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News Service of the Southern Baptist Convention

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January 16, 1979

79-07

### Dallas Cowboys Head Coach Picked For Christian Award

FORT WORTH, Texas (BP)--Tom Landry, head coach of the Dallas Cowboys football team, will receive the Christian Service Award for his commitment to Christ on the playing field and off.

The award will be presented March 1 during the 10th Annual Abe Lincoln Awards program, sponsored by the Southern Baptist Radio and Television Commission.

"Mr. Landry's continuing commitment to the cause of Christ challenges us with the possibilities of service available to us all," said Paul M. Stevens, commission president. "In addition, his significant contributions to the game of football, both as a player and a coach, have captured the imagination and earned the respect of a generation of Americans. But his willingness to let God call the plays in his life have far exceeded his winning endeavors in the sports arena."

Landry is former chairman of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes national board of trustees and since 1966 he has served as chairman of the Dallas Chapter of FCA. He is also on the board of Dallas Theological Seminary and a member of Highland Park Methodist Church in Dallas.

Landry, who became a Christian in 1958, is the subject of a Radio and Television Commission film, "Tom Landry," an episode of "The Athletes" series. In the film he states, "When I became a Christian my outlook changed tremendously. Because I had a commitment I knew I was in God's hands. From that point on I have never had to worry about the future."

Landry was born in Mission, Texas and was All-Regional fullback in high school. Following service with the Air Corps in World War II, he attended the University of Texas. While at Texas he earned All-Southwest Conference honors and co-captained the Longhorns.

He played for the New York Giants and was their defensive coach until 1959. In 1960 he joined the newly-formed Dallas Cowboys.

Landry has led the Cowboys from a winless first season to five Super Bowl appearances and two Super Bowl championships. His team was in Super Bowl XIII Jan. 21.

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Missionary Critically Ill,  
Awaiting Surgery in New York

Baptist Press  
1/16/79

NEW YORK (BP)--Maxine (Mrs. Gordon E.) Robinson, Southern Baptist missionary to Nigeria, is in critical condition in a New York City hospital following the rupture of a cerebral aneurysm.

Mrs. Robinson was hospitalized Jan. 3 in Ibadan, Nigeria, where she and her husband are active in church development. She was flown to the Presbyterian Hospital in New York for treatment at its neurological institute Jan. 12.

She was accompanied by her husband and Dr. John Tarpley, a missionary physician. Mrs. Robinson's condition must stabilize before the aneurysm, an enlarged area of a blood vessel, can be surgically removed. Doctors reported some improvement in her condition Jan. 14.

A native of Mullin, Texas, Mrs. Robinson was appointed in 1955. The Robinsons have two children, both of whom remained in Nigeria in school.

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Southern Names Byrd  
To Fill New Position

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (BP)--Davis Byrd has been named to the newly-created position of director of facilities, planning and management at The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary.

Byrd, who has been administrative assistant for campus planning since August 1976, will assume the duties of the new position, which will combine his present position with that of director of the physical plant, August 1, 1979, when Kenneth Herren retires as director of the physical plant.

Since coming to Southern, Byrd has completed a master campus plan which was adopted by the seminary's board of trustees. The new position will allow Byrd to remain involved in the continuous process of updating the plan as well as its implementation.

Byrd received a bachelor of architecture degree from Rice University in 1964. He spent 11 years in Florence, S.C. as an architect and planning consultant.

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Baptist University  
Enrollment Increases

Baptist Press  
1/16/79

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (BP)--Southern Baptist colleges and universities bucked the tide of enrollment decline in the nation last fall.

Total enrollment in the 53 junior and senior colleges and universities sponsored by state Baptist conventions within the territory of the Southern Baptist Convention increased by 0.6 percent while enrollment at the nation's colleges fell by 0.5 percent.

Preliminary figures compiled by the SBC Education Commission indicate that a total of 92,489 students were enrolled in the Baptist institutions. The enrollment figures on the nation's colleges and universities were presented in a preliminary study compiled by the National Center for Education Statistics.

Following the trends set by the nation's colleges, Baptist institutions saw their greatest enrollment increase in the two-year institutions.

"The fact that there was any increase at all is significant," said Arthur L. Walker Jr., executive-director of the Education Commission. "Our increase was greater because of the decrease at other colleges."

The drop in total enrollment in the nation's colleges was the second in three years. 1976 marked the first year of decline after 24 years of uninterrupted growth. Southern Baptist college enrollment has not experienced a decline since 1970.

The increase in enrollment in the Baptist schools was spread fairly evenly throughout those areas where Baptist colleges are located. Though enrollment did not increase in all Baptist schools, there was not a single geographical area which did not experience some growth in some institutions, according to Walker.

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Baptist Film Project  
Premieres on NBC

Baptist Press  
1/16/79

FORT WORTH, Texas (BP)--"This Other Eden," a documentary of England's history and the role religion has played in shaping the nation, will premiere nationwide on NBC at 1 p.m. EST Feb. 4.

The hour-long special, produced in cooperation with the Southern Baptist Radio and Television Commission, will provide an overview of England's history from Stonehenge to the present. Actor Alexander Scourby narrates.

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"This documentary is unusual because it combines some of the best history, travel and religious experiences," said Truett Myers, head of the commission's television department.

John Lord, noted World War II documentarian wrote the film, which was produced and photographed by Joseph Vadala.

Some scenes featured in the special include the early Roman baths, ruins of Glastonbury, Bamburgh Castle, whose lord encouraged the first Christian missionary, and Runnymede, where King John signed the Magna Carta.

Also included are such modern points of interest as William Carey's cottage at Moulton, the H.M.S. Victory at Portsmouth (Lord Nelson's flagship during the Battle of Trafalgar) and the Wesley Chapel of the Methodist Church of London.

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#### WRAP-UP

WMU Gets Missions Picture,  
Lays Plans for Future Work

Baptist Press  
1/16/79

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. (BP)--Updates on the work of Southern Baptists' two mission boards highlighted the executive board meeting of Woman's Missionary Union, auxiliary to the Southern Baptist Convention.

Also punctuating the week-long meeting were approvals of the revised WMU base design and organizational plans for 1980-81, and adoption of a statement on women in church related vocations.

Baker James Cauthen, executive director of the SBC Foreign Mission Board and former missionary to China, talked about missions possibilities that may result from the recently normalized relations between the U.S. and China.

He said Chinese government policy is strictly against Christianity and that there are churches still boarded up and out of use.

"Christians touring China need to ask 'Why are the churches closed up?'" Cauthen said. "If enough people ask enough questions in the right places, officials will have to come up with a better answer. Maybe churches will be opened again."

Winston Crawley, director of the board's overseas division, restated encouraging statistics that show missionary appointments in 1978 exceeded those in 1977 by 25 percent, with a total of 2,906 missionaries plus more than 2,800 volunteers in 94 countries.

R. Keith Parks, director of the board's mission support division, said a recent survey showed that 87 percent of the churches had a marked increase in giving to the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering for foreign missions because of the Bold Mission Thrust emphasis to win the world to Christ by the end of the century.

Parks, while acknowledging the increase, said "we can't go on financing the entire mission enterprise by barely meeting the rate of inflation. There are going to be financial problems in the future if we really don't get bold in our giving."

William G. Tanner, executive director-treasurer of the SBC Home Mission Board, said that for Southern Baptists to reach their goal of 50,000 churches by the year 2000, they "will have to at least double the yearly amount of church starts." The SBC currently has over 35,000 cooperating churches.

Tanner said because Christians know that God is in charge, they can possess a "holy optimism" about the world and the missions enterprise. "It is a holy optimism that can directly affect the generosity of our giving and the zeal of our work in his world," he said.

The WMU base design, a document designating the organizational structure and responsibilities of Woman's Missionary Union work in the church, was approved for implementation in 1981-84. Next year's plans will continue a mission support emphasis entitled "Life-Changing Commitments."

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In response to the specific issue of women in church related vocations, WMU adopted an official statement, recognizing that the topic deals with one of the many groups within WMU constituency. A study of WMU publications was included to insure that all concepts and graphics represent women and girls in roles consistent with the policies confirmed in the official response.

In administrative business, the WMU board approved new policies in the following areas: "flexicon" schedules for employees; personnel records administration; a variety of training and enrichment opportunities for personnel; a new position of assistant to the education division director; an additional holiday for employees; and a faster accrual schedule for employee vacations.

The board revised goals for WMU's two major missions offerings that provide approximately half the annual budgets for the SBC's mission boards. The Lottie Moon Christmas Offering for foreign missions goal for 1979 was set at \$40.5 million and the 1980 goal at \$45 million. The Annie Armstrong Easter offering for home missions goal for 1980 will be \$15.5 million and the 1981 goal \$17,250,000. It's \$15 million this year.

La Venia Neal, treasurer of WMU for 26 years, announced her intention to retire April 30.

WMU Executive Director Carolyn Weatherford reported that in 1978, the WMU instituted their seminary intern program with Earl Ann Lenert from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary and Joy Luebbert from The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary. Interns for 1979 will be Cathy Howle from Southern and Karen Reed from Southwestern.

Also a new periodical, "Mission Friends Share," was initiated; two staff positions were added in a reorganization of WMU's editorial department; one position was added in the language department; and a production department was established.

In her address, Miss Weatherford charged the board to ask the Lord "to give us wisdom to do better."

"We must have a first class commitment to first class causes," she said. "We must reorder our priorities not to do more but to do better, and to enjoy what we are doing."

The six new members of the acteens national advisory panel are: Gina Butera, New Orleans, La.; Vicki Jo Hammond, Freeland, Md.; Susan Washburn, Blue Mountain, Miss.; Jacqueline Joiner, Columbiana, Ala.; Deborah Walton, Jasper, Ala.; and Brenda Schaub, Kansas City, Mo.

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WMU Responds Officially  
To Consultation on Women

Baptist Press  
1/16/79

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. (BP)--In an official response to the Consultation on Women in Church Related Vocations, the Woman's Missionary Union has issued a document detailing 11 policy commitments for renewed efforts in that area of its constituency.

"We have pledged ourselves to give attention to areas of need or misunderstanding that became apparent in the consultation," said Carolyn Weatherford, executive director of WMU. "In most of these areas, WMU has been taking some positive action for years. In light of today, we clarify and reaffirm our intentions."

One policy commitment is to "show inclusively and specifically God's plan for women to be bearers of the good news to all people." Others are in the areas of Bible study, theology and doctrine, audience, dialogue, jobs, role models, purpose, heritage, self image, missions and the denomination.

The executive board of the WMU, an auxiliary of the Southern Baptist Convention, issued the response at its annual meeting.

The document, drafted by staff and board members who attended the consultation in September 1978, recognized "that this topic deals with one of the many different groups within our constituency."

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"Woman's Missionary Union considers all women in a Baptist congregation to be part of our audience, whether they be laywomen, professionals in a church or denominational career, or clergywomen," the new policy stated. "As we program for missions in light of the personal life situations of all our constituents, we will also make consideration of the special needs of women in all types of church and denominational careers."

The statement included the approval of seven immediate projects or studies, including a dinner for women in church related vocations to be held in Houston, June 10, in connection with the WMU national annual meeting.

Also: a study of WMU publications to be sure that all concepts and graphics represent women and girls in roles consistent with the policies confirmed in the official response; a review of curriculum and activities in light of these policies; the possibility of a referral service for women and girls interested in missions related vocations; a possible quarterly publication for women in these positions.

The document noted that biblical, doctrinal and theological studies need to be more specific as related to women.

"In teaching biblical, historical and contemporary missions, we will pointedly show that God has a specific plan and will for each woman, that God does call women for mission service, that women have direct access to God, that the body of believers has obligation to uphold women in fulfilling their callings under the Lordship of Christ, and that pursuit of these beliefs is consistent with all that is pure and biblical in Baptist belief," said the policy on theology and doctrine.

The response promised to provide platforms in publications and national meetings for women to dialogue about their callings and struggles. It also pinpointed the need for women who have found fulfilling roles in WMU and in missions careers to share their experiences and to serve as role models for young women.

The response affirmed WMU's purpose as education and involvement in missions for a primarily female audience. "We continue to believe that the values of missions education and experience coincide perfectly with the need for women to define their own roles. For the sake of missions and for the sake of individuals, we will redouble our programs to educate women and girls about the limitless spectrum of lay and professional service they may choose to render through missions," the document stated.

The document committed WMU to help women who aspire to serve in church related vocations "but are not sufficiently versed in denominational operations to know how to seek positions."

"We commit ourselves to educate all women in the procedures and polity of our denomination in order to prepare them for fuller participation. At the same time we encourage all denominational entities to deal equitably with women," the board said.

In other business the board had prolonged discussion of terminology in its program design for 1981-84. The official programming document labels many officers as "chairmen." That title still stands after several attempts to find an applicable term that nobody could label as sexist.

"I'm sorry if someone glances at this word and chooses to misunderstand WMU," one debater said. "Anybody who reads our literature and acts through WMU knows where our policies stand."

"Most of our constituents have no problem with words like chairman being applied to women. Let's not get ridiculous in order to satisfy a few," she said.

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High Court Clears Way  
For New Flynt Trial

By Stan Hastey

Baptist Press  
1/16/79

WASHINGTON (BP)--In a decision involving questions of legal procedure, the Supreme

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Court cleared the way for yet another prosecution of Larry Flynt and his "Hustler" magazine.

Flynt, who has already been convicted of pandering and distributing obscene materials in violation of Ohio law and sentenced to seven to 25 years in prison, had asked the high court to stall a second trial because the presiding judge would not allow him to employ out-of-state attorneys to plead his case.

The second trial centers around another Ohio law prohibiting the dissemination of "harmful material" to minors. Flynt is accused of publishing a pamphlet entitled "war, the real obscenity." According to the grand jury which indicted him, the pamphlet showed "in lurid detail the violent physical torture, dismemberment, destruction or death of a human being."

The Supreme Court's 5-4 decision upheld the trial judge, William Morrissey, who cited an Ohio law allowing judges to disqualify out-of-state lawyers from arguing before Ohio courts.

Two lower federal courts sided with Flynt, who maintained that most Ohio courts routinely permitted attorneys from outside the state to appear.

The unsigned decision of the high court held, however, that an attorney's privilege to practice anywhere he pleases "is not a right granted either by statute or the constitution." The majority did acknowledge that in view of lawyers' "high mobility" and the bar's "trend toward specialization," perhaps the practice of ignoring state boundaries in the profession ought to be "encouraged."

Nevertheless, licensing and regulating attorneys are matters to be left to the states, the court held.

In a dissenting opinion for himself and two other justices, Justice John Paul Stevens attacked the majority's reasoning, declaring that the basic issue involved lawyers' constitutional right to the due process of law. Attorneys do not forfeit that protection by crossing state lines, he argued.

Stevens said that the majority ruling places "unrestrained discretion" in the hands of individual judges who may then arbitrarily disqualify lawyers from practicing in their courts. Such was the case with Judge Morrissey, who openly expressed his hostility toward one of Flynt's would-be attorneys, calling him a "fellow traveler" of pornographers.

Stevens argued that present-day mobility in American society mandates the practice of law across state lines. He cited as "commonplace" both interstate law practice and multistate law firms. Of equal importance, Stevens said, is the fact that outside attorneys must often be called in to argue unpopular causes.

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Mrs. Carter, Trentham  
Urge ERA Ratification

By Stan Haste

Baptist Press  
1/16/79

WASHINGTON (BP)--Rosalynn Carter continued the White House push for ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment, telling a group of religious leaders that final approval of the controversial measure is "right."

In a 15-minute meeting in the diplomatic reception room at the White House, Mrs. Carter met with 11 representatives of Protestants, Catholics, and Jews, including her pastor, Charles A. Trentham.

The group, representing the Religious Committee for the Equal Rights Amendment, was invited to the White House in conjunction with the observance of the National Days of Prayer and Action for ERA, Jan. 12-15.

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Mrs. Carter praised the interfaith effort, saying that persons of all faiths who "care about their families and their lives" are seeking final ratification of the ERA.

Trentham, pastor of the First Baptist Church of Washington, issued a statement following the meeting declaring that "woman as the bearer of children, barefoot, in the kitchen over a hot stove is not the biblical image of God's intention for womankind."

"Jesus was always the lover and champion of women," the presidential family's pastor said. "The Christian faith teaches that God took woman not from man's head or foot but from his side to be equally yoked with him in the common and glorious enterprises of life, to warm his heart, to be the helper and inspirer of his noblest aspirations and achievements."

Trentham's statement made note of the advances of women in primitive societies where the Christian missionary presence has been felt.

Ratification of the ERA, he concluded, "is a matter of simple justice long overdue."

Both President and Mrs. Carter have long advocated ratification of the amendment. It was a prominent theme in the president's drive for the Democratic presidential nomination and in his successful 1976 election campaign.

Since Congress adopted the proposal in 1972, 35 of the required 38 state legislatures have also passed ERA. During its last session, Congress extended the original ratification deadline from March 1979 to June 1982.

Despite the deadline extension and heavy White House support, the fate of the controversial measure remains in doubt. Several of the state legislatures yet to ratify have shown no inclination to act. In others, ERA proponents have been dealt repeated defeats.

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Santa's Neighbor  
Not Sour on Alaska

By Mike Livingston

NORTH POLE, Alaska (BP)--When Bill Duncan tells people he works at the North Pole, most of them think he is joking.

But he patiently explains there really is such a place, and for more than 10 years he was pastor of the First Baptist Church of North Pole, Alaska.

It's the next question that he answers less seriously: "Yes, Santa Claus lives about two blocks from where we live."

The temperature plummeted to 60 degrees below zero Duncan's first winter at North Pole. His blood was still thin from the 11 previous winters he was a pastor in Arizona and Nevada. Going to Alaska from Nevada, Duncan says, is something like going from an oven to a deep freeze.

But winters don't confine Duncan indoors. "If you stay inside all the time you develop what they call 'cabin fever' which leaves you feeling like you want to climb the walls," he explains. "So people who come to Alaska go ahead and do things just as normally as they would in any other part of the country."

Well, almost as normally. If you forget to put aircraft lubrication on your car axles and the car sits out all night, the axle will probably twist completely off when you drove away in the morning. And cars must be equipped with electric circulating water heaters which come on periodically to keep the car from freezing.

Duncan, who feels Alaska is the last pioneer area in America, says most of the people who come here either love it or they hate it. A common Alaskan term is "sourdough." It describes some of the people who have come to Alaska and don't like it. They're sour on the world because they don't have enough dough to get out.

Unless newcomers feel challenged by the frontier ruggedness of Alaska, as Duncan was 11 years ago, becoming sourdough can be only a winter away.

When Duncan accepted the call to the First Baptist Church of North Pole in 1968, the church was 15 years old. And it had had 15 pastors.

The church had grown up around a log building that had been added onto three, probably four times. In the educational facilities below the 300-seat auditorium, the ground was visible through the cracks in the walls.

During the spring "breakup," water poured into the building and mud washed up through the cracks. The Duncans lived in a little log house for two years until a new parsonage was built.

Nevertheless, during the 10 years and four months that Duncan served as pastor, the church reached out dramatically from its small community of 500 people to the transient Tanana Valley with its Air Force and Army bases.

Sunday School enrollment went from 100 to 501--the largest in the state; there were 925 baptisms; the church budget went from \$17,000 to \$140,000; a Christian school was organized and 49 students were enrolled from kindergarten through the 11th grade.

But to Duncan, the real measure of the effectiveness of the ministry is the number of young people involved in the total church program. "On any given Thursday night, there are more youth than adults out visiting," he says proudly. "There is no doubt the church is going to continue to grow, and they have the possibility of a great future."

Now Duncan's goal, and his job as the new director of associational missions, is to help all of the churches of the Tanana Valley Baptist Association become as strong as First Baptist Church of North Pole.

Most of the 10 churches in the association are smaller today than they were 10 years ago, and that's disturbing because the population of the valley has gone from 40,000 to 60,000 during the same period. Four of the churches are without pastors.

"I'm not sure why the churches are smaller, but as director of missions my prayer and my number one priority is that I will be able to strengthen the churches," states Duncan. "This is not an easy field and we will need everyone's prayers and support."

"In addition to strengthening the churches, we also have visions of trying to begin Bible study groups along the 799 miles of the Alaskan pipeline from Prudeau Bay to Valdez," Duncan says. "There are pump stations located periodically along the pipeline and there are men living in these campsites that we hope to reach through study groups. I'm optimistic about what's going to happen in our churches and I believe we are standing right on the threshold.

"We're going to do the job here that we trust the Lord will be pleased with, so that we, as Southern Baptists, can say, 'we've actually done our best.'"

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Adapted from March, 1979 "Probe" magazine.

Mars Hill Receives  
Its Largest Bequest

Baptist Press  
1/16/79

MARS HILL, N.C. (BP)--Mars Hill College will receive approximately \$2 million in a bequest from the estate of Mrs. Burette Myers of Statesville, the largest bequest in the 123-year history of the Baptist college.

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