

Student sees summer medical program as part of God's plan for his life_61404

June 11, 2004

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Student sees summer medical program as part of God's plan for his life

By Teresa Young

Wayland Baptist University

PLAINVIEW-When Martin Ortega received word he had been accepted into the Joint Admissions Medical Program for the summer, he viewed it as an answered prayer.

Around the State_61404

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Around the State

The Association of Woman Students at Houston Baptist University bestowed honors on a number of women as it celebrated its annual Woman's Day. The 37-year-old tradition honors a woman from each class, the faculty and the community as Woman of the Year. Students honored were **Jessica Watson**, freshman; **Katy Bowser**, sophomore; **Christina Marchesano**, junior; and **Jenny Chunn**, senior. **Ruth Ann Williamson**, professor of education, was the faculty member honored. **Lori Salierno**, founder and chief executive officer of Celebrate Life International, was the community member chosen for the honor.



Forrest McMillan (left) and Lawson Hager (right) were presented plaques by Hardin-Simmons University President Craig Turner during the school's annual Faculty and Staff Appreciation dinner.

McMillan, the school's newly named dean of students, was announced as the staff member of the year, while Hager, dean of the School of Music, was the faculty member selected for the top honor. In addition to the plaques, the pair also received \$500 checks. Hager joined the faculty in 1973, and McMillan joined the staff in 1997 as a residence hall director and was director of recruiting since 2002 prior to taking his new post.

- ◆ The University of Mary Hardin-Baylor held a pinning ceremony commemorating the graduation of 23 social work majors. **Frances Pinckney** of Copperas Cove received the outstanding student in field practicum award, **Shaunie Carter** of Killeen the Spirit of Social Work award and **Misty Rosenberg** of Killeen the academic excellence award.

- ◆ **Roy Vogtsberger** is the new head of Hardin-Simmons University's biology department. An assistant professor of biology, he has been a member of the faculty since 2000.

U.S. News & World Report names Baylor among top graduate schools_61404

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U.S. News & World Report names Baylor among top graduate schools

By Mary Crouch

Texas Baptist Communications

U.S. News and World Report magazine has named Baylor University's graduate schools among the nation's best.

Baylor tennis team takes title_61404

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Baylor tennis team takes title

Baylor University's men's tennis team clinched the school's first-ever NCAA title with a 4-0 victory over UCLA at the NCAA Championships in Tulsa, Okla. The second-ranked Bears, making Baylor's first title appearance since the 1948 basketball team lost to Kentucky in the NCAA final, won the match in 1 hour, 58 minutes, surrendering just one point and posting five shutouts in six NCAA tournament matches. Baylor completed the 2003-04 season with a school-record 32-2 mark and the nation's longest winning streak at 24 matches. Pictured are (front row, left to right) Ivor Lovrak, Matias Marin and Reiner Neurohr; (back row) Head Coach Matt Knoll, Benedikt Dorsch, Benjamin Becker, Jon Reckewey, Jason Gould, Matija Zgaga, Joel Morgan, Adrian Szatmary, Barry McLaren, and Assistant Coach Rob Cheyne.

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.

BGCT names controllerassistant treasurer_61404

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BGCT names controller/assistant

treasurer

DALLAS-Jill Larsen of Tulsa, Okla., has been named controller/assistant treasurer of the Baptist General Convention of Texas Executive Board staff effective July 6.

As controller, Larsen will supervise general accounting and cash management operations for the BGCT.

She will assist David Nabors, chief financial officer/treasurer, in a variety of business and financial matters.

Some want single Bible translation to become universal English standard_61404

June 11, 2004

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Some want single Bible translation to become universal English standard

By Douglas Todd

Religion News Service

VANCOUVER, British Columbia (RNS)-An American academic wants to see a Bible translation put together by scores of conservative scholars become the one Bible everyone uses.

BOOKS: Debunking DaVinci_61404

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BOOKS: Debunking DaVinci

By Mark O'Keefe

Religion News Service

WASHINGTON (RNS)-After reading "The Da Vinci Code," Holly Jespersen wondered if Jesus Christ did in fact wed Mary Magdalene and father her child, as the novel claims.

BOOKS: Shadowmancer Hotter than Potter?_61404

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Anglican priest Graham Taylor sold off his beloved Harley Davidson to self-publish his novel "Shadowmancer"-which went on to become an international bestseller. (Photo courtesy G.P. Putnam's Sons.)

BOOKS: Shadowmancer Hotter than Potter?

By Bob Smietana

Religion News Service

CLOUGHTON, England (RNS)-When he was 21, Graham Taylor woke up in his London flat after a night of heavy partying, looked in a mirror, and said, "Oh, God, there has got to be more to life than this."

Baptist Briefs_61404

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Baptist Briefs

Lottie Moon Offering posts record increase. Southern Baptists gave \$136,204,648 to the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering for International Missions—an increase of almost \$21.2 million (18.4 percent) over 2002. It marked the largest dollar increase in the offering's 115-year history.

FamilyNet will cover SBC. FamilyNet television will broadcast daily news reports from the Southern Baptist Convention in Indianapolis, June 15-16. FamilyNet is a 24-hour, Fort Worth-based network owned and operated by the SBC North American Mission Board.

Baptist World Congress speakers announced. A best-selling author and a former president of the United States will headline the 100th birthday celebration of the Baptist World Alliance at the Baptist World Centenary Congress, July 27-31, 2005, in Birmingham, England. Rick Warren, pastor of Saddleback Church in Lake Forest, Calif., and author of "The Purpose-Driven Life" and the "Purpose-Driven Church" will be a keynote speaker. Former U.S. President Jimmy Carter—a Nobel Peace Prize laureate—will teach an international Sunday school class at the meeting. Billy Kim will bring his final message as BWA president after five years in office.

Buckner Protective Homemakers program reunites, strengthens families_61404

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Kim (left) describes Karen Thompson of the Buckner Protective Homemakers program as “more of a friend than a caseworker.”

Buckner Protective Homemakers program reunites, strengthens families

By Russ Dilday

Buckner News Service

LEVELLAND-Five children are wrestling, watching television, munching on snacks and playing games—seemingly all at the same time—inside a modest, three-bedroom mobile home. Above the noise and activity, their mother smiles and says her life is “normal.”

Bush-Cheney campaign under fire for effort to identify, target ‘friendly’ congregations_61404

June 11, 2004

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Bush-Cheney campaign under fire for effort to identify, target 'friendly' congregations

By Adelle Banks

Religion News Service

WASHINGTON (RNS)—The Bush-Cheney campaign is under fire from church-state separationists for asking supporters to help identify “friendly congregations” in Pennsylvania that might be good locations for distribution of campaign information.

President tells editors he sees his role as a voice for cultural change_61404

June 11, 2004

Posted: 6/11/04

President tells editors he sees his role as a voice for cultural change

WASHINGTON (RNS)-President Bush described himself as a cultural change agent in a group interview with editors and writers of conservative Christian publications.

“The job of a president is to help cultures change,” Bush told the nine writers and executives, according to an edited transcript posted on ChristianityToday.com. “Governments cannot change culture alone. I want you to know I understand that. But I can be a voice of cultural change.”

In the wide-ranging discussion, Bush addressed domestic and foreign policy, his personal prayer life and his defense of a “culture of life” and traditional marriage.