



BAPTIST PRESS

News Service of the Southern Baptist Convention

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April 12, 1968

Baylor Scholarship Set
To Honor King Memory

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WACO, Tex. (BP)--A scholarship fund for a Negro student has been established in memory of Martin Luther King Jr., at Baylor University here, the nation's largest Baptist school.

Baylor President Abner V. McCall made the first contribution to the fund, established by the Baylor administration, and Baylor students and faculty members added to the fund during an outdoor rally coinciding with King's funeral services in Atlanta.

One day earlier, at least ten Baylor students marched with an estimated 25,000 others in Memphis, Tenn., saying each felt they needed to take some type of positive action to honor King.

Following the news of King's death, tables were set up on the Baptist college campus where students could sign letters to their congressmen in support of pending civil rights legislation, and obtain information about working in the War on Poverty among the people King sought to help.

During the rally at Baylor's Union Bowl here on the day of King's funeral, a Baylor professor, Charles S. Edwards applauded "this new posture (which) has been shown in growing student activism," saying the students were becoming creative thinkers instead of sponges who are to soak up preselected facts or ideas.

Edwards observed that in the past, Baylor students in general were considered to be non-activist. "While at Baylor they are expected to be passive, to respond to manipulation, to recite the 'proper' answers in class and to adopt the 'acceptable' political, economic, social and religious views," he said.

The political science professor said he did not accept this picture of the university, adding, "It has not been wholly true in the past, and certainly is not true for the present.

"There are new and refreshing winds blowing across the Baylor campus," he said. "Students are manifesting a sense of social consciousness and are rejecting the imagery of isolation and insulation.

"They are becoming more aware of the fact that they are living in a time of significant social response, but that they cannot remain aloof from it. They are beginning to realize, not only that their own well-being is dependent upon social reforms, but that they cannot in any way separate individual self-respect from group responsibility," Edwards said.

Condemning student apathy, Edwards pointed to the example of Martin Luther King. "A great leader has given his life, because he refused to be apathetic. He had a dream for the fulfillment of democratic values for all people, regardless of their race, their creed or their color. Lesser men felt they could frustrate his dream or even destroy it by destroying his body," he said.

During the rally, the Baylor students also heard the chaplain of predominantly Negro Paul Quinn College here blame King's death on the unwillingness of white people to accept the Negro as an equal.

Hector Grant urged the students to love and respect your black brothers. "It has long been ignored, but the power of love shall overcome."

At a memorial service on the day following King's assassination, students and faculty sang, "We Shall Overcome," the theme song of King's non-violent movement in the South.

Baylor Religion Professor Daniel B. McGee said in the service, "the death of Martin Luther King casts a shadow of judgment across the land and across our lives. His life, as does his death, burns on all of us the mark of judgment."

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The ten Baylor students who participated in the Memphis march, interviewed here, gave reasons for their actions as: because of a sense of guilt and frustration at not being able to do anything about civil rights, to express sympathy with the civil rights movement, to support the non-violent aspect of the civil rights movement and to act out concern.

The students were Steve Ober, Clarendon, Ark.; Anne Hunt, Fort Worth; Tim Barrett, Denton, Tex.; David Wells, Shreveport, La.; Paul Malone, El Paso, Tex.; Theo Brown, Riverside, Calif.; Monty Jones, Arlington, Tex.; Margie Morris, Texarkana; and Ernie Lewis and James Lewis, both of Florissant, Mo.

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Three To Receive Seminary Distinguished Alumni Awards

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4/12/68

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The presentations will be made at the annual seminary luncheon during the Southern Baptist Convention in Houston, June 6.

Baker is professor of church history at the seminary. Rutledge is executive secretary-treasurer of the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board, Atlanta. Summers is chairman of the department of religion at Baylor University, Waco, Tex.

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Negro Minister Leads Revival At Illinois Baptist Church

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Pinnick is pastor of the (Negro) First Baptist Church in Braidwood.

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Teaching Minister Resigns From Atlanta Baptist Church

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McDowell said he would continue his work in teaching Bible conferences, lecturing at seminaries, writing and leading church renewal revivals.

He is emeritus professor at Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary, Wake Forest, N. C., and former head of the department of New Testament at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville. He taught for 29 years at the two seminaries.

At the First Baptist Church here, he had been responsible for organization of laymen's Bible classes, teaching of teachers, leadership training, and directing a weekly inter-racial seminar for ministers.

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Independent Colorado Baptist College Formed

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4/12/68

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The school, called the Colorado Baptist Junior College, has no official relationship to the Denver Baptist Association or the Colorado Baptist General Convention, but most of the faculty members and founding fathers are Southern Baptists.

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An editorial in the convention's weekly paper, the Rocky Mountain Baptist, commended the Baptist pastors and laymen who are establishing the school, saying "We admire the faith of these men and wish them every success."

Editor O. L. Bayless, added, "We sincerely hope that a question in our mind about the wisdom of their venture will soon be revealed as lack of faith on our part."

The editorial pointed out that Baptists in other states are struggling to keep the doors of their colleges open, and are "sweating blood in efforts to secure adequate financing for colleges and universities."

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Although it is not tied organizationally to the Colorado convention, a clause in the school's charter provides that three-fourths of the trustees must be members of Southern Baptist churches, and that the assets would revert to the convention if the school ever ceases to exist.

The school's catalogue lists four purposes for the junior college: "A college with sound Baptist doctrine, a college with a Christian atmosphere, a quality two-year liberal arts program, and a college with a qualified Christian faculty."

Serving as president of the school is Huitt Barfoot, a Southern Baptist layman and former public school superintendent and principal, college teacher, supervisor of student teachers and registrar of Central Missouri State College. Barfoot led a group of Baptist pastors and laymen to vote last January to create the college.

With classes at First Southern Baptist Church of Westminster in Denver, the schedule will call for class sessions between 4:00 p.m. and 10:00 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Degrees to be offered are, an associate of arts degree and an associate of science degree, both requiring 96 quarter hours of credit. Barfoot said that until accreditation is secured, arrangements for transferring credit have been made with several colleges in Colorado and neighboring states.

The Rocky Mountain Baptist reported that although there was an effort in 1952 to start a four-year Baptist College in Denver before the state convention was organized, "it was decided that no attempt would be made to open the school until Southern Baptists in Colorado are able to afford it."

The state paper further reported that efforts by the convention to start a college were ended in 1965 when a decision was made to enter upon a program of Chairs of Bible adjacent to state college campuses.



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