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**-- BAPTIST PRESS**  
News Service of the Southern Baptist Convention

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March 13, 1992

92-47

1991 Lottie Moon total  
to rise, projections show

By Marty Croll

RICHMOND, Va. (BP)--Despite economic recession and denominational squabbles, Southern Baptists gave more last year to the annual Lottie Moon Christmas Offering for foreign missions than ever before, if projections prove correct.

The projections, based on a survey of selected state Baptist conventions, show the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board will receive \$81.75 million -- a 3 percent increase over 1990 -- by the time the accounting books close May 31. The survey almost never varies from actual receipts by more than a percentage point.

"This is an encouraging bit of news we certainly need," said board President R. Keith Parks. "We are grateful Southern Baptists continue to show interest and support for their missionaries and missions program. This has been characteristic of Southern Baptists and we believe this indicates it still characterizes us."

Although the projected total will fall short of the 1991 goal of \$84 million, the upturn in receipts will come as a relief to foreign missionaries. At least for this year, the offering increase will avert dramatic budget cuts they had feared might result from reprisals against decisions by the board's trustees last October and December to defund the Baptist Theological Seminary in Ruschlikon, Switzerland.

Considered the largest single offering of its kind, the Lottie Moon offering had grown every year since 1937 until a 1 percent downturn recorded in last year's budget. It accounts for an increasing portion of Southern Baptists' total foreign missions budget. Still, it has not met the annual budgeted goal since 1981.

The Lottie Moon offering, generally received by Southern Baptist congregations during December, was expected to account for about 46 percent of the \$183.7 million budget for foreign missions in 1992.

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Presidential ballot, possibly  
Quayle, highlight Indy SBC

By Herb Hollinger

Baptist Press  
3/13/92

INDIANAPOLIS (BP)--A potential three-way contest for president, a possible visit by the vice president of the United States and a theme of "Bold Believers in a Broken World" headline the 135th session of the Southern Baptist Convention June 9-11 in Indianapolis.

Moving its annual meeting to one of the newer areas for Southern Baptist work, the SBC will meet in the Hoosier Dome in Indianapolis, said to be one of the best arenas for a meeting this size. What that size will be is an open question but it should approach the 20,000 mark of messengers with more than 25,000 total attendance.

But there are some concerns. Vice President Dan Quayle, a native of Indiana, is scheduled to bring personal greetings at the start of the annual meeting June 9. However, he is "not able to nail down a commitment of this sort until closer to the date," said Mark Coppenger, SBC vice president for convention relations. "We'll list him on the program in hopes that he will be able to join us."

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And then in a new development, gospel superstar singer Sandi Patti has notified convention officials she has to withdraw from a concert June 10. She's chosen to cancel her appearances for the first seven months of 1992 in order to devote more time to her family, convention officials told Baptist Press.

Interestingly, the SBC presidential contest could generate plenty of interest. Two pastors have announced -- Jess Moody of Van Nuys, Calif., and Nelson Price of Marietta, Ga. -- while a third, Ed Young of Houston, seems probable. Both Price and Young are well known conservatives while Moody has not openly taken a side in the 13-year SBC battle between conservatives and moderates. Conservatives have won every presidential election since 1979.

Presiding at the Indianapolis convention will be Morris Chapman of Wichita Falls, Texas, who will become president of the SBC Executive Committee following the annual meeting. Chapman, pastor of First Baptist Church in Wichita Falls, will conclude two terms as SBC president and nearly 14 years as pastor of the Texas congregation.

Building on the theme, "Bold Believers in a Broken World" based on Ephesians 4:12, the convention will see and hear a multitude of high-profile speakers, musicians and choirs. A large-scale area evangelistic campaign, Crossover Indianapolis, will precede the start of the annual meeting as will the Pastor's Conference, the SBC Woman's Missionary Union annual meeting and dozens of satellite meetings.

Lewis A. Drummond, retiring president of Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary, Wake Forest, N.C., will bring the annual sermon with Atlanta pastor Charles Stanley, well known in Indiana with his "In Touch" television program, bringing the final message Thursday morning.

One of the musical highlights will be Bill Gaither and the Gaithers Vocal Band on Tuesday afternoon. Also scheduled are choirs from Oklahoma, Texas, Virginia and Tennessee. A mass youth choir opens the Wednesday night session which is highlighted by the popular report from the Foreign Mission Board.

In between the opening gavel Tuesday morning and the final prayer Thursday morning, messengers will hear a myriad of reports from SBC agencies, institutions, committees and fraternal organizations. Motions, resolutions, debate and voting will occupy messengers in the six sessions.

Expected to draw particular interest are motions concerning the disposal of \$300,000 in a capital expenditures fund set aside in 1968 which has been claimed by the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs as well as the SBC Christian Life Commission. The Executive Committee of the convention will recommend it be given control over the fund to disburse as it determines the need.

Also, bylaw change proposals are expected from the Executive Committee aimed at barring churches which approve homosexual practices. The Executive Committee passed a resolution in February aimed at two North Carolina churches and bylaw changes are expected in Indianapolis in an attempt to keep messengers from those churches participating in the annual meeting.

Convention officials are gearing up for expected protests at Indianapolis from gay and lesbian support groups.

Another expected debate is expected over the issue of membership in Masonic lodges. The issue of Freemasonry was brought up last year in Atlanta and referred to the Home Mission Board for study. HMB directors recently decided not to deal with the question and will refer it back to the Indianapolis annual meeting for messengers to decide what to do.

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1992 SBC convention logo available upon request from the SBC Executive Committee

## SOUTHERN BAPTIST CONVENTION

June 9-11, 1992

Hoosier Dome, Indianapolis

Theme: Bold Believers in a Broken World

Scripture: "For the perfecting of the saints,  
for the work of the ministry,  
for the edifying of the body of Christ"  
(Ephesians 4:12)

Tuesday Morning, June 9

- 8:15 Music for Inspiration -- First Baptist Church Choir, Wichita Falls, Texas, John Mark Benson, minister of music
- 8:30 Call to Order  
Congregational Singing -- Jack Price, convention music director, Garland, Texas; Dick Thomassian, music associate, minister of music, Whitesburg Baptist Church, Huntsville, Ala.
- 8:35 Prayer -- Laverne Butler, president, Mid-Continent Bible College, Mayfield, Ky.
- 8:40 Registration Report and Constitution of Convention -- Lee Porter, registration secretary, assistant pastor, St. Andrew Baptist Church, Panama City, Fla.
- 8:45 Committee on Order of Business (First Report) -- O.S. Hawkins, chairman, pastor, First Baptist Church, Ft. Lauderdale, Fla.
- 8:50 Introduction of Vice President -- Morris H. Chapman, president, pastor, First Baptist Church, Wichita, Falls, Texas  
The Honorable James Danforth Quayle, Vice President of the United States
- 8:55 Welcome  
Response -- Charles W. Sullivan, executive director-treasurer, State Convention of Baptists in Indiana, Indianapolis
- 9:15 Announcement of Committee on Committees, Credentials, Resolutions, and Tellers
- 9:20 Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary Report -- William O. Crews, president, Mill Valley, Calif.
- 9:30 Introduction of Business and Resolutions
- 9:55 Executive Committee Report (Part 1) -- Harold C. Bennett, president and treasurer, Nashville
- 10:55 Historical Commission Report -- Lynn E. May Jr., executive director, Nashville
- 11:05 Congregational Singing -- Dick Thomassian
- 11:10 Music -- Wichita Falls First Baptist Church Choir; Chris Chapman, soloist, First Baptist Church, Lakeland, Fla.
- 11:20 President's Address -- Morris H. Chapman, pastor, First Baptist Church, Wichita Falls, Texas
- 12:00 Benediction -- Tom Bacus, layman, First Baptist Church, Wichita Falls, Texas

Tuesday Afternoon, June 9

- 1:00 Music for Inspiration -- First Baptist Church Choir, Franklin, Tenn., Denny Dawson, minister of music; The Gaithers and Vocal Band, Alexandria, Ind.; Michelle Gage, soloist, Euless, Texas; Trinity Trio, Kim and Suzanne Noblitt, and Tim Vaught, Henderson Hill Baptist Church, Edmond, Okla.
- 1:55 Congregational Singing -- Curtis Brewer, minister of music, First Baptist Church, Odessa, Texas
- 2:00 Prayer -- Robert McGee, president and founder, Rapha Hospital Treatment Centers, Houston

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- 2:05 Messenger Information Survey -- Martin B. Bradley, director, corporate planning and research department, Sunday School Board, Nashville
- 2:10 Business  
Committee on Order of Business (Second Report)  
Introduction of Business and Resolutions
- 2:20 Crossover Indianapolis -- James Merritt, pastor, First Baptist Church, Snellville, Ga.; and Freddie Gage, evangelist, Euless, Texas, co-chairmen
- 2:30 Election of Officers
- 2:45 Committee on Nominations Report -- Bobby Boyles, chairman, pastor, First Baptist Church, Moore, Okla.
- 3:00 Music -- First Baptist Church Choir, Franklin, Tenn.
- 3:05 Executive Committee Report (Part 2) -- Harold C. Bennett
- 4:00 Congregational Singing -- Curtis Brewer
- 4:05 Business  
Committee on Order of Business (Third Report)  
Committee on Committees Report  
Introduction of Business and Resolutions  
Miscellaneous Business
- 4:45 Election of Officers (Second)
- 5:00 Benediction -- Leo Lytle, pastor, Bentley Baptist Church, Bentley, La.

Tuesday Evening, June 9

- 6:30 Music for Inspiration -- First Baptist Church Choir, Norfolk, Va., Larry White, minister of music
- 7:00 Congregational Singing -- Steve White, First Baptist Church, Merritt Island, Fla., minister of music
- 7:05 Prayer -- Bob Litton, pastor, Utica Baptist Church, Utica, Ky.
- 7:10 Election of Officers (Third)
- 7:20 Bold Mission Thrust Report -- Harold C. Bennett
- 7:30 Music -- First Baptist Church Choir, Norfolk, Va.
- 7:35 Radio and Television Commission Report -- Jack B. Johnson, president, Fort Worth, Texas
- 7:45 Southern Baptist Foundation Report -- Hollis E. Johnson III, president, Nashville
- 7:55 Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary Report -- Lewis A. Drummond, president, Wake Forest, N.C.
- 8:05 Special Recognition
- 8:25 Congregational Singing -- Steve White
- 8:30 Home Mission Board Report -- Larry L. Lewis, president, Atlanta
- 9:30 Benediction -- Frank Minton, evangelist, Houston

Wednesday Morning, June 10

- 8:30 Music for Inspiration -- Calvary Baptist Church Choir, Knoxville, Tenn., Darrell Hodge, minister of music
- 8:50 Congregational Singing -- Robert Wagoner, First Baptist Church, Euless, Texas, minister of music
- 8:55 Prayer -- Al Philips, pastor, Arcadia First Baptist Church, Arcadia, S.C.
- 9:00 Election of Officers (Fourth)
- 9:10 Southern Baptist Theological Seminary Report -- Roy L. Honeycutt, president, Louisville, Ky.
- 9:20 Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary Report -- Russell H. Dilday Jr., president, Fort Worth, Texas
- 9:30 Stewardship Commission Report -- A.R. Fagan, president, Nashville
- 9:40 Woman's Missionary Union Report -- Dellanna W. O'Brien, executive director, Birmingham, Ala.
- 9:50 American Bible Society Report --
- 10:00 Introduction of Past Presidents

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- 10:05 Introduction of Fraternal Representatives  
 10:10 Congregational Singing -- Robert Wagoner  
 10:15 Baptist Sunday School Board Report -- James T. Draper Jr., president, Nashville  
 10:45 Music -- Stone Brothers Trio, Rick, Randy and Rodney, Jacksonville, Fla.  
 10:50 Election of Officers (Fifth)  
 11:00 Business  
     Committee on Order of Business (Fourth Report)  
     Committee on Resolutions (First Report)  
     Miscellaneous Business  
 11:35 Congregational Singing -- Robert Wagoner  
 11:40 Music -- Cindi Price, soloist, Garland, Texas  
 11:45 Convention Sermon -- Lewis A. Drummond, president, Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary, Wake Forest, N.C.  
 12:15 Benediction -- Randy Ray, pastor, Emmanuel Baptist Church, Arcadia, La.

NO WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON SESSION

Wednesday Evening, June 10

- 6:15 Music for Inspiration -- Mass Youth Choir, Denny Dawson  
 6:50 Congregational Singing -- Roger Christian, music associate, minister of music, Roswell Street Baptist Church, Marietta, Ga.  
 6:55 Prayer -- Joshua Grijalva, president, Hispanic Baptist Theological Seminary, San Antonio, Texas  
 7:00 Business  
     Committee on Order of Business (Fifth Report)  
     Election of Convention Sermon Preacher and Alternate, and Music Director, 1993  
     Denominational Calendar Report -- V.M. Piland, chairman, First Baptist Church, Tulsa, Okla.  
     Introduction of Local Arrangements Committee  
 7:10 Introduction of Newly Elected SBC Officers  
 7:15 Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary Report -- Milton Ferguson, president, Kansas City, Mo.  
 7:25 New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary Report -- Landrum P. Leavell II, president, New Orleans  
 7:35 Annuity Board Report -- Paul W. Powell, president, Dallas  
 7:45 Presentation of Outgoing SBC Officers  
 7:50 Congregational Singing -- Roger Christian  
 7:55 Christian Life Commission Report -- Richard D. Land, executive director, Nashville  
 8:05 Baptist World Alliance Report -- Denton Lotz, general secretary-treasurer, McLean, Va.  
 8:15 Foreign Mission Board Report -- R. Keith Parks, president, Richmond, Va.  
 9:15 Benediction -- Eugene R. Gibson, pastor, Mission of Faith Baptist Church, Chicago

Thursday Morning, June 11

- 8:30 Music for Inspiration -- Council Road Baptist Church Choir, Bethany, Okla., Norman Behymer, minister of music  
 8:50 Congregational Singing -- L.C. Campbell, Covenant Fellowship Baptist Church, Stuart, Fla.  
 8:55 Prayer -- James W. Owens Jr., pastor, Morgan Memorial Baptist Church, Greenville, S.C.  
 9:00 Business  
     Committee on Resolutions (Final Report)  
 10:00 Brotherhood Commission Report -- James D. Williams, president, Memphis, Tenn.  
 10:10 Report on the Southern Baptist Convention Canada Planning Group -- Larry L. Lewis  
 10:20 Congregational Singing -- L.C. Campbell  
 10:25 Commission on the American Baptist Seminary -- Arthur L. Walker Jr., secretary-treasurer, Nashville

10:35 Denominational Press Report -- Herbert V. Hollinger, vice-president for Baptist Press, SBC Executive Committee, Nashville  
 10:45 Education Commission Report -- Arthur L. Walker Jr., executive director, Nashville  
 10:55 Congregational Singing -- L.C. Campbell  
 11:00 Music -- Randy Elrod, soloist, minister of music, First Baptist Church, Satsuma, Ala.  
 11:05 Message -- Charles Stanley, pastor, First Baptist Church, Atlanta  
 11:40 Benediction -- John Greever, pastor, Pleasant Heights Baptist Church, Indianapolis

#### CONVENTION OFFICERS

Morris H. Chapman, president, pastor, First Baptist Church, Wichita Falls, Texas  
 Nelson Price, first vice-president; pastor, Roswell Street Baptist Church, Marietta, Ga.  
 Ed Harrison Jr., second vice-president, Dollarway Baptist Church, Pine Bluff, Ark.  
 David W. Atchison, recording secretary, layman, Two Rivers Baptist Church, Brentwood, Tenn.  
 Lee Porter, registration secretary, assistant pastor, St. Andrew Baptist Church, Panama City, Fla.  
 Harold C. Bennett, treasurer, president and treasurer, Executive Committee, Nashville

#### COMMITTEE ON ORDER OF BUSINESS

SBC President: Morris H. Chapman, pastor, First Baptist Church, Wichita Falls, Texas  
 Term expiring 1992  
     Joe Aulds, evangelist, Ruston, La.  
     Danny E. Watters, pastor, Beulah Baptist Church, Douglasville, Ga.  
 Term expiring 1993  
     Ronald K. Edwards, attorney, Greer, S.C.  
     O.S. Hawkins, chairman, pastor, First Baptist Church, Ft. Lauderdale, Fla.  
 Term expiring 1994  
     Steve Cookingham, First Baptist Church, Wichita Falls, Texas  
     Sandra B. Hodge, Princeton, Ky.

#### CONVENTION MUSICIANS

Jack Price, convention music director, music evangelist, Garland, Texas  
 Dick Thomassian, music associate, minister of music, Whitesburg Baptist Church, Huntsville, Ala.  
 Roger Christian, music associate, minister of music, Roswell Street Baptist Church, Marietta, Ga.  
 T. Bob Davis, pianist, Dallas  
 William R. Henson, organist, Dallas

Florida Baptist Witness  
 adds eternal dimension

By Barbara Denman

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. (BP)--The Florida Baptist Witness often carries plans of conferences, budgets and buildings. But few plans will have the eternal impact of its most recent offering -- the plan of salvation.

Three times since Feb. 13 the official news magazine of the Florida Baptist State Convention has printed the ABC's of salvation as written by the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board.

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"We will do it as often as we can make space available, but we want it to be more than just a filler," editor Jack Brymer said. "We go into 63,000 homes. Who knows who might pick up the Witness to read it? This gives another opportunity and another setting to share the gospel."

Some subscribers provide the Witness at their places of business. The Baptist Towers, a Jacksonville apartment building for retirees, receives 12 copies to distribute. Not all of the residents are Baptist or Christian, Brymer said.

Gary Roberts, a bivocational minister who owns a Subway restaurant in Blountstown, displays 25 copies of the Witness at his restaurant. In January he wrote to Brymer suggesting the plan of salvation be printed in the publication.

Roberts made his request because "people who pick up the Witness at the shop may be lost." But the message is applicable to more than his customers, Roberts added. "Just because someone sits in the church doesn't mean he's been saved."

"The paper is called 'Witness,'" Roberts said. "By including the plan of salvation it is just that."

According to Brymer, the commissioners elected by the Florida Baptist State Convention to govern the Witness also have suggested the gospel message be published in the paper "from time to time."

Most reaction has been positive, Brymer noted. "Some people seem surprised because state papers are seen more as the press -- news and information as opposed to education and inspiration. Our challenge is to present the plan of salvation in such a creative way that it will be read."

The Baptist and Reflector, newsjournal of the Tennessee Baptist Convention has since carried the plan of salvation in its newspaper. Editor Fletcher Allen acknowledged the Witness inspired him to use it. "I think it has a place in a Christian denominational publication," Allen noted.

The desire to print the gospel message had "been on my mind a long time," Allen said. "I've reached the point in my Christian maturity to just do it."

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Fellowship may compete with  
Annie Armstrong, Lottie Moon

Baptist Press  
3/13/92

By David Winfrey & Sarah Zimmerman

ATLANTA (BP)--Annual Southern Baptist Convention Easter and Christmas offerings for home and foreign missions may get competition from the Baptist Cooperative Fellowship.

The Fellowship's coordinating council, meeting in Atlanta March 12-14, voted to offer assistance to churches seeking options to the annual Annie Armstrong Easter Offering for Home Missions and Lottie Moon Christmas Offering for Foreign Missions.

Jimmy Allen, a member of the Fellowship's global missions ministry group, said the special offerings are a response to churches who aren't going to give to SBC offerings anyway, not an intentional effort to establish a competitive offering.

"We don't want to be in competition with Lottie Moon and Annie Armstrong," said Allen, a former president of the Southern Baptist Convention. "But we have a lot of our churches asking us for alternative ways to fund missions."

Fellowship Moderator John Hewett said he's not concerned with competing with SBC offerings, adding "the Foreign Mission Board has financial reserves that boggle the mind."

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"We're not doing the missionaries a favor (supporting them through the SBC) so that Paige Patterson can shape a new mission strategy," said Hewett, pastor of First Baptist Church in Asheville, N.C.

Patterson, president of Criswell College in Dallas, is a key conservative leader in the Southern Baptist Convention and a trustee of the Foreign Mission Board.

"The missionaries are the ones urging us on," Hewett added. "I haven't gotten one letter from a missionary saying, 'Don't do this.'"

Asked if SBC missionaries back the Fellowship, Hewett said, "We appear to have broad support among the missionaries in Europe."

Hewett and other moderates claim the Foreign Mission Board wants to impose its own theological agenda on European Baptists rather than work in partnership with them. FMB trustees have publicly denied the charge.

Hewett said the number of churches giving money to the Fellowship has doubled in the past year.

The group expects to receive \$6.7 million from churches this year, about 50 percent more than the \$4.5 million received in 1991.

About \$5.1 million of that money, however, is earmarked for Southern Baptist Convention agencies.

Hewett told the council he hopes more churches will consider moving their money into the Fellowship's Vision 2000 fund, which gives 65 percent to Fellowship mission projects.

The Fellowship's Global Missions Ministry also proposed a \$2.5 million budget goal for 1993. That goal, which must be approved at the general assembly in Fort Worth, would ask churches to contribute \$1,000 per month to Fellowship missions projects.

Of that budget, \$1.25 million would go to European Baptist work. Other projects include urban ministries, unreached people, hunger and relief. Personnel and administrative costs would total \$150,000.

Also discussed was the Fellowship's relationship to the Women's Missionary Union, an independent Southern Baptist auxiliary which some SBC officials have suggested should become an SBC agency.

"That's a smoke screen," said Hewett, who said the SBC wants to control the WMU.

Allen said the Fellowship currently has a "friendly and gracious relationship" with the WMU.

"It's possible that they will be able to give us assistance in promoting mission endeavors," Allen said.

Hewett also said the Fellowship remains in contact with Foreign Mission Board President Keith Parks, who is scheduled to meet March 19-20 with FMB trustees concerning his future at that agency.

"I think it's clear that this group would welcome any relationship he would want to have," he said.

The council also affirmed five principles European Baptists claim must be upheld in partnership work.

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The principles, outlined in a statement from leaders of 22 European Baptist unions, include mutual respect for all parties involved, reciprocal sharing of resources, moral integrity of maintaining agreements, spiritual freedom and genuine consultation between partners.

Hewett said such principles were ignored by the Foreign Mission Board in its work with European Baptists. Cecil Sherman, newly elected coordinator of the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship, added the FMB used its money "as a club" to force European Baptists into compliance with board regulations.

David Rogers, vice president of the Baptist Theological Seminary at Ruschlikon, and director of its fund raising office in Nashville, agreed. "European Baptists have been under a lot of rules and barriers for several years. They do not intend to have any more walls. They genuinely desire equal partnership."

The coordinating council will also recommend to the general assembly that a \$165,000 safety net fund be expanded to include helping missionaries who leave Southern Baptist Convention work. The money was previously earmarked for only Southern Baptist denominational workers or seminary professors.

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Elder rule dispute cited  
in director resignation

By Herb Hollinger

Baptist Press  
3/13/92

NASHVILLE (BP)--A Southern Baptist Convention Executive Committee member representing the District of Columbia Baptist Convention will not seek a second four-year term following a dispute with D.C. officials over elder rule in his church.

"I have officially resigned, effective at the Indianapolis SBC meeting in June," said Walter S. Tomme Jr., pastor of Tyson Community Church in Washington. "I would rather not be the center of a controversy. I would rather that matters between us be settled on the basis of issues rather than personalities. For the sake of the common good, I would rather let the process work."

Tomme said he felt his nomination for a second term on the Executive Committee would be challenged at the Indianapolis meeting because Tyson Community Church is not affiliated with the D.C. convention. In the November D.C. convention annual meeting, talks between Tyson and convention officials were formally broken off ostensibly due to the elder rule. Tyson is a new congregation, started by Tomme, which had applied for affiliation with the District of Columbia Baptist Convention which requires congregational form of church government.

Jere Allen, new executive director of the D.C. convention, said the convention voted in November "to cease any relationship of any definition for the time being with Tyson." For two years prior there had been an unofficial or informal type of relationship through the convention's church applications committee, Allen said.

"The Tyson church's constitution describes a structure of organization that does not allow for decision-making on the part of the membership. The church is governed by elders who are self-perpetuating. They serve for an indefinite period of time. If a replacement is needed, nominations are from the church but must be approved by the elders," Allen said.

Tomme confirmed the Tyson church is led by a board of elders.

"It basically handles the administrative part of the church, the budget, policies, etc. Their (elders') job is to make sure our ministries conform to the Scriptures and our purpose statement," Tomme said. The initial elders in the new church were appointed by Tomme. But now nominations from the church are taken, screened and then the board of elders elects them.

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"We have four elders," Tomme said. The church averages 100-150 in worship. Tomme said, technically, he could be renominated since his membership is still with Hillcrest Baptist Church in Washington, the sponsoring church. He said Tyson is still a mission of that church; "we haven't finished the charter slate of members for Tyson as yet."

SBC bylaws require membership in a church affiliated with a cooperating state convention to be an Executive Committee member. The D.C. convention has only one member of the Executive Committee.

But Tomme charges there are other issues, other than elder rule, in the decision of the D.C. convention to deny affiliation for Tyson.

"The official reason is church government," Tomme said. "But the frustrating part (for Tyson) is that a number of people say they know there are churches in the D.C. convention that are literally pastor-ruled ... ethnic churches. I don't begrudge that at all."

During the two years the church had been on probationary status by the convention, Tomme said he felt stonewalled due to more than just church government. Some DC convention leaders consider him to be a "fundamentalist," Tomme said. "But I'm not in lockstep with anybody.

"When the applications committee was dealing with us, an issue was made of the way I had voted on the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs matter in an Executive Committee meeting," Tomme said.

"I did vote on the Baptist Joint Committee (on Public Affairs) issue to seek a different direction but when some of the leadership (of the Executive Committee) was trying to get us to give the SBC Public Affairs Committee more money, I voted against that," Tomme said.

Also, Tomme said, the applications committee, in its report two years ago to the D.C. convention, made an agreement with Tyson to establish a liaison between the convention staff and the church. It never happened, Tomme said. "I consider that a breach of their word."

Allen said there were members on the applications committee of diverse church styles, backgrounds and theology. The committee was unanimous in bringing its proposal, Allen said.

"Though the informal, unofficial relationship ceased, the church was encouraged to reapply for admission to the convention at any time, if the constitution of the church is changed to allow congregational control," Allen said. Allen said the committee's decision was not based on the theological persuasion of Walt Tomme.

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Presidential search committee  
hears from seminary community

By John Walker

Baptist Press  
3/13/92

WAKE FOREST, N.C. (BP)--The next president of Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary hopefully will be a good administrator with a "heart for students and a vision for the future."

Seminary trustee chairman Roger Ellsworth of Benton, Ill., said that description reflects many of the comments received by the seminary's presidential search committee in a full day of meetings March 11 at the Wake Forest, N.C. campus.

"We've met with the advisory task force, the administrative council, the students, and the faculty," Ellsworth said. "Each group has given us a great deal of insight.

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"All seem to be in agreement we need to move ahead as rapidly as we can and still find the right individual for this position," Ellsworth added.

Debunking rumors to the contrary, seminary trustees stressed throughout the day no particular candidate had already been selected. Cecil Rhodes, trustee from Wilson, N.C., said trustees are approaching the presidential search with a "completely open mind." Trustee Dan Johnston of Jonesville, S.C., said to approach the selection process any other way would "rule out the Holy Spirit." He said all he wanted was "the man God had out there" for Southeastern because "we can't afford to make a mistake."

One administrator said the school needs someone with experience because there is not time for "on-the-job training."

The faculty input session was closed to the public.

During the student input session, there appeared to be overwhelming support for hiring a "conservative" president with a strong commitment to biblical inerrancy. One student stated, "Any leader with a shaky Bible is a shaky leader." There were several students, however, who expressed concern that such a president might not be willing to listen to opposing points of view. Trustee Robert Crowley of Maryland described the student session as "the most stimulating experience" he had had since joining the trustee board.

Other characteristics students said they would like to see in the new president include ability as a strong administrator; a love for students; a man of prayer; a credentialed scholar; a focused commitment to Southeastern; and a family life reflective of his Bible beliefs. One student suggested the president should also be "cool," meaning he should be willing to mingle with students.

Ellsworth said one comment in particular stuck in his mind. A student said she thought the next president should have "the head of a scholar, the hands of an administrator, the heart of a pastor and the soul of a prophet."

Another student suggested God's man may not be an obvious choice -- just as the shepherd David was not an obvious choice to be king.

The presidential search became necessary when current Southeastern President Lewis Drummond announced he would retire June 30.

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Walker writes for the communication/public relations office of Southeastern Seminary.

Child care, shuttle buses  
scheduled for Indianapolis

Baptist Press  
3/13/92

INDIANAPOLIS (BP)--Registration for on-site child care for preschool children of out-of-town messengers during the 1992 annual meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention, June 9-11 in Indianapolis, is now being accepted.

Shirley Bearce, coordinator of the child care sessions, said registration material is available by writing to SBC Preschool Child Care, c/o Shirley Bearce, 164 Congress Court, Mooresville, IN 46158.

The material will include information about policies, hours of operation, fees and registration forms, she said. Child care registration will be confirmed on a first-come, first-served basis. Parents are urged to write for registration materials immediately, Bearce said.

In previously announced shuttle bus schedules, the fees published were incorrect. Shuttle buses to and from the Hoosier Dome and outlying hotels will cost \$12 with a reservation and \$15 without. They will run Sunday through Thursday on an hourly basis. For information, call 1-800-972-8952.

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Organizers of the shuttle bus, Christian Travelers of Des Plaines, Ill., also will provide a transfer service from the Indianapolis airport to messengers' hotels. That service will cost \$10-\$25 depending on distance from the airport to the hotel.

To order passes and transfer service by mail, write Christian Travelers, 501 West Golf Road, Des Plaines, IL, 60016.

SBC officials also are cooperating with USAir and WorldClass Travel in providing special rates for air travelers to and from Indianapolis. The fares are based on USAir's published round-trip fares within the continental United States. A 45 percent discount off unrestricted coach fare is available with seven days advance reservations and ticketing required.

A regular 5 percent discount also is available simply by noting you are attending the SBC annual meeting.

Messengers can call the travel agency, WorldClass Travel, Inc., at 1-800-237-0434, from 8:30 to 5:30 (Central Time), Monday through Friday. They should indicate they will be attending the SBC to receive the special rates.

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Vice President Quayle worships  
at First Baptist, Shreveport

By Lynn P. Clayton

Baptist Press  
3/13/92

SHREVEPORT, La. (BP)--Visitors' cards filled out and dropped into offering plates at Baptist churches are always prized by the host congregations but two such cards dropped into the offering plate at First Baptist Church in Shreveport may become collectors' items.

Vice President and Mrs. Dan Quayle worshipped with First Baptist March 8. Accompanying the Quayles were Morris Chapman, president of the Southern Baptist Convention and president-elect of the Southern Baptist Convention Executive Committee, and his wife Jodie, along with White House staff members and local political leaders.

According to pastor Jon Stubblefield, the congregation simply tried to provide "an atmosphere so they could worship."

The Quayles' visit came as a response to an invitation issued by Stubblefield.

"Word came to me through Mike Woods, a deacon at the church, who is head of the Republican Party in the Shreveport area," Stubblefield recounted. "After I learned there was a possibility he (Quayle) would come to Shreveport and was looking for a place to worship that Sunday, I extended them an invitation to worship with us.

"A member of his staff, Paula Franklin, grew up in First Baptist Church and maintains ties here. I called her and she recommended our church to them and they accepted.

"I told them we were having a 'Family Revival Week' and we would just go on with our activities if they came," Stubblefield recalled. "On Thursday before that Sunday, we received word they would come."

Stubblefield said the vice president's advance party and Secret Service agents arrived Friday morning and began making arrangements for the visit. "On Saturday, we learned that Morris Chapman and his wife would be traveling with the Quayles," Stubblefield said.

Stubblefield said the order of worship for the time of worship had already been printed and everything was left as it was. Charles Petty, founder and president of Family Success Unlimited in Raleigh, N.C., led the special family emphasis on Friday and Saturday evening, then preached on Sunday morning as scheduled.

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"I know vice president and Mrs. Quayle find it very hard not to always be in the spotlight and they need to have a place of worship without cameras flashing," Stubblefield said. The myriad of cameras were restricted to the outside front of the church although reporters came into the auditorium to cover the message and activities.

At the close of the service, Stubblefield invited the vice president to share a word of greeting.

"He thanked the church for letting them worship with us," Stubblefield recounted. "He mentioned that he had teen-agers in his home and he and Marilyn appreciated the help Dr. Petty gave to parents raising teen-agers.

"He also mentioned the prayer life of his grandmother and the influence she had on him as she prayed daily for each of her grandchildren."

Reflecting on the event, Stubblefield said Quayle was "obviously campaigning in Shreveport" before the Super Tuesday primary balloting.

"We did not want First Baptist Church to be used as a place for a political forum," Stubblefield said. "But, just like everyone else, they (Quayle) deserve a place to worship.

"I would invite any elected official to come to our church. I would not let them use the church for as a platform for their politics but they are more than welcome to come and worship."

Chapman said he received the invitation to accompany the Quayles on that Friday while he and his wife were house-hunting in Nashville in preparation for his move there this summer to assume duties with the Executive Committee. "I didn't consider it to be political whatsoever," Chapman said.

Chapman continues as pastor of First Baptist Church, Wichita Falls, Texas, until the Southern Baptist Convention in June when he completes his term as SBC president and begins his duties as Executive Committee president.

"I'm always conscious that I represent all Southern Baptists," Chapman said. "I felt it would be an opportunity to get to know the vice president better, to commend him for their strong, very open Christian witness -- to commend them for having a strong commitment to strong family values."

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Smith succeeds Cothen  
as NOBTS academic dean

By Debbie Moore

Baptist Press  
3/13/92

NEW ORLEANS (BP)--Joe H. Cothen has announced his retirement as vice president for academic affairs and professor of pastoral work at New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary effective July 31.

Named as Cothen's successor is Billy K. Smith, who has been chairman of the division of biblical studies and professor of Old Testament and Hebrew. Smith will begin March 5.

Cothen was born in Poplarville, Miss., and grew up in Hattiesburg. A 1949 graduate of Mississippi College, he later earned bachelor and doctor of divinity degrees from NOBTS and a master of arts degree from the University of Southern Mississippi in Hattiesburg. He also was a World War II veteran, serving on the Destroyer USS Charles S. Sperry with the Navy, and was pastor of churches in Alabama, Mississippi and Louisiana.

"We have the best theological faculty to be found," Cothen quipped in reference to his colleagues at NOBTS. "I'm probably the only dean I know of who (didn't) want to get rid of any of his faculty."

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Cothen's wife of nearly 46 years, Hazel, is a former New Orleans public school teacher and also a NOBTS graduate. The Cothens have three children: Jodie, an NOBTS graduate and pastor in Kiln, Miss.; Nathan, an NOBTS Ph.D. graduate and pastor in DeSoto, Mo.; and Cynthia, who, with husband Keith Morgan, is a missionary in Macao.

Smith, a graduate of Louisiana Tech, has earned bachelor and doctorate degrees in divinity from NOBTS. He has more than 20 years of pastoral experience in churches in Louisiana, Mississippi and Texas and is the author of the Layman's Bible Book Commentary, vol. 13. He is married to the former Irlene Monroe of Glenmora, La. They have three sons and two daughters.

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Three Koreans spend own  
money to attend Rec Lab

By Terri Lackey

Baptist Press  
3/13/92

NEW BRAUNFELS, Texas (BP)--People who live in the eastern part of the world are proud of their ethic of hard work.

Recreation and leisure activities are not priorities there, according to three South Koreans who traveled from Seoul, South Korea, at their own expense to a Rec Lab, Feb. 28-March 4, in New Braunfels, Texas.

When the concept of church and recreation is combined, almost no one or no group is willing to fund the programming, the men said.

Two of the Koreans, Song Rae Lee and Sung Kwon Lee, work for Kang Nam Joong Ang Baptist Church. With about 12,000 members, it is the largest Baptist church in South Korea. Sun Ju Lee is part-time recreation consultant for the church development board of the Korean Baptist Convention.

"Recreation is not considered important," said David Weng, a former missionary to South Korea who served as interpreter for the three during Rec Lab. "Koreans just don't see a need for recreation ministry."

Speaking through Weng, the men said the training they have received in recreation has come from Centrifuge youth camp staffers who have conducted youth camps for missionary children during the summers in South Korea.

Rec Labs and Centrifuge are both sponsored by the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board's church recreation department.

"In America, recreation ministry is developed and there is a lot of recreation training," Song Rae Lee said. "In Korea, there really isn't such a thing."

According to Joe Palmer, manager of special services in the church recreation department, the three men and one other who was unable to attend the Rec Lab go each year to the Centrifuge camps in South Korea and just watch and learn from the activities.

The opportunity for training them was minimal, he said. "They just got what they could out of it by watching."

Song Rae Lee and Sung Kwon Lee work with youth and children, respectively, at their church. They also, along with Sun Ju Lee, voluntarily conduct annual camps to train other South Korean church leaders in recreation ministry.

Sung Ju Lee travels around South Korea to churches, conducting recreation camps with youth and adults, in addition to working with the YMCA. He is also a pastor at an orphanage and holds about half a dozen other jobs, Weng said.

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"Centrifuge is a very excellent program but it is hard to understand what it is," Sung Ju Lee said. "I am just now beginning to understand it and I want more Centrifuge training."

"They just need more training in church recreation and they were willing to pay for the trip with their own money," said Weng, who attended the Centrifuge camps when he was in South Korea and also underwrote his own trip to Rec Lab.

Weng said the trio has been planning and saving for the trip for two years. Saving the money has been tough for them, Weng said, especially for Song Rae Lee who is getting married soon. "That just shows you how important they think it is," he said.

Song Rae Lee said he felt the conference was well worth the sacrifice. "This conference gave me very many new ideas. We teach youth leaders every year and they need these new ideas," he said.

Sung Kwon Lee said he hopes to attend Rec Lab every year. Laughing, he said he just needs "a scholarship."

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(BP) photo mailed to state Baptist newspapers by SSB bureau of Baptist Press.