



BAPTIST PRESS

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January 30, 1986

86-11

Seminary Student Killed
By Unknown Gunman

FORT WORTH, Texas (BP)--A Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary student was killed in an apparently random shooting at his home Jan. 29.

Police do not yet have a motive in the shooting death of Douglas Clifton Seale, a master of music student from Meridian, Miss.

Seale was pronounced dead on arrival at John Peter Smith hospital after being shot twice at his home.

Lawrence Klemptner, vice-president for student affairs, said an unknown person fired five shots through the living room window of the Seales' home about 11:45 Wednesday night. The home is a private residence, but is located across the street from a seminary-owned apartment complex.

"It looks like somebody walked up to the screen and fired five shots through it," Klemptner said. "Somebody just got up there and unloaded a pistol."

Seale's wife, Teresa, was in the bathroom when the shooting occurred, Klemptner said. Seale apparently was seated on a couch in the front room. Two of the five shots fired through the draped window hit Seale, Klemptner said.

Several neighbors reported hearing shots but saw nothing when they looked outside.

Seale began seminary studies in the spring of 1984 and ranked in the top quarter of seminary students, according to Registrar Dan McLallen. He was a graduate of Meridian Junior College, Meridian, Miss., and Bellhaven College, Jackson, Miss.

The death brought a hush over the seminary's annual Church Music Workshop, which was underway this week. More than 800 students, faculty and visitors to the workshop stood for a moment of silent prayer for Seale's family after James McKinney, dean of the school of music, announced the tragedy.

"We had planned an opening theme of 'joy' and will continue with it," McKinney said. "In times of trouble it is even more important than ever to find comfort in the joy of our salvation and in our God."

In his prayer, McKinney admitted, "God, we can't understand it...but in time we know you will be victorious...we ask that you give Cliff's family comfort and us some understanding."

The day of his death, Seale had begun duties as a youth choir director at Sagamore Hill Baptist Church. Michael Catt, associate pastor and student minister at the church, said Seale had performed two songs at the regular youth service that night--"Be Still and Know that I Am God" and "Open My Eyes Lord, I Want to See Jesus."

"Cliff was one of the most genuine people I ever met," Catt said. "He was full of joy. I spent the day with him yesterday and he was talking about his plans for the choir. I had never seen anyone so excited."

Funeral arrangements are pending.

SBC Hunger Gifts
Set Record In '85

By David Wilkinson

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (BP)--After witnessing with other Americans the vivid television images of starving Africans, Southern Baptists in 1985 responded with a record \$11.8 million in contributions to their denomination's program of hunger relief at home and abroad.

The 1985 total shattered the 1984 record by more than \$4.6 million as gifts to the hunger funds administered by the Southern Baptist Foreign and Home Mission Boards surpassed the previous year's total for the eighth consecutive time.

The total 1985 overseas and domestic hunger receipts of \$11,830,146 reflect a dramatic 65 percent increase over the 1984 figure of \$7,166,772.

The Foreign Mission Board reported receipts of \$10,625,897 for overseas hunger relief in 1985, an increase of more than \$4 million over 1984. The combined FMB's 1985 figure for hunger relief and general relief was \$11,833,271.

At the Home Mission Board, receipts for domestic hunger nearly doubled from \$617,871 in 1984 to \$1,204,249 in 1985. The figures do not reflect monies given for hunger that were utilized in local churches, associations and state conventions.

Hunger experts at both mission boards and the Christian Life Commission, which coordinates education and action on hunger issues among Southern Baptists, responded to the record level of giving with mixed emotions.

John Cheyne, Foreign Mission Board senior consultant for human needs ministries, said the record total reflects Southern Baptists' "growing confidence" in the convention's hunger relief program. On the other hand, he noted that giving to overseas hunger relief tailed off in the last quarter of 1985 in stark contrast to the pattern of previous years. For example, receipts for hunger and general relief for December 1985 totalled \$1.83 million compared to more than \$2.4 million in December 1984, he said.

"My personal evaluation is that the American public is beginning to experience some burnout after last year's overwhelming media exposure to world hunger," Cheyne said. "The news media probably will turn their attention to other issues in 1986, even though the needs are still acute in many countries in Africa."

Robert Parham, director of hunger concerns for the Christian Life Commission, expressed similar concern about the implications of "charity fatigue."

"The evidence of growing concern among Southern Baptists is good news," Parham said, pointing out that annual per capita giving among Southern Baptists increased from about 49 cents in 1984 to 82 cents in 1985. He added, however, that "the fact that giving to overseas hunger relief dropped off late in the year is bad news for millions of chronically hungry people."

Parham pointed out that after the media focus on Ethiopia in the fall of 1984, Southern Baptists in the four months of December 1984 through March 1985 gave nearly \$6.3 million to hunger relief through the Foreign Mission Board--more than the annual total for any single year prior to 1984.

Cheyne agreed that media coverage "was a major factor" in the level of giving. But, he added, Southern Baptist giving "has been increasing steadily in recent years, and we would have experienced an increase this year even without media attention to the Ethiopia crisis."

Without the motivating factor of TV coverage, giving may drop in 1986, Cheyne said. "Yet I would rather see a steady increase that doesn't simply mirror emotional highs but reflects an ongoing concern that underscores the strength and integrity of our entire program," he said.

Prior to 1978, he added, Southern Baptist giving patterns could easily be tied to major crises or natural disasters. With increased support of the convention-wide World Hunger Day emphasis in October and a year-long hunger emphasis in a growing number of churches, Southern Baptists have developed a "solid commitment" to hunger ministries, he said.

At the Home Mission Board, national hunger consultant Nathan Porter commended state convention leaders for "a holistic missions strategy that includes the needs of the hungry in our own country." More state conventions, he said, have now implemented the 80/20 division of undesignated hunger gifts suggested by the Southern Baptist Convention (80 percent to overseas hunger relief and 20 percent to domestic hunger relief.)

The HMB, Porter said, has been "thrilled to be allies with state conventions and associations who not only have helped to generate more money but also have helped distribute hunger funds and have involved more people in direct ministries to the poor and the hungry."

In contrast to the Foreign Mission Board, giving to U.S. hunger relief through the Home Mission Board continued to increase during the last quarter of the year, Porter said.

He pointed out that with a small carry-over from domestic hunger gifts at the end of 1984, the HMB last year allocated slightly more than it received. "The money doesn't just sit around," he said. "With the national scandal of increased hunger and poverty, the needs continue to be greater than our resources."

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Virginia Couple Named
Outstanding Missionaries

Baptist Press
1/30/86

CORPUS CHRISTI, Tex. (BP)--Sam and Grace Faulkenberry, missionaries working in a small coal-mining community near the Virginia-Kentucky border, have been honored as missionaries of the year involved in Christian social ministries through the SBC Home Mission Board.

The Faulkenberrys, who work together in the Clincho Baptist Chapel in Clincho, Va., received the Clovis A. Brantley Memorial Award given in memory of a pioneer Baptist missions worker involved in Christian social ministries.

Paul Adkins, associate director of the missions ministries division of the SBC Home Mission Board, said they were selected from among 12 nominees because of more than 20 years faithful service among the poor people of Virginia and Kentucky.

They moved to Clincho in July of 1984 after 10 years as director of Christian social ministries for Lynchburg Baptist Association, and 13 years as director of a mission center in Bristol, Va. Previously, he had been pastor of Marrowbone Baptist Church, Lookout, Ky. They are natives of South Carolina.

In the brief time they have been in Clincho, the Faulkenberrys said they had visited every family in the coal-mining community of about 1,000.

Last Christmas, they made sure that every family had food to eat on Christmas day, and that every child in the community received a toy for Christmas. Two churches in Virginia, Columbia Baptist in Falls Church and First Baptist in Bristol, provided the toys for the children at the Faulkenberry's request.

Adkins said three major factors contributed to their receiving the award: their willingness to go to the small town of Clincho at an age when most missionaries are looking toward retirement, their outstanding relationships with people in the community, and their willingness to try innovative methods.

In accepting the award, "Miss Grace" (as she is called by friends) said the publicity in local news media about the award had affirmed the people of Clincho and made them feel they could be recognized for something besides poverty.

She explained that the Clincho area, hit hard by the closing of the coal mines years ago, is so poor the only news coverage the area ever gets is a degrading description of hardship and suffering that destroys their pride and self-esteem.

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"It's really done something for Clincho," Grace added. She said one of the women in the community told her how proud she was because of the award. "As long as we live, you'll always be in our hearts and part of our lives," the Clincho woman told them.

When they first arrived, the people in the community refused to accept them because they were outsiders, she said. But after Sam visited in every home in the community, and they discovered he and Grace had genuine love for them, their attitudes changed, she said.

When they arrived in Clincho, only about 20 persons were attending worship services at Clincho Baptist Chapel. The people were discouraged and disillusioned because of two splits in the church, and because no pastor would stay long with the congregation. The Faulkenberrys assured the people they were there to stay.

Now attendance has doubled to more than 55, and the people are excited about plans for a revival March 30-April 6. About 75 children and youth are involved in the chapel's weekday ministries, which provides the only organized recreation in town. Last summer Faulkenberry organized the first softball team for kids in the community.

They discovered one reason many of the people would not attend church was because they were ashamed of their tattered clothes. So Sam and Grace asked for help from Baptist Woman's Missionary Union groups in providing clothes for the people. Several families have started coming to church after receiving new clothes, they said.

Grace, a trained literacy worker, is tutoring a mechanic and teaching him to read and write. "It's amazing how fast Johnny has learned to read," she said. "He's so thrilled."

"We just love these people," she said. "What they need more than anything else is for someone to love them."

Faulkenberry, 64, added they have tried to demonstrate that love by finding out the needs of the people and trying to help them, whatever the needs might be.

They said they plan to stay in Clincho as long as the Home Mission Board will let them before retiring in Kershaw, S.C., where they own property.

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(BP) photo mailed to state Baptist newspaper by Atlanta bureau of Baptist Press

National WMU Adds
Five To Staff

Baptist Press
1/30/86

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. (BP)—Woman's Missionary Union, SBC, has added five new employees to its professional staff, all to hold positions in the Missions Education System, led by Associate Executive Director Bobbie Sorrill.

Marsha Spradlin will be Baptist Young Women consultant; Pat Ritchie, training design group manager; Carol Causey, training designer; Cindy McClain, Girls in Action/Acteens products editor, and Edna Ellison, Royal Service editor.

Alabama native Spradlin was Girls in Action/Mission Friends consultant for Texas WMU prior to coming to the national WMU headquarters. She has also worked with the North Carolina WMU staff.

In her new position, Spradlin will lead in designing activities for BYW and Campus BYW. She also will participate in designing curriculum and products for the age-level organization. Spradlin and other age-level consultants will implement approved plans outlined in WMU's dated plans. She succeeds Sheryl Churchill, who is now the consulting services group manager at WMU, SBC.

Ritchie and Causey will work in the training design group to develop "how to" kits needed by state WMU leadership to train workers. They will evaluate and approve plans for training design projects, including the production of training modules.

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Ritchie is a native of North Carolina and has been involved in its WMU for the past 12 years, serving as GA/MF director and MF/BYW consultant. She has written units for WMU's publication START, various articles for Associational Planning Guide, and day camp units. Ritchie succeeds Donna Maples, who has joined the Tennessee WMU staff.

Causey, a native of Texas, worked as associate media minister to Broadway Baptist Church in Fort Worth for five years, prior to her new position in Birmingham. She also has worked as a teaching fellow at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth, Texas. Causey is the first to hold the position of training designer at the national WMU headquarters.

Arkansas native McClain succeeds Fran Carter, who retired last year, as GA/Acteens Products editor. In her new position, she will implement and interpret products in the dated plan, WMU's calendared outline of activities. McClain also will direct the work of an editorial assistant and artist.

McClain was a missionary journeyman to Liberia, West Africa, from 1983-85.

Ellison comes as the new Royal Service editor from South Carolina where she taught high school English for the past 15 years. About five years ago she began free-lance writing and over the past year has written for Royal Service.

She will be involved in enlisting and training writers; editing magazine copy, and directing, coordinating, and implementing magazine curriculum plans for Baptist Women. Ellison succeeds Betty Merrell, who is now the magazine group manager at WMU, SBC.

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Baylor Donations During 1985
Total More Than \$26 Million

Baptist Press
1/30/86

WACO, Texas (BP)—Donations to Baylor University in 1985 totaled more than \$26 million, the second highest yearly total in the school's 141-year history.

John Scales, associate vice-president and director of development, said Baylor received \$26,025,980 during 1985. In all, Baylor received more than 9,000 gifts from individuals, corporations and foundations.

In 1984, Baylor had its highest gift-giving total when almost \$40 million was donated to the school. That total included the Mattie Allen estate of almost \$14 million, the largest single gift in Baylor history. The \$40 million total represented a 167 percent increase over the previous year's total—the largest percentage increase of any major university in the country, Scales said.

Gifts from corporations and businesses totaled \$1.8 million in 1985, with Southland Paper Mills of Houston donating the largest corporate gift at \$350,000. Foundations gave about \$1.5 million, with M.D. Anderson Foundation of Houston donating the largest amount at \$325,000.

Four estate gifts combined for a total of about \$7 million, Scales said. They include the Monroe Ferrell and Louise K. Ferrell estates of Houston, the Jim Weatherby estate of Kerrville and the Earl Hollandsworth estate of Longview.

Alumni gifts to Baylor totaled more than \$9.8 million for the year. The year 1985 also saw the kickoff of the Covenant Campaign, an effort to increase Baylor's endowment to \$300 million by 1992. At present, Scales said, Baylor's endowment is \$153 million. To reach its goal, Baylor must increase its gifts by about \$1.6 million per month throughout the campaign. The campaign is about two months ahead of schedule. National campaign chairman is businessman Jack Folmar of Dallas.

Scales said Baylor's goal for 1986 is to achieve a 20 percent increase in donations and to seek more than 11,000 gifts.

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