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October 12, 1988

88-163

Southeastern's Drummond promises  
to 'take up spiritual mandate'

By Al Shackelford

WAKE FOREST, N.C.(BP)--Pledging to take up the spiritual mandate of his predecessors, Lewis A. Drummond was inaugurated as the fourth president of Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary in Wake Forest, N.C., Oct. 11.

Drummond was elected president by seminary trustees March 15 and assumed the post April 1.

Evangelist Billy Graham preached the inaugural address to more than 2,300 participants who packed Binkley Chapel, while about 60 students held a "litany of grief and lament for Southeastern" on the chapel steps.

Graham, who described himself as a long-time friend of Drummond, declared: "What a blessing it would be if a great spiritual awakening could come from Southeastern Seminary and sweep throughout this state and the world.

"This seminary could become a beacon light for evangelism, not only to the Southern Baptist Convention, but also to all the world."

Tying education to evangelism, Graham said, "There must be preparation and evangelism at the heart of all we do."

The evangelist also noted evangelism and social reform go together. "We take the gospel in one hand and a cup of cold water in the other," he said.

Expressing regret that he did not have a seminary education, Graham said that as he looks at his life, "I regret that I spent too much time traveling and not enough time studying."

But evaluating his friend, Graham said, "In Lewis Drummond, you have a man who can teach evangelism and be an example of an evangelist."

In his inaugural response, Drummond noted the strategic location of Southeastern Seminary and pledged himself to fulfilling the dreams of its founders. "I can see against the horizon of the future new possibilities and new opportunities for our region and for the ministry of our school," he said.

"Since missions, evangelism and meeting human need are the organizing principles of the church, our seminary as an agency of the church will be proud to graduate students who will seek to fulfill the Great Commission of the Lord Jesus Christ."

The protesting students lined the walkway at the entrance of Binkley Chapel "in silent presence and vigil." They handed out leaflets that stated, "This day is a sad and painful reminder of all that has happened to Southeastern and the people of Southeastern's community this past year and a half." The leaflet was printed by Southeastern Students for Academic Freedom.

The students wore small yellow ribbons, which have become their symbol of protest against trustee actions in October 1987 -- to ensure that only biblical inerrantists can be appointed to the faculty -- which resulted in the resignations of Southeastern President W. Randall Lolley and several other faculty and staff members.

Ribbons also were worn by some faculty members who marched in the inaugural procession.

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Drummond was installed as president by trustee Chairman Robert D. Crowley, pastor of Montrose Baptist Church in Rockville, Md.

"We are witnessing the plan of God in action," Crowley said. Noting Drummond was elected in troubled times, he urged, "We need to pray for each faculty member, each student and the administration."

Roy L. Honeycutt, president of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, Ky., brought greetings from the presidents of the other five Southern Baptist seminaries. Also participating in the inauguration ceremony were Samuel E. Balentine and Donald E. Cook, Southeastern professors, who read Scripture; Roy J. Smith, executive director of the Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, who led the invocation; and Jonathan W. Edison, president of the student council, who led the benediction.

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Accreditation investigations  
occupy Southeastern trustees

By Al Shackelford

Baptist Press  
10/12/88

WAKE FOREST, N.C. (BP)--Reaction to accrediting investigations by the Association of Theological Schools and the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools dominated discussion by trustees of Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary during their fall meeting Oct. 10-11.

Both accrediting agencies have scrutinized the Wake Forest, N.C., seminary during recent months. The examinations were prompted by the resignations of the president, most top administrators and several faculty members. The resignations came after trustees voted in 1987 to change policies so that only biblical inerrantists could be elected to the faculty.

After more than an hour of debate, trustees passed two motions to request assistance from the accrediting bodies and to authorize a trustee committee to prepare responses.

The first action, approved 27-1, called on the seminary to "immediately accept the invitation to utilize the services of the ATS staff in the effort to clarify the relationship and accountability of the trustees to their institution and their churches."

The second motion, approved 24-2, authorized the trustee chairman to "appoint a committee to prepare and present to the board of trustees a trustee response to the ATS report and that in the event the SACS report is circulated to the board of trustees, that the same committee prepare and present to the board of trustees a trustee response to the SACS report."

The ATS accrediting commission is scheduled to visit the campus in December as a followup to a visit in April by an ATS team.

A report from SACS was received by President Lewis A. Drummond and trustee Chairman Robert Crowley on the day the trustee meeting began.

Prior to approving the two motions, the trustees defeated a motion that would have delayed any action until their March 1989 meeting and defeated another motion that would have placed the time of response in the hands of the trustee chairman.

Mark Caldwell of College Park, Md., elected from the District of Columbia Baptist Convention, urged immediate acceptance of the ATS offer of assistance, to avoid the possibility of being cited by the agency.

William Delahoyde of Raleigh, N.C., countered that asking for unspecified help would be premature.

Following the motion to accept the ATS invitation, Delahoyde made the motion to name a committee to prepare and present to the trustees responses to ATS and to SACS.

Crowley said the the ATS report was "unfair and unobjective."

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In his first report to the trustees, Drummond said, "I do not believe we are in any danger whatsoever of losing our accreditation." He added, however, "We must take this report most seriously."

The ATS visiting committee arrived on the campus just days after the April 1 beginning of Drummond's presidency. According to the ATS report, the committee found the campus "a very troubled and divided institution ... that has suffered the loss of a sense of mutuality and trust among several constituencies that make up the seminary."

An investigating committee from SACS visited the campus in September.

During other portions of their meeting, trustees also dealt with financial, physical and faculty matters.

-- Crowley of Rockville, Md., was re-elected chairman. Other officers are Delahoyde, vice chairman; Kenneth Stevens of Novi, Mich., secretary; and Arlie McDaniel Sr. of Moscow, Idaho, treasurer.

The trustees were informed that the trustee executive committee had defeated a motion to recommend that "the chair be the spokesman for the board on critical matters and that all requests be directed to the chair." Trustees noted reporters and others will contact any trustee or staff member they believe can provide information about seminary business, despite any recommendation to the contrary.

-- Trustees approved a revised budget for the current fiscal year that will provide for a 2 percent cost-of-living salary adjustment for all faculty and staff members. The previously adopted budget contained no salary increases.

Drummond said funds for the increases were available because of staff reorganization. The staff now is divided into three sections under vice presidents for academic affairs, internal affairs and external affairs.

-- The trustees approved \$25,000 for a smoke- and fire-alarm system that will be tied to the city fire department.

-- They voted to close Bostwick Hall dormitory because of electrical problems that could require \$170,000 for repairs. The two residents will be relocated.

-- Five faculty positions now are vacant, and three others will be vacated by next summer, Drummond said. He reported he is in the process of recommending a new vice president for academic affairs, or dean, in the near future.

-- On a 20-7 vote, trustees granted tenure to Roy E. DeBrand, professor of preaching. Tenure had been recommended by Drummond and by the trustees' instruction committee.

The vote came on a written ballot, after the trustees defeated, 11-14, a motion to go into executive session.

However, the trustees voted 17-10 to go into executive session to discuss re-naming Janice and Mahan Siler as visiting professors of pastoral care. He is pastor of Pullen Memorial Baptist Church in Raleigh. The Silers were not on a list of adjunct professors approved by the trustee instruction committee.

After the executive session, Crowley said trustees upheld the discontinuation of the Silers' adjunctive service.

Caldwell said the trustees decided not to invite the Silers back to the campus partly because of a "Point of View" article Mahan Siler wrote in a Raleigh newspaper that was interpreted by some trustees as advocating homosexual lifestyles.

-- The trustees approved two committees to formulate responses to Southern Baptist Convention referrals.

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Messengers to the 1987 SBC annual meeting had asked each convention agency to respond to Recommendation 5 of the SBC Peace Committee report, concerning biblical beliefs of staff.

A second trustee committee will study the trustee response to a motion presented at the 1988 SBC annual meeting that all seminaries use the denomination's Baptist Faith and Message Statement as their doctrinal statement. The motion was referred to the seminaries without action of the convention.

Southeastern Seminary has its own "Articles of Faith" document that was adopted by the trustees when the seminary was opened in 1950.

-- George Worrell, vice president for external affairs, asked the trustees to personally raise \$30,000 to \$60,000 for correcting structural problems in the president's home.

-- Caldwell gave notice of his intention to present a motion to the March 1989 meeting that the trustees rescind the faculty-selection process approved by the trustees in October 1987. That action formally removed the faculty's involvement in the selection of new faculty members and placed that power with the president.

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SBC foreign mission budget  
drops below previous total

Baptist Press  
10/12/88

RICHMOND, Va. (BP)--Trustees of the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board adopted a \$167.7 million budget for next year -- \$95,000 less than the 1988 budget and the first such decrease since the Great Depression years of the 1930s.

The decision not to increase the budget was made "in light of a second consecutive \$5 million shortfall in the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering" earlier this year, Foreign Mission Board President R. Keith Parks told trustees.

"At this point in the history of our convention, both the offering and the Cooperative Program are more vulnerable than they have been in decades," Parks said.

The two main sources of funding for the foreign mission budget -- which supports more than 3,800 missionaries in 113 countries -- are Southern Baptist gifts to the annual Lottie Moon offering and the denomination's Cooperative Program unified budget. The Lottie Moon goal has not been met since 1981, and some church leaders have threatened to cut back giving through the Cooperative Program because of their dissatisfaction with the direction of the Southern Baptist Convention.

Parks warned state Baptist convention executives in September that eroding budget support eventually could force a retreat from sending new missionaries.

Asked if the FMB is sending a "message" with the lower 1989 budget, Vice President for Finance Carl Johnson said the budget simply represents reality.

"The budget should be a realistic estimation of what you think is going to happen," Johnson said. "I hope we turn out to be wrong."

Mission planners have budgeted \$72.5 million for 1989 from anticipated Lottie Moon receipts - \$11.5 million less than the goal of \$84 million but still more than 43 percent of the total budget. Some \$68.8 million, or 41 percent of the budget, is expected from Cooperative Program gifts. Investment income is projected to total \$11.5 million, and \$7.9 million is expected from designated income and other sources.

The cost of supporting missionaries on the field and sending new ones as the missionary force expands will reach \$104.7 million next year. That is more than 62 percent of the total budget and \$2.3 million above 1988. Cuts elsewhere in the budget are an inevitable result of that increase, Johnson said.

"Our revenue may not increase, but our expenses will, particularly related to missionary support," he explained.

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Cutbacks in projected mission funds will "affect every part of our work, even evangelism and church planting, our No. 1 reason for being overseas in the first place," Johnson added. "We can say missionary support is excluded from the cuts, but even that would not be correct, because the missionaries will receive no increase in their compensation," except for essential cost-of-living supplements.

Capital funding also continues a downward trend. The capital budget of \$9.4 million -- for missionary housing, cars, church buildings and the like -- is 5.6 percent of the budget, the lowest percentage in at least 25 years.

As missionaries need more and more money for basic support and work budgets, less money has been available for overseas capital needs. But eventually cars and housing must be replaced or added as the mission force grows.

The 1989 Foreign Mission Board budget for Richmond, Va., staff support, administration and promotion is \$20.7 million -- \$317,000 below 1988 -- or 12.4 percent of the budget.

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James L. Sullivan  
has cancer surgery

Baptist Press  
10/12/88

NASHVILLE (BP)--James L. Sullivan, retired president of the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board and former Southern Baptist Convention president, underwent surgery for stomach cancer Oct. 11 at Baptist Hospital in Nashville.

James Porch, Sullivan's son-in-law and pastor of First Baptist Church, Tullahoma, Tenn., said the surgery "revealed a form of lymphoma," but that Sullivan's physician expressed "optimism" following the surgery in which a portion of his stomach was removed.

Sullivan's recovery is expected to take several weeks, Porch said.

Sullivan, 78, was president of the Sunday School Board from 1953 until his retirement in 1975. He was president of the SBC 1977-1978.

Family members said Sullivan's wife, Velma, is continuing to improve following treatment for cancer earlier this year.

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Child-care bill dies  
following Senate vote

By Kathy Palen

Baptist Press  
10/12/88

WASHINGTON (BP)--A procedural vote by the U.S. Senate has killed a controversial child-care bill that at one time seemed destined for passage by the 100th Congress.

Following a failed attempt to close debate on a legislative package that included the Act for Better Child Care Services, Senate Majority Leader Robert C. Byrd, D-W.Va., said he would not schedule another vote on cloture -- a Senate procedure to close debate -- thus putting an end to the bill for this year. The cloture effort fell 10 votes short of the 60 required.

In addition to the ABC bill, the package before the Senate contained two other pieces of legislation -- one that would have guaranteed 10 weeks of unpaid parental leave for workers and another that would have cracked down on child pornography.

Proponents of the ABC bill -- which received approval from both the Senate Labor and Human Resources and House Labor and Education committees -- contended the legislation was the best way to target federal funds so as to assure availability, affordability and quality of child care.

The ABC bill would have authorized distribution of \$2.5 billion to states for child-care services during fiscal year 1989. States would have been required to use 75 percent of those funds to provide parents with grants or vouchers for the purchase of child-care services from licensed providers. States would have been allowed to use up to 15 percent in areas such as resource and referral services, salary upgrading and training and up to 10 percent for administrative costs.

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Two provisions in the bill drew the most criticism from opponents, which ranged from national education organizations to women's groups to religious organizations.

One provision would have required child-care providers receiving federal funds to meet health and safety standards set by the state. Within five years, providers would have been required to meet federal standards that would have been established by a national advisory board.

The other provision related to child-care centers operated by religious institutions. Under the bill, child-care centers sponsored by religious institutions would have been able to qualify for federal funds if they avoided religious instruction, worship or other sectarian activities. Church-related facilities could not have used federal funds to build new facilities or to discriminate on the basis of religion against children whose care was subsidized with federal funds.

But the bill would have allowed church-related providers to exercise religious preference in hiring employees and, in some cases, to use federal funds to repair or renovate facilities.

About one-third of all day-care services in the nation are provided by church-related facilities.

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Rural pastors should help  
piece together torn lives

By Ken Camp

Baptist Press  
10/12/88

COLLEGE STATION, Texas (BP)--Town and country pastors should take the torn fabric of rural life, identify scraps that can and should be salvaged and refashion the remnants into something beautiful and functional, a Southern Baptist rural sociologist says.

Gary Farley, associate director of rural/urban missions, Southern Baptist Home Mission Board, Atlanta, Ga., focused on "similarities between quilts and our lives" as he addressed the 43rd annual Town and Country Church Conference, Oct. 3-4 at Texas A&M University, College Station, Texas.

"Bringing It Together When Everything in the Home, Church and Community Seems To Be Coming Apart" was the theme of the conference, which attracted about 100 pastors and lay leaders from a dozen denominations.

Farley noted the fabric of rural America has been ripped apart by economic and social changes, particularly changes in transportation and communication. He said the changes have been both liberating and threatening, both enriching and hurtful.

"We must survey the shambles and find usable scraps that can be saved and used as a beginning for fashioning new rural communities," he said. "We must also survey the bolts and bolts of yard goods the larger society offers and select from them pieces that will blend and match and contribute to a new quilt."

Farley said changes offer rural church leaders the opportunity to discard some scraps such as racism, sexism and extreme individualism that exists at the expense of community. At the same time, Christians should accept new pieces of fabric such as "friendly technology" and new residents while clinging to positive values and a dream for the communities they serve.

"While changes come, often from forces beyond the control of the local community, and consequently the dream must be redreamed, or changed, the fact remains that the driving dynamic of a community, the 'stack pole' around which it is formed, is -- or should be -- a dream.

"Therefore as you gather scraps of the old and take pieces from the new, identify a plausible dream for the community that you serve. Share and shape the dream with other leaders. And select and shape pieces that will facilitate the realization of the new dream," he said.

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Farley urged the rural church leaders to reject the pattern of the crazy quilt that lacks overall design and purpose. He encouraged them to create a sampler incorporating the best of many patterns as a reminder that the communities of rural America have different problems requiring different solutions.

One design he suggested for use in a modified form was the Lone Star pattern, saying, "We need stars. We need light. We need those who will help us chart a course in this time of danger.

"Instead of a Lone Star, perhaps we need a Broken Star. By this I mean a humble leader. We need stars who care for others more than for themselves. We need a wounded healer who can find new enterprises and broaden the functions of our community," he added.

Using the text from Ecclesiastes 3:7 that there is "a time to tear and a time to mend," Farley challenged church leaders to "find usable scraps in the old fabric of rural America, to reshape them, then to blend them with the new technologies, peoples and organizations, blend them in many patterns and create a sampler quilt that will be descriptive, useful and beautiful -- a new quilt for rural America.

"The tearing has been done. The time for mending is upon us."

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Piland challenges churches  
to increase growth efforts

By Frank Wm. White

Baptist Press  
10/12/88

NASHVILLE (BP)--Southern Baptists need to decide whether they are willing to work hard enough to reach people, the leader of Southern Baptist Sunday school work said.

During a nationwide teleconference, Harry Piland, director of the Sunday school division at the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board, challenged Baptists to increase their efforts to reach Sunday school growth goals as part of a plan to take the gospel to the world by the year 2000.

"We need to decide if we want to reach people more than anything else. We need to decide if we are willing to do the work to reach people," Piland said in the Oct. 6 teleconference on the Baptist Telecommunication Network (BTN).

Piland said the goal of a Southern Baptist Sunday school enrollment of 10 million persons by 1990 is attainable even though growth has plateaued at 7.9 million.

"If every church had a net gain of one person per week, we could reach our goals for Sunday school growth. That is a realistic goal and an easy goal for every church to get hold of," Piland said.

Piland acknowledged that many churches have plateaued in Sunday school enrollment with 17,000 churches last year reporting losses or no enrollment gains. Fewer than half of the 37,000 Southern Baptist churches -- 15,000 -- reported increases in enrollment.

"Southern Baptist pastors need to preach biblical reasons for reaching people. We need concerned people to be involved in evangelism," Piland said.

Piland said Sunday school leaders need to make the objective of outreach clear when enlisting workers.

"Sunday school involves winning and reaching the lost as well as caring for the members. We're not reaching beyond the church. The Sunday school organization needs to become the vehicle for reaching out," Piland said.

In response to a caller from Arkansas, Piland said the pastor's role in Sunday school growth is crucial. The pastor must be involved in Sunday school, make commitments along with Sunday school leadership and make budget and schedule commitments for Sunday school.

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"The pastor can make an investment in the growth of his church by going to Sunday school and being involved. With a team of the pastor and people working together, the church can grow," Piland said.

In the first Sunday school teleconference with callers asking questions on the air, Piland responded to callers from Tennessee, Oregon, Louisiana, Texas and Arkansas. Time was not available for other callers during the 30-minute teleconference.

Piland and moderator James Lackey will conduct a second teleconference at 1 p.m. CST, Friday, Jan. 6, on BTN. The focus of the January teleconference will be Sunday school curriculum.

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Vestal gives qualifications  
for a "maturing" Christian

By Breena Kent Paine

Baptist Press  
10/12/88

NEW ORLEANS (BP)--Baptists today need to "grow up," Daniel Vestal, pastor of Dunwoody Baptist Church, Atlanta, told students and faculty at New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary during the annual Layne Foundation Lectures.

"Southern Baptists people are a self-centered people," he said. "And, what's worse, is that now in our day a theology and a type and form of ministry has emerged that not only justifies that mentality, but makes it sound as if it is biblical.

"A 'me-centered' kind of church and church life is the evidence of immaturity."

Vestal said the maturing Christian is concerned about others, rather than just himself; feeds on the "meat of the word" rather than just the "milk"; centers his whole life on Jesus Christ; and is able to discern right from wrong.

"One of the evidences of maturity is the desire and the capacity not only to receive, but to give to others," he said.

Vestal said many Baptists have been Christians long enough to be teachers. Instead, they have not matured enough spiritually to teach, but desire only to be taught themselves. "Instead of being taught, you ought to be concerned about teaching others," he said.

Second, the maturing Christian feeds on the "meat of the word of God," whereas the immature Christian focuses and feeds on the "milk of the word of God."

The "milk," Vestal said, is the basic set of doctrines essential for salvation: repentance, faith, baptism, ordination, resurrection and judgment. Although these matters are important, they are only the beginning of the Christian life.

To grow and mature as a Christian, one must focus on the "meat," or Jesus Christ, Vestal stressed. "One reason we are so immature -- as individual Christians, as churches, and as a denomination -- is that we are focusing our attention ... on everything in the world except the Lord Jesus Christ."

Vestal said too many doctrinal discussions, petty in nature, take place on the six basic doctrines, causing broken relationships and strife. "I grew up in an era when, if you weren't a pre-tribulation rapturist, there were some people who wouldn't fellowship with you," he said.

Vestal explained, "Anything that becomes more important than the Lord Jesus Christ Himself ... will always break our fellowship with one another."

"The mature (Christian) is the one whose whole life, whose decision-making process, is centered (on) not circumstances, not the opinions of other people, not (one's) own prejudices and presuppositions, but ... (on) the Lord Jesus Christ; and He becomes the One who informs and instructs and guides," the pastor and former member of the Southern Baptist Convention's Peace Committee said.

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Maturing Christians, through constant focus on Jesus, "have trained themselves to distinguish between good and evil," the fourth characteristic of a maturing Christian.

The maturing Christian "is able to distinguish right from wrong, truth from error, good from bad. He/she has that ability to perceive and discern that subtle distinction between what is of God and what is not of God," said Vestal.

The Christian, the church, the denomination which focuses on Jesus Christ, "so we can become everything God wants us to be, so we can be giving instead of receiving, so we can order our lives around God's word, and so we can be discerning and wise in our ability to determine between right and wrong," Vestal said, "will grow."

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Southwestern Seminary gets  
laugh from cartoonist's gift

By Scott Collins

Baptist Press  
10/12/88

FORT WORTH, Texas (BP)--When Doug Dillard sketches his weekly cartoon for the Baptist Standard, newsjournal of Texas Baptists, he draws on more than a sheet of paper.

For 20 years, Dillard has drawn his ideas for the editorial cartoons from his God-given "gift of creativity." The result is more than 1,000 cartoons spanning the histories of Texas and Southern Baptists during those two decades.

Now those pieces of history are a permanent part of Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary. Dillard donated his entire collection of original drawings to the school's A. Webb Roberts Library.

Carl Wrotenbery, director of libraries at Southwestern, said the cartoons give students a unique view of religious events. "This collection provides an important opportunity for students to study history through this medium," he said.

Dillard has used his talents in classes at Southwestern and as a minister of education at Riverside Park Baptist Church in San Antonio.

In 1960, Dillard submitted 15 cartoons to W.C. Fields, then-director of public relations for the Southern Baptist Executive Committee and editor of the Baptist Program, about a fictitious character, Bro. Blotz. Fields accepted the drawings and used them monthly in the Program.

For more than 20 years, Dillard has been a creativity consultant for churches and denominational agencies. He owned the firm Ministry of Ideas for several years, helping religious groups develop creative ministries.

Dillard's greatest impact might be his weekly editorial cartoons for the Standard illustrating facts and foibles of Baptist history and involvement since 1968.

Using a pen, pencil or "whatever I can get my hands on," Dillard has drawn cartoons related to the editorial for the week. Often, Dillard has stopped in airport terminals between flights, sketched the cartoon on a piece of paper and raced to the nearest air express counter to mail the cartoon to Dallas.

That quick draw is a key to Dillard's success. His all-time record is a nine-minute cartoon drawn in the Detroit airport.

"I've been amazed how quickly Doug comes up with the cartoons," said Presnall Wood, editor of the Standard. "And I've been amazed at his ability to illustrate the editorial idea."

Dillard admits not all his ideas come so quickly. But he believes that regardless of how long it takes, the ideas are inspired.

"I know what it is to have those inspirational moments when the words and ideas just flow," he said.

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Dillard uses his medium to help Baptists understand themselves.

"There are some things that can be said with art that can't be said in words," Dillard said. "People accept satire in cartoons that they would be up in arms about if you said it in print."

But there are also messages in the cartoons that most people never see. Dillard often hides greetings in the drawings, using the crease of a tablecloth or some other object in the cartoon to send a message to family and friends.

Dillard sees his gift of creativity similar to a musician's gift.

"I have a gift, but I have to hone that gift and I have to develop that gift. Creativity is my gift."

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(BP) photo mailed to state Baptist newspapers by Southwestern Seminary

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CORRECTION: Please note the following correction in the 10/10/88 BP story titled "Prestonwood pastor resigns, admits personal impropriety":

In the last paragraph, the information should note that Jaroy Weber was SBC president in 1974-76.

Thanks,  
Baptist Press