



BAPTIST PRESS

News Service of the Southern Baptist Convention

NATIONAL OFFICE
SBC Executive Committee
901 Commerce #75
Nashville, Tennessee 37203
(615) 244-2300
Alvin C. Shackelford, Director
Dan Martin, News Editor
Mary 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) 353-0151
WASHINGTON 200 Maryland Ave., N.E., Washington, D.C. 20002, Telephone (202) 544-4226

April 26, 1990

90-58

Conservatives take control
of Southern Seminary board

By David Wilkinson & Pat Cole

N-CO
(SBC)

LOUISVILLE, KY. (BP)--In a shift of power, conservatives gained control of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary's board of trustees April 23-25.

At their annual meeting in Louisville, Ky., conservatives captured three of the board's four offices, strengthened their position on the board's executive committee and used a new working majority to approve through a variety of contested motions.

In a series of unprecedented actions, trustees also:

-- Blocked the election of three people recommended by the trustee executive committee to fill trustee positions vacated during the year. The trustees would have served only until new trustees were elected by the Southern Baptist Convention in June.

-- Adopted a resolution on a social issue, declaring abortion "the greatest moral issue faced by Christians today."

The resolution, presented by David Miller of Heber Springs, Ark., asked all seminary employees to "desist from publicly espousing the right of a woman to have an abortion except where the physical life of the mother is in danger" and encouraged them to join trustees in working for anti-abortion legislation. After Larry Adams of Oklahoma City requested a roll call vote "so folks back home will know how we voted," the resolution was adopted by a vote of 32 to 24.

-- Established a policy to allow students to use tape recorders in seminary classes.

The seminary previously had no policy prohibiting use of tape recorders, leaving the question to the prerogative of each professor. The motion by Michael Harris of Elizabethtown, Ky., was approved, 30 to 19, despite opposition from several trustees and seminary President Roy L. Honeycutt who voiced concern about "moving into the area of telling a professor how he or she can conduct class."

During more than four hours behind closed doors, trustees debated possible responses to a 16-page document prepared by trustee Jerry Johnson of Aurora, Colo., accusing Honeycutt and several faculty members of "doctrinal infidelity," along with other charges. Titled "The Cover-up at Southern Seminary," the material was received by most trustees the week before the annual board meeting and was then published during the meeting by The Southern Baptist Advocate, a conservative Baptist publication (see related story).

Although Johnson's document was being discussed by the board's executive committee, trustees approved a motion from John Michael of Louisville, Ky., to move the issue to the full board for consideration, thus pre-empting any recommendation by the executive committee. After discussion, trustees then voted to postpone action on the matter until the next annual board meeting in 1991.

Johnson also introduced a motion on the seminary's governing doctrinal statement, the Abstract of Principles, that sought to interpret the document's statement on the inspiration of Scripture in light of a 1888 book by Basil Manly Jr. Manly, one of the seminary's original faculty members, is credited with principal authorship of the Abstract. Late in the meeting's last session, however, trustees approved Johnson's request to "postpone indefinitely" his earlier motion.

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Also in executive session, trustees approved separate statements critical of two faculty members while also adopting a motion expressing appreciation for Honeycutt and "the method in which (he) has handled the affairs of the seminary."

A resolution adopted after debate expressed disapproval of Christian ethics professor Paul Simmons' activities related to abortion. Harm done to the seminary by "continued activities in this area," the resolution added, "may be considered sufficient grounds for dismissal."

Simmons, who has taught at Southern Seminary since 1970, has been under fire for several years for his views on abortion.

Another action requested Honeycutt to express the board's "deep concern" to church history professor E. Glenn Hinson for "intemperate comments about controversial issues which negatively affect the public perceptions of Southern Seminary."

According to several trustees interviewed after the meeting, most of the criticism came in response to a newspaper account of Hinson's remarks during a series of presentations at a Tennessee church. Following a series of critical letters, Hinson submitted a letter to Honeycutt clarifying some of the comments attributed to him and apologizing for any misunderstanding or embarrassment.

Hinson has drawn criticism in recent years for his criticism of conservative leaders and for his advocacy of shifting distribution of funds to denominational boards and agencies away from the national Cooperative Program unified budget to state Baptist conventions.

In addition to Hinson's letter, trustees received a copy of a letter from Simmons offering to continue to disassociate his views in public appearances from any official position of the seminary, to refuse media interviews dealing with abortion and "to avoid inflammatory rhetoric in responding to those who take contrary positions."

During the first few hours of executive session, more than 300 students who had been asked to leave the crowded meeting room maintained a vigil outside, with many of them praying and singing hymns. Dozens wore "Maintain the Vision" T-shirts as a sign of support for the school and its faculty.

Invited by trustee chairman Alton Butler of Pensacola, Fla., to speak to the trustees, student body President Ellen Sechrest assured the board of the students' concern and prayers, noting, "Our future is in your hands."

In the election of officers, trustees chose not to challenge the nomination of Sam H. McMahon Jr., who had served during the past year as first vice chairman and was the only moderate proposed by the nominating committee. McMahon, chairman of the board of Southeastern Commercial Management Corp. in Charlotte, N.C., was elected chairman with only five trustees registering "no" votes.

Other new officers are W. Wayne Allen, pastor of Briarwood Baptist Church, Cordova, Tenn., first vice chairman; Larry L. Adams, administrator of the Baptist Retirement Center, Oklahoma City; second vice chairman; and John G. Hicks, a Louisville attorney, secretary.

Conservatives, however, successfully challenged two of three persons recommended by the nominating committee for re-election to the board's executive committee. William W. Causey, executive director of the Mississippi Baptist Convention, Jackson, defeated conservatives' nominee James M. Bullock, pastor of Colgate Baptist Church, Sellersburg, Ind., by a single vote. Two other people recommended for re-election, Ken Hall, a Louisville layman, and John Wallace, a retired pastor from Lexington, Ky., were replaced respectively by Bullock, who was nominated again, and by Carroll Karkalits, a layman from Lake Charles, La. Conservatives picked up another executive committee member when Richton, Miss., pastor John Allen defeated Louisville layman Fred Pfannensmidt in an election to fill a vacated position.

Trustees also chose to deal with all faculty personnel recommendations in executive session. Although some recommendations reportedly received opposition, each was approved. Actions included:

-- Electing Doris Ann Borchert as associate professor of Christian education with tenure.

-- Promoting Kathryn N. Chapman to professor of childhood education and six people from assistant to associate professor: John H. Dickson, church music; Donoso S. Escobar, social work; Molly T. Marshall-Green, theology; Lloyd L. Mims, church music; Pamela L. Scalise, Old Testament; and Dan R. Stiver, Christian philosophy.

-- Naming two faculty members to endowed chairs: Bill J. Leonard, William Walker Brooks professor of American Christianity, and Gerald R. Borchert, J. Rupert Coleman professor of New Testament interpretation.

-- Granting a two-year leave of absence for David S. Dockery, assistant professor of New Testament, who will be chief editor of academic books at the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board's Broadman Press in Nashville.

In other actions, trustees:

-- Approved changes to the seminary charter that are intended to clarify procedures for electing new trustees and to help ensure the seminary's tax exempt status.

-- Adopted a 1990-91 operating budget of \$15,742,484, a 5.3 percent increase over the current year. The budget provides for a 2 percent salary increase for faculty and staff.

-- Approved an \$8.15 million deferred maintenance plan for the campus, including proposals for generating the required funds.

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Honeycutt responds
to trustee's charges

By Pat Cole

N-CO
SBTS

Baptist Press
4/26/90

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (BP)--In an emotional response to accusations he does not believe the Bible, Southern Baptist Theological Seminary President Roy L. Honeycutt told the school's trustees "the Word of God has been the dynamic and integrating focus for my life."

Prior to the Louisville, Ky., seminary's April 23-25 trustee meeting, trustee Jerry Johnson, pastor of Central Baptist Church in Aurora, Colo., circulated a 16-page document, titled "The Cover-up at Southern Seminary," which accused Honeycutt and several professors of "doctrinal infidelity" and other charges.

Honeycutt said that many of Johnson's accusations against him and the professors were dealt with in 1987 in the seminary's response to the concerns of the Southern Baptist Peace Committee. Johnson's article, however, accused the seminary of a cover-up in connection with its Peace Committee response.

Johnson charged that Honeycutt's writings in commentaries on four Old Testament books "create problems for all Bible-believing Southern Baptists." Citing a variety of illustrations from commentaries, Johnson wrote that Honeycutt "scoffs at the historical reality" of some passages and "displays a bias against the supernatural in the Bible."

"One would have to be as blind as a mole not to see that Dr. Honeycutt just does not believe the Bible," he wrote.

Although trustees voted in executive session to postpone actions concerning Johnson's document until next year, Honeycutt requested permission to speak briefly about his views on the Bible.

In his response, Honeycutt told trustees he could not "allow a year to lapse (before the next annual meeting) when the issue has been raised about whether or not I believe the Bible," adding, "I consider that issue second only in seriousness to the question of whether or not I believe in Jesus Christ."

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In his article, Johnson accused Honeycutt of "scoffing" at Scripture. Noting that "the word scoff means to deride, mock, ridicule or scorn," Honeycutt said: "My love and reverence for the Bible flow so deeply through my life I am offended by the suggestion that I take such an attitude toward the Word of God."

Honeycutt emphasized he had "never known a time when I did not read the Bible" and "seek to live out of its revelation." The 63-year-old Old Testament scholar also stressed that he had spent 44 years in a serious study of the Bible in an academic setting.

"It was the Bible which brought me the good news of Jesus in salvation, voiced my call to ministry and still sustains daily through circumstances such as these accusations," he said.

Claiming that one criticism hinged on the interpretation of six Hebrew words, Honeycutt said, "You can tell me you disagree with my interpretation of Scripture, but please don't tell me you disagree with my belief in the Bible."

In response, students in the room and most trustees responded with a standing ovation.

Following Honeycutt's statement, Johnson told reporters he was "not satisfied" with Honeycutt's explanation. He said he stands "completely and totally behind" the truthfulness of the charges he made in his document.

He also expressed confidence "the future will vindicate my article."

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SBC Historical Commission
promotes 2 staff members

By Marv Knox

F-^{CO}
HC

Baptist Press
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NASHVILLE (BP)--The Southern Baptist Historical Commission promoted two staff members and honored its executive director during its annual meeting April 23 in Nashville.

The commission named Charles W. Dewese assistant executive director and elected Bill F. Summers to a new post, director of library and archives. Commissioners also honored Executive Director-Treasurer Lynn E. May Jr. by naming their study grant endowment fund after him.

In a restructuring of staff assignments, Dewese will assume increased administrative responsibility and continue to direct the commission's publications and communications programs.

Dewese joined the commission staff as assistant director of editorial and research services in 1973 and became director of editorial services in 1976. He was promoted to his most recent post, director of publications and communications, in 1984. He also has been pastor of churches in Kentucky and Indiana.

He is a graduate of Mars Hill College in Mars Hill, N.C., and earned two degrees from Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, Ky.

Summers has been the archivist for the commission's Southern Baptist Historical Library and Archives since 1985, and full time since 1988. He also was archivist for the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board's E.C. Dargan Research Library, 1983-88; assistant archivist, Auburn University Archives, 1977-83; director, Shelby (Ala.) County Library, 1976-77; assistant curator, Rosenberg Library, Galveston, Texas, 1975-76; and research associate, University Library, University of Texas at Arlington, 1974-75.

He is a graduate of Samford University in Birmingham, Ala., and the University of Texas at Arlington.

The changes followed the early retirement of Ronald Tonks effective March 1 this year. Tonks, who worked for the commission for 18 years, was assistant executive director and in that capacity directed the library and archives. He was honored with a resolution of appreciation from the commission.

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In a related personnel move, the commission created another position, publications and archives specialist. This staff member, who has not been appointed, will be supervised by Deweese but also work with Summers, who remains the commission's archivist.

In other business, the commission:

-- Urged that all convention organizations adopt policies clarifying ownership of records produced and maintained by denominational employees and that all elected convention leaders be asked to transfer the records and files they produce and maintain in their official capacities to the Historical Library and Archives "at the completion of their service."

-- Ratified a publication plan and proposed schedule for producing the fifth volume of the "Encyclopedia of Southern Baptists" and an index for all five volumes.

The action also named May as managing editor and Deweese as associate editor of the two publications and authorized May to negotiate a publishing contract with the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board. The plan calls for completion of the project by Oct. 1, 1994.

-- Approved an acquisition policy for the Historical Library and Archives.

The document states that the purpose of the facility is "to procure, preserve and make available for use library and archival materials related to Baptist history, life and work," and "to provide general library services for the Southern Baptist Convention Building entities." Acquisitions are to "focus on materials that document the Southern Baptist Convention, its agencies, entities, (state) conventions, associations, churches and individuals."

-- Created a new award, to honor "outstanding achievement in state Baptist history."

According to the proposal for the annual award, it is intended to "encourage creativity and excellence in state Baptist history programs" and will "strengthen relationships between the Historical Commission and state work, give higher visibility to the importance of state work and encourage the development of history programs in all states."

-- Granted two annual awards to recognize outstanding contributions to Baptist history.

The Norman W. Cox Award for excellence in Baptist historical writing was presented to Myron D. Dillow, pastor of University Baptist Church in Carbondale, Ill. since 1970. Dillow will complete his second term as a commission trustee this summer. His award-winning article was titled "James Smith: Baptist Trailblazer in Illinois."

The Distinguished Service Award was presented posthumously to F. Wilbur Helmbold, who was librarian at Samford University for 26 years. Helmbold, who died last summer, was founder of the Alabama Baptist Historical Commission and Samford's Institute of Genealogy and Historical Research and founding chairman of the Baptist Information Retrieval System.

-- Approved a revised 1990-91 budget of \$601,975. The revision is down from an original \$633,420. The reduction was made due to a change in expected receipts from the Southern Baptist Cooperative Program unified budget.

Commissioners also approved a proposed budget for 1991-92 of \$655,145. That budget will seek \$573,645 in Cooperative Program funds, up from an anticipated \$501,900 in 1990-91 and \$492,585 in the current budget.

-- Voted to continue the commission's Documenting the Spirit program, designed to document the history of individual congregations, for two more years.

Documenting the Spirit was launched during the current fiscal year through a pilot project at First Baptist Church of Murfreesboro, Tenn. Plans call for expansion of the project to three more churches during the next two years. The balance of the project is expected to cost \$7,880, to be secured through grants.

-- Elected a new slate of officers.

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They are Ray Granade, director of library services at Ouachita Baptist University in Arkadelphia, Ark., chairman; Jerry L. Tillman, a pastor from Fresno, Calif., vice chairman; Marlene Hunt Rikard, history professor at Samford University in Birmingham, Ala., recording secretary; and May, treasurer.

The Southern Baptist Historical Society, which met with the commission April 24-25, also elected officers. They are Adrian Lamkin Jr., director of the William Partee Center for Baptist Historical Studies at William Jewell College in Liberty, Mo., president; Earl Joiner, religion professor at Stetson University in DeLand, Fla., vice president; and May, secretary-treasurer.

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Committee nominates
seminary trustees

*N-CO
Seminaries*

Baptist Press
4/26/90

NASHVILLE (BP)--Trustees to serve on the boards of the six Southern Baptist Convention seminaries have been nominated by the 1990 Committee on Nominations.

Under convention bylaws, seminary trustees serve five-year terms and are eligible to serve two consecutive terms.

In order to serve, the trustees must be elected by messengers to the 1990 annual meeting of the SBC, scheduled June 12-14 in the Louisiana Superdome in New Orleans.

SOUTHERN SEMINARY (63 members): 15 nominations considered; 6 new trustees; 9 renominated.

Nominated to terms to expire in 1995, replacing trustees ineligible for reelection are:

Charles L. Updike, pastor of First church, Gaithersburg, Md., replacing William H. McBeath, Washington; Ruffin E. Snow Jr., pastor of Eastwood church, Tulsa, Okla., replacing Richard T. Hopper of Ardmore; and Thomas H. Harding, a vocational evangelist and member of Retta church, Burlison, Texas, replacing Vernon O. Elmore of Corpus Christi.

Wayne Gaunce, a businessman and member of Immanuel church, Glasgow, Ky., was nominated to fill the unexpired term -- to end in 1992 -- of Martha Layne Collins of Versailles, who was replaced because of absenteeism.

Steven R. Taylor, pastor of Sandia church, Albuquerque, N.M., was nominated to fill the unexpired term -- to end in 1992 -- of Norman Boshoff of Albuquerque, who resigned.

Ron L. Meredith, a federal judge and member of Highview church, Louisville, Ky., was nominated to fill the unexpired term -- to end in 1991 -- of S. Cornell Snow of Louisville, who died.

Nominated to second terms are Bob L. Wagner, Marion, Ill.; John T. Wallace, Lexington, Ky.; W. Ray Frye, Alexandria, La.; William Watkins "Bill" Causey, Jackson, Miss.; Gerald C. Primm, Greensboro, N.C.; and James E. Harris Jr., Dayton, Ohio.

Nominated to second terms as local members are Kenneth E. Hall, Louisville, Ky., and Joe D. Cross, Louisville.

SOUTHWESTERN SEMINARY (37 members): 11 nominations considered; 7 new members, including a new member from New York; four renominations.

David G. Shackelford, assistant professor of New Testament at the Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary branch in Schenectady, N.Y., and member of Trinity church, Schenectady, was nominated as the new member from New York.

Nominated to a term ending in 1995, replacing a member ineligible for reelection was Paul Balducci, pastor of Woodley church, Montgomery, Ala., replacing Drew J. Gunnells Jr., of Mobile.

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Richard L. Mason, president of Frontier Community College and member of First church, Fairfield, Ill., was nominated to a term to end in 1995, replacing Jim V. Dice of Salem, who declined to serve a second term.

Everett Powell, pastor of Berkeley church, Berkeley Springs, W.Va., was nominated to fill the unexpired term -- to end in 1991 -- of James A. McCullen of Parkersburg, who moved.

Byron L. Ramsey, pastor of Temple Hills church, Temple Hills, Md. (in the District of Columbia Baptist Convention), was nominated to fill the unexpired term -- to end in 1994 -- of Stephen G. Hyde of Silver Spring, who resigned.

Ollin E. Collins, pastor of Harvest church, Fort Worth, Texas, was nominated as an at-large member to a five-year term replacing John P. McNaughton of Fort Worth, who was ineligible for reelection.

Richard Barrett, a businessman and member of First church, Denton, Texas, was nominated to fill the unexpired at-large term -- to end in 1993 -- of Harry W. Lewis of Carrollton, who resigned.

Nominated to second terms are Lyle Seltmann, Traverse City, Mich.; Pat Campbell, St. Charles, Mo.; and Ron S. Lewis, Franklin, Tenn.

Nominated to a second term as an at-large member was Wayne Lee Allen, Carrollton, Texas.

NEW ORLEANS SEMINARY (37 members): 10 nominations considered; 5 new members, including a new representative from New York; 5 renominations.

Ronald F. Norman, an engineer and member of Tonawanda (N.Y.) church, was nominated as the new member from New York. His term will end in 1991.

Nominated to a term to end in 1995, replacing a member ineligible for reelection was Ron Jackson, pastor of East Gaffney church, Gaffney, S.C., replacing Ernest L. Carswell Jr. of Taylors.

Arnold Allen Burk, a pharmacist and member of First church, Russellville, Ark., was nominated to fill the unexpired term -- to end in 1992 -- of Richard T. Stiltner of Hope, who resigned.

Idonia (Mrs. Roland) Porterfield, an office manager and member of Taylor Road church, Montgomery, Ala., was nominated as a local member to a term ending in 1995, replacing Andrew C. Nolin Jr., of Montgomery, who was ineligible for reelection.

Cynthia (Mrs. Benny) Thompson, a pastor's wife and member of Calvary church, Monroe, La., was nominated to fill the at-large unexpired term -- to end in 1993 -- of Reuben F. Thomas of Metairie, who died.

Nominated to second terms are Charles L. Wood, Wichita, Kan.; Albert M. Burt, Flint, Mich.; Forrest L. Jackson, Pryor, Okla.; Gene Brock, Wichita Falls, Texas; and B. Conrad Johnston, Salem, Va.

SOUTHEASTERN SEMINARY (30 members): 10 nominations considered; 6 new members; four renominations.

Lawton H. Griffith, pastor of Eastmont church, East Wenatchee, Wash., was nominated to a term to end in 1995, replacing Arlie L. McDaniel Sr., of Moscow, Idaho, who declined to serve a second term.

Dale Thompson, pastor of Immanuel church, Rogers, Ark., was nominated to fill the unexpired term -- to end in 1992 -- of James W. Bryant of Fort Smith, who moved.

Jerre Brannen, a businessman and member of North Central Church, Gainesville, Fla., was nominated to fill the unexpired term -- to end in 1993 -- of Mark Caldwell of College Park, Md., who moved.

Clarence R. Brock, pastor of Coventry church, Ft. Wayne, Ind., was nominated to fill the unexpired term -- to end in 1993 -- of Charles Ritchie of Hammond, who moved.

Robert E. Hand Sr., a service manager and member of Oaklawn church, Kernersville, N.C., was nominated to a term to end in 1995, replacing Jesse P. Chapman Jr., of Asheville, who was ineligible for reelection.

Arthur W. Madill, a marketing development manager and member of Mt. Airy (Md.) church, was nominated as a local member to fill the unexpired term -- to expire in 1994 -- of Thomas M. Metts of Falls Church, N.C., who moved.

Nominated to second terms were Robert D. Crowley, Rockville, Md.; James W. Herron, Greenville, S.C.; and Jack May, Memphis, Tenn.

Nominated to a second term as a local member was Ralph E. Holt Jr., Wilmington, N.C.

MIDWESTERN SEMINARY (35 members): 7 nominations considered; 3 new members; 4 renominated.

Nominated to terms expiring in 1995, replacing members ineligible for reelection are:

W. Ross Morrison, pastor of First church, Wheaton, Md., (in the DC Convention), replacing Marvin L. Roush of Hyattsville, Md.; Robert K. Davis, pastor of First church, Lake City, Fla., replacing Philip Lykes of Lakeland; and William H. Haynes Jr., pastor of Indian Creek church, Stone Mountain, Ga., replacing J. Truett Gannon of Stone Mountain.

Nominated to second terms are Robert T. Baggott Jr., Birmingham, Ala.; and Timothy K. Norman, Richmond, Va.

Nominated to second terms as local members were Roy Blunt, Jefferson City, Mo., and H. James Reimer, Springfield, Mo.

GOLDEN GATE SEMINARY (36 members): 9 nominations considered; 8 new members, including a new representative from New York; 1 renomination.

Bruce David Aubrey, pastor of First Christian SBC church, Brushton, N.Y., was nominated as the new representative from New York.

Nominated to terms ending in 1995, replacing members ineligible for reelection are:

Wayne Allen Woods, pastor of First church, Alma, Ga., replacing Carolyn (Mrs. William L.) Self of Atlanta; Rodney Sanders, a federal employee and member of McClendon church, West Monroe, La., replacing O.Q. "Dick" Quick of Baton Rouge;

Earl Taylor, pastor of Lynhaven church, Pokomoke, Md., (in the DC Convention), replacing Malvin M. Utleye Jr., Lexington Park, Md.; and George Finley Mullinaz, pastor of Western Branch Church, Portsmouth, Va., replacing James H. Slatton of Richmond.

Billie (Mrs. Frank) Veatch, a pastor's wife and member of Mountain View church, Tucson, Ariz., was nominated to fill the unexpired term -- to end in 1993 -- of Clark Johnson of Phoenix, who moved.

Donald D. Jackson, director of associational missions and member of Grace church, Turlock, Calif., was nominated as an at-large member to a term to end in 1995, replacing James W. Rives Jr. of Van Nuys, who was ineligible for reelection.

Joanne (Mrs. William) Hann, a public school teacher and member of Mid-Cities church, Orange, Calif., was nominated as an at-large member to fill the unexpired term -- to end in 1991 -- of Gordon K. Fercho of Chico, who resigned.

Mrs. Bonnie G. Metcalf, Riverside, Calif., was nominated to a second term.

Trustees nominated for
commissions, committees

NASHVILLE (BP)--Trustees to serve on the commissions and committees of the Southern Baptist Convention have been nominated by the 1990 Committee on Nominations.

In order to serve, the trustees must be elected by messengers to the 1990 annual meeting, scheduled June 12-14 in the Louisiana Superdome in New Orleans.

SOUTHERN BAPTIST FOUNDATION (35 trustees): 11 nominations considered; 11 new members.

The Committee on Nominations nominates representatives from SBC agencies to serve on the Foundation. This year, the subcommittee will nominate representatives for six agencies when they meet June 10 in New Orleans.

Five of the six representatives had served their allowable terms, thus being ineligible to serve on their entities and on the Foundation board. They are:

Ingram L. Foster Jr., Prentiss, Miss., Executive Committee; Raymond Langlois, Nashville, Sunday School Board; Drew J. Gunnels Jr., Mobile, Ala., Southwestern Seminary; O.Q. "Dick" Quick, Baton Rouge, La., Golden Gate Seminary; and Robert L. Ross, Oklahoma City, Stewardship Commission.

The subcommittee also will nominate a replacement for the Christian Life Commission's representative, Rudolph C. Yakym Jr., Mishawaka, Ind., who moved.

Five new at-large members also were nominated, with terms to expire in 1994, replacing members ineligible for reelection. They are:

Hugh M. Sloan, a vice president for an investment firm and member of First church, Nashville, replacing Osta Underwood, Nashville; M. Terry Turner, a banker and member of Brentwood (Tenn.) church, replacing G. Warren Gregory, Nashville;

John C. Blackman, a vice president of an investment firm and member of Immanuel church, Nashville, replacing Edward M. Smith, Nashville; Frank C. Ingraham, an attorney and member of First church, Franklin, Tenn., replacing John P. Gifford Sr., Nashville; and Roy L. DePue, a businessman and member of First church, Hendersonville, Tenn., replacing Clarence Edmonds, Brentwood.

AMERICAN SEMINARY COMMISSION (16 members): 5 nominations considered, 1 new member, 4 renominations.

Steven A. Jett, pastor of Stock Creek church, Knoxville, Tenn., was nominated to a term to expire in 1994, replacing Marshall Gupton, Nashville, who is ineligible for reelection.

Nominated to second terms are Milton W. Boyd, Montgomery, Ala.; Wendell H. Rone Sr. Owensboro, Ky., and Edsel L. West, Harriman, Tenn.

William T. Hill Jr., Nashville, was nominated to a second term as a member of the local board.

EDUCATION COMMISSION (21 members): 5 nominations considered; one new member; 4 renominations.

Antonio Villalobos, personnel director for Pan American University, Edinburg, Texas, and member of Emmanuel church, McAllen, was nominated to a term to end in 1994, replacing Glen White of Pasadena, Texas, who is ineligible for reelection.

Nominated to second terms are Patrick O. Copley, Eliasville, Mo.; William L. Palmer, Morristown, Tenn.; and K. Eugene Lee, Manassas, Va.

Nominated to a second term as an at-large member is Harold W. Sorrill Jr., Clinton, Md.

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BROTHERHOOD COMMISSION (37 members): 12 nominations considered, 9 new members, including a new representative from New York; 3 renominations.

Alan C. Todd, pastor of First church, Pittsford, was nominated as the new representative from New York.

Nominated to terms to expire in 1994, replacing members ineligible for reelection:

Nathan Pillow, evangelism director of the Arizona Southern Baptist Convention and member of First church, Fountain Hills, replacing Dennis Daniel, Phoenix; Ozzie Berryhill, a layman and member of Park Hill church, North Little Rock, Ark., replacing Angus L. Emerson III, Jacksonville, Ark.;

Comer T. Williamson, pastor of Central church, Americus, Ga., replacing James E. Pelham of Albany, Ga.; Mark Patton, pastor of West Ridge church, Topeka, Kan., replacing R. Tom Browning, Prairie Village, Kan.; and Keith Corrick, pastor of Liberty church, Lisbon, Md., replacing Walter M. Wood of Princess Anne, Md.

Donlay Brown, retired military and member of Union Hill church, Jefferson City, Mo., was nominated to a term to end in 1994, replacing Stanley M. Reihn of Oak Ridge, Mo., who died.

Daniel S. Hunt, pastor of Austintown (Ohio) church, was nominated to fill the unexpired term -- to end in 1991 -- of Robert E. Gaultney of Reynoldsburg, Ohio, who moved.

Donald Long, pastor of Chamberlain Memorial church, Chattanooga, Tenn., was named to a four-year term as an at-large member, replacing Richard H. Emmert of Morristown, who was ineligible for reelection.

Donald Fort, Grafton, W. Va., was nominated to a second term.

Willard C. Finch, Winterville, N.C., and C. Frazier Landrum, Edwards, Miss., were nominated to second terms as at large members.

CHRISTIAN LIFE COMMISSION (31 members): 9 nominations considered; 4 new members, including a new representative from New York; 5 renominations.

Sherri (Mrs. Steven) Cerny, a pastor's wife from Trinity church, Galway, was nominated as the new representative from New York.

Thomas Ray Robertson, pastor of First church, McHenry, Ill., was nominated to a term to expire in 1994, replacing George A. Strickland of Pinckneyville, Ind., who was ineligible for reelection.

Violet Galyean, a nurse and member of Cambria church, Riner, Va., was nominated to a four-year term, replacing Celia (Mrs. F.M.) Minix Jr. of Alexandria, Va., who declined to serve a second term.

Gary Ledbetter, executive editor of the Indiana Baptist newspaper and member of Memorial church, Brownsburg, Ind., was nominated to fill the unexpired term -- to end in 1991 -- of Rudolph C. Yakym Jr. of Mishawaka, Ind.

Nominated to second terms were Gary E. Crum, Georgetown, D.C.; Carl W. Garrett, Overland Park, Kan.; Jerry Burl Hopkins, Paducah, Ky.; and Curtis W. Caine, Jackson, Miss.

Nominated to a second term as an at-large member was James Paul Wood, Atlanta.

HISTORICAL COMMISSION (30 members): 11 nominations considered; 8 new members, including a new representative from New York; 3 renominations.

Norma (Mrs. R. Quinn) Pugh, the wife of the executive director of the Baptist Convention of New York, and member of University church, Syracuse, was nominated as the new representative from New York.

Nominated terms to end in 1994, replacing members ineligible for reelection:

Louis W. Brinker, pastor of First church, Metropolis, Ill., replacing Myron D. Dillow of Carbondale; Doris B. Yeiser, a retired employee of the Kentucky Baptist Convention and member of Beechmont church, Louisville, replacing Ronald F. Deering of Louisville.

Nancy Hubbard, a homemaker and member of Covenant church, Shepherdstown, W. Va., was nominated to a term to end in 1994, replacing Jon F. Caudle of Fairmont, who declined to serve a second term.

Sherry (Mrs. Levi) Parrish, a secretary and member of Eastgate church, Davison, Mich., was nominated to fill the unexpired term -- to end in 1991 -- of Sophronia Ann Robbins of Farmington Hills, Mich., who moved.

Kathy (Mrs. Charles) Prince, a public school teacher and member of Rolling Hills church, Columbia, Md., was nominated to fill the unexpired term -- to end in 1992 -- of Ben M. Primer of Baltimore.

Steve Goings, pastor of First church, Gypsum, Colo., was nominated to fill the unexpired term -- to end in 1993 -- of Paul T. Brock of Brighton, who moved.

Nominated to second terms were John C. Dyer, Wichita, Kan.; Kathleen C. Clements, Baton Rouge, La.; and Joanna Dawson, Albuquerque.

RADIO AND TELEVISION COMMISSION (27 members): 7 nominations considered; 3 new members, including a new representative from New York; 4 renominations.

Robert M. Brooks Jr., pastor of Grace church, Lake Grove, was nominated as the new representative from New York.

Nominated to terms to end in 1994, replacing members ineligible for reelection:

William D. Cohea Jr., a banker and member of First church, Douglasville, Ga., replacing James W. Waters of Macon; and Omer Ray Finch Jr., owner of a food service business and member of First church, Wetumka, Okla., replacing Russell Lawson of Oklahoma City.

Nominated to second terms were James M. Castleberry, Montgomery, Ala.; Steven A. Huffman, Ralston, Neb.; Tommy D. Donham, Albuquerque; and Charles H. McKeever, Roanoke, Va.

STEWARDSHIP COMMISSION (27 members): 4 new members, including a new representative from New York; 4 renominations.

Romeo Dizon Manansala, a starter of Filipino churches and pastor of Bible Church International, Hasbrouck Heights, N.J., was nominated as the new representative from the Baptist Convention of New York.

Nominated to terms to end in 1994, replacing members ineligible for reelection:

Tha Ngoc Dang, pastor of Vietnamese church, Ocean Springs, Miss., replacing Earl Kelly of Jackson; and Ray Rust, executive director of the South Carolina Baptist Convention, replacing Jimmie E. Harley of Florence.

Thomas D. Beaty Sr., owner of a farm equipment business and member of Clayton (Ala.) church, was nominated to fill the unexpired term -- to end in 1992 -- of Charles F. Dunkin of Birmingham, who moved.

Nominated to second terms were James R. Trammel, Tehatchipi, Calif.; Samuel J. Hodges III, Temple Hills, Md.; Emery J. Farris, Pineville, Ky., and Robert L. Ross, Oklahoma City.

PUBLIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE (18 members): 3 nominations considered; 3 renominations.

Nominated to second terms were Roy R. Gean Jr., Fort Smith, Ark.; Thomas E. Pratt, Brighton, Colo., and Jay Strack, Dallas.

The committee also recommended that Albert Lee Smith, Birmingham, Ala., be reelected chairman.

ORDER OF BUSINESS COMMITTEE (6 members, plus the SBC president): 2 nominations considered; 2 new members.

Nominated to terms to end in 1993, replacing members ineligible for renomination:

O.S. Hawkins, pastor of First church, Fort Lauderdale, Fla., replacing Dwight Reighard of Fayetteville, Ga.; and Ronald K. Edwards, an attorney and member of Hampton Heights church, Greer, S.C., replacing Ruel May Jr. of Jackson, Miss.

The committee also recommended that Danny E. Watters of Douglasville, Ga., be elected chairman of the committee.

DENOMINATIONAL CALENDAR COMMITTEE (6 members): 2 nominations considered; 2 new members.

Nominated to terms to end in 1993, replacing members ineligible for reelection:

Pamela (Mrs. Brad) Dixon, a teacher's aide and member of Arapahoe Road church, Highlands Ranch, Colo., replacing Leon B. Hataway of Clifton, Colo.; and Newman N. Antonson, pastor of Tyler Road Southern church, Wichita, Kan., replacing Harold L. Finch of Leawood, Kan.

The committee also recommended Don Davis, Portland, Ore., be elected chairman.

BAPTIST WORLD ALLIANCE (11 Southern Baptist representatives on the General Council): 11 nominations considered, 4 new members, 7 renominations.

Four executives of SBC agencies serve by virtue of office. They are Harold C. Bennett, Executive Committee; Lloyd Elder, Sunday School Board; Larry L. Lewis, Home Mission Board; and Keith Parks, Foreign Mission Board.

The incumbent president of the SBC also serves by virtue of office.

Two new members were nominated replacing members, who although eligible to serve because the SBC bylaws do not limit the terms of BWA representatives, were replaced by the committee.

Dellanna O'Brien, executive director of the Woman's Missionary Union of the SBC and member of Mountain Brook Church, Birmingham, Ala., was nominated to replace Carolyn Weatherford Crumpler, the recently retired WMU executive director. Crumpler, now of Cincinnati, Ohio, had served 10 years as an at-large member of the BWA.

Erle Cocke Jr., a management consultant and member of Briggs Memorial church, Bethesda, Md., was nominated to replace Jack R. Jones of Arlington, Va. Jones had served 10 years on the BWA.

A new member will be nominated by the subcommittee when it meets in New Orleans June 10 to replace S. Truett Cathey of Jonesboro, Ga., who declined to serve another term.

Another member will be nominated to replace T. Truett Ott of Tampa, Fla., when the subcommittee meets in New Orleans June 10.

Nominated to second terms were C.B. Hogue, Fresno, Calif., and Bailey E. Smith, Atlanta.

NORTH AMERICAN BAPTIST FELLOWSHIP (15 members): 15 nominations considered; 3 new members; 12 renominations.

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Executives of six SBC agencies serve on the NABF general council by virtue of office. They are Harold C. Bennett, Executive Committee; Lloyd Elder, Sunday School Board; Larry L. Lewis, Home Mission Board; Keith Parks, Foreign Mission Board; Dellanna O'Brien, Woman's Missionary Union; and James H. Smith, Brotherhood Commission.

The incumbent president of the SBC also serves by virtue of office.

Three new members were nominated replacing members, who although eligible for reelection, were not nominated by the committee. They are:

Gary Marquez, pastor of North Swann church, Tucson, Ariz., replacing Robert Glass of Phoenix; J. Robert McAlister, a layman from First church, Columbia, S.C., replacing Robert L. Griffin of Ringgold, La.; and John Finn, pastor of Lifeline church, Little Rock, Ark., replacing Brian L. Harbour of Little Rock.

At-large members nominated to new terms include William D. Bowyer, St. Louis; John B. Brashear, Reynoldsburg, Ohio; Ted Coldiron, Enid, Okla.; Floyd W. Harris, Burke, Va.; and Hon V. Lao, Concord, Calif.

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Supreme Court upholds
child pornography law

By Kathy Palen

N-10
BDC

Baptist Press
4/26/90

WASHINGTON (BP)--The U.S. Supreme Court has held the state of Ohio may prohibit the possession and viewing of child pornography.

In a 6 to 3 decision, the high court upheld the Ohio law, ruling the state has compelling interests in protecting the physical and psychological well-being of minors and in destroying the market for the exploitation of children.

The case involved Clyde Osborne, who was convicted of violating the state statute and sentenced to six months in prison after Columbus, Ohio, police found in his home four photographs of a nude male adolescent posed in sexually explicit positions.

The Ohio Supreme Court affirmed Osborne's conviction, rejecting his claim that the First Amendment prohibits states from proscribing the private possession of child pornography. The court, which read the statute as only applying to depictions of nudity involving a lewd exhibition or graphic focus on a minor's genitals, held the law was not unconstitutionally overbroad.

Writing for the court's majority, Justice Byron R. White said the case in question, Osborne v. Ohio, differs from an earlier pornography-related decision, Stanley v. Georgia, because the interests underlying child pornography prohibitions exceed the interests justifying the Georgia law at issue in the earlier case.

"In Stanley, Georgia primarily sought to proscribe the private possession of obscenity because it was concerned that obscenity would poison the minds of its viewers," White wrote.

"The difference here is obvious: the state does not rely on a paternalistic interest in regulating Osborne's mind. Rather, Ohio has enacted (this law) in order to protect the victims of child pornography; it hopes to destroy a market for the exploitative use of children."

Given the importance of the state's interest in protecting victims of child pornography, White said, Ohio should not be faulted for attempting to stamp out child pornography at all levels in the distribution chain, including that of possession.

Under the Ohio Supreme Court's interpretation, the statute is not overbroad and would not penalize people for viewing or possessing innocuous photographs of naked children, White wrote.

But in a dissenting opinion, Justice William J. Brennan Jr. called the statute -- even under the state supreme court's reading -- "fatally overbroad."

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The court's application of "lewd exhibition" and "graphic focus" tests not only fails to secure the law's overbreadth but also creates a new problem of vagueness, Brennan wrote.

The Ohio Supreme Court did not adequately define "lewd" or specify the perspective from which "lewdness" is to be determined, Brennan said. The "graphic focus" test appears to involve nothing more than a subjective estimation of the prominence of the genitals in a photograph or other representation, he added.

"In sum, the 'lewd exhibition' and 'graphic focus' tests are too vague to serve as any workable limit," he wrote.

Brennan also argued that while a state has the authority to regulate production and distribution of child pornography, it does not have the authority to penalize possession of such materials.

"The court today is so disquieted by the possible exploitation of children in the production of the pornography that it is willing to tolerate the imposition of criminal penalties for simple possession," Brennan wrote. "While I share the majority's concerns, I do not believe that it has struck the proper balance between the First Amendment and the state's interests, especially in light of the other means available to Ohio to protect children from exploitation and the state's failure to demonstrate a causal link between a ban on possession of child pornography and a decrease in its production."

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'Mama Sue' opens door
to Chinese students

By Michael Chute

F-AMB

Baptist Press
4/26/90

NANJING, China (BP)--Sue Todd doesn't speak Chinese, but she's found an even better way to communicate with her students.

The 69-year-old Southern Baptist teacher from Windsor, N.C., speaks the "language of love," and it's coming through loud and clear to her students at Southeast China University in Nanjing.

Todd follows an "open door" policy at her apartment. "Anyone who comes to my room, I take time to talk with them," she says. "They need this. They need a 'sounding board' with someone who cares. They tell me their problems, their goals."

In just a year, she's become "Mama Sue" to a number of her Chinese students.

She wears a tiny enamel panda -- the national animal of China -- on her lapel. A world map on the wall of her small apartment provided by the university has an American flag hanging over the United States. Over China hangs the Chinese flag.

"I don't feel uncomfortable with that (the Chinese flag) in my room," says Todd. "It occurred to me that if I put up an American flag I should also put up a Chinese flag. When Chinese students come in and see that Chinese flag their faces just light up."

Sponsored by the Amity Foundation, a service organization begun by Christians in China, Todd also relates to Cooperative Services International, the Southern Baptist aid organization.

"I only came for a one-year term but found out my Nineveh is in Nanjing, so I stayed," she explains. The Old Testament book of Jonah tells how God sent Jonah from his native land to share his message with the people of a distant city, Nineveh. "God hasn't told me yet how long to stay; whatever he wills is my will. I feel like I really am in Nineveh."

Coming to China is the fulfillment of a lifelong dream for Todd. To care for her terminally ill husband, she had resigned as head of the early childhood education department at North Carolina Wesleyan College in Rocky Mount. After his death, she became full-time grandmother to her only son's two children so her daughter-in-law could be with her dying mother. Later, nothing prevented her from going overseas.

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She's just what Chinese university officials want: a teacher with plenty of classroom experience who knows the English language well. She worked many years in public schools as a teacher, speech therapist, curriculum specialist and elementary education supervisor.

Todd gives everything she has in her English classes. Last year she taught 526 students. This year she hasn't bothered to count. "Auditors" always stand at her classroom door and if an empty seat is available, she invites them in.

In addition to her full-time assignment teaching English at the school for engineers, she also teaches classes three nights a week at the YMCA, the Nanjing Theological Seminary and the Academy of Sciences. Her only complaint is that the hectic schedule gives her only three nights a week to meet informally with students.

Some people express concern about Todd's "open door," afraid she doesn't have enough time for herself.

"It really keeps me busy," she admits. "But that's exactly why I came to China. I feel a sense of urgency because of my age. I don't know how long I'll be able to stay."

Like all Southern Baptist CSI teachers in China, Todd shares her faith in Jesus Christ within the restrictions placed on her in China.

"I won't break the laws of the country," she emphasizes. "We're guests here, and we must respect their laws. It would be un-Christian not to, because we would not be setting a good example."

Still, within those confines Todd finds ways to express her faith. A Bible always rests on the night stand beside her bed. It's often a topic of discussion.

One young visitor saw the Bible and told Todd he had wanted one for two years. She gave him that one -- the Bible she had given her husband as a Christmas present in 1982. In fact, she gave away all her personal Bibles last year. She left China without a Bible following the crackdown on student protesters in Beijing last summer. Now, she gives English-Chinese Bibles to people who want one.

"I point out key passages I feel will be meaningful in their lives," she explains. "One young man said, 'I don't know what it is but when I read those words you have marked, I feel so good. What is it?' I told him it's the spirit of God working within you."

She also takes many students with her to St. Paul's Church in Nanjing every Sunday. Most don't know the meaning of the word "church" before they go. Many have become Christians through Todd's witness.

"Much of my ministry is planting seeds," she says. "I'm sure I won't see the fruition of much of it. I encourage them to come (to church) on their own because I won't always be here. This is where they will get their nurturing."

During the years she sought to know more about China and its history, Todd observed that almost anything she heard involved strife. She always thought the Chinese must be "special people" to have survived such inhumanities. She wanted to come and see for herself.

"They're people of great tolerance, self-motivated to improve themselves, patient and intelligent," she said. "I'm treated with such respect and dignity that I find it very humbling at times."

And Sue Todd's "open door" policy has opened many doors for her in China.

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BP photo mailed to state Baptist newspapers by Richmond bureau of Baptist Press

Baptists blitz barracks,
bag bricks for new church

KOBRIN, U.S.S.R. (BP)--During the long years of religious repression, Soviet authorities sometimes tore churches to the ground. Now the opposite is happening.

In an ironic turnaround, a Baptist congregation in the Soviet republic of Byelorussia has demolished an abandoned army barracks to use the bricks for a new church, according to an April 25 report by United Press International.

Soviet Baptist official Alexander Firisyuk told UPI the Baptist congregation of more than 500 members in the city of Kobrin had been using an old, dilapidated building for worship. As religious freedom increased, so did demands for a new church.

"For many years on end, the believers have been trying to get permission for building a new church," Firisyuk was quoted as saying. "At last they got permission, but could not build because construction materials are in a very short supply."

However, because of recent cutbacks in the Soviet military, a military unit in the area disbanded and left behind an empty barracks. Authorities agreed to sell the used bricks to the Baptists if the congregation would handle demolition of the barracks.

Most of the demolition work was done by church members with help from several professional builders, said Firisyuk. Construction on the new church has begun.

"Thank God there is disarmament," the church's pastor told a Soviet Baptist newspaper. "Now churches are being built from materials which were previously used for war purposes."

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Brotherhood trustees
OK budget, add posts

By Mark Kelly

N-CO
B'HOOD

Baptist Press
4/26/90

MEMPHIS, Tenn. (BP)--Southern Baptist Brotherhood Commission trustees adopted a \$3.39 million budget for 1990-91 and created two new staff positions when they convened April 20-21 in Memphis, Tenn.

The new budget proposal represents an increase of 8.3 percent over the current Brotherhood budget. It was adopted on the heels of a positive financial report.

Commissioners were told that receipts for the first six months of the current fiscal year were \$116,873.18 over budget. Expenses during the same period had been held \$38,618.24 under budget.

Commission President James H. Smith pronounced the commission's financial condition "very healthy."

"Our income is keeping up with anticipations, and we are largely holding expenditures in line with the budget," he said. "It appears we will be right on target with our budget at the end of the year."

During their two-day meeting, commissioners also created the staff positions: a production assistant for the graphic services department and a non dated curriculum editor in the adult division. The graphic services position will facilitate production of backlogged materials that have been delayed by an increasing number new projects. The new curriculum editor will concentrate on developing materials related to marketplace ministry.

Fifteen people were approved as the first recipients of the Award of Merit of the International Legion of Royal Ambassador leaders. People who were nominated by state and national Brotherhood leaders and recommended by the legion's advisory board were selected for their "dedicated service in the task of bringing young men and boys to God through Christ by fostering programs of missions education and mission action, with a special emphasis upon personal involvement." Names of recipients will be released at a later date.

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In other session, trustees:

-- Reviewed format changes in store for three commission publications that previously were published as separate editions of World Mission Journal.

The names of the three periodicals were changed to "Challenge," for High School Baptist Young Men; "Journey," for Baptist Young Men; and "Missions Today," for Baptist men. In October, the publication will move from tabloid newspaper format to 24-page magazine format. Content in each of the periodicals will be tailored more closely to fit the interest and needs of its audience.

-- Voted to increase to \$1,000 the amount of scholarship they award annually to the winner of the national High School Baptist Young Men Speak Out competition. Trustees fund that scholarship from personal contributions.

-- Adopted changes in the bylaws of the National Fellowship of Baptist Men. A requirement regarding the number of pastors serving on the fellowship's general council was removed, and the organization's officers were restructured to eliminate regional and honorary vice presidential positions and replace them with a single vice president.

These changes will be voted on by the fellowship's members during that group's triennial meeting Oct. 26-27, 1990, at First Baptist Church in Memphis.

Posthumous appreciation was expressed for commissioner Stan Riehn of Oak Ridge, Mo., who died in November 1989 after two years of service on the board. Riehn's wife, Phyllis, accepted the resolution of appreciation on her late husband's behalf.