

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.

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- ◆ **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

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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

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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

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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

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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

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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?

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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.

Chaplains offer comfort to pet owners

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Chaplains offer comfort to pet owners

By Nicole Larosa

Religion News Service

RALEIGH, N.C. (RNS)-When her cocker spaniel died last June, Pam Carpenter was devastated. Niki was the family clown. Abused as a puppy, he thrived after Carpenter adopted him, and he wielded control over her husband, Don, and their seven other dogs on their North Carolina farm.

Thowback jerseys blend sports, style & evangelism

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Thowback jerseys blend sports, style & evangelism

By Greg Garrison

Religion News Service

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. (RNS)—Army Reserve Sgt. 1st Class Cornell Jackson switches out of his military uniform and pulls on what looks like a Michael Jordan Chicago Bulls basketball jersey bearing the number 23.

2nd

Religion/evolution:

Opinion:

False

dichotomy

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2nd Opinion: Religion/evolution: False dichotomy

By Brent Walker

The debate over whether and how to teach evolution in the public schools continues 80 years after the Scopes “monkey trial” in Tennessee. Now the dispute itself has evolved into a pitched battle in the larger culture wars.

President Bush has declared his support for the inclusion of intelligent design in the curriculum of public schools. Recently, eight members of the Dover County School Board in Pennsylvania were voted out of office after adopting a policy that mandated the introduction of intelligent design in biology class. The policy provoked a federal lawsuit and led a Bush-appointed judge to find it “abundantly clear” that the teaching of intelligent design in science class is unconstitutional.

After-school program scores

computers from Mavericks

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As part of its annual giving campaign, the Dallas Mavericks Foundation funded a new reading and learning center at the Vickery Family Wellness Center, complete with 11 new computers, computer lab furnishings, artwork and learning materials. The gift also includes an original mural by artist Jennifer Kindert, whose illustrations are featured in several children's books.

After-school program scores computers from Mavericks

By Felicia Fuller

Buckner Benevolences

DALLAS-At the Vickery Family Wellness Center in northeast Dallas, Buckner after-school participants began the new year with the staccato clicking of new computers-11 of them.