

Christian sci-fi fans say: ‘The truth is out there’

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Christian sci-fi fans say: ‘The truth is out there’

By Bob Smietana

Religion News Service

NEW YORK (RNS)—In the original [Star Trek series](#), Captain Kirk and the crew of the Starship Enterprise explored strange new worlds, sought out new life and new civilizations and boldly went “where no man has gone before.”

And once in awhile, when advanced technology failed them, they even took a leap of faith.

Network TV serves strained

âVeggiesâ

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Network TV serves strained 'Veggies'

By Chansin Bird

Religion News Service

WASHINGTON (RNS)—NBC has given the religious [Veggie Tales](#) cartoon a prime slot in its Saturday morning lineup, but it is editing many references to God out of the show.

The [Parents Television Council](#) and longtime fans of the popular children's home videos are not pleased.

Texas Tidbits

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Texas Tidbits

BGCT assists Mexican flood victims. The Baptist General Convention of Texas has sent \$7,500 to help 75 Mexican Baptist families whose homes

recently were flooded. The designated disaster response funds will be channeled through the Rio Grande Valley Baptist Association to purchase 75 mattresses, sheets and blankets. Mexican Baptist churches in Reynosa and Rio Bravo will distribute the supplies.

DBU preview event slated. [Dallas Baptist University's](#) Patriot Weekend event Nov. 11 offers high school students and their parents a preview of college life. Prospective students will eat breakfast with DBU professors, attend mock classes and have the opportunity to interview for scholarships. In addition, DBU will waive the application fee for students who apply for admission during Patriot Weekend. The event also includes seminars for parents on topics such as financial aid, student life and parent services. The weekend event also will include a performance by DBU's show choir, Legacy. Cost is \$25, which includes two meals for both students and parents. For more information about Patriot Weekend, contact the office of undergraduate admissions at (214) 333-5360 or register online at www.dbu.edu/patriotday.

Book alleges faith-based initiatives are bogus

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Book alleges faith-based initiatives are bogus

By Robert Marus

ABP Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON (ABP)—A new book by a former White House faith official is causing shockwaves—even before its release—with reportedly explosive allegations that President Bush’s aides have been duping religious conservatives for political gain.

MSNBC’s [“Countdown with Keith Olbermann”](#) program first reported the allegations Oct. 11. They are found, according to the show, in [Tempting Faith: An Inside Story of Political Seduction](#), a new tell-all memoir by former White House official David Kuo, scheduled for release Oct. 16.

UMHB Student finds a calling in Ethiopia

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Jeff Sutton
and some
Muslim
boys enjoy
the
countryside
in the Horn
of Africa.

UMHB Student finds a calling in Ethiopia

By Jennifer Sicking

University of Mary Hardin-Baylor

BELTON—When the Baptist General Convention of Texas assigned Jeff Sutton to summer mission work in Ethiopia, he wasn't where he wanted to go. But after two trips, he's convinced he could spend a lifetime ministering there.

"Last year, I really got interested in unreached people groups," said Sutton, a senior at the [University of Mary Hardin-Baylor](#), majoring in religious studies.

Arizona Baptist Foundation executives sentenced

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Arizona Baptist Foundation executives sentenced

By Robert Marus

Associated Baptist Press

PHOENIX (ABP)—Two former executives of the Baptist Foundation of Arizona were sentenced to jail and told to pay millions in restitution Sept. 29 in what may be the nation's largest case of faith-based financial fraud.

Maricopa County, Ariz., Superior Court Judge Kenneth Fields sentenced former foundation President William Crofts and Thomas Grabinski, the group's former top lawyer, to prison time and fines. Fields gave Crofts, 61, eight years in prison and Grabinski, 46, six years. Each was ordered to pay \$159 million in restitution to the victims of a fraudulent scheme that came to light seven years ago.

Defense bill compromise affects chaplain prayers, guidelines

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Bill rescinds chaplain guidelines

By Robert Marus

ABP Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON (ABP)—Congressional negotiators nixed an effort to create a right for military chaplains to offer sectarian prayers in settings where soldiers of many faiths may be present.

However, the last-minute compromise Sept. 29 between House and Senate leaders on the provision, tucked into a military-spending bill, also rescinds chaplain guidelines created in the past year by two branches of the armed services. Air Force and Navy officials had released the guidelines in the wake of accusations that some evangelical Protestant chaplains and officers at military institutions engaged in proselytizing and religious harassment.

Poteet church's high school

diploma program helping adults reach goals

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Students
(left to
right) Alice
Alvarado,
Patricia
Garcia,
Feliciana
Sanchez,
Michelle
Hernandez,
Melissa
Moreno
and
Marissa
Guzman
participate
in Hosanna
Baptist
Church's
adult high
school
program.

Diploma program has adult students shouting, 'Hosanna'

By George Henson

Staff Writer

POTEET—Vanessa stood before family and friends as class valedictorian.

"I have tried many things, but I have always failed," she said, trying unsuccessfully to choke back tears. "I have always quit."

Program gives UMHB students taste of real-life counseling ministry

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Valerie Vineyard,
University of Mary
Hardin-Baylor
graduate
psychology major,
provides one-on-
one counseling
with a client. The
hours together
assist the client
and fulfill
practicum
requirements for
the student.
(Photo by Carol
Woodward/UMHB)

Association links UMHB students to real-world ministry

By Jennifer Sicking

University of Mary Hardin-Baylor

BELTON—Twice a week, two [University of Mary Hardin-Baylor](#) counseling students put what they have learned in classrooms into practice in real-world situations as volunteer interns at Churches Touching Lives for Christ—a faith-based social services agency in Temple.

At the agency, the interns provide formal and informal counseling, said Ty Leonard, UMHB Community Life Center director. Formal counseling involves two people sitting in a room sitting together talking, and the

informal involves the intern being a listening, caring presence among the agency's clients.

BaptistWay Bible Series for October 22: God's goodness is worthy of praise

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BaptistWay Bible Series for October 22

God's goodness is worthy of praise

- Psalms 100, 103

By David Wilkinson

Bible Studies for Life Series for

October 22: We are most useful when firmly in his hands

October 13, 2006

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Bible Studies for Life Series for October 22

We are most useful when firmly in his hands

- 2 Timothy 2:14-26

By Kenneth Lyle

Explore the Bible Series for October 22: Christ provides our access to the Father

October 13, 2006

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Explore the Bible Series for October 22

Christ provides our access to the Father

- Hebrews 8:1-2, 6-10; 9:22-28

By Howard Anderson

Diversified Spiritual Associates, San Antonio

As our High Priest, Jesus is the link between God and us. As High Priest, he holds us. Our safety does not depend on our grip, but on his. The truth is, Christianity's superiority over all other religions is based on Jesus' superior ministry, covenant and sacrifice.