

Buckner sends shoes to children orphaned by hostage massacre

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Andrew Knight, director of humanitarian aid for Buckner Orphan Care International, led staff and volunteers in loading shoes for shipment to Beslan April 26 at the Buckner aid warehouse in East Dallas.
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Buckner sends shoes to children orphaned by hostage massacre

By Felicia Fuller

Buckner Benevolences

Many people had not heard of Beslan before Sept. 1, 2004—the day political extremists seized a school in the remote town in North Ossetia, Russia. Three days later, 344 civilians lay dead. Left behind were 35 orphans, ages 8 to 15.

Carpenter's Helpers meet neighbors' needs

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The
Carpenter's
Helpers
from First
Baptist
Church in
Wimberley
renovate a
kitchen for
a disabled
resident.

Carpenter's Helpers meet neighbors' needs

By George Henson

Staff Writer

WIMBERLEY—Gary Henderson had no idea what he was starting. He was simply a handy guy who wanted to help his friends at First Baptist Church in Wimberley by making small home repairs for them.

Cartoon

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“Quick.
Let’s get
out of
here! He’s
reloading!”

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.

Christians called on to counter Da Vinci Code claims

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Christians called on to counter Da Vinci Code claims

By Michael Foust

Baptist Press

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (BP)—*The Da Vinci Code* hits theater screens nationwide May 19, and evangelical author Lee Strobel believes churches must be ready to answer pointed questions about the Christian faith.

Around the State

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The Hardin-Simmons University Students in Free Enterprise team has been named regional champions for the seventh consecutive year, beating out regional competitors such as Baylor University and Louisiana State University. The team has earned a berth in the national finals to be held May 21-23 in Kansas City, Mo., where they again will report on their year-long community outreach projects. Teams develop community outreach projects that relate to SIFE's five educational topics—market economics, success skills, entrepreneurship, financial literacy and business ethics. The HSU team completed 67 community events this year.

Around the State

- Dallas Baptist Association has named Bob Dean, pastor of Northlake Church in Garland, as executive director-elect. He will take over the reins of the association Sept. 30 upon the retirement of the current executive director, Gary Hearon. Dean has been pastor of the Garland church 28 years. A banquet in honor of Hearon's 21-plus years of service to the association has been set for Sept. 19 at Park Cities Church in Dallas.
- The School of Humanities at East Texas Baptist University will hold its annual writer's conference June 3 from 8:30 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. The conference is for anyone with an interest in writing, conference organizers said. Registered participants can arrange for a one-on-one interview with an agent or editor during the conference. The conference will feature 17 presenters with at least five topics to choose from during each session. The cost is \$50 with a \$10 discount for high school and college students, and includes materials and lunch. Register by calling (903) 923-2269 before May 27. Participants who register after that date may not be able to attend the luncheon.
- The University of Mary Hardin-Baylor Conservatory is taking enrollment for summer art camp June 26-30. The \$100 cost for the camp includes art supplies. Seven- and 8-year-old students will meet from 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m., and 9- and 10-year-old students will meet from 1 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. A different project or technique will be focused on each day. Register in Room 208 of Presser Hall any Monday-Thursday afternoon before June 2.



Amber Massey of Farmersville was chosen as the 2006 Senior Girl Call-Out at East Texas Baptist University. She was selected by the ETBU faculty based on Christian character, social consciousness, personal poise, academic achievement and spiritual vision.

DOWN HOME: Call to daughter

transcends time

May 11, 2006

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DOWN HOME: Call to daughter transcends time

Lindsay's voice in my ear transported me through time and space. And what a trip it was.

Physically, I was driving home from work, headed out of Dallas, through Farmers Branch and Carrollton, on toward Lewisville. Emotionally and spiritually, I was lingering in an elementary school hallway in Nashville, Tenn., reluctantly turning loose of my firstborn child's tiny hand as she walked into her kindergarten classroom for the first time.

I called Lindsay one afternoon last week, just a few hours after she completed her last final exam of her senior year at Hardin-Simmons University in Abilene. For the past couple of days, she had been working on an accounting project, studying for that final final and writing a cover letter to send with her resumé to a prospective employer.

Students share gospel on Galveston Island

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Texas Baptists pray with partiers on vacation in Galveston.
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Students share gospel on Galveston Island

By John Hall

Texas Baptist Communications

GALVESTON—Long after spring break ended, Texas Baptist college students continued ministry at the beach.

Ex-offender ministry yields transformation

May 11, 2006

Posted: 5/12/06

Ex-offender ministry yields transformation

By John Hall

Texas Baptist Communications

DALLAS—Sie Davis was born to minister to offenders.

Texans nominated for SBC committees

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Texans nominated for SBC committees

NASHVILLE—The Southern Baptist Convention Committee on Nominations

announced Texas nominees for SBC committees and boards—most from churches either uniquely or dually aligned with the Southern Baptists of Texas Convention, a group that broke away from the Baptist General Convention of Texas.

Nominees will serve if elected by messengers to the SBC annual meeting, June 13-14, in Greens-boro, N.C.

The committee nominated Chris Osborne, pastor of Central Baptist Church in Bryan, for the SBC Executive Committee, along with Dean Combs of Odessa who received a second term. New nominees for the International Mission Board are Nathan Lino, pastor of Northeast Houston Baptist Church in Humble; Jimmy Pritchard, pastor of First Baptist Church in Forney; Todd Edwards, a layman at First Baptist Church in Dallas; and Marshall Johnson, bivocational pastor of MacArthur Boulevard Baptist Church in Irving. Stephen Swofford, pastor of First Baptist Church in Rockwall, and Bill Sutton, pastor of First Baptist Church in McAllen, are nominated for second terms on the IMB.

Small churches adapt to survive

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Small churches adapt to survive

By Jeremy Gray

Religion News Service

CHELSEA, Ala. (RNS)—When Leonard Irvin became pastor of Mount Signal Baptist Church three years ago, only about 10 people were attending its Sunday services. At its peak in the late 1960s, the church drew an average of 125.

Texas Tidbits

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Texas Tidbits

Baptist Health Foundation accepts grant requests. Baptist Health Foundation of San Antonio will accept letters of inquiry until June 15 from nonprofit organizations that want to be considered for funding in 2006. To be considered for a \$25,000 to \$250,000 grant, a not-for-profit organization must be a public charity that addresses a community healthcare need of residents in the foundation's eight-county geographic area—Atascosa, Bandera, Bexar, Comal, Guadalupe, Kendall, Medina and Wilson. Only one request per organization per year will be considered, and organizations must have at least one full year of operating history. In addition, the foundation will make available small grants of less than \$5,000 to support grassroots health activities primarily through local churches. For more information, go to www.bhfsa.org or call (210) 735-9009.

Baylor regents approve budget. Baylor University's board of regents at its spring meeting approved a \$317 million operating budget for 2006-07 and authorized construction of a new facility for the university's intercollegiate equestrian program. The 2006-07 operating budget, which takes effect June 1, reflects a \$21 million increase—7.1 percent—over the current budget. It includes \$11.5 million in additional merit, need-based and graduate assistant scholarships—a 16.3 percent increase from this year's allocation for institutional financial aid. The Willis Family Equestrian Center, named for Baylor graduates Richard and Karen Willis of Coffeyville who provided the lead gift for the project, will be constructed near the Baylor campus. The 45,000-square-foot facility will include a covered riding arena with spectator seating, more than 20 stalls to house the horses, and restroom facilities for the women's equestrian intercollegiate athletics team.

TOGETHER: Texas Baptist students go into world

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TOGETHER: Texas Baptist students go into world

The temperature in Texas is starting to rise as summer approaches, and

that means Texas Baptists are once again on the verge of sending hundreds of college students on mission throughout the state and around the world.

I was both proud and humbled last year as I took part in the commissioning service for our student summer missionaries. To see a church choir loft filled with hundreds of students willing to give their summer to missions and ministry is to be overwhelmed by the continuing reality of God's call upon his people to serve him and upon their willingness to do so.



Executive Director
BGCT Executive
Board

This year, 500-plus students will participate in our GoNow Missions effort and other mission opportunities.