

Brazilians hear language of love from Singing Men_53104

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The Singing Men of North Central Texas perform at Theatro Municipal in Rio de Janiero.

Brazilians hear language of love from Singing Men

By John Hall

Texas Baptist Communications

RIO DE JANIERO, Brazil—Police escorts, a packed arena and large crowds may sound like a rock and roll tour, but it was all part of the experience for a group of Texas Baptists during a recent trip to Brazil.

Church collects letters to Congress opposing legal redefinition of marriage_53104

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Church collects letters to Congress opposing legal redefinition of marriage

By Gregory Tomlin

Southwestern Seminary

FORT WORTH—Members of a Fort Worth church mailed 750 letters supporting the biblical definition of marriage to Republican Texas Senators Kay Bailey Hutchison and John Cornyn in Washington, D.C.

Website becomes handiest item

in toolbox as as church seeks to attract, contact visitors_53104

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Website becomes handiest item in toolbox as church seeks to attract, contact visitors

By John Hall

Texas Baptist Communications

ALLEN-First Baptist Church believes its website looks good. But more important to Minister of Education Jeff Humphrey, it is pulling people out of cyberspace and keeping them in church space.

Around the State_53104

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Red Lick First Church in Nash recently held groundbreaking ceremonies. Participating were Parker Linamond, Neil and Deborah Adams, James Brinkley, Evelyn Wright, Sandy Brinkley and Pastor Homer Wright.

Around the State

♦ **Winfred Moore** will be honored at the Texas Baptist Elder Statesman Celebration June 6 at Independence Church in Independence. The program, sponsored by Independence Association and the Baptist Distinctives Committee/Texas Baptist Heritage Center, will begin at 10 a.m. Moore was pastor of First Church in Amarillo 30 years.

♦ The College of Business and Economics at Houston Baptist University presented awards of excellence to **Sarah Emmer**, accounting; **Allison Fox**, business; **Anita Garcia**, computer information systems management; **Brett Mosher**, economics; **Steven Koehler**, entrepreneurship; **Abbey Moore**, finance; **Gabriela Anchundia**, management; and **Debra Hanna**, marketing. In addition, **Natalie Knox** received the accounting excellence award from the Texas Society of CPAs, **Anami Patel** the Accounting

Education Foundation Scholarship, **Joshua Baird** the Financial Executives International Scholarship and **William Cotton** garnered the Robert Griswold Outstanding Teaching Award.



John and Marie Chiles of Dallas were presented Baylor University's Milton T. Gregory Distinguished Award during the April 17 meeting of the Baylor Development Council. Baylor President Robert Sloan made the presentation. The Chileses were organizers and members of the founding board of directors of the Strecker Museum Associates. He served as that board's first president from 1989 to 1993 and again from 1997 to 1998. He also is a past president of the Baylor Law Alumni Association, life member and past director of the Baylor Alumni Association, member of the Torchbearers Society and chair of the executive steering committee to raise \$23 million to construct the new facility for Baylor's Strecker Museum and the Ollie Mae Moen Discovery Center. The new facility, the Harry and Anna Jeanes Discovery Center, centerpiece of the Sue and Frank Mayborn Natural Science and Cultural History Museum Complex, opened to the public earlier this month. The Gregory award is named for a 1935 graduate and university trustee who served the school more than 50 years by promoting its interests at every opportunity.

◆ Members of Wayland Baptist University's faculty have been approved for promotions beginning July 1. Promoted to professor are **Glyndle Feagin**, religion, and **Polly Lackey**, library science. New associate professors are **Elise Adamson**, mathematics; **Cindy McClenagan**, English; **Joshua Mora**, Spanish; **Adam Reinhart**, biology and chemistry; and **Ann Stutes**, music.

Barna reports increased giving to nonprofit organizations last year_53104

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Barna reports increased giving to nonprofit organizations last year

By Adelle Banks

Religion News Service

WASHINGTON (RNS)-The average amount of money given to nonprofits-including churches and other houses of worship-rose significantly last year, the Barna Group reported.

Baylor CFO announces plans to leave university, return to private business_53104

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Baylor CFO announces plans to leave university, return to private business

WACO-David Brooks, vice president for finance and administration at Baylor University, has announced plans to leave the school at the end of July to return to private business.

Brooks, who was named to the chief financial officer position in August 2000, came to the university from a career in banking, real estate development and investments.

He will resume a more active role in McKinney-based Independent Bank Group, of which he is founding chairman.

David Brooks

Gay-rights rally organizer strikes plea bargain with Baylor_53104

May 28, 2004

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Gay-rights rally organizer strikes plea bargain with Baylor

By Robert Marus

Associated Baptist Press

WACO (ABP)—A recent Baylor University graduate says he signed, under protest, a statement admitting he violated the school's conduct code by organizing a gay-rights rally because he feared he wouldn't be allowed to graduate if he refused to sign.

BGCT staffers to resign NAMB appointments_53104

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BGCT staffers to resign NAMB appointments

By John Hall

Texas Baptist Communications

DALLAS-Five Baptist General Convention of Texas employees appointed by the North American Mission Board will end their relationships with the Southern Baptist agency and become fully supported by the Texas convention by the end of the year.

Evangelical general apparently linked to Iraqi prison abuse_53104

May 28, 2004

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Evangelical general apparently linked to Iraqi prison abuse

By Deborah Caldwell

Religion News Service

WASHINGTON (RNS)-One of the major players in the Iraqi prison abuse scandal, it now appears, was the same general almost fired last year for describing the war on terror as a clash between Judeo-Christian values and Satan.

Baptist Briefs_53104

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Baptist Briefs

Texans named to SBC committees. Southern Baptist Convention President Jack Graham named Dwight McKissic, pastor of Cornerstone Baptist Church in Arlington, to the SBC credentials committee and Clifton Cummings, pastor of First Baptist Church in Beaumont, to the convention's tellers committee. Cornerstone Baptist is uniquely aligned with the Southern Baptists of Texas Convention. First Baptist in Beaumont is affiliated with the Baptist General Convention of Texas.

Endowment to help CBF missionary families. The Cooperative Baptist Fellowship received a \$100,000 gift from Ed and Laura Anne Vick of Raleigh, N.C., to begin an endowment to promote the spiritual, emotional and physical health of missionaries and their families through counseling, retreats and crisis assistance. The Vicks' goal is to grow the endowment fund through matching gifts to at least \$1 million. Ed Vick, retired chairman and chief executive officer of Kimley-Horn and Associates Inc.,

and his wife both have been active in missions work through the Fellowship and CBF of North Carolina. He is current chair of the CBF Foundation board of directors and a founding member of the CBF of North Carolina Endowment Management board of directors.

Kim calls for revival in England. The president of the Baptist World Alliance called on thousands of people assembled at the 2004 Baptist Assembly in Cardiff, Wales, to pray for revival as the 100th Baptist World Congress approaches in Birmingham in 2005. Billy Kim, pastor of Central Baptist Church in Suwon, Korea, urged British Baptists to pray for the kind of revival that happened in Wales in 1904, when more than 150,000 people came to faith in Jesus Christ in four months.

Study shows North Carolina Baptists don't like the SBC but continue financial support_53104

May 28, 2004

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Study shows North Carolina Baptists

don't like the SBC but continue financial support

By Tony Cartledge & Greg Warner

Associated Baptist Press

BUIES CREEK, N.C. (ABP)-The Southern Baptist Convention and its fundamentalist statement of faith are not viewed favorably among rank-and-file Baptists in North Carolina, even though most Baptist churches in the state still support the SBC financially, a university survey reveals.

cartoons_53104

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[See second cartoon here.](#)





**Can't you just say I'm in the top half
of the class and let me in?**

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.