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Flying Means Freedom  
For Brotherhood's Smith

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By Mike Davis

MEMPHIS, Tenn. (BP)--Flying, to James H. Smith, is freedom.

Smith, executive director of the Southern Baptist Convention's Brotherhood Commission, became interested in flying when a friend took him up shortly after World War II.

Though flying excited him immediately, he didn't pursue it because his wife, Nona, was more than a little afraid of anyone in her family flying.

So the flying flame was turned down to simmer until in 1967 when Smith became executive secretary of the Illinois Baptist State Convention. Along with the job came travel demands that kept him on the road constantly.

"I was traveling 50,000 miles a year," Smith says. "I thought there has got to be a better way than this, so why not learn to fly."

Before Smith had a chance to mention the possibility to Nona, she suggested he learn to fly to help cover the miles more easily. She didn't have to suggest twice and in two months Smith had completed his requirements.

He has logged 3,000 hours flying time, holds an instrument rating, and can rev up his Cessna Cardinal RG on a second's notice.

That's a decided advantage for someone who spends 150 days on the road speaking in churches and participating in Brotherhood and other meetings. He's discovered that Delta really isn't ready when he is. He can get to more places more conveniently for the same price as a commercial ticket, and he can take Nona with him.

On the ground, reading holds Smith's interest, especially when the weather's right for a fire in the fireplace.

"I'm not much of a television fan," he says, "but I do catch the weather. And I look forward to reading the newspaper, except I usually read the morning paper after dinner.

Roses provide another diversion. Although Smith's not had time in Memphis to plant his usual 12 to 15 "very select" bushes, he does have half a dozen miniature bushes which he says will keep him busy for a while.

"I'm a radical pruner when it comes to roses. Pruning has a way of producing new growth," he explains, emphasizing that the pruning principle is one of his personal philosophies.

"We have to constantly take inventory of our lives. Superfluous things attach themselves to us. Sometimes it takes a radical pruning to clean things up. When we are willing to cut some of those things in our lives, it's amazing how much new can grow."

Constant growth, learning to do new things, seems to be a benchmark of Smith's lifestyle. He's not timid about learning something new.

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"I was in my middle 40s when I learned to watski, and I hadn't snow skied until last year," says Smith, 61. "A person needs to learn new things, to try things they have never done before."

Raising four children has provided plenty of growth opportunities for the Smiths.

A pastor for 20 years, Smith found the demands of a local congregation can stretch family ties to the limit. He handled it by making their personal interests his own.

"When my sons were interested in fishing, we fished. When they were interested in guns, I became interested in guns," he says.

And when Smith's son Mark became interested in motorcycles Smith went halfers with him on a 177cc Benelli.

At 14, Mark wasn't old enough for a license. When he rode the cycle he needed someone with a license to be along, so Smith, then 53, got a license and rode behind Mark.

That personal interest accounts for what Smith sees as one of his greatest accomplishments as a parent. He calls it family togetherness.

"What we learned to do was make something out of little things. In the summer I would take my children with me to visit church members in the hospital. They would wait in the lobby, and when I finished the visits, we would make a stop by the zoo or go for ice cream."

The kids literally grew up at Southern Baptist Convention annual meeting trips Smith would turn into vacation jaunts where every stop would be as elaborate as a full course picnic or as casual as stopping by a corner grocery for hot dogs to grill.

And when there was time at home, Smith found ways to increase family ties.

"From the time my children were big enough to hold a screwdriver, I tried to teach them to take care of things around the house. We'd take the lawnmower engine apart and put it back together again. Instead of letting them watch, I'd hand one of them the screwdriver and let him turn the screws. The neighborhood kids would get in on it too."

In the Bartlett, Tenn., neighborhood where Smith lives, his interest in children still creates a pretty big gathering. His corner lot is just right for after school ballgames, and Nona's orange juice and cookies spark more than passing interest.

"We had talked about setting out some trees," Smith says, "but that would just get in the way. The kids playing and having a good time is a lot more important than a couple of trees."

Smith won't say if he's been in on any of the front yard free-for-alls, but considering he's mastered single engine flying, and he learned to ski at 60, some weekend soon you might just see a slightly greyed wide receiver cut a blazing Z-Out near the corner shrub.

Southeastern Adopts Record  
Budget, Tops Campaign Goal

WAKE FOREST, N.C. (BP) -- Trustees of Southeastern Baptist Seminary elected Charles Michael Hawn as associate professor of church music and adopted a record budget of \$4,589,773 during their semi-annual meeting.

Hawn, minister of music at First Baptist Church, Decatur, Ga., was elected to a newly-created position to strengthen the church music program.

The record budget reflects a 13 percent increase over the previous year. The largest component of projected receipts, \$3,136,354, or 68.3 percent, will come from the Cooperative Program of the Southern Baptist Convention.

During their meeting, trustees joined with the seminary family and friends in celebrating the successful completion of the school's "Equipping for Bold Mission" campaign. More than \$4,131,000 was pledged during the three-year effort, exceeding the \$3.5 million goal.

Southeastern also celebrated Founders' Day of the 31-year-old seminary by hearing an address by Dale O. Steele, 1966 graduate, and witnessing the awarding of the Citation for Excellence in Christian Ministry to Lawrence E. Matthews, pastor of Vienna Baptist Church, Vienna, Va.

Trustees also:

--Gave each of the 115 employees a two percent bonus from funds received from the Convention's Bold Mission Thrust Challenge budget;

--Increased, along with other Southern Baptist seminaries, the matriculation fee from \$200 to \$225, effective this fall;

--Adopted an Executive Council Study/Improvement Plan for the top four administrators, which includes a six-month leave similar to the traditional one-year sabbatical leaves for faculty members;

--Named the school's library reference collection in memory of Edwin Calhoun Osburn, first librarian, who died in 1981.

--Granted tenure to G. Thomas Halbrooks, associate professor of history;

--Approved sabbatical leaves during 1982-83 to Donald E. Cook, professor of New Testament; Richard L. Hester, professor of pastoral care and psychology of religion; Glenn T. Miller, associate professor of church history; and Alan P. Neely, professor of missions;

--Designated the seminary's largest classroom building the Theodore F. Adams Hall, upon its renovation;

--Adopted a landscaping plan for the 25-acre central campus; and

--Established the Warren-Poe Award for Rural Church Ministry Endowment, George and Eleanor Balentine Endowment for Student Aid, Broyhill Hall Maintenance Endowment, Ola and Claud Wethington Endowed Scholarship, Canadian Baptist Student Endowed Scholarship, Future Ministries Fund and Pooled Income Fund.

Southeastern Elects Hawn  
To Church Music Faculty

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WAKE FOREST, N.C. (BP) -- Charles Michael Hawn of Decatur, Ga., has been elected associate professor of church music at Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary effective this fall.

A native of Cape Girardeau, Mo., he is minister of music at First Baptist Church, Decatur.

He was raised in Des Moines, Iowa, and is a graduate of Wheaton College, Wheaton, Ill. He holds the master of church music and doctor of musical arts degrees from Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, and has done additional study at Drake University, Oberlin Conservatory, Westminster Choir College and Aston Magna Baroque Performance Institute.

Hawn taught at Mercer University in Atlanta and at Southern Seminary from 1973 to 1980. He also was minister of music at Crescent Hill Baptist Church, Louisville, Ky., where he was ordained in 1980.

At Southeastern, Hawn will teach church music education with a focus on youth and children's music, emphasizing the ministry dimension of church music leadership.

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Jackson Withdraws  
From Evangelism Post

By Mary Jane Welch

RB

Baptist Press  
3/23/89

RICHMOND, Va. (BP) -- W. H. (Dub) Jackson Jr., has resigned as missionary regional coordinator for the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board's partnership evangelism program, and has decided not to be reappointed as a foreign missionary.

After almost 20 years of organizing preaching trips for others, Jackson wants to do a little preaching himself. He says he has no specific direction, other than a desire to preach in the countries where he led partnership evangelism teams as president of World Evangelism Foundation, and to preach and encourage involvement in the program among stateside churches.

Jackson and his wife, Doris, had accepted reappointment as Southern Baptist missionaries in February, but Jackson said they continued praying and felt a "growing conviction that we should not accept the work of regional consultants for partnership evangelism."

The Jacksons had not yet moved to Europe where he was to spend his first year as regional coordinator, but he plans personal trips there and to other areas to thank leaders who worked with him while he was with WEF and to reassure them of his continued support of the program under the Foreign Mission Board.

WEF, chief promoter of partnership evangelism since 1968, phased out operation in late 1981 when the Foreign Mission Board agreed to take responsibility for the program which links Southern Baptist churches to overseas churches through pastor-led teams of laymen.

A former missionary to Japan, Jackson said he was personally disappointed that he would not be filling the spot, but was sure the program would not be handicapped by his withdrawal.

Charles W. Bryan, the Foreign Mission Board's vice president for overseas operations, expressed disappointment with Jackson's decision, but added that he also feels confident present staff can give necessary coordination to the new program.

During coming months, Jackson will be organizing papers he plans to donate to Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary.

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Southern Baptists Exceeding  
Some Overseas EMT Challenges

By Bill Webb

RICHMOND, Va. (BP)--At the first-quarter mark of Bold Mission Thrust, overseas personnel are ahead of schedule but evangelistic results are behind.

If the numbers of missionaries, volunteers and countries where they work continue to increase as they have the first six years, they will surpass Bold Mission Thrust challenges for the year 2000, according to J. Winston Crawley, Foreign Mission Board vice president for planning.

However, totals for overseas Baptist churches and mission points, church membership and annual baptisms are behind the pace needed to achieve the projected tenfold increase by the end of the century.

The categories for missionaries, countries and volunteers are the ones over which Southern Baptists, through the board, have the most control. "The other four are merely the reporting of work that is primarily that of national Baptists, who have their own plans for the development of the work," Crawley explains.

Church membership overseas is about 96 percent of what it should be to be on schedule for reaching Bold Mission Thrust challenges. Baptisms stand at about 91 percent; churches, 87 percent; and churches and mission points combined (including the figures in the "churches" category), nearly 81 percent.

Crawley cautions against using the figures in these categories alone to judge Southern Baptist evangelistic performance. Missionaries impose neither statistical goals nor evangelistic strategy overseas; rather they are partners with individual Baptists, churches and conventions in each country. The statistics reflect cooperative efforts of missionaries and national Baptists.

Even though statistics related to evangelistic response are short of projected challenges for six years, Crawley points out encouraging signs based on 1981 reports.

One is the rapidly escalating number of nationals enrolled in overseas seminaries and theological education by extension. Seminary enrollment during 1981 totaled 5,643, more than 15 percent higher than 1980, while extension enrollment increased to 6,936, up 20 percent.

That increasing force of National Baptist leadership will be complemented by an increasing number of career missionaries on the field--up a strong 134 in 1981 over 1980.

Crawley also sees encouragement in the strong evangelistic fervor and response in places like Brazil, Korea, the Philippines and several African countries. And though church membership and baptisms have fallen short of projected results since 1975, each improved by more than 15 percent during the past year, well ahead of the annual rate needed to achieve Bold Missions figures projected for the year 2000.

The one goal Southern Baptists are likely to shatter long before the end of the current century is for 10,000 volunteers per year. In 1981, 4,646 served overseas, more than double the number needed to remain on target for the ultimate challenge.

As of Dec. 31, 1981, Southern Baptist missionaries overseas totaled 3,136, more than the 3,100 needed to stay on track for 5,000 missionaries by the year 2000. With work in 95 countries, the board also is ahead of the pace needed for the ultimate Bold Mission Thrust goal of 125 countries.

Overseas churches related to Southern Baptist missionaries baptized a record 127,337 believers in 1981, short of the 140,000 needed to stay on schedule for the end of the century.

The actual number of churches is 11,470 compared to the 13,180 needed to remain on target for Bold Mission Thrust. Churches and mission points combined total 25,905, much fewer than the 32,130 needed to keep pace.

Baptists Respond to Flood  
Victims' Needs in Indiana

CO  
Baptist Press  
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FORT WAYNE, Ind. (BP)--Tennessee Baptists brought their disaster van home after two days of feeding flood relief workers in Fort Wayne, Ind.

Rapid melting of the winter's 70 inches of snow and heavy spring rainfall combined to push the Maumee River over its banks, flooding a 15-county area and driving 10,000 residents from their homes.

Fort Wayne's teen-agers are credited with saving much of the city. Schools were closed and the teens went to work making, filling and stacking a million sandbags to keep the water away from buildings. The Tennessee van, manned by 13 volunteers, fed many of the teen-agers.

Kenny Rains, associate in the Tennessee Brotherhood department, said the van set up at the Fort Wayne coliseum, a shuttle point for bag making and distribution. Rains said some workers were there 91 straight hours, existing on sandwiches. The disaster van fed hot meals.

Before it left Fort Wayne, it went downtown to feed policemen and firemen who had been on continuous duty without a hot meal for several days. "It left a lot of goodwill behind," said Mrs. Emmett Powers, wife of the pastor of North Ridge Baptist Church.

Wayne Paeph, a mass care specialist from Iowa working with the Indiana Red Cross said: "The Baptists have been fantastic. I worked with a unit in a Texas flood and the Baptists do a great job."

"Can you imagine what a thrill we experienced when we heard the Red Cross say 'We need you Southern Baptists?'" said Mrs. Powers. The Tennessee Baptist volunteers were housed in the North Ridge church.

The Southern Baptist Home Mission Board sent \$22,000 for disaster relief to be utilized at the discretion of the Indiana executive director. Mrs. Powers indicated local Baptists' first goal is to keep victims fed and try to help them replace lost clothing.

Indiana churches mustered forces with North Ridge to help volunteers and victims. Michael Harris, pastor of Calvary Baptist Church, said, "We have had eight men each evening this week out working. We have tried to work from 10 p.m. to 2 a.m. when just a few workers were out."

"The churches have been cooperative, but the lack of training was noticable," said Tom Woods, state disaster relief coordinator for Indiana Baptists. "This accentuates the need for training and, hopefully, raises the possibility for established associational disaster teams in each of our 15 associations."

The unexpectedly cold temperatures caught the Tennessee volunteers by surprise. They were ill prepared with appropriate clothing but members of the North Ridge Church provided gloves and outerwear when needed.

Dick Trot, a Fort Wayne man who ran a catering service, hurried to the scene and took over cooking duties in the Baptist van while the Tennessee volunteers served the food. Trot, not a Baptist, donated \$3,500 in food supplies himself.

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Carters Presented Awards  
At Christian Life Seminar

WB  
By Stan Haste

Baptist Press  
3/23/82

ATLANTA (BP)--Former President Jimmy Carter and Rosalyn Carter received separate Distinguished Service Awards at a national "Strengthening Families" seminar for outstanding contributions in applied Christianity, including setting high standards for their marriage and family life.

The Carters received their awards during the opening session of the three-day seminar--sponsored by the Southern Baptist Christian Life Commission--that attracted 1,100 Southern Baptist participants to Atlanta.

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Carter was cited as "faithful Baptist churchman, courageous champion of human rights, patient proponent of peace with justice," and "world leader of grace and vision." The citation also called him "a statesman of high principles on whom history is destined to smile."

In his response, the former president, looking younger and healthier than when he left the White House 14 months ago, emphasized the importance of the family in his own upbringing.

Rosalynn Carter was lauded not only as "consistent practitioner and effective advocate of strong family life," but also as a "model first lady," "conscientious champion of responsible freedom for women," and for her attention to mentally retarded, aging, hungry and poor.

"I grew up the best way," she responded. "I grew up in a Christian home, as Jimmy did, and we have tried to give our children the sense of stability and belonging that comes from a close family and that comes from loving Jesus."

This seminar, an annual event of the Christian Life Commission, comes at the beginning of a three-year Bold Mission Thrust emphasis on the family in Southern Baptist churches.

Theme interpreter David R. Mace, noted family and marriage authority, described the major functions of the family as producing children, which includes transmitting human culture from one generation to another, and as seeing all humanity as family.

Declaring the Bible is "the right place to begin" in focusing on family concerns, Mace said men and women continue God's creative function when they produce new life, "the most God-like activity" of which they are capable.

Mace, who directs the marriage enrichment program at North Carolina Baptist Hospital, Winston-Salem, also said marriage is the foundation stone of the Christian family. Pastoral and clinical experience has taught him that "at the heart of well-functioning families" are "warm and creative marriages."

Charles Petty, executive director of the North Carolina governor's office of citizen affairs, identified several values necessary for the family. He cited the need for time spent with family members, deeper individual relationships within the family unit, affection displayed in words, actions and physical touching, and well-placed priorities.

Speaking on the parent's role, author and family film series producer James C. Dobson shared two insights reached through his own two children--"the incredible passage of time" and the conviction that ultimately "nothing really matters" except loving God, following Christ and nurturing the family.

Florida Congressman Claude Pepper urged expanding American families to include the elderly. "The great tragedy" of old age in the U.S., he said, is the feeling of "being a burden instead of a blessing." The 81-year-old Pepper, who has become a national crusader for the rights of the elderly, concluded that "older people have a future as well as a past."

Veteran Southern Baptist pastoral care expert Wayne E. Oates spoke to the special needs of the pastor's family by declaring that "the church has only one bridegroom," Jesus Christ himself. He said ministers are "presumptuous to act as if we were married to the church."

Rather than "putting the Lord's work first," ministers should heed Paul's admonition to Timothy that anyone who fails to care for his own family is worse than an unbeliever, a neglect Oates described as "the least-used test of orthodoxy."

The former Southern Baptist Theological Seminary faculty member, now professor of psychiatry and behavioral sciences at the University of Louisville, also warned that their families, like all others, are vulnerable to divorce.

Oates concluded from his personal clinical experience that most divorces among ministers are the outgrowth of "good men and good women simply not accepting the discipline of making time alone with each other as a number one priority."