

IMB to remove blogging board member

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IMB to remove blogging board member

By Robert Dilday & Greg Warner

Virginia Religious Herald & Associated Baptist Press

RICHMOND, Va. (ABP)-Trustees of the Southern Baptist Convention's International Mission Board will seek to remove a member of their board, apparently for posting information about the board's deliberations on his weblog.

Oklahoma minister arrested in sex sting

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Oklahoma minister arrested in sex sting

By Robert Marus

Associated Baptist Press

OKLAHOMA CITY (ABP)-A Southern Baptist Convention leader was arrested in Oklahoma City for offering to have sex with a male undercover police officer.

Texas Baptist giving a mixed bag in 2005

January 20, 2006

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Texas Baptist giving a mixed bag in 2005

By Ken Camp

Texas Baptist Communications

Texas Baptists gave in an unprecedented way to help victims of natural disaster in 2005, but state missions and ongoing world hunger ministries paid the price.

Munich explores themes of vengeance & forgiveness

January 20, 2006

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Munich explores themes of vengeance & forgiveness

By Susan Edwards

Special to the Baptist Standard

Horribly graphic and violent, disturbing, challenging and even frightening, Munich explores themes imbedded in the factual Palestinian/Israeli conflict, particularly in the context of the massacre of Israeli athletes at the 1972 Munich Olympics.

Around the State

January 20, 2006

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East Texas Baptist University has announced the winners of the 36th annual Era Miller Writing Contest.

Pictured are (front row, left to right) Daniel Amy, first place, prose; Jennifer Vik, third place, prose; Michael Shewmaker, first place, poetry; (second row, left to right) Daniel Ford, third place, poetry; Christine Mancuso, second place, poetry; faculty sponsor Sarah Watson; and Blake Harris, second place, prose. The contest is sponsored by the school's English honor society.

Around the State

- ◆ **Mark Hayes** will present a concert at the University of Mary Hardin-Baylor at 11 a.m. Jan. 25. Hayes will lead a class on improvisation, arranging and composing from 8:15 a.m. until 10:30 a.m. Both events are free and open to the public.

- ◆ The Texas Historical Commission has placed a Texas historical marker on the Luther Memorial at the University of Mary Hardin-Baylor. The arches that make up the Luther Memorial mark the former site of Luther Hall, the university's first building, constructed in 1886 and destroyed by fire in 1929. A dedication ceremony for the historical marker will be held at 10 a.m. Feb. 1.

- ◆ The Center for Cultural and Language Studies at Baptist University of the Americas will host the spring session of Spanish language and culture immersion classes Feb. 6-10. Classes balance classroom instruction and conversational interaction with BUA students from Latin America. Field trips and worship in a Spanish prayer service with an area congregation also are part of the program. Cost is \$250 for the week, which includes all expenses except housing. Texas Baptists are eligible for a \$100 scholarship provided through the Mary Hill Davis Offering. For more information, call (800) 721-1396.

BGCT names chairs for key revamped committees

January 20, 2006

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BGCT names chairs for key revamped committees

By John Hall

Texas Baptist Communications

DALLAS-Baptist General Convention of Texas leaders have appointed four Texas Baptists to chair the convention's primary committees and serve on the new BGCT Executive Committee as part of the revamped governance structure.

More blessed to give: Disasters prompt outpouring of gifts to charitable causes

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Carol Hess of Slidell, La., breaks down in tears after meeting with her insurance adjuster to assess hurricane damage to her home after Hurricane Katrina. Images like this prompted an outpouring of charitable giving to disaster relief and recovery in 2005.

(Photo by Scott Threlkeld/Newhouse News Service)

MORE BLESSED TO GIVE: Disasters prompt outpouring of gifts to charitable causes

By Ken Camp

Managing Editor

News reports and televised images of suffering by South Asian tsunami victims or hurricane-ravaged Gulf Coast residents prompted Americans to reach deep into their pocketbooks to give last year.

Book Reviews

January 20, 2006

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Book Reviews

The Gospel According to Disney-Faith, Trust, and Pixie Dust by Mark I. Pinsky (John Knox Press)

Preachers and Bible teachers, keep this one handy! This highly accessible volume provides insight into the three ingredients consistent in the Disney blockbuster cartoons—faith, trust and pixie dust.

Mark Pinsky carefully reviews 31 of the major feature-length cartoons produced by Disney studios, beginning with *Snow White* (1937) and concluding with *Brother Bear* (2003). He offers a too-brief introduction to Walt and Roy Disney's Christian faith, leaving that for other biographers and the countless writers who have chronicled the Disney epic.

Baptist Briefs

January 20, 2006

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Baptist Briefs

Baptists Today board honors Sherman. Cecil Sherman, the first national coordinator for the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship, will receive the sixth annual Judson-Rice Award at an April 21 dinner at First Baptist Church of Asheville, N.C., sponsored by the Baptists Today board of directors. Sherman is a Fort Worth native and a graduate of Baylor University, Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary and Princeton Theological Seminary. He was pastor of Broadway Baptist Church in Fort Worth, as well as First Baptist Church of Chamblee, Ga., and First Baptist Church of Asheville.

Birthplace of black gospel music burns. Fire destroyed Chicago's historic Pilgrim Baptist Church. Composer Thomas Dorsey is credited with developing black gospel music as a distinct style at the church in the late 1920s and early 1930s. The fire was caused by a torch or torches used by crews repairing the church roof, Chicago Fire Department Spokesman Larry Langford said. Arson investigators found no criminal intent in the starting of the blaze.

Georgetown College gets 'clean bill of health.' One year after being placed on probation by its accrediting association, Georgetown College has been given a "clean bill of health," President Bill Crouch reported. The Southern Association of Colleges and Schools placed Georgetown on

probation in December 2004, saying the college failed to demonstrate compliance with the requirement of financial stability. In the wake of an economic downturn after 9/11, Georgetown's net assets declined by more than \$16.5 million, from \$61 million to \$44.5 million. Since that time, the school's net assets have increased to \$52.4 million, said James Moak, Georgetown's chief financial officer. The school's long-term endowment also has rebounded.

Carroll Institute installs president, administrators

January 20, 2006

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Carroll Institute installs president, administrators

By Marv Knox

Editor

DALLAS—A seminary should create a “theological chain reaction,” Baptist educator Michael Quicke stressed during the inaugural convocation of the B.H. Carroll Theological Institute.

Cartoon

January 20, 2006

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**Pastor
Saunders
encounters
the fine
line
between
open-prayer
night and
open-mike
night.**

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.

Gospel lighthouses or cell phone towers?

January 20, 2006

Posted: 1/20/06

Gospel lighthouses or cell phone towers?

By Jenny Rice

LifeWay Christian Resources

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (BP)—Churches around the country have discovered a new way to raise funds for ministry and missions by using an often-overlooked building asset—the church steeple.