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News Service of the Southern Baptist Convention

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April 8, 1986

86-49

President Names  
Parliamentarians

By Dan Martin

ATLANTA (BP)—Three parliamentarians, two of them former officers of the Southern Baptist Convention and the third a certified professional parliamentarian, have been named for the 1986 annual meeting of the SBC, scheduled June 10-12 in Atlanta.

SBC President Charles F. Stanley, pastor of Atlanta's First Baptist Church, announced the appointments April 8, naming James T. Draper Jr., pastor of First Baptist Church of Euless, Texas, and president of the SBC 1982-84; John Sullivan, pastor of Broadmoor Baptist Church in Shreveport, La., and SBC first vice president 1982-84, and C. Barry McCarty, of Elizabeth City, N.C., a certified professional parliamentarian and ordained Church of Christ minister.

Although the SBC Constitution does not provide for a parliamentarian, previous presidents have appointed persons to assist in parliamentary procedure during the annual meetings.

The issue of a parliamentarian became controversial in the 14.4-million-member denomination during the 1985 annual meeting in Dallas, when Stanley, acting on the advice of parliamentarian Wayne Allen, pastor of Briarcliff Baptist Church in Memphis, Tenn., ruled out of order an effort to amend the nominations of the SBC Committee on Committees.

The ruling has resulted in twin lawsuits in federal and state court in Georgia and in a recommendation from the SBC Executive Committee that Bylaw 16, which deals with the nominations process, be changed to specifically allow one-by-one challenges from the floor, while prohibiting the introduction of an alternate slate of nominees.

The lawsuits are pending and the SBC Committee on Order of Business has said the proposed changes in Bylaw 16 will be among the first items of business when the SBC meets in Atlanta. The recommendation will be considered prior to the nominations of the Committee on Committees.

Stanley said he appointed Draper because "I feel he did a fantastic job presiding at the annual meeting in the past." He noted Sullivan "ran against me" for president of the convention in 1984, and, as chairman of the SBC Executive Committee's Bylaws Workgroup "is probably as knowledgeable about the constitution and bylaws of the convention as anyone I know."

The president said he received a list of certified parliamentarians from the American Institute of Parliamentarians and selected McCarty from the list.

"He came to see me in Atlanta and we had a good long talk. After discussing his background, I was very pleased and think he will be an asset to us," Stanley said.

McCarty, a former vice president of the American Institute of Parliamentarians, is a professor of public speaking and debate at Roanoke Bible College in Elizabeth City, N.C. He is a graduate of Roanoke Bible College, Abilene (Texas) Christian University, and holds a doctorate in rhetoric and argumentation from the University of Pittsburgh.

He conducts seminars on convention parliamentary procedure for state and local governmental bodies, professional associations and political action groups, and is a lecturer in a practicum on parliamentary law each summer at Marshall-Wythe School of Law of the College of William and Mary, Williamsburg, Va.

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McCarty also is active in North Carolina politics and is one of two North Carolina members on the national Republican Party Committee on Permanent Organization. He was 1984 chairman of the North Carolina Republican Convention and a delegate to the 1984 national GOP convention in Dallas. He is active in Republican campaigns for congressional and senatorial candidates.

According to his biographical data sheet, McCarty also has been a "spokesman and lobbyist for state and national Right-to-Life groups."

McCarty, currently minister of the Jarvisburg, N.C., Church of Christ, has been at churches in Georgia, Pennsylvania, North Carolina and Virginia and has preached more than 100 revivals and Christian conferences throughout the United States and Canada.

Stanley described McCarty's credentials as "impeccable" and said the fact McCarty is not a Southern Baptist "will not be a problem. He assured me he will be fully aware of the SBC Constitution and Bylaws by the time the convention meets in Atlanta."

The SBC President added Draper and Sullivan are familiar with SBC polity and rules, and McCarty is a parliamentary procedure expert and "should work well together."

The SBC Peace Committee, named during the 1985 annual meeting to seek solutions to the controversy rocking the denomination, discussed guidelines for the appointment of a parliamentarian, but, according to chairman Charles Fuller, deferred action after Stanley told the 22 members he planned to name Draper, Sullivan and a certified, professional parliamentarian to assist him during the 1986 meeting.

"The Peace Committee will continue its consideration of guidelines, but after Dr. Stanley took action, we deferred making a recommendation for the upcoming convention. Our deliberations have to do with the future; Dr. Stanley's announcement concerns the immediate convention before us," said Fuller, pastor of First Baptist Church of Roanoke, Va.

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Baptist Press  
4/8/86

SBC FORUM  
The Omni  
Atlanta, Georgia  
June 9, 1986

Theme: "The Hallmarks of Our Baptist Heritage"

Master of Ceremonies: Gene Garrison, pastor, First Baptist Church, Oklahoma City  
Music Leader: Joe Morrell, minister of music, Woodmont Baptist Church, Nashville, Tenn.

1:15—Music

1:30—Welcome—Gene Garrison

Scripture—Kenny Cooper, pastor, Emory Baptist Church, Atlanta

Prayer—Pete Hill, pastor, First Baptist Church, Vero Beach, Fla.

1:40—"Baptists and Christian Freedom"—Norman Cavender, layman, Claxton, Ga.

2:05—Music

2:10—"Baptists and the Role of Women"—Carolyn Weatherford, executive director, Woman's Missionary Union, SBC, Birmingham, Ala.

2:35—Music

2:40—"Baptists and the Doctrine of God"—Bill Sherman, pastor, Woodmont Baptist Church, Nashville, Tenn.

3:05—Music

3:10—"Baptists and Christian Education"—Herbert Reynolds, president, Baylor University, Waco, Texas

3:35—Music

3:45—"Baptists and Missions"—Keith Parks, president, Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board, Richmond, Va.

4:10—Music

4:15—"The People of the Book"—James Flammig, pastor, First Baptist Church, Richmond, Va.

4:40—Benediction—Bill Bruster, pastor, First Baptist Church, Abilene, Texas

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SBC Forum To Focus  
On Baptist Heritage

ATLANTA (BP)—"Baptist hallmarks" will capture the attention of some 7,500 participants expected to attend the SBC Forum June 9 in Atlanta, one day prior to the Southern Baptist Convention annual meeting.

"The Hallmarks of Our Baptist Heritage" will be the theme for the meeting, which will begin at 1:15 p.m. in The Omni in downtown Atlanta, said Charles Wade, pastor of First Baptist Church of Arlington, Texas, and chairman of the SBC Forum committee.

"At a time when all Southern Baptists are looking for a way to unity and peace in our convention, the Forum wants to sound the strong notes of our Baptist heritage," Wade said.

"There are some great truths that have made us one people across the years," Wade added. "Among those have been our strong commitment to the lordship of Jesus Christ, the authority of the Scripture, soul competency, mission outreach, evangelism and Christian education.

"The Forum will give many Southern Baptists a place to hear those unifying themes of Baptist life fervently and effectively proclaimed," he said. "We hope messengers will take in the Forum as spiritual preparation for a great convention."

Gene Garrison, pastor of First Baptist Church of Oklahoma City, will be master of ceremonies. Joe Morrell, minister of music at Woodmont Baptist Church in Nashville, Tenn., will be music leader.

Speakers and their topics will include Norman Cavender, layman from Claxton, Ga., Baptists and Christian freedom; Carolyn Weatherford, executive director of the Woman's Missionary Union, SBC in Birmingham, Ala., Baptists and the role of women; Bill Sherman, pastor of Woodmont Baptist Church in Nashville, Tenn., Baptists and the doctrine of God.

Also Herbert Reynolds, president of Baylor University in Waco, Texas, Baptists and Christian education; Keith Parks, president of the SBC Foreign Mission Board in Richmond, Va., Baptists and missions; and James Flamming, pastor of First Baptist Church of Richmond, Va., The People of the Book.

Kenneth Chafin, professor of Christian preaching at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, Ky., is program chairman for the 1986 Forum. Henry Crouch, pastor of Providence Baptist Church in Charlotte, N.C., is finance chairman, and Pete Hill, pastor of First Baptist Church of Vero Beach, Fla., is publicity chairman.

The SBC Forum was initiated in 1984 when the Southern Baptist Convention met in Kansas City, Mo.

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Union University's Craig  
To Lead East Texas Baptist

Baptist Press  
4/8/86

MARSHALL, Texas (BP)—East Texas Baptist University trustees have elected Robert E. (Jack) Craig as president of the 74-year-old Texas Baptist coeducational institution.

Craig, a 1950 graduate of the college, is the first layman and first alumnus elected to lead the school. He replaces Harvey D. Lewis, who has been acting president since last November.

Craig has been president of Union University in Jackson, Tenn., for 19 years.

"Under his leadership there," said Charles McIlveene, search committee chairman, "a new campus was planned and built on a new site; the university's assets were increased by over \$13 million; student enrollment was increased by 95 percent; library holdings were increased by 60 percent; and he helped obtain new academic accreditation for Union University's National Schools of Music, and National League of Nursing.

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"Similar gains were noted while Dr. Craig served as president of Southwest Baptist College, in Bolivar, Mo.," McIlveene said. "Student enrollment increased from 370 students to 1,178 during his presidency."

Craig will assume his new role sometime in June of this year, Wallace W. Watkins, trustee chairman.

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Legal Scholars Tap Roots Of  
Religious Freedom In U.S.

By Stan Hasteley

Baptist Press  
4/8/86

WILLIAMSBURG, Va. (BP)—An array of constitutional scholars from across the nation put the religion clauses of the First Amendment under the microscope of historical scrutiny during a two-day symposium in colonial capital, Williamsburg, Va. The event coincided with the bicentennial observance of Thomas Jefferson's Virginia Statute of Religious Freedom.

Within a stone's throw of the hall where delegates to Virginia's general assembly hammered out the document that shaped federal debate over religious guarantees in the national Constitution, the scholars examined the historical roots of religious liberty and the meaning of the establishment and free exercise clauses.

Philip B. Kurland, professor of law at the University of Chicago, credited Virginia Baptist minister John Leland and a handful of others with bringing the agitation that resulted in the eventual declaration that opens the Bill of Rights, "Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof."

Kurland said Baptists and Quakers—two of colonial America's most despised religious minorities—created the necessary ferment for adoption of the First Amendment, a ferment occasioned by the demands for religious uniformity by the colonies' officially-established churches.

He countered recent arguments by Supreme Court Justice William H. Rehnquist and U.S. Attorney General Edwin Meese III that James Madison—author of the Bill of Rights—was motivated solely for political reasons to insist on attaching the first 10 amendments to the Constitution. Instead, Kurland said, Madison "turned to his own efforts in Virginia" to guide him in insisting on incorporation of the Bill of Rights. "It is hard to believe," he added, that Madison did not have in mind the Virginia background to the larger debate over religious guarantees in the federal Constitution.

Confessing his own atheism, Kurland said he had been "hard put" to find evidence atheists were intended to be included in the religious liberty guarantees. "Freedom for irreligion" probably was not countenanced by the framers of the Constitution, he acknowledged. Yet colonial America moved first from intolerance of religious diversity to toleration, then to full freedom, he said.

During the ensuing centuries, he added, "The hopes, if not the intents, of the framers have been met," with legal protection guaranteed to all sorts of religion and irreligion.

Among a quartet of other speakers who also addressed questions on the origins of the religion clauses, University of Texas law professor Douglas Laycock labeled as "the big lie" the view set forth by Rehnquist and Meese that all the framers intended was to avoid establishment of a national church and preferential treatment of one Christian sect over another.

He noted those questions were "squarely posed" in the first session of the U.S. Senate and rejected in three separate votes. What the Constitutional Convention adopted instead, Laycock said, was the "broadest version" brought before either the Senate or the House of Representatives.

Laycock concluded the framers' wisdom in adopting such expansive language to guarantee religious freedom has been vindicated by the passage of time, noting the First Amendment has been applied across the years to protect the rights of a population "vastly more pluralistic than anything they could imagine."

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But former U.S. Solicitor General Rex E. Lee, now in private practice in Washington, attacked the Supreme Court's three-part test to determine if laws or other public policies violate the establishment clause. (The test, adopted by the high court in its 1971 decision in *Lemon v. Kurtzman*, holds such a law or policy must fall unless it has a secular purpose, has the primary effect of neither advancing nor inhibiting religion and does not result in excessive entanglement between church and state.)

The three-part test, Lee said, is "so fundamentally flawed that (it) cannot long stand."

Although he acknowledged the first two prongs of the test, dealing with purpose and effect, must be included in any future high court revision of its rationale, Lee insisted the excessive entanglement prong must be rejected. That portion of the test, he said, "has become the ultimate inquiry" in deciding too many church-state controversies.

To illustrate, Lee criticized courts, including the Supreme Court, for invalidating some parochial aid laws on grounds the state becomes excessively entangled with church matters when public monies flow to church schools. If churches that operate such schools agree to the required inspections and other conditions for receiving tax aid, he asked, "What business is that of anyone but the church?"

Jesse H. Choper, dean of the School of Law at the University of California at Berkeley, gave qualified support to Lee's views about the three-part test, saying the Supreme Court's interpretation of the free exercise clause "is at war" with its establishment clause doctrine.

Choper suggested what he termed a "reconciling principle" to remedy the court's inconsistency. That view, he said, would hold that government action violates the establishment clause if it has a clearly religious purpose and results in harming citizens' religious liberty.

He added, however, he considers the use of tax funds for religious purposes a "pristine violation" of the establishment clause.

The symposium, "Religion and the State," was sponsored by a privately-endowed organization, The Institute of Bill of Rights Law. The institute was founded in 1982 at the Marshall-Wythe School of Law to recognize the prominent role of Williamsburg and the College of William and Mary in the legal education of early American leaders.

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Clanton Tops  
BPRA Officers

Baptist Press  
4/8/86

GLORIETA, N.M. (BP)--David Clanton, director of public relations at Baylor University in Waco, Texas, has been elected president of the Baptist Public Relations Association for 1986.

Clanton and the remainder of the organization's officers were elected during the organization's annual meeting at Glorieta (N.M.) Baptist Conference Center.

Other officers include Jay Durham, director of the media department, Southern Baptist Home Mission Board, program vice president; Anita Bowden, news editor, Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board, membership vice president; Greg Warner, associate editor, Florida Baptist Witness, newsletter editor;

Marty Blankenship, director public relations, Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, secretary; Lonnie Wilkey, director of communications, Southern Baptist Education Commission, treasurer; and Ken Lawson, research and production consultant, Foreign Mission Board, awards chairman.

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