

Global warming poses â€œsevereâ€œ threat

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Global warming poses ‘severe’ threat

By Marv Knox

Editor

SAN ANTONIO—With the planet warming faster than it has in 10,000 years, “global warming is the most severe, important issue facing humankind,” environmentalist Karl Rábago insisted.

2nd Opinion: Biblical Gospels repudiate Judas

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2nd Opinion:

Biblical Gospels repudiate Judas

By David Garland

I am fully convinced the manuscript of the so-called *Gospel of Judas* is authentic, but so what? Sensationalized blurbs breathlessly trying to pump sales of new books about this manuscript tease the potential buyer: "If Judas had not betrayed Jesus, Jesus would not have been handed over to the authorities, crucified, buried and raised from the dead. Could it be that without Judas, the Easter miracle would never have happened?" Such questions are poppycock.

Before addressing the question that is most often asked, "Why did Judas betray Jesus?" we need to ask, "What did Judas betray?



DOWN HOME: Season of hope, grass & pin oaks

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DOWN HOME:

Season of hope, grass & pin oaks

The next couple of weeks should tell the tale: Will my yard look more like an oasis or a desert?

You should be grateful the first man was named “Adam” and not “Marv.” Otherwise, in addition to Original Sin, all of humanity would have been stricken with Original Brown Thumb.

Many times, as I’ve sweated in the various yards surrounding the various homes where my family has lived, I’ve thought about Adam’s curse. He would make his living by the sweat of his brow, and he would struggle to make things grow. I’ve got the sweating part down, and as far as making things grow, well that’s a struggle.



EDITORIAL: Two steps to change Texas for better

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EDITORIAL: Two steps to change Texas for better

We have seen the future, and it is brown.

State Demographer Steve Murdock recently consulted Baptist General Convention of Texas institutional presidents. He sketched a paint-by-the-numbers portrait of Texas Today and Texas Tomorrow. Not too long ago, our state achieved a nonmajority culture; Anglos now comprise less than 50 percent of the population, and no ethnic group holds a majority. Eventually, however, Hispanics will become the majority. With the pace of Hispanic growth rapid but uneven, statisticians such as Murdock can't predict exactly when that moment will occur, but they seem to keep moving the date nearer and nearer.



Even as Murdock spoke to Texas Baptist leaders about our population shift, Congress debated federal laws that regulate immigration, a key force driving demographic change. We've discussed immigration reform in this space before. Frankly, Texas Baptists—like the rest of the country—don't agree on this vital issue. But we can pray for consensus on at least two points: People of faith, particularly working through their churches, never should face prosecution for ministering to hurting and needy people, even illegal immigrants. And shame on us if we continue to allow people to die in the backs of tractor-trailers.

Casinos not the solution for school financing

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Casinos not the solution for school financing

By Ken Camp

Managing Editor

DALLAS—Texas legislators looking for revenue to fund public schools better not bet on casinos, the director of an Austin-based think tank told the Texans Against Gambling board of directors.

Members join pastor on 1,000-mile walk

April 13, 2006

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Members join pastor on 1,000-mile walk

By Ken Camp

Managing Editor

HOUSTON—Pastor Ed Hogan has lost about a dozen pounds since he started walking 10 miles a day, but he's more interested in talking about what he has gained from the experience—a closer walk with God and church members.

Compromise immigration reform legislation stalls in Senate

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Compromise immigration reform legislation stalls in Senate

By John Hall

Texas Baptist Communications

WASHINGTON—Just one day after celebrating a “huge breakthrough,” the U.S. Senate rejected an immigration reform bill brought forward by leaders of both parties.

Christian Womenâs Job Corps expands to Mexico

April 13, 2006

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Christian Women’s Job Corps expands to Mexico

By John Hall

Texas Baptist Communications

PIEDRAS NEGRAS, Mexico—Woman’s Missionary Union of Texas recently held the first Christian Women’s Job Corps training outside the United States.

Judas got a bum rap, scholars say

April 13, 2006

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Judas got a bum rap, scholars say

By Stacy Meichtry

Religion News Service

ROME (RNS)—Every great story deserves a great villain. For Christians who consider the Easter narrative the greatest ever told, no one in history quite matches the despicable deeds and evil nature of Judas Iscariot.

Give it up for Lent

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A formal processional by a robed choir begins an Easter 2005 worship service at River Road Church, a Baptist congregation in Richmond, Va., that observes the Lenten season. (Photo courtesy of River Road Church, Baptist)

Give it up for Lent:

By Hannah Elliott

Associated Baptist Press

DALLAS (ABP)—For Ray Vickrey and Mike Clingenpeel, Easter doesn't mean much without about 40 days of reflection and repentance before it.

Missouri Baptists link with WorldconneX

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Missouri Baptists link with WorldconneX

By David Williams

WorldconneX

ROACH, Mo.—The Baptist General Convention of Missouri has entered into a three-year partnership with WorldconneX, a missions network Texas Baptists launched in 2004.

On the Move

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On the Move

- **Ed Adcock** to First Church in Grand Prairie as minister of music from First Church in DeRitter, La.
- **Charles Baker** to Calvary Church in Abilene as music minister.
- **Lashley Banks** to Grayson Association as director of missions.