



- - BAPTIST PRESS

News Service of the Southern Baptist Convention

NATIONAL OFFICE
SBC Executive Committee
901 Commerce #750
Nashville, Tennessee 37203
(615) 244-2355
Alvin C. Shackelford, Director
Dan Martin, News Editor
Marv Knox, Feature Editor

BUREAUS

ATLANTA Jim Newton, Chief, 1350 Spring St., N.W., Atlanta, Ga. 30367, Telephone (404) 873-4041
DALLAS Thomas J. Brannon, Chief, 511 N. Akard, Dallas, Texas 75201, Telephone (214) 720-0550
NASHVILLE (Baptist Sunday School Board) Lloyd T. Householder, Chief, 127 Ninth Ave., N., Nashville, Tenn. 37234, Telephone (615) 251-2300
RICHMOND (Foreign) Robert L. Stanley, Chief, 3806 Monument Ave., Richmond, Va. 23230, Telephone (804) 353-6151
WASHINGTON 200 Maryland Ave., N.E., Washington, D.C. 20002, Telephone (202) 544-4228

June 2, 1989

89-89

CP slightly ahead
of last year's pace

N-CO

NASHVILLE (BP)--Year-to-date receipts for the Southern Baptist convention-wide ministry budget remain slightly ahead of last year's pace, announced Harold C. Bennett, president and treasurer of the Southern Baptist Executive Committee.

The national Cooperative Program received \$10,853,842 in May, pushing the year-to-date total to \$92,215,605, Bennett reported.

The cumulative total is slightly more than \$2.2 million, or 2.47 percent, ahead of last year's pace. That compares to a U.S. inflation rate of 5.1 percent.

The May total is almost \$1.1 million, or 9.2 percent, below receipts for May 1988.

Since the current fiscal year began last October, Cooperative Program monthly totals have dropped below totals for the same months the previous year five out of eight times. However, this fiscal year's budget boasts two of the three best single-month totals in the budget's 64-year history.

"I had hoped that the percentage increase over the previous year would have remained at the higher level, but perhaps May was only an exception," Bennett said. "Still, I am encouraged by the fact that there are churches strongly committed to increasing Cooperative Program giving during the months ahead.

"We as Southern Baptists want to meet the urgent mission needs of our world."

To reach its \$145.6 million overall goal, Cooperative Program monthly receipts must average more than \$13.3 million for the balance of the fiscal year. To reach its \$137.61 million basic operating goal, the budget must take in more than \$11.3 million each month.

The Cooperative Program supports Southern Baptist missionary, evangelistic, educational and church-starting efforts worldwide. It is funded by contributions from individual Southern Baptists, who give to their churches. A portion of church budgets are forwarded to state Baptist conventions, and a portion of their budgets are forwarded to national and international causes.

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Ruschlikon seminary, finances
now in European Baptist hands

By Stanley Crabb & Art Toalston

N-FMB

Baptist Press
6/2/89

RUSCHLIKON, Switzerland (BP)--Europeans feel both gratitude and "trembling in our hearts" in owning Baptist Theological Seminary in Ruschlikon, Switzerland, said Knud Wumpelmann, general secretary of the European Baptist Federation.

Wumpelmann's comments came as he represented European Baptists in receiving a symbolic key to the Ruschlikon seminary from Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board President R. Keith Parks.

The ceremony kicked off a May 28-30 consultation on the future of the seminary, pooling ideas from 67 leaders of 21 of the 27 national Baptist unions belonging to the European Baptist Federation.

"Ruschlikon is 'the' European Baptist seminary," Wumpelmann said. "It is our responsibility. It is our great opportunity.

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"We pledge to use this gift to the best of our ability that it may continue to serve the unity of European Baptists and to create well-equipped leadership for this continent and other parts of the world as well."

Discussion of the property transfer dates back more than a decade. It flowed from the Foreign Mission Board's philosophy that institutions and programs should become "indigenous" or owned, governed and supported by overseas Baptists ready to assume the responsibility.

European Baptist Federation leaders formally requested transfer of the property when they met last fall with five Foreign Mission Board trustees assigned to "listen and gather information" about concerns involving the seminary.

Foreign Mission Board trustees subsequently voted to move ahead with the transaction, conditioned upon efforts to implement several recommendations. Among them were drafting a charter to guide the operation of the seminary and developing a statement of biblical principles shared by European Baptists "to which seminary teachers would subscribe."

Other trustee recommendations urge broadened involvement of European Baptists in the direction and financial support of the seminary.

The May consultation, and a proposed charter and bylaws introduced there, "reflect a European response to the recommendations which the Foreign Mission Board made," said Isam Ballenger, FMB vice president for Europe, the Middle East and North Africa.

Many consultation participants received "a new understanding of what Ruschlikon is, what it can be, what they want it to be, and what it will cost," Ballenger said.

Final action on the charter and bylaws could come during the European Baptist Federation Council meeting in July in Budapest, Hungary.

The proposed charter and bylaws would create a 12-member board of trustees. The European Baptist Federation would select four of the members to represent different regions of Europe and three as at-large representatives. The other trustees would be the federation's general secretary, a Swiss Baptist, two Foreign Mission Board officials and one from American Baptist Churches in the U.S.A. The seminary president, who has been a Southern Baptist missionary to date, would be a non-voting member.

The seminary currently has a six-member executive board consisting of the federation president, two at-large European representatives, a Swiss Baptist, and two Foreign Mission Board officials.

If the charter is approved, the new board of trustees would tackle the seminary's first budget under European ownership this fall, Ballenger said.

The Foreign Mission Board trustees' recommendation for a statement of European Baptist biblical principles has been referred to the summer 1990 meeting of the European Baptist Theological Teachers in London, he added.

To overcome recent budget deficits at the seminary, consultation participants on a finance committee called for "an urgent appeal for donations from the Baptist unions of Europe, from churches and from individuals."

The committee recommended that the seminary establish an arm for contacting major donors and encouraging supporters to add the institution to their wills.

The current projection of the seminary's 1989 deficit totals \$115,000, said Southern Baptist missionary Murphy Terry, who handles the seminary's business and financial affairs.

Deficits reached \$103,000 last year and \$87,000 in 1987. Shortfalls have been covered by the seminary's reserve funds. But if similar losses continue, the funds will be depleted in two years, Terry said.

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The deficits have resulted primarily from fluctuations in the U.S. dollar, Terry noted. In 1984, a \$325,000 appropriation from the Foreign Mission Board garnered 754,000 Swiss francs. A \$345,000 appropriation last year equaled only 558,000 francs -- almost a one-third loss in buying power.

Turning the Ruschlikon seminary key over to European Baptists was more than just a symbolic ceremony, FMB President Parks said in an interview: "It marked a significant shift of involvement, of attitude. (It's) not just physical ownership, but ownership of the institution's programs and direction."

During the ceremony, Parks said, "Even though the responsibility (for Ruschlikon) has now changed, the interest, commitment and deep prayerful involvement of Southern Baptists will never diminish."

Five missionaries, including seminary President John David Hopper, are on the seminary staff. Another, Earl Martin, heads the Institute for Missions and Evangelism there.

During its history, Ruschlikon has trained more than 1,000 students from 47 countries. One month after classes began in September 1949, the seminary was the site where European Baptist leaders organized their federation. Baptists on the continent credit the federation and the seminary with helping heal some of the wounds and divisions among European churches stemming from World War II.

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Baptists helping Argentines
in economic, hunger crisis

By Eric Miller

N-FMB

Baptist Press
6/2/89

BUENOS AIRES, Argentina (BP)--An economic and hunger crisis in Argentina has caused food riots and looting of grocery stores, and Southern Baptists are responding with \$10,000 to buy food for some of the hungry people.

The cost of living in Argentina, where Southern Baptists have 113 missionaries, has risen dramatically and almost reached 70 percent in May alone, said Southern Baptist missionary Bruce Muskrat.

Fixed monthly salaries were equivalent to \$300 to \$400 several months ago, but inflation has reduced their value to between \$20 and \$30, Muskrat said June 1.

"They just can't buy food; they can't pay the rent or ride on buses," Muskrat said. "The government is trying to help by giving salary increases, but the country simply is bankrupt. They're printing money to try to meet those needs. The situation has gotten to the strangling point."

The government has declared a state of siege, which is not as serious as martial law, but still gives the military more power to arrest looters and political agitators. Violence and looting of stores has occurred mostly in Rosario but has spread into the greater Buenos Aires area, Muskrat said. Political activists have distributed anti-government leaflets and tried to organize meetings.

Baptist churches already have a program instructing people how to cook and feed themselves more economically, Muskrat said. Churches also are asking members to bring winter clothes, non-perishable foods and staples for the needy every Sunday.

Southern Baptist hunger relief funds will buy rice, dried beans, milk, tea, soy beans and noodles.

Church activities have been normal, but police advised some congregations to keep their doors closed during services as a security measure, the missionary reported.

Children of missionaries have continued going to school throughout the unrest, but in recent days Argentine parents have kept their children home because most violence occurs in the afternoons and evenings, he said.

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Banks, which have limited withdrawals to \$120 per day, are to resume normal operating conditions June 5. The withdrawal limits have hurt travel within the country, so missionaries provided temporary travel funds for many of the 200 pastors who attended a national retreat in early June.

Muskkrat asked Southern Baptists to "pray for the country in general and for a sense of calm and sensibility among the people."

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Vestal to appear
on Las Vegas TV

N-CO

Baptist Press
6/2/89

RALEIGH, N.C. (BP)--Daniel Vestal, a candidate for the presidency of the Southern Baptist Convention, will address messengers to the 1989 SBC annual meeting by way of a paid half-hour broadcast on commercial television in Las Vegas, Nev.

Vestal, pastor of Dunwoody Baptist Church in suburban Atlanta, acknowledged during a news conference in Raleigh, N.C., June 1, that a half-hour has been purchased on KRLR-TV, channel 21, at 10:30 p.m. Sunday, June 11, just prior to the annual meeting, scheduled June 13-15 in the Las Vegas Convention Center.

Vestal, who has said he will depoliticize the SBC if elected president, announced April 16 he is available to be nominated for the presidency, opposing incumbent Jerry Vines, pastor of First Baptist Church in Jacksonville, Fla. Vines announced in February he is willing to be nominated for a second one-year term.

"There was no place for me in Las Vegas to have a public kind of platform to speak my perspective," Vestal told reporters in the Raleigh news conference. He was traveling June 2 and was not available for further comment.

The purchase of commercial television time by a prospective SBC presidential candidate marks, in the minds of some observers, a new escalation of the decade-long political/theological struggle in the 14.8-million-member denomination. Veteran observers said never before has a presidential candidate purchased time to pitch his case to messengers.

Rick Scott, a spokesman for KRLR-TV, said June 2 the time has been scheduled, "but not yet paid for." The half-hour spot Sunday evening would "cost around \$1,000," he said.

Vestal told the news conference the broadcast time had been purchased by "private contributions," funded through the Dunwoody church. He said it had not been purchased by moderate organization, Baptists Committed to the Southern Baptist Convention, per se.

Other reports indicated much of the funding came from a layman in First Baptist Church of Midland, Texas, where Vestal was pastor until going to Georgia last October.

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Contributing to this story was Erin Kelly, news editor of the Raleigh News and Observer.

Graduates urged
to be thankful

By Pat Cole

N-CO
(SBTS)

Baptist Press
6/2/89

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (BP)--Graduates at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary's 163rd commencement were urged by a retired seminary president to be thankful to God for their ministries.

Robert E. Naylor, president emeritus at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth, Texas, told 245 graduates at the Louisville, Ky., school's May 26 commencement language holds "no more significant word for the man or woman called of God than 'thank you, Lord!'"

He reminded graduates that people are called to ministry by a miraculous act of God. Successful ministers must be grateful for God's call, enabling grace and guaranteed faithfulness, he said.

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Naylor also stressed the importance of ministry in today's world. "There will not be empires rise and fall because of this class, but there will be a movement of the kingdom of God that is far more significant," he said.

During commencement, Louisville civic leader Alberta Ellen Wood Allen received the seminary's first George W. Norton Distinguished Service Award. The award, named in memory of the long-time trustee and benefactor of Southern Seminary, was given to Allen in recognition of her service and contributions to the seminary.

In a separate commencement later the same day, 38 people received diplomas or certificates from Boyce Bible School, a division of Southern Seminary that provides ministerial training to people who do not have college degrees.

Southern President Roy L. Honeycutt told Boyce graduates to be followers of Jesus who constantly seek truth. "All the truth in all the books ever written will not set us free," he said. "It is the truth of God in Jesus Christ that sets us free."

"Following the truth requires that you prioritize every day of your life," he stressed.

"The first disciples of Jesus were not people who had nothing better to do with their time. They left everything and followed Jesus."

At the commencement, Garland Hawkins of Elizabethtown, Ky., was recognized as Boyce's 500th graduate. Boyce will celebrate its 15th anniversary in July.

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Commencement more than
academic feat for grad

By Pat Cole

F-50
(SBTS)

Baptist Press
6/2/89

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (BP)--For Garland Hawkins, becoming the 500th graduate of Boyce Bible School meant more than a commemoration of academic achievement. It marked a celebration of life itself.

Hawkins, 42, was recognized as the 500th graduate of Boyce, a division of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, Ky, during May 26 commencement exercises. The event particularly was meaningful for Hawkins, since a little more than two years earlier he almost took his own life.

Alone at home, Hawkins was ready to carry out suicide plans he had been contemplating for several months. He had loaded a handgun, written suicide letters and put his personal business in order. Suddenly, he sensed God saying to him, "All I have needed for you to do all along is trust in me."

Hawkins, who had put the suicide letters in his mailbox, told God if the letters were still in the box he would interpret that as a sign to keep living. He went to the mailbox, retrieved the letters and saw the letter carrier about three doors down the street.

Hawkins' melancholy had stemmed from a downward spiral in a once-successful insurance career. His lack of sales helped precipitate family financial pressures that he thought would be solved by death benefits from his life insurance policies.

Following his close brush with suicide, Hawkins sought the help of a trained pastoral counselor. Through counseling, he experienced "confidence and hope" and became convinced he was a person of worth. In addition, a psychiatrist discovered that Hawkins' depression had been aggravated by a chemical imbalance, and he received medication to correct that problem.

He also received support from family members and from friends at Berean Baptist Church in Elizabethtown, Ky., where he had been a deacon and Sunday school teacher.

During counseling, Hawkins began to sense God calling him to ministry. "Off and on over a period of 12 or 13 years, particularly when I was doing church-related work, I would feel God speaking to me" about vocational ministry, he said. "The call became more profound two years ago."

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Hawkins entered Boyce Bible School in the fall of 1987 to prepare for ministry. "At Boyce, I learned very practical skills and also how to sharpen my interpersonal relationships," he said. Besides ministry training, he also found a sense of community at Boyce, he said.

"There is a tremendous spirit at Boyce. That in itself had a cleansing effect on me. You really thrive on the camaraderie among your brothers and sisters."

Hawkins has been pastor of Northside Baptist Chapel in Elizabethtown for the past year. He anticipates the chapel, which averages 45 in worship, will in coming years constitute as a church. "We hope to purchase 12 or 13 acres of land to accommodate the needs of the community," he said. The chapel now meets in a community center and serves an area of anticipated population growth.

He is committed to staying at Northside, a mission of Elizabethtown's Severns Valley Baptist Church. He said Boyce faculty members "were always trying to instill in us that if God has led you to a church then a pastor should not get upset at every problem and leave."

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Photo mailed to Baptist state papers from Southern Seminary.

Teleconference, conference, book
announced on responding to AIDS

By Linda Lawson

N-55B

Baptist Press
6/2/89

NASHVILLE (BP)--A live teleconference, a two-day conference and a book are the first three elements of a cooperative strategy to help churches respond to the AIDS crisis, announced an ad hoc group representing four Southern Baptist Convention agencies.

"AIDS: Crisis for Church and Family" will be the focus of a live two-hour teleconference set for Sunday, Oct. 8, on the Baptist Telecommunication Network.

The teleconference, which will be transmitted 3:30-5:30 p.m. Central time, will include segments on the realities of AIDS, what Southern Baptists need to know about AIDS, how families can respond to AIDS and how churches can respond.

Panels of experts will provide information about AIDS and the need for church ministries to victims and families, planners said. Time will be allotted for viewers to call in questions to be answered on the air.

The strategy-planning group originally included the family ministry, church training and church administration departments of the SBC Sunday School Board and the SBC Christian Life Commission. It has been enlarged to include the SBC Home Mission Board, SBC Woman's Missionary Union, student ministry department of the Sunday School Board and the Baptist Nursing Fellowship.

Representatives from the sponsoring agencies involved in various facets of AIDS ministry will be featured on the teleconference.

Doug Anderson, director of the Sunday School Board's family ministry department and convener of the ad hoc group, said he hopes the teleconference will "help Southern Baptists know how to make a Christian response to the AIDS crisis."

Also, a goal is to provide information "to help ministers deal with victims and families," he said. "When AIDS strikes in a family or church community, there is no more time to think through the issue. A diagnosis of AIDS is always dealt with as a crisis."

In addition to the teleconference, a two-day conference will be held in Nashville, Feb. 12-13, 1990.

Richard Land, executive director of the Christian Life Commission and chairman of a conferences-planning subteam, said the purpose of the conference will be "to try to expand Southern Baptists' information about and awareness of the AIDS issue. We also hope to explore numerous possible responses to the impact that the AIDS crisis will have on the various facets of Southern Baptist and American life."

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A new book, "AIDS: The Christian Response," will be released in April 1990 by the Sunday School Board's church training department in cooperation with the family ministry department.

The 12-chapter book, part of the Foundations for Discipleship Series, will be written by William M. Tillman, assistant professor of ethics at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, in Fort Worth, Texas.

In addition, several pamphlets, articles and other resources are in the planning stages.

Conference sessions on AIDS will be offered this summer at Glorieta (N.M.) and Ridgecrest (N.C.) Baptist conference centers during Jericho missions festivals and Southern Baptist Woman's Missionary Union conferences.

Anderson said sponsoring agencies are speeding up normal planning processes on events and products to provide needed help to Southern Baptists on the AIDS issue.

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Chowan College names
Jackson president

N-FMB

Baptist Press
6/2/89

MURFREESBORO, N.C. (BP)--Chowan College trustees elected Jerry F. Jackson president May 16.

Jackson, 50, vice president for development at the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board, will begin his tenure Aug. 3. He will succeed Bruce E. Whitaker, who is retiring after 32 years as president of the North Carolina Baptist-related institution.

A native of Clinton, N.C., Jackson was assistant professor, assistant academic dean, dean of students and director of admissions during more than 14 years at Campbell University in Buies Creek, N.C. He also was director of development at Sampson Technical College in Clinton and vice president for advancement at Wingate (N.C.) College before joining the Foreign Mission Board staff in 1982.

Jackson is a graduate of Mars Hill (N.C.) College and Southern Illinois University in Carbondale, and received a doctorate from the University of South Carolina at Columbia.

Jackson is married to the former Carolyn Laughlin, assistant superintendent of schools in Durham County, N.C. They have two children.

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Yarbrough joins commission
as Baptist Young Men's editor

N-CO
(B'hood)

Baptist Press
6/2/89

MEMPHIS, Tenn., (BP)--Tim Yarbrough, 28, has been named Baptist Young Men's editor by the Southern Baptist Brotherhood Commission. He will be responsible for all missions education curriculum materials produced for young men ages 18-34, including World Mission Journal-Baptist Young Men's edition.

Yarbrough worked more than six years on Arkansas and Missouri newspapers. Most recently, he was the special sections editor of the Arkansas Democrat in Little Rock.

A 1982 graduate of Murray State University in Kentucky, Yarbrough is a candidate for the master's degree in journalism from the University of Arkansas at Little Rock.

He is married to the former Pamela Freeman of North Little Rock, Ark.

Yarbrough will succeed Bill Bangham, who became associate editor of the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board's MissionsUSA magazine.

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NFBM expands concert series
for volunteer missions

By Jim Burton

MEMPHIS, Tenn. (BP)--Missions education and promotion will take on a new dimension in the Southern Baptist Convention as the National Fellowship of Baptist Men expands its concert series, fellowship leaders announced.

The fellowship has contracted with newly formed Master Communication Media to plan, promote and present Southern Baptist missions to local churches with a multi-media exposition and live concerts. Up to 150 concert artists will be endorsed by the fellowship to make the missions presentation.

"By taking this missions message directly to Southern Baptist churches, we will reach thousands who aren't currently enrolled in missions education or who don't participate in mission action projects," said James H. Smith, Southern Baptist Brotherhood Commission president. "When more Southern Baptists see what they can do for their Lord through denominational missions projects, there will be a dramatic increase in volunteerism."

Douglas Beggs, director of the Brotherhood Commission's adult division, said the expanded concert series has the potential to start missions education units in the local church. Under the current concert series, several units of the Baptist Men organization have been started in local churches following the presentation of missions opportunities.

The national fellowship, a ministry of the Brotherhood Commission's adult division, recruits missions volunteers according to their skills, interests and vocations. Fourteen special-interest fellowships have been started.

Fellowship Director Bob Salley said the multi-media exposition produced by Master Communications will teach about all aspects of Southern Baptist missions, including the Cooperative Program unified budget.

"This multi-media exposition will employ as its principle presentation tool a professionally produced, high-impact multi-image show," said Master Communications President Ken Sharp.

"God has given this group of people called Southern Baptists the most terrific foundation from which to evangelize the world that has ever been created," Sharp said. "We are teaching people about that foundation."

A prayer meeting for missions will follow each concert. "This is God's business, not show business," said Sharp.

Sharp's organization will identify concert artists through a pattern of area, district, regional and national concerts. Concert artists will be judged and advanced to the next level. A national winner eventually will be named.

Campbell University in Buies Creek, N.C., has offered scholarships to the national winner. Campbell President Norman Wiggins is president of the fellowship.

The fellowship's mission projects will be supported by love offerings received during concerts. Sharp's organization will file as a Tennessee corporation and be supported by stockholders.

Beggs said he sees the arrangement between the fellowship and Sharp as similar to churches hiring consultants to raise funds for church buildings.

"If the structure of the fellowship is to encourage men to use their skills and interests in missions causes, then we are encouraging the mode of a corporation whose bottom line isn't profit but how much money it can generate for missions," said Beggs.

Joining Sharp's organization will be Bob Saul, former director of personal evangelism at the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board and currently pastor of City Church in New York City, executive vice president; and David Stancil of Memphis, vice president for marketing.

Royal Ambassador University
graduates 292 participants

By James Warren

MEMPHIS, Tenn. (BP)--Southern Baptist Royal Ambassador leaders are changing destinies and contributing to the force that will impact the world, Southern Baptist Brotherhood Commission President James H. Smith told participants of the first Royal Ambassador University.

Speaking to 292 participants, Smith urged the men and women attending the four-day national training event to see that missions is a "church becoming involved beyond itself" and stressed the importance of missions education within the Southern Baptist Convention.

"More than 90 percent of all of our career missionaries overseas were impacted for missions in Royal Ambassadors and Girls in Action," Smith said of the Brotherhood Commission and Woman's Missionary Union missions education programs for children.

He also described the character of missions as two-fold -- giving and giving "in Jesus' name."

"It is not enough to give a cup of water, but to do it in Jesus' name," said Smith. "In order for RA's to be more than a boys' club, in order for RA's to be more than Little League baseball, it needs and must have the dimension of being done in Jesus' name."

Smith concluded his remarks by telling RA leaders about their compensation: "You are molding lives. We have attempted during these days to simply give you some tools to do a more effective job. Let's continue to have a spirit of giving, and let's continue to keep before us that it is in Jesus' name."

After completing the 20-hour RA University training, participants were challenged to return home and be the kind of RA counselors, directors and committee members that God has called them to be.

Held at Rhodes College in Memphis, Tenn., RA University was the first national Brotherhood training event conducted on a college campus. Courses varied from basic elements of RA work to specialized areas of interest within the program. Twenty-four states and Liberia, West Africa, were represented at the university.

Main program speakers were Kyle Rote Jr., sports figure from Memphis; Manual Galindo, president of the Hispanic Baptist Convention of Texas; David Langford, executive director of North Carolina Baptist Men; and Smith.

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Photos mailed to Baptist state papers from the Brotherhood Commission.

Texas lawmakers reject
pari-mutuel 'bail-out'

By Ken Camp

Baptist Press
6/2/89

AUSTIN, Texas (BP)--Gambling opponents scored a victory in the final days of the 71st Texas legislative session with the defeat of a proposed "pari-mutuel bail-out bill" but lost battles over offshore casino gambling and legalization of "charitable" raffles.

In spite of a last-minute show of support by Gov. Bill Clements, Sen. O.H. "Ike" Harris of Dallas abandoned efforts to pass his bill that would have lowered the state tax on pari-mutuel horserace gambling after a threatened filibuster by Sen. John Leedom of Dallas.

A last-ditch effort by Rep. Hugo Berlanga of Corpus Christi to revive the pari-mutuel "bail-out" in the House of Representatives was rejected 69-65, reconsidered, and then passed May 29. Berlanga's resolution would have allowed the tax cut provision to be tacked onto a bill amending other provisions of the racing act. Leedom's threatened filibuster prevented approval in the Senate and ultimately killed the bill.

The so-called "pari-mutuel bail-out bill" would have decreased the tax rate from a flat 5 percent to a sliding scale beginning at 1 percent and gradually increasing to 5 percent when betting at a track reached \$500 million per year.

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Changes in the racing act that would have permitted telecasting of horse and dog races between tracks for the purposes of wagering and that would have allowed the tracks to operate on Sunday afternoons also were defeated when the bill failed.

The defeat of the pari-mutuel bill came about two weeks after gambling opponents won another victory when a proposal calling for a non-binding referendum on a state lottery was defeated in the Texas House by an 84-59 vote.

However, in spite of opposition by the Texas Baptist Christian Life Commission, Texans Who Care and other anti-gambling citizens' groups, the legislature approved a bill legalizing casino gambling on ships offering one-day "cruises to nowhere" out of Texas ports. Previously, the law required ships with casino gambling operations to be "in the course of a bona fide voyage to or from a foreign port."

In hearings on the measure, Weston Ware, associate director of the Christian Life Commission, charged that within four years, gambling operators would apply pressure to legalize casinos on the mainland.

Elsewhere on the gambling front, legislators gave preliminary approval to a constitutional amendment legalizing charitable raffles, pending voter approval in November. They also transferred the administration and enforcement of bingo laws from the state comptroller's office to the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission.

Although the 140-day regular legislative session ended at midnight May 29, Clements announced that he will call lawmakers back into special session June 20 to consider unfinished business in the reform of workers' compensation laws.

"Our major concern at this point is whether the governor will keep the focus of the special session call narrow or broaden it to allow the consideration of gambling issues," said Ware. "We do not believe the governor should expand the call for the special interests of gambling investors whose views were considered and defeated in the 140-day regular session."