

**(BP)**

**-- BAPTIST PRESS**

News Service of the Southern Baptist Convention

NATIONAL OFFICE

SBC Executive Committe

901 Commerce #7

Nashville, Tennessee 37203

(615) 244-2300

Herb Hollinger, Vice President

Fax (615) 742-8900

CompuServe ID# 70420,1

**BUREAUS**

ATLANTA *Martin King, Chief, 1350 Spring St., N.W., Atlanta, Ga. 30367, Telephone (404) 898-7522*

DALLAS *Thomas J. Brannon, Chief, 333 N. Washington, Dallas, Texas 75246-1798, Telephone (214) 828-5232*

NASHVILLE *127 Ninth Ave., N., Nashville, Tenn. 37234, Telephone (615) 251-2300*

RICHMOND *Robert L. Stanley, Chief, 3806 Monument Ave., Richmond, Va., 23230, Telephone (804) 353-0151*

WASHINGTON *Tom Strode, Chief, 400 North Capitol St., #594, Washington, D.C. 20001, Telephone (202) 638-3223*

May 26, 1995

95-88

SOUTHERN BAPTIST HISTORIC  
LIBRARY AND ARCHIVES  
Historical Commission, SBC  
Nashville, Tennessee

WASHINGTON--Frist's vote gives Foster edge in Senate committee.  
KENYA--Wounded missionary Jo Scales slowly improving in Kenya.  
PHILIPPINES--Missionary's 4th angioplasty fails to uproot church starts; photo.  
PHILIPPINES--'Simple faith' transformed his life into 'a miracle;' photo.  
TENNESSEE--Author says relationships help combat 'battle fatigue.'  
TENNESSEE--Access God's power, author says, by getting rid of 'bits of Baal.'  
TENNESSEE--'Battle fatigue' in marriage can be overcome, author says.  
DALLAS--Martin laid off as director of Texans Against Gambling.  
DALLAS--Texas student director resigns 16-year post.  
TENNESSEE--Editors' notes.

Frist's vote gives Foster  
edge in Senate committee

By Tom Strode

Baptist Press  
5/26/95

WASHINGTON (BP)--The Labor and Human Resources Committee favorably reported the nomination of Henry Foster as surgeon general to the U.S. Senate by the margin of a vote from a colleague in the Nashville, Tenn., medical community.

First-year Sen. Bill Frist, R.-Tenn., voted in favor of the controversy-laden nominee in committee action May 26, giving Foster a 9-7 edge. Frist, a heart surgeon, did not disclose how he would vote until just before the committee meeting.

Foster, an obstetrician/gynecologist and medical school administrator in Nashville, still faces a struggle on the Senate floor for confirmation, but it appears his supporters will succeed if they can overcome a promised filibuster by Sen. Phil Gramm, R.-Texas.

The Southern Baptist Christian Life Commission is "disappointed, but not surprised," by the committee action, said James A. Smith, the agency's director of government relations.

Richard Land, the CLC's executive director, announced the agency's opposition to Foster's confirmation in late February in a Nashville news conference in which SBC President Jim Henry also stated his opposition to the nominee.

"Indications have been for weeks that Dr. Foster was going to get a majority vote in the committee," Smith said May 26. "We're particularly disappointed with Sen. Frist's vote."

The CLC was "pleasantly surprised" at the negative vote of moderate committee chairman Nancy Kassebaum, R.-Kan., he said.

"Today's vote validates the concern that I have had for some time that Dr. Foster's confirmation is probable," Smith said. "Nonetheless, we encourage Southern Baptists to contact their senators and ask them to support any filibuster which may be waged against the nomination."

With Foster apparently supported by a majority of senators, it appears only a blocking procedure by Senate Majority Leader Robert Dole, R.-Kan., or someone like Gramm stands in the way of the nominee's confirmation. Dole had said he may not schedule a floor vote but recently said he would meet with the nominee before making a decision. In a May 16 meeting with Smith and other representatives of pro-life organizations, Gramm reiterated his intention to filibuster, Smith said.

--more--

It is uncertain how soon the nomination will reach the floor, if Dole schedules such action, which seems likely. Congress is in recess until June 5.

It appears the confirmation battle will hinge on whether Gramm has enough votes to sustain a filibuster. Sixty votes are required to end a filibuster, which is a strategy used by a member to delay or prevent a vote. Even some Republicans who say they plan to vote against Foster's confirmation have indicated they think Foster probably should have a floor vote.

For the CLC, as well as other pro-life organizations, the vote that matters is the vote on cloture, or ending the filibuster, Smith said.

"We intend to contact senators and ask them to support any filibuster which may be waged against this nomination," he said. "We continue to maintain that Dr. Foster is not the right person for this job. He has a long track record which we believe should disqualify him from being the nation's doctor."

In a prepared statement released May 26, Gramm said he would move, before initiating a filibuster, to delay consideration of the nomination until Congress decides whether to fund the surgeon general's office.

"Through passage of the budget resolution yesterday, the Senate has effectively directed that the office of the surgeon general be defunded," Gramm said. "Given that uncertainty, I believe it is prudent to withhold any decision on Dr. Foster until the Congress finally determines whether to abolish the office."

That funding decision will be made later in the year, he said.

Organizations and senators have based their opposition to Foster on:

- changing accounts of how many abortions he has performed;
- distribution of condoms and other contraceptives to minors without parental consent in his highly touted "I Have a Future" teen-age pregnancy prevention program, of which the reported success in reducing teen sexuality has been challenged;
- his participation on boards for an organization, the Planned Parenthood Federation of America, which opposes any restrictions on abortion;
- his supervision of a study in which more than 50 women had abortions by use of experimental vaginal suppositories;
- his sterilization of mentally impaired women in the 1970s;
- questions about when he knew of the infamous experiments on black men with syphilis at Tuskegee, Ala.

In the full Senate, Foster has at least 52 votes, if all 46 Democrats stick by him. In addition to Frist, five Republicans -- Ben Campbell of Colorado, John Chafee of Rhode Island, Bob Packwood of Oregon, Arlen Specter of Pennsylvania and James Jeffords of Vermont -- have announced their support.

The president nominated Foster in early February after firing Joycelyn Elders in December. Clinton removed Elders, an African American like Foster, after learning she had made comments seemingly in support of teaching masturbation. It was the final controversy in Elders' stormy 15-month tenure as surgeon general.

Foster served as dean of the school of medicine and acting president at Meharry Medical College in Nashville but was on sabbatical at the time of his nomination by Clinton.

--30--

Wounded missionary Jo Scales  
slowly improving in Kenya

By Craig Bird

Baptist Press  
5/26/95

NAIROBI, Kenya (BP)--Jo Scales, a Southern Baptist missionary wounded three times when thieves fired automatic weapons at the car she was driving, is slowly improving, according to doctors at Nairobi Hospital in Kenya.

However, Foreign Mission Board medical authorities are consulting with doctors at the hospital about possibly evacuating her by air to the United States or South Africa if her condition deteriorates.

--more--

Scales, 56, from Shreveport, La., had her right femur shattered and was wounded in the left leg and right hand in the May 20 attack. She underwent almost three hours of surgery to place a plate in the right leg since approximately one inch of the bone was shattered beyond repair.

After two days in the hospital's high dependency unit (a step below intensive care), she was transferred to a private room May 23. Her appetite is gradually improving and no signs of infection have been apparent.

She is expected to begin physical therapy soon but faces a hospital stay of six to eight weeks before a decision can be made about a possible bone graft.

"But you know she's feeling better when she gets a hair dresser to come in and fix her hair," said her husband, Louie Scales, from Lubbock, Texas, who escaped injury in the attack.

Although the experience was very traumatic, Scales says he is grateful he had the equivalent of several hundred dollars of Kenya shillings when they were robbed.

"When they ripped my pants pocket and found the money, they were satisfied and left us alone. If I hadn't recently been to the bank they may have killed us in anger."

Police have made no arrests. The attack occurred in the late afternoon approximately 40 miles north of Nairobi as the Scaleses returned to their home in Embu, Kenya, where the 25-year missionary veterans work as church developers. Three men armed with automatic weapons fired at their car when they refused to pull over.

Three of the car's windows were shattered, and several bullets blasted holes through the metal parts of the car. But several others, at chest height, were deflected and stayed in the car door, despite the apparent absence of any metal strong enough to deflect them.

--30--

Missionary's 4th angioplasty  
fails to uproot church starts

By David Williard

Baptist Press  
5/26/95

MANILA, Philippines (BP)--Earthquakes undermine her cities. Typhoons stalk her coasts. Volcanoes explode. The tremblings are constant in the Philippines.

But the tenor has shifted. Spiritual awakening has broken out -- in some ways as spectacular as the geophysical shifts, in some ways infinitely more damning.

It's why Southern Baptist missionary Jack Branan, despite undergoing his fourth angioplasty this spring, hopes to return in June to the missionary residence in East Manila he has occupied the past 25 years. The awakening, as he sees it, is missing the mark by not answering the critical question of salvation.

Branan, from Culloden, Ga., easily put his finger on his aversion to the "awakening" as he walked among the estimated quarter-million people gathered last August for the 10th anniversary celebration of the El Shaddai renewal movement that has swept Roman Catholicism in the Philippines, Asia's only predominantly Catholic nation.

Making his way through the massive crowd, the 56-year-old American quickly dismisses the hawkers of prayer oils; the purveyors of "blessed" images. He works toward the front. There on a stage the founder of the 7-million-member El Shaddai movement, Mike Velarde, exhorts his following.

"I feel a special presence tonight," Velarde exclaims. "If you want to receive 10 blessings, then jump up and down 10 times."

"If it were getting people saved, that would be one thing," Branan says of the "festival Christianity" surrounding him. "Then I could just go home." The vast majority, he fears, are merely being misled.

Although the renewal has seen millions begin reading the Bible and worshipping more "evangelically," the new enthusiasm does not liberate them from their "salvation-by-works" mind-set, Branan says.

--more--

Branan strives to emphasize salvation built on a solid base of Bible study as he struggles to start churches and tie them together into associations that can ensure their survival. His record has earned him a reputation, expressed by missionary colleague Dennis Singletary, as "the best model church planter for someone working with the lower economic class." So far his legacy includes an average of one church started per year over the course of two and a half decades.

Persistence is the key to what Branan has accomplished, Singletary says. "His work isn't fast; it doesn't set the woods on fire. But he makes church planting his primary purpose."

Confronted with such praise, Branan feigns ignorance of church planting principles. Church planting was not even a course back in the 1960s when he attended seminary, he points out.

"I don't know how to plant a church. I just go out there and try to teach the Bible somehow, and sometimes a church comes up," he explains. "I'm not a great theological guy, not a great linguistic guy, but I have found out that the right thing to do is just talk to people."

Most of the churches Branan has started remain small, financially insecure. They are not counted in Manila's spiritual awakening. They are, however, peopled by Christians who have fought through the New Testament in a disciplined way. To Branan they represent not a spiritual renewal but a spiritual foundation.

The Bible studies provide grounding. Although most participants have Roman Catholic backgrounds, the study groups start with the basics -- including explanations of what the Bible is and how it has been divided into chapters and verses. A question raised in one new group: "If our names are written in the Book of Life, what happens when we get married?"

As the Bible studies proceed, some people drop out. Others slowly distance themselves. But eventually there's a core group asking to be baptized.

Then the Bible study assumes a worship-service format. To get to this point generally takes one year. From there, Jack typically leads the fledgling congregation through a one-year church calendar. Afterward they must seek their own pastor and secure their own church building.

Some Bible studies never become churches. Branan estimates he starts eight of them for every one that succeeds. Some of them die. Others feed into existing Baptist churches. However, all of the churches which eventually started after going through this two-year process continue to survive.

Today these churches are organized in the Baptist Fellowship of East Manila. It consists of 26 congregations. The largest, Evangelical Baptist Church, has 200 members; several have under 10. Average membership is 63. In 1993, those members helped bring nearly 400 of their friends and neighbors to make professions of faith in Christ. One hundred were baptized.

Strengthening the fellowship has become Branan's priority concern. When he returns for his final term, he may not start any more churches, opting instead to pursue ways the fellowship can be more active in meeting the needs of participants. Branan knows these cooperating local Christians must continue the expansion of Baptist work in the eastern sector of Manila.

He also knows he may represent the last of a breed of missionaries in the city. Filipino leaders are now able to assume the role of directing individual church planting in Manila.

Increasingly missionaries are seeking to build on existing work, targeting not individuals but broad groups. New efforts at student work and at opening ministries among the nation's upper classes are recent examples. Even Singletary, who in many ways hopes to emulate Branan, is concentrating on starting a church for an entire middle-class subdivision.

As he returns, Branan is encouraged to know the work, as it exists, could go on without him.

"When you have heart problems, you do think about it, what you have accomplished, what remains to be done," he says. "Twice I had to leave the field in a wheelchair. Every day I'm here, I know there's the chance that I might not be here next week."

When assessing his contribution, he deals with hard facts. What he counts are more than 1,600 Christians well-grounded in faith and actively sharing their convictions to bring others to their Savior.

Such a force in such a place certainly could undergird what Branan believes would constitute a true spiritual awakening.

--30--

(BP) photo (horizontal) mailed to state Baptist newspapers 5/25/95 by Richmond bureau of Baptist Press. Outline available in SBCNet News Room.

'Simple faith' transformed  
his life into 'a miracle'

By David Williard

Baptist Press  
5/26/95

MANILA, Philippines (BP)--Conrad Manalansan still remembers the first time his mother met Southern Baptist missionary Jack Branan. Conrad was 7 years old. Life could not have been worse.

His father had broken off contact with his mother. As a "second wife," she was left with nothing. She moved her son, his sister and herself to a cheap, one-room basement apartment. His sister got out: she eloped.

Conrad and his mother tried to make ends meet by selling tomatoes or garlic or whatever they could get from a wagon outside the market. In a short time they were two months behind on their rent, their rice was gone and they were about to be forced onto the street.

"It's all right. God will provide," the young boy told his mother, repeating the lesson he had heard from Rosanne Branan, Jack's wife, the times he wandered into her Sunday school room.

The suggestion enraged her. "There is no God," she screamed. "For others there may be God, but there is no God for us."

A few minutes later Branan, from Culloden, Ga., knocked on the door. He had visited Conrad before, but each time the boy's mother had hidden. This time she faced him. He explained quietly, "God has been speaking to me and told me to give you this." He handed her a 100 peso bill.

That was 25 years ago. Life did get better, but by no means did it ever get easy. Every day they struggled to pay for food and rent. One low point came after they had been living with his uncle; he kicked them out because they wouldn't attend services of a Christian sect he became involved with.

Conrad continued to help his mother as well as complete high school. Through it all he kept what he refers to today as his "simple faith," trusting that God would provide. Each time, he says, God came through.

Today he's among the "heroes of the faith" in the Philippines, according to Branan, a career church planter in Manila.

Their families remained close as Conrad and one of Branan's sons grew up as friends. His mother eventually got a job as a Tagalog-language teacher and began attending a small Baptist church. When that job ended, she became a day care director as well as a key leader in the congregation. In 1979 that church started a mission. Manalansan and his mother found themselves leading weekly prayer meetings.

The mission enjoyed a series of strong pastors. When the last left and the church was having difficulty attracting a replacement, Manalansan was confronted with a decision. By that time he had been graduated with honors from high school and was well into college. He knew the Bible. He felt prepared to assume the pastoral role. His mother encouraged him to do so.

--more--

But he kept backing off. A lifetime in the midst of poverty made him yearn for something different. "I was reluctant to be a pastor. I wanted to serve the Lord, but I wanted to make money. Pastors here don't make a lot of money," he says.

Reluctantly he agreed to lead the church on a temporary, volunteer basis. His stint went on for two years. Meanwhile he finished school and was working as a public school teacher, a job he found satisfying except for the low pay.

He considered giving up preaching to make some extra money, but he had discovered "God gave him blessings" through his work with the church. "Personally I entered a covenant with God," he explains. "I told God that if he gave me a job sufficient for my everyday needs, I would continue to serve him without salary."

On his 22nd birthday in 1987 he resigned his teaching post, sifted through the help wanted section of the Sunday newspaper and applied for a sales job with an international pharmaceutical company. The advertisement attracted 800 applicants. Many had medical experience. Most had sales experience. Manalansan had neither, but after eight interviews and two tests, he was one of the men offered the relatively high-paying position.

"That was when God lifted me up," he says. "I knew I didn't get the job on my own, but through prayers."

Manalansan has enjoyed his success. For the first time in his life he has insurance to take care of himself and his mother, now 72, who continues to live with him. They both live in a house he bought next door to the one his uncle kicked him out of years before. He has a car.

But despite the pressures of maintaining his business, he has kept his word. Every week he leads the service at Lord Side Baptist Church.

Looking back over the 30 years of his life thus far he's still somewhat incredulous.

"My whole life is a miracle," he says. "After all, most of the kids I was selling tomatoes with are still selling tomatoes. The Lord has been good."

--30--

(BP) photo (horizontal) mailed to state Baptist newspapers 5/25/95 by Richmond bureau of Baptist Press. Outline available in SBCNet News Room.

Author says relationships  
help combat 'battle fatigue'

By Keith Hinson

Baptist Press  
5/26/95

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (BP)--Some people call it "the yuppie flu," "chronic fatigue syndrome" or "the sickness of the '90s."

Joe B. Brown has a different name for the same kind of problem in "Battle Fatigue," a new book from the Baptist Sunday School Board's Broadman & Holman Publishers.

"Battle fatigue is being overwhelmed with a continuous schedule that does not allow you enough time to regroup and build your emotional and spiritual reserves," says Brown, pastor of Hickory Grove Baptist Church, Charlotte, N.C., since 1984.

Brown aims through his book to help readers diagnose whether they have battle fatigue. The book asks such questions as, "Are you constantly in a hurry? Tired all the time? Overwhelmed by 'little things'? Always a week away from being caught up? Then you've got battle fatigue."

The book is targeted for anyone who is caught up in the fast pace of modern life, Brown says. "We tried to avoid ecclesiastical language as much as possible. This book is geared for everyone: the person in the pew or the person in the street."

In fact, it was a wide range of people that provided Brown with ample evidence the book needed to be written.

"For about the last four to five years, a lot of people I have come into contact with -- both Christian and non-Christian -- have been saying things like, 'I don't have time for this' or 'I don't have enough energy for that.' It seemed like everybody was short on resources."

--more--

Since writing the book, Brown says, numerous people have told him, "You must have been thinking about me when you wrote the book. That's exactly how I feel."

He points his readers to the spiritual side of life as the primary key to recovering from battle fatigue.

"You're a spiritual being," Brown says. "If you're physically exhausted and you're emotionally exhausted, chances are you don't take care of yourself spiritually either."

According to Brown, relationships are a key to recovery from battle fatigue. "Jesus said: 'Love the Lord with all thy heart and all thy mind, and your neighbor as yourself.' It's important to put these two things into effect in your life -- having fellowship with God and with your fellow man and reaping the benefits of those relationships," Brown says.

Another key to recovery from battle fatigue is the exercise of spiritual disciplines. Brown notes a survey by researcher George Barna found only 18 percent of evangelical Christians have time alone with God that includes prayer and Bible study.

Drawing from an Old Testament story in 1 Kings 18, Brown writes of how Elijah rebuilt a broken altar by using 12 "remembering stones." He urges readers to rebuild their own broken altars with "remembering stones" such as prayer, worship, praise, holiness, Bible study, faith in God, belief in Jesus Christ, spending time with God, seeking God's will and serving others.

Even someone who is not a Christian may benefit from the book, Brown says. "A non-Christian could get a lot out of it but the ultimate solution is fellowship with Jesus Christ. A non-Christian is going to have to make a decision as to what he thinks about Jesus Christ."

Battle fatigue is common in his own city, Brown says. He characterizes Charlotte as "a hub. We've got a lot of guys who are road warriors. They get up on Monday morning, hit the road, go to the airport, get on a plane, come back on Wednesday, change suitcases and are out again later on Wednesday or on Thursday morning."

Although some might see battle fatigue and "burnout" as synonymous, Brown makes a distinction. "Battle fatigue is a precursor to burnout," he says. "They're probably first cousins. You can recover from battle fatigue a lot quicker than you can from burnout. Burnout is a more drastic stage of battle fatigue, when you're to the point where you're beyond any remedial remedy."

Brown himself has lived and worked in the world outside of professional ministry. While majoring in political science at Carson-Newman College in Jefferson City, Tenn., he had planned to become a lawyer.

After receiving his bachelor's degree in 1970, Brown was "caught up in the draft" and served in the Navy as a line officer. Later in civilian life, he worked in management at a telephone company and eventually felt the call to ministry.

He began serving as a pastor and earned master of divinity and doctor of ministry degrees from Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, Ky.

--30--

Access God's power, author says,  
by getting rid of 'bits of Baal' By Keith Hinson

Baptist Press  
5/26/95

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (BP)--Gaining access to the power of God is critical for anyone who wants to avoid physical, emotional and especially spiritual exhaustion.

That's according to a new book titled "Battle Fatigue," released by the Baptist Sunday School Board's Broadman & Holman Publishers.

Written by Joe B. Brown, pastor of Hickory Grove Baptist Church, Charlotte, N.C., the book warns readers Christians will not be able to access God's power if they hold on to "bits of Baal."

Referring to Baal -- a pagan god mentioned in the Old Testament -- Brown writes, "We must remove all false gods from our lives, those things that we thought would bring the rain but could not because they are powerless."

--more--

He lists five "bits of Baal" that may hinder a Christian's access to the power of God:

- 1) ambition to achieve fame, success or glory -- no matter what the cost to one's spiritual life: "It involves replacing God with your own ego and self-will."
- 2) unholy desires: "Ask yourself this question, 'What is it that I want that God doesn't want for me?'"
- 3) memories of the past: "Is there anything in your life that you cannot let go of? Does your mind carry you back to an event and hold you captive there day after day? If you spend too much time and energy there, it can become a Baal."
- 4) unhealthy relationships: "There are people in our lives who try to draw us away from our power source, directing us toward a path that leads away from God, not toward him. Be careful not to let unhealthy relationships become a Baal."
- 5) business activities and recreational endeavors: "It has well been said, 'We worship our work, we work at our play and we play at our worship.' If we expend more energy making a living and entertaining ourselves than building a relationship with God, we have created a Baal in our lives."

--30--

'Battle fatigue' in marriage  
can be overcome, author says

Baptist Press  
5/26/95

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (BP)--Can a married couple keep "pizzazz" in their relationship, even in today's fast-paced world? Can a marriage avoid damage from the dangers of physical, emotional and spiritual exhaustion brought on by an increasingly complex world?

The answer is a definite yes, according to a new book, "Battle Fatigue," from the Baptist Sunday School Board's Broadman & Holman Publishers.

Author Joe B. Brown, pastor of Hickory Grove Baptist Church, Charlotte, N.C., offers five key suggestions "that may help keep the pizzazz in your marriage":

- 1) "Make the routine unforgettable. Little things mean a lot in a marriage. Hugs and kisses are important at every age and every stage."
- 2) "Create unique moments. Make sure there is at least one every week. Flowers or a thoughtful card tend to make any moment special."
- 3) "Contribute to future memories. Make long-term plans to be together. Discuss your dreams. Set attainable goals. Work together to accomplish them."
- 4) "Reminisce about the past. Talk about how far God has brought you together. Discuss the struggles as well as the times of rejoicing. Build that bond of oneness that makes life without each other seem unnatural."
- 5) "Express your feelings openly. Say, 'I love you!' Say it! Write it! Live it!"

--30--

Martin laid off as director  
of Texans Against Gambling

By Ken Camp

Baptist Press  
5/26/95

DALLAS (BP)--Texans Against Gambling has permanently laid off its two Austin-based staff members, effective May 31, due to lack of financial support. But the statewide anti-gambling coalition will continue as a volunteer organization, according to chairman Dick Graves of Plano, Texas.

Veteran Baptist journalist Dan Martin, 56, has served as executive director of Texans Against Gambling (formerly known as Texans Who Care) since Jan. 1, 1993. His wife, Colleen, has worked as part-time administrative assistant for the organization. The Martins are relocating while they look for other job opportunities.

"For the past year, the financial situation has been increasingly precarious," Martin said. "There is much work to be done in opposing gambling in Texas, but funding simply has not been there."

--more--

Graves expressed appreciation for Martin's leadership over the past two years, particularly in efforts to defeat casinos in the most recent legislative session. A Senate committee in March rejected a proposal to let Texans vote on casinos, and Lt. Gov. Bob Bullock declared the issue dead in the 74th Texas Legislature.

"With this announcement, many of those opposed to casinos felt the battle was over and thus felt little need to continue their contributions in support of the fight against gambling," Graves said. "And the much-needed contributions declined to the degree that our organization could not support the expenses of a full-time director."

He emphasized Texans Against Gambling will continue as a volunteer-led coalition. The organization will maintain a post office box and answering machine in Austin.

"The doors are not closed, and the fight against gambling will continue," Graves said. "Our executive committee will be called into session during June to begin to consider ways of developing a more reliable funding of the organization and to prepare to represent the good people of Texas in saying 'no' to casinos in a vigorous manner."

Martin is a former pastor of churches in Texas and North Carolina and an award-winning reporter who spent 17 years working for newspapers in Texas and Colorado before entering denominational journalism in 1973. He worked in the news and information offices of the Baptist General Convention of Texas and the Home Mission Board then served nearly 10 years as news editor of Baptist Press, news service of the Southern Baptist Convention.

--30--

Texas student director  
resigns 16-year post

By Ken Camp

Baptist Press  
5/26/95

DALLAS (BP)--Jack Greever has resigned as director of the Texas Baptist division of student ministry, a position he held nearly 16 years.

Following a study leave -- his first in more than 38 years with Texas Baptist student ministry -- Greever will be assigned to new duties within the Christian education coordinating board which oversees student work at about 140 campuses across the state, according to Jerry Dawson, CECB director.

Making the announcement at the student ministry's annual leadership training conference May 24 at First Baptist Church of Oak Cliff, Dallas, Greever cited the transitional era that student ministry is going through and the need for a long-term commitment to prepare for the challenges of the future. Greever said he sincerely believed it was time for new leadership to assume guidance of the program.

"Jack Greever's decision required the highest level of commitment to the program to which he had devoted his entire life," Dawson said.

Acting on behalf of the board's executive/finance committee, chairman Mike Davidson of Dripping Springs has asked Thomas Ruane, associate in the division of student ministry, to serve as acting director of the program.

William M. Pinson Jr., executive director of the Baptist General Convention of Texas, expressed strong affirmation of Greever's career in service to Texas students.

"Few leaders in any capacity, in any area of Baptist life, have had as great an influence on the entire college population of Texas," Pinson said. "His service spanning nearly four decades has been an example of steadfast commitment to a task which all of us can honor."

Greever began his career in student ministry in 1957. Following 12 years serving Baptist Student Unions, he was named associate director of the division of student work in 1969.

--30--

---

EDITORS' NOTE: Please add the name Bill Miller, pastor, First Baptist Church, Farmington, Mo., as a member of the 1995 Credentials Committee.

---

EDITORS' NOTE: In (BP) story titled "17 Baylor alumni ask Sloan for action on abortion pill," dated 5/25/95, please substitute the following for the fourth paragraph:

Sloan and Reynolds issued a joint statement May 25: "We have just received this letter and news release while we are in the midst of a two-day meeting with the Baylor board of regents. After we have had an appropriate opportunity to study these communications in detail, we expect to make a public response."

---

EDITORS' NOTE: Please add the following paragraph to (BP) story titled "CLC consultation yields proposed stance on racism," dated 5/25/95:

Other participants in addition to Frost and Land were Joseph Coats, pastor of Glendale Baptist Church, Miami; Rochelle Davis, pastor of Temple of Faith Baptist Church, Detroit; Eugene Gibson, pastor of Mission of Faith Baptist Church, Chicago; David P. Gushee, professor of Christian ethics at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, Ky.; Lewis C. Lampley, pastor of Southside Tabernacle Baptist Church, St. Petersburg, Fla.; Fred Luter, pastor of Franklin Avenue Baptist Church, New Orleans; Gary Ledbetter, editor of the Indiana Baptist and chairman of the Christian Life Commission; Emmanuel McCall, pastor of the Atlanta Christian Fellowship Baptist Church of College Park, Ga.; R. Albert Mohler Jr., president of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary; Paige Patterson, president of Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary, and Bryant Wright, pastor of Johnson Ferry Baptist Church, Marietta, Ga. Joining them were CLC staff members Lamar Cooper and C. Ben Mitchell.

Thanks,  
Baptist Press

---

**(BP)**

**BAPTIST PRESS**  
901 Commerce #750  
Nashville, TN 37234

F  
I  
R  
S  
T  
  
C  
L  
A  
S  
S

Southern Baptist Library  
and Archives