



**BAPTIST PRESS**

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80-60

**Baylor Students Shocked  
At Loss of Scholarships**

By Terry Barone

WACO, Texas (BP)--Three Baylor University students involved in the controversial Playboy issue are dazed after they were advised their scholarships will not be renewed and were urged to seek an education elsewhere.

Two of the three students losing scholarships, Jeff Barton and Cyndy Slovak, were fired as editors of The Lariat, Baylor's student newspaper, in February, along with Barry Kolar, a graduating senior.

The other student facing loss of scholarship is Sheri Sellmeyer, a former Lariat assistant editor, who resigned after the firings. She is current president of Sigma Delta Chi, the student journalism society on campus.

The student editors raised Baylor administrative wrath in February when they published two editorials supporting girls' rights to pose for a Playboy photographer. A photographer for the magazine has since visited Waco to photograph Baylor coeds for a fall edition featuring "Girls of the Southwest Conference." None of some 80 girls who showed up were photographed nude.

Miss Sellmeyer, a junior journalism and German major, said she and the other students were advised of the scholarship loss during a meeting April 3 with Loyal Gould, chairman of the journalism department, and three other faculty members.

"We hadn't done anything in the past three weeks (before the scholarships were withdrawn)--not a thing, not a single thing and then, all of a sudden, we're called on the carpet...and told because of our continuing efforts to damage the university our scholarships were taken away," Barton said.

Barton said Gould gave them no specifics when they asked what they had done to continue damaging the university. Barton said he feels agitation by some other students on campus is being blamed on him and the two other students.

He said the three were "urged to continue elsewhere at another university and were asked to turn in tickets to the journalism banquet for April 9." The annual banquet is the event at which scholarships are announced for the coming year and journalism honors are awarded.

Gould said the most important reason the scholarships were yanked is because the administration felt that the students' activities had caused a major donor to remove a \$7,000-a-year scholarship from the journalism department.

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Barton, who had received a \$500 scholarship this year, was expecting to receive a larger amount next year. Both women had received \$1,000 scholarships this academic year. Their scholarships were not contingent on their being a staff member of the newspaper.

"I don't know what I'm going to do yet," Miss Sellmeyer said. "I don't think I can afford another private school. My immediate plans are to finish this year and then see what happens."

Miss Sellmeyer, who has a 3.94 grade average, said she is "confused and disappointed" in Baylor. "I still have a lot of friends at Baylor, and I like a lot of my professors," she said. "I have worked hard for what I've got. It's all kind of like a bad dream," she said. "This is not what I expected from Baylor, needless to say."

Barton and Miss Slovak both were surprised that Miss Sellmeyer was a target of university action since she was relatively uninvolved in the whole affair.

Barton said he felt her loss of scholarship was because Sigma Delta Chi had cancelled its sponsorship of Press Day in protest over the firings. Press Day is an annual high school event when prospective journalism students and their teachers come to Baylor.

Miss Sellmeyer had been president of Sigma Delta Chi one week before her scholarship was pulled. Sigma Delta Chi voted to cancel sponsorship of Press Day before she became president.

Barton, a fifth-generation Baylorite, said, "I'm leaning toward staying. I don't feel very secure, but I think very highly of the university's academic reputation. I have a lot of friends here. Obviously I'd like to stay."

When McCall was asked if the students could return next year, he said, "Yes, they can return. Dr. Gould told them they could go someplace else if they are going to stay here and thumb their noses at Baylor and not cooperate and take advantage of the program. If they don't feel like they can participate in the program and support it and benefit from it, they ought to go someplace else."

McCall said he did not consider the action disciplinary toward the students. "We are just using limited school funds for those students who are going to support, participate in and appreciate the program."

Miss Slovak, a junior journalism and Russian major, said she is angry that Baylor has the "nerve" to claim itself a liberal arts university "when it doesn't guarantee their students that right."

"We're involved in a very tiresome situation," she said. "People don't realize just how hard it is. They think, 'Well, now that you are fired it will be easy as can be,' but so many other problems are going on. There are so many things behind the scenes (in this situation) that students don't know about."

Barton said he had been contacted by a number of people offering to help the three financially, but said they hadn't decided whether to accept the assistance.

He feels the Playboy controversy will devastate the school's reputation in professional circles, although Gould disagrees with that, citing support for the firings.

"But because I say that and because I speak out like that does not mean I am out to destroy the university or that I have anything at all against the university. It means that I care enough to place my personal reputation on the line, that I care enough about this university to stand up and say so when there are some things that I think need to be improved."

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Board Allocates \$5 Million,  
Raises Furlough Pay By \$420

Baptist Press  
4/11/80

ALEXANDRIA, La. (BP)--The Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board has allocated another \$5 million in 1979 Lottie Moon funds, raised the cost-of-living supplement for furloughing missionaries by \$420 each per year, and received cost estimates for a new missionary orientation center.

The actions were taken at the board's April meeting in Alexandria, La., where board members were told that giving to the 1979 Lottie Moon Christmas Offering for foreign missions had reached a record \$37,425,200, which is 92.4 percent of the \$40.5 million goal.

The board earmarked \$32 million of the offering for overseas operating needs under the 1980 budget, plus \$5 million anticipated for capital projects. The new action specifies the particular projects to which the capital money will be allocated.

The board's chief executive, R. Keith Parks, said that the need for the funds is so urgent that large portions of it have already been advanced to fund urgent overseas work. The rest, he indicated, will go mainly for "such basic essentials as missionary cars, houses, buildings and certain institutional needs."

Additional appropriations will be made in June, Parks said, if the offering funds continue to come in as anticipated.

The board voted \$160,000 to cover the cost of raising missionaries' furlough cost-of-living supplements by \$420 each per year. This will make the furlough supplement \$2,790 per missionary, effective May 1, 1980. In addition, each missionary also receives a basic salary and allowances for children and for rent.

Before the adjustment, the total actual furlough salary for two missionary parents with three children was \$17,238, or \$9,010 per single person. The overseas pay varies with the cost-of-living provided for each mission field, since such costs are much higher in some countries than others.

Winston Crawley, director of the overseas division, said this is the first time in six years that the board has felt it necessary to make a mid-year adjustment in this cost-of-living supplement.

The board also authorized appointment of a special committee to make an in-depth study of exchange rates and changes in inflation that affect the overseas cost-of-living supplements of missionaries.

The board received a detailed report on the estimated costs involved in relocating its missionary orientation center in the Richmond area. Callaway Gardens, Ga., present site of orientation, is limited in the number of missionaries it can handle and is not available in the tourist season.

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Mr. and Mrs. J. Harwood Cochrane of Richmond have donated a 233-acre site for a new center near Richmond. The board is weighing the costs of developing a center at this location while also considering the United Methodist Children's Home site, a 29-acre location on Broad Street about two blocks from the board's home offices in Richmond.

Costs in both instances for a fully developed program at the sites were approximately \$7 million, a figure which board members said would have to be raised by individual gifts for this specific purpose.

Parks said the board will inspect both sites during its May meeting in Richmond, consider ways in which the program might be developed by stages that would require less money, and attempt to come to some decision by its June meeting.

Moving the orientation center to the Richmond area, he said, would make it possible for the board to provide a year-round orientation program and a site that also could be used for missionary journeyman training, re-orientation of missionaries during their furloughs and other purposes.

Board members re-elected John W. Patterson of Virginia as president and Doris Mullendore of Kentucky as first vice president. The titles of elected officers are expected to be changed later to chairman and vice chairmen to avoid confusion with the board's use of president and vice presidents for chief administrative officers, effective May 1, 1980.

The April board meeting next year is scheduled for Florida, April 6-8, with the appointment service at the Lakeland Coliseum and the meeting in Tampa.

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Story Lady's Messages  
Keep Phone Lines Busy

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4/11/80

ADA, Okla., (BP)--"Thank you for calling the Story Lady," says the recorded message. "Today's story is about Mary and Joseph...."

So begins a typical three-minute recorded message for children in a new ministry of First Baptist Church, Ada, Okla. By dialing a telephone number, children can hear Bible stories, written and recorded by public school and Sunday School teacher Bobbie Altmiller.

"The minute we hooked the machine on the line, it started cycling with incoming calls," said Randy Tompkins, minister of education and administration. In the first 24 hours, there were 292 calls registered. After three days the total was 940 and after three weeks, almost 5,000 callers had listened to the stories.

The cost of an additional telephone line and recording equipment was less than \$350 and Tompkins said the service is a valuable publicity tool for the church as well. The phone ministry will also be used to offer rides to Sunday school on the church's buses and to publicize Vacation Bible School and revivals.

"We plan to ask the children calling to draw a picture of the story they've heard and send it to the Story Lady," Tompkins explained. "We'll acknowledge their pictures with a post card and display the drawings in the church foyer, plus we'll get names and addresses for follow-up visitation."

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