

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

Storylist for 6/28 issue_62804

June 25, 2004

Storylist for 6/28/04 issue

GO TO SECTIONS:

- [Texas](#)
- [Baptists](#)
- [Faith](#)
- [Departments](#)
- [Opinion](#)
- [Bible Study](#)

Our Front Page Articles:

- [Each new member brings a needed piece of the puzzle](#)
- [And the walls came tumbling down](#)
- [Immigration to Texas presents new opportunities for missions outreach](#)
- [Illusionist uses sleight-of-hand tricks as visual aids for gospel presentation](#)



- [And the walls came tumbling down](#)
- [Immigration to Texas presents new opportunities for missions outreach](#)
- [Each new member brings a needed piece of the puzzle](#)
- [Missions partnerships build relationships, expand ministries](#)
- [Hendrick Health Systems selects new president to succeed Waters](#)
- [Illusionist uses sleight-of-hand tricks as visual aids for gospel presentation](#)
- [Pastor helps missionaries in remote areas stay in contact](#)
- [Digital evangelism project links churches to missionaries in sharing gospel through DVDs](#)
- [Disabled seminary student's dream of missions service placed on hold](#)

- [Child development center changes lives one family at a time](#)
- [Buckner offers haven of hope at housing complex](#)
- [San Antonio church sets sights on leading 1,000 people to Christ a year](#)
- [Student missionary from Wayland wins camel race](#)
- [Bible drill, speaker competitions help participants learn lasting lessons](#)
- [Baylor benefactor calls for reforms, wants open forum at regents' meeting](#)
- [Baylor names faculty compensation task force](#)
- [Camp offers Asian teenagers chance to make connections](#)
- [Texan wins national contest with simple speech about trust](#)
- [On the Move](#)
- [Around the State](#)
- [Texas Tidbits](#)



- [LifeWay vice president announces departure; president to set retirement date early next year](#)
- [Speakers challenge SBC to advance God's kingdom](#)
- [Southern Baptist withdrawal from BWA not reflective of BGCT, executive director says](#)

Previously Posted:

- [Gay activists unfairly lay claim to civil rights mantle, African-Americans say](#)
- [African-American Southern Baptists examine their history](#)
- [Patterson's charges 'outrageous,' American Baptist leaders maintain](#)
- [Annuity Board renamed GuideStone, will offer services outside SBC circles](#)
- [Bush assures Southern Baptists he will defend traditional view of marriage](#)
- [SBC ends 99-year relationship with Baptist World Alliance](#)
- [Crossover evangelism events make impact on Indianapolis](#)
- [Battle for the Bible won; time for SBC to return to normal, Chapman says](#)
- [Franklin Graham's vision a student evangelist in every public school class](#)
- [Graham urges Southern Baptists to gear up for culture wars](#)
- [Southern Baptist Convention rejects name change proposal](#)
- [Convention asks New Orleans Seminary to make the SBC its sole member](#)
- [Preaching at Pastors' Conference, Patterson laments lack of baptisms](#)
- [SBC turns down appeal for full-scale public school exodus](#)
- ['Conservative resurgence' leaders swap 25 years worth of war stories](#)
- [Convention preacher issues challenge to rebuild crumbling spiritual walls](#)
- [Annuity Board-sponsored event prior to SBC draws 600 walkers, runners](#)

- [New SBC president willing to go to great lengths to increase baptisms](#)
- [Welch wins contested presidential election](#)
- [WMU leaders at annual meeting challenged to follow Christ](#)



- [Baptist Briefs](#)



- [Court rejects 'Under God' challenge on technicality](#)
- [Subcommittee hears debate on religious expression](#)
- [Senate overwhelmingly approves amendment that extends federal hate-crimes protection to include gays and lesbians](#)
- [Committee nixes provision allowing churches to endorse candidates](#)



- [Churches seek to make amends for persecuting Anabaptists](#)



- [Around the State](#)
- [On the Move](#)
- [Texas Baptist Forum](#)
- [Classified Ads](#)

- [Cartoon](#)



- [EDITORIAL: This year's SBC annual meeting takes on unusual tone](#)
- [DOWN HOME: Berry good time was had by all](#)
- [TOGETHER: Keeping pace with a changing state](#)
- [Texas Baptist Forum](#)
- [Cybercolumn by John Duncan: The swarm of bees](#)
- [Cybercolumn by Brett Younger: Starting and Stopping](#)



- [LifeWay Explore the Bible Series for July 4: God cares about the needs of his children](#)
- [LifeWay Family Bible Series for July 4: Jesus was just as intent on seeing Zaccheaus](#)
- [LifeWay Explore the Bible Series for July 11: God's purpose in the world will not be thwarted](#)
- [LifeWay Family Bible Series for July 11: Christians should believe, belong & behave](#)

[See articles from previous issue 6/14/04 here.](#)

Storylist for 6/14 issue_61404

June 25, 2004

Storylist for 6/14/04 issue

GO TO SECTIONS:

- [Texas](#)
- [Baptists](#)
- [Faith](#)
- [Departments](#)
- [Opinion](#)
- [Bible Study](#)

Our Front Page Articles

- [Team hopes biblical bobbleheads hit grand slam with fans](#)
- [Students follow God's calling to mission fields](#)
- [Missions legacy of Mary Hill Davis continues](#)



- [Students follow God's calling to mission fields](#)
- [Student missionaries return from Kenya](#)
- [Student missionaries share stories of their calling from God](#)
- [Missions legacy of Mary Hill Davis continues](#)
- [Mary Hill Davis Offering funds cutting-edge missions, helps Texas Baptists meet needs](#)
- [Gay marriage North Texas pastors say 'Not on my watch'](#)
- [Leading worship offers Johnson oppportunity to share struggles, victories](#)
- [Texans embrace missions partnerships](#)

- [Moore honored with Texas Baptist Elder Statesman Award](#)
- [Church starts in Belton, San Antonio get boost from CBF, BGCT, local associations](#)
- [Buckner Protective Homemakers program reunites, strengthens families](#)
- [Importance of discipleship emphasized at Hispanic Baptist Convocation](#)
- [U.S. News & World Report names Baylor among top graduate schools](#)
- [Baylor tennis team takes title](#)
- [BGCT names controller/assistant treasurer](#)
- [Volunteers with Texas ties launch Coast Guard Academy student ministry](#)
- [Postmodernism is about seeing the mortar between the bricks](#)
- [Ministry assistants find support, training at statewide event](#)
- [Senior Saints Summit](#)
- [Texas Baptist Men offer clean-up service and meals to flood victims](#)
- [Student sees summer medical program as part of God's plan for his life](#)
- [On the Move](#)
- [Around the State](#)
- [Texas Tidbits](#)



- [BWA withdrawal, public education may top agenda](#)

- [Even Christian school backers uneasy about SBC resolution](#)
- ['Conservative resurgence' failed to spark surge in evangelism, growth, statistics show](#)
- [Disney boycott thrust SBC leaders into national spotlight](#)
- [Baptists want churches to help them with personal needs, survey reveals](#)
- [Baptist Briefs](#)



- [Rose Nanyonga: Healing spirits](#)
- [Survey shows Christians more likely than agnostics to buy lottery tickets](#)
- [Some want single Bible translation to become universal English standard](#)



- [Team hopes biblical bobbleheads hit grand slam with fans](#)
- [Interfaith group urges U.S. to renew efforts advancing peace process in Middle East](#)
- [Lawmakers introduce bill to provide debt relief to world's poorest nations](#)
- [Bush-Cheney campaign under fire for effort to identify, target 'friendly' congregations](#)
- [President tells editors he sees his role as a voice for cultural change](#)
- [Campaign teaches Christian teens music piracy is just plain wrong](#)
- [Federal judge declares partial-birth abortion ban law unconstitutional](#)

- [Gallup Poll reveals growing number of Americans believe in heaven, hell](#)
- [After 50 years, Gallup passes his poll on to next generation](#)
- [Bush expands faith-based community initiatives partnership](#)
- [National Digest](#)

Summer Reading

- [BOOKS: Debunking DaVinci](#)
- [BOOKS: Shadowmancer Hotter than Potter?](#)
- [Devotions for unemployed offered](#)



- [Austin-based Salvador wants to point listeners to the Savior](#)



- [Texas Baptist Forum](#)
- [Classified Ads](#)
- [Around the State](#)
- [On the Move](#)



- [EDITORIAL: Catholics, Kerry & church discipline](#)
- [EDITORIAL: Represent God for \\$29.95](#)

- [DOWN HOME: 'Two-fer' teaches Texans a lesson](#)
- [TOGETHER: Thank God for servants who lead](#)
- [ANOTHER VIEW: Distorted lenses show false division](#)
- [Texas Baptist Forum](#)



- [LifeWay Explore the Bible Series for June 20: God uses unassuming people to do his will](#)
- [LifeWay Family Bible Series for June 20: Building God's kingdom focus of church leaders](#)
- [LifeWay Explore the Bible Series for June 27: Life viewed through eyes of faith brings clarity](#)
- [LifeWay Family Bible Series for June 27: God gave you to your church for a reason](#)

[See articles from previous issue 5/31/04 here.](#)

**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.