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**Texas Baptists Win 18
Public Relations Awards**

CHARLESTON, S.C. (BP)--The public relations department of the Baptist General Convention of Texas walked off with 18 top awards in competition sponsored by the Baptist Public Relations Association here.

Billy Keith, director of public relations for the Texas convention, and his staff members, won 18 awards presented by the nationwide Baptist association, twice as many as the next highest winners.

Included in the 18 awards won by the Texas public relations staff were two cash special awards, eight awards of exceptional achievement (the top or first place award in each category) and eight awards of merit (second place honors).

Four different Baptist organizations dominated the top awards--the Texas convention, the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board, the SBC Foreign Mission Board, and Carson-Newman College, Jefferson City, Tenn.

The SBC Sunday School Board won nine awards, including one of the \$50 cash awards, three exceptional achievement awards, and five awards of merit.

The SBC Foreign Mission Board received one of the special awards, three exceptional achievement awards, and four merit awards. Carson-Newman College won six awards including one special cash citation, one exceptional achievement recognition, and four merit awards.

The association presented five \$50 cash awards for the best entries in public relations projects, motion picture production, religious journalism, total publications program, etc.

Keith won the special award for the best public relations project for his PR program for the Texas convention. This entry also won the Arthur S. Davenport Award, a citation given in memory of the late president of Arthur Davenport Associates, Oklahoma City.

The M.E. Dodd Memorial Award provided by the SBC Radio and Television Commission for the best entry in radio, television and motion picture categories went to C. W. (Bill) Junker, director of editorial services for the National Student Ministries of the SBC Sunday School Board for film entitled, "College Dead Ahead."

Miss Ione Gray, international writer and editor for the SBC Foreign Mission Board, Richmond, won the Douglas Tomlinson Award for "significant achievement in religious journalism" for her features entitled "Urban Survey in Southeast Asia."

Carl Tipton, public relations director for Carson-Newman College received the special \$50 award for the best total publications program.

Each of the special and memorial award winners were presented an engraved plaque in addition to the \$50 in cash.

Twenty-one different agencies and institutions whose staff members participate in the association received a total of 89 different awards during the presentations. There were 26 awards of exceptional achievement and 58 awards of merit.

There were a total of 240 entries from 30 different organizations. A panel of 10 professionals including two artists, four journalists, two photographers, and two broadcasters picked the winners. None of the judges was a member of the association.

The SBC Home Mission Board won six awards, including one exceptional achievement to Don Rutledge for photography. The SBC Christian Life Commission and Oklahoma Baptist University won five awards each, with one first place to Floyd Craig of the Christian Life Commission for publications photography.

Four awards each went to the SBC Radio-TV Commission, Fort Worth, and Baylor University, Waco, Tex. Lowell Brown of Baylor won first in general information literature; and Ed Shipman of the Radio-TV Commission won the top awards in radio-TV production, direct mail, and development brochures.

The Southern Baptist Woman's Missionary Union and the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary won three awards each, with Wesley M. Pattillo of the seminary receiving firsts in general information literature, and advertising series.

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The 18 awards won by the Texas convention went to six staff members in public relations office, five of them winning first place exceptional achievement recognition.

The eight first place awards were presented to Keith (public relations project), Lynn Yarborough (publications for special events and poster or promotional folders) Robert O'Brien (two exceptional achievements for feature articles), Orville Scott (news story) and David Clanton (two photography firsts).

Of the three exceptional achievement awards won by the SBC Sunday School Board, two went to Junker for the top film production, and for the best magazine, The Student; and one went to Lynn M. Davis Jr., for the board's annual report.

The three first place honors won by the SBC Foreign Mission Board went to Miss Gray for her feature series, to Fon Scofield for a filmstrip, and to Samuel DeBord for an advertising series.

Other individuals winning first place honors in other categories were William A. Nunnally of Samford University, Birmingham, catalogs; John Bloskas, SBC Annuity Board, Dallas, letterheads; and to Jim Newton and Jack Brymer of Baptist Press for a news series on a racial controversy in a Birmingham church.

There were 25 different categories, plus six possible special cash award categories, in the annual competition. John Earl Seelig, assistant to the president at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth, was awards chairman.

-30-

Congress Hears SBC Opposes
Draft of Divinity Students

3/30/71

WASHINGTON (BP)--The Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs here represented the Southern Baptist Convention to members of Congress as opposed to the lifting of military draft exemption from divinity students.

At the suggestion of Porter W. Routh, executive secretary of the Executive Committee of the Southern Baptist Convention, John W. Baker, acting executive director of the Baptist Public Affairs Committee, wrote to every member of the U.S. Congress. Baker cited 1952 and 1953 actions of the Southern Baptist Convention as the basis of the position in the letter.

The Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs as such does not have a position on the exemption of divinity students from the military draft, according to Baker. However, the committee is authorized to represent the views of its sponsoring conventions to government.

The House Armed Services Committee has approved legislation that for the first time in the nation's history would include in the military draft college and seminary students who are studying for full-time religious ministry. The proposal is included in a bill that extends the Selective Service Law, increases the period of alternate service for conscientious objectors, and increases the pay for enlisted and career servicemen.

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The selective service amendments must pass both houses of Congress and be signed by the President before they become law.

Other groups opposing the military draft of divinity students include an ad hoc interfaith group of Catholic, Protestant and Jewish representatives.

In his letter to the congressmen and senators Baker explained that the Southern Baptist Convention has not taken action on the drafting of divinity students. The reason he gave is that the convention "never did consider the drafting of those people as likely."

"However," Baker continued, "the convention did request that those students who were studying for religious education and religious music ministries be granted a 4-D classification."

His conclusion to the members of Congress was that "the Southern Baptist Convention's concern for their regular ministerial students is no less than that which they expressed for those studying for a full-time lay religious ministry."

In 1952 the Southern Baptist Convention adopted a resolution which stated in part:

"Be it resolved...that (1) we petition the Selective Service...to authorize the same deferment classification for our full-time denominationally-certified, vocational lay workers as that accorded similar workers in other denominations, if the individual so desires such classification, and (2) that we also petition the Selective Service headquarters to give the same classification to our students in colleges, seminaries, and training schools who are preparing for full-time lay religious work and who are properly certified by their denomination, if the individual so desires such classification."

In 1953, speaking of these same full-time lay workers, the Southern Baptist Convention addressed itself to Congress rather than the Selective Service. It said:

"...This convention respectfully petitions the Congress of the United States to...provide whatever...legislation is necessary to give these workers and students preparing for this work the 4-D classification."



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