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FOR THE RECORD

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Judge rules against capitol display of Ten Commandments

FRANKFORT—Kentucky's six-foot granite monument inscribed with the Ten Commandments will remain in storage—at least for now.

The monument, donated to the state in 1971 by the Fraternal Order of Eagles, is at the center of the latest legal controversy over displaying the Ten Commandments. It was displayed on the Capitol grounds for several years before being placed in storage to make room for a construction project.

A legislative resolution directing that the monument be reinstalled on the Capitol grounds in Frankfort was ruled unconstitutional July 27 by U.S. District Judge Joseph Hood.

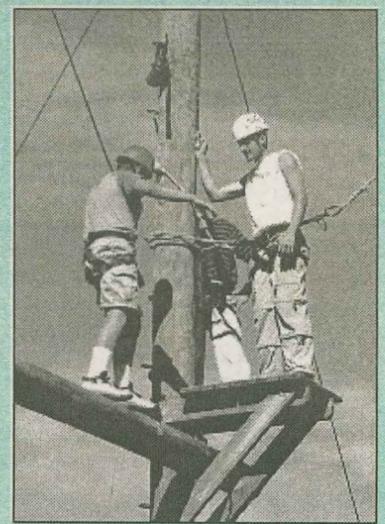
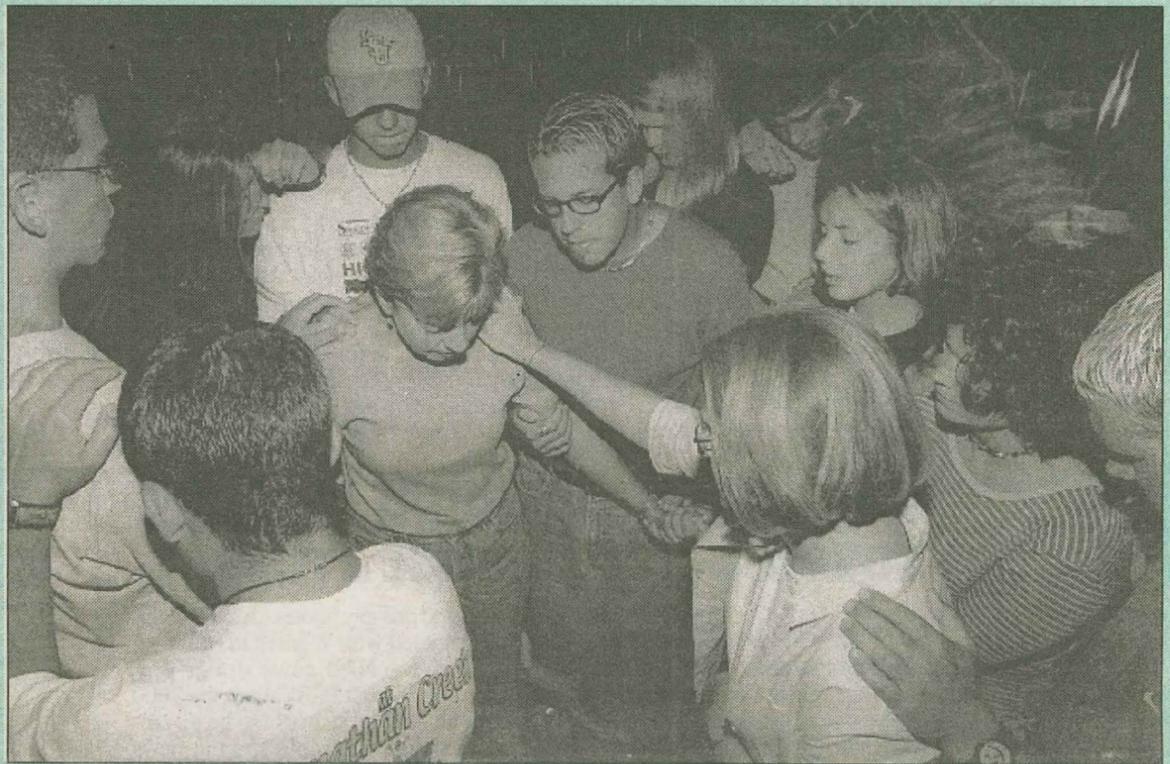
Corey Bellamy, a spokesman for Attorney General Ben Chandler, said July 28 that Chandler had not yet determined whether the state will appeal the ruling.

"The attorney general's office is working with the finance and administrative cabinet and the governor's office to make that decision," Bellamy said. "We respect the court's order, but we'll determine what step to take next, whether or not to appeal."

Senate Joint Resolution 57 was signed into law April 21 by Gov. Paul Patton. It called for the monument to be placed on permanent display on the Capitol grounds as "part of a historical and cultural display ... to remind Kentuckians of the biblical foundations of the laws of the Commonwealth."

The resolution was challenged
□ See Judge rules ..., page 3

Summer camp



Do you know what your youth did this summer? If they were among the more than 3,900 campers at Cedarmore and Jonathan Creek, they mixed recreation with Bible study and worship. Attendance is up at the camps, and organizers say they are excited about both the results and future of Kentucky summer camps. ■ **Top:** Staff at Jonathan Creek pray for an adult supervisor prior to a worship service. ■ **Above left:** Jen VanCamp leads in worship at Cedarmore. ■ **Above middle:** Six wave runners keep adults and teens alike wet at Crossings at the Creek at Jonathan Creek. ■ **Right:** Camp counselor John Hutcherson helps campers master the cat walk on the challenge course during Brotherhood's Mission Adventure Camp. *Stories on pages 8-9. More photos on page 15.*

Promise Keepers gather in Louisville, pledge to 'go the distance'

By Tannis Henderson
Editor

LOUISVILLE—Singing, praying, cheering and praising God, an estimated 18,000 men and boys gathered last weekend for Louisville's first-ever Promise Keepers conference.

Promise Keepers leaders urged the crowd to "go the distance" as Christian husbands, fathers and church members.

The July 28-29 event in Freedom Hall was the sixth of 16 Promise Keepers rallies scheduled for 2000. It also was this year's first sold-out conference for the 10-year-old men's ministry.

Founder Bill McCartney said he expects about 175,000 men to attend Promise Keepers events this year, far below the million-plus totals in 1996 and 1997.

Starting in 1990 with 72 men, however, Promise Keepers' success remains unparalleled in evangelical Christian circles. The movement's numerical momentum peaked three years ago when

hundreds of thousands of men gathered on the National Mall in Washington for a one-day "Stand in the Gap" rally.

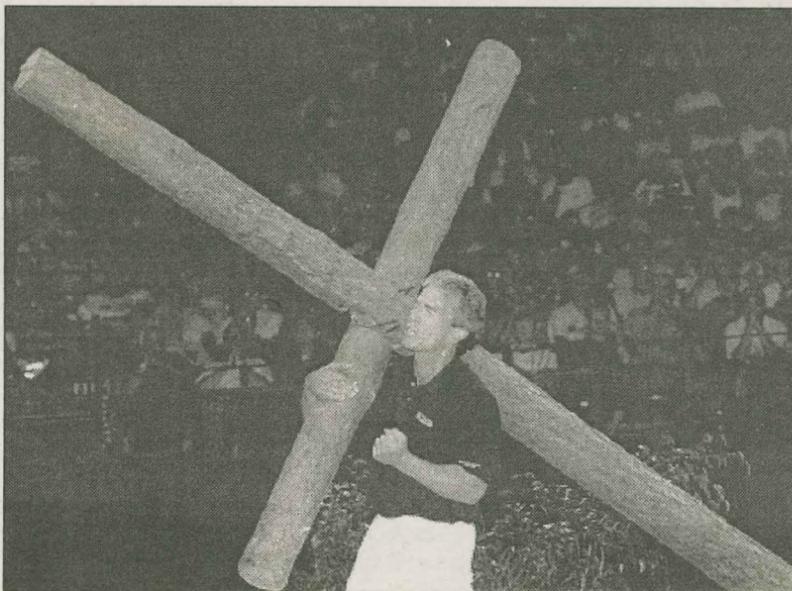
Since that time Promise Keepers leaders have shifted the ministry's focus to smaller regional events, including the Louisville conference.

"We feel like God's favor is all over us despite the numbers being down," McCartney said, noting that the huge stadium events were not as conducive to personal responses.

"We have a lot of guys who were spiritually challenged but never left the arena clean with confessed sin," he explained. "If God doesn't show up, what's the purpose?"

"I believe we've got enough men coming if they all walk out of here truly righteous," the former University of Colorado football coach added. He said his goal is that "no man would leave here with any unconfessed sin—that's a ready vessel."

Combining praise music, high-tech
□ See Louisville PK rally ..., page 6



CROSS FOCUS Promise Keepers speaker Joe White, portraying a Roman cross builder, declared, "A man with a cross on his back has no room for a chip on his shoulder." More than 18,000 men and boys attended the July 28-29 rally in Louisville's Freedom Hall.

Controversial Falwell comments cut by SBC radio show

"Barry Lynn's letter had absolutely no impact whatsoever in our editing of Jerry Falwell's comments."

Richard Land, president of the SBC Ethics & Religious Liberty Commission

By Kenny Byrd
Associated Baptist Press

WASHINGTON (ABP)—After receiving warnings from a church-state watchdog group, the Southern Baptist Ethics & Religious Liberty Commission aired a radio interview with televangelist Jerry Falwell but edited out controversial portions that called for the defeat of presidential candidate Al Gore.

The July 25 airing of the Falwell interview on the ERLC's "For Faith and Family" radio show followed heated letters between ERLC President Richard Land and Barry Lynn, executive director of Americans United for Separation of Church and State.

While Lynn is seeking to claim credit for the edited comments, Land issued a press release saying Lynn had no impact on the decision.

"I'm delighted that Richard Land chose not to put the SBC's tax exemption in jeopardy," Lynn stated. "Had he

ignored our advice, the ERLC would likely have faced penalties from the IRS. The agency's leaders contacted their lawyers, considered the consequences of ignoring federal tax law and decided to play by the rules."

But Dwayne Hastings, an ERLC spokesman, said Lynn had nothing to do with the decision. Hastings said the partisan nature of Falwell's comments was one of many considerations for editing, including time constraints for the radio show.

But those issues would have been considered with or without Lynn's letter, Hastings said.

During a lengthy interview taped during the SBC annual meeting, Falwell said: "Ronald Reagan would not have been president unless Bible-believing Christians in 1979 and 1980 by the millions said, 'We've had enough,' and threw Jimmy Carter out and put Ronald Reagan in, to put it bluntly. If we don't do the same thing Nov. 7 with Mr. Gore

... and get somebody in there to rebuild the moral values and fabric of this nation, we're going to be in the same mess or worse than we were in 1980."

Lynn immediately wrote Land, urging him to refrain from airing the interview, citing limits on political activity for tax-exempt religious organizations in the IRS code.

After Land defended the interview and accused Americans United of censorship, Lynn told a reporter that if Land removed partisan quotes in editing, it would be because of Lynn's letter.

According to Baptist Press, the SBC's official press service, Land responded, "For Barry Lynn to claim that his warnings were the reasons that we did or did not chose to air a particular segment of the Falwell interview reveals on the part of Mr. Lynn a highly inflamed sense of his own self importance. Evidently Mr. Lynn is a legend in his own mind."

Land said the interview with Falwell

"was edited according to our normal editing standards as every other program. This program was went through the normal editorial process that saw 44 minutes of tape trimmed to a length suitable for airing."

Hastings confirmed, however, that not every program is cleared through the American Center for Law and Justice, Pat Robertson's legal organization. The ERLC sought the help of the ACLJ's Jay Sekulow after receiving the warning from Lynn against airing the partisan statements in the interview.

Land said the ACLJ reviewed the entire tape of the Falwell interview. "Although the ACLJ's attorneys found Dr. Falwell's comments to be 'permissible,' as they were identified as 'strictly personal and not representative' of the ERLC or the SBC, in the editing process for this interview as in every other occasion we steer far clear of the line."

With additional reporting by Baptist Press

CBF leader disputes meeting coverage by Baptist Press

ATLANTA (ABP)—The Cooperative Baptist Fellowship "has never issued any statement, taken any action or spent a single dollar that was intended in any way to condone, endorse or promote the gay-lesbian lifestyle," CBF Coordinator Daniel Vestal said in a statement released July 26.

He was responding to what he described as "inflammatory" reporting about the CBF in Baptist Press, the Southern Baptist Convention news service. Reports filed by a free-lance writer from the CBF's recent General Assembly in Orlando, Fla., characterized the moderate group as funding and supporting homosexual activism.

The Baptist Press reports accuse the Fellowship of advancing pro-homosexual causes by funding the Baptist Peace Fellowship of North America and Baptist Women in Ministry. One story described a pro-gay piece of literature found at the Peace Fellowship's booth during the June General Assembly and

attributed pro-gay quotes to one individual affiliated with Women in Ministry.

"The so-called news stories produced by Baptist Press about the 2000 General Assembly ought to be an embarrassment to any self-respecting news organization," Vestal said. "I call upon the leaders of the SBC to put an end to the mean-spirited assault on fellow believers who are part of the Fellowship. There ought always to be room for disagreement among Christians, but our commitment to honesty, integrity and fairness ought to reflect the spirit of Christ."

"I believe the practice of homosexuality violates the teaching of Scripture," Vestal said. "But I will not throw stones at those who live a homosexual lifestyle—or any other lifestyle I believe to be outside the will of God. As a follower of Jesus, I should offer them my love and friendship. I should do this in a spirit of humility that grows from my own need for forgiveness and grace."



BAPTIST DIGEST

■ Convention offers severance plan.

The Missouri Baptist Convention Executive Board has approved a severance plan for workers who choose to quit their jobs during implementation of a new strategic plan. The severance offer, which is open to employees who leave their jobs between Aug. 1 and Dec. 31, "is not targeting anyone," said Jim Hill, executive director of the state convention. "I hope there are very few who choose to do this." Under the plan, employees with fewer than 10 years experience will receive two weeks' salary and benefits for each year they have worked with the convention. Employees with more than 10 years of service would get five months' compensation plus a week's salary for each year of service.

■ Prestonwood approves dual alignment.

Members of Prestonwood Baptist Church in Dallas voted July 23 to dually align with the

Baptist General Convention of Texas and the conservative Southern Baptists of Texas Convention. Citing "grave concerns about the current direction" of the BGCT, the report called for the 17,000-member church to reconsider its current affiliation with the BGCT following the state convention's annual meeting in October. The committee's study, begun in February, was initiated by Pastor Jack Graham.

■ Southern dean switches roles.

Dennis Williams, dean of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary's school of Christian education and leadership, has been named dean of institutional assessment effective Aug. 1. The newly created position will allow Williams to oversee the seminary's three-year accreditation review process with the Association of Theological Schools and the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools. Williams will remain

as dean of the education school until a successor is named. He previously was professor of education ministries and administration at Denver Seminary.

■ Shorter college names president.

Ed Schrader, 49, has been named president of Shorter College in Rome, Ga., effective January 2001. He succeeds Larry McSwain, who retired in July as president. Schrader has been associate dean of the division of sciences since 1995 at Millsaps College in Jackson, Miss. He previously was geology department chairman at Millsaps and assistant professor of geology at the University of Alabama.

■ William Jewell president elected.

David Sallee, 48, has been elected president of William Jewell College in Liberty, Mo. Sallee, vice president for enrollment management at Luther College

in Decorah, Iowa, since 1993, will assume the presidency at the Missouri Baptist-related college at the end of August. Sallee succeeds Christian Sizemore who has been named chancellor at William Jewell.

■ Ross joins seminary faculty.

Richard Ross, a key architect of Southern Baptists' True Love Waits sexual abstinence campaign, is joining the faculty of Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth, Texas. Ross, youth ministry consultant for LifeWay Christian Resources of the Southern Baptist Convention for the past 16 years, will begin teaching in youth ministry at Southwestern in August. Ross said he hopes Southwestern will partner with LifeWay to keep an emphasis on moral purity and intensify that message on the seminary campus.

Restaurant liquor sales are target of Temperance League lawsuit

LOUISVILLE—The Temperance League of Kentucky has filed a lawsuit seeking to repeal a recent piece of legislation that changes how some cities can vote on allowing alcohol sales for restaurants.

The lawsuit, filed last month in Frankfort, takes aim at a statute, passed during the last legislative session.

The law permits all cities and counties to have local referendums to allow alcoholic beverage sales by the drink in restaurants that seat at least 100 people and get at least 70 percent of their gross income from the sale of food.

John Frith Stewart, attorney for the Temperance League, called the statute unconstitutional because Kentucky law prohibits legislation that benefits only one segment of society.

"One of the primary concerns is the fact that this legislation is directed to restaurants only," Stewart said. "It extends to them a special privilege that is not (available) to others."

Claude Witt, director of the Temperance League, said the statute also extends new privileges to smaller cities.

Previously, cities that are smaller than a fourth-class city had to have a county-wide wet-dry referendum, Witt said. Under this law, fifth- and sixth-class cities (those with 3,000 residents or fewer) could hold their own vote.

"We're going into virgin territory with this type of sale," Witt added. The state's Alcoholic Beverage Commission has no fee schedule for such licenses and it doesn't have enough officers to inspect all the cities that might be affected by the law.

"Plus it's a tremendous drain on these counties that pay for these votes," he added. "I believe it's going to be ruled unconstitutional."

Named as defendants in the suit are state Attorney General Ben Chandler; George Lusby, county judge/executive for Scott County; and Donna Perry, county clerk for Scott County.

A spokesman for Chandler said the attorney general's office has received the suit but has a standing policy against discussing pending litigation.

In addition to asking that the statute be thrown out, the lawsuit is seeking an injunction against allowing referendums in Scott County based on the statute.

If the law is upheld, Witt said, the impact will be felt throughout the commonwealth. "I predict that if we're unsuccessful, ... in five years we won't have any dry counties in Kentucky."

KBC long-term volunteer work gets director

Eric Allen has been elected to lead the Kentucky Baptist Convention's Missions Service Corps ministry. He will be responsible for helping expand Kentucky Baptists' emphasis on volunteer mission efforts.

Allen has served since 1986 as minister of music and youth at Hyland Baptist Church in Henderson. He was elected to the new MSC position July 20 by the KBC Executive Board's administrative committee.

Larry Martin, leader of the KBC missions growth team, said the new position has been under discussion for three years. "We've been letting Missions Service Corps grow gradually in Kentucky until we were ready to call a full-time person," he explained.

Martin said 55 Kentucky Baptists currently are serving as MSC volunteers. The volunteer ministry program, founded in 1976, is conducted in cooperation with the Southern Baptist North American Mission Board.

Describing MSC as a "long-term adult volunteer program," Martin said it is Southern Baptists' fastest-growing area of missions involvement. Among nearly 5,000 missionaries under appointment by NAMB, Martin said more than one-third are MSC volunteers.

Volunteers work at least 20 hours a week for four months or longer, Martin explained. "They do anything a career missionary does," he added, noting that their volunteer ministry efforts are valued at millions of dollars a year.

Martin said Allen's responsibilities will include "keeping a running list of ministry opportunities to be circulated in Kentucky and throughout the nation

through the Mission Service Corps network." Allen's position will be jointly funded by the KBC and NAMB.

Allen also will help Kentucky Baptist Brotherhood, Woman's Missionary Union, campus ministers and partnership missions leaders recruit and train MSC volunteers.

Allen said he and his wife, Sherry, have been active participants in short-term mission projects.

Affirming the opportunity "to have an impact on those who feel called to missions," Allen said, "God has taught me a lot of things through the local church that will help me in working with volunteers called to do missions."

"I'm excited about what God is going to do," he said. "I'm excited about what Mission Service Corps can

do for us as Kentucky Baptists. God is using people in short-term missions, many of whom may sense a call to long-term missions."

Allen said his personal vision for the new position is "to see the number of Mission Service Corps volunteers increase. It is exciting to see there are people out there who want to serve and there are positions out there. It's a matter of putting the two together."

Prior to serving in Henderson, Allen was minister of music and youth at Lynn Acres Baptist Church in Louisville, Central Baptist Church in Lebanon and Salem Baptist Church in Campbellsville. A graduate of Campbellsville University and Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, Allen is a member of the KBC Executive Board and a former member of the KBC Nominating Committee.



Allen

'The sky's the limit' for MSC program

Kentucky Baptists' 55 Mission Service Corps volunteers currently serve in such ministry areas as construction, disaster relief, chaplaincy and campus ministry.

Eric Allen's goal is for the number of volunteers and ministry areas to rapidly expand. And he is the person Kentucky Baptist leaders have called on to help make that happen.

Allen was elected earlier this month as the state convention's first Mission Service Corps director effective Aug. 16. He will be responsible for identifying, recruiting and training volunteers for mission opportunities ranging from four months to two years.

"I really feel like the Lord has prepared the place of service and prepared me for it," Allen said. "It's going to be a challenge but I'm very excited about it."

"There's a real freshness. I feel like I'm charting new ground, especially in the state of Kentucky," he added. "It's exciting to think about finding people who want to volunteer and helping them plug into opportunities."

Larry Martin, Allen's supervisor, is leader of the KBC's missions growth team. He said Allen will be responsible for helping leaders at the church, association and state levels expand their use of missions volunteers. Although Southern Baptists' MSC program started in 1976, Kentucky Baptists' statewide emphasis on actively recruiting MSC volunteers dates back only three years.

"The sky's the limit as far as the possibility of expansion," Martin noted. He said Allen's work "will help us address a variety of ministries we haven't had the resources to do before."

"The bottom line," Martin said, "is that Christians will find a growing sense of fulfillment in ministry and our churches will address many more people with the message of Christ."

For more information about MSC opportunities, contact the KBC missions growth team at (502) 245-4101 or toll-free at (800) 266-6477.

Judge rules granite display of Ten Commandments 'unconstitutional'

Continued from page 1
in a lawsuit filed July 10 by the American Civil Liberties Union of Kentucky.

ACLU officials filed suit earlier this year against a Kentucky school district and two counties for posting the Ten Commandments. U.S. District Judge Jennifer Coffman ordered the documents removed from the school and county courthouses pending the outcome of that case.

The ACLU's case against the state did not challenge other sections of the resolution that encourage teachers and school administrators to post and teach from historic documents, including the Ten Commandments. ACLU leaders have indicated they will file suit against schools, however, if they perceive the commandments are posted in a way that violates the First Amendment.

In the latest ruling, Judge Hood sided with the ACLU in declaring the Capitol display unconstitutional. Citing Coffman's opinion that "the Ten Commandments are a distinctly religious document," Hood rejected arguments by Assistant Attorney General Jennifer Carrico

that the Capitol display was intended to highlight the commandments' historical significance, not to promote religion.

"A reasonable observer would interpret this display as the Commonwealth's endorsement of Christianity," Hood wrote, noting that "the Commonwealth cannot favor one religion without disfavoring another."

"The function of our Constitution is to insure that the majority protects the views of the minority," Hood added. "The majority cannot by legislative fiat impose its views on the minority."

Rep. Tom Riner of Louisville, who proposed the Ten Commandments display, told reporters he is disappointed with the ruling. "We were not trying to promote religion," he said. "We were simply trying to recognize the historical origin of our foundation of law."

"I don't believe we have a flawed argument," he told the Louisville Courier-Journal. "I believe it's a flawed judiciary that would misconstrue the historical recognition of our precedent legal code as a violation of the establishment clause of the Constitution."

BLUEGRASS BURGEO

Foundation adds new staff member.

Jennifer Curtis recently was hired by Kentucky Baptist Foundation as accounting manager. She previously was audit manager for Deloitte & Touche, where she worked 5 1/2 years specializing in the not-for-profit industry. She will be responsible for the overall accounting function at the foundation.



Curtis

Mrs. Kentucky to promote KBHC, foster parenting. As the newest Mrs. Kentucky International, Crystal Jacobsen of Louisville is partnering with Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children to educate the public on the nationwide shortage of foster parents and to create awareness of physical and sexual abuse against children.

Campbellsville launches ministry project. Campbellsville University recently began a new ministry opportunity named Kentucky Heartland Outreach. The effort was developed to minister to the needs of central Kentucky. "It's our dream that KHO will not only involve Campbellsville University students, but also a great number of groups nationwide," said Campbellsville President Mike Carter. For information, call the school's office of campus ministries at (270) 289-5227.

Concert to benefit Baptist children's homes. The Redemption Quartet and six other Southern Gospel groups will perform Aug. 5 in Cynthiana in a benefit concert for Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children. The event will begin at 5 p.m. at Whalen's Auction Center. For more information, call Keven Strausbaugh at (606) 273-6238.

WESTERN RECORDER

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TRENNIS HENDERSON
Editor

DAVID WINFREY
News Director

MAURI SMITH
Marketing & Business
Manager

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

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The sky is not falling at SBTS music school

By Ronald Turner

Recent days have seen the loss of three music professors at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary. Some letters to the Western Recorder and a recent article reporting the resignations have created an impression that the seminary's school of church music and worship is no longer a high quality institution. Having taught here for 27 years, I take this negative implication rather personally.

Undoubtedly, we will miss our departing colleagues, but they are neither indispensable nor irreplaceable. In the course of life, faculty come and go. The loss of three at the same time is more an unfortunate coincidence than a dire portent for the school of church music and worship.

Here is a comparison of the school of 2000 with that of 1973, when I began teaching:

■ Faculty—1973, eight full-time; 2000, seven full-time, two senior professors.

■ Students—1973, 140; 2000, 90, with a substantial increase in applications for the fall semester.

■ Quality of students—The one constant has been in talent. While our enrollment numbers are lower than during our "boom" years of the 1980s, the

quality of students remains high.

■ Degree programs—In 1973 we offered two degrees, the master of music and the doctor of musical arts, which have changed very little over the years. The MCM still is our most popular degree. Today we also offer the master of music for professional musicians working in part-time church music positions, the master of divinity in church music for associate pastors with major responsibilities in music, and the doctor of music ministry for ministers already working in churches, missions or denominational agencies.

Our faculty recently developed both a master of divinity and a master of arts in worship (unfortunately reported in a seminary press release as a master of arts in "praise and worship"). In 1973, the study of worship at Southern Seminary was virtually nonexistent. In 2000 we offer two substantial programs centered on this most important aspect of church life.

In 1973, the future appeared to be status quo. Little changed from year to year. After a "boom" in the late '70s and '80s, enrollment declined—the result of a general decrease in college music majors in church music. This decline began well before the advent of the current administration.

COMMENTARY

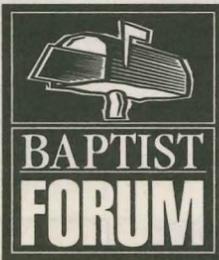
KBC in good hands

Recently I was in Kentucky to speak at the Joshua Project, a training event for pastors and their wives that was sponsored by the Kentucky Baptist Convention leadership development department. It was most encouraging to observe the participants hard at work, learning better how to lead their churches.

I just want to say that I have never seen or heard of a state convention ex-

ecutive director who has gotten off to a finer start in discharging his responsibilities than has Dr. Bill Mackey. We miss him in South Carolina but I am most proud of the way God is using him in the Bluegrass State along with other former South Carolina state workers—Joy Bolton, Richard Adams and Karl Babb. I anticipate that Kentucky Baptists will be in good hands in years to come.

Carlisle Driggers
Executive Director
South Carolina Baptist Convention



Sensitive & sensible

Thank you, Mr. Henderson, for your sensitive and sensible editorial, "Priesthood is 'what it all comes down to.'" Since a group cannot be a priest, I must conclude that "the priesthood of believers" and "the priesthood of the believer" mean the same thing. I do not need Al Mohler to try to tell me they do not.

How sad it is that our present leaders in the Southern Baptist Convention continue to be so divisive and mean-spirited.

L.C. Patterson
Corbin

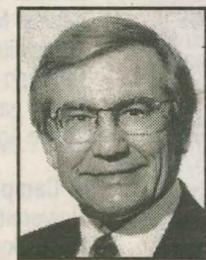
PARTNERS IN THE MISSION

Blood drive offers unique witness

Kentucky Baptists are gearing up for a unique commemoration of the 75th anniversary of the Cooperative Program by giving an unprecedented gift to the people of Kentucky. Through Operation Cooperation, a statewide blood drive set for Sept. 10-23, Kentucky Baptists have an opportunity to put into practice the caring, compassion and cooperation that the Cooperative Program is all about. It's a great way to link the celebration of missions to real-life needs locally.

I suspect that nearly all families have benefited from the generous gift of life-giving blood from someone else at some point in time. For me this occurred when Kay and I had just finished seminary and were serving for the summer in Latta, S.C. Our first pregnancy was ectopic and fortunately for us the fallopian tube rupture was a slow leak instead of a hemorrhage. However, Kay lost five pints of blood before the problem

was discovered. Due to a rare blood type and emergency situation, we had to appeal for volunteer donors over the local radio station. We have never forgotten those volunteers.



Bill Mackey

In order to make this statewide event a reality, 10 blood service organizations that serve Kentucky are coordinating their efforts. This has never happened before, and their leaders are enthusiastic about the opportunities. However, because all of their equipment is dedicated to this effort, we want to make

sure all quotas are met and exceeded. Everyone can be a part of this effort even if he or she can't be a blood donor. Volunteers are needed to plan, promote, schedule appointments and serve as greeters. Also, the fun runs that are part of many of the local blood drive celebrations will utilize volunteers in addition to the runners.

Blood drives are being planned at 51 different sites. Each drive is being

planned by a local committee and will be held at a strategically located church or Baptist ministry site. Churches throughout the area are promoting the blood drive and scheduling donor appointments.

Kentucky Baptist Healthcare System is cooperating by helping KBC provide T-shirts for all participants and volunteers. Many thanks to Tommy Smith, CEO, and each BHS hospital president. Directors of missions, collegiate ministry directors and Baptist college leaders also are cooperating in this great effort.

For more information and to find the blood drive site nearest you, please visit our Web site at www.kybaptist.org and click on the Operation Cooperation logo. You also can call to indicate your willingness to donate blood or to be a volunteer by calling our office at (502) 254-4731 in the Louisville area or (888) 254-5713 out in the state.

It is all about in cooperation—a hallmark for Kentucky Baptists. Plan now to be a part.

Bill Mackey is executive director of the Kentucky Baptist Convention

CHURCH

Super Saturday shares ways to manage money

By Doug Strader



According to one Web site that deals with finances, American credit card holders can expect interest charges to increase by an estimated \$1.4 billion

during the next year because of rate increases by the Federal Reserve. There are approximately 78 million households that have at least one credit card, and the average balance is \$7,564.

The same Web site reported that by the end of 1999 Americans had amassed \$462 billion in bank credit card debt and \$88 billion in retail credit card debt (department stores, gasoline, etc.). Additionally, the Consumer Federation of America reported that 70 percent of undergraduates at four-year colleges have at least one credit card. The average credit amount owed by students is more than \$2,000, and one-fifth of them carry a debt of more than \$10,000!

If these statistics are even close to reality, we have a serious problem with money and its use in our society. Churches have a responsibility to help their members and constituents know how to deal with their finances. There are many ways churches can begin the process of helping people know how to manage their money. A myriad of helps is available from Christian bookstores, the Internet, financial planners and from your state convention stewardship office.

During the Super Saturday conferences late this summer, we will offer an afternoon workshop on "How to Get Out of Debt." This conference is designed to help churches know how to begin the process of helping their people become debt-free. It is designed to be a motivation to get churches to offer such training to their members. If you are interested in providing this much-needed tool for the members of your church, plan to attend the workshop and begin the process of meeting a great need.

Super Saturday also will include an afternoon workshop on "How to Develop a Family Budget." Although the workshop will not be able to cover all that is involved in setting up a budget, it can serve as the starting point for churches to begin the process of providing another much-needed service to members.

If you have questions, give me a call at (888) 254-5708 or e-mail me at douglas_strader@kybaptist.org.

Doug Strader is director of the Kentucky Baptist Convention's stewardship department

How should parents respond when adult children divorce?

Q: My husband and I have had a difficult time dealing with our daughter's divorce. The divorce has been nasty and we cannot seem to do anything helpful. Any suggestions?

A lifetime of parenting cannot prepare us for all the challenges we face when our children divorce. In the midst of the emotional turmoil, there is a strong desire to help. We would like to reduce our children's pain and help in practical ways.

Here are what some children have suggested their parents have done to be helpful:

- Keep the situation at an adult-to-adult level. Don't do parent to child.
- Maintain a proper distance. Don't get over involved.
- Play a supportive role. Don't try to take over.
- Know how to be a good listener. Advice may be secondary to good listening skills.
- Some divorced children move back in with their parents. Make sure the expectations are clear beforehand.
- Pray for the circumstances and the people involved. Forgiveness may be hard, but it is important.

These are the main suggestions to parents from children who have been through divorce. Additional concerns for you and your husband may be in relating to the ex-spouse, handling anger and guilt, knowing when to help or not and finding new roles with your grandchildren. The ripple effect of divorce is something that surprises most people, but is particularly important to recognize in close family situations. Ask for help if you get stuck. See Elaine Seppa's book, "When Our Children Divorce."—*Jon Rainbow*

Q: My 16-year-old son wants to get his driving license, but refuses to let us teach him to drive safely. He has been driving farm machinery and trucks in the fields, but has not driven on interstates or in town. He gets upset if we mention enrolling him in a city driving school. He had a minimum course here, but we think he needs more training. He will want to drive to ballgames in Louisville and Lexington. Should we give in?

No, you have a substantial concern that seems realistic. While he is correct to a point, he does not yet know his limitations. He can drive. He knows the basics. But he does not yet know how to manage certain driving situations, such as merging into a busy interstate, driving in four lanes of heavy traffic or following properly in heavy traffic.

He has the basic knowledge, but has not developed the applications in pressure situations. Some driving wisdom comes with experience, but a good specialized education program goes a long way in teaching defensive, safe driving in a variety of situations. Wise driving comes from experience. He can learn from the experience of others (teachers and parents) or he can learn from his own mistakes. Driving mistakes can be serious, even deadly. Insist that he learn the easy way.

If there are no specialized schools nearby, talk to family friends or your insurance agent about options. Usually we parents are too impatient to teach them ourselves, but a bit of tussle and strife is better than a wreck.—*Wade Rowatt*

Family Forum writers are David Garrard, minister to children at St. Matthews Baptist Church in Louisville; James Stillwell, minister to singles at Immanuel Baptist Church in Lexington; Jon Rainbow, a clinical gerontologist and professor at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary; and Wade Rowatt, director of the St. Matthews Pastoral Counseling Center in Louisville. Send questions for Family Forum to Western Recorder, Box 43969, Louisville, KY 40253 or e-mail us at wesrec@ntr.net.



Hectic days offer reminder of true priorities

Last week was a study in contrasts for me—from the quiet reflections on the life and ministry of a friend who died unexpectedly to the festive celebration of a Promise Keepers conference. There also were the usual deadlines, jam-packed family schedule—and even an inquiry about a decades-old rumor about Madalyn Murray O'Hair. Where does one begin? For starters ...

■ **Beware of false rumors.** Exactly 25 years ago this week—on Aug. 1, 1975—the Federal Communications Commission rejected an effort to have religious programming banned from public airwaves. That was the official end of Petition 2493. But you wouldn't know that based on letters still circulated by well-meaning folks in churches, offices and civic clubs.

Somewhere along the way, the legend of Petition 2493 erroneously was linked to O'Hair, an outspoken atheist who led the effort to have prayer banned from public schools in 1963. Although O'Hair never had any connection to the failed FCC petition, the rumor quickly gained a life of its own. The latest version claims the petition would force the "Touched by an Angel" television series off the air—also a false charge.

Even though the rumors aren't true, what's the harm in adding your name to a petition opposing 2493? Just as concerned Christians would check the accuracy of a rumor in a local church rather than spreading gossip, it is essential to take the same precautions when addressing national issues. To do otherwise is to promote gossip and weaken the Christian community's credibility.

■ **Keeping promises.** Ten years ago, Promise Keepers got off to a modest start with a gathering of 72 men led by Bill McCartney. Since that time, the men's ministry has grown into one of the largest movements in evangelical Christian history, reaching more than 3.5 million men and boys.

Despite financial challenges, reduced attendance and occasional outside criticism, Promise Keepers is entering its second decade as a vibrant, valuable men's or-

ganization. That energy and vision was reflected during last weekend's PK conference in Louisville's Freedom Hall. More than 18,000 participants spent the weekend praising God, confessing sin and listening to words of challenge and encouragement from McCartney and others.

Urging everyone in the crowd to seek "a clean heart and a fresh start," Coach Mac said, "Don't leave here with any unconfessed sin." That's a worthy message for any Christian organization to proclaim.

■ **A legacy to cherish.** Two days before Promise Keepers, I traveled to Nashville for the memorial service of Al Shackleford. He died July 23 in an automobile accident.

Al, a longtime Southern Baptist journalist, was a personal encourager to me and many of my peers during our early years in denominational journalism. A fair, balanced reporter and deeply committed Christian, ironically he was most widely known for being fired in 1990 as head of Baptist Press—part of the political fallout from the past two decades of denominational discord.

His dismissal, along with colleague Dan Martin, was among the lowest points in recent convention turmoil. The two were fired without specific charges by convention leaders in a closed-door meeting secured by armed guards.

Shackleford emphasized at the time that his primary concern was the right of Baptists to be informed about denominational issues. "I could have saved my job by compromising my principles but my job wasn't the issue," he said. "It has always been the Baptist right to know."

During Shackleford's memorial service, his pastor recounted that incident, noting that "one of the things that made Al dangerous was that he lived his beliefs."

That was the Al Shackleford I knew and respected. I pray that I can follow that example—whether it's countering false rumors, reporting about major Christian events or honoring the memory of a friend.

STRAIGHT FROM THE EDITOR



Trennis Henderson

Christian higher education—quality counts

By James Taylor

"I am the way, the truth and the life" (John 14:6).

Since there was no concept of zero when the calendar was constructed, the new millennium technically does not occur until Jan. 1, 2001. However, who can argue we stand on the verge of a new day dawning in the midst of rapid technological change? Yet as Christians, we hold to a changeless gospel in changing times.

Jesus said, "I am the way." He didn't say a way or some way or one of many ways, but rather He said "the way." Jesus said it, and through faith I believe it.

Indeed, change itself is rapidly accelerating. The traditional 18- to 21-year-old student constitutes a smaller portion of the total educational community as larger numbers of older adult learners, females and minorities enter the educational market, many through Internet opportunities. Yet the curriculum at many institutions has become narrow, fragmented and insular, without breadth, depth or substance.

Since the average person will change careers five to 10 times, liberal arts education teaches students to think critically, speak logically and persuasively,

write concisely, question assumptions, draw conclusions, manipulate data and, more importantly, to be a valuable team member while being both a leader and a follower.

In the midst of rapid changes, quality, value-centered higher education institutions will not only survive but thrive

and, in my view, flourish since Mom and Dad will continue to send off young Johnny and Suzie for four more years of maturation and socialization. Our Baptist residential institutions will survive, thrive and flourish for the same reason malls are packed even though catalogs and television offer home shopping. Our Baptist colleges are high-tech and high-touch, blending the best in instruction and technology through high expectations and caring concern.

Quality counts. While in Kentucky our private colleges enroll only 12 percent of the higher education population, we grant approximately 30 percent of all the degrees in the state in the pure sciences, math, economics and other key fields, producing keen minds, warm hearts and helping hands. Significant numbers of our alumni also constitute the deacons, lay leadership, pastors, ministers of youth and musicians in our local Kentucky Baptist churches—no small contribution.

Jesus said, "I am the truth." In contrast to current trends, our colleges steadfastly hold to the truth as found in the person of Jesus Christ. We seek to teach students to think clearly, to act purely with honest motives, to love our fellow man sincerely and to trust God securely.

Do our Baptist colleges have faults? Of course. Clearly there are imperfections. But compare our Baptist colleges with the vast, dark subculture soliciting innocent freshmen and others on the basis of seductive drink and drug cultures, sexual preferences and even in some circumstances, satanism. Wake up and see youngsters being robbed of their innocence on many hedonistic campuses. After all, choosing a college has to do with lifelong beliefs, values, careers, goals and, in many instances, selecting one's spouse.

Jesus said, "I am the life." How shallow and unfulfilling life can become without the purpose and hope available through our Christian faith. The education once provided by parents, schools and libraries is now carried largely by the entertainment industry—including MTV and the Internet.

In this ambiguous age, there is no living without the life, no going without the light and no knowing without the truth.



James Taylor is president of Cumberland College in Williamsburg

KENTUCKY

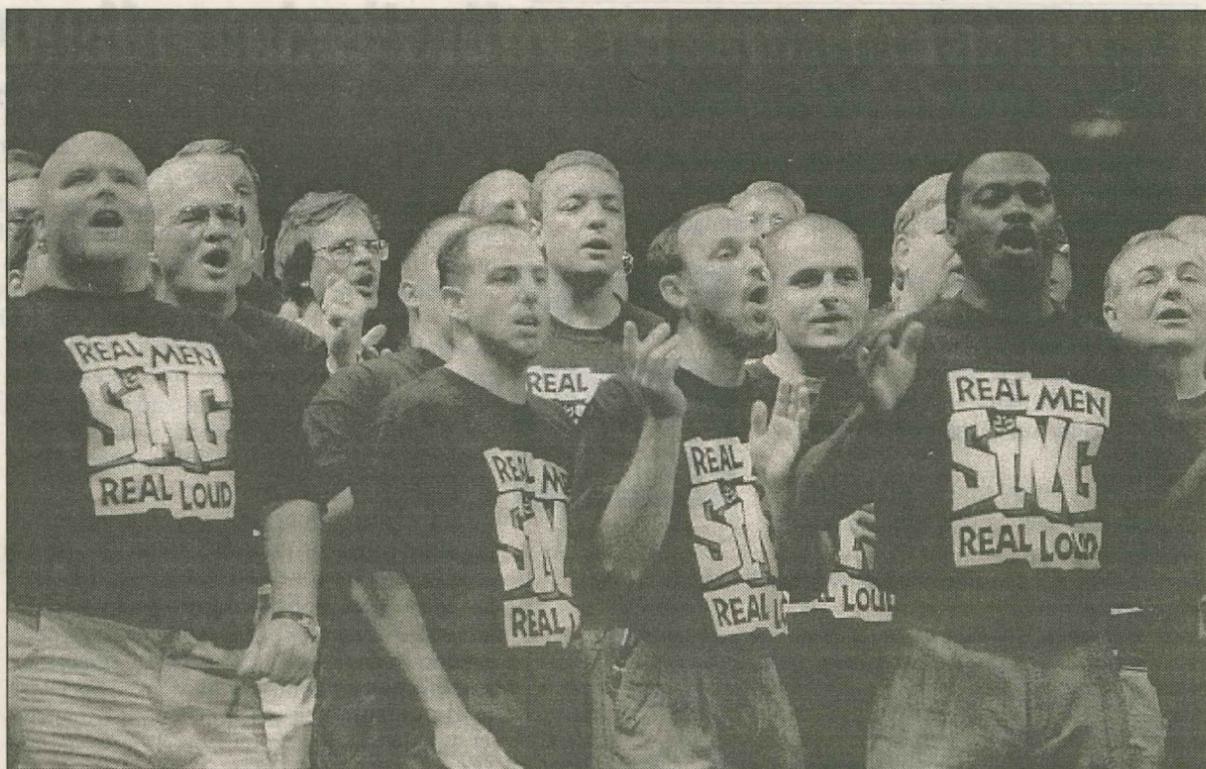
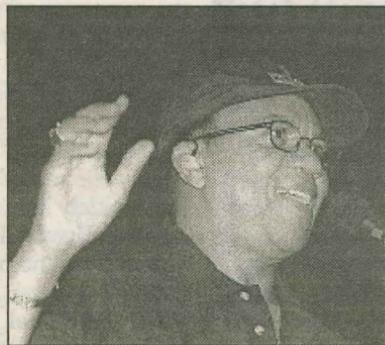


CELEBRATION Promise Keepers from several states convened in Louisville July 28-29 to sing, pray and hear words of challenge and encouragement.

■ Above: Dawson McAllister invites teens and children to sing and hear words of challenge and encouragement.

■ Right: Joseph Garlington urges participants to "bring your lives under the lordship of Jesus Christ."

■ Far right: A men's choir, sporting T-shirts that read "Real Men Sing Real Loud," helps lead in worship. (Photos by David Winfrey)



Louisville PK rally attracts sell-out crowd of 18,000

Continued from page 1

videos and small-group prayer huddles in typical Promise Keepers' style, the Louisville event featured messages by McCartney and other speakers.

James Ryle, one of Promise Keepers' founding board members and McCartney's former pastor, urged participants to run a victorious Christian race.

Holding up a Bible and a pistol, Ryle told the crowd, "One of these is loaded and ready to fire. The other one shoots blanks."

Preaching from Hebrews 12:1-3, he said the keys to successfully starting a race are to get on your mark, get set and go. Noting that man's first mark is the mark of sin inherited from Adam, he said Jesus Christ also offers the mark of forgiveness.

Warning that "our goodness takes us

as far away from God as our evil does," he added, "God does not want you to be good; He wants you to be born again."

Ryle said the keys to getting set are to listen to the right crowd, follow the rigid code and keep one's eyes on the reigning Christ.

"If you listen to losers, you're going to be a loser," he said. "If you listen to champions, you're going to be a champion."

Citing the unwavering commitment and courage of Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego, who refused to bow down before an idol despite the threat of execution, Ryle urged each man present to "be a stand-up man in a bow-down world."

Ryle said following the rigid code involves enduring temptations and tri-

als. "You've got hardships in front of you," he said. "It's not easy following Christ. He is going against the tide of popular culture."

The solution, Ryle said, is keeping one's eyes on Christ. "This is a marathon you are going to run," he emphasized. "It's worth it. Go the distance."

Ryle concluded with a public invitation by holding up the pistol loaded with blanks. Encouraging men to "go to Christ," he shouted, "On your mark. Get set. Go," as he fired the pistol into the air. A total of 425 people responded to the invitation, according to Promise Keepers officials.

Among other speakers:

■ Joe White, president of Kanakuk Camps in Branson, Mo., invited the crowd to join him on an imaginary trip to a dark alley in Jerusalem 2000 years ago to visit a Roman cross builder.

Carrying a log down the arena's center aisle and onto the stage, White used a hatchet, spikes and hammer to fashion a cross as he talked.

Recounting his journey that He was the Son of God, the builder said, "If this man is truly who He says He is, even I have hope."

"This man Jesus claims He will come back to life again," he added. "No man survives the Roman cross."

"If He's lying, you'll never hear this story again. But if this story is true, this is a day that this world will never forget."

"I don't know about you," the cross builder said, "but I'll be around on Sunday; I'll be around to watch."

Affirming that what the cross builder heard was true, White said the greatest sermon Jesus ever preached "was the sermon that He gave with the cross on His back."

"Men, the cross is all about forgiveness," he declared. "A man with a cross on his back has no room for a chip on his shoulder."

■ Dave Stone, associate pastor of Southeast Christian Church in Louisville, said he dreams of a city where the truth is preached, churches are unified, marriages are treasured and the lost are found.

"People are searching for reliable answers," he said. "On matters of eternity, I would rather know the truth than have false hope."

Citing the need for Christian unity, Stone said, "It's time for churches to stop putting up barriers and tear them down. You don't have to be my twin to be my brother."

■ Author and youth speaker Dawson McAllister said the key to effective fatherhood is to train up children in the way they should go.

"It's a calling to be a father," he said, emphasizing that spiritual guidance is essential to prepare children to mature and "walk with God in the middle of a tempting and dangerous world."

In a session targeted to teens and children, McAllister invited young men to publicly nominate their dads for "God's hall of fame for fathers."

"To honor your earthly father is to also honor your Heavenly Father," he said. "Always give him honor and God will honor you."

McCartney concluded the weekend rally with a call for men to pursue lives of nobility. He said nobility involves leadership that reflects excellence, compassion, justice and spiritual integrity.

Noting that the typical church has "only one in 100 men who are truly men of nobility," he said such characteristics must begin at home.

Nobility also "sees the needs in others and responds to it," he said, adding that nobility "is nurtured in the local church."

"God is only asking for one thing—a willing heart," McCartney said. "It's all day, every day."

Calling for men to submit to their pastors' leadership, McCartney invited the pastors to step into the aisles and face the crowd. As scores of pastors stood throughout the arena, the crowd responded with a standing ovation.

"It's time men took responsibility for the welfare of their pastors," McCartney declared. "We should be lifting them up and celebrating them."

"You are not alone," he told the ministers. "We'll be there for you. We love you and we respect you."

Promise Keepers celebrate decade of ministry

LOUISVILLE—The year 2000 marks a decade of ministry for the Promise Keepers movement.

Founded in 1990 by former University of Colorado football coach Bill McCartney, the Colorado men's ministry has hosted nearly 100 stadium and arena events that have attracted more than 3.5 million men and boys. The ministry's primary goal is to "unite men to be godly influences in their world" through personal spiritual growth and accountability.

What is the key to Promise Keepers' success? "The Lord just did it," McCartney said. "It's remarkable it has unfolded like this."

Acknowledging that "we've been on some rabbit trails" as leaders have sought to prioritize ministry goals, McCartney said the movement's impact has surpassed his expectations.

James Ryle, a founding member of the Promise Keepers, noted that the ministry's initial dream "of thousands of men gathering in a stadium to glorify God and be challenged sounded absurd." He said that vision became reality when it connected with men on the

grassroots level.

Christian recording artist Wintley Phipps is a frequent musical guest at Promise Keepers rallies. "There is nothing else like it where men come to celebrate their love and commitment to God," he said.

Highlighting the role of music and worship at Promise Keepers events, Phipps said, "My only goal and my only focus is to be an ambassador of the presence of Christ. There is nothing in the world like the sense of God's presence."

When conference participants "taste God's presence and long for it again," Phipps added, "the dry seasons of life will call for spiritual rain."

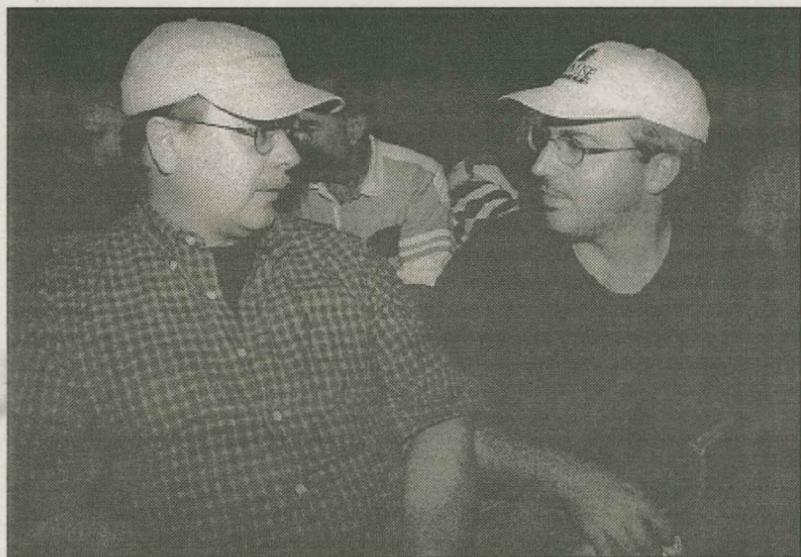
As Promise Keepers enters its second decade of ministry, McCartney's next goal is to see the organization make a global impact. With recent conferences already held in Mexico, Puerto Rico and South Africa, future plans include a global "sacred assembly" next year in Jerusalem.

"I want to cast a vision around the world," McCartney said. "But we still haven't scratched the surface."



McCartney

KENTUCKY



DECISION TIMES Throughout the two-day Promise Keepers meeting, organizers encouraged men to discuss what they were hearing with other men. The organization encourages the use of accountability groups to help men keep their commitments. ■ Above: C.J. Victor (left) and Shane Embry, of Union Baptist Church in Northern Kentucky, discuss the previous speaker's comments on parenting and families. ■ Below: Three men form a prayer circle during the decision time Friday night.

Kentucky men hope weekend results in long-term impact

By David Winfrey
News Director

LOUISVILLE—Several men who attended the Promise Keepers rally in Louisville said they came to charge their spiritual batteries so that they can make a difference when they return home.

"Less of me and more of Jesus. That's definitely what I want to change," said Warren Williams, a member of Dixie Park Full Gospel Baptist Church in Berea.

Like Williams, several men said they saw the event as an opportunity to deepen their Christian faith.

C.J. Victor, a member of Union Baptist Church in Northern Kentucky, said he went to the event to see what Christian fellowship felt like among more than 18,000 people.

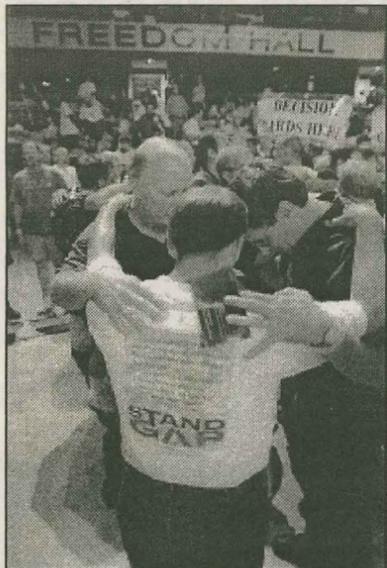
"You could feel the Holy Spirit moving throughout the whole crowd, and it's just about to lift the roof off the place," said Victor, 44, who lives in Hebron. "There's no way to leave here the same way you walked in."

Tom Curry, pastor of Parkland Baptist Church in Louisville, said he enjoyed the behind-the-scenes perspective he gained as a member of the all-male choir that participated in the worship. "What started out as a free ticket turned into a real blessing," said Curry, who praised Promise Keepers' high level of organization while still keeping the experiences authentic.

"These people know what they're doing," he said. Organizers maintained a "sense of anticipation that God's going to show up and it's going to be wonderful."

Curry said he also was glad to learn how to strengthen men's ministry work at Parkland Baptist.

"I think it's going to affect my worship," he said, adding that he's been encouraged to be more creative on Sunday mornings. Noting that if Promise Keepers speakers can use a starter's gun and a 400-pound cross to illustrate their messages, "It's probably OK to get out of the box (pulpit)."



Hap Strunk, a deacon at First Baptist Church of Whitley City, called the meeting "a wonderful time to renew your commitment and have your own personal revival."

He said his church brought 12 men to Louisville and he hopes the experience will result in more of them being involved in personal evangelism.

"There's a lost world out there, and it could be changed one (person) at a time," Strunk said. "If each person here could go home and find one lost person and lead them to Christ, see what could be done?"

Promise Keepers spokesman Steve Chavis said the organization intends for participants to take their experiences back to their churches where they can have long-term impacts on their communities.

In Louisville, Chavis said, PK appears to be just one aspect of a list of spiritual events that are uniting local churches. He cited the previous Tony Evans crusade and an upcoming meeting of the National Seminar for Fathers. "It seems like there's something going on in Louisville, occasions to work together as churches," Chavis said. "That's really the hope for Louisville, and we share that."

KENTUCKY BAPTIST MINISTERS' ANNUAL



September 18 & 19, 2000

Ben Hawes State Park Golf Course
Owensboro, Ky.

Cost: \$65 (includes green fees for 2 days of golf, awards and banquet Monday, 6 p.m.)

Call the state park at (270) 685-2011 to reserve your Monday tee time. Tuesday will be a "Shotgun" start, beginning at 8 a.m.

Motel Accommodations: Sleep Inn (double room: \$54.94 plus tax; reservations under "Kentucky Baptist Convention." Call by Sept. 6)

Registration for Kentucky Baptist Ministers' Golf Tournament

Name _____

Church _____

Church Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Ministerial Position _____

Enclosed _____ \$15 non-refundable deposit due with registration
(balance due at tournament)

_____ \$65 (full amount)

Please mail to: The Youth and Recreation Department, Kentucky Baptist Convention, PO Box 43433, Louisville, KY 40253

Registration Deadline: Sept. 13



RESIDENT GRANDPARENTS Ken and Beth Curry, Campers on Mission volunteers, serve as resident grandparents and help instruct during crafts time at Mission Adventure Camps (Photo by Dwayne Doyle)

Brotherhood camps seeking to train next generation in missions

CEDARMOORE—Combining adventure sports with missions education, Missions Adventure Camp's director says he thinks the camp has turned the corner on a program that in recent years has suffered from low attendance.

The Kentucky Baptist Convention's Brotherhood department sponsors the camps, previously known as Camp Rabro. That name alluded to Brotherhood's ties to RAs, or Royal Ambassadors, the Southern Baptist missions education program.

Camp coordinator Dwayne Doyle said the new name intends to cast the net wider for churches that don't have RA programs but do want to teach young boys about living a missions lifestyle.

"It comes from a mission statement that we've developed," Doyle said. "Missions Adventure Camp exists to present the gospel to all campers so that they may become well-informed, responsible followers of Christ, having a Christ-like concern for all people, learning how the message of Christ is carried around the world, working with others in sharing Christ and keeping themselves clean and healthy in mind and body."

The program offers three lengths of stays, depending on age: Three week-long camps for 4th-8th graders and two half-week camps and two father-son overnight stays for boys in grades 1-3.

Doyle said any church youth group can benefit from the camp's focus. "We seek to teach missions as a way of life and not just a location."

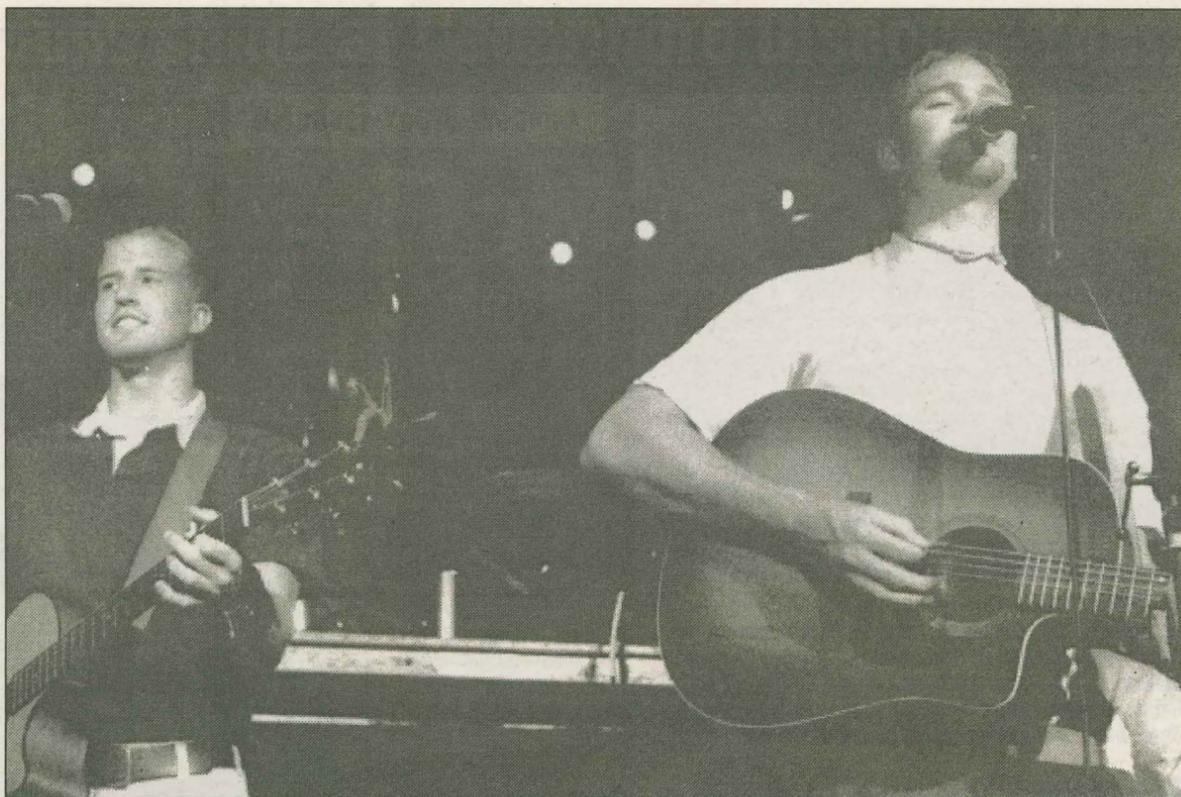
Disaster relief volunteers prepare and serve meals, teaching about their work. Missionaries are on site for the week-long program, which includes mission work time.

The total program's attendance reached 245 this year, up from an all-time low last year of about 200 campers. Doyle said. Some of the increase is due to scholarships for youth through programs such as the Angel Tree project for at-risk inner-city kids. But Doyle added attendance also rose because of the effort's new direction and commitment from Kentucky Baptist Convention department directors.

Doyle admitted that Missions Adventure Camp faces two challenges. "One is overcoming our history." During the 1990s, the camp had a new director and different staff almost every year, he said. "I'm committed to being here for a while. I want to see this turn around."

The second challenge, he said, involves getting the word out about what the camp has to offer. Today's youth have a variety of options, Doyle noted, including such programs as YMCA or 4-H camps

"But we do have something more than just your civic camp," he said. "We offer camping with a purpose, and that purpose is to grow the next generation of on-mission Christians."



CAMP SCENES Organizers say response to *Crossings at the Creek* has been so positive that about half of next year's spots already will be reserved by the time the camp closes this week. ■ Above: Blake Booth (left) and Scott Brignac of Louisiana lead worship during an evening worship service. ■ Below: Tai Yarbrough counsels a camper learning to ski. (Photos by David Winfrey)

Crossings director pleased with first year

JONATHAN CREEK—Chest-pounding, high-energy music greets the teenagers as they enter the building for the evening worship service.

Lights and smoke surround the youth as the worship team leads about 250 students in singing songs to and about God.

After about 30 minutes of music, *Crossings at the Creek's* camp preacher Ron Turner leads the teenagers to hold their Bibles over their heads as he says, "Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path; boom chaka, laka."

Turner tells the story of Noah, connecting Noah's close relationship with God with the obedience to build an ark before God flooded the earth. Turner asks the audience members to analyze whether they are in constant relationship with God or have "a pause-button relationship."

"Because God and Noah were tight, Noah did what was right," he says.

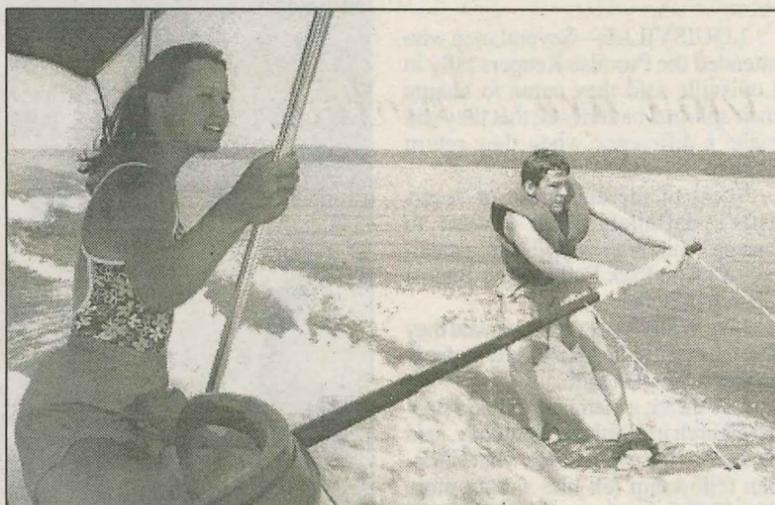
After the worship and invitation is given, a teenage boy tells his church that he has decided to become a Christian.

Amid the water sports, messy games and silly skits, organizers say that the teenager's decision represents the real purpose for Christian camping at Jonathan Creek and Cedarmore this summer.

Combined attendance is up at the camps, and organizers say they are optimistic that it will be even higher in 2001.

The new camp experience at Jonathan Creek called "Crossings at the Creek" has been successful in attendance and spiritual impact, according to organizers.

Jonathan Creek director Ron Tipton said the recreation equipment and other attractions of summer camp are part of the tools of ministry for sharing the gospel message with youth who aren't Christians and encouraging those who are to grow in their faith. "To be able to introduce them to Jesus Christ and say,



Crossings at the Creek

Where: Jonathan Creek
Duration: Eight one-week sessions
Cost: \$265 per camper
Attendance: 1,500 campers from grades 7-12
Scripture basis: John 5:24

"Here's the things God wants to do in your life. Will you let Him?"

For *Crossings*, the big attraction is water sports on Kentucky Lake. Fifteen lifeguards and staff oversee six wave runners, two ski boats, canoes, a pontoon boat and a water trampoline.

The opportunity to do something new attracted the attention of Allyson Johnson, youth minister at First Baptist Church of Hornbeck, La. She and nine adults drove 12 hours with 41 teenagers for a recent week at *Crossings*.

"We got together and prayed about it and said, 'Let's try something different,'" she said, adding that two youth already had made first-time professions of faith in Jesus.

Tipton says he's grateful for the churches that have been praying for the

campers. "I know what is happening at *Crossings* is because people and churches have been praying," he said. "People have been open to God doing a great work in their lives. ... They've met God in such a way that it's going to change their lives forever."

Rob Turner, who was camp minister for half of *Crossings's* eight weeks, praised the camp's freedom of worship. "The camps I've been a part of before have been very program oriented."

For example, Turner said, one evening he felt led to read Scripture and sit down. "God literally camped out in the room," he said, adding that a preacher's kid professed faith in Christ that night. "I'm not so sure in many ministries if we realize the power of His Word that is applied by the Holy Spirit."

Camp counselor Kristen Keeling said she's learned how much hard work goes into being a part of staff. "As a camper, you don't see all the hard work that goes into it, the preparation."

Among the challenges is getting emotionally attached to kids they might see only one week of their lives, said Keeling, 20, of Bardstown. "You just have to let them go, knowing some of them you'll see again and some of them you won't."

KENTUCKY

Son Teams shine at Cedarmore Discover Youth Camps

By David Winfrey
News Director

CEDARMORE—With every week full, Discover Youth Weeks at Cedarmore continue to prove their popularity among Kentucky Baptist churches, according to Tom Smoot.

"We are busting at the seams," said Smoot, Kentucky Baptist Convention youth ministry director and coordinator for the camp at Cedarmore. "We could add more people if we had more facilities, and that's a good problem to have."

This week is the last of seven week-long camps at Cedarmore for youth in grades 7-12. By the end, Smoot said, total attendance for the camp should be about 2,200.

This year's theme has been "Xtreme Love" based on Ephesians 3:17-19.

"They're encouraging the young people to know that God's love for them is more extreme than anything they can encounter here on earth," Smoot said. "It is more powerful and broader and wider than any temptation that will confront them in high school or life beyond."

For the first five weeks, counselors have recorded 52 first-time profes-

Discover Youth Weeks

Where: Cedarmore
Duration: Seven one-week sessions
Cost: \$146 per camper
Attendance: 2,200 campers from grades 7-12
Theme: Xtreme Love, based on Ephesians 3:17-19

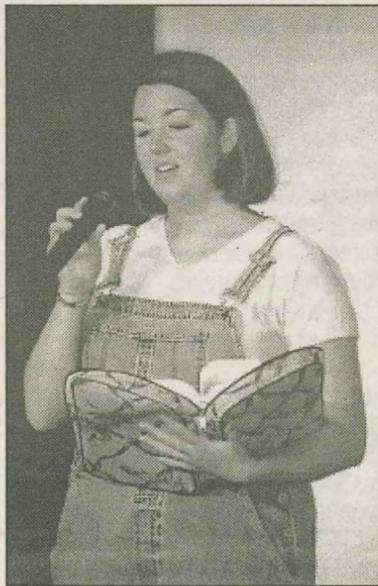
sions of faith in Jesus, he said.

The Cedarmore camp is a showcase for Son Teams, the five creative ministry teams comprised of collegiate Baptist Student Union members. From singing and puppets to sports and skits, churches continually cite their creativity and energy as reasons they keep coming back, Smoot said.

"Churches come back because of the time and effort that the Son Teams put into the lives of the young people," he said. "They really make it happen."

Smoot said he is encouraged by the churches' continuing support for the program.

"I have had many people tell me that there is no other camp of the quality that ours is for the price anywhere,

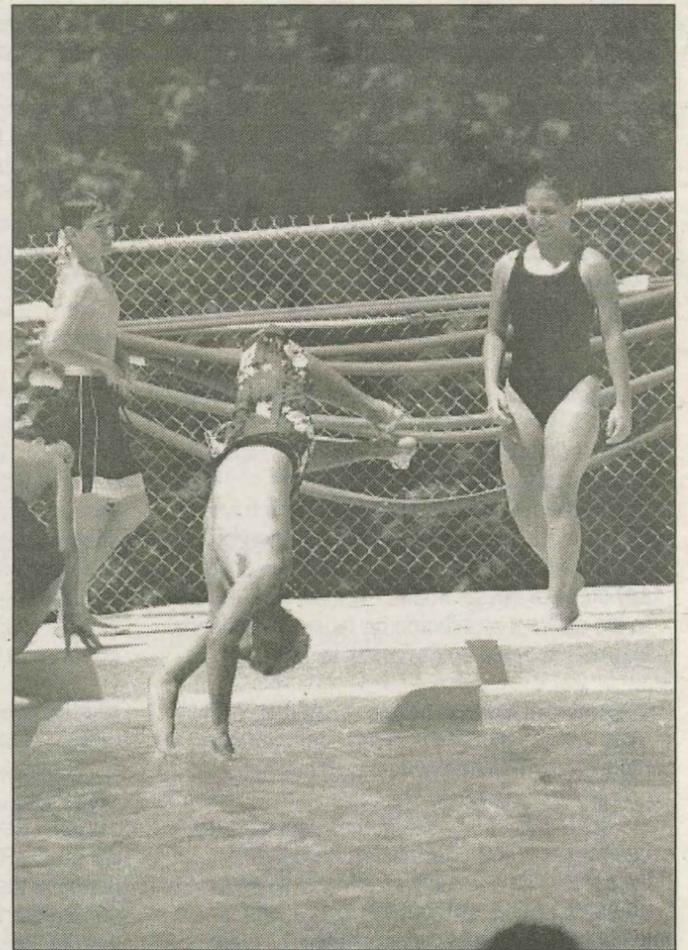


period," he said. A week of camp at Discover Youth Week costs \$146.

This week, the camp is continuing a new program started last year, called "Discover Missions Week." Campers are involved in 15 projects on the grounds and in surrounding communities, from house rehabilitation work to "random acts of kindness," such as washing car windshields or handing out water.

This year the Son Teams had a week without camp because a youth music week was being held at Cedarmore. They filled the time by traveling to Boston for a sports camp in cooperation with a church that has been involved with the Kentucky Baptist partnership with New England Baptists.

Next year, the camp will expand



from seven weeks to eight weeks. Smoot said that's a good thing, given its popularity.

"The challenge is to encourage the Kentucky Baptist Assemblies to renovate and enlarge our facilities so we can grow together," he said.

Smoot also praised Cedarmore director Jack Ellerbrook. "He and his staff at Cedarmore have been very, very cooperative in anything and everything that we've wanted to do. They make it easy for us to have a quality camp."

CEDARMORE ■ Above left: Jill Toller, a member of the Son Praise creative worship team, leads a Bible study at Discover Youth Camp. ■ Above right: A dip in the pool is welcome relief from the summer heat. ■ Left: Campers learn ministry skills in a puppetry workshop. ■ Bottom: Campers discuss their Christian faith during a group Bible study. (Photos by David Babb)

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NATIONAL NOTES

States may copy Vermont's gay unions law.

At least seven states are exploring laws that would create civil union benefits for gay and lesbian couples after Vermont became the first state to offer marriage-like rights to homosexual partners. Vermont's law, which went into effect July 1, grants same-sex couples rights similar to marriage, such as property and inheritance benefits. Couples who receive a "civil union" license, however, do not receive any federal benefits, and the arrangement is not recognized in other states.

House gives pregnant pause on executions.

The U.S. House of Representatives approved without opposition July 25 a ban on executions of pregnant women. The House voted 417-0 for the Innocent Child Protection Act, which would block any U.S. jurisdiction from carrying out a death sentence on a woman carrying a child "at any stage of development." The bill would extend to the states a prohibition on federal executions that was adopted by Congress in 1994.

Cereal maker apologizes for Bibles.

General Mills has apologized in advance for including the Bible on CD-ROMs in cereal boxes headed to grocery store shelves. The Bible is included on the CD-ROMs along with games such as Clue, Lego Creator and Carmen Sandiego Word Detective. The company said the Bible ended up on the CD-ROM "without our knowledge or consent," Associated Press reported. "While inclusion of the Bible may be seen as added value by some, it is the company's policy not to advance any particular set of religious beliefs."

Religious liberty bill passes Congress.

A bill giving greater protection to religious organizations in zoning disputes awaits President Clinton's signature after being passed by the House and the Senate. The Religious Land Use and Institutionalized Persons Act gives religious institutions greater power in zoning disputes with local governments. Governments must prove a "compelling interest" in order to restrict the use, destruction or building of churches. It also gives greater leeway to prison inmates to practice their faith as long as it does not undermine security.

Posting "In God We Trust" encouraged.

The House passed a bill July 24 encouraging display of "In God We Trust," the national motto, in public buildings. The non-binding measure passed by voice vote, with only one lawmaker speaking against it. "In God We Trust" was made the official national motto in 1956 by President Eisenhower. The phrase appears above the speaker's dais in the House and over the entrance to the Senate chamber.

Abstinence group barred from schools.

A group advocating sexual abstinence and linked to the Unification Church has been barred from presenting its curriculum in Chicago public schools. Several groups, including Jesse Jackson's Rainbow/PUSH Coalition, have opposed the program, saying it is based on a curriculum that is unsound and targets black communities with a message of "fear and shame." Others have expressed concern that the involvement of the Unification Church members violates the separation of church and state.

A golden opportunity

I have been receiving more and more invitations to 50th wedding anniversary celebrations. Recently my wife and I attended two in the same weekend. What a reason to celebrate. What an inspiration to all of the family and friends of the honored couple. What an achievement. What a legacy!

Now, more than 50 years after the burst of postwar weddings, many couples are celebrating their golden anniversaries. These special celebrations are keeping the party busier than ever. Bakeries have increased their stock of No. 50 ornaments and are selling more multitiered cakes with gold-tinted roses. Couples are renewing their wedding vows as part of the celebrations.

Many of the receptions are being held in the churches of the honorees. I like what I heard one couple share about building a lasting marriage relationship. They said, "It takes perseverance and prayer."

A golden wedding anniversary provides a golden opportunity for you to do something really special, unique and lasting as a tribute to those you admire, love and respect. While visiting with a pastor friend recently, he shared how he and his wife were going to establish a schol-

arship fund in honor of his parents' 50th wedding anniversary. What a great idea!

By making a charitable gift to commemorate this special occasion in the lives of these special people, he and his wife will be creating a thoughtful tribute while furthering a cause in which they believe. The parents being honored, and the children paying tribute, are graduates of the Kentucky Baptist college where the student scholarships will be granted. Other family and friends can make additional gifts to the scholarship fund now and in the future. These gifts will live on and enrich the lives of countless others.

Why don't you consider this kind of tribute for your parents, grandparents, sibling, pastor and wife or some other special couple in your life? We would be honored to assist you in some creative ideas for remembering others. Your gift can take various forms and serve various purposes. So, take advantage of this golden opportunity. Call us toll-free.

Barry Allen is president of the Kentucky Baptist Foundation, 10605 Shelbyville Road, Louisville, KY 40223; (888) 254-5701

KENTUCKY BAPTIST FOUNDATION



Barry Allen

Health experts say media violence affecting children

WASHINGTON (BP)—Public health experts went on record in opposition to some of the claims of the entertainment industry regarding media violence.

In a statement released on Capitol Hill, officials with the American Medical Association and three other organizations said more than 1,000 studies point to a "causal connection between media violence and aggressive behavior in some children."

The public health community has concluded "viewing entertainment violence can lead to increases in aggressive attitudes, values and behavior, particularly in children."

The study noted that some entertainment business spokesmen contend media violence is harmless because no studies demonstrate a connection with aggressiveness in children. They also argue that children recognize television programming and movies to be fantasy. "They are wrong on both counts," the statement said.

Though the impact of viewing violence will vary among children, the effects, nevertheless, "are measurable and long-lasting," the groups said. Among these:

■ "Children exposed to violent programming at a young age have a higher tendency for violent and aggressive behavior later in life than children who are not so exposed.

■ "Children exposed to violence are more likely to assume that acts of violence are acceptable behavior.

■ "Viewing violence can lead to emotional desensitization towards violence in real life. ... (and) decrease the likelihood that one will take action on behalf of a victim when violence occurs."

In addition to the AMA, representatives of the American Academy of Pediatrics, American Psychological Association and American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry endorsed the statement.

The average American child watches TV as much as four hours a day and typically plays video games or spends time on the Internet at least another hour daily, they said.

Health officials also expressed special concern about video games. Early studies indicate their "negative impact may be significantly more severe" than that produced by TV, movies or music, according to the statement.

CONFERENCE ON CULTS

Monday, August 14, 2000

High Street Baptist Church, 7:00 p.m.-9:15 p.m. (EDT)
102 Bourne Avenue, Somerset, Kentucky

Tuesday, August 15, 2000

Erlanger Baptist Church, 7:00 p.m.-9:15 p.m. (EDT)
116 Commonwealth Avenue, Erlanger, Kentucky

- ▶ **Witnessing to Jehovah's Witnesses** - Joe Kreisle
- ▶ **Witnessing to New Age Movement** - Don Metcalf
- ▶ **Witnessing to the Occult** - Danny Zickefoose
- ▶ **Witnessing to Mormons** - Jack Oliver

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www.kybaptist.org/conferenceoncults.htm

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MISSIONS

Evangelists discuss future despite Graham's absence

By Yonat Shimron
Raleigh (N.C.) News & Observer

AMSTERDAM, The Netherlands (RNS)—Roger Hartmann, a 26-year-old furniture-maker from Germany, converted to Christianity after hearing evangelist Billy Graham preach in Essen seven years ago.

So when he heard that Graham was inviting young evangelists from all over the world to a conference designed to teach them how to spread the Christian faith, he filled out all the applications, with the hopes he would see what he called his "spiritual father" once again.

"When you hear Billy Graham talk, you know he's a person who knows life," said Hartmann, who lives in Braunschweig. "He's rich in experience. I feel like he knows what he's talking about."

But Hartmann and 10,000 other evangelists from every corner of the globe never got to see the white-haired evangelist with fierce blue eyes and chiseled chin.

Graham announced prior to the conference that he was too weak to make the trip to Amsterdam in person. A planned greeting via satellite was cancelled at the last minute too. A statement from his publicist said Graham lacked the strength to speak to a camera from Rochester, Minn., where he has been an outpatient at the Mayo Clinic receiving therapy for a condition in which fluids collect on the brain.

His son, Franklin, filled in with a previously prepared statement from his father.

But the cancellation foreshadowed an organizational succession that has been expected for years. The 81-year-old Graham still might preach one day, but the conference offered the first clear signal that his era has come and gone.

Even without Graham as its star vehicle, the conference opened with the fanfare befitting an ambitious event, five years in the making at a cost of \$40 million.

An African children's choir sang and danced. Photos of people around the globe flashed on giant video screens. And representatives from each continent got up on stage to tell moving stories of how Christ had changed their lives.

Approximately 10,000 participants who had assembled, mostly from poor developing countries, said they weren't disappointed.

"We really appreciate that Billy Graham managed to pull this off even though he wasn't feeling well," said Munetsi Jeki, a 32-year-old church deacon from Zimbabwe. "We might never have had a chance to attend such a relevant conference. We are all praying for him that he gets better."

In the days leading up to the conference, the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association proved once again that when it comes to putting together a world event, few groups can match its organizational skills and

its commitment to mobilizing the world Christian community.

The association is not only paying the way for participants traveling from developing countries, its staff and volunteers also met them at the Amsterdam airport, bused them to the conference center and registered them with an efficiency that would impress business schools.

At the conference center in the southern part of Amsterdam, each participant received a plastic wristband with the Amsterdam 2000 logo, a zippered black tote bag with a program folder, and two white, button-down shirts.

Many evangelists, particularly those who cannot afford hotels, were then routed to a makeshift dormitory 25 miles away in Utrecht.

Medical teams met them at the site and used clothes were donated to them, courtesy of Samaritan's Purse, the international relief organization run by Franklin Graham.

Participants said they came because they hope to learn practical ways to make the Christian faith attractive to new generations.

"The world is changing," said Abilio Silva of Portugal, a 30-year-old electrical engineer who works with several churches. "How do you say 'Jesus loves you' to a person who lives only with computers? I want to learn to be more effective."

Others said they were struggling with regional problems particular to their corner of the world.

One man from Zambia said he

needed advice in opening a Christian center for poor single mothers and street children. Another man from Myanmar (Burma) said he needs help in spreading the faith among the country's 135 different ethnic groups.

And Baiju Gavit of Bombay, India, said it was nearly impossible to talk about Christianity among fundamentalist Hindus who portray Christianity as a corrupt Western religion.

"I'm hoping some kind of breakthrough can be spelled out here in evangelism and missions," said Gavit, who serves as a bishop in the Church of North India, a union of the major denominations there.

They all agreed that as Christians their first obligation is to focus on evangelism—that is, spreading the faith to non-believers.

Most participants said they needed to evangelize because Jesus made it a priority during His life and asked His disciples to do the same. Others said they are convinced Christianity is society's only hope.

"Whatever evil we experience in the world today is the result of the sinfulness of man," said Reuben Ezemadu, a participant from Nigeria. "The only way to change that is from the inside. What we're talking about is the inner conviction that can bring about a changed society. The gospel is the vehicle."

That statement is one with which Graham himself might have heartily agreed.

New Campus Crusade leader named

AMSTERDAM, The Netherlands (RNS)—Stephen Douglass, the executive vice president and director of U.S. ministries for Campus Crusade, was named to succeed co-founder Bill Bright as leader of the organization.

Bright, 78, said he will retire on or before Aug. 1, 2001, as president but will continue to serve as chairman of the board of directors.

Douglass, 55, said he does not plan to make wholesale changes in the ministry, but sees its potential for making greater use of innovation to accomplish its evangelistic goals.

He said he hopes to foster greater development of Internet sites for "seekers" as well as for Christians who want to enhance their faith.

Bright said he will continue to promote fasting and prayer for spiritual revival, keep working on 10 books he is writing and expand training opportunities for Campus Crusade staff.

Bright and his wife, Vonette, co-founded Campus Crusade in 1951. It began as a ministry to college students, but now also includes more than 60 ministries involving inner cities, athletes, the military, families, executives and prisons.

A summer of missions

For many students, summer vacation means getting a job and working to help pay for tuition, room and board, books and incidentals. Summer also means time to relax on the beach, in the mountains or just at home eating good home-cooked meals.

Many Cumberland College students are engaged in such activities this summer, but more than 80 of our students are involved in summer missions. They have opportunities to relax and visit other locales, but their primary purpose is to minister in Christ's name.

Twenty Cumberland students journeyed overseas for mission assignments of varying lengths of stay. Four students traveled to Sarajevo, Bosnia, earlier in the summer to help the war-torn city rebuild physically and spiritually. Two students ministered in Ghana, Africa, for two weeks at a Baptist medical center teaching church leaders the "True Love Waits" program and working on some small construction projects.

Two students are performing as part of a drama team in Taiwan, presenting the gospel in an engaging format. They also are seeking opportunities to distribute literature to explain the gospel.

Fifteen Cumberland College students are ministering through Cumberland's own Mountain Outreach and Appalachian Ministries programs. Through their efforts houses are being built, children are hearing the gospel and people's lives are being changed.

Fourteen students are serving through the Kentucky Baptist Convention. Cumberland College students are part of Son Bound, Son Celebration, Son Praise and Son Share. Others are ministering through Summer Impact and through service in Florida and in Adirondack, N.Y.

Still other Cumberland students are serving through the Southern Baptist North American Mission Board. Several of our students found places of service themselves in local churches and Christian camps.

When these students return in less than a month, their experiences will teach others about missions, their work will have a lasting impact in the lives of those whom they touched and their enthusiasm for God's work will encourage others to go next summer.

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

CUMBERLAND COLLEGE



OK, now what?

Several Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children staffers have been on mission trips this summer. Whether it is Cleveland, Russia, Africa or Mexico, a common characteristic of summertime missionaries is that "OK, now what?" look they have when they get back to the office. After months of anticipation, the event has occurred. In many cases the trip was life-changing. It isn't always easy to get back in a routine after such an experience.

It sure wasn't a mission trip, but the contract roller coaster KBHC was on last month certainly has left some of us with that "OK, now what?" look. Much has been decided about who we will continue to care for, but much is still undetermined, including the lawsuit against us by the American Civil Liberties Union. What has not changed is our family-values stand. We were ready to close programs and let go of hundreds of valuable employees rather than compromise.

I am so grateful to those of you who contacted the governor and your legislators on behalf of the children and teens we serve. I'm also grateful to those who called, e-mailed and wrote words of encouragement to me, our board and

staff. Thank you for praying. It made all the difference in the world.

To answer the "now what?" question, I return to our mission which is to provide care and hope to hurting families and children through Christ-centered ministries. We will continue to care for children and teenagers from troubled backgrounds. We will continue to counsel individuals, couples and families through 22 Cornerstone Counseling sites. We will continue to offer compassionate assistance to women facing unplanned pregnancies. We are striving to be the best stewards of our resources and opportunities.

The contract controversy was a distraction, but the kids were always the focus. Now we are sharpening the focus even more to do things better and in some cases, differently.

Pray for us and continue to support us with your dollars, donations and prayers. We need you now more than ever.

Bill Smithwick is president of Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children, 10801 Shelbyville Road, Middletown, KY 40243. Call (800) 456-1386. KBHC's Internet address is: <http://www.iglou.com/kbhc/>

HOMES FOR CHILDREN



Bill Smithwick

RESOURCES

Is your church feeding young adults' spiritual hunger?

GLORIETA, N.M. (BP)—God has posted billboard-size signs indicating people are hungry for faith, but Christians aren't getting the message, according to a consultant on worship and culture.

"Whatever we are doing in the

church, we have a decision to make. We can settle for the safe, or we can start reading the signs God has put up—billboard size—on the highway of faith," said Sally Morgenthaler, a Southern Baptist musician and president of Worship Evangelism Concepts in Littleton, Colo.

Morgenthaler discussed cultural spirituality during a recent church music leadership conference sponsored by LifeWay Christian Resources of the Southern Baptist Convention.

God has created a hunger for spiritual things that is unprecedented, Morgenthaler said.

The signs "just don't look like what we are used to," she said, citing the wide range of religions, non-Christian spiritual activities and entertainment-based in supernatural stories that youth and young adults explore. "It is a new, new world."

On the surface, people might appear not to be hungry for God, but closer observation indicates people are hungrier than ever for a personal relationship with God, Morgenthaler said.

"Many of us were trained in college and seminary to minister in that world that no longer exists," she said. "What did Jesus do in a world of change? The Pharisees were in a changing world, and they didn't like it."

Citing Matthew 16:2-3, she referenced Jesus' words: "You know how to interpret the appearance of the sky, but you cannot interpret the signs of the times."

She said today's postmodern adults, born between 1963 and 1980, grew up with divorce, day care, digitalization, debt and downsizings.

"They are the first generation that people took pills not to have," Morgenthaler said. "And despite the fact that we are a culture searching for something outside of ourselves, approximately 15 percent of that generation goes to church."

Five hundred years ago, God was the center of truth and meaning and 300 years ago human reason became the center of truth and meaning, Morgenthaler said.

"Today," she said, "relationship is at

the center of truth and meaning. To be a part of the postmodern generation means truth is something you and your friends create. Postmoderns crave mystery and are supernaturalists.

"Since this generation defines itself by relationships above anything else, they wonder if we, the church, are really who we say we are."

Ministers of an older generation have a difficult time understanding today's postmodern adults, she said.

"We have a hard time loving this world. We are enamored with the way we've always done it. But it's time to swallow our pride and our fixation on an earlier decade or century."

Are you postmodern?

GLORIETA, N.M. (BP)—Culturally speaking, are you a pre-modern person in a postmodern world?

Sally Morgenthaler, a consultant on worship in culture, offers the following test to find out. As you answer the following questions, give yourself a point for each "true" answer.

- You would rather log on to eBay than wade through the classifieds.
 - You write 50 e-mails for every one letter.
 - Your set of values is always open to suggestion.
 - You choose products that have as many "bells and whistles" as possible.
 - You watch television as much for the commercials as for the programs.
 - You're hooked up to radio, television, VCR, CD and computer 75 percent of the time you are awake.
 - You'd rather watch "X-Files" than "Diagnosis Murder."
 - You consider yourself more spiritual than religious.
 - Having mastered the act of channel surfing, you have no problem watching several programs at once.
- Morgenthaler's scoring scale:
 0 points = Ancient.
 1-3 points = Pre-modern.
 4-6 points = Modern (an '80s person).
 7-8 points = On the cusp of postmodernism.
 9 points = A true postmodernist.

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A day of fun

Each summer we plan two fun trips for our faculty and staff children. This is done primarily because most of our faculty and staff are so involved with our students, often it is difficult to find time for family. Additionally, our faculty/staff salaries are modest, so for some the expense of a summer trip or two becomes financially challenging.

The first trip this summer was in June when several of our staff children and their parents went to Newport to the new aquarium. That group left our campus early in the morning to make the three-hour trip to Northern Kentucky. Upon arrival, they ate sack lunches that had been prepared in our kitchen and then visited the aquarium. The youngsters were excited to see all the fish, especially the sharks. I have been to the aquarium twice, and the penguin exhibit is a special attraction for all the children. The trip home was uneventful except for the stop at a food court, where everyone was provided an evening meal.

The second trip was to Mammoth Cave last weekend. We left at 8:30 a.m. for the three-and-one-half hour trip. We arrived in time to eat our sack lunches. Then everyone had time to visit the gift shop and walk around.

About half of our group was scheduled for the three-hour cave tour. I originally was going to do this, but decided to go on the shorter tour so I also could go on the Green River boat ride. We waved goodbye to the first group as they followed the park rangers. I was a little concerned about one or two of the smaller children, but was assured they would be OK. As I have gotten older, I do not have as much confidence in the younger children. However, they are a lot tougher than I think they are.

About 45 minutes later, the second group boarded buses to go on our tour. I had one of my grandsons with me. He did not understand just how all of this came about, but for a 7-year-old, he did realize he was seeing things you do not see every day.

After the tour, we boarded park buses again and rode back to the visitors' center, where we quickly got back on our bus and went to the area where the boat ride was to take place. After boarding the boat, I realized I had taken this trip before. About 20 years

ago while we were still living in Ohio, my family and I spent two days at Mammoth Cave. While I did not remember any of the details, I did remember being on the boat.

Shortly after we left the loading area, the kids were excited to see a deer foraging along the river bank. We saw five deer, several turtles, birds, ducks and a muskrat. Thirty minutes down the river, the boat turned around and headed back to the dock.

We got back on our bus and returned to the visitors' center to pick up the group that had gone on the three-hour cave tour. While most admitted to being a little tired,

everyone seemed to enjoy the experience. Most of the children and some of the staff had never been in the cave before, so it was a pleasant time for everyone.

It was well past suppertime, and the sack lunches were a distant memory. We stopped in Cave City near several fast-food restaurants so we could choose places to eat. We arrived back on campus at 10:30 p.m.

W.F. Underwood is president of Oneida Baptist Institute, P.O. Box 67, Oneida, KY 40972. www.oneidaschool.org

THIS IS ONEIDA



W.F. Underwood

CLEAR CREEK CHRONICLE



Bill Whittaker

Clear Creek student at Amsterdam 2000

Nineteen-year-old Dustin Bengé will be among 10,000 invited evangelists at Billy Graham's International Congress of Itinerant Evangelists in Amsterdam.

He departed July 27 for the 10-day conference. "I shared the opportunity through a letter to friends, and within three weeks I received enough funds to make the trip," Dustin thankfully declared.

Dustin was born in London, Ky., and received the beginnings of his Christian heritage in Mt. Zion Baptist Church of East Bernstadt. At age 9 he was saved at Liberty Baptist and now serves each weekend with his family at Hopewell Baptist in Corbin.

He answered the call to preach at age 14. His first sermon to a crowd of

500 people "rambled on for 20-30 minutes and touched about every subject in the Bible." The call to evangelism was clear from the beginning and opportunities soon followed, encouraged by long-time family friend and London evangelist Joe Mobley, a 1978 Clear Creek alumnus. Dustin accompanied Mobley to Haiti four times, and at age 16 he preached to a crowd of 10,000 people. "I saw 1,000 people make decisions with 300 saved, and

(I) experienced strong affirmation in God's calling."

After high school graduation, Mobley gave Dustin some strong persuasion to attend Clear Creek. "I realized the school was mainly for adults, but I knew the Lord's call and I was mature enough to handle the adjustment," Dustin stated.

Has it worked out? "I love it! Families have adopted me as their son, and it is nice to have dinner with them. I call some 'Mom' and 'Dad.'" Dustin attends Wednesday services at Binghamtown Baptist Church, and has become friends with Freda VanBever. Each Thursday they visit two homebound members for prayer, preaching and singing.

Dustin works in the campus development office in a position he calls "artistic administrative assistant." His ability with design and composition is helping us communicate our ministry more effectively.

We are thankful God sent this evangelist to Clear Creek to help prepare him for a lifetime of communicating the good news.

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

BOOKS

Staff Your Church for Growth: Building Team Ministry in the 21st Century. Gary McIntosh. Baker Books, 2000. 204 pages. \$11.99 ♦♦♦♦♦ (out of five)

According to Gary McIntosh, most churches are staffed for decline. One of the chief mistakes churches make is to staff for maintenance (i.e. relationship) rather than task (i.e. growth).

His solution to the problem will surprise many, and challenge many of our time-honored assumptions about church staffing patterns, as well as the primary role of church staff members. If churches hope to grow and remain healthy, staffing issues must be a pivotal concern.

McIntosh notes that two fields of priorities must be attended to if a church is to grow and remain healthy: tasks and relationships. Somewhat surprisingly, he argues that the first two staff members added by a church should attend to tasks, with the third focusing on relationships, and every staff person added after that rotating between task and relationship.

By task, McIntosh is not speaking primarily of institutional maintenance. Rather he is concerned that six functions must be addressed in a balanced way: finding people, keeping people, celebrating with people, educating people, overseeing people and caring for people. Relationship staff deal with specific age groups.

McIntosh claims that the principal service of members of the church staff team is to equip disciples, rather than to perform ministry on their behalf. Church staff teams that focus on the latter cannot help a church grow, and churches that expect that from their staff, will plateau or decline.

"Staff Your Church for Growth" is a useful tool for personnel committees

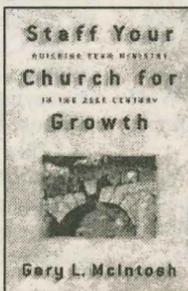
and others church leaders. Beyond the basic theory, McIntosh offers practical help in selecting, supporting and building a growth-oriented staff team. *Jim Holladay*

Faith of a Pilgrim: The Wisdom of Thomas Austin. Thomas David Austin. Smyth & Helwys Publishers, 1999. 153 pages. \$15 ♦♦♦♦♦

The title might sound a bit pretentious until you realize this is a posthumously published collection of sermons delivered by Tom Austin, former pastor of Knollwood Baptist Church in Winston-Salem, N.C. Larry Parks, Austin's associate at Knollwood at the time of his death, has assembled a fine collection of sermons that express Austin's understanding of the Christian life as a pilgrimage.

These 20 sermons are gathered in sections covering devotion, encouragement, forgiveness, death and grief. Each sermon is biblically based with a generous dose of illustrations. Knowing that Austin died while still preaching, I was particularly interested in his sermons on death and grief. I would like to have known at what stage of his life these sermons were preached. Were these reflective sermons based on his observation of others dealing with grief and death, or are we witness to his coming face to face with his own mortality at the end of a prolonged illness?

These sermons are filled with insights for becoming a more dedicated Christian. Important instruction is given in dealing with forgiveness from God and giving it to others and living a life of repentance. The place of memory flows through a number of Austin's sermons. This book is a collection of sermons that will be of in-



terest to those who craft sermons weekly. It is also a book of encouragement for the reader who is also a pilgrim on the journey of faith. *Wayne Hager*

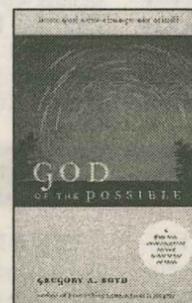
God of the Possible: A Biblical Introduction to the Open View of God. Gregory Boyd. Baker Books, 2000. 175 pages. \$12.99 ♦♦♦♦♦

Can God change His mind? Does God change His mind? Does the affirmation that God is in control mean that God controls everything? Does God micro-manage every detail of the universe, as well as my life? Does God's management of the universe and human destiny include the eternal determination of every contingency? Or, is it possible that the future is more open and God is more flexible than classical theology has led us to believe?

Gregory Boyd, professor of theology at Bethel College, argues that traditional affirmations of God's sovereignty, both at the scholarly and popular levels, are not attune with the biblical revelation of God and His relationship with the world He created. The Bible portrays a God who is willing to be influenced by the petitions of His people.

The God revealed in Scripture does not know every detail of the future, much less determine all things before they occur, Boyd contends, citing places in Scripture where God clearly changes His mind. If the real possibility of change did not exist, then God is playing a cruel trick on His people, he adds.

Boyd grounds his argument in a thoroughgoing review and exposition of Scripture. From a solidly evangelical standpoint, he not only presents the theoretical argument for an open view of God, but the practical implications. *Jim Holladay*



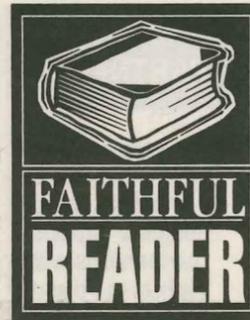
Trusting God Through Tears. A Story to Encourage. Jehu Thomas Burton. Baker Books, 2000. 159 pages. \$10.99 ♦♦♦♦♦

Jehu Burton shares a story of great loss in this book. In 1991, Burton's 12-year-old son died suddenly in his sleep of a massive cerebral hemorrhage. Burton's book is both the telling of the experience and also an attempt to make some sense of the loss and how to deal with it as a Christian.

I watched closely to see what Burton would say about how this death fit into the "will of God." He could not bring himself to say the death of his son was in God's will. He also could not say that God was punishing his son or Burton or his family. But he does struggle to say that God knew it was to happen and let it happen. Instead of dealing with the more difficult question of whether or not God can or will intervene in all

circumstances, Burton opts out of the discussion. This will give you an idea of the theology of the book. So, as a source to help the grieving answer important theological questions about death, I would not choose this book. While the overriding theme of trust in the sovereignty of God is acceptable, Burton presents too much other questionable theology for me.

The one value of the book is the way in which Burton walks the reader through all the emotions and events surrounding the death. I did gain a considerable amount in my knowledge of what a parent feels in the loss of a child. By providing a detailed account of the days, months and years after the death, Burton's book is valuable for people who might minister in similar circumstances of loss. But as a theology of grief and/or understanding the will of God and tragedy, turn somewhere else. *Wayne Hager*



By Wayne Hager, pastor of Calvary Baptist Church in Mt. Airy, N.C., and Jim Holladay, pastor of Lyndon Baptist Church in Louisville. Holladay and Hager welcome feedback or suggestions for book reviews. Contact them via e-mail at: docholladay@juno.com or jwhager@surry.net

Upcoming book offers insight into Christian songwriter Rich Mullins' life

By Terri Lackey
SBC LifeWay Christian Resources

NEW ORLEANS (BP)—Even in death, Rich Mullins continues to have a profound effect on people.

"He was a poet and a prophet, and I've never met anyone like him before," said James Bryan Smith, author of "Rich Mullins: An Arrow Pointing to Heaven," a new book about the singer/songwriter who died Sept. 19, 1997, in a car crash.

"He was such a unique individual and so challenging," Smith said of the man who penned the praise song "Awesome God." "I wrote the book because his story needed to be told," Smith said at the recent annual Christian Booksellers Association meeting in New Orleans.

Smith said he hopes to impart some of the songwriter's spiritual wisdom to readers through the book he describes as a devotional biography.

Smith strings together 10 key themes Mullins talked and wrote about when he was alive:

- The importance of family.
- The role of the church.
- The love of God.

- The person of Jesus.
- The beauty of creation.
- Loving one another.
- Growing through pain.
- Freedom in simplicity.
- Dealing with sin.
- Life after death.

"This book gives readers a chance to sit down and have a cup of coffee with him—to know what I know. His music is wonderful, and I thank God we have (it), but he speaks in this book. I was just a compiler of what he had to say," said Smith, who wrote the book with the help of Mullins' friends, fans and family, especially his brother, David Mullins.

Smith, a theology professor and chaplain at Friends University in Wichita, Kan., met Mullins when the musician was attending Friends to get a degree in music education.

Mullins eventually came to live in Smith's attic apartment. "During the two and a half years he lived with us, Rich and I spent nearly every night (much to my wife's chagrin) sitting up and talking about God, life's meaning, the church, our favorite authors and passages of the Bible we were laboring to understand," Smith

wrote.

Mullins' brother, David, said even as a kid "it was fairly obvious (Mullins) was different. He had some strengths and some weaknesses. One of his strengths was having the ability to really care about people deeply. And he always had a desire to really know God more than know about Him."

Smith said if he had to filter Rich Mullins' message into a succinct sentence, it would be his signature statement.

"He would always sign his CDs with 'Be God's.' That was his way of saying: 'It's great to be good, and we should strive to be good people. But more important than being good is to be wholly possessed by God.'"

Smith said that while Mullins was a unique man who encouraged people to draw nearer to God, the book is not an attempt to turn him into a saint.

"Rich didn't have it all together. I think one reason so many people loved Rich is because he didn't pretend to. He was unblinkingly honest, shockingly honest. He would be the first to tell us of his imperfections."

Imperfect, perhaps, but Mullins was not

influenced by worldly possessions, Smith said.

In fact, he gave away most of the money he made. Mullins instructed his accountant to give him only \$24,000 a year, the average working person's wage. The rest, he gave away when he found a cause, Smith said.

"Rich lived very simply," Smith wrote. "He had few possessions."

In the book's foreword, Mullins' friend and author Brennan Manning wrote, "Jesus of Nazareth ruined Rich Mullins' life. And out of the ruins, He recreated a ragamuffin of startling originality; no human being who has crossed my path even remotely resembles him."

Smith believes Manning was saying that because Mullins lived by Jesus' example, he was ruined for this world.

"Our world runs on the unholy trinity of money, sex and power. But Rich had the values of the kingdom of God living in his heart. So in that sense, Jesus ruined his life for this world, but certainly not for the next."

The book, "Rich Mullins: An Arrow Pointing to Heaven" will be available in Christian bookstores in September.

PEOPLE

PRAYER PARTNERS

Please pray for these people and projects, which are part of Kentucky Baptists' partnerships with Baptists in Poland, Tanzania and New England:

■ Physical and spiritual stamina for Mike Mabula, pastor of Mikesi Church in Tanzania. Currently he teaches kindergarten in the morning, attends secondary school in the evening and is pastor of the church.

■ A Christian witness beginning this summer in the Muslim village of Kiroka, Tanzania. Missionaries ask prayer for the people of the village that "God will stir their hearts and create a desire in them to know Him."

■ Volunteers who are helping South Coast Community Church in Scarborough, Maine, erect a building this summer.

■ Mercy House, a ministry to college students in Amherst, Mass.

■ Give thanks for a young college student in Poland who recently became a Christian through the ministry of Southern Baptist missionaries there.

■ Baptist representatives Marc and Annie Byrd and International Service Corps workers Jim and Patti Barrett and Russ Pross as they serve on "Team Silesia" in Poland.

Mountains to the Mississippi

Compiled by Shirley Wooton

■ **BROWDER**—Browder Church called **Collas Davis Jr.** as interim pastor.

■ **CECILIA**—Cecilia Church will host revival services Aug. 13-16 at 8:30 and 11 a.m. Sunday and 7 p.m. nightly. **Robert Smith** will be the evangelist. Music will feature **Sharon Beavers** (Sunday); **Eddie Howell** (Monday); **New Horizon Quartet** (Tuesday) and **Phyllis Westfall** and **Cassie Slaughter** (Wednesday). For information, call (270) 862-4228. **Mark Boes** is pastor.

■ **DRY RIDGE**—**Mitchell Ash** resigned as pastor of Unity Church to become pastor of Flat Shoals Church in Hartwell, Ga.

■ **JEFFERSONVILLE**—Jeffersonville Church called **Shannon Back** as pastor.

■ **GREENVILLE**—Roland Memorial Church will host its 50th anniversary celebration Aug. 27. For information, call (270) 338-3620. **Carl Nelson** is pastor.

Woodland will host a homecoming Aug. 6 with **James Jarvis** at 11 a.m. **Southern Sound** will be in concert at 1:30 p.m. For information, call (270) 338-4481. **Estle Greenwalt** is pastor.

■ **HENDERSON**—**Bill Patterson** resigned as pastor of First Church June 15 to become pastor of Briarlake Church in Decatur, Ga.

Green Valley Association will host a Celebrate Jesus 2000 Crusade Aug. 13-16 at 7 p.m. at the Henderson Fine Arts Center. Speakers will be **David Burton** and **Cameron Mills**, and musicians will be **Kirk Talley**, **Common Call** and **David Lutz**. For information, call (270) 827-9867. **Philip Basinger** is director of missions.

■ **HARRODSBURG**—Shakertown

Church will host **David Livingston** in concert Aug. 6 at 6 p.m. **Joseph Smith** is pastor.

Cloverleaf Church will host **The Wilburns** in concert Aug. 6 at 7 p.m. For information, call (502) 367-0218. **Geoffrey Lacefield** is pastor.

■ **RADCLIFF**—Stithton Church's ladies' ministry will host its fall conference Sept. 23. Guest speaker will be **Bev Lowry**. **Robin Waggoner** will present special music. The cost is \$20, by Aug. 10. For information, call (270) 351-6055.

■ **RUSSELL SPRINGS**—New Victory Church called **Rick Neff**, a student at Clear Creek Bible College, as pastor.

■ **SOMERSET**—Camp Ground Church called **David Muse** as pastor. Lakeside Church called **Claude Hoffman** as pastor beginning in August. Northside Church called **Eddie West** as minister of youth/children beginning July 30.

■ **WAYNESBURG**—Pleasant View Church called **Ken Jewell** as pastor beginning Aug. 6. Jewell formerly was pastor of Gilead Church, Glendale.

'Choose Life' tag might draw lawsuit

BATON ROUGE, La. (BP)—A specialty license plate bearing the words "Choose Life" may soon be the target of a lawsuit filed by the American Civil Liberties Union of Louisiana.

The "Choose Life" license plate was approved unanimously by both the Louisiana House and Senate in 1999 and signed into law by Republican Gov. Mike Foster, according to CNSNews.com, an Internet news site.

People who buy the license plates pay the \$3.50 cost of the plate plus an additional \$25 charge that goes to grants for private adoption advocacy groups.

Joe Cook, director of the Louisiana chapter of the ACLU, said the state is conveying a political message with the "Choose Life" license plate.

"This license plate entangles the state with religion," Cook said. "Political slogans and positions on abortion belong on bumper stickers, not on state-issued vehicle tags."

CLASSIFIED ADS

CELEBRATION: Welfare Baptist Church, Jamestown, will be celebrating homecoming Oct. 8 and is pleased to invite all former pastors and wives and members to help us celebrate. Please call (270) 358-4054 or (270) 866-6615 if you have any questions.

FOR RENT: 2-bedroom, 2-bath condo available for vacation rental, Sanibel Island, Fla. Large pool, tennis courts, bikes, canoe, kayak, screened porch, lovely secluded beach. Weekly rates May through mid-December: \$650. Call Pat Owen, (502) 895-8752.

FOR SALE: Contributions Count Software. Tracks your envelope offerings, produces IRS statements and more. Send name and address to: At Home with Business, 250 Pine Point Road, Brandenburg, KY 40108. For further information, call (270) 422-3820 after 5.

FOR SALE: 100-percent renovated house (Highlands). New plumbing, electrical, furnace/AC, windows, roof, tile floor, 3BR/2Bath. (502) 899-5353.

NEEDED: Faith Baptist Church of Myra needs to buy pews for addition to church. Call Pastor Dave Hammond at (606) 855-4645 or Tom at (606) 639-9296.

NEEDED: Local evangelist needs some people to help with street witnessing on Saturday, Oct. 14, 2000. If interested, call Jerry Shepherd at (502) 543-5260.

SEEKING: Briarlake Baptist Church of Decatur, Ga., is seeking a minister of music and worship for its 2,700-member Southern Baptist congregation in the metro Atlanta area. Send cover letter and resumé to: Betty Lou Lark, 2058 Brian Way, Decatur, GA 30033.

SEEKING: First Baptist Church of North Kansas City, Mo., is accepting resumé and recommendations for a full-time associate pastor for youth. This minister will work with middle and high school youth. We emphasize an Ephesians 4:11, 12 ministry; the minister will work with parents and volunteer youth workers. Please contact the Personnel Committee, First Baptist Church, 2205 Iron St., North Kansas City, MO 64116.

SEEKING: First Baptist Church of Pinckneyville seeks an individual with a passion for God and a love for youth to serve as minister of youth and education. Church seeks to develop an energetic and evangelistic youth program including Bible study and Christian growth activities. Must minister and give leadership to workers and parents of youth. Also minister and give leadership to workers in other areas such as Sunday school and discipleship training. Great growth potential; average 250 in morning worship service. Seminary degree required. Send resumé to: Youth and Education Search Committee, First Baptist Church, PO Box 157 Pinckneyville, IL 62274. Look for our Web page at www.fbcpinckneyville.org.

SEEKING: Part-time children's minister. Send resumé to Jeff Anders, Eastern Gate Baptist Church, PO Box 6686, Shepherdsville, KY 40165.

SEEKING: First Baptist Church of Shepherdsville, Ky., is accepting recommendations and resúmes for the full-time position of pastor. Affiliated with the CBF and SBC, FBC has a strong commitment to CBF-related ministries while continuing to participate in Co-operative Program giving. Send recommendations or resúmes to: First Baptist Church of Shepherdsville, 238 Frank E. Simon Ave., Shepherdsville, KY 40165, Attn: Chairperson, Pastor Search Committee.

SEEKING: First Baptist Church of Hazard is currently accepting resúmes for the full-time position of minister of music. The congregation and leadership are moving toward a blended style of worship. Interested candidates should possess at least an undergraduate degree in music or sufficient experience to lead the program capably. Send resumé to: First Baptist Church, 560 Main St., Hazard, KY 41701.

SEEKING: Part-time youth minister to work with approximately 40 youth. Must be saved, Bible believer, called, impeccable morals, growing. Send resumé and request for job description to: Greenwood Baptist Church, 5165 Scottsville Road, Bowling Green, KY 42104.

SEEKING: Full-time pastor. Send resumé to: Tunnel Hill Baptist Church, 734 Tunnel Hill Church Road, Elizabethtown, KY 42701, Attn: Pastor Search Committee.

SEEKING: Full-time minister of music to direct and lead dynamic music ministry. Candidate must be theologically conservative and outreach-minded. Must be experienced in leading and directing large productions as well as ongoing choirs and programs. Worship style is blended. Send resumé to: Paul Blizard, senior pastor, Memorial Baptist Church, PO Box 777, Beckley, WV 25801.

SEEKING: Full-time organist for First Baptist Church, Somerset, Ky., to play a 34-rank Holtzkamp organ built in 1990. Salary is negotiable. Please send a letter of application and resumé to: Music Committee, First Baptist Church, PO Box 797, Somerset, KY 42502, Attn: Ken Yeager, chairman.

SEEKING: Ashworth Road Baptist Church, "Iowa's Fastest Growing Community," located in actively-growing West Des Moines, Iowa, is now accepting resúmes for the position of pastor. ARBC is a 175-member congregation which affirms women in ministry and supports missions through SBC, CBF and local ministries. Applicants should be seminary graduates with at least 3+ years of pastoral experience. A strong emphasis in ministry strengths of preaching and teaching is important. For more information, visit us at <http://members.aol.com/ABaptist/ashworth>. Send resúmes to: Search Committee, ARBC, 5300 Ashworth Road, WDM, IA 50266.

SEEKING: First Baptist Church of Pinckneyville, Ill., is searching for a minister of music and worship. Our music style includes traditional hymn singing and praise choruses. The member of the ministry team will offer overall leadership of music and worship ministries. Please send current resumé to: Minister of Music and Worship Search Committee, First Baptist Church, 105 South Mill St., Pinckneyville, IL 62274, or fax to: (618) 357-8016.

SEEKING: Christian administrative assistant for Frankfort church. MSWord and Quicken experience preferred; Database and PowerPoint experience a plus. Full-time position with salary and benefits commensurate with experience. Active member of a local church required. Please send resumé and salary history to MBC, 130 Holmes St., Frankfort, KY 40601.

SEEKING: Minister of education/youth for First Baptist Church, Barlow, Ky. Send resumé to: Personnel Committee, First Baptist Church, PO Box 160, Barlow, KY 42024.

SEEKING: Part-time minister to children. Rich Pond Baptist Church. Send resumé to: Personnel Committee, 200 Brad Ave., Bowling Green, KY 42104.

SEEKING: South Elkhorn Baptist Church, Lexington, is prayerfully seeking a full-time associate pastor of music and youth. Send resumé to SEBC, 4867 Versailles Road, Lexington, KY 40510, Attn: Search Committee.

SEEKING: East Cadiz Baptist Church of Cadiz is seeking a full-time minister of music and youth. Send resumé to: M/Y Search Committee, East Cadiz Baptist Church, 407 Third St., Cadiz, KY 42211.

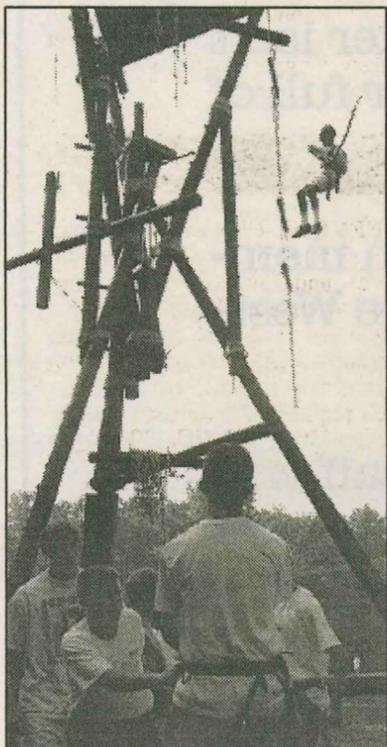
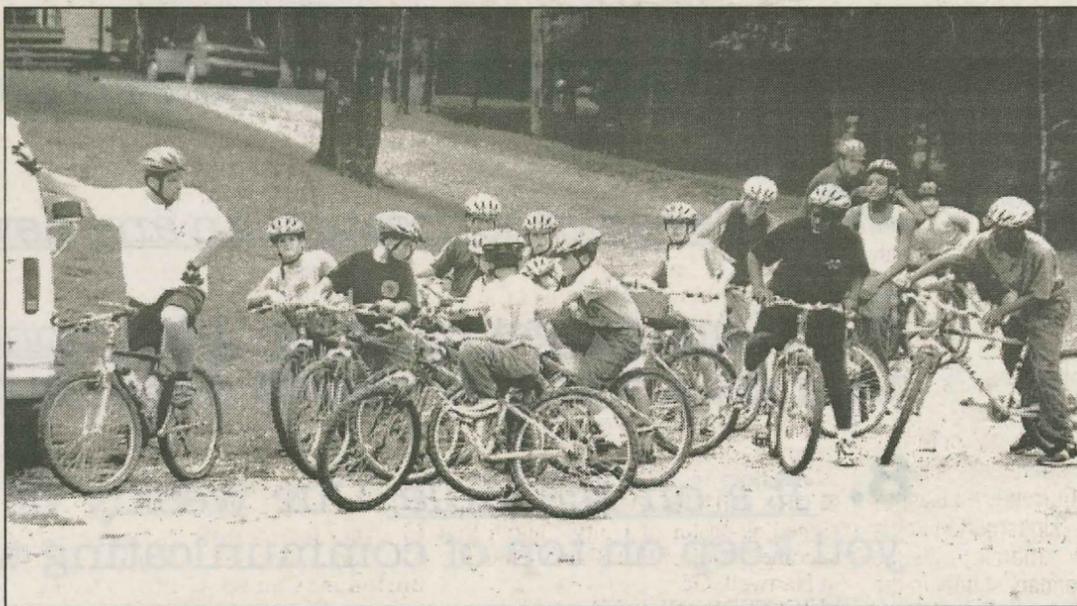
SEEKING: Senior pastor for a loving church in Bowling Green. Must be experienced and ambitious. Send resumé to: Forest Park Baptist Church, 520 Old Morgantown Road, Bowling Green, KY 42101, Attn: Search Committee.

SEEKING: Part-time children's minister for Farmdale Baptist Church, 5610 U.S. Highway 127 South, Frankfort, Ky. If you feel God is calling you to this area to work with children, send resumé to: Ms. Bryan, 530 Alfa Drive, Frankfort, KY 40601.

SEEKING: Full-time minister of music and youth. Please send resumé to: First Baptist Church, PO Box 506, Hindman, KY 41822, Attn: Search Committee.

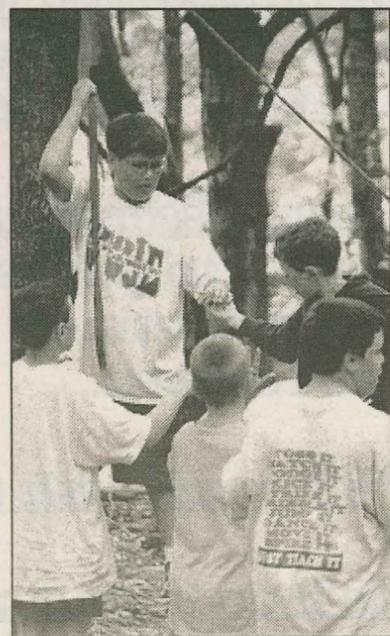
SERVICES: Home care for the elderly. Meal preparation, housekeeping, personal hygiene. Bonded, insured, eight years experience. Kinnett Care, (502) 499-7777.

CAMPS

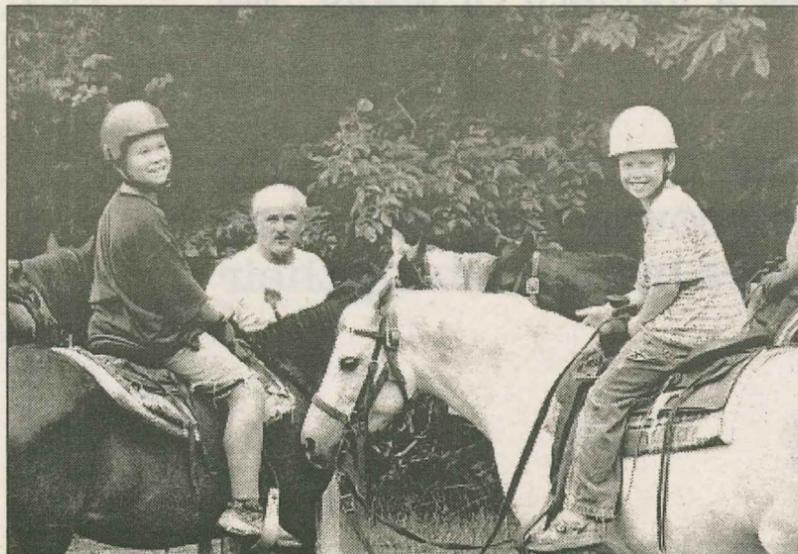


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3. They shall not enter the Aqua Jump area with or possessive from the Jump Commander.
4. They shall look up outside to sky and water.
5. They shall not die or flip off the jump.
6. They shall not wear ill-fitting clothes.
7. They shall not use the jump as a slide or slide under after jumping off.
8. They shall not jump off into other swimmers, boats, or rafts.
9. They shall not enter the jump area from the side.
10. They shall only have 3 people on the jump at a time.



SUMMER CAMP (From top left) ■ Three teens send a water balloon flying with the help of an industrial-strength slingshot. This was part of the Xtreme games at Cedarmore. ■ Mountain bikers wheel their way down the road at Mission Adventure Camp. ■ Campers pull a camper to the top of a swing line. ■ An injured camper? No, this team is trying to find a way to get their friend from one platform to another using a rope and stretcher. ■ A camper slides off the floating trampoline on Kentucky Lake. ■ Chicken nuggets and mash potatoes make up camp supper. ■ Campers maneuver on the ropes challenge course Mission Adventure Camp. ■ Brotherhood Director Randy foster teaches campers skills needed for a trail ride. ■ Campers mingle at the Wednesday night campfire at Cedarmore. (Photos by Dwayne Doyle, David Babb and David Winfrey)



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