

College students ‘Focus’ on sharing gospel

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College students ‘Focus’ on sharing gospel

By Eric Guel

Texas Baptist Communications

ARLINGTON—More than 2,000 Texas Baptist college students prepared for the school year by taking a hard look at the needs of the world around them.

“The story of Jesus Christ — it’s the story of all stories,” Mike Stroope of Baylor University’s Truett Theological Seminary told the crowd at Focus, sponsored by the Baptist General Convention of Texas. “His story pursues us; it transforms us. We need to listen to his story, and turn other stories down.”

[See a slideshow of photos from Focus here.](#)

Campus
groups
gathered
to pray
for
students
at their
respective
schools
during
Focus.
(Photos
by Eric
Guel)

Enrollment, student test scores up at many Texas Baptist schools

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up at many Texas Baptist schools

While college enrollment across the nation is down slightly, enrollment and student test scores are on the rise at many Baptist General Convention of Texas-affiliated universities.

The U.S. Department of Labor recently reported slightly fewer 2006 high school graduates across the country are enrolling in colleges as compared to 2005 graduates. But many Texas Baptist schools saw enrollment grow or remain nearly even.

Houston Baptist University posted the highest increase in enrollment, a 9.1 percent jump to a total of 2,338 students.

“This is truly a phenomenal time for HBU as we welcome the largest class of freshmen in our history,” said HBU President Robert Sloan. “Every facet of the campus has been impacted by the significant growth and caliber of our students. In fact, as we celebrate the increase of new students on campus, we have also begun preparation for future classes with the construction of a new residence college to be completed by fall 2008.”

Students see dramatic difference at Sul Ross

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Students see dramatic difference at Sul Ross

By George Henson

Staff Writer

ALPINE—The decision by students involved with the Baptist Student Ministry at Sul Ross State University to present the multimedia drama “Last Chance” was a win for the men desiring to join the school’s basketball team.

While the new coach has not made his selections for this year’s squad, 20 of the students going through tryouts attended the drama, and 18 made professions of faith, said Moises Morales, who hopes to make the team as a shooting guard.

Church offers motorists bargain gas and full service

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Church offers motorists bargain gas

and full service

By George Henson

Staff Writer

SCHULENBURG—Not too many people have experienced blessings at the gas pump lately, but residents of Schulenburg did recently, thanks to First Baptist Church.

For a couple of hours on a Saturday, the church pumped gas and washed the car windows of patrons of Alfie's Food Mart & Shell Station, all the while subsidizing the price of gas by 50 cents a gallon. So, the bargain rate for gasoline was \$2.19 a gallon rather than the \$2.69 that had been posted.

Volunteers from First Baptist Church in Schulenburg washed windows and pumped 1,758 gallons of cut-rate gasoline for local motorists as a good-will gesture to their community—and as a way to earn a hearing for a gospel witness.

Cybercolumn by Jinny Henson: Attack of the kitchen witch

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CYBER COLUMN: Attack of the kitchen witch

By Jinny Henson

It had been a benevolent weekend for my family. We all participated in The Race for the Cure 5-kilometer road race for cancer research. Our church hosted the group from The Fuller Center for Housing to build homes, and I had worked in our Praise Kid Children's service. All in all, a wonderful weekend full of terrific experiences.

Monday morning arrived and with it the start of a new and exciting service project for me—Meals on Wheels. John had participated in the program faithfully for years, and so I decided I could certainly spare an hour of my week for such an important job. I called to volunteer my services, and the affirming voice on the other end oozed anecdotes about how cute and appreciative the clients were. She assured me they would give more than I could ever give them.

Jinny Henson

Bible Studies for Life Series for Sept. 30: Reading the handwriting on the wall

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Bible Studies for Life for Sept. 30

Reading the handwriting on the wall

- Daniel 5:1-6,22-28,30-31

[By Steve Dominy](#)

BaptistWay Bible Series for September 30: Faith is the way

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BaptistWay Bible Series for September 30

Faith is the way

- Romans 4:1-17, 23-25

[By Andrew Daugherty](#)

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- Romans 4:1-17, 23-25

[By Andrew Daugherty](#)

Explore the Bible Series for

September 30: Take part in missions

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Explore the Bible Series for September 30

Take part in missions

- Matthew 9:35-38; 10:5-14, 26-31

[By Travis Frampton](#)

Hardin-Simmons University, Abilene

Have you ever heard about a pastor who embezzled money? What about an affair between a youth minister and a music minister? Priests who molest children? Deacons who have secret sins? A megachurch spending most of its money on building campaigns? Evangelists who preach a “prosperity gospel”? A husband and wife who on their way to church have a knock-down, drag-out argument in front of their kids?

Rap tells story of foster

child's forgiveness of mother

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Marla
Rushing,
director of
corporate
training for
Baptist
Child &
Family
Services,
talks with
Jacob
Favela, who
led a
workshop at
the National
Independent
Conference
in Denver
on using
music to
help in the
process of
forgiveness.
(BCFS
photo by
Martin
Olivares)

Rap tells story of foster

child's forgiveness of mother

By Haley Smith

Baptist Child & Family Services

KERRVILLE—Jacob Favela vividly remembers standing outside a bar in the middle of the night with two trash bags full of toys in hand, watching his mother drive away. He was five years old.

Neither will he ever forget, years later, an elderly woman beckoning him to her porch. "Jesus loves you, young man" was the sum of the conversation.

Baylor students take a First Step into community service

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The completed Habitat for Humanity house frame remained on the Baylor campus for one week to draw support for the project. It was moved to its permanent location and is scheduled for completion in November. (Baylor University photos)

Baylor students take 'First Step' into community service

By Katie Brooks

Baylor University

WACO—Together, Baylor University students removed graffiti scrawled on the walls of downtown Waco businesses, cleared debris from along the Brazos River, improved walking paths in a scenic part of the city, and framed a Habitat for Humanity house for a local family.

The students experienced a crash-course in the importance of service and vocation as they participated in the recent First Step community service project.

Missouri Baptist conference center wins latest round in legal battle

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Missouri Baptist conference center

wins latest round in legal battle

By Vicki Brown

Associated Baptist Press

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo. (ABP)—Windermere Baptist Conference Center will not face a trial this year in its continuing legal battle with the [Missouri Baptist Convention](#), thanks to a judge's ruling.

The decision is a victory for the center, encouraging supporters but angering attorneys for the state convention, who called it a “delaying tactic.”