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**Severance benefits package
for personnel released**

By Herb Hollinger

**Baptist Press
11/22/96**

FORT WORTH, Texas (BP)--The severance benefits package for employees of the Southern Baptist Convention's Home Mission Board, Brotherhood Commission and Radio and Television Commission who will not be employed by the North American Mission Board has been approved with staff reductions "imminent."

The number of employees to be released as the result of the merger of the three agencies into NAMB has not been announced. Earlier reports said a "considerable" number of the 500 employees of the three agencies would not be employed by NAMB when it officially becomes a part of the SBC in June 1997, as part of a convention-wide restructuring begun in 1995.

Jack Johnson, RTVC president and chairman of the nine-member Logistics Transition Team for NAMB, said the severance package was approved at a Nov. 14 meeting of the LTT in Fort Worth, Texas.

He described the package as "completed in the spirit of generosity. However, we understand the pain the employee will feel who learns he or she no longer has a job. We feel we have done everything possible in the severance area to be supportive of each person."

Citing the staff reductions as "imminent, before the end of 1996," Johnson said each employee will receive individual counsel and will have the opportunity to ask questions and receive clarification related to options and severance benefits.

He said the LTT will meet about every two weeks and will be forwarding an increasing number of recommendations to the Implementation Task Force for action. The next LTT meeting is Dec. 11 in Atlanta.

The Implementation Task Force, a group appointed by the SBC Executive Committee, is charged with implementation of the "Covenant for a New Century," an SBC-approved restructuring reducing the number of convention agencies from 19 to 12.

Those eligible for severance benefits include Brotherhood, RTVC and Home Mission Board employees who are 1) notified that due to restructuring they will have no job available at their current location or 2) offered a job with NAMB at a lower pay level. Employees who will not have placement will be given four weeks' notice before their termination date. Severance policies could be continued through Dec. 31, 1997, because of the transition process.

If an employee is offered a position at NAMB and declines, he or she will be ineligible for NAMB employment as a full-time employee or as a consultant for a period of one year after the termination date, according to the severance package.

Benefits, under the package, include:

-- one week of pay for each year of denominational service provided with a minimum of four weeks and a maximum of 26 weeks.

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-- medical and/or dental insurance benefits currently in place at each agency or insurance benefits of the successor agency (NAMB) will continue through the severance period (eligible employees may choose to continue medical and/or dental insurance at the employee's expense for up to 18 months after the severance benefit period).

-- existing benefits will be paid during the four-week notice period, but there will be no other benefits paid by the agencies during the severance benefit period except those listed above.

-- payment of severance benefits is contingent upon the employee signing an acceptable release waiver agreement to be supplied by the employing agency.

Other items in the package include: unused vacation will be paid at the termination date; unused sick leave will not be paid; any retention benefits already committed by the Brotherhood Commission will be honored beginning on the termination date; there will be no special benefits for early retirement other than those options already available through the agency's current policy; any outplacement services will be based on current agency policy; and each agency is responsible for notifying employees of termination, benefits, procedures and/or closure.

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**Prof: Faith needn't fear
intellectual pursuits**

By Don Hinkle

**Baptist Press
11/22/96**

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (BP)--Intellectualism has been an issue the church and Christian institutions of higher learning have wrestled with since the Enlightenment in the 18th century, recounted Arthur F. Holmes, retired chairman of the philosophy department at Wheaton College, Wheaton, Ill., in the 1996 Norton Lectures at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Nov. 12-14.

Prior to the Enlightenment, he said, matters of faith had been left solely to the church. But then, a new era was ushered in, in which the academic world began addressing issues related to faith. This raised concern within Christianity and led some church leaders to charge that Christian universities were becoming too secularized.

But the church need not wring its hands over the matter, Holmes stated, noting intellectual development is biblical -- and Scripture is replete with people who honored God by dedicating themselves to developing their intellectual skills.

Offering four biblical personalities to illustrate his point, Holmes observed, "In each case we see the breadth of their learning, how useful their learning proved to be for the service they ultimately rendered and how they combined their faith with learning."

Holmes first cited Moses and how he -- through God's providence -- was adopted by an Egyptian princess, became exposed to government processes and moved among national leaders.

"Moses gained a sense of responsibility and acquired thinking skills and qualities of mind that were essential to leadership," Holmes said. "Yet he retained his Hebrew faith and spent 40 more years in the wilderness assimilating what he had learned before God called him to lead a nation. Moses demonstrated tremendous organizational skills, administrative know-how and, above all, became a moral leader of an emerging nation."

Holmes' second example: Solomon, the Israelite king who dedicated himself to ruling with wisdom rather than pursuing wealth or personal power.

"Solomon had to work at acquiring that wisdom," Holmes said. "1 Kings tells us he studied biology and plant life, wrote more than 1,000 songs and collected 3,000 proverbs from various sources in the ancient world. Foreign rulers sought his advice because his decision-making amazed them. He did not always use his gifts fully, but he did invest them in international commerce, which sped the economic development of his country. He also built a magnificent place of worship where its symbolism spoke of the overwhelming holiness of God and its intricate craftsmanship and artistic splendor glorified the Lord of creation. Solomon's name has stood through three millennia for wisdom."

Third: Daniel, who "showed an aptitude for every kind of learning," Holmes said. "He was well-informed, quick to understand and was qualified to serve in the king's palace. He studied the language and literature of the Chaldeans and that helped him to understand not only those he served, but also himself. Literature can do this for us.

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"But Daniel rejected their self-indulgent lifestyle and was disciplined even in his eating habits. That kind of self-discipline builds courage. For he held onto his Jewish faith in the face of live death threats, including a fiery furnace and a den of lions. He risked his life in telling kings, like Nebuchadnezzar and Belshazzar, the fate awaiting their kingdoms. God entrusted Daniel with insight into things nobody else could figure out. Daniel's name is still synonymous with courage."

Holmes used the apostle Paul as his final example.

"Paul grew up in the city of Tarsus, the center of Stoic philosophy," a philosophy which held that wise men should be free from passion, Holmes said. "Paul made use of Stoic vocabulary and adopts some of their ideas in Acts 17 and in Romans 1. But he was also educated as a Jewish rabbi, studying the law of Moses, the wisdom of Solomon, and he undoubtedly knew of the courage of Daniel. But when he met the living Christ, he took a three-year independent study. Saul became Paul, who became a pioneer missionary, a church planter and a creative theologian able to spell out the theological and ethical implications of the gospel for both church and society in a worldview that is still valued today."

Holmes said three things can be learned from these four leaders:

1) There is no contradiction between faith and disciplined learning, between piety and hard thinking and between a life of faith and a life of the mind. "Intellectual and political activities should be part and parcel of the life of faith, not apart from it, much less in conflict with it," Holmes said. "There is no place for anti-intellectualism in Christianity. Faith and learning can be mutually supportive and enriching. When faith and learning are well-integrated in our thinking and our life choices, they contribute in strategic ways to life's service."

2) Learning builds character. "Learning takes discipline, dedication, and it means shaping a lifestyle often at variance with the surrounding self-indulgent culture," Holmes said. "But when it is driven by loving God with all one's heart, character takes shape."

3) A broad education is powerful preparation for service to both church and society. "It can teach you to think for yourself, to see things whole, to firm up your values and put strong legs under your beliefs," Holmes said.

"Our biblical forerunners learned to ... see all of life in its every part and every responsibility in relationship to God. Consider the scope of the Mosaic Law, its detailed elaboration, the books of Exodus and Leviticus. It touches everything -- sex, marriage, property rights, civil justice, public health and working conditions. Everything finds direction" according to God's purpose.

"Or consider the amazing scope of Solomon's interests," Holmes continued. "The fulfillments, the honest business dealings, the good government and the temple he commissioned be built containing the finest arts and crafts the world of his day knew. Or consider Daniel's view of history, that the destiny of nations is in the hands of God."

Holmes noted the multiple references Paul made concerning knowledge, wisdom, teaching and understanding in his letter to the Colossians. "Paul is telling us that all wisdom and knowledge becomes a treasure because of its relationship to Jesus Christ. If that's not a mandate for Christian higher education, then what is?"

The Norton Lectures are held annually at the Louisville, Ky.,-based Southern Seminary. They are a specially endowed lectureship by the Norton family who was instrumental in the Louisville, Ky., seminary's development.

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**Christian message can be compatible
with commercial success: Stephens**

By Linda Lawson

**Baptist Press
11/22/96**

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (BP)--Can a book, video or other product with a Christian message be commercially successful?

Yes, insists Ken Stephens, director of the Baptist Sunday School Board's Broadman & Holman Publishers. He joined the board earlier this year after 14 years with Thomas Nelson Publishers/Word, where he held numerous positions including senior vice president. Earlier, he served six years as a Southern Baptist foreign missionary to the Dominican Republic.

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Stephens said trade publishers such as B&H that are associated with denominational institutions face a challenge of low expectations from general trade publishers, authors and retail outlets.

"There is an assumption these publishers will do worthwhile products with little commercial value," he said. Also, denominational publishers, including B&H, are called on to produce some resources such as a minister's manual or an academic book that meet an important need but have limited sales potential.

At B&H, "we have to pay for ourselves," Stephens said, noting the BSSB is supported by the sale of its products and services and does not receive Cooperative Program funds from the Southern Baptist Convention. "We must do a line of good commercial products with a strong redemptive message. These, in turn, provide funds to make possible the ministry-type products."

Recent Broadman & Holman products living up to the dual standard of a positive, evangelical Christian message and commercial success include "Christy" videos which B&H distributes to Christian Booksellers Association outlets, the 1996 book "Breaking Through" by Wellington Boone, "Experiencing God Study Bible" editions in the New King James, New International and Spanish versions and its "Insights for Ministry Series" for ministers on topics such as effective evangelistic churches, worship styles and Sunday school.

Among the strengths of B&H, Stephens listed at the top its "core of competent people. We can grow a lot with the people we have."

Still in the building process is a "strong, steady acquisitions program," he acknowledged. He cited progress in enlisting quality authors such as Becky Freeman, a popular speaker and writer whose next B&H release will be "Still Lickin' the Spoon and Other Confessions of a Grown-Up Kid" and Mary Hunt, editor of the national newsletter, "Cheapskate Monthly," who has written "The Financially Confident Woman" for B&H.

Others include Josh McDowell, a popular writer, speaker and founder of the "Right from Wrong" campaign. McDowell's book, "The Father Connection," has just been released by B&H. Also, Susie Luchsinger, sister of country music great Reba McEntire, has just co-written with her husband Paul and with Ken Abraham "The Tender Road Home," a straightforward look at spouse abuse, Stephens said. It is set for release in April 1997.

"On a given topic, we need the highest quality, most relevant manuscripts we can get for our constituency from whoever is best equipped to provide it," Stephens said. "We understand that constituency is heavily Southern Baptist."

Since Stephens' arrival, he has engineered several organizational changes to position B&H for greater success. Joe Questel, formerly vice president for key account sales at Spring Arbor Distributors, has joined B&H as director of sales and marketing while Bob Edwards, a two-year B&H sales representative, has become national sales manager. Also, he pulled B&H employees with responsibilities for Bibles and Bible reference products into a new Bibles department.

"One of the real growth areas for us is in Spanish Bibles" which garnered one-third of B&H Bible sales last year, he said. "We anticipate growth in this area both in the United States and in other countries." A Spanish edition of the "Holman Bible Dictionary" will be released in the fall of 1997. Also under development is a Portuguese Bible.

Other B&H Bible products selling well include a large-print NIV Bible and the B&H line of pocket Bibles.

He predicted B&H Bible reference books "are going to get a lot better." In addition to new products, "we have some real treasures in our backlist that need to be refreshed."

Longer term, Stephens believes B&H must take a serious look at obtaining proprietary rights to an existing translation or commissioning its own. At present, B&H must pay royalties to other publishers to use their translations.

In the church supplies area, Stephens said B&H will release in February 1997 a series of four worship banners for a church worship center or Sunday school classroom.

On the horizon, he envisions a B&H inspirational gifts line, saying, "This is a growing area in Christian stores."

In coming months, B&H videos will enter new territory with "Stand Up," 30-minute programs of clean comedy for families.

In the books area, B&H is cautiously entering the Christian fiction market, with the recent release of "Anonymous Tip" by Michael Farris.

"There is a lot of mediocre fiction out there. We're going to have to be careful to do a few very good titles and rise above the clutter," he said.

A children's line of products also is under development.

While Christian stores will continue to be the primary outlet for B&H products, efforts are in process to explore nontraditional distribution channels such as Office Depot for some church supplies and Wal-Mart for Bibles and selected books.

"Down the road we're going to see our products for sale on the Internet," Stephens said.

Looking ahead five years, Stephens said he'd like to see the board's Frost Building which houses B&H employees "full with people coming out the windows," a positive sign of growth.

He hopes Southern Baptists will view B&H general trade books and videos, Bibles, Bible reference products and academic books as the best on the market. Proof of that would be increased sales of individual products and B&H total sales showing a three-fold increase, he said.

By 2001, all 40 volumes of the New American Commentary will have been released and "getting rave reviews," Stephens believes.

And Stephens said he believes the future includes B&H products having both a strong Christian message and commercial success as the norm rather than the exception.

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World Changers offering affirms church ministry's faith in God

By Shelley Smith

**Baptist Press
11/22/96**

MEMPHIS, Tenn. (BP)--For some, miracles are events they've only read about in Scripture. Others, however, say they've experienced a miracle at some point in their life. Still others, like Tim Cox, pastor of Brinkley Heights Baptist Church, believe miracles are events that happen daily as he and his congregation live by faith and trust in God's provision.

The small mission church located in northeast Memphis, Tenn., doesn't have the financial resources most churches rely upon, so when Cox was told Brinkley Heights Ministry Center was being considered as one of the recipients of this year's World Changers offering, his reaction was one of humble thanksgiving.

"I couldn't believe we were actually chosen to be recipients of the offering," said Cox, who was presented a check for \$12,750 at the Brotherhood Commission trustees' November meeting in Memphis. "Why would God allow us to be involved in something of the magnitude of World Changers?"

A ministry of the Southern Baptist Brotherhood Commission, World Changers offers youth an opportunity to participate in coeducational missions projects, including "hands-on" involvement in home construction and renovation through World Changers projects and, through its World Tour thrust, participation in inner-city ministries and paint projects. Participants learn about missions firsthand by becoming personally involved in ministering to the physical and spiritual needs of others.

Each year World Changers sponsors an offering for a special missions project or need. In previous years, offering funds have been used to purchase materials to help build an inner-city playground in Kansas City, Mo., a church building in Montana and a Christian academy in Nicaragua. This year's offering, however, went beyond meeting needs specific to World Changers, explained George Siler, World Changers associate director. "We specifically chose ministries which we've worked with and built relationships with through World Tour."

Brinkley Heights Ministry Center, a faith ministry of Brinkley Heights Baptist Church, offers emergency food and clothing assistance, spiritual counseling, health-care screenings, children's and youth clubs, substance abuse counseling and support groups, tutoring/homework centers, apartment Bible studies and alternatives to gang involvement. But the center, which relies solely on gifts and contributions to operate, has dreams of expanding its ministries, said Cox.

"We don't have any space to do the community ministries we want to do," he explained. "This offering money will enable us to turn our church into a Christian community center to further reach the children and youth in the community and provide a safe place for them to come during the week."

The center also hopes to expand its ministry to adults in the community.

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"We work every day with the Department of Human Services," Cox recounted. "It's our hope that we can become involved in Tennessee's new Families First program, so that we can offer educational counseling, job training and life skills that will take men and women from their present dependency upon the system to self-sufficient living. This year's offering will go a long way toward making these dreams a reality.

"We do ministry at whatever level God provides," Cox said. "We totally live by faith. Whatever God sends, we use. To give you an idea of the significance of this offering, \$12,000 to us is like a whole year's worth of resources at one time."

Called as pastor of Brinkley Heights almost seven years ago, Cox and his wife, Karen, have served as Missions Service Corps volunteers through the Home Mission Board the past five years. But it wasn't long after their arrival in 1989 that Cox began to realize his congregation's heartbeat. Despite the tremendous needs that existed within the church -- the church had no air-conditioning or heating, and there were gaping holes in the roof -- the handful of members expressed early on their heartfelt desire to meet the needs within their community and, in turn, reach people for Christ.

When Cox explained to his church that they didn't have the finances to undertake such an effort, one of his members said something that has remained etched in Cox's mind: "Pastor, we know we don't have the resources, but our Father does."

That statement has become the impetus to Cox's ministry.

"I came to the point of realizing that God had not called me to be pastor of a small congregation of 30 people, but to be pastor of a community of thousands. We prayed, 'Lord, if you'll send in the supplies for us, we'll be on the front lines for you and we'll reclaim this community for Christ.'"

A visit to Brinkley Heights today finds them doing just that. Out of the church, Brinkley Heights Ministry Center was birthed, and out of the center, satellite ministries have developed at National Apartments, Atlantic Properties, the Oaks Apartments and Leahy's Trailer Park. "Our goal in ministering to families," Cox said, "is that when they come to us, they will leave knowing that we care about them and that God loves them."

So far this year, more than 3,000 families have been served through the ministry center and more than 115 people have made professions of faith in Christ.

"The Lord just continues to pour out his blessings upon us," Cox reflected. "It's like being in the middle of a miracle for years. That's what miracles are. It's God providing when we haven't got what we need."

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Smith is associate editor of World Changers materials at the Brotherhood Commission.

Parade article on Graham draws BGEA clarification

**Baptist Press
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MINNEAPOLIS (BP)--Parade Magazine's national cover story on Billy Graham needs "clarification on one key point," A. Larry Ross, director of media/public relations for the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association, wrote in a letter to Parade's editor, Walter Anderson, after the Oct. 20 article.

The Parade writer, Colin Greer, quoted Graham in the first paragraph of the article as stating: "I fully adhere to the fundamental tenets of Christian faith for myself and my ministry. But, as an American, I respect other paths to God -- and, as a Christian, I am called on to love them."

Ross thanked the national Sunday newspaper supplement for the article, but noted: "Mr. Graham does recognize that there are many religions represented in our increasingly pluralistic, multi-ethnic society, and that we are to love every individual -- regardless of their beliefs -- as the article suggests. While Mr. Graham respects other religions and has often met with leaders of other religious faiths, as a Christian clergyman he believes there is only one path to God -- through repentance and faith in the atoning death of Jesus Christ, who provides redemption from sin and the promise of eternal life. That message hasn't changed."

It "has been the foundation of the evangelist's worldwide preaching ministry spanning nearly 60 years," Ross stated.

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**New York Baptists reduce
'97 budget by 4 percent**

ALEXANDRIA BAY, N.Y. (BP)--A budget reduction of 4.17 percent was approved by 204 messengers attending the Nov. 7-8 annual meeting of the Baptist Convention of New York.

New York's total budget is \$2,590,398 for 1997, a decrease of 4.17 percent from 1996. New York's Cooperative Program gifts, from 352 churches and missions, are expected to total \$585,000 in 1997 of which 24 percent is allocated to the Southern Baptist Convention's national and international ministries, a 2.75 percent decrease from 1996. The reduced budget levels reflect some financial difficulties in recent years at the state convention.

Resolutions of appreciation were adopted for the state convention's retiring executive director, R. Quinn Pugh, and his wife, Norma, and the SBC Home Mission Board's retiring president, Larry Lewis, and his wife, Betty Jo. Another resolution voiced appreciation to North Carolina Baptists for "six full years of faithful missionary partnership."

In a three-nominee ballot, the convention elected as president James Guenther, pastor of Trinity Baptist Church, Niskayuna. In a two-nominee ballot for first vice president, Ernesto Chaparro, pastor of Canaan Baptist Church, Corona, was elected. The new second vice president, Michael Seaman, pastor of Terrill Road Baptist Church, Scotch Plains, N.J., and recording secretary Michael McCoy, pastor of Ridgecrest Baptist Church, New Windsor, were the only nominees for their respective offices.

The 27th annual meeting sessions of the convention, which encompasses about 25,000 members, were held at the Riveredge Resort Hotel, Alexandria Bay.

meeting will be Nov. 6-7 at Amherst Baptist Church, Amherst.

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Compiled from reporting by Beth Ward.

**Colorado Baptists increase
CP giving for global causes**

**Baptist Press
11/22/96**

COLORADO SPRINGS, Colo. (BP)--Giving to Southern Baptist national and international ministries was increased by a half-percent of Colorado's Cooperative Program budget when 347 messengers met Nov. 12-13 at Circle Drive Baptist Church, Colorado Springs.

Of \$1.5 million in anticipated CP giving from the 331 churches in the Colorado Baptist General Convention in 1997, 29 percent will be forwarded to SBC causes, up a half-percent from the current CP allocation. Colorado Baptist ministries will receive 79 percent.

The convention's overall 1997 budget will be \$3,361,4000, a 9 percent increase over the current year.

Representing the state's 65,000 Southern Baptists, messengers passed a resolution voicing appreciation for church leaders' work in the Nov. 5 defeat of Amendment 11, a proposal that would have required Colorado churches and charities to pay property taxes.

In total votes, the measure's 66-point margin of defeat was: Yes, 17 percent, 242,499 votes; No, 83 percent, 1,209,734 votes.

All officers of the convention were re-elected: president, Davis Cooper, pastor of University Hills Baptist Church, Denver; first vice president, James Vaughan, director of missions of the Grand Valley Baptist Association, Grand Junction; second vice president, Doug Trevithick, pastor of Calvary Baptist Church, Fort Morgan; and recording secretary, Rona Davis, a convention administrative assistant in missions and member of Riverside Baptist Church, Denver.

The 1997 annual meeting will be Oct. 28-29 at University Hills Baptist Church, Denver.

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**Resolutions bylaws hamper
Md./Del. messengers' stances**

By Ron Chaney

**Baptist Press
11/22/96**

HAGERSTOWN, Md. (BP)--A new bylaw prevented messengers from acting on all resolutions during the Baptist Convention of Maryland/Delaware annual meeting, Nov. 11-12 in Hagerstown, Md.

Of eight resolutions brought before the convention, four were referred to the general mission board for action because of a bylaw barrier. The new BCM/D bylaws, which were set up at the 1995 annual meeting, require the titles and the nature of resolutions be printed in the state paper Baptist Life 15 days before the annual meeting. Also, any new resolutions must be submitted to messengers during the second session of the convention. Since these conditions were not met by the resolutions committee, Bill George administrative committee chairman, said four of the resolutions were out of order.

However, resolutions that met at least one of the bylaw requirements gained approval by messengers. Those included statements opposing same-sex marriages, television violence and gambling. A resolution on appreciation for BCM/D staff, elected officials and outgoing BCM/D President Dallas Bumgarner also was approved.

In addition to sending the remaining resolutions to their general mission board for action, messengers also approved a motion that the board reconsider the bylaws governing resolutions. Among the referred resolutions were ones against partial-birth abortion and a zoning ordinance of Anne Arundel County that would limit the development of churches.

In convention elections, messengers voted in Gary Glanville, pastor of Northwest Baptist Church, Reisterstown, as new BCM/D president. Glanville garnered 179 votes. John Layton, pastor of Rehoboth Church, Westover, received 83 votes.

For first and second vice presidents, messengers chose Paul Viswasam, pastor of First Baptist Church, Savage, and John Gauger, pastor of First Baptist Church, Perryville, respectively. Both nominees were unopposed, as was James Davis, pastor of Oakridge Baptist Church, Salisbury, for recording secretary.

Messengers passed a \$4,978,568 budget, an increase of \$171,736 over 1996. Cooperative Program receipts will be divided 51 percent for BCM/D ministries and 41 percent for Southern Baptist Convention national and international causes, after the expanded annuity preferred item has been subtracted. The allocation percentages remain unchanged.

In other business, messengers approved new Baptist Mission Foundation bylaws. Messengers to the 1995 BCM/D requested new articles of incorporation and bylaws from the BMF, the convention's money managing agency.

The new bylaws already had been approved by both the convention's general mission board and foundation. However, one messenger attempted to amend the bylaws to include a statement that the convention should approve any changes. Gary Robinson, foundation president, called the amendment redundant since the articles of incorporation provide for that. The amendment failed and the bylaws passed.

Messengers also passed two BCM/D bylaw changes, one of which moved the oversight of ministerial student aid from the missions and ministries development committee to the leadership development committee.

The second change involved the nominating committee. It provides that the committee will have full membership and a chairperson in the event that the general mission board's vice president cannot serve. The board found itself without a nominating committee chairperson this year when the GMB vice president resigned his post. A new chairman was appointed, but board members recognized the need for a bylaw change that would account for such a circumstance.

There were 406 messengers and 122 visitors in attendance. The 1997 annual meeting will be Nov. 10-11 at the Holiday Inn on Solomon's Island in southern Maryland.

**MasterControl hosts tally
76 years of experience**

By C.C. Risenhoover

FORT WORTH, Texas (BP)--This year Dave Naugle begins his 25th year as host of MasterControl, a weekly 30-minute radio program produced by the Southern Baptist Radio and Television Commission.

Co-host Teri Barrett begins her 10th year on the program.

"Dave brings 56 years of experience to the table," said Chuck Ries, producer of MasterControl. "That experience began in December of 1941 when he was the first person to broadcast the message of the Japanese bombing of Pearl Harbor to Fort Worth, Texas, audiences."

Naugle has worked with the RTVC on various projects since 1968. Barrett, who joined MasterControl in 1985, has 20 years of broadcasting experience.

Following military duty and study at the University of Texas in Austin, Naugle joined Lyndon Johnson's staff in the state capital. He later worked for Gov. John Connally. From 1962-68, he was news director of KFJZ-TV in Fort Worth.

Barrett, a full-time mother of three daughters, grew up in Tecumseh, Okla. She received a communications degree from the University of Oklahoma at Norman.

Ries said MasterControl is "family friendly" radio in a magazine format.

"We hit heavy on family values," he said, "but the program is also an evangelistic tool. With stories that speak to families on all aspects of life, the program is like a window to the world. It's designed to entertain, inform and inspire by blending celebrity interviews, perspectives on life and lifestyles, travel and vacation and inspirational commentary."

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