

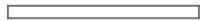
Around the State

February 3, 2006

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Around the State

- The fifth annual Baylor University Sacred Harp Singing will be held Feb. 11 in the Great Hall of Truett Theological Seminary. For those new to Sacred Harp singing, a singing school will be held beginning at 9:15 a.m., with the official sing starting at 10 a.m. After a lunch break, singing will begin again and conclude at 3 p.m. Singing from the Sacred Harp, or shaped note singing, was a method used widely in smaller Protestant churches in the South to teach church members to sing parts. At this free event, all are welcome to come and go. For more information, call (254) 710-2360.



Bernard
McCoy of
Troup
listens as
East Texas
Baptist
University
President
Bob Riley
speaks
prior to
awarding
McCoy an
honorary
doctorate
in divinity.
McCoy, a
1956
graduate of
the school,
served
many years
as a pastor
before
retiring as
director of
missions
for Sabine
Neches
Baptist
Area.
(Photo by
Mike
Midkiff)

- Dallas Baptist University will hold its Patriot Preview Weekend for

prospective students Feb. 11. At the one-day event, high school juniors and seniors have an opportunity to experience campus life and learn more about choosing a college. Students and parents are offered a series of informative seminars, as well as fellowship opportunities with other families and DBU faculty. Information on financial aid options, the admission process and campus life are highlighted. The cost is \$25 and includes two meals for students and their parents. For more information, call (214) 333-5360.

- Baylor University history professor Thomas Kidd has been named the recipient of a National Endowment for the Humanities fellowship. The \$40,000 stipend will allow him to work full-time on his forthcoming book *Awakenings: The First Generation of American Evangelical Christianity*, which is under contract with Yale University Press.

- Ron Brown has been named associate vice president for enrollment management/ director of financial aid at the University of Mary Hardin-Baylor. Brown has worked at the university more than 17 years.

Anniversaries

- Dan Tice, fifth, as minister of education and youth at First Church in El Campo, Jan. 1.

- Byron Williamson, fifth, as pastor of Calvary Church in Rosenberg.

- Keith Brister, 10th, as pastor of First Church in Duncanville, Feb. 1.

- Gary Oncken, 15th, as music minister at Wildewood Church in Spring, Feb. 19.

- First Church in Balmorhea, 100th, March 11-12. Saturday will include a time of refreshments, fellowship, and fun and games beginning at 1 p.m. Donnie Melton, pastor of First Church in Rosenberg, surrendered to preach

at the Balmorhea church as a high school student and will preach in the morning service. The Lord's Supper also will be observed as a part of the 10 a.m. service. A lunch will follow. Roy Byrd is interim pastor.

Deaths

- Robert Coble, 73, Jan. 7 in Lufkin. A former student at Southwestern Seminary, he was a pharmacist at Memorial Hospital in Lufkin 33 years. He also served First Church in Lufkin as a deacon and preschool teacher. He was preceded in death by his brother, William; and sister, Eueline Pattillo. He is survived by his wife, Joy; daughter, Buffy Reitz; and one granddaughter.

- Jarman Bass, 82, Jan. 20 in Dallas. A 1943 graduate of Baylor University, he was an active Baptist layman. A longtime member of Park Cities Church in Dallas, he served nine years as a trustee of Baylor University and Baylor Health Care System. For six years, he was a member of the Executive Board of the Baptist General Convention of Texas. He also served as a trustee of the Sunday School Board of the Southern Baptist Convention. He was preceded in death by his wife, Llewellyn. He is survived by his daughters, Bettie Vandivort and Beverly Childs; three grandchildren; and one great-granddaughter.

- Bobbie Bennett, 74, Jan. 20 in Garland. He was a Southern Baptist pastor, and also retired after 21 years of service in the U.S. Air Force Strategic Air Command. He was preceded in death by his sister, Helen Blake. He is survived by his wife, Lorene; sons, Duane, Bobby and Gary; daughters, Lora Aber-nethy and Malinda Vasquez; brothers, Howard Bennett and John Townsend; sister, Ruthie Howard; and 10 grandchildren.

- Sam Randolph, 71, Jan. 21 in Comanche. He was pastor of Texas churches 42 years, including First Church in Comanche, where he served from 1982 until his retirement in 1996. He is survived by his wife of 49

years, Patti; mother, Grace; daughters, Kim Atkins, Stephanie Buckingham, Melinda Wilkinson and Jill Lewis; sisters, Betty Nelson and Myrna Fort; 10 grandchildren; and one great-granddaughter.

- John Max Cox, 78, Jan. 24 in Denison. A Howard Payne University graduate, the school awarded him an honorary doctorate in divinity in 1992. An educator and minister, he served colleges and universities in Texas, Arizona, California and Oklahoma. He also was pastor of First Church in Murphy and Edhube Church in Bonham, as well as two churches in Oklahoma. He also was minister of education and music at Central Church in Pampa. At the time of his death, he was a member of Parkside Church in Denison. He was preceded in death by his sister, Bethel Lea Orrick. He is survived by his wife of 53 years, Billie Sue; daughter, Kathy Cox; son, David; sisters, Marcia Rives, Martha Whatley, and Claudine Creel; and one grandson.

Events

- Youth at First Cambodian Church in Houston recently presented a play to share the gospel message with their peers. About 175 people attended the play, with several making professions of faith in Jesus Christ. Savann Kruoch is pastor.

- First Church in Arlington broke ground on a \$1.85 million expansion of the Hamill Welcome Center and entrance areas to the sanctuary Feb. 5. The project, scheduled for completion in late summer, is the first of 22 projects that will touch nearly every part of the church campus. Dennis Wiles is pastor.

- Cowboy Church of Ellis County's grand opening for its newly constructed worship center will be held at 10 a.m. Feb 12. A dedication is slated for 5 p.m. that day, followed by a concert featuring award winning artists Susie Luchsinger and Mike Hammock, as well as some cowboy church bands

from the area. The building is designed to seat up to 1,800 people, but seeks to maintain a country/ rural flavor. For more information, call (972) 935-9801. Gary Morgan is pastor.

Ordained

- Garrett Wooten, Dustin Messer, Steven Rothschild, Braxton Edwards, Joshua Price, Stephen Simmons and Adam Whigham to the ministry at Paramount Church in Amarillo.
- Kent Slack to the ministry at First Church in Gainesville.
- Ruben Harrison Jr. to the ministry at Primera Iglesia in Laredo.
- Ricky Passmore to the ministry at Crosspoint Fellowship in Pleasanton.
- Pete Houpt to the ministry at Trinity Church in Pleasanton.
- Ron Shuffield to the ministry at Ridgemont Church in Abilene.
- Jim Ellis and John Batson as deacons at Indian Hills Church in Grand Prairie.
- Tom Galbreath, H.C. Maples, Toby Owen, Julia Robinson and Oscar Voirin as deacons at University Church in Fort Worth.
- James Barton, James Wilson and Chris Zimmerman as deacons at First Church in Temple.
- Jeff Cade, Dalton Morrison and Brian Wear as deacons at First Church in Paris.
- Bryce Briscoe, Gerald Dickens and Mark Hearn as deacons at Memorial Church in Baytown.
- Roger Dreessen, Fred Huff and David Stone as deacons at Central Church

in Luling.

- Garrett Cox, Mike Brister, Mike Webb, Paul Sanderford and Randy O'Rear as deacons at First Church in Belton.

Revivals

- First Church, Canyon Lake; Feb. 5-8; music, Clifton Jansky; evangelist, Bubba Stahl; pastor, Gordon Hightower.
- Porter Springs Church, Crockett; Feb. 12-15; music, Sherman and Tammy Aten; evangelist, Malcolm Ellis; pastor, Carl Standley.

News of religion, faith, missions, Bible study and Christian ministry among Texas Baptist churches, in the BGCT, the Southern Baptist Convention (SBC) and around the world.