Cooperative Baptist Fellowship*  
Bob DeFoor, *Harrodsburg Baptist Church*

#### Fellowship

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Luncheon—available at the church for \$6.50

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For more information, please call: (606) 278-2331

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Please check one of the following:

- I will attend and would like a lunch (\$6.50).  
 I will attend but do not want a lunch.  
 I cannot attend, but am interested in more information.

#### Breakout Sessions (choice of four from 20 areas)

- Global Missions—*Cecil Sherman*
- Ethics—*Robert Parham*
- Theological Education, Ruschlikon—*David Rogers*
- Smyth & Helwys Literature—*Joyce Oliver/Mark McElroy*
- Others include: Partners in Missions; Role of State Baptist Paper; Developing a Budget with Grassroots Participation; Women in Ministry; Role of Laity; Dreaming your Future (ministers under 35); Appalachian Ministry—Ecumenical Style; Gift-Based Social Ministry in the Local Church; Getting your Message Across; Denominational Relations Committee; and more.

## Senate votes to curb nuclear testing for first time

WASHINGTON (ABP)—For the first time, the U.S. Senate has approved legislation that would curb and eventually end nuclear weapons testing by the United States.

The Senate overwhelmingly approved the testing limits as an amendment offered by Sens. Mark Hatfield, R-Ore., George Mitchell, D-Maine, and Jim Exon, D-Neb., to an energy and water development appropriations bill.

Approved by a veto-proof 68-26 margin, the Hatfield-Mitchell-Exon amendment would impose a nine-month moratorium on nuclear weapons testing until July 1993. After the moratorium period, nuclear tests would be limited to five per year for the next three years and completely banned after Sept. 30, 1996, unless Russia conducts a test after that date.

The legislation also would require

the president to report annually to congressional armed services and appropriations committees on the weapons remaining in the U.S. arsenal, the proposed safety tests, and plans to achieve a comprehensive test ban by 1996.

The House of Representatives approved in June a one-year moratorium on nuclear weapons testing as part of a defense authorization bill. The vote, 237-167, was short of the two-thirds majority needed to override an expected veto by President Bush.

While the House repeatedly has voted in favor of halting nuclear weapons testing, the June 4 action by the Senate marked the first time that body has done so, prompting Majority Leader Mitchell to call the action a "truly historic vote."

The Senate's action drew applause from Glen Stassen, professor of Chris-

tian ethics at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, and a leading Baptist peace advocate.

"Many of us in the Baptist Peace Fellowship have been working hard to convince our senators and representatives that it's way past time to stop nuclear bomb testing," Stassen said. "Now we've finally succeeded, so I'm really grateful."

Stassen cited a list of reasons why Baptists should be encouraged by the prospects of a testing ban.

"First, because we're called to be peacemakers," he said. "Second, because the process of developing new kinds of nuclear bombs and then testing them and then manufacturing them costs us about \$15 billion a year, which we can't afford when there are so many serious economic needs in the United States and the world.

"Third, because the new kinds of

bombs that are developed are more dangerous and more likely to start a nuclear war because they become more accurate. Fourth, because Russia has already stopped nuclear bomb testing as a transforming initiative and has accepted on-sight inspections and is inviting us to join in this major peacemaking step.

"And finally, because it puts a stop to several kinds of spreading nuclear pollution and radiation in the United States that come from the bomb-production process."

Stassen said his interest in ending nuclear weapons testing was heightened during a trip last summer to the republic of Kazakhstan. "We learned of the strong movement of the people of Kazakhstan that successfully persuaded their government to stop nuclear bomb testing ... We were really moved by their uphill struggle."

### BRIEFS

■ **Profanity** is the thing that most upsets American moviegoers, according to Ted Baehr, chairman of Christian Film and Television Commission in Atlanta. He cited a 1989 Associated Press poll in which 80 percent of respondents said most new films have too much profanity.

■ **T.J. Jemison**, president of the National Baptist Convention USA, was indicted on perjury charges July 23. The minister is accused of lying when he denied offering up to \$1 million in hush money to silence a woman who said boxer Mike Tyson raped her.

■ **Thomas Jefferson's** birth will be commemorated with help from a special commission approved by Congress last month. April 13, 1993, marks the 250th anniversary of Jefferson's birth. Jefferson was the third U.S. president and is credited with helping secure religious liberty guarantees for the nation.

■ **A ban on** homosexuals serving in the military would be lifted if Congress approves a bill introduced in the Senate July 28. Sen. Howard Metzenbaum, D-Ohio, introduced the bill (S. 3084), which mirrors one introduced in the House by Rep. Pat Schroeder, D-Colo.

■ **The G.I. Bill** for Children, a plan unveiled by the Bush administration in June, has been introduced into both houses of Congress. The bill (S. 3010, H.R. 5664) would provide \$500 million in fiscal 1993 for \$1,000 scholarships to help low- and middle-income families send their children to public, private and religious schools.

## Congressman introduces alternative bill on abortion

WASHINGTON (ABP)—Trying to strike a compromise on a divisive issue, a New Hampshire congressman introduced legislation Aug. 4 that would modify a major abortions-rights measure.

Rep. Dick Swett, D-N.H., introduced a bill (H.R. 5756) that he would substitute for the Freedom of Choice Act (H.R. 25) that is pending in the House and Senate.

Proponents of the Freedom of Choice Act say the bill simply would restore a woman's right to privacy in abortion decisions, a right the U.S. Supreme Court articulated in *Roe vs. Wade*. Opponents of the Freedom of Choice Act say the bill would go far beyond *Roe*.

Swett said his bill, the Uniform Protection of Reproductive Rights Act, would strike a compromise. His bill better represents the views of the majority of Americans who support both a woman's right to control her

reproductive destiny and the sanctity of human life, he said.

The Freedom of Choice Act would protect a woman's right to choose an abortion until the point of fetal viability, the point at which the fetus can live outside the womb. Swett's bill would protect a woman's unrestricted right to an abortion before 12 weeks of fetal gestation.

After that point, abortion would be allowed in cases of rape, incest, threat to life or health of the mother, and severe fetal deformity. The bill would ban post-viability terminations of pregnancies that are the result of rape or incest.

Swett's bill also includes two provisions that would allow states to impose parental involvement and to protect those who do not wish to participate in the performance of abortions on the basis of conscience. The Freedom of Choice Act also contains those two provisions.

### Alcohol bill endorsed

WASHINGTON (BP)—A bill requiring more information on alcoholic beverage labels has been introduced in Congress and endorsed by the Southern Baptist Christian Life Commission.

Introduced by Rep. Pat Schroeder, D-Colo., H.R. 5613 would amend the Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act to require the following information on alcoholic beverage labels:

■ Alcohol content by volume in a nonpromotional way.

■ Number of drinks per container.

■ Ingredients by their common name and calories per container and drink.

■ This statement: "If you or someone you know has a drinking problem, a call may be made to (a toll-free number established by the secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services) for help."

## Stats show family facts by the numbers

GLENDALE, Calif.—Data gathered by the Barna Research Group over the past year reveals these facts and opinions about the American family:

■ The "traditional" family of a working father, homemaker mother and two children under age 18 represented 60 percent of all American households in 1960, but only 3 percent of households in 1992.

■ About half of all marriages now end in divorce, and more than six out of 10 adults who remarry find their second and third marriages end in divorce.

■ One-fourth of all American adults have experienced divorce.

■ Singles represent 44 percent of the U.S. adult population, and two out of five adults are either divorced, separated or widowed.

■ One out of every five adults in America is a single parent, and among single parents with children

under 18 in the home, nine out of 10 are women.

■ More than one-third of all senior citizens are widowed.

■ This year, of all first births to mothers under age 30, about 40 percent will be to women who are not married.

■ Among couples who will get married this year, more than 60 percent will live together first. The incidence of cohabitation of unmarried couples has increased 443 percent since 1970.

■ Only about 3 percent of the U.S. population can be identified as having engaged in homosexual activity.

■ The number of child care centers in America jumped from 4,400 in 1960 to more than 45,000 in 1990, and the number of children enrolled in child care facilities rose from 141,000 to more than 2.5 million.

■ American families spent more

than \$15 billion on child care in 1990.

■ More than three-fourths of Americans believe marriage is not an "outdated idea that does not fit in America's culture these days."

■ About 80 percent of Americans believe it is not better to go through life single than to get married, although only 23 percent of divorced respondents agree with that statement.

■ God intended for people to get married and stay in that relationship for life, according to 78 percent of Americans.

■ Marriage should not apply to homosexual relationships, according to 77 percent of Americans.

■ Couples should live together before getting married, according to 19 percent of Americans. Another 34 percent disagree strongly with this statement, while 44 percent take a position somewhere in between.

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# CHURCHES

## Recreation site gives small church big opportunities

By Melanie Childers  
Staff Writer

**DEBT DESTRUCTION**  
Pastor Rick White lights a flame to one of the first three bonds issued in the late 1970s to finance the auditorium building for Midlane Park Baptist Church in Louisville. The congregation celebrated the elimination of its \$425,000 indebtedness early this month. "We have learned to live by faith, not by sight," White said of the congregation's struggle to pay off the debt. "Today, our perseverance has been rewarded. We're debt-free." Helping White burn the bonds are three members of the original finance committee, Ada Parks (holding flaming bond), Jerry Hopterton and Kitty Coates.

CAMPBELLSVILLE—Some churches may never get to first base with their outreach tools, but Liberty Baptist is on the ball with a 13-acre investment in recreation ministry.

When church members voted to purchase new land this year, they were planning not only for baseball diamonds and camping facilities, but also for ministry tools and church expansion.

"It's not just recreation, ... we incorporate it into the total ministry of the church," Pastor Mark Jones said.

"The future of this church and most churches is through reaching families and ministering to their needs," the pastor continued. "Through developing relationships over the volleyball court, we can get them into the church."

The church has grown by 24 members this year, Jones reported, stating

average attendance in Sunday school currently is at 84, a significant increase over last year's 62 regular attenders.

But the church had little space to grow, the pastor said: "The church was hemmed in by the parsonage on one side, the cemetery in back and then by the parking lot. Those 13 acres were the only direction we could go to expand."

Jones said the church tried unsuccessfully in previous years to acquire portions of the property, so they committed instead to pray for a solution. Early this year, the owners of the property approached the church with an offer.

Although the church has no formal budget, Jones said they always have operated on faith: "We bought the land in March and in two months had it paid off."

The five to six acres of wooded area is being developed for camping and hiking activities, while the open field will become—at least for now—a baseball field and volleyball court.

"The church is growing dramatically," Jones said. "We want to keep that land available in the future for the possibility of expansion."

Development of the new ministry has increased interest in missions and drawn church members together, Jones said. Wood craftsmen and electricians in the church, for example, are able to provide a ministry with their skills.

Work is underway to build an outdoor pavilion—a 20-foot-by-50-foot-structure with shingled roof and wood deck floor.

"The idea behind this project is to use this pavilion as a multipurpose facility, for such things as vacation Bible school, group Bible studies and a recreational meeting place," Jones said.

Also under construction is a play

area for children directly behind the pavilion. Both projects are scheduled for completion Aug. 29.

Jones said the church is planning for senior adults as well as children.

"We have handicapped entrances to the pavilion, and some of the hiking trails will be ideal for our retired members who like to get out and walk," Jones said, adding that senior adults also will enjoy the horseshoe pits and picnic area.

Jones said the church wants to open the facility to other churches for retreats and campouts. For information, contact Jones at Liberty Baptist Church, 3890 Spurlington Rd., Campbellsville, Ky. 42718, (502) 465-4127.



### ACTEENS: BETTER THAN EVER



That's the name of a new promotional video that is colorful, humorous and inspiring. Does your church have an Acteens group? If so, wonderful—LEAD ON! If not, this is the perfect time to start one. Contact your associational Acteens director or state WMU office for help. Look for important dates and information in the WMU quarterly publication, *Kentucky Notes*.

WMU, P.O. Box 43433, Louisville, Ky. 40253-0433

Mormonism is a cult misleading many. We offer a one-year free subscription to a publication that can help you. Write Utah Missions, Inc., P.O. Box 348, Marlow, OK 73055 or call toll-free 1-800-654-3992. A ministry of HMB, SBC.

## BACK TO SCHOOL ... Will You Help?

Before you reached out with help, he had been living in a nightmare world of neglect and abuse. Jimmy was removed from his home at a young age. It was the only way to save him from sexual and physical abuse by his parents. For years, he lived in a day-to-day world of trauma and fear. Instead of getting ahead in school or making the basketball team, Jimmy's goal was simply to survive.

Until Jimmy came to live at the Baptist Youth Ranch in Elizabethtown, there was no one to talk with him about the importance of education or to encourage him to even attend school. Far behind in school, he rebelled against the structure and discipline and had significant behavioral and grade problems. But, finally, love broke through. Because the staff at the Youth Ranch continued to offer love and guidance, Jimmy became interested in school. By the end of the year, he had achieved a place on the A-B honor roll and earned two merit certificates.

It was your participation in this ministry that turned Jimmy's nightmare life into a dream of hope. Providing children like Jimmy with the kinds of things all kids need takes help from you. Are these children precious in your sight too? Your gift is tax-deductible. Whatever you send will be greatly appreciated by children like Jimmy.

Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children  
10801 Shelbyville Road, Middletown, Kentucky 40243  
1-800-456-1386



- \$500 provides clothing and school supplies for five.
- \$100 will help clothe a child for a whole school year.
- \$60 will buy a much needed winter coat.
- \$30 will pay for those all-important new shoes.
- \$10 helps provide basic school supplies.

# ISSUES

## Christians give less; churches keep more

Continued from page 1

of basic values that benefit any society—such values as 'love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control'—and if the level of support the church receives from its members has been declining, then it might not be unreasonable to conclude that there would be negative consequences experienced in ... American society," they state.

And that, in turn, could feed the increasing trouble churches have paying their own bills, they add: "Given that caring for others has been an organizing principle of the church from the beginning, the church may have to consider whether it will ever be able to pay its bills if it has no challenging vision around which to organize.

"The answer to that question could be part of the solution to church giving patterns, and may even be part of the solution to the current social anxiety that seems to be affecting American society," they conclude.

## FMB urges prayer for relief in Africa

Continued from page 1

Christian community to help one of the countries most isolated from Christianity, said a relief worker.

Christian organizations rushed into the former Soviet Union to stake a claim. But recent cracks in Somalia's wall of Islamic isolation have gone largely unnoticed, he said.

Historically Christians have ignored Somalia because of its violent opposition to any religion except Islam, the worker said. Yet Christian researchers still were surprised at the extent of neglect of Somalia when they compared the distribution of evangelistic resources in Somalia to those in post-Soviet Russia.

At current levels, a Russian will receive a million evangelistic messages before a Somali receives one, the research concluded.

Beyond Somalia, Bullington asked for prayer for all of southern Africa. The next few months are critical, he said. In August or September what is left of internal food stocks will run out, forcing many countries in the region to rely on imported food, according to an American Red Cross report. The region will need food assistance for almost a year, Bullington added.

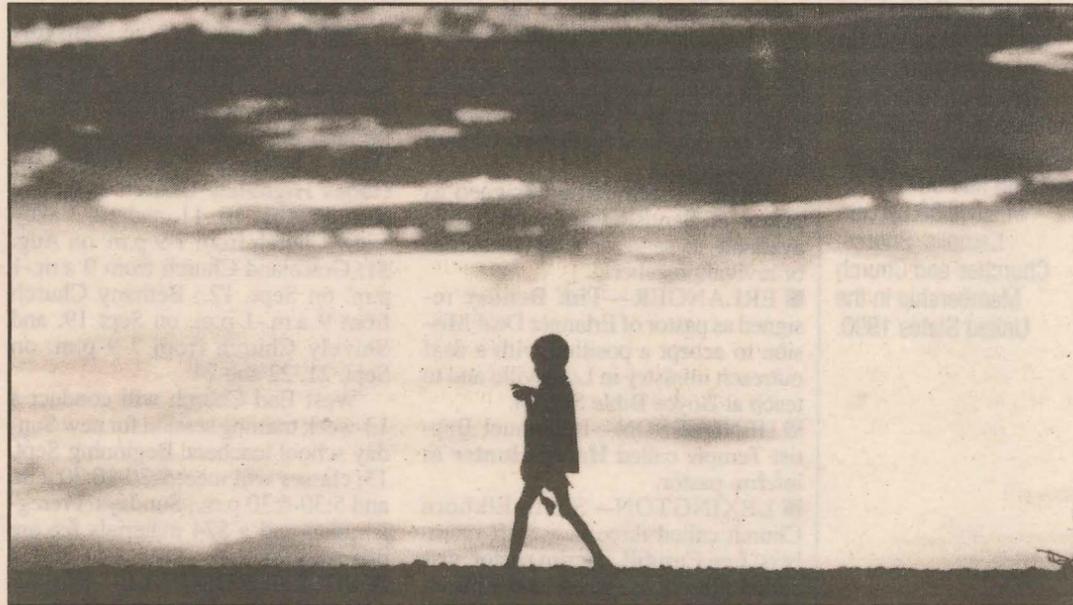
"We are talking about massive hu-

man need. Southern Baptist missionaries and African Baptists have already begun to act through normal channels and hunger relief projects. New efforts have been planned, and additional requests for hunger relief funds will soon arrive."

Missionaries in Zimbabwe are feeding about 20,000 people and plan

to expand the \$700,000 feeding program to assist 40,000 by this fall. Zimbabwe is one of the countries hit hardest by the drought.

Other missionaries are preparing relief projects that should deliver up to \$2 million worth of food assistance to countries in southeastern Africa, Bullington said.



The Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board has called churches to prayer for millions of Africans suffering death and disease due to war and drought. (RNS photo)

## Continuing Witness Training (CWT)

A National Seminar for Pastors/Leaders

Ninth & O Baptist Church  
2921 Taylor Blvd., Louisville

Monday—Wednesday evening  
September 14-16  
Starts at 1:00 p.m. (EDT)



Harry Hunter  
Leader

Tuition Fee: \$75 per person  
(includes 3 meals, but room and travel are *not* provided)

### REGISTRATION FORM

#### Continuing Witness Training (CWT)

Tuition Fee Enclosed (\$75 per person) \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Make checks payable to **Kentucky Baptist Convention**  
and mail to: Office for Evangelism, KBC, Box 43433,  
Louisville, Ky. 40253-0433

Church Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Street City State Zip

Pastor/Leader \_\_\_\_\_  
(Person responsible for leading CWT in local church)

Others Attending \_\_\_\_\_

## Brotherhood Leadership/Hope For Hurting Humanity Regional Workshops

Your Baptist Men and RA/HSBYM  
Leaders will learn how to:

- Acquire local ministry opportunities
- Organize for maximum results
- Study literature & new material
- Become involved in the 1992-93 Brotherhood calendar

Workshops will be offered 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. (local time) at each of the following Kentucky churches:

August	Church	City
17	Burton Memorial	Bowling Green
18	Nortonville	Nortonville
20	First Baptist	Mt. Washington
21	Florence	Florence
24	Fairview	Waynesburg
25	Cadiz	Cadiz
27	First Baptist	Prestonsburg
28	First Baptist	Barbourville

For additional information contact:  
Kentucky Baptist Brotherhood Department  
(502) 245-4101

## KENTUCKY KERNELS

Baptists of all types make up more than 50 percent of the population in 86 of Kentucky's 120 counties. Baptists constitute less than a majority in only 34 counties. Those 34 counties are primarily located in Central and Northern Kentucky. No other religious body claims more than 50 percent of the residents of any Kentucky county, except in Marion County, which is 53 percent Catholic. Source: Churches and Church Membership in the United States 1990.

## Mountains to the Mississippi

■ **BEATTYVILLE**—Beattyville Church ordained **Ralph Roberts** as deacon.

■ **BOWLING GREEN**—First Church called **Rick Parrent** of Norfolk, Va. as associate minister, community and outreach. Parrent currently serves as director of admissions at Old Dominion University.

■ **BREMEN**—Mount Pisgah Church ordained **Tom Hodges** to the ministry. Hodges serves the church as minister of youth and education.

■ **CORBIN**—Bacon Creek Church called **Perry Huff** as interim pastor. Huff previously served Faith Church in Corbin.

**Virgil Vandevanter** resigned as pastor of Sandstone Church. He is available to serve as supply, interim or revival preacher.

■ **ERLANGER**—**Tim Bender** resigned as pastor of Erlanger Deaf Mission to accept a position with a deaf outreach ministry in Louisville and to teach at Boyce Bible School.

■ **HENDERSON**—Immanuel Baptist Temple called **Harry Hunter** as interim pastor.

■ **LEXINGTON**—South Elkhorn Church called three new staff members: **Lee Caudill**, interim pastor, was called as associate pastor and minister of visitation and senior adults; **Lynn Mitchell**, interim minister of music, was called as associate pastor and minister of music; and **Daryl Cornett**, minister of youth and recreation at Central Church in Corbin, was

called as associate pastor and minister of youth and education.

■ **LOUISVILLE**—**Stephen Shoemaker** resigned after 11 years as pastor of Crescent Hill Church to serve as pastor of Broadway Church in Fort Worth, Texas.

South Jefferson Church will ordain **Arthur Tober** to the ministry Aug. 30. Tober serves the church as minister of youth.

Baptist churches in the Louisville area are participating in a series of "Confident Christian Living" personal evangelism programs offered through the Greater Louisville John Guest Challenge. The schedule includes Highview Church from 7-9 p.m. on Aug. 10, 11, and 12; Valley View Church from 7-9 p.m. on Aug. 31; Graceland Church from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. on Sept. 12.; Bethany Church from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. on Sept 19; and Shively Church from 7-9 p.m. on Sept. 21, 22 and 24.

West End Church will conduct a 13-week training session for new Sunday school teachers. Beginning Sept. 13, classes will meet 9:30-10:30 a.m. and 5:30-6:30 p.m., Sundays. Preregistration and a \$24 materials fee are due Aug. 26.

■ **SHEPHERDSVILLE**—Former pastor **George Jones** will be guest speaker at Bardstown Junction Church during its 75th anniversary celebration Aug. 23. The church invites former members and friends for the 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. services.

## CLASSIFIED ADS

**POSITIONS:** The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary will make faculty appointments during the academic year for the following positions. Nominations and applications are invited by Oct. 15, 1992. All faculty must be active members of a Baptist congregation and emphasize a conservative-evangelical theology. Minorities and women are encouraged to apply. Send biographical information to: Search Committee Dean, Office of the Provost, The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, 2825 Lexington Road, Louisville, Ky. 40280.

**New Testament:** Associate or Full Professor, tenure track. MDiv. or equivalent, Ph.D., experience in teaching, scholarly publications in gospels literature essential.

**Social Work:** Assistant Professor, three-year, renewable contract, MSW and theological training essential, doctorate preferred. Social policy, gerontology interests desirable.

**Church History:** Assistant or Associate Professor, three-year, renewable contract. MDiv., completed Ph.D. essential. Specialization in Baptist history, racial ethnic Baptist studies or Patristics desired.

**Christian Education/Church Administration:** Associate or Full Professor, tenure track. Theological training, church administration experience and EdD. or Ph.D. in the discipline. Courses to be taught in administration theory, leadership and practical application. Experience and interest in church growth desirable.

**WANTED:** Part-time Youth Minister. Must be Southern Baptist; prefer person with or working toward college education, musically inclined, with Discipleship Training experience. Send resume to: Youth Minister Search Committee, First Baptist Church, P.O. Box 327, Kuttawa, Ky. 42055.

**SEEKING:** Large, suburban St. Louis area church seeking full-time Minister of Education. Send resumes to Jim Wheeler, First Baptist Church of Harvester, 4075 Hwy. 94 South, St. Charles, Mo. 63304.

**WANTED:** Church Organist. Immanuel Baptist Temple, Henderson. Call (502) 826-9522 or mail resume to Tommy Tate, 540 Second Street, Henderson, Ky. 42420.

**WANTED:** Full-time Youth Minister; college/seminary degree. Send resumes to Personnel Committee, First Baptist Church, 2315 Alexandria Pike, Highland Heights, Ky. 41076. Phone: (606) 441-7274.

**NEEDED:** Used 15-passenger van (donated) for new church, Caribbean Island. Norman Coe (502) 239-7711.

**SEEKING:** Minister of youth and/or music for a south Lexington Southern Baptist church. Full and/or part-time positions being considered. Call (606) 272-6543 or submit resume stating educational, ministerial and other prior experience to Southern Heights Baptist Church, 3408 Clays Mill Road, Lexington, Ky. 40503.

## Because they "want to"

Souls being won is the most important thing that has or can ever happen at Oneida.

Yet we do not try to scare, high pressure or shove anyone through heaven's gate. We do not proclaim God's word in an atmosphere of hysteria.

Thousands have accepted Christ and have begun their Christian walk on the Oneida campus. Oneida ranked second last year in Kentucky, of the more than 2,300 Baptist churches, in numbers led to the Lord and baptized. No doubt many of the young converts have stumbled seriously. But how does one measure these things? We don't have to. God knows. But we can be sure the Christian growth that has followed genuine life-changing eternal decisions is something beyond measure or price.

Oneida is a little place. But then so were Nazareth and Galilee.

Oneida is doing no more important a mission work than any other work being done anywhere in the name of Jesus Christ. Nor is our work any less important.

Ours is an old-fashioned enough faith to believe that God will and does provide when we are in his will doing his work. Living his love, feeding the hungry, giving water to the thirsty, clothing the naked and taking in strangers is the most genuine type of spirituality. The Oneida staff has done these things daily for 90 years.

We really believe in the miracle of the loaves and the fishes. In faith we live and experience. Our work is a daily manifestation that God still performs such miracles.

For such miracles to happen we must return to God something to bless. We must give in love and with faith. When either one or both are missing there are no miracles.

God's value system, God's economics, is different from the world's. In his scheme of things there are no little places of service because there are no little people! The master says, "Inasmuch as you have done these things to the least of these, my children, you have done them unto me."

This being so, we need not—we do not—model our approach on the business world, nor do we measure our work by the bottom financial line. Ours is not a business in the world's sense. Our business is the Master's. We do not have to

know in advance where the last penny is coming from nor where it will be spent. God knows. Meeting needs in faith and seizing opportunities to serve without unnecessary bounds allows room for the Holy Spirit to work.

We do not spin our wheels in numerous and lengthy committee meetings. We do not put paper work as the first priority. Rather, Christ would have us see people over paper. Nor do we spend a huge percentage of God's money raising our money or promoting the program.

Oneida is not on radio or TV. We have no "development" program as many modern institutions understand the term. We have no high-powered public relations people or state-of-the-art fundraisers.

We just go on taking girls and boys and doing our best to meet their needs. Somehow, some way enough money comes to take care of the bills though we are always behind and pressured. People give because they believe we are getting a much better than average return on every dollar spent.

*Reprinted from WR, April 17, 1990*

*Barkley Moore is president of Oneida Baptist Institute, Oneida, Ky. 40972*

*Paid Column*

### ONEIDA JOURNAL



Barkley Moore

## Yellow Creek Brotherhood builds house

Some churches think Brotherhood is only another "eating meeting." Talk to the men from Yellow Creek Church in Owensboro. They always have good crowds for a Brotherhood dinner, but nearly 50 are active in mission projects. Last year the group worked at Oneida Baptist Institute; in 1990 the work team went to Utah. The Brotherhood also leads lay-led revivals. In Florida a lay-witness team assisted the church of former pastor Allen Harrod.

Late Friday afternoon, July 31, the first contingent of the group arrived on campus. A survey team came the previous month to size up the project and determine what equipment they needed to build a 26-foot by 56-foot duplex. The men

brought a goose-neck trailer loaded with finished lumber. Men of the church raised \$2,600 to provide the lumber. This was an answer to prayer because we did not have enough lumber cut to build the six duplexes in a new housing area. By the end of Saturday, the first wall section had started up. On Wednesday, the ceiling trusses were placed. When the group left campus after a week, the structure was roofed and closed in.

Henry Crabtree, A Daviess

County plumbing contractor, worked alongside third-year student Keith Withrow, a former employee in Crabtree's firm. They completed plumbing in two remodeled student houses. Billy Joe Gaddis worked our rented bulldozer and cleared sites for three other cottages.

On Wednesday, three other members of the church joined the group to assist with a two-night lay revival at Hosman church, where Keith Withrow is pastor. Assistant Pastor Denzil Probus preached one night. Minister of Youth and Education Tommy Rodgers was present the entire week. Other members of the group include John Irby, Earl Davis, Lenny Thrasher, Pete Smeathers, Larry Clark, Mike Melloan, Don Riddle, Randy Harris, Tim Leachman, David Rudy, Argle Drake, Dennis Davis, Ron Whitaker and Melvin Pagan. B.T. Atherton, a member of Owensboro First Baptist, is a member of Yellow Creek Brotherhood and hopes to be a catalyst to begin a Brotherhood in his home church.

Thanks, Yellow Creek Brotherhood! I hope men across Kentucky will catch your vision.

*Bill Whittaker is president of Clear Creek Baptist Bible College, Pineville, Ky. 40977*

### CLEAR CREEK CHRONICLE



Bill D. Whittaker

*Paid Column*

## Mission facts illustrated in global game

By Sarah Zimmerman  
SBC Home Mission Board

GLORIETA, N.M. (BP)—Forget assignments—these Southern Baptists wanted out.

"Air Jericho" took them on imaginary trips to other countries during the Jericho missions festival at Glorieta Baptist Conference Center. The game transported them to nations where government officials were harsh, life expectancy was low and illiteracy rates were high.

For some, the trip was too intense. They offered watches, class rings and earrings as bribes to get out of their assigned countries.

The game was coordinated by members of "The Company," a drama troupe from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth, Texas, who accepted the "bribes" and returned them after the game.

One player attempted to defect to the United States. He was caught, however, and quickly returned to his country.

Roy Owens of Bayfield, Colo., was assigned to India. But as soon as he arrived he was told he was dead. The life expectancy in India is 57.5 years; he is 68.

Two-thirds of the Air Jericho players had cotton balls in their ears to represent people worldwide who go to bed hungry every night.

Stephen Branham, a 10-year-old from Beaumont, Texas, was a player with cotton balls. He "died" of starvation in the Philippines before the game ended.

Clydel Chapman of Odessa, Texas, was one of the lucky ones. He was assigned to the United States with the privilege of sitting on a sofa in the shade while players assigned to other countries stood in the sun. He even had the choice of eating plain or peanut M&Ms.

"My initial response was wow, this is where I want to be. We were very comfortable," Chapman said.

But he developed mixed emotions watching other players try to memorize a garbled paragraph in order to legally exit their countries.

In the United States, "we had freedom of movement but some of these people never got out of their countries," Chapman said.

Chapman toured the world as defined by Air Jericho and the conference center parking lot. He ended his trip in the Middle East where he was arrested for being a Christian.

Jericho missions festival is held each year at Glorieta and Ridgecrest Baptist conference centers.

## Students mix sports & witness in Zambia

By Craig Bird  
SBC Foreign Mission Board

LUSAKA, Zambia (BP)—Sports was the action verb but evangelism was the object in the phrase "sports evangelism" as used by a team of Baptist college students in Zambia this summer.

Eighteen students from the University of Tennessee-Knoxville participated in the month-long project sponsored by their Baptist Student Union.

"These kids have restored my faith in today's youth," said Southern Baptist missionary Lonnie Turner, who put the project together. "They are globally aware and want to make a difference.

"This trip has disturbed them—and that is good," he said. "They've asked God some tough questions about some of the things they've seen in Zambia, but they trust him to have the answers."

For example, a sprawling copper pit mine at Chingola provided sights and smells never to be forgotten.

While the nine men in the group were playing the Zambian national team, a cloud of sulfuric acid, a by-product of the mining operation, was released. Wind carried it onto the court. One nosebleed and 18 coughing spells later, the reality of life in a developing country came home to all the visitors.

Two weeks later, the smells and sensations were entirely different.

While conducting two days of basketball clinics in Chikinkata, the two teams were guests of honor at a traditional feast in a small Tonga village.

Plans for a short visit and a picnic at a nearby waterfall were short-circuited by traditional hospitality. Instead of greeting the Americans with handshakes and small talk, the 50 people of the Tonga settlement had prepared a feast.

Tentatively at first, the students sampled the fare: mounds of buntele, a leaf sauce available in regular or peanut-flavored varieties; musozya, made from soaked corn mixed with peanut sauce and doused with sugar; stewed chicken and n'sema, a thick commeal porridge.

## New Europe vp feels called to difficult role

RICHMOND, Va. (BP)—Sam James hopes he doesn't sound pompous by suggesting he has been "divinely called" to make a difference in troubled Southern Baptist relationships in Europe.

James, the Foreign Mission Board's new vice president for Europe, the Middle East and North Africa, brings experience as a skilled listener. He also brings a history of getting things done during a 30-year career in foreign missions.

"There's a lot of pain, a lot of hurt, among our missionary force, European Baptists and our constituency in America," James admitted. "And it's too important a region to lose the opportunity to fulfill the potential we have in that part of the world."

Since 1985, James has been the FMB's director for East Asia, overseeing the work of 500 missionaries in Japan, South Korea, Taiwan, Hong



But the final course, a drink called cibwantu, got a less-enthusiastic reception. The mixture of coarsely ground cornmeal, water, sugar and several unidentified "roots and spices" mostly stayed in the Americans' cups.

"It baffles me to find that people with less seem to give more," said Kevin Thompson of Knoxville. "We were told it would be rude to give them anything but our thanks since we were guests. Yet they seem thrilled to be able to go to all that trouble and expense to feed a bunch of total strangers."

Leanne Brooks of Fountain City said going to church with Zambian believers was a highlight of the trip.

Toward the end of the month, Brooks and the rest of the visitors were earning applause from their hosts for their improving ability to "dance before the Lord."

But sports and evangelism dominated the trips. The teams played exhibitions and gave clinics before thousands of people at six secondary schools as well as the University of Zambia. Four of the Americans were

interviewed on the television program "Good Morning Zambia."

The Americans started out playing basketball politely, but "they figured out in a hurry referees interpret things a little differently over here," Turner said. "Pretty soon both teams learned to play Zambian style—which means lots of contact and banging around."

The adjustment was successful. "I just love Americans," one fan said at a game in Lusaka that raised \$1,380 for the Baptist Convention of Zambia's drought relief program. "They smile and shake your hand before the tip-off, beat you by 40 points, then smile again and talk like best friends after the game is over."

And at every point, the teams found occasion to share their Christian faith.

"Like most of Africa, Zambia is sports-crazy," Turner explained.

"Newspapers carried stories about these Americans coming to play, and government ministers came to the games," he said. "Their basketball skills drew crowds and opened the way for thousands of people to listen to a Christian witness."

**OPEN COURT** While resting from basketball drills, Baptist Student Union team members from Tennessee started group discussions with young people during their visit to Zambia. Basketball was the opening topic, but the Baptists also spoke of their faith in Jesus Christ. (BP photo by Craig Bird)

Kong and Macao.

After an aggressive campaign in East Asia to start churches and lessen missionary involvement in institutions, James says he's never been happier.

Some missionaries in the region have resisted the changes that altered ministries they felt called to do; some have resigned; others continue to work through their feelings.

But James says he has watched God do miracles among many missionaries and Asian Baptists.

James plans to listen to what everyone has to say before he does anything in Europe. "Whatever we do in Europe has to arise from within our missionary force in Europe and our (European) constituency," he cautioned.

Tensions between European Baptists and Southern Baptists came to a head in the past year after FMB trus-

tees voted not to send a promised gift of \$365,000 to fund the Baptist Theological Seminary at Ruschlikon, Switzerland.

Trustees claimed the seminary had strayed from Baptist orthodoxy. Seminary leaders denied that. Bewildered Europeans reacted with hurt and anger.

Both Isam Ballenger, James' predecessor, and Europe area director Keith Parker retired early as tension deepened. They said trustees were enforcing "a global agenda" of theological orthodoxy on Baptists overseas.

"I haven't been instructed in any way, and there are no conditions laid down to me for my election" as vice president, James said.

"It may be that my training, my experience and my commitment to world missions all have come to a place where I'm able to be used in a crisis situation like this."

# BAPTIST HEALTHCARE

## Medical mission team bound for Brazil

*"The founding fathers of this system envisioned delivering healthcare services with Christ at the center of everything we do."*



*To prepare personally and spiritually for their medical mission, Baptist Healthcare team members attended an orientation session conducted by the Kentucky Baptist Convention.*

Since their founding, the Kentucky Baptist hospitals have carried out a far-reaching, healthcare ministry. This month, that caring ministry will extend to South America when Baptist Healthcare System sponsors a two-week medical mission to Brazil in cooperation with the Kentucky Baptist Convention.

On August 20, a 17-member team will travel to Parnaiba, Equatorial Brazil. The team includes medical and support personnel from Baptist Hospital East, Baptist Regional Medical Center, Central Baptist Hospital and Western Baptist Hospital.

Working in partnership with the Kentucky Baptist Convention, the Baptist Healthcare team will deliver what are typically the most sought after services: well baby, dental, ophthalmological and general medical

services. In addition to medical care, the team will minister to the spiritual needs of Parnaiba residents and participate in local worship services when possible.

Our team includes:

**Barney Adams**, pharmacist, Western Baptist;  
**Greg Alexander**, D.O., emergency room physician, Baptist Regional;  
**Joan Arnold**, R.N., Central Baptist;  
**Robert Browning**, pastor, First Baptist Church, Somerset;  
**Ann Burris**, clinical lab technologist, Central Baptist;  
**Tammy Dillman**, radiologic technologist, Baptist Regional;

**Horace Hambrick**, M.D., pediatrician, Georgetown;  
**James Hawkins**, chaplain, Western Baptist;  
**Ronnell Jarvis**, R.N., Western Baptist;  
**Anita Johnson**, R.N., Baptist Regional;  
**Sharon Lewis**, R.N., Central Baptist;  
**Penny Mosier**, R.N.C., Baptist East;  
**Tim Outlaw**, mental health technician, Baptist East;  
**Claudia Sanders**, dental assistant, Louisville;  
**William Sanders**, D.M.D., Louisville;  
**Gary Wallace**, M.D., ophthalmologist, Lexington; and  
**John Way**, occupational therapist, Baptist Regional.

Baptist Healthcare System is pleased to be sponsoring its first foreign medical mission team. As our team prepares to travel to Brazil, we are particularly mindful of the witness and legacy of the many Southern Baptist foreign missionaries and volunteers who have preceded us. Baptist Healthcare System salutes them, and we ask for your prayers as we answer this call.

BAPTIST HEALTHCARE SYSTEM