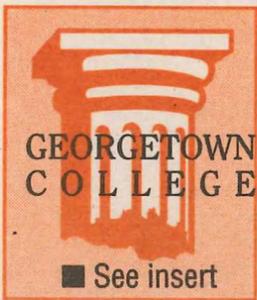


November 5, 1996  
Vol. 170, No. 44



See insert

## FOR THE RECORD

### Falwell denies joining

Jerry Falwell told his congregation the church did not join the Southern Baptist Convention by supporting a conservative Virginia Baptist group. *Page 2.*

### Healthcare offer

Baptist Healthcare System still intends to elect its own trustees, but has offered to ensure that 75 percent of them are Baptist. *Page 3.*

### Short to be nominated

Kentucky evangelist Don Short has agreed to be nominated for president of the KBC. *Page 3.*

### Editorial

Stop feeding the gambling machine. *Page 5.*

### Arson fund

Those recruiting help to rebuild African-American churches are running into a lot of questions as they distribute the money. *Page 6.*

### Former cult

A religious group formerly regarded as a cult has embraced Christian doctrine after the death of its founder. *Page 7.*

### Volunteers needed

Kentucky Brotherhood needs trained disaster relief volunteers for flood-related work in Boston. *Page 8.*

Moving? See page 4 (1105)

## Morality slides while religion gains ground, study finds

By Marv Knox  
*Texas Baptist Standard*

PRINCETON, N.J. (ABP)—American faith is much wider than it is deep, according to a Gallup study of religious values and practice.

"One of the seeming paradoxes of American society is that religion is gaining ground, but morality is losing ground," the Princeton Religion Research Center reports in its Emerging Trends newsletter. The research center analyzed a nationwide study of American adults who shared their perspectives on faith and life.

The poll found that "organized religion in America was at a 10-year high," according to such standards as church attendance and Americans' own expressions of their faith.

But other surveys contradict Amer-

icans' self-professed piety, they add.

For example: Two-thirds of high school students admitted they would lie to achieve a business objective. Teen pregnancy, drug abuse and juvenile crime rates in the United States are among the highest in the industrialized world. Sixty percent of new marriages are expected to end in divorce.

Consequently, Gallup polls show Americans' concern for the national moral climate is at an all-time high.

The researchers offer two theories for the contrast between professed religion and practiced morality.

First, Americans' depth of commitment to religious faith is less impressive than their "attachment to organized religion," they suggest.

About 40 percent of Americans attend church weekly, a level that is

among the highest in the world. Meanwhile, "large numbers of Americans are biblical illiterates and lack awareness and understanding of their own religious traditions."

"We want the fruits of faith, but less of the obligations," the report notes. A study illustrates that point. "Facing God's will" ranked at the bottom of a list of nine social values. It fell behind happiness, satisfaction, a sense of accomplishment and five other values. So, while religion may be considered important by most Americans, it is not a priority.

Second, perhaps religion actually is having a "pronounced effect on the climate of morality," analysts speculate.

According to this line of reasoning, "the situation would actually be far worse if religious conviction on a

significant level were not present in our society."

To illustrate, they report 80 percent of Americans say their religious beliefs help them respect and assist others, while two-thirds say their beliefs prevent them from doing things they know are wrong.

Among the claims of those surveyed:

■ 94 percent believe in God or a universal spirit.

■ 75 percent pray at least daily.

■ 69 percent claim membership in a faith community.

■ 58 percent say religion is very important in their lives.

■ 43 percent attend church in a typical week.

■ 13 percent have a "transforming faith," manifested in measurable and behavioral ways.

## Cooperative Program is biggest item facing KBC

By Mark Wingfield  
*Editor*

BOWLING GREEN—A proposal to alter the basis on which Cooperative Program receipts are divided between the Kentucky Baptist Convention and Southern Baptist Convention appears to be the most contested issue facing messengers to next week's KBC annual meeting.

In other business, messengers will be asked to elect new officers, approve creation of a new agency to manage the KBC's two camps, approve a joint fund-raising campaign for the KBC's three liberal arts schools, approve a 1997-98 KBC budget and approve a change in length of terms served by members of the Western Recorder board.

In addition, the convention's resolutions committee will present a slate of resolutions for approval, and messengers will have opportunity to make other requests through motions on the convention floor.

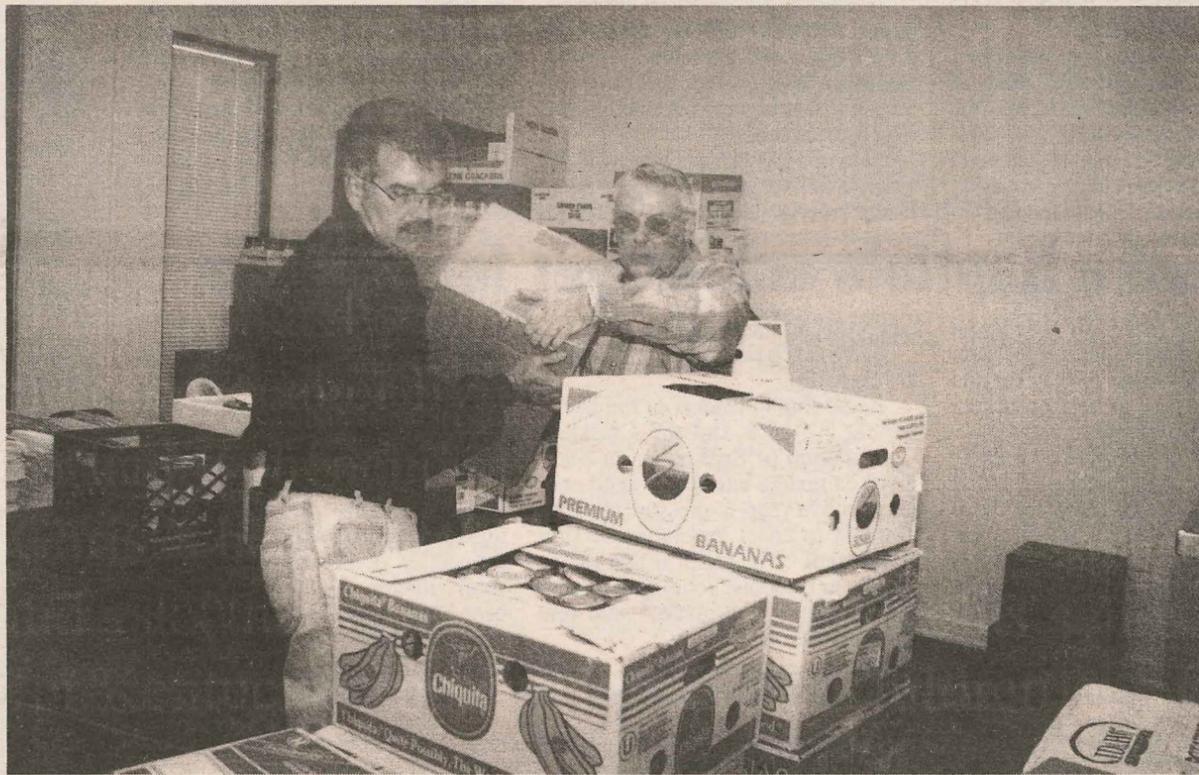
The KBC annual meeting will be held Nov. 12-13 at First Baptist Church of Bowling Green. Sessions begin on the first day at 8:20 a.m., 1:45 p.m. and 7 p.m. and on the second day at 8:45 a.m. Due to a new schedule this year, the convention will conclude at noon Wednesday.

Here's a summary of the major issues facing convention messengers:

■ **Cooperative Program percentage.** After several years of study, the KBC Executive Board approved a recommendation last May that would increase the percentage of Cooperative Program undesignated receipts kept in Kentucky and reduce the percentage forwarded to the SBC.

If the recommendation is approved by the full convention, beginning in September 1997 Kentucky Cooper-

□ See KBC messengers ..., page 3



**ROUNDUP** Ken Felty, pastor of First Baptist Church of East Bernstadt, and Roy Faulkner, director of missions for Laurel River Association, stack food collected for Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children's annual food roundup. The roundup has become an annual chance for two father and son teams to help the ministries and spend time together. See story page 8.

## Legislature holds gambling hearings this week

By Mark Wingfield  
*Editor*

FRANKFORT—A joint committee of the Kentucky General Assembly will hold hearings this week on a proposal to legalize casino-style gambling in an effort to fight off competition to the state's horse tracks and lottery.

The hearings before a joint session of the House and Senate Licensing and Occupations committees are scheduled to begin at 10:30 a.m. Nov. 7 and 9 a.m. Nov. 8 in Room 129 of the Capitol Annex.

Nancy Jo Kemper, executive director of the Kentucky Council of Churches and coordinator of an anti-gambling coalition of which the Kentucky Baptist Convention is a part, is scheduled to testify at the hearings.

Several other anti-gambling speakers also will testify.

Kemper said the hearings originally were scheduled without any representation from anti-gambling forces. The sessions were billed as providing information about "economic forces affecting the horse industry," but most of the scheduled speakers represented gambling interests rather than the horse industry, she said.

Kemper said she believes a movement is underway to present legislation during the General Assembly's January special session that would advance gambling.

Both the state's horse tracks and the Kentucky Lottery Corp. have expressed concern that new riverboat casinos in adjacent states will reduce overall revenues from gambling in Kentucky.

The Kentucky Lottery Corp. is seeking permission to expand its business to include video lottery terminals and keno. Video lottery terminals are electronic lottery games played on a video screen. Keno is a casino-style game of numbers selection played through an on-line gambling network.

A January 1996 report prepared by the lottery provides extensive data on the potential for adding these new games either to the lottery's existing outlets, to horse tracks or to other "age-controlled environments."

The report notes the Kentucky Lottery Corp. is seeking ways to "preserve or increase its revenue and dividend streams."

The report concludes that "active gaming options may be the only current alternative for protecting and increasing revenue and dividends."

## BAPTIST BITS

■ A gift from the family of legendary Tennessee pastor R.G. Lee to Union University has laid the groundwork for establishment of the R.G. Lee Center for Christian Ministry at the Jackson, Tenn., campus. In 1974, Lee, a Union trustee for 14 years, left a major portion of his personal library to establish the R.G. Lee Memorial Library at Union. Recently, Lee's family contributed the remainder of his collection—including books, portraits, sermon manuscripts and Lee's trademark white suit—to the university.

■ World Wide Web sites have been launched by the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board and its computer network, SBCNet. Address for the Sunday School Board's Web site is <http://www.bssb.com>. Address for SBCNet's site is <http://www.sbcnet.org>.

■ Irene Lawson, a Southern Baptist missionary to Italy, died Oct. 30 while presenting a program on missions at Rock Springs Baptist Church in Easley, S.C. Doctors said Lawson, 54, probably died of a cerebral aneurysm, according to her son, Marion Lawson, a member of the church. He was among the 600 to 700 people attending the church's Wednesday night prayer meeting, where his mother and father, Ken Lawson, were featured speakers. The Lawsons, who lead an international Baptist church in Rome, were on furlough in Easley, her hometown.

## Falwell tells church they didn't join SBC

By Robert Dilday  
*Virginia Religious Herald*

RICHMOND, Va. (ABP)—Jerry Falwell says he has not joined the Southern Baptist Convention, even though a recent contribution from his church to a new SBC-related state convention in Virginia qualifies him for SBC membership.

The fundamentalist pastor of Thomas Road Baptist Church in Lynchburg, Va., told his congregation Oct. 30 he is only "a Baptist in the South" and has not abandoned his independent stance, reported the Roanoke Times and World News. He will, however, maintain close ties with Southern Baptists, a spokesman said.

Thomas Road Baptist Church sent a \$1,000 contribution Sept. 25 to the Southern Baptist Conservatives of Virginia, which broke away from the 173-year-old Baptist General Association of Virginia this fall, charging it with liberalism and lack of loyalty to the national convention. The conservative Virginia group forwards 50 percent of its undesignated receipts to the national convention.

When first asked about his apparent alignment with the SBC, Falwell did not deny his intention to join the SBC. Asked about the affiliation, Falwell responded in an Oct. 24 statement that he and his church were taking "our permanent stand with the nation-

al and Virginia Bible-believing conservatives who have rescued the Southern Baptist Convention from theological liberalism." He stressed, however, the church would not end its "support to our missionaries who are affiliated with many different fellowships and faith mission boards."

But Falwell spokesman Mark DeMoss told Virginia's Religious Herald Oct. 31: "It was not the church's intention to join the Southern Baptist Convention ... but rather to show support for Southern Baptist conservatives in Virginia. ... His (Falwell's) intentions were to provide financial and moral support to conservative Southern Baptists in the state and in a tangible way through a monthly contribution."

The SBC's constitution defines the convention's members as messengers, or delegates, from Baptist churches which are "in friendly cooperation with the convention and sympathetic with its purposes and work" and which made a "bona fide" financial contribution in the preceding year.

According to the Roanoke newspaper, Falwell told his church he didn't know the Conservatives of Virginia would earn his church voting rights in the SBC.

Falwell, pastor of Thomas Road Church for 40 years, is a prominent leader among independent Baptists, a

brand of the denomination which jealously guards its autonomy.

"The Thomas Road Baptist Church and I are very sensitive to anyone thinking we may have abandoned our independent groups," the Roanoke paper quoted Falwell as saying. "We have not."

"If Dr. Falwell's intentions were to join the convention he easily could have done it in a more direct way," DeMoss told the Herald. "He intends to remain independent and cooperate with various independent groups. His bottom line is that he will cooperate with anyone who shares his view of the Scriptures."

Some observers have speculated Falwell was criticized by his independent allies for forging ties with the SBC. But DeMoss said he doubts that.

"Any independents that have watched Dr. Falwell for any period of time have seen a pretty close relationship with Southern Baptists," he said. "About a third of the board of trustees at Liberty University are Southern Baptists. About 40 percent of the student body is Southern Baptist. Southern Baptist pastors have been speaking at the university and the church's conference every fall and the majority of those speakers are Southern Baptists. There shouldn't be any surprise from independents about his ties with Southern Baptists."

## Sri Lanka Baptists ask prayer for freedom

WASHINGTON (BP)—Baptist leaders in Sri Lanka are asking Baptists around the world to pray for and speak out on their behalf on urgent religious freedom issues.

While the constitution currently guarantees religious freedom, Baptists along with other Christians are fighting against proposed changes in a new draft constitution that would outlaw conversion to Christianity, control the building of new churches and give Buddhism, the majority religion, special

protection and control.

Sixty-seven percent of Sri Lankans are Buddhist.

According to leaders of the Evangelical Alliance and the Christian Consultation of Sri Lanka, an organized campaign has been waged over the past five years to pressure the government to enact legislation to stop conversion. "The claim is that this is a Sinhala Buddhist country and other religions have no place," said one Christian leader.

Much of the opposition comes because many people are being converted to faith in Jesus Christ and Christian churches are being accused of "unethical conversion," the Christian leaders report.

Christian ministries that target the poor and underprivileged also are being attacked. The opposition has been especially severe among people in rural villages, where one pastor has been killed, others assaulted and more than 18 churches burned.

## Prominent church moves to new Va. convention

RICHMOND, Va. (ABP)—One of the largest Southern Baptist churches in Virginia has voted to shift its affiliation to the Southern Baptist Conservatives of Virginia, an alternative state convention formed in September.

Grove Avenue Baptist Church in Richmond—church home for many key Southern Baptist leaders, including Foreign Mission Board President Jerry Rankin—voted Oct. 27 to end its 128-year-old relationship with the Baptist General Association of Virginia and join the breakaway convention.

The 1,820-member church, which ranks seventh in Virginia in financial contributions to denominational causes, will remain affiliated with the Southern Baptist Convention and the Richmond Baptist Association.

Southern Baptist Conservatives of Virginia was organized by churches who charge the existing state convention with theological liberalism and lack of loyalty to the national convention, which has become more conservative in the past 20 years.

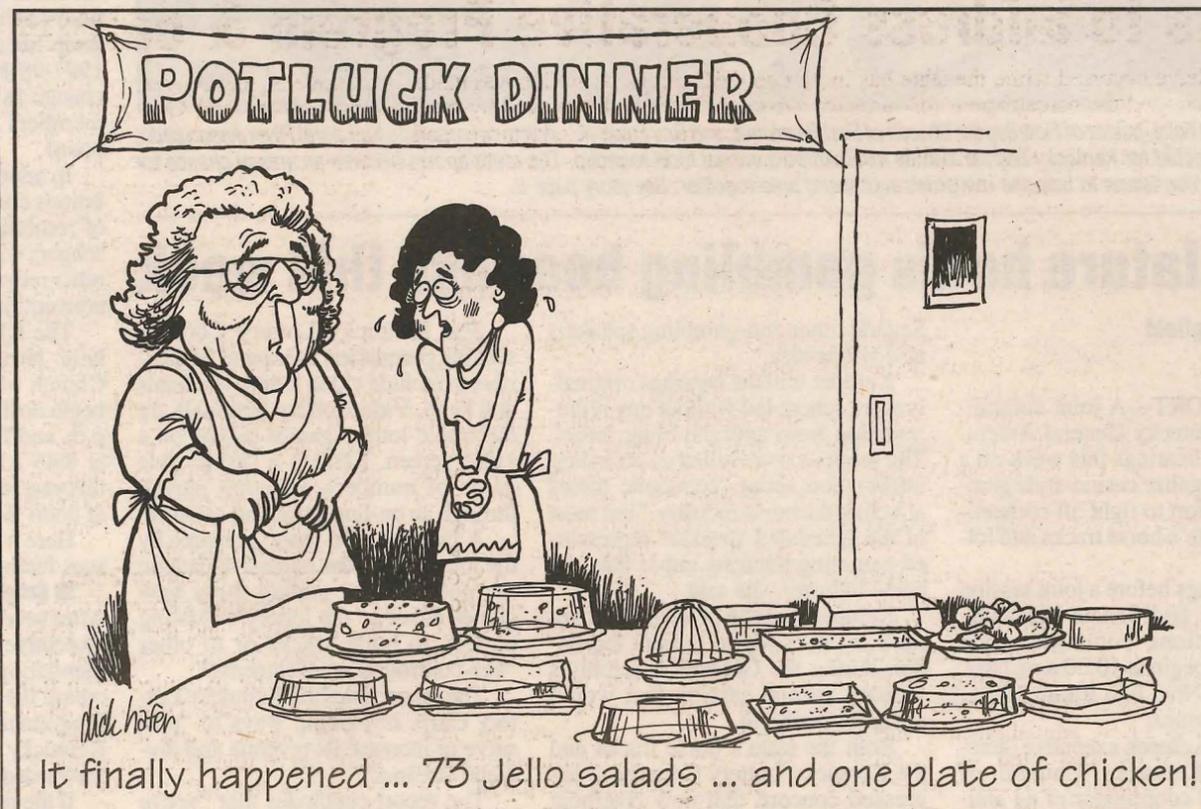
Of the nearly 300 Grove Avenue members who voted on the issue, 53 percent favored the exclusive alignment with the new convention, 39 percent preferred ties with both the old and new state conventions and 8 percent wanted to maintain alignment only with the established convention, said Grove Avenue Pastor Ron Boswell.

The church gave \$245,965 to missions in 1995, according to Baptist General Association of Virginia records. However, most of that amount did not support Virginia ministries. In earlier protests, Grove Avenue reduced the percentage of gifts channeled to the state convention's causes. Although it is seventh in total mission gifts, Grove Avenue ranks 75th among 1,564 congregations in contributions to Virginia Baptist ministries.

About half of Virginia's representatives to Southern Baptist Convention boards and committees are members of churches that contribute to the new state convention, according to statistics compiled by the Religious Herald.

Nineteen of the 35 Virginians who serve as trustees of SBC agencies belong to churches that have given money to the alternative state convention. So do four Virginians who serve on two key nominating committees which recruit trustees for national leadership posts.

They include Norfolk pastor Robert Reccord, a member of the SBC's powerful Executive Committee and chairman of the task force implementing a denominational restructuring and downsizing.



It finally happened ... 73 Jello salads ... and one plate of chicken!

## Baptist Healthcare System agreement may be reached

By Mark Wingfield  
Editor

LOUISVILLE—While not backing down on its desire to elect its own trustees, Baptist Healthcare System will amend its articles of incorporation and bylaws to meet two key concerns of Kentucky Baptist Convention officials.

Baptist Healthcare System trustees voted March 19 to dissolve their covenant agreement with the KBC and elect their own successors in the future. Currently, the KBC elects three-fourths of the healthcare system's board, with significant input from the president of the hospital system.

The unilateral decision by Baptist Healthcare System to end its formal relationship with the KBC created concern among KBC administrators and the KBC Executive Board. In

May, the Executive Board appointed a four-person team to negotiate a clearer relationship with Baptist Healthcare System.

An Oct. 22 letter to Bill Marshall, KBC executive secretary-treasurer, from Eugene Siler, chairman of the hospital system's board, indicates two key actions intended to ease concerns expressed by the KBC team.

First, Baptist Healthcare System will add to its articles of incorporation and bylaws "a specific requirement that 75 percent of the board of directors will be Baptist," Siler wrote. "This is the same percentage that is required to be Baptist under the covenant agreement. Moreover, a provision will be added to the BHS governance documents which will require a two-thirds majority vote of the entire board to change this board membership requirement."

Second, Siler said, Baptist Healthcare System will amend its governing documents to ensure that in the event the hospital system is sold, "an amount equal to past KBC contributions" will be returned to the KBC to support Baptist causes and ministries. Any further changes in this commitment also would require a two-thirds majority vote of the full board.

The current "dissolution clause" in the agency's articles of incorporation will remain the same. That clause states that should the entity be dissolved the KBC will receive 50 percent of all assets not otherwise required to be given to others.

"We believe that these steps, along with all the other ways that we have committed to build upon our spiritual foundation, demonstrate our continuing commitment to our Baptist heritage and relationship with Kentucky

Baptists," Siler wrote.

The KBC negotiating team is scheduled to meet this week to review Siler's letter and to finalize its report to the KBC Executive Board, which meets Nov. 11.

"We're to the point where we have the basis of a positive report to the Executive Board," said Charles Barnes, a member of the KBC team and chairman of the Executive Board's administrative committee.

Technically, the vote by Baptist Healthcare System to dissolve the covenant agreement with the KBC does not take effect until one year after dissolution was requested. That means the covenant remains in effect until March 1997.

As a result, messengers to next week's KBC annual meeting will be asked for the last time to elect trustees for the hospital system.

### BLUEGRASS BURGEOO

■ **High school juniors and seniors and their parents are invited to Georgetown College's open house Saturday, Nov. 9 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Call (800) 788-9985 for reservations.**

■ **Cumberland College will host the Quest '96 youth rally Nov. 22-23. Christian entertainment, fellowship and inspirational speakers will be featured. Call coordinator Rick Fleenor at (800) 343-1609 for more information.**

■ **The annual gathering during the Kentucky Baptist Convention for alumni and friends of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary has been canceled this year due to a scheduling conflict. T.A. Prickett, pastor of Seven Hills Baptist Church in Owensboro and chairman of the seminary's Kentucky alumni group, originally had scheduled the event for Tuesday evening, Nov. 12. However, after the announcement of Bill Marshall's impending retirement as KBC executive secretary-treasurer, a special retirement reception for Marshall and his wife, Alice, was planned for Tuesday evening. Prickett said he did not want the seminary event to conflict with the reception for the Marshalls.**

■ **Clarification:** The Recorder's Oct. 22 issue reported that KBC Sunday school director Chip Miller had been elected to a new KBC position related to church growth. Actually, Miller's nomination to the new position was approved by the administrative committee of the KBC Executive Board. Final approval for the change must be given by the full Executive Board, which will meet next week.

## Evangelist Short to be nominated for KBC presidency

By Mark Wingfield  
Editor

Longtime Kentucky evangelist Don Short apparently will be one of two candidates to be nominated for the presidency of the Kentucky Baptist Convention during the KBC annual meeting next week.

Floyd Price, 54, pastor of Scottsville Baptist Church in Scottsville, previously had been announced as a candidate for the presidency. He will be nominated by Bill Messer, pastor of First Baptist Church of Ashland.

Short, 47, said he had been approached several months ago by Don Mathis, pastor of Central Baptist Church in Winchester, who desired to nominate him for the KBC presidency. After several weeks of prayer, Short agreed.

Mathis will not be nominating Short next week, however, because Mathis recently has accepted a staff position with the Southern Baptist

Sunday School Board in Nashville.

Mathis said he's "simply not in a position" to nominate Short, although he firmly believes Short is an outstanding candidate.

"I believe Don is the kind of president the state convention needs right now because of his relationship with so many Kentucky Baptists. He has a way of relating to people in all kinds of congregations," said Mathis, himself a former KBC president.

"I believe Don has the experience—he has been first vice president of the convention," Mathis added. "He probably has preached in more churches in Kentucky than anybody in the state and knows the heart of Kentucky Baptists."

Short will be nominated by his pastor, C.C. Brasher of Briensburg Baptist Church in Benton.

Brasher said he believes Short would make a good leader for Kentucky Baptists. "He's loved by everybody, and he's used in a wide range

of churches."

Like Price, the other nominee for the office, Short said he cannot easily be classified by the conservative-moderate labels Baptists have been given in recent years.

"I'm a conservative; I'm just not a rock-throwing conservative," Short explained. "I believe the Bible is the infallible, inerrant word of God. I strongly support the local church and I strongly support the Cooperative Program."

Short said he is "really weary" of the battles between conservatives and moderates in the Southern Baptist Convention. "I honestly believe the controversy is bigger in a few minds than it really is," he suggested.

Short said he believes Southern Baptists have "the best thing going" in their missions efforts, which he has seen firsthand through several overseas missions trips.

His emphasis among Kentucky Baptists would be "to teach our peo-

ple to take the religion we have out of the church on a regular basis" as lifestyle evangelists and compassionate Christians.

Short leads about 50 revivals per year, about half of those in Kentucky Baptist churches, and turns down about another 100 invitations, he said. He has been a vocational evangelist since 1980.

Previously, he was pastor of Emmanuel Baptist Church in Marion and Suwanee Baptist Church in Suwanee.

Short earned three degrees from Mid-Continent Baptist Bible College: the bachelor of arts, bachelor of theology and master of ministry.

In addition to previously serving as KBC first vice president, Short has filled a number of associational roles through the years. He currently serves on the SBC's committee on nominations.

He and his wife, Kathy, have three adult children, Renee, Jeremy and Tim.

## KBC messengers to address Cooperative Program & camps

Continued from page 1

Cooperative Program receipts would be divided 35 percent to the SBC and 65 percent to the KBC. That is a 2 percent adjustment; the current split is 37 percent to SBC and 63 percent to KBC.

The new percentage split would not be set permanently, however. The recommendation also states that in the future the percentage given to the SBC will be adjusted based "on the percentage of growth or decline in Cooperative Program giving from the churches."

Supporters of the proposal say it is necessary to adjust for unrealistic goals set at the beginning of Bold Mission Thrust in the late 1970s. At that time, Southern Baptists dreamed of vastly expanding their worldwide outreach, creating a plan that required significant growth in giving by churches through state conventions to the SBC.

Supporters of the current proposal say those earlier projections have resulted in the state convention being caught in the middle of decreases in percentage giving by the churches that

have occurred while the state has increased the percentage it forwards to the SBC.

Meanwhile, KBC officials report that the state's shrinking portion of the Cooperative Program pie must cover increasing expenses, such as the popular expanded annuity program that benefits all pastors.

Critics of the proposal say it isn't fair to cut back on Kentucky's contribution to Southern Baptist home and foreign missions when such a large percentage of Cooperative Program money already stays in Kentucky. The solution is to get Kentucky churches to give more money to the Cooperative Program overall, this group contends.

Several associations this fall passed resolutions expressing opposition to the proposal. The Western Recorder also has carried several letters to the editor highly critical of the proposal.

■ **Assemblies board.** At last year's KBC annual meeting, messengers circumvented an Executive Board proposal to cease ownership of Cedarmore Baptist Assembly, one of

two KBC camps. A motion was made from the floor and approved by messengers to make Cedarmore and Jonathan Creek camps separate agencies of the KBC.

That motion, once approved, was given to the KBC Executive Board to implement. This year, the Executive Board will report back to the convention with a proposal to create a new entity called Kentucky Baptist Assemblies Inc.

This agency, which would be administered by an eight-member board of trustees, would own and manage both Jonathan Creek and Cedarmore.

■ **Officers.** Two men have been announced as candidates for the KBC presidency: Floyd Price, pastor of Scottsville Baptist Church in Scottsville, and Don Short, a vocational evangelist from Eddyville. Other candidates could be nominated from the convention floor as well.

Other officers to be elected include first vice president, second vice president, secretary and assistant secretary.

■ **Joint college campaign.** The KBC's three liberal arts schools—

Campbellsville University, Cumberland College and Georgetown College—have proposed a joint fundraising campaign that would include direct appeals to churches. Funds raised would be divided equally among the three schools, primarily for scholarship endowments.

■ **KBC budget.** The Kentucky Cooperative Program operating budget proposed for fiscal year 1997-98 is \$19.22 million, a 2.5 percent increase over the 1996-97 budget. Undesignated receipts in this fiscal year would be divided 35 percent to the SBC and 65 percent to the KBC, assuming messengers also approve the recommendation on Cooperative Program percentages discussed above.

■ **Western Recorder board.** The Western Recorder's board of directors has requested, and the KBC Executive Board has approved, that terms of service be extended from three years to four years. Trustees of all other KBC agencies and institutions already serve four-year terms; the Recorder is the last to request this change.

## 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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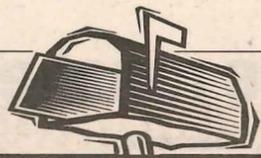
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## BAPTIST FORUM

### Don't change CP

I agree wholeheartedly with the vote of Christian County Association to ask the Executive Board to rescind its proposal to cut the Southern Baptist Convention portion of the Cooperative Program from 37 percent to 35 percent.

As a former foreign missionary who served for nearly 14 years, I realize my experiences affect my personal feelings on this subject. I believe cutting our missionary funds is wrong.

Some say when you add special offerings that go to the Home Mission Board and Foreign Mission Board, 50 percent of our Kentucky churches' missions giving is channeled to SBC work. That is misleading. If you add the special offerings that go to the state Woman's Missionary Union, Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children, the hospitals and our KBC schools and other entities, associational and local church mission efforts, approximately 75 percent of all missions giving by Kentucky churches remains in Kentucky.

As an FMB missionary, we (the Peru Baptist mission) were often called on to present mission budgets with 0 percent increases or minor increases. Often, these were required during a time of high inflation, depressed dollar values and new missionaries coming on board who needed funding for housing, education of children and ministry resources. The 0 percent increase often was a cut in our actual budget.

We have sent our missionaries. They deserve our support. To do less is sin and is irresponsible.

Kentucky, too, is a great and needy mission field. We must reach our state with the gospel. To do less is sin and irresponsible.

Instead of regressing by cutting one group, we should be aggressively attacking the problem. There is enough money in Kentucky Baptist churches to fund our mission needs. We must increase our promotion of missions in Kentucky and around the world. Our people will respond.

Larry Baker  
Hopkinsville

### Not 'anti-missions'

As an Executive Board member, I feel compelled to address the recommendation regarding Cooperative Program gifts. This recommendation is not one the board makes easily, but there are solid reasons for doing so.

Bold Mission Thrust included a goal of \$1.2 billion in SBC Cooperative Program receipts by the year 2000. The target for 1995 was \$950 million. In 1995, receipts were \$146 million, 15 percent of that goal. In 1987, Kentucky Baptist churches gave an average of 11.88 percent of undesignated receipts to the Cooperative Program. This percentage has declined steadily to 9.97 percent last year.

During this period, Kentucky Baptist ministry expenses have increased. For example, expenses for Jonathan Creek and Cedarmore, as well as an increase in the number of Kentucky Baptist church employees and retirees receiving annuity support.

These factors have conspired to leave us in a financial crunch. Missions within our state has suffered. The Executive Board has reduced KBC staff positions by seven. For nine years, there have been virtually no new Executive Board program funds. The percentage of funds assigned to Christian education has decreased. There has been no increase in Cooperative Program funds for the children's homes for 10 years.

Kentucky is not the only state to face such a crunch. Florida, Texas and Oklahoma have reduced percentages given to the SBC. After much prayer and discussion, the Executive Board made the difficult decision to recom-

mend that Sept. 1, 1996, we return from 37 percent to the original base of 35 percent to SBC causes. It's not anti-missions. It's a matter of recognizing our responsibilities at home which have been adversely affected by a downturn in missions giving. The recommendation leaves the power with the churches. The future percentage given to the SBC will be increased or decreased according to what is given to the Cooperative Program from the churches.

Jay Robison  
Paris

### Shame on Recorder!

In reference to the editorial (Oct. 22, page 5) "Should churches give out voter guides?": You need to study your Bible. You will find that God destroyed the world, saved Noah and his family, later two cities for man's sin identified as homosexuality. And you compare abortion (murder) and homosexuality with welfare reform and government ethics!

It's difficult for me to believe you qualify as an editor of a biblical paper that should be devoted to honoring the Scriptures.

It's too bad dear old John the Baptist did not have you as his adviser when he challenged the morals of Nero. John lost his head.

You warn churches they may lose their tax-exempt status if they allow voter guides be distributed? Rather, your effort should be expended to save our nation from complete moral collapse.

Please consider our grandchildren; think of the world that's already here; and you are afraid of losing a tax status!

I'm enclosing a flier from Freedom's Heritage Foundation. Share it with your friends and staff that they may be encouraged with your president's leadership and character. Thank God for Dr. (Frank) Simon, Pastor (D. James) Kennedy and Pat Robertson.

Shame on the Western Recorder!  
Donald Benson  
Berea

### Election time, Kentucky Baptist style

By the time most of you read this, the outcome of the presidential election will have been determined.

Some will be pleased; some disappointed. Some will be elated; some will be angry. Some will predict a great future; some, a gloomy one.

Millions of dollars will have been spent, much of it on media created to make a candidate's opponent look bad. Much of it was innuendo and half-truths; some of it, we now learn, was just plain "down and dirty."

If I have gleaned anything positive from the 1996 election campaigns, it is that the American people are beginning to show signs of disaffection with negative campaigning. Such has not served the candidates well this season.

Next Tuesday another election will be held and the "polling place" will be the First Baptist Church of Bowling Green.

No signs or banners promoting a candidate will appear; no hawkers

passing out leaflets either extolling their candidate or criticizing the other. There will not have been any Baptist money spent on promoting candidates and, if history is a good barometer, no long line of church buses bring people to the "polling place" to vote and then home again. Admittedly, a good bit of that did go on for a few years at Southern Baptist conventions when even small children came along to vote. Alice and I twice sat behind groups which included two adults and several pre-teen children and watched the two adults cast ballots for the children. I have never seen that at a Kentucky Baptist Convention and only once do I remember a complaint about that sort of thing.

Kentucky Baptists, by and large, are people who speak their thoughts openly, vote their minds and hearts, and move on. Perhaps the readers will be surprised to know that in my 14 years at this job, only twice have I re-

#### ON MISSION TOGETHER



William W. Marshall

ceived an anonymous letter. That speaks volumes to me about the integrity and openness of our Kentucky Baptist family. Maybe that is one reason these years have been good for me. Sure, I've taken some "hits," but they are inevitable in a context where Baptist brothers and sisters, while agreeing on much, have significant differences about some issues.

That we are still intact as a family, even with an amended relationship with Baptist Healthcare System Inc., is a tribute to the churches of this state which continue to realize how important to our Christian mission is each of our Kentucky Baptist institutions and agencies.

As in the past, Kentucky Baptists will cast their votes for the person nominated whom they believe can best lead the convention as president. Looking over the long list of presidents past, messengers can know that they have done a good job of electing leadership through the years.

I don't believe they will do otherwise in 1996.

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



### How safe and secure is my child at church?

By Jewell Nelson

**Q.** Our son's day care is very strict about who picks up our child. What requirements do Baptist churches have on security and safety for children?

**A.** Each church is responsible for its own security and safety regulations. A day care has state regulations.

For the sake of children, security, safety and good hygiene (hospital clean to prevent the spread of contagious diseases) have been a part of teacher training for years. There are churches that are fine examples in these areas. However, many churches have not taken these issues seriously. Lawsuits and threats of lawsuits have become incentives.

Each church needs church-approved established policies. These policies should be kept in sight, and in hands of parents and teachers. Include information such as: purpose of policies, teacher enlistment, program opportunities, receiving and dismissal of children, illnesses and medications, safety, security and hygienic procedures. Information about security and safety should include:

- Instructions about how to leave and pick up a child (sign in and get a number or pager).

- Instructions if someone other than the person who brought the child is to pick up the child (photos of other adults who may pick up the child, or signed written instructions to allow another adult to pick up the child). "We know everybody" is not always true. Visitors, and couples who may be legally separated or divorced are not always known to teachers in the nursery/preschool rooms.

- To protect children and adults, it is best to enlist at least two unrelated adults in every teaching unit, through youth.

- Each room, and the playground, should be safe and age-appropriate.

- Every teacher should know what to do in case of an emergency: injury, fire, tornado, earthquake or the threat of a suspicious-looking intruder.

For more information, contact the Sunday school department (502) 245-4101.

Jewell Nelson is associate director of the KBC's Sunday school department.

- Send your questions about children, teens, marriage, singles or aging to "Family Forum," Western Recorder, Box 43969, Louisville, Ky. 40253.

## HE SAID/SHE SAID

### The great truth of modern families: She shops, he drops

#### SHESAIID



Alison Wingfield

Bargain hunting has become a passion for me. I have inherited a portion of this tendency from my dad, who is the king when it comes to checking all the prices in town before he makes a purchase. By the time he's ready to buy, the item is either sold out or he can't remember why he wanted it in the first place.

I'm not that bad, but I do feel like I've become a walking computer

when it comes to prices on such items as animal cookies, laundry detergent and toilet paper. And at Christmas time, the Toys R Us circular is set next to the latest Target and WalMart ads to see who has the best price on whatever toys we're looking for.

What I really enjoy is the adrenaline rush that comes when half of the items at the grocery store for which you have coupons also are on sale. And I live for those department store "take an extra 30 percent off the marked down price" signs.

Mark, on the other hand, is a much more compulsive shopper. I shouldn't complain, because at least he enjoys shopping. But he is one of those go-in-and-buy-what-you-came-to-get-and-get-out kind of people (except when it comes to the hardware store, which is another story). And never mind if that particular item can be had for \$1 cheaper at another place. If it's there and he's there, he's going to buy it.

On the other hand, if I know I have a coupon for something and didn't bring it with me, I won't buy it unless we're completely out of that item, or won't be able to get back in time to use the coupon.

#### HESAIID



Mark Wingfield

I appreciate the value of a good coupon as much as the next guy, but even coupon shopping has to be tempered with some financial facts.

For example, for the 50 cents or dollar saved, how much extra gas has been burned to get to the right store at the right time to use the coupon? Or how long do I have to wait to get this special deal? I'm forever left needing some toiletry item that Alison

won't buy yet because she left a coupon at home or she knows it's cheaper at another store (that she's not going to for another two weeks). How do you put a price on being paralyzed by a bargain-hunting spouse?

Of course, the alternative is to buy every basic in industrial sizes, strengths and quantities. But how many people have storage closets as big as warehouses? And how do you fit a 50-gallon drum of shampoo into the shower?

Nevertheless, we are trying to begin teaching our boys to be savvy shoppers. But I'm sorry to report it hasn't taken yet. I may be compulsive, but they're habitual. They know every toy store within a 15-mile radius of our house, and they constantly beg to be taken there.

So what's the lesson in all this? If I were a church growth consultant, I would recommend taking a few tips from shopping patterns to lure in people shopping for a church. Maybe offering half-off the sermon or half-off the tithe coupons for women. And advertising to men "We have what you want when you need it without a hassle."

And for the kids? Maybe Toys R Us would loan out their sign for Sunday mornings.

## Stop feeding the gambling machine

With one more roll of the dice, Kentuckians are about to learn the hard lesson that gambling is addictive not only to gamblers but to governments as well.

First came horse racing, with gambling thrown in as part of the gentlemen's sport. That wasn't enough, so then came the lottery, with promises of pie in the sky for state government without raising visible taxes.

Now the horse tracks are running scared because of riverboat casinos in adjacent states, and the lottery corporation says its sales are headed in a no-growth direction. New sources of gambling revenue are needed to keep our state's gambling habit fed, they report. The state has become dependent upon gambling revenues, and it's time to raise the addiction one more level in order to keep getting the same results.

So both the horse tracks and the Kentucky Lottery Corp. are pulling the General Assembly's lever in hopes of hitting the jackpot with legislation that would legalize some form of casino gambling. This most likely would appear first in the form of video gambling units installed either at the horse tracks or at lottery outlets.

A report issued by the Kentucky Lottery Corp. in January makes this case crystal clear: "It is the obligation and responsibility of the Kentucky Lottery Corp. to examine gaming opportunities which could preserve or increase its revenue and dividend streams in the face of increasing competition."

The report discusses options such as legalizing video lottery terminals and on-line keno games at the horse tracks, at lottery outlets or at other "age-controlled facilities."

This is a classic case of addiction that needs to be stopped before it grows any worse. The citizens of our commonwealth do not need more aggressive gambling

opportunities thrust upon them. It's time to break the cycle and stop the pain.

While the horse tracks and the lottery appear to be innocent entertainment to many people, they are not. Any move closer to casino-style gambling certainly would not be innocent or entertaining.

In this election-year cycle, we've heard much from politicians of every stripe about the importance of morality and values. When government sponsors gambling ventures to balance its books, neither morals nor values are being taught.

Gambling in any form teaches that something can be gained for nothing, that money can be made without work and that it's OK to steal from others to make yourself rich so long as you have fun doing it.

Not only does gambling run against a biblical ethic, it runs against the American ethic. It may sound hard and old-fashioned, but it is true: Gambling is an evil and dishonorable business.

Kentucky Baptists must help stop the advance of gambling in our state. A story on the front page of this week's Recorder details hearings that will be held this week in Frankfort related to the expansion of gambling. The odds are high that this will be pushed into the General Assembly's special session after the first of the year.

But don't wait until then to register your opposition loudly. Please take time right now either to call your state senator or representative or the governor's office or to write a letter.

Put your cards on the table now. It is imperative that our elected officials understand up front that Kentuckians don't want legalized gambling to spread any further.

— Mark Wingfield

## Shopping for God

By Tom Ehrich

Checking my messages on an Internet news group, I came across the saddest note. Writing to a group concerned about abuse of clergy, a clergyman recounted comments made to him the previous Sunday after church.

Two blasted his sermon, one made a snide comment, one jabbed him for leaving a wedding early, and one said he should "watch his back" because a recent visiting priest made him look inadequate.

Clergy hear many such comments—and worse. So do the lay leaders who expose themselves to abuse by running religious education programs, chairing events, planning new facilities and raising money. Many can imagine this pastor's knotted stomach and bewilderment.

Abuse of leaders is rampant, of course. Ask anyone who has served on a school board or run for office what it's like to be a public servant.

But abuse of religious leaders springs from a unique sickness, which is not only making their lives miserable—causing burnout, early retirements and declining seminary enrollments—but is holding congregations back. It's not just rudeness, to which we could respond by offering instruction in basic civility. It is warfare between self and God.

Many have decided to trivialize God (thereby disempowering him) by making God's faith communities a

consumer transaction, in which some are shoppers (and therefore always right) and a few are providers (and therefore not to be trusted, as in "caveat emptor.") They come to church or synagogue to get their self-defined needs met. And they fight, as only a righteously indignant shopper can fight, for their "right" to satisfaction.

While congregations need to be responsive to members, that doesn't excuse or exalt a consumer mentality. It is an illusion to think God wants us to be

happy shoppers. God's desire for us is far deeper. We have been "called in righteousness" not to be ecclesiastical shoppers or to keep ecclesiastical shopkeepers in line, but to be a "covenant to the people, a light to the nations," to liberate the captives.

Faith communities aren't in business to please people, but to transform them. And that, of course, is the problem. We want the benefits of faith without the cost. We want accepting, friendly communities; we want assurances that we are loved and forgiven; we want to be fed. But we resist the demands.

We resist, I think, because we sense deep down that the cost of faith is more than financial contributions or active participation. We would like faith to be that easy. But the cost of faith is loss of control. The cost of faith is loss of life as we have known it. The cost of faith is repentance.

So we insist upon being pleased. That puts us in charge, not God, and it puts the burden on service provid-

ers to change their behavior. We take surveys, monitor rumor mills, harvest discontent and use lay leaders as an indirect way to corral the clerics. We withhold our financial support, change congregations when displeased, write angry letters and figure it's our right to use any public setting for complaining.

Tough luck for churches, some might say. But this trivialization of God carries over into everything we do. Education, for example, ceases to be about learning and focuses instead on pleasing parents (demonstrable results), pleasing children (entertaining) and pleasing future employers (useful skills.) Neighborhood ceases to be about community, mutual support and shared responsibilities, and focuses instead on status and resale value. Democratic politics ceases to be about shared decision-making, and focuses instead on getting one's ears tickled by soothing poll-scanners. Marriage ceases to be about sacrifice and forming a new creation, and focuses instead on getting one's needs met.

We like to say these are leadership problems, and if we just had wiser, better trained, more team-centered and inclusive leaders, all would be well. Frankly, I don't think leaders are the problem. We are.

When we stop behaving like consumers and spoiled children, our religious congregations will get healthier. And so will our schools, our politics and our homes. (RNS)

Tom Ehrich is an Episcopal priest in Winston-Salem, N.C., an author and a former Wall Street Journal reporter.

## Arson funds easier to receive than to give, helpers find

**"There are churches that we're still getting calls from who are not on anybody's list who say they were destroyed by arson."**

*Juliette Davis, public relations director of the Congress of National Black Churches*

By Adelle Banks  
Religion News Service

NEW YORK (RNS)—There was a time when it all seemed so simple.

Close to 100 mostly African-American churches have been the victims of arson or suspicious fires over the past two years. And people of faith—all faiths—rallied to help them rebuild.

Christians, Jews and Muslims raised millions of dollars in donations to help the effort. Now that the time has come to distribute the money, however, nothing seems simple at all.

So great are the complexities of rebuilding burned churches that some donor organizations—which in the past have been distant from each other and, in some cases, downright adversarial—are now exploring ways to work together.

The Christian Coalition and Promise Keepers, which are far more ideologically conservative than the more

liberal National Council of Churches, have had informal discussions with the council's burned churches unit about determining the best ways to help rebuild houses of worship.

The logistics of helping are unwieldy: Many congregations are still carrying on their ministries in makeshift arrangements while dealing with the intricacies of insurance claims, architectural plans and contractor delays. Many affected pastors hold full-time jobs and are unable to devote enough time to rebuilding. Volunteers are ready to donate everything from human labor to hymnals, but their energy and their offerings can't even be used until blueprints are drawn and building permits issued—a process that could take six months.

Each group also has different accounting and allocation rules. Some make outright cash grants; others make loans; and others work closely with congregations, keeping track of how money is used.

"We had talked about raising money for ... smoke detectors or security systems," said Mike Russell, spokesman for the Christian Coalition. Eventually the coalition decided that pastors would know best how to use the money, he said. "We're not in the business of micro-managing that money."

Ben Connell, director of the South Carolina Baptist Convention Brotherhood Department, has taken another route. Instead of outright grants, the state convention buys what the churches need and reports its expenditures to Southern Baptist Convention officials.

Perhaps the most difficult task is establishing exactly which congregations are eligible for assistance.

"There are churches that we're still getting calls from who are not on anybody's list who say they were destroyed by arson," said Juliette Davis, public relations director of the Congress of National Black Churches.

### Who's helping?

Here's a list of major organizations that have raised money to rebuild burned churches:

#### ■ Southern Baptist Convention

Received: \$649,965  
Distributed: \$649,965

#### ■ Promise Keepers

Received: More than \$1 million  
Distributed: More than \$250,000

#### ■ Christian Coalition

Received: More than \$750,000  
Amount allocated in grants: About \$350,000

#### ■ National Council of Churches

Cash Received: \$4.7 million  
In-kind contributions: \$3.4 million

## Portland arsonist apologizes to church during sentencing

PORTLAND (RNS)—An African-American man convicted of setting fire to a predominantly black church in Portland, Ore., has been sentenced to five years in prison in a case that drew national attention.

Antoine Dean, 21, wept as U.S. District Judge Malcolm Marsh read the sentence. Dean apologized to his family, the church and all African-Americans.

"I want everyone, and mostly Afro-American brothers and sisters across the country, to know," Dean said, "that I was blind and had my eyes set on big money instead of

realizing how hard it is for us Afro-Americans, how hard we struggle in life and try to get above water."

Dean, who has been arrested about 20 times since 1988, was reportedly offered \$10,000 by a prison inmate with whom he had once been jailed to set fire to the church.

The Oregonian of Portland newspaper reported that the inmate, who also is black, has a history of paying others to commit crimes, which he would then tell prison officials about in hopes of getting reward money or more favorable treatment.

### NATIONAL NOTES

■ **Temple fund-raiser called "mistake."** The Democratic National Committee acknowledged that it erred in holding a party fund-raiser at a California Buddhist temple. "In hindsight, it was a mistake to hold an event in a religious institution," said spokeswoman Amy Tobe. Under federal law, tax-exempt religious organizations are prohibited from engaging in partisan activities.

■ **Bible sales sluggish.** The \$200-million market for Bibles is flat. In June, when sales are usually high, Bible sales fell sharply to \$3.7 million, a 48 percent decrease compared to the same period last year. Sales increased some in July, but remained down 9 percent for the year.

■ **Post Office issues Hanukkah stamp.** The U.S. Postal Service has issued a stamp commemorating Hanukkah—its first stamp taking note of a religious holiday other than Christmas. The stamp is the first in what Postal Service spokesman Robin Wright said would be a series of stamps marking secular as well as religious holidays.

■ **School's Jesus portrait challenged.** The American Civil Liberties Union of Ohio has requested immediate removal of a painting of Jesus that has hung for 50 years in a Medina,

Ohio, public school. Superintendent Charles Irish said the district likely would concede to the ACLU. School attorneys have discovered that judges have barred the display of portraits of Jesus in other schools, he said.

■ **Groups host activities for AIDS quilt.** Religious organizations on both sides of the gay-rights issue hosted activities to coincide with the October return of the AIDS Memorial Quilt to the National Mall in Washington. As the massive quilt went on display Oct. 11, Episcopal Church Presiding Bishop Edmond Browning was among those reading some of the 70,000 names commemorated on the quilt. Opponents of homosexuality designated Oct. 11 as "National Coming Out of Homosexuality Day" in an effort to counter the annual "National Coming Out Day."

■ **BJC joins protest.** The Baptist Joint Committee and other religious organizations have joined the U.S. Catholic Conference in asking a federal appeals court to order the destruction of a tape and transcript of a prisoner's confession to a priest. Eugene, Ore., police secretly taped the confession by a murder suspect. The taping prompted a vigorous outcry from the Roman Catholic Church.



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# GEORGETOWN TODAY

A GEORGETOWN COLLEGE SUPPLEMENT TO THE WESTERN RECORDER ♦ NOV. 5, 1996

## KBC breakfast

Georgetown College invites you to its Alumni and Friends Buffet Breakfast Wednesday, Nov. 13, at 7:30 a.m. at the University Plaza Hotel and Convention Center, 1021 Wilkinson Trace, Bowling Green. For reservations, call (800) 788-9985 by Friday, Nov. 8.

## Marshall Center

William Marshall, executive secretary-treasurer of the Kentucky Baptist Convention for the past 14 years, will focus his energies on the William and Alice Marshall Center for Christian Ministry at Georgetown College after his Feb. 28 retirement from the KBC. The Marshall Center will launch initiatives related to theology, missions, leadership, family and academics. Prior to his service with the KBC, Marshall was under appointment with the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board.



Bill Marshall

## Enrollment

Georgetown College's enrollment is up this fall for the third consecutive year. Total undergraduate enrollment is 1,176, a 2 percent increase. Also, 90.9 percent of all eligible students returned. Graduate degree enrollment is 330, a 7.1 percent increase.

## Georgetown dedicates new fine arts building

Speaking at the Oct. 10 dedication of the Georgetown College fine arts building named in her honor, Anne Wright Wilson said, "This building, along with the new library, will not only be a wonderful building to use, but it will reinforce the sense of history and quality of the campus organization. My hope is that the curriculum in this building will make it a good place to be, that it will support the faculty in their work, that it will support students in being creative and diligent, and that visitors who come to the gallery will want to return time and again."

The Anne Wright Wilson Fine Arts Building was so named after her husband, Robert Wilson, a Georgetown College alumnus and vice chair of Johnson & Johnson, donated \$1 million toward the construction cost of \$2.2 million. She said, "I'm especially pleased this is an art building because I've lived and breathed visual arts all my life."

President William H. Crouch Jr. said, "This is a historic day at Georgetown College because it is our first opportunity in nearly three decades to dedicate a new academic building. It is because a family loves the arts, believes in liberal arts education, exemplifies Christian values and generously shares their resources, that we have come to this moment."

An audience of approximately 300 was on hand for dedication of the 14,300 square foot building.

Other dedication speakers were

Robert Wilson and James McCormick, professor and chair of the college's art department. Wilson praised his wife's artistic talents, remarking that she provided input on design of the building to architect James Kienle. Kienle is with the Indianapolis architectural firm of HNTB and was recognized at the

dedication, along with Peter Strange of Messer Construction Co., the general contractor.

McCormick compared the art department to a tree.

"The roots of the tree are our faculty, who are also like the trunk, supporting the branches and the crown," he said. "The branches of the tree

represents our curriculum and the crown represents our current students and graduates of whom we are most proud. Every tree needs cultivation and the Wilson family has met this need."

McCormick's analogy fit the occasion as Kappa Pi international art honorary dedicated a tree to the Robert Wilson family on the front lawn of the building. It is a white ash, a tree native to Kentucky.

The ceremony was followed by the opening of the college's inaugural art exhibit in the new building, called "Works on Paper: Selections From the Johnson & Johnson Corporate Art Collection." Featuring works of American artists, the exhibit provides a survey of art created in the last 30 years. It was organized specifically for an educational institution by Michael Bzdak, curator for the Johnson & Johnson collection, and is the largest loan of art ever made by the corporation. The gallery will be open for viewing of the exhibit from noon until 4:30 p.m. on Monday, Wednesday and Friday through Nov. 27.

The new fine arts building has ample studio space for painting, sculpture, photography, drawing, printmaking and computer imaging, as well as classrooms, offices and the gallery, which is one of the largest in the Central Kentucky area. The large windows provide ample lighting and the high ceilings will accommodate large pieces of art.



Robert N. and Anne Wright Wilson cut the ribbon to the new Anne Wright Wilson Fine Arts Building during its dedication Oct. 10. Wilson, the vice chairman of Johnson & Johnson, donated \$1 million to name the building after his wife, a consultant in architectural/interior design.

## Paul Parks: 'I'm a strong believer in Georgetown'

The late Richard and Lucy Parks, who lived in the small community of Union City in Madison County, were staunch Baptists, providing a Christian environment for their 14 children.

"One of my earliest memories was attending services at Union City Baptist Church," said Paul Parks '43, the sixth oldest, "and when I was big enough, I stoked the fires at the church, swept the floors and did other chores."

Parks said the pastors were seminary students in those days and easily related to young people. "I became a Christian at the age of 12 and it was during my teenage years that I felt the leadership of God to become a doctor," he said. Now 73 years old, Parks has led an exemplary life and says with modesty that it is due to the guidance he received as a youngster. He practiced internal medicine at the Graves-Gilbert Clinic in Bowling Green from 1958 until 1991 and is now medical director of the clinic, which has 41 physicians. He has been honored numerous times for his professional and humanitarian efforts.

While attending Georgetown College, the industrious Parks continued to work, waiting on tables and sweeping floors for 25 cents an hour. "When things really got tight, Dad would sell a few cows or pigs to see me through," he said.

Parks graduated magna cum laude with a degree in chemistry and was elected to Who's Who Among

College and University Students. Entering the Navy that same year, he was sent to medical school at the University of Mississippi for two years and finished his medical studies at the University of Louisville in 1948. Because the government paid for two years of medical school, Parks was obligated for two additional years of military duty, which he served in the Army Medical Corps.

Parks married the former Phyllis Elam of Lexington in July, 1953, a month before starting his second military tour. "Phyllis was a teacher and some of her young students who attended the ceremony wondered why Miss Elam was marrying such an old man," said Parks, who has a keen wit. Appropriately, the couple met in a church, Walnut Street Baptist in Louisville, while he was in residency and Phyllis was visiting a friend in the city.

Parks has given generously of his time and resources to Georgetown College. "I am a strong believer in Christian education in the Georgetown College tradition," he said. He has been a member of the college's board of trustees for 30 years, serv-

ing as chairman of the board under three presidents and as a member of three presidential search committees. The college presented him with an Alumni Achievement Award in 1977 and an honorary doctor of laws degree in 1989.

Phyllis succumbed to cancer in the spring of 1994, and in the fall of

1994, the Georgetown College Board of Trustees established the Paul and Phyllis Parks Baptist Scholars Award, a full, four-year scholarship for a highly qualified Baptist student who will complete an undergraduate degree in any field of study in preparation for lifelong Christian service.

In announcing the award, President William H. Crouch Jr. said, "This award is an expression of our trustees' unapologetic belief that there is within this country's fabric of higher education a place for top academics combined with the Christian faith."

Parks has held many offices in Bowling Green's First Baptist Church. He volunteers at the church one day a week and teaches a Sunday school class for senior citizens.

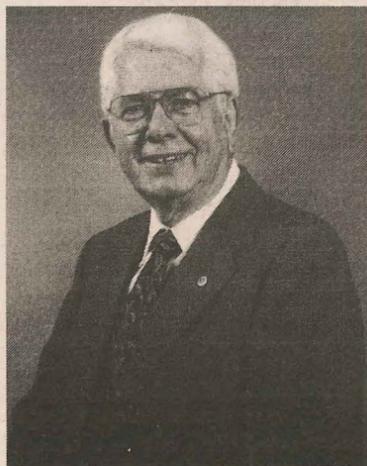
He recently completed a term as chairman of the building committee, which was formed after fire destroyed the sanctuary. After retiring from private practice in July 1991, Parks returned to the Graves-Gilbert Clinic as medical director.

Parks' two daughters, Paula Parks Wallace '79 and Phoebe Parks '81, are summa cum laude graduates of Georgetown College and, like their father, were elected to Who's Who Among College and University Students. Paula and her husband, David, live in Erlanger with their two sons, and Phoebe is on staff at Western Kentucky University in Bowling Green.

Other members of the Parks' family with connections to Georgetown College are Paul's brother, Clay Parks '59, a dentist in Dry Ridge and a past president of the Kentucky School Board Association; a sister, Sue Parks Slagle '52; and two nieces, Dara Parks '85 and Melissa Parks '96.

One of Parks' other honors is a distinguished service award from the Kentucky Medical Association, of which he is a past president.

He has never sought status or prestige, finding pleasure in the simple joys of everyday life. Most of his vacations were spent at home, enjoying his family and tending to the yard. One of the highest tributes given Parks by his friends is that he not only excels in his profession, but he is simply a good man, with the courage of his convictions.





## The critics agree

Georgetown College has once again been honored with accolades in several distinguished publications. Georgetown was ranked by U.S. News & World Report's 1997 Annual Guide to America's Best Colleges as one of the top 160 national liberal arts colleges for the third consecutive year. In addition, Georgetown was one of only five Kentucky colleges listed in Peterson's Guide to Competitive Colleges 1996-97. Georgetown is also included in the fourth edition of Barron's Best Buys in College Education.

## Academic team wins Kentucky championship

The Georgetown College varsity academic team won the Kentucky College Quick Recall League championship for the second consecutive year, and the college's junior varsity team took first place in its competition.

Dr. Charles Boehms, vice president/provost, said "The sweep of both state championships demonstrates the quality of Georgetown College students. The team is a great compliment to the college, its students and the faculty."

Barbara Burch, English instructor and team coach, said, "After our success in 1994-95, we were the team everybody wanted to beat in 1995-96. We realized this right away, losing badly in the first matches of the opening tournament, but our four varsity players, all seniors, rededicated themselves to winning the championship again. For the players to attain their goal was an incredible accomplishment, given the demands on their time as seniors."

Despite losing her entire varsity to graduation, Burch feels the 1996-97 team will be competitive because of the talented junior varsity players.

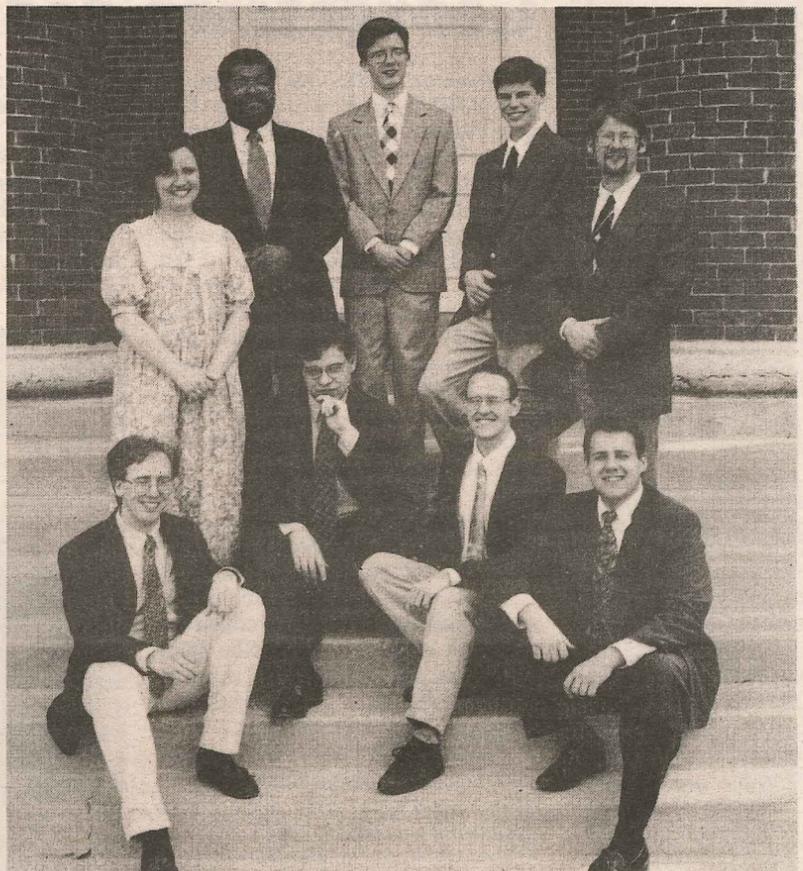
The college's varsity players were Rob Holder '96 of Lexington, Mark Roy '96 of Ashland, Bill Randall '96 of Grants Lick and Brian Cabbage '96 of Leitchfield. Holder

and Roy were instrumental in founding the team in 1993 when they approached college administrators to get permission to compete.

At the team banquet in May, Roy, the team captain, was named Most Valuable Player, and Holder received the first annual Founders Award, named in his honor and in honor of the other team founders. The award recognizes the individual who best exemplifies the character, dedication and spirit of the team. Cabbage was named Most Improved Player. Freshmen Jeff Bowersox of Owensboro and Josh Dragoo of Mt. Sterling, members of the junior varsity, were named Rookies of the Year.

Other junior varsity players were three sophomores, Nathan Smith of Phelps, the team captain; Brad Stone of Columbia; and Holly Krebs of Mt. Sterling, and two freshmen, Darren Burris of Brownsburg, Ind., and Eric Polsgrove of Frankfort.

Other institutions in the KCQRL are the University of Kentucky, Eastern Kentucky University, Murray State University, Transylvania University, University of Louisville, Pikeville College, Union College, Campbellsville University, Alice Lloyd College and Cumberland College.



The Georgetown College varsity academic team won the 1996 state championship.

## Georgetown briefs

◆ Georgetown College plans to break ground this winter on a \$12 million, state-of-the-art **Learning Resource Center** which will serve as the academic centerpiece of campus.

◆ **Daniel Glaze**, a freshman from Richmond, Va., received the inaugural Parks Baptist Scholars Award, a four-year tuition, room and board scholarship. The award honors longtime trustee Paul Parks '43 and his late wife, Phyllis, for their humanitarian efforts and exemplary Christian service.

◆ Republican presidential candidate **Bob Dole** held a political rally on the Georgetown College campus during a campaign stop in Kentucky Sept. 12.

◆ Communications arts professor and veteran forensic team coach **Margaret Greynolds** was named 1996 Coach of the Year by the Kentucky Forensic Association.

◆ **Dr. Steven May**, professor of English, has received a renewal grant of \$78,000 from the National Endowment for the Humanities to complete a major research project. "The Bibliography and First-Line Index of English Verse 1559-1603" is a computerized index of more than 30,000 poems printed or transcribed during the reign of Queen Elizabeth I. In 1993, May was awarded an initial NEH grant of \$95,000 to support the project.

◆ **Carl Shields**, a 1965 alumnus, was named the 1995-96 ServiceMaster-NAIA Distinguished Graduate of the Year in recognition of his success in the business world. Shields is chairman, chief executive officer and president of Rawlings Sporting Goods Company.

◆ **Robert N. Wilson**, a 1962 alumnus, is vice chairman of international corporate giant Johnson & Johnson. J & J, which specializes in everything from band-aids to biotechnology, was named one of America's most admired companies in a recent issue of Fortune magazine.

## Georgetown to build stadium complex

Georgetown College signed an agreement in August to have the Cincinnati Bengals hold their summer training camp at the college's Athletic Complex beginning in July 1997.

The Bengals' agreement with the college will generate tourism and economic development for Georgetown and Scott County and will help fund the building of the complex.

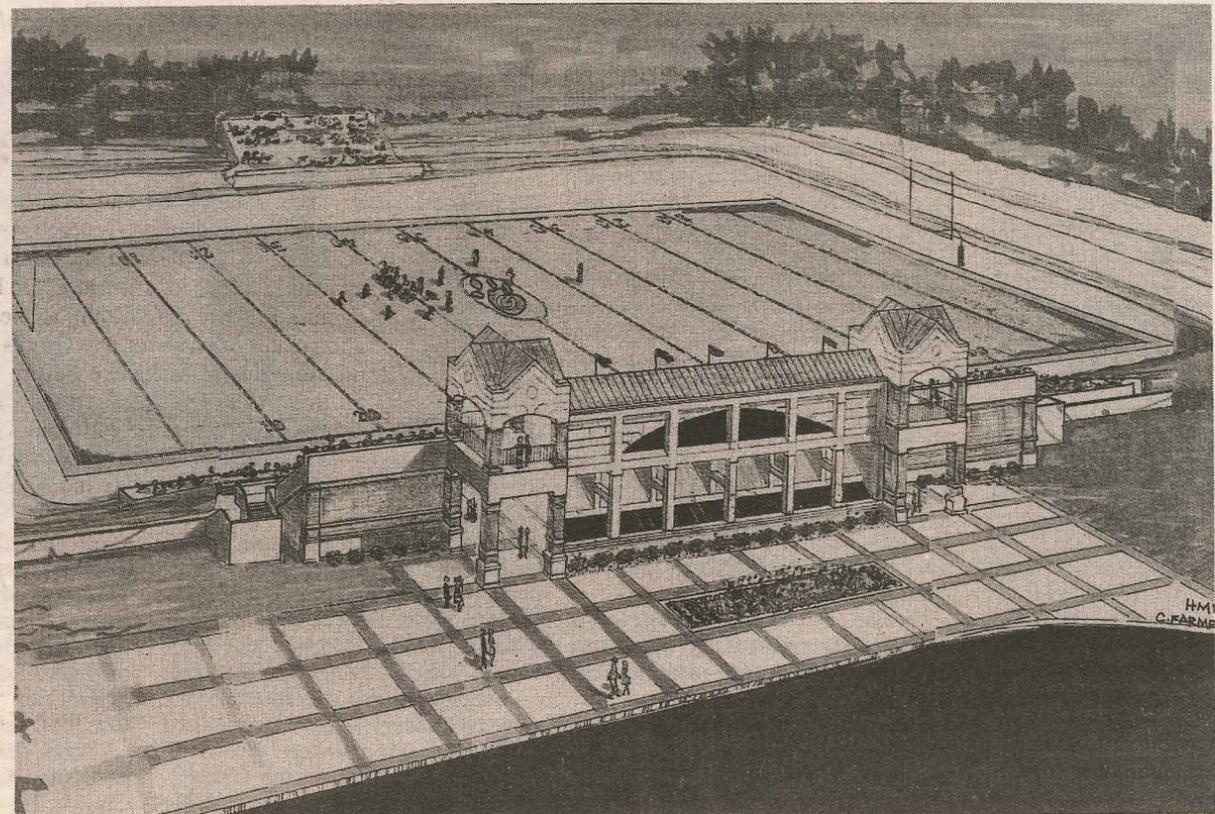
The caliber and state-of-the-art features of the stadium will place it

among the very best small college facilities anywhere. Located one-half mile east of the college's main campus, the complex will feature a 4,500- to 5,000-seat permanent stadium and two practice fields, all of which will accommodate both football and soccer, with parking available nearby. A leadership center and residence park will be adjacent to the stadium.

The stadium, leadership center and residence park will have many

uses throughout the year. The college will use the facilities for student housing and athletic events and will make the facilities available to other organizations for lease.

The Scott County High School football team will have the opportunity to lease the facility for its home games. The complex also will be the site of other athletic events, band practices, concerts, community events and summer camps for various organizations.





## Tilford praised by students, friends, alumni

In letters nominating Daniel Tilford for the Cawthorne Excellence in Teaching Award at Georgetown College, people associated with him expressed the same theme: a gifted educator, a skillful motivator who truly cares about his students, a dedicated Christian, a talented musician who makes notes jump off the page and come to life, and the quintessence of professionalism.

Tilford, who received the award for 1995-96, is a 1957 Georgetown graduate. He has taught at the college for 37 years, making him the senior faculty member in terms of length of service.

As an associate professor of music, he primarily teaches piano and organ, along with music theory for freshmen.

"Danny's high standards have over the years produced countless keyboard professionals," said Dr. Sonny Burnette, chair of the music department. "He also demonstrates his love for learning by example. He is highly motivated to keep abreast of newer developments in the field of computer music, having recently completed a graduate course in this area at the University of Kentucky."

Dan Griffith, class of 1983, and executive director of the Owensboro Symphony, said: "Danny Tilford was perhaps the single most important factor in my attending Georgetown College. The same caring concern shown on that first visit as a senior in high school never changed throughout my four years on campus."

Sue Lou Smith, class of 1984, and a middle and high school choral director in Anderson County, said: "When I came to Georgetown, I wanted to be a music major but was really unsure about college and life. With his guidance, I developed a strong work ethic and direction for the rest of my life. When in the first few years of being a choral director I needed an accompanist, Mr. Tilford was more than willing to fill that position."

Michael Houchens, a George-

town College senior from London, said: "I first met Mr. Tilford while in high school, when he was accompanist for the All-State Baptist Youth Choir, and I've taken piano from him the last three years. His musicianship and positive personality inspire all the students and faculty at Georgetown to a higher level."

For Tilford, the love of music started at an early age. "My mother told me that at the age of 3, I stretched rubber bands across the backs of chairs and tried to make sounds with them. My parents weren't musically inclined, but when I was 6 they bought me a piano and I started playing the day it arrived.

"While attending Georgetown, the individual attention and support given students by the instructors was wonderful," he said. "Ruth Bradley, who taught piano at the college, was a major influence on my education, and she also introduced me to my future wife, Shirley, who was a music major in the class of 1959. During my first year on the faculty, 1959-60, Ruth passed away and we named our first child Bradley in her memory.

"The class of 1957 was a fine group, and many of us still keep in touch," Tilford said. One was Dr. Donald Zacharias, president of Mississippi State University. "Don and I were roommates while in graduate school at Indiana University."

Tilford earned a master's degree in music education.

While still a student at Georgetown, Tilford became organist at Immanuel Baptist Church in Lexington, and he's still at it 40 years later, although he left on two occasions (for a total of about 15 years) to be organist at Georgetown Baptist Church. He's also been accompanist for many recitals at the college and elsewhere, and has played at other churches in the region, at conferences and conventions and judging competitions.

"Music is my vocation and also my avocation," Tilford said. "I can



Daniel Tilford

play for hours, just for the pleasure of it. Shirley and I have two pianos in our music room at home and we play duets. She's been a private piano teacher for years."

Does he prefer playing the piano or organ? "That's a tough question, but my answer would have to be the piano," he said. "I am better able to express my feelings and personality on piano. It arouses emotion."

The Tilfords have two sons and a daughter.

Bradley, a 1984 Georgetown graduate, lives in Atlanta with his wife, Bridgett, and their two sons. He works for a computer company and also operates a franchise, Complete Music, that furnishes disc jockeys and music for parties, weddings and other events.

Stephen, a pianist, is pursuing a doctorate in music performance at Florida State University.

Jane Ellen, who was a voice major as an undergraduate at Georgetown, recently earned a master's degree from the Cleveland Institute of Music. She and Daven Watkins, also a Georgetown graduate, were married July 6. He plans to attend Bee-

son Divinity School in Birmingham, Ala.

Tilford said that when he retires he plans to work with about six young but serious music students, preparing them for college and for competition. He isn't ready for retirement quite yet, however.

"I don't think anyone could have a greater love for teaching than I do," he said. "Because of the students, each new school year brings a refreshing newness. I have never dreaded coming to work. Working with young people keeps you young, and I love seeing them learn—not just the gifted, but everyone."

As a Cawthorne winner, Tilford joins a select group of Georgetown College professors. Since the award was inaugurated in 1989, the winners have been Dr. Frank Wiseman, professor of chemistry; Dr. James Heizer, retired professor of history; Dr. Steven May, professor of English; Dr. Gwen Curry, professor and chair of the English department; Margaret Greynolds, professor of communication arts; and Dr. Austin French, professor of mathematics and computer science.

## Habitat house completed

A Habitat for Humanity house, begun last fall with the help of Georgetown College students, faculty and staff, was dedicated in May.

Participants from the college community marched about a mile from campus to the house for the dedication ceremony.

"This served as closure," said Dr. Peter LaRue, assistant professor of music and chair of the Georgetown College Team Building Task Force. "The house was started at the beginning of the 1995-96 academic year and May 1 was the last day of regular classes."

The house was a joint project of Georgetown College, Scott County Habitat for Humanity, Federal Home Loan Bank and Elkhorn Baptist Brotherhood and is the seventh house built under the supervision of Scott County Habitat for Humanity.

In addition to countless hours of labor, the Georgetown College com-

munity donated \$5,000 toward construction and, to cover a cash-flow problem, President William H. Crouch Jr. authorized the college to make an interest-free loan for the project. The Team Building Task Force was created by Crouch in 1994 to encourage faculty and staff to work together in a team environment.

The task force was supported in this project by the Association of Georgetown Students, which helped organize a "Building Blitz" during the 1995 Labor Day Weekend.

Nearly 300 Georgetown students, faculty and staff participated in the event.

"The student effort has been exceptional," LaRue said. "In many ways this project has enabled Georgetown College to return to its historic roots, serving as an integral part of the community and helping people in need."

## Janeses return as missionaries-in-residence

Grundy Janes '57 and Jean Bell Janes '55 were fellow students at Georgetown College 40 years ago. They married and spent 28 years as educational missionaries in Chile before coming full circle, returning to their alma mater to serve for one year as missionaries-in-residence before retiring in 1997.

"We spent almost half our lives in Chile and raised our two sons there, so it was as much home to us as this country," Grundy said. "The boys grieved when we left, but it was time to return to the United States and we're looking forward to new challenges."

Grundy was director of the Baptist Academy and Jean taught high school English as a second language at the academy. Under Grundy's leadership, the academy

earned a reputation as one of the finest schools in Chile.

The 74-year-old academy emphasizes Christian values along with quality education. The annual enrollment is about 1,000.

The Janes have been discussing their careers as missionaries with GC students since the beginning of the fall semester.

"People we went to school with at Georgetown have been lifelong friends," Grundy said. "This was a pleasant bonus to our education. We have a small family and these people became our extended family and support system."

June 24 was special for the Janeses.

It marked their 30th anniversary with the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board as well as their 40th wedding anniversary.





## Georgetown state's first on CD

Georgetown College will be the first private college in Kentucky to be represented in CollegeView, a CD-based multimedia presentation that is distributed to 2 million high school students across the country.

GC's presentation includes video clips of activities on campus, audio clips of students talking about their Georgetown experiences, as well as text and pictures about the many things GC has to offer potential students.

The package, which is updated annually, is sent to high school guidance counselors in the fall. Students are trained to use the system so that they will have full access to the information. They can search for colleges using numerous criteria, including location, size, cost and religious affiliation. After taking the "virtual tour" of campus, students can then print out information and even send in their applications from the computer.

"We feel CollegeView is going to be a strong asset to us in our recruiting efforts," said Mike Konopski, director of admissions. "We are reaching a national audience of high school juniors and seniors more effectively than we ever could before. Participation in this program puts Georgetown on the cutting edge. No other private school in Kentucky has a full presentation with CollegeView yet, so we are several steps ahead of the competition."

## Georgetown goes global

The revolutionary age of world-wide technology is dawning at Georgetown College.

The 50 miles of fiber-optic cable installed last summer has radically changed campus life forever and has enhanced the college's position as one of the leading liberal arts institutions in the region.

Grover Hibberd, director of information technology services, said, "I'm not aware of any college or university in Kentucky that will have a campus computer network to the extent that we have at Georgetown College. Some have it in certain departments but not campus wide like we have."

Installation of the state-of-the-art system began in February and has now become fully operational. Students, faculty and staff are able to break geographic boundaries in their quest for knowledge as they gain access to computer information sources throughout the world. Students have access to:

- Cable TV.
- Local and worldwide e-mail.

■ Voice mail (even for commuters).

■ Internet access from every residence hall room.

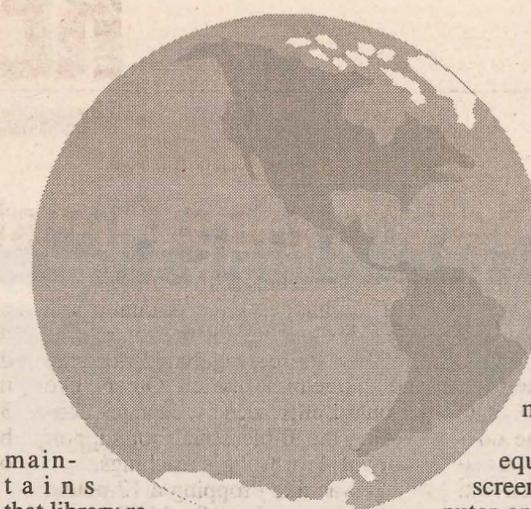
■ Educational/international TV programming.

■ Voice, video and data access from every classroom.

■ Capability for in-house, closed-circuit TV.

"The Technology Infrastructure Project is one of the most exciting events that has occurred on this campus in the 10 years I've been here," said Dr. Charles Boehms, vice president/provost. "It opens up many new windows of opportunity to access academic information."

The cost of the campus-wide network was \$1.25 million, with \$750,000 provided by a grant from the James Graham Brown Foundation of Louisville, which has generously supported the college for many years. The infrastructure project coincides with construction of the new Learning Resource Center, which will begin this winter. President William H. Crouch Jr.



maintains that library research is central to a college education and any modern library has to be connected to the world beyond campus.

"We will be positioned to fully use the new Learning Resource Center," Boehms said. "This will provide greater access to the Internet and foster broader independent learning, greater utilization of multimedia capabilities and educational satellite programming."

Every classroom, office and residence hall room are included in the network. Students are able to access the Internet directly from their rooms or from campus computer labs, unlocking the resources of the World Wide Web with full-function audio and video. Cable and closed-

circuit television will provide entertainment and educational programming, and an integrated telephone system will incorporate classrooms and voice mail for students.

Every classroom is equipped with a large-screen television, laptop computer and support equipment so the instructor can present audio, visual and printed material from outside sources. If a biology class is studying the ecology of Argentina, for example, pictures and text from that country can be accessed, and the entire class will be focused on the television screen. This allows students to delve more deeply into particular subjects.

Hibberd said training will be involved but shouldn't be extensive. "For the faculty, it's basically a matter of learning how to use the hardware components," he said. "As for students, I'm amazed at how much some of them already know about computers. We will get into this as comfortably as possible and use will grow over time."

## Georgetown student serving as Kentucky BSU president

Traci Thornton, a senior at Georgetown College, has been elected president of the Baptist Student Union of Kentucky.

The election took place in April during BSU's Annual Leadership Training Conference at Campbellsville (Ky.) Baptist Church. It was attended by nearly 400 college students from throughout Kentucky. Her term is for a year.

"It's been quite a few years since someone from Georgetown College

has headed the state organization," said Dr. Jack Birdwhistell, campus minister and BSU adviser.

"It reflects favorably on the college and on Traci's leadership ability."

Thornton has a double major in Spanish and communication arts. She is on the executive council of the Georgetown College BSU and is in charge of Bible study.

Her other campus activities include the President's House Associ-

ation Little Sisters, of which she is president; President's Ambassadors; Sigma Delta Pi Spanish fraternity; residence hall assistant and chaplain of Maskrafters, the college's theatre troupe.

When Republican presidential candidate Bob Dole spoke at Georgetown in September, she introduced him to the audience.

She is the daughter of Jo Thornton of Glasgow and Larry Thornton of Albany.



### Financial aid for Baptist students

◆ **Pastors' Christian Leadership Scholarships.** Recipients are selected by a committee of pastors and ministers from local churches and college personnel. Students are selected on the basis of their leadership, Christian commitment, an essay outlining their qualifications for the scholarship and a pastor's recommendation. This selective award provides up to 80 scholarships of \$2,000 (\$500 per year) and six half-tuition scholarships amounting to more than \$18,000 over four years.

◆ **Matching Grant Program for Baptist Churches.** Georgetown College will match dollar-for-dollar any church-sponsored grant of up to \$2,500 for admitted students with an ACT of 25 or above. Georgetown also will match dollar-for-dollar a church-sponsored grant of up to \$1,500 for all other admitted students. These special scholarship opportunities are offered to Baptist students enrolling as first-time freshmen or as transfer students.

◆ **Christian Service Grants.** A \$1,000 grant is available to Baptist students who intend to enter a church-related profession. This includes a guaranteed and renewable grant up to four years for a total of \$4,000, one-on-one mentorship programs and weekend preaching and ministry opportunities.

◆ **Minister's Grant.** A \$2,500 grant is available to sons and daughters of ordained Baptist ministers and is renewable for four years, for a total of \$10,000.

◆ **Nelson Scholarship.** The David Nelson Scholarship for Ministerial Students, named after the Georgetown College trustee and longtime pastor of First Baptist Church of Owensboro, is now available to eligible students. Each year, \$2,500 will be awarded to a selected student who has accepted God's call into full-time Christian ministry.

For more information about financial aid, contact the Georgetown College admissions office at (800) 788-9985.

## Can you suggest a future Georgetown student?

Do you know a student who could benefit from a Georgetown College education? If so, please fill out the form below and mail it to the Office of Admissions, 400 E. College St., Georgetown, KY 40324 or call (800) 788-9985.

Student's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Familiar Name/Nickname: \_\_\_\_\_

High School: \_\_\_\_\_

Year of Graduation: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_

Your Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Your Relationship to Student: \_\_\_\_\_

Your Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Your Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

## Former cult embracing Christian doctrine

By Peter Smith  
Religion News Service

PASADENA, Calif. (RNS)—When Dennis Girouard joined the Worldwide Church of God 10 years ago, he accepted many of the doctrines that had caused evangelicals and others to label the denomination a cult.

The church taught that the United States and Britain were heirs to God's covenant with Israel. It taught that salvation depended on observing a Saturday sabbath, following Old Testament dietary laws and giving up to 30 percent of one's income to church and charity. It rejected the doctrine of the Trinity and proclaimed itself the only true Christian fellowship.

Then came the revolution. Ever since the 1986 death of Herbert Armstrong, the charismatic founder of the Pasadena, Calif.-based church, the denomination's new leaders have been reviewing his unique doctrines.

Armstrong's successor, Joseph Tkach Sr., announced before his death last year that the church was rejecting those doctrines and embracing tradi-

tional evangelical Christianity.

The changes were dramatic and often devastating for the church, as members fiercely debated doctrine and a large minority left. Others, like Girouard, embraced the changes, concluding the Bible could not support many of Armstrong's teachings.

"It was like dropping a 12-pound weight on your head," said Girouard, of Waltham, Mass. "It was like, 'Was this Scripture in the Bible the whole time, and I never saw it?'"

Girouard said he and others in his Boston congregation pored over their Bibles, debated in small groups and argued by computer in what has been called the first church schism to be aggravated, if not caused, by the Internet. Once one doctrine fell, he said, the rest tumbled "like dominos."

The church has disavowed many of its former teachings in the bluntest of terms.

"Our flawed doctrinal understanding clouded the plain gospel of Jesus Christ and led to a variety of wrong conclusions and unscriptural practices," Tkach's son and successor, Joseph Tkach Jr., said in a written statement last spring. "We have much to repent of and apologize for."

In a televised talk to church members in October, Tkach added, "We've had to ... realize that our version of church history is not true, it's bogus. We've had to realize there aren't simple answers to everything and there's more than one way to interpret the symbolic Scriptures."

But the transformation deeply di-

vided the church. U.S. membership plummeted to 50,962, compared with 89,000 in 1986. Financial donations dropped 52 percent over the last 18 months. About 140 of the church's 375 pastors left. Many former members joined splinter groups or gave up on the church altogether.

Many former members felt the changes betrayed the church's legacy. The largest new group, the United Church of God, claims at least 17,000 members and 450 ministers in 300 congregations worldwide.

James Rosenthal, pastor of a Worldwide Church of God church in Albany, N.Y., called the changes "similar to what the early church went through" when the first Christians decided not to require Gentile converts to follow Jewish religious laws.

While the most recent upheaval has cost the Worldwide Church dearly, the once-isolated denomination has received applause from evangelicals for its willingness to change.

"Never before in the history of Christianity has there been such a complete move to orthodox Christianity by an unorthodox fringe church," Ruth Tucker, a visiting professor at Trinity Evangelical Divinity School in Deerfield, Ill., wrote in Christianity Today magazine.

Several denominational officials enrolled in academic programs at Azusa Pacific University and Fuller Theological Seminary, two Southern California evangelical schools, as they worked through the sometimes wrenching doctrinal changes.

## Jesus Seminar turns attention to rewriting New Testament

SANTA ROSA, Calif. (RNS)—Having completed a controversial decade of work on the identity and sayings of Jesus, the researchers of the Jesus Seminar now plan to write their own version of the New Testament.

Plans also call for a focus on the history of the Apostle Paul and scrutinizing the way the early Christian church developed its statements of belief, beginning with the Nicene Creed. That's the upshot of the latest meeting of the Westar Institute, sponsor of the Jesus Seminar, whose semi-annual meeting ended Oct. 20.

The seminar has been criticized by evangelical Christians for both its methods and writings, questioning much of the words and actions attributed to Jesus in the New Testament.

Karen King, professor of religious studies at Occidental College in Los Angeles, will head seminars on the Christian canon and the creeds. The goal of the Canon Seminar is going to be to produce a new New Testament by the end of 1999," King said, claiming the legitimacy of the canon has "clearly been undermined by historical criticism over the last couple of centuries."

Bruce Corley, professor of New Testament at Southwestern Theological Baptist Seminary in Fort Worth, Texas, said the Jesus Seminar is following a similar path taken by critical researchers at the turn of the century.

"What is significant is the marketplace of these ideas and how widely they have been disseminated," he said, claiming the seminar was founded for the purpose of trying to discredit much of traditional Christian doctrine.

"If you ask me my preference, or wishes, I would like to have a million-and-a-half (-dollar) endowment to establish a think tank, and a counter-point to the Jesus Seminar would arise overnight," he said. Corley recommended such books as "Jesus Under Fire" and Ben Witherington's "The Jesus Quest" for critiques of the Jesus Seminar.

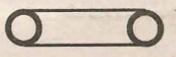
With additional reporting by News Director David Winfrey.



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## Competition ... confusion

The number of tax-exempt organizations is growing. According to the IRS there are 1,164,789. In 1989 there were 992,461.

On any day or night we can turn on our TV's, open our mail, answer our telephones, read a periodical or access the Internet, and we are being asked to support some charitable cause with our money.

It may be a religious, educational, scientific or benevolent cause and worthy of support. Who can argue with fighting hunger and ignorance among children, or cancer, or helping the physically and mentally handicapped?

Included in this mix are our national, state and local Baptist organizations, and this trend is on the rise. More and more, these organizations are appealing not just for the traditional annual cash gift, but also for planned gifts.

And we all know if we give once, that organization will keep coming back to us for additional gifts. Some of our people already have become confused in the midst of all these worthy pleas. As a result, they have become desensitized in their giving. It doesn't have to be that way.

The Kentucky Baptist Founda-

tion has been Kentucky Baptists' "planned giving trust agency" for more than 51 years. What most charities are just now beginning to realize about giving vehicles/techniques of the future constitutes what the Foundation has offered through the years, and now more than ever the Foundation is positioned to provide you with knowledgeable and experienced service in this aspect of your financial stewardship.

### KENTUCKY BAPTIST FOUNDATION



Barry Allen

May we Kentucky Baptists realize in the matter of financial stewardship our first loyalty is to Christ, and may we demonstrate that loyalty in our giving through our churches and through those institutions and agencies that extend Christ's message beyond our churches.

They are worthy of our support because they are extending our hands and feet and touching people's lives for Christ's sake.

Give Laurie Valentine and me the privilege of assisting you in sorting through the competition and confusion of today's charitable giving environment.

Barry Allen is president of the Kentucky Baptist Foundation, 10605 Shelbyville Road, Louisville, KY 40223.

## Guiding children

By Robert Dunston

This past summer six of our Cumberland College students served as summer missionaries with Appalachian Ministries, Cumberland's ministry to children. Jennifer Wellman, a Cumberland graduate and Baptist Student Union intern, served as director and Jason Kramer served as student coordinator of the summer program.

Within a five-week period the students conducted 10 vacation Bible schools in 10 places. Their ministry touched the lives of 496 children and involved not just Cumberland's summer team but 85 volunteers from three churches.

Eleven children made professions of faith in Christ and one of the young people who came with his church youth group accepted Christ as Savior. The students also took 24 children to Camp Rabro and Cedarcrest where two of the children made professions of faith.

This academic year Lucy Tuttle, a graduate of Cumberland, is serving as an intern with Wyndee Holbrook, our campus minister. One of Tuttle's responsibilities is coordinating the Appalachian Ministries program. During the academic year, students continue a weekly minis-

try to children in four local communities and in two special education programs. Something is always going on and children's lives are being touched. Tuttle would be delighted to talk with you more about Appalachian Ministries. Her number is (606) 539-4173.

We in Kentucky are so fortunate to have so many people involved in ministering to children.

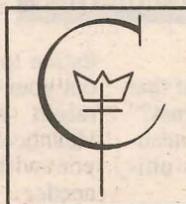
Individual churches provide programs that teach children about Jesus and encourage them to dedicate their lives to him. Associations provide special programs to bring children together in Christian fellowship and learning. Our Kentucky Baptist educational institutions encourage

students to share their time, talents and commitment with children, and Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children does a wonderful work in ministering to children and young people at critical times in life.

Ministry to children prepares and strengthens the church for tomorrow. At the same time, it brings together the church today into one family of God. Thank you to all who minister to these precious lives.

Robert Dunston is chairman of the religion department at Cumberland College, 6000 College Station Dr., Williamsburg, Ky. 40769

### CUMBERLAND COLLEGE



## Volunteers needed for Boston flood relief

By David Winfrey  
News Director

QUINCY, Mass.—Kentucky Brotherhood is seeking trained volunteer relief workers to help with mud-out assistance in the wake of severe flooding in metropolitan Boston.

Northeastern winds kept rain clouds over the area, flooding about 13,000 homes, according to John Lott, state Brotherhood associate director.

Already 20 Kentucky volunteers are in Quincy, and Mike Klein of Victory Baptist Church in Lexington is

serving as on-site coordinator for Southern Baptist relief workers.

"We need volunteers who are trained from our Kentucky Baptist Convention list to please call us here," Lott said. About 1,800 Kentucky Baptists have been trained for disaster relief work, he said.

Response has been slow, partly because of the distance. Car travel from middle Kentucky to Boston takes about 22 hours, Lott said.

A lack of knowledge about the flood also has slowed response, he added. "Whenever you don't have a

lot of publicity about it on the TV, they don't realize anything is going on."

Klein said residents have been grateful for the help. "They just can't believe we would come this far to help people out."

The volunteers' work has provided other ministry opportunities, he said. "When the occasion presents itself, our people give a testimony and witness to the folks."

Trained volunteers wanting to serve or groups wanting to learn about getting trained can call Lott at Kentucky Brotherhood, (502) 244-6489.

## Mailing glitch prevents some from getting WMU packet

LOUISVILLE—A mailing glitch has prevented many church leaders from receiving the annual promotion packet for the state missions offering, WMU leaders said.

"If anyone still needs any materials, we are here," said Donna Dye, financial coordinator for Kentucky WMU.

An error in the computer mailing system wiped out many names in WMU's data base, she said.

As a result, several church WMU directors, pastors and associational directors still have not received information about the Eliza Broadus state missions offering.

Although the list has been restored, officials said they have no way of knowing who did not receive the packet.

The mailing includes promotional posters, brochures, magazines and offering envelopes.

Anyone needing a packet should call the Kentucky WMU office at (502) 244-4485. Requests also may be faxed to (502) 244-6486.

The goal for this year's offering is \$800,000.

## Roundup a family affair for father-son team

LOUISVILLE—The annual food roundup project for Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children has become a family affair for two father and son teams.

Loy Kahne and his son, Vince, recently traveled a week around Eastern Kentucky, picking up food donations. In Western Kentucky, Donnie and Larry Jett did the same.

The men drove borrowed trucks, loading thousands of boxes of canned goods and other non-perishable food given by Kentucky Baptists during September.

From churches and Baptist associational headquarters, the trucks traveled to KBHC residential sites to unload.

The food is used by eight campuses across the state, foster families, young adults in the Center of Indepen-

dence programs in Louisville and families served by family preservation and reunification efforts.

Both sons take vacation time from work to help the ministries and to spend time with their fathers.

For the Kahnes, the annual event is a week of rare family fellowship. Lou and his wife, Martha, live in Ashland. Vince and his family live on the other side of the state in Paducah.

"This is probably the most time we ever get to spend with each other," Vince Kahnes said.

Lou Kahns said his involvement began five years ago when he and Martha worked the Eastern Kentucky route. He admitted he had no idea how great the response was going to be.

"After that year, Martha volunteered Vince to get involved," Lou said, smiling.

The Jetts had their patience tested this year. Two flat tires in one day caused them to arrive at Glen Dale Children's Home in Hardin County just before 11 p.m. From there, they drove back to Paducah to start the next day's route with little sleep.

"That's just part of it," Larry Jett said, shrugging his shoulders.

Donnie Jett said one of the most appealing traits of the roundup is that much of the food remains in the local area.

"This is about communities taking care of their own," he said.

The physical demands of the roundup may cause Lou Kahne and Donnie Jett to end their involvement sooner than they would like. But with a precedent set, they said the tradition may continue through their grandchildren when they are old enough.

## 'Who Do you Trust?'

By Mike Gilmore

Johnny Carson hosted a television game show from 1957 to 1962 called "Who Do You Trust?"

In the show, married couples were interviewed. When asked a question, the husband had the opportunity to answer the question.

There were many humorous moments as husbands and wives wrestled not only with the questions, but with their trust and confidence in each other.

In contrast to the humor of that game show, "Who do you trust?" that question takes on new meaning when it relates to life's ultimate source of reliance.

We all wrestle with the ultimate question, where do I deposit my final, total trust? There is but one we can trust with our life and eternity, Jesus Christ.

The decision to place total trust in Jesus Christ results in confident and abundant living. Absolute trust in Jesus Christ means that the source of our life can never be lost.

As a result, the life that trusts God does not wither, or dry up when adversity comes. Rather, a man or woman with total trust in God confidently faces all of life. They do more than survive, they

thrive.

When you think about it, all of life depends on our ability to trust. We want to be able to depend on those persons or institutions in which we place our trust.

Thankfully, Baptist Healthcare Foundation is such a group of people.

Regardless of the size of your estate, it is important to you. You want to know that the decisions you make concerning your estate come to pass. You can trust the Founda-

tion to work with you to carry out your wishes. To that end you might want to trust Baptist Healthcare Foundation in helping you with your estate planning needs.

Why trust the Foundation? Because they have a proven track record and can share with you the goal of making the most of the resources God has entrusted to you.

Mike Gilmore is pastor of Westport Road Baptist Church in Louisville.

Any questions or comments concerning this article, Baptist Healthcare System or Baptist Healthcare Foundation should be directed to Charles W. Cox Jr., president of Baptist Healthcare Foundation, 4007 Kresge Way, Louisville, Ky. 40207. (502) 896-5003 or (800) 224-4745.

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## Iran to counter Barbie doll with Sara and Dara

TEHRAN, Iran (RNS)—Iran intends to offer its own version of the Barbie doll to counter the toy that one official called a Trojan horse carrying Western cultural influences.

Barbie is a contraband item in Iran, as she and her companion Ken are considered anti-Islamic. Instead, Iran will produce Sara and her brother Dara. In accordance with Islamic concerns about modesty, Sara will wear long flowing robes and Dara will wear a turban and long coat.

"Barbie is an American woman who never wants to get pregnant and have babies," said Majid Ghaderi, director of the amusement department of the government-sponsored Institute for the Intellectual Development of Children and Young Adults.

"Barbie is like a Trojan horse. Inside it, it carries its Western cultural influences, such as make-up and indecent clothes. Once it enters our society, it dumps these influences on our children."

## Indonesian Muslims kill 5 Christians, damage churches

EAST JAVA, Indonesia (ABP)—A church-burning spree by 3,000 Muslims in Situbondo, East Java, that left at least five people dead has raised concerns about rising religious intolerance in Indonesia.

A Pentecostal pastor, three members of his family and a church worker were burned to death in the Oct. 10 attack.

News reports indicated the riots began due to a five-year sentence handed down to a Muslim sect leader convicted of blasphemy. A mob gathered outside the courtroom reportedly had sought a death penalty and threatened to lynch the defendant.

Afterward, rioters torched a nearby Christian church, spawning mayhem that eventually spread to seven cities. In all, 25 places of worship were damaged or destroyed. One new report stated 120 people were arrested.

The attack followed by only a few weeks attacks on 10 churches by a mob in Surabaya.

Longtime observers say the outbreak of anti-Christian violence is particularly surprising in Indonesia. Though the country is 85 percent Muslim, its long-standing state poli-

cy has been for religious tolerance.

The state recognizes five major religions. An estimated 22 million of Indonesia's 200 million citizens are Christians.

Over the years, Indonesia's secular government has managed to repress persecution of minority religions, but some observers fear globalization and communication through the Internet will make it harder to control violence by extremist sects.

Since a power shift last summer, some observers have questioned the government's ability or desire to halt religious persecution.

One source said more than 200 churches have been attacked since 1991, but it rarely makes national news and little has been done to arrest or punish attackers.

Several mainstream Muslim leaders in the nation decried the most recent attack.

The leader of Indonesia's largest Muslim organization reportedly has pledged to work with Christian groups to rebuild destroyed and damaged churches as a "symbolic and necessary step to prevent the possibility of people's anger being ignited again."

## WORLD VIEW

■ **Seminary urged to ease monogamy requirement.** A Nigerian village leader has called on the Lutheran Church of Nigeria to ease its strong insistence on monogamy in marriage, saying it deters would-be students from entering the seminary. Chief Ita Bassey Etuk of Nung Udoo village said the monogamy stance also causes many church members to quit the church or abandon their faith.

■ **Anglicans to help renovate Bethlehem's Manger Square.** The Anglican Consultative Council, made up of leaders of the worldwide communion's 36 provinces, has pledged its aid for a plan to renovate Bethlehem's Manger Square, traditionally believed to be the site of Jesus' birth. The restoration is being undertaken by the Palestinian National Authority.

■ **Handicap International recognized for refugee work.** The United Nations refugee agency is awarding its annual Nansen Medal to Handicap International, a Franco-Belgian group that makes artificial limbs for land mine victims.

■ **Report: 800 million people go hungry worldwide.** A report by the United Nations says 800 million people around the world regularly go to bed hungry. The U.N.'s Food and Agriculture Organization will sponsor a the World Food Summit in November in Rome.

■ **Australia postpones decision on euthanasia law.** The Australian Parliament has declined for now to invalidate a Northern Territory law that permits medically assisted suicide. The referral to committee is likely to leave the euthanasia legislation in effect at least until next year.

Join Us During  
The Kentucky Baptist Convention  
at the  
Cumberland College  
Alumni and Friends  
Breakfast



Wednesday, November 13, 7:30 A.M.  
University Plaza Hotel - Salon B  
1021 Wilkinson Trace  
Bowling Green, Kentucky

You are invited to join President Jim Taylor and other Cumberland College faculty and staff attending the K.B.C. at this annual time of fellowship and information sharing.

You may sign up and receive free tickets for the Breakfast on Monday or Tuesday in the exhibit hall at the Cumberland College Booth, First Baptist Church, 12th and Chestnut Streets, Bowling Green, KY

For more information contact:  
Wes Roy, Director of Church Relations  
(606) 539-4154

## An Evening of Music & Magic

featuring  
David Garrard, Mae McAtee  
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A Love Offering will be taken to benefit the



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Child care will be provided for children age three and under. Phone: 896-8882

## PRAYER PARTNERS

Pray for these specific needs related to Kentucky Baptist partnerships with Russia and New England:

■ Central Baptist Church in St. Petersburg, Russia.

■ Nicholai Romanenko, superintendent of Baptist work in the Bryansk region of Russia.

■ Two Kentuckians currently considering becoming career missionaries to Russia.

■ A plumber, a carpenter and an electrician needed to remodel Metropolitan Baptist Church in Cambridge, Mass., to accommodate a baptistry.

■ Pastor Richard Gregory Jr. and members of Gallup Hill Baptist Church in Ledyard, Conn.

## NOTICE

Ann Tatum was on vacation last week. Mountains to the Mississippi will resume next week. To place an item in this column, mail it to the Western Recorder at Box 43969, Louisville, KY 40253, or call (502) 244-6470.

## YOUTH GROUPS NEEDED

Atlanta, Orlando, Philadelphia, Baltimore, Buffalo, New Orleans, Branson, Denver, Tampa, Chicago for summer missions. We provide meals, lodging, assignment. For info, costs, contact Youth on Mission, Bx 2095, Rocky Mt, NC, 27802 (800) 299-0385

**FOR SALE:** 83 wooden theater-style chairs. Call Hyland Baptist Church at (502) 827-1258.

**AVAILABLE:** Semi-retired minister seeks supply/interim (150 miles) of Springfield, Tenn. Write: Pastor, 1921 Lynn Circle, Greenbrier, TN 37073.

**COUNSELING:** Individual, couple and family counseling—also work with children. Two locations. Call Janice Haddaway, M.A., (502) 933-9450.

## CLASSIFIED ADS

**FOR SALE:** 21 10-foot pews (7 years old), pulpit, communion table, 2 clergy benches. Call: (502) 224-2728.

**FOR SALE:** Coloring books on disk. 53 images on diskettes based on biblical themes suitable for use with children. \$14.95 plus S/H. "Color My Faith," 2429 Strickland Dr., Owensboro, KY 42301. For additional info., call or fax (502) 685-5238.

**SEEKING:** The board of trustees of Mid-Continent Baptist Bible College in Mayfield, Ky., is searching for a new president to begin by July 1997. Please send resumes by Feb. 1, 1997, to: Bro. Ray Provow, First Baptist Church, Hwy. 80, Arlington, KY 42021.

**CLEANING:** Need your windows cleaned or gutters cleaned out? Residential or commercial, call (502) 363-4324 for free estimate.

**SEEKING:** Full-time pastor needed. Lucas Grove Baptist Church, 3895 Millerstown Road, Upton, KY 42784. Contact: Roger Dennis, (502) 369-7676 (days), 369-7915 (nights).

**WANTED:** Steinway or Mason-Hamlin grand piano. Any age, any condition; will pay cash and pick up. Call (800) 449-3850 anytime.

**TOUR:** 10-day Holy Land tour plus Greece, departing Feb. 24, 1997, for only \$1,795. Call Jack R. Studie for a color brochure and more information at (502) 247-8331. Experience you can trust!

**TOUR:** Experience the difference. Join the Sons of Thunder for a 10-day pilgrimage to the land of the Bible, March 10-19, 1997. Custom itinerary is all-inclusive, with no additional charges for the places you want to visit. Deluxe accommodations, breakfast and dinner daily, air travel priced from Louisville (not New York). For those who love the Lord and his word, travel to Israel is a spiritual retreat, an on-site, in-depth discovery of why God chose this land as the land of promise. Call today for information. Sons of Thunder is an educational ministry of Highview Baptist Church. Phone: (502) 239-7711.

**SEEKING:** Part-time minister of music at Farmdale Baptist Church. Send resume to: 5610 U.S. Hwy. 127 S., Frankfort, KY 40601.

**SEEKING:** Minister of adult education and new member assimilation. Dynamic, growing church has an opening for a committed, growth-minded minister. Present membership is approximately 4,000 with average attendance of approximately 1,700. Resume should be forwarded to: Personnel Committee, 11704 Kingston Pike, Knoxville, TN 37922.

**CARE:** Kinnett Care. Services include live-in and hourly care, personal care, meals, housekeeping, companionship. Free in-home assessment; insured and bonded. Call 24 hours, (502) 499-7777.

The Oneida Players  
of Oneida Baptist Institute present  
**"THE DIARY OF ANNE FRANK"**

November 14, 15, 16 at 7:00 P.M. each evening  
Tickets: \$2.00 adults, \$1.00 students  
No reservations necessary

The true story of eight brave people huddled in a cramped attic for two years in a desperate, determined effort to escape the Nazi horror. Unable to move by day, hardly daring to breathe at night, they hung on until the very end, clinging to their faith as Hitler strove to stamp out the entire Jewish race.

*We hope you will join us for this compelling drama!*



Questions? Call (606) 847-4111

## A boy, lots of pigs and a dog

Last week a family of three came from upstate New York to see about the possibility of becoming a part of the Oneida ministry. Like many who inquire about serving here, they had checked into several other mission opportunities but were impressed with Oneida and the things we are doing. They were on the road about 14 hours and arrived late Friday evening.

After a night's rest in the guest house and breakfast, they met with me to talk more about our ministry. I had sent them a lot of information and a video about Oneida two weeks earlier. They read every word and watched the video several times. From the very first, they felt Oneida was the type of ministry they had been looking for.

Often when a family wants to go into a full-time ministry, relatives can be a little less than happy. Often extended family will try to discourage them. In this case, the family support was great. Moms, dads and grandparents, too, were excited about the opportunity.

After an hour in my office, we toured the campus. We went through several buildings, and I further explained the many special qualities of our school. Their 10-year-old son, Ryan, was really excited because his parents had promised him that when they moved from New York they would try to fulfill his dream of many years by letting him have a dog.

We eventually made our way to the farm. They were able to see firsthand how important our agricultural program is. Some people think our primary reason for having the farm is to raise cattle, hogs and corn. While that is important, the most important reason for the farm is to reach out to boys and girls who will find success at Oneida, in part, because of the farm program.

Our first stop was the breeding and gestation barn. Mom, dad and Ryan were impressed with the size of the pigs. We next went into the farrowing and nursery barn. We met several students who were doing their Saturday morning chores. One of the girls offered to let Ryan hold a baby pig that was just a few hours old. I could tell from that moment Ryan was ready to stay. In fact, I do not think he even wanted to go back home to get his things.

We then walked across the hall to one of the four nurseries. At about four weeks of age, the baby pigs are weaned and moved to the nursery, where they are given a special diet that makes the weaning process less stressful. I must confess I enjoy watching these little porkers play. Several students and one of our agriculture teachers were in the nursery as part of their classroom program. Each student was given a certain number of pigs to help care for. The students keep records about their growth and other information.

We then went into the growing and finishing barn, where we could see the pigs that were being raised to provide meat for our tables. As we stepped out of the barn, we saw three students and one of the assistant farm managers helping other students at the mix mill, blending the various feeds for pigs and cattle. As we stood there, a student drove by on a tractor with a wagonfull of shelled corn for one of our grain bins.

Well, this family saw many other things on our campus and seemed very excited with our ministry. After returning to my office, I answered a few more questions. The only question Ryan had was, "Can I have a dog?"

W.F. "Bud" Underwood is president of Oneida Baptist Institute, P.O. Box 67, Oneida, Ky. 40972

## THIS IS ONEIDA



W.F. Underwood

## Men pray and go

The campus Brotherhood recently sponsored a men's prayer conference in Kelly Hall. About 40 students, faculty and staff were encouraged by the fellowship, teaching, prayer and praise.

Teaching sessions featured professor Chuck Quarles on the Lord's Prayer and professor Tim Searcy on prayer groups. Retired director of missions David Lyons focused on practical dimensions of prayer.

Students identified with his experience of answered prayer while he was a former student. Praise choruses interspersed these teaching sessions. Music leadership came from professor John Ditty, assisted by student David Peters and professor Tim Searcy.

The high point of the night came in the closing worship time. After what was intended to be the last song, a student acknowledged a wrong attitude toward a professor and asked forgiveness. A faculty member shared his struggle with God's leadership. Everyone prayed for him as several circled him with a touch of encouragement. Another student regretted his failure to share personal hurts with fellow students so he could be strengthened by prayer.

Campus women have had annual prayer retreats for several years.

Brotherhood President Scott Birdwell said, "The response was far more than I expected. I hope this will be the beginning of even greater things for the men on campus." Some of the group asked for a monthly prayer gathering with the hope that structure will not impede the work of the Spirit.

The next morning some of the men went to the Pineville Laundromat with several rolls of quarters. They provided money for patrons to wash and dry clothes and took opportunities to witness. A few people declined the quarters. Most were receptive and willing to talk. One man, a local church member and mission trip volunteer, plans to take the conversational Spanish course on campus to prepare for another mission to Central America.

A patron remarked, "You know, I am a Christian, too, and I ought to be out doing things like this."

A lady asked one student, "Are you preaching anywhere?"

"No, not right now," replied the student.

"Well, I sure would like to hear a preacher who got out and did things like this," she said.

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

## CLEAR CREEK CHRONICLE



Bill Whittaker

## Film about redemption gives church chance to minister

By Lynn Clayton  
Louisiana Baptist Message

LAFAYETTE, La. (BP)—Drop-in guests are not unusual for pastors. East Bayou Baptist Church in Lafayette, La., even prays non-church members who drive by the church will be drawn to come in. But this drop-in was different.

"Brother Mike, Robert Duvall wants to see you," the excited secretary told Mike Walker, the pastor.

"Who?"  
"Robert Duvall. You know, the guy on 'Lonesome Dove,'" the popular western television mini-series.

"What does he want?"  
What the Academy Award-winning actor wanted was to use East Bayou's church building and many of its members for a movie.

Duvall had been filming in south Louisiana for two months. The movie, "Apostle E.F.," is about a charis-

matic pastor-evangelist in Dallas who kills a man and flees to Cajun land. While there, he comes under the influence of black charismatics and finds redemption.

Duvall was in Lafayette looking for a church building that could be used in the film. When he saw East Bayou's contemporary, upscale building, he believed he had found it.

In a matter of hours, a tentative agreement for the building's use had been reached.

"Five of us read the script and believed it would be all right for us to do this," Walker explained. "There is no profanity and no nudity or explicit sex. It is not a Billy Graham movie, but it does have a message of redemption."

Walker said he and the church membership believe God was providing them with a significant witnessing opportunity.

"Can East Bayou go to Hollywood

to penetrate it with the gospel?" the pastor asked rhetorically. "No. But could God put Hollywood in our laps, in our property, to intermingle with them and minister to them?"

Walker acknowledged, however, cooperating with the movie company has not come without criticism.

"Some people—not many, but a few—think we are cooperating with the devil. But these movie folks need to get saved, too."

When some church members had reservations, Duvall came to an evening prayer service. Afterward, he explained the movie project and answered questions members had.

"Our people have prayed for them (actors and crew)," Walker said. "We've given a few of them Bibles, and we have shared our faith as we have opportunities. Just like with everyone else, some have been receptive and some have not. Some of them, we have discovered, are strong born-

again Christians."

Producing the small-budget movie is almost an obsession of Duvall, its writer, producer, director and star.

Duvall said he is trying to make an honest movie about charismatic or Pentecostal evangelists.

"I have a great amount of empathy for those who are sincere, although that is not necessarily my persuasion," Duvall said. "I have none for those who are insincere."

Duvall said he is using authentic, practicing evangelists for many of the movie's scenes, as well as using professional actors for others.

The movie crew was at the church site for three days—one day to prepare, one day to film and one day to tear down and move. They paid the church's utilities and other expenses.

The day of filming was blessed with a summer downpour of rain. That only seemed to add a note of drama to the brief outside scenes.

**"I have a great amount of empathy for those who are sincere, although that is not necessarily my persuasion. I have none for those who are insincere."**

Actor Robert Duvall

## Missionary survives green mamba snake bite

JOHANNESBURG, South Africa (BP)—Villagers in Mozambique and doctors in South Africa are marveling that a Southern Baptist missionary survived an Oct. 16 attack by a deadly snake.

John Dina, a Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board evangelist in Quelimane, Mozambique, was released from the hospital just five days after a green mamba bit him on the leg.

Victims of such bites usually die when the toxic venom attacks their nervous system and they stop breathing.

The doctor in Johannesburg, South Africa, who treated Dina called him "a very lucky man." Dina and those around him say prayer, more than luck, is responsible for his health.

Hundreds of thousands of Southern Baptists prayed for Dina when his name appeared on a missionary prayer calendar Oct. 12, his 34th birthday. Others prayed for him after the attack, when urgent notices were posted on the FMB's toll-free prayer line and CompassionNet, an electronic prayer network.

Dina and four Mozambican co-workers were walking in the bush about 37 miles from home when he felt a sharp pain in his right calf and turned to see a bright green snake.

"My leg was burning and I felt a pain in my stomach," Dina said. "All I could think about was that I had to

get to that main road" (about 15 miles away).

Dina drove himself back to the main road, stopping only when nausea or exhaustion forced him to pause. It took him five hours to reach Quelimane. Dina's wife, Wanne, and Mark Nelham, an African Evangelical Fellowship doctor, stayed with him through the night as his pulse slowed and his breathing became more difficult.

A medical evacuation airplane landed at dawn, and Dina arrived at a Johannesburg hospital 21 hours after the bite. By that time, his breathing was very labored and the wound was infected. Gereth Edwards, Dina's attending physician and a snake bite specialist, administered large doses of antibiotics and anti-inflammatory drugs and kept a ventilator on standby.

Within two days, Dina had made a recovery, and Edwards said Dina would suffer no permanent damage from the bite. "It only takes one drop of venom to kill a person," the doctor said. "Mr. Dina ... was a very lucky man."

"All Baptist people in Mozambique probably know by now what happened to John," said Wanne Dina, who stayed in Mozambique. "The villagers are saying it's truly a miracle he's alive."

"People here are afraid of snakes.

Many even take a traditional medicine they think will protect them from dying if bitten," she said. Some of the unbelievers thought a curse had been put on her husband.

"God has used this for the better. This is going to help John's testimony because people don't live when they're bitten. It's going to help them see how great God is, which will help spread the gospel," she said.

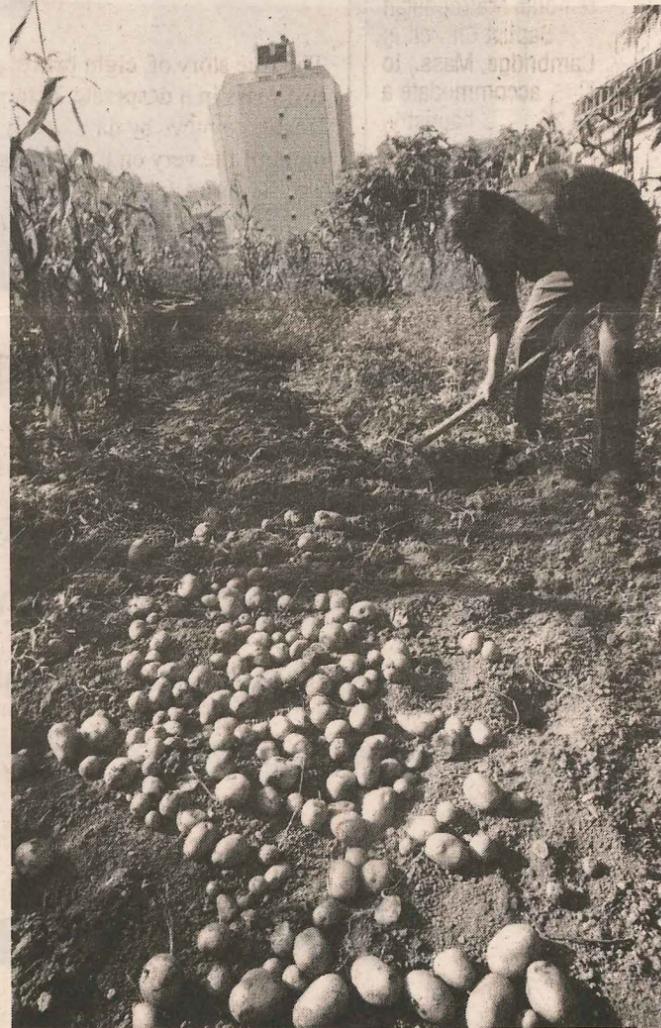
Dina said he knew people all over the world were praying for him and he believes the timing of the bite—so soon after his birthday—was not a coincidence. The prayers on his behalf positively affected his recovery, he said.

"We have preached that God is all-powerful," he said. "God may have done this to testify to that, but I don't know. Only God knows how it will work" for his glory.

Dina develops churches in a largely unreached but responsive area of Mozambique, said David Hooten, who directs FMB work in the country.

As many as 80 churches have asked for Dina's assistance since his return from furlough in June.

"I don't know if God allowed Satan to send this snake because we're working in a responsive area or not," Dina said. "But I do know that my life depends on God's control and that God has my life. That is what I know."



**HARVEST TIME** Residents of Tuzla, Bosnia, prepare for an uncertain winter by planting garden plots in the heart of the city. Tuzla withstood an 18-month Serb siege and maintains its tradition of multiple ethnic groups and religious traditions living in harmony. Croatian Baptists delivered humanitarian aid during the war. Two Foreign Mission Board missionary couples moved to Tuzla to help new believers start churches. (BP photo by Bill Bangham)

## Volunteers using 'Right Choices' curriculum with youth offenders

MARLIN, Texas (BP)—Volunteers are teaching juvenile offenders at the Texas Youth Commission's Marlin Unit how to make "right choices."

Working with Don Dennis of Ennis, Texas, the volunteers are teaching "Right Choices" curriculum based on the course by Josh McDowell, teaching a Christ-centered approach to decision-making.

Two Texas Baptist women adapted the "Right Choices" curriculum for use in the correctional system.

"I believe this is the most important ministry in America," said Den-

nis, an ex-convict turned Baptist preacher who now serves as a Texas Youth Commission chaplain's assistant. "If we don't reach these kids, we're in trouble."

Dennis works closely with the church ministries department of the Baptist General Convention of Texas in launching prisoner discipleship ministries such as MasterLife and "Right Choices."

Every youth assigned to the commission goes through the Marlin Orientation and Assessment Unit. About 350 "students" are housed at the unit. The average stay is six weeks to two

months. Most are 12 to 18 years old, but some are as young as 10 or 11.

"The younger they are, the more serious their crime," said Shannon Ford, volunteer coordinator for the Marlin facility.

Juvenile offenders at the Marlin unit live in one of eight barracks-style dormitories. Like in a military boot camp, newcomers immediately have their heads shaved and are issued uniforms. They are not allowed any personal possessions except letters from parents.

Each youth learns quickly to recite the "basic layout"—a rote presenta-

tion of who he is, the nature of his offense and acknowledgement that he is assigned to the Marlin unit to "learn respect and victim empathy."

Volunteers from five churches are participating in the outreach, including two Baptist congregations.

"Right Choices" is used at the Marlin unit as a supplement to the commission's socialization program.

The commission is ready for "Right Choices" to be introduced in youth facilities in four other cities, "as soon as we can get a half-dozen volunteers" for each site, Dennis said.

# "Mending Broken Hearts"



A tiny newborn girl without a family... a 4-year-old who watched his mother shoot his father... a homeless teenager living on the streets. Each of these real children had their hearts mended last year by Kentucky Baptists who reached out with Christ's healing touch. On their behalf, the staff sends you their thanks and asks that you support generously this year's Thanksgiving Offering for Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children.

**1996 Thanksgiving Offering Goal**  
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