

TOGETHER: Keeping pace with a changing state_62804

June 25, 2004

Posted: 6/25/04

TOGETHER: Keeping pace with a changing state

Two years sooner than predicted, Anglos no longer will comprise the majority of Texans, according to State Demographer Steve Murdoch. By next April, the Anglo population will drop below 50 percent. African-Americans will continue to make up 11 percent to 12 percent; Asian and others, about 3 percent; and Hispanics, 36 percent. Within 25 years, Hispanics will make up more than 50 percent of our state's population.

For more than 20 years, Texas Baptists have emphasized starting churches. The majority of these churches have been Spanish-speaking, as the reality of the growing Hispanic presence has been appreciated by our leadership.

The Hispanic Baptist Convencion met June 24-26 on South Padre Island. Since the early 1960s, Convencion and the BGCT have sought to be full partners. Convencion also is working to help Anglo churches outside of Texas start Hispanic congregations. They work with Mexican churches in our Texas/Mexico partnership. And in the first six months of this year, they have given 15 percent more money through the BGCT than last year.

CHARLES WADE Executive Director BGCT Executive Board
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Court rejects 'Under God' challenge on technicality_62804

June 25, 2004
Posted: 6/25/04

Court rejects 'Under God' challenge on technicality

By Robert Marus

ABP Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON (ABP)—Fifty years to the day after the words “under God” were added to the Pledge of Allegiance, the U.S. Supreme Court rejected a challenge to remove them—but only on technical grounds.

Each new member brings a needed piece of the puzzle_62804

June 25, 2004

Posted: 6/25/04

Each new member brings a needed piece of the puzzle

By Craig Bird

Special to the Baptist Standard

SAN ANTONIO—Unity can be tough to come by in a Baptist church. And when it does arrive, it can be downright scary.

CYBERCOLUMN by John Duncan: The swarm of

bees_62804

June 25, 2004

Posted: 6/25/04

CYBERCOLUMN: The swarm of bees

By John Duncan

I'm sitting here under the old oak tree, thinking of bees. Bees bumble and buzz in these hazy, lazy days of summer. Yellowjackets have built a nest on my front porch. Studying their flight, work and movements causes me to think of bees.

When I was a boy visiting my grandmother in the mountains of North Carolina, we attended an after-church picnic. The picnics were the kind to love because you could eat all the fried chicken and homemade food you desire.

John Duncan

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June 25, 2004

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June 25, 2004

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**EDITORIAL: This year's SBC
annual meeting takes on**

unusual tone_62804

June 25, 2004

Posted: 6/18/04

EDITORIAL:

This year's SBC annual meeting takes on unusual tone

As this year's Southern Baptist Convention annual meeting neared its conclusion, a veteran reporter from another state looked up from her work and announced, "I've never been to an SBC like this before."

She was right. The Indianapolis meeting marked my 25th national convention, and I've never seen another one like it.

Oh, some things remained the same, of course.

CYBERCOLUMN by Brett Younger: Stopping and starting

June 25, 2004

Posted: 6/18/04

CYBERCOLUMN: Stopping and starting

By Brett Younger

Quitting has a bad reputation.

Vince Lombardi growled, "Quitters never win, and winners never quit."

Rankin says IMB saw gains despite restrictions on missionary appointments_62804

June 25, 2004

Posted: 6/17/04

Rankin says IMB saw gains despite restrictions on missionary appointments

By Brian Blackwell

(Louisiana) Baptist Message

INDIANAPOLIS—The International Mission Board is taking the gospel to

more people, but it hasn't been without personal and financial costs, President Jerry Rankin told messengers to the Southern Baptist Convention annual meeting.

Mobile iVoteValues.com registration rig ready to tour_62804

June 25, 2004

Posted: 6/17/04

Mobile iVoteValues.com registration rig ready to tour

By Dwayne Hastings

Ethics & Religious Liberty Commission

INDIANAPOLIS (BP)—The iVoteValues.com mobile voter registration rig and information center is ready to roll.

Sonogram booth promotes pregnancy care center ministry_62804

June 25, 2004

Posted: 6/16/04

Sonogram booth promotes pregnancy care center ministry

By Dwayne Hastings & Erin Curry

Baptist Press

INDIANAPOLIS (BP)—Visitors at the Psalm 139 Project booth in the Southern Baptist Convention exhibit hall viewed images of a pregnant woman's sonogram.

Reccord: 'God-sized dreams' include 11,000 new churches_62804

June 25, 2004

Posted: 6/16/04

Reccord: 'God-sized dreams' include 11,000 new churches

By Lonnie Wilkey

(Tennessee) Baptist & Reflector

INDIANAPOLIS—North America is adrift in a sea of spiritual lostness, according to North American Mission Board President Bob Reccord.