

Baptist Briefs_120803

December 5, 2003

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Baptist Briefs

✖ **ABP names Norton.** Associated Baptist Press has named Tim Norton of Atlanta director of development for the independent news service. Norton will provide leadership in developing new sources of annual revenue for ABP and will direct its fund-raising campaign. Norton, 41, comes to ABP from the Lord's Day Alliance of the U.S., where he serves as executive director. Norton also owns Crux Communication, a communications, marketing and development consulting firm based in Atlanta.

✖ **Southwestern names Gonzales, McQuitty.** Rudy Gonzalez, former director of interfaith evangelism with the North American Mission Board, has been named vice president for student services at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth. At the same time, longtime seminary staff member David McQuitty has been named associate vice president for student services. Gonzalez is a San Antonio native who holds advanced degrees from Southwestern and Baylor University. He first met President Paige Patterson while a student at Criswell College. McQuitty earned two master's degrees and later a doctor of philosophy degree from Southwestern. He most recently has been dean of students.

✖ **Maryland-Delaware opens BF&M parameters.** Messengers to the Baptist Convention of Maryland/Delaware's annual meeting approved an operating document affirming churches that adopt either the 1963 or 2000 versions of the Baptist Faith & Message "or other similar statement in

accord with the beliefs expressed in those Southern Baptist documents." One messenger proposed an amendment to strike the words "or similar statement" from the document. The amendment was debated and defeated.

cartoon_120803

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“And he was born in a stable 'cuz there was no room for him in the church.”
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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.

Bell Baptists send kids shopping for clothing_120803

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Bell Baptists send kids shopping for clothing

By Miranda Bradley

Texas Baptist Children's Home & Family Services

ROUND ROCK-Jason's eyes were wide with anticipation as he sat on the edge of the sofa at Texas Baptist Children's Home in Round Rock, listening to instructions from his house mom. The entire cottage was going on a shopping spree, and he was to get \$80 to spend on whatever clothes he wanted.



A resident of
Texas Baptist
Children's Home
in Round Rock
shows off one of
his finds during
a donor-
sponsored
shopping spree
this fall.

ANOTHER VIEW: Nativity statuettes prompt questions of Christmas_120803

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ANOTHER VIEW: Nativity statuettes prompt questions of Christmas

By Dale Hanson Bourke

They are known collectively as The Nativity Scene, statuettes we take out this time of year and position around the baby Jesus figure to commemorate his birth.

But this year, as I opened the box and lifted each from its Styrofoam bed, I stopped to look at them individually,

Court hears arguments in religious funding case_120803

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Court hears arguments in religious funding case

By Robert Marus

ABP Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON (ABP)-The Supreme Court appeared closely divided during Dec. 2 oral arguments in a case that could have enormous ramifications for the future of government funding for religious institutions.

DOWN HOME: Humble pie with side of broccoli_120803

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DOWN HOME: Humble pie with side of broccoli

A fun old song (I think I remember hearing the "world famous" Hardin-Simmons University Cowboy Band sing it at basketball games years ago) proudly proclaims, "O Lord, it's hard to be humble when you're perfect in every way."

The Cowboy Band, a rowdy outfit that raised irony and sarcasm to a fine art, usually sang that song after an opponent made a bad play. Sort of like how they always warbled, "The old gray mare ain't what she used to be" after an opponent fouled out.

Unfortunately, I've never needed the Cowboy Band to prompt me down the path from pride to humility. The Lord has used petty little circumstances of life to do the trick.



MARV
KNOX
Editor

Raising an Ebenezer_120803

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