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THE ENQUIRY

Serving the Southeastern Community

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SOUTHEASTERN BAPTIST

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SEMINARY LIBRARY

FACULTY CHANGES, ENROLLMENT STABILIZES

As the smoke begins to clear at Southeastern the losses and gains are being assessed. Faculty resignations, retirements, and additions, as well as continuing accreditation concerns, all contribute to the state of transition in which we find ourselves in the fall of 1991.

Additions to the faculty include Stephen Andrews, Assistant Professor of Old Testament and Dr. Maurice Robinson, Associate Professor of New Testament. Both are alumni of SEBTS and were added to the faculty by the Trustees at their Spring 1991 meeting.

Recent resignations include Dr. Samuel Balentine, Professor of Hebrew and Old Testament, and Dr. Glenn Miller, Professor of Church History. Professor of Christian Education, Dr. William Clemmons has announced plans for early

retirement. All three are teaching this Fall but will take sabbatic leave in the Spring, from which none will return. Balentine has announced no future plans, but both Miller and Clemmons are taking teaching posts elsewhere.

Rumors of other resignations and retirements have run rampant through the SEBTS community during the last several months, though none others have been officially announced. This has contributed to the speculation concerning the status of our academic program. Reactions to the changes vary, with some mourning the losses and others applauding the changes.

Contrary to many dire predictions, however, enrollment figures demonstrate no decline, as had been evidenced since 1987. Instead, enrollment remains at the same level as last fall,

when a plateau, of sorts, was reached.

"We had anticipated seeing some growth in enrollment this year. However, events in the Spring of 1991 had a somewhat dampening effect on recruitment," says John Storey, Director of Admissions.

Storey feels positive about the new student body, however. "Our new students, predominantly Southern Baptist, seem to be very mainstream and ministry oriented."

Perhaps, then, Southeastern can anticipate no further decline in enrollment and may be able to look forward to an upward trend. "As we move toward solving our accreditation problems and establishing our identity, I expect to see great growth in enrollment," Storey concludes.

ACCREDITATION ACTION PENDING

SEBTS cleared a major hurdle in its continued accreditation concerns during the summer meeting of the Association of Theological Schools (ATS). Reports from the faculty, trustees, and administration were submitted to ATS, addressing concerns raised by the agency. Upon consideration of the reports, ATS offered a stiff warning that it would continue to monitor the situation here closely. However, ATS declined to impose any negative actions upon SEBTS.

A joint report from the faculty, trustees and administration was recently submitted to the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS), also addressing specific concerns of the accrediting agency. A visiting team from SACS will be on campus in October to examine more closely areas of concern. No action from SACS is expected until its December meeting.

The Seminary is also engaged in an institutional Self-Study. The Self-Study is re-

quired every ten years by SACS and ATS for reaccreditation. This Study, however, is separate from the special reports and visits currently in process and evaluates all aspects of the Seminary.

The Self-Study is being conducted by joint committees of faculty, administration, trustees, and students. These committees worked throughout the summer and are currently in the process of evaluating the data collected and making recommendations.

A student forum to discuss the Self-Study and evaluate the recommendations is scheduled for Friday, September 20, in the cafeteria. Students will have the opportunity to meet with Study committee members and provide input as to the priority of the recommendations.

SACS and ATS will send visiting teams to the SEBTS in the Spring to evaluate the Seminary in light of the Self-Study report. No action is expected until after that Spring meeting.

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Editorial

"Blistered hands we consider here scars of honor." So wrote a student in the early days of Wake Forest College to Thomas Meredith, then editor of the Biblical Recorder. The blisters to which he refers are those from the farm labor which students were required to do in exchange for study at this magnificent school. The education, they knew, was worth the toil they endured.

Few of us now have actual blistered hands from our stay here. Many of our community, however, have scars. As we begin a new semester, and perhaps a new era, at Southeastern, we must be sensitive to our brothers and sisters who have been wounded yet have survived and remain.

I write as one who in the past year has observed much pain. With some of it I can empathize; some of it I cannot understand. It is not our prerogative, though, to question another's grief. Nor is it appropriate for a child of God to wallow perpetually in that grief. It is up to us all, however, to extend the hand of Christian fellowship to one another, even to

those with whom we do not agree. That is not an option. It is a commandment which reads something like this: Love one another.

To new students I offer a few words of advice. Please remember that you are coming into an environment which has endured dramatic change. Therefore there may be some hesitancy and some questions yet unanswered. Be patient, open-minded, and willing to learn. Be ready, as well, to start earning your blisters.

I encourage returning students to set the example in prayer, honesty, and sensitivity. Bitterness is the most destructive force we face and it has no place here.

All of you are encouraged to remember that this is not Boot Camp at Fort Pentecost. It is not our purpose to attend a prolonged spiritual pep rally. This is an institution of academic excellence. We are not here on a retreat to earn study course credit. We are here, in a graduate program, to be exposed to new ideas, to be challenged, and to learn. All of that is flavored, I hope, by the presence of the Holy Spirit. Effective ministry depends upon a

balance of academic study and spiritual renewal.

A final word regarding my philosophy. The Enquiry was established as a student voice and I intend, as editor, to maintain that standard. Diversity of opinions sparks growth and I hope that The Enquiry will be a forum for such. Letters and articles are welcome from everyone - even if they differ from the opinions of the editorial staff. I will seek to provide a strong representation of the student perspective, however diverse that may be. I hope that by this time in our Christian experience we can intelligently articulate concerns we have without being slanderous or expressing ridicule about one another. Romans 14 is our standard.

For reasons some of us do not yet fully understand, we have been called here. And to those God has called, God is faithful. To those God has called, all things work together for good. These are promises on which we can stand. Let us, therefore, be better, not bitter. Let us pray that the battles subside, the wounds heal, and that we walk anew in the fullness of the grace and mercy of the Lord. -hmp-

In the fall of 1989, I came to this campus in the midst of the terrible struggle which has taken place here. I found a badly rundown facility and many bitter and broken people.

When I came, I thought I knew what the problem was, and I believed I knew who was to blame. I have come to realize that I was wrong, and I do not know or understand the problem nor do I have a solution to fix the situation.

However, I do know this situation is unacceptable. In all that I do understand concerning Jesus Christ, I know that it was his fervent prayer that we be one, and that he commanded us to love one another.

Since Martin Luther and the Protestant Reformation it has become the accepted norm for the Church to split. Some feel it is necessary because of bureaucratic corruption or for doctrinal purity.

Most recently here, more professors have given their resignations, and nobody has asked them to stay. New institutions have been formed: it would seem the split is inevitable.

But what will this solve? We still have Catholics, Lutherans, Anglicans, etc. Will it take five hundred more years before our Baptist groups begin to speak to one another again?

How can the body of Christ be a living and vibrant force when it stands to become a mutilated and dismembered corpse? How can a rotten and splintered church give anything to a broken world?

Jesus Christ is the product and pedigree of none, but the Savior and Lord of the whole. Ambiguous covenant documents which placate everyone are useless and only bury the problems and postpone the conflict.

What does it take to make people talk to one another, and to listen, and to forgive, and to love?

I have been given the privilege of rebuilding this Seminary's stone wall, and people have fondly nicknamed me "Nehemiah." I find

hope in that symbolism. In Ezekiel 13, God complained about the false prophets who would not go out and build a wall or stand in its breaches for defense in the day of the Lord. But I will rebuild our wall and repair its breaches and wait for the day of the Lord when He will come and put in us what we cannot seem to find in ourselves.

"Sons, you did not come to raise yourselves up as judges of others, but to offer your wills to God." (Blessed John of Alverna, The Little Flowers of St. Frances.) - db -

Heather Price, Editor

Douglas Buttram, Assistant Editor

H. Eugene McLeod, Faculty Advisor

In establishing this newspaper the students of Southeastern Seminary are engaging in an old and honorable practice, that of inviting relevant and constructive discussion by concerned and responsible people on matters pertinent to their common life. They have chosen a name which is equally honorable, one which enjoys a place of special significance in our Baptist history.

In 1792 William Carey published a booklet entitled "An Enquiry into the Obligations of Christians to use Means for the Conversion of the Heathens." He intended not only to set forth his own observations, but also to call forth discussion from others who shared with him a commitment to Jesus Christ and a desire to fulfill their obligations which that discipleship implied. It is significant that he was concerned with Biblical foundation; that he gave attentions to historical conditions; and that he did not ignore the questions of practicality. It is hoped that this "Enquiry" will honor this spirit, this tradition, and this name.

John E. Steely, Professor of Historical Theology
Volume One, Issue One, The Enquiry, September 24, 1964

CLASSES BEGIN AT RICHMOND SEMINARY

The newly formed Baptist Theological Seminary at Richmond began classes, Wednesday, September 11, with an enrollment of 30 students. Curriculum offerings are primarily foundational studies.

Three former Southeastern professors are in administrative and faculty positions at Richmond. Former professor of philosophy of religion, Thomas H. Graves, is President, Church History professor, G. Thomas Halbrooks presides as Dean of Faculty, and former adjunctive professor Chevis F. Horne will serve as Visiting Professor of Preaching. Frank Goare, former Director of Admissions for SEBTS, is serving as the new seminary's financial officer.

The new Seminary is nestled in the midst of Virginia Union University, The Presbyterian School of Christian Education, and Union

Theological Seminary in Richmond, Virginia. Students will have the use of the facilities of these other institutions, such as the library, and also the option of taking courses at these schools.

Bruce Cheek, former Southeastern student, cited a dissatisfaction with Southeastern as his primary reason for the move. "This institution (SEBTS) no longer offers anything for me. The environment is no longer conducive for my studying and spirituality," he said.

Though hesitating to speak for the four other students who transferred from Southeastern to Richmond, Cheek speculated that the women, especially, have reasons similar to his for leaving Southeastern.

Cheek is excited about being a part of the first class of a new institution but is also

anxious. "The costs are higher. It is risky. The future is uncertain. I have been a Southern Baptist all of my life and it is very hard to pull away."

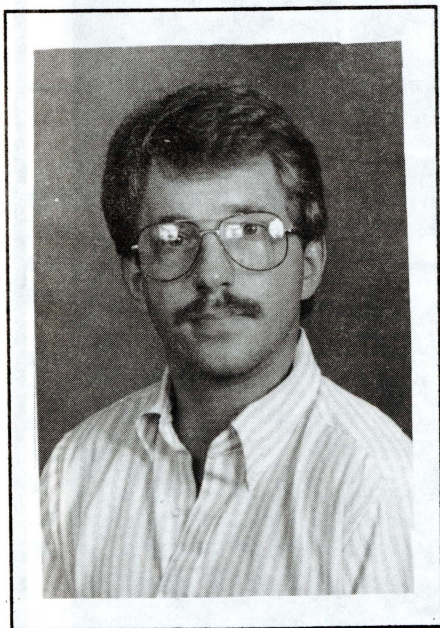
The new school had to gain provincial approval from the Council of Higher Education of the Commonwealth of Virginia to open its doors. Beth McMahon, Director of Communications at the Baptist Theological Seminary at Richmond, said that this is the first step towards becoming a fully accredited institution. The school must graduate its first class, probably three years from now, to receive accreditation from SACS and ATS. The accreditation would then be retroactive.

The school expects to add new courses and faculty after the completion of its first year.

ROBERTS LEADS STUDENTS ON TRIP TO ROMANIA

Over the summer, Dr. Phil Roberts, Associate Professor of Evangelism, led a two week evangelism practicum in Romania. From July 30 to August 14, Roberts and 15 Southeastern students worked Swiss and German missionary teams and the local Baptist church in Braila, Romania.

The missionary work involved street evangelism, personal witnessing, Bible distribution, preaching with interpreters, and weekend crusades at an outdoor amphitheater.



Shawn Feeny

Roberts stated that Romania is the most open area to do evangelism and mission work in this only recent free part of the world.

Shawn Feeny, one of the fifteen students who went to Romania, gave account after account of how people would gather when Indian evangelist Rabi Maharaj would speak. Hundreds of conversions were witnessed and at the end of the week Pastor Josef Stephanut, of the Braila Baptist Church, collected approximately 1,700 decision cards.

Language and cross-cultural barriers, as well as Romania's lack of experience in evangelism, caused some disorganization, Feeny noted.

When calling home, Feeny's wife said that their daughter prayed for a backpack like dad's so she could go to "mania" with dad. "My prayer is that people would be that willing to pack up and go and do all they can," said Feeny.

Rick Kesterson is another Southeastern student who was involved with the Practicum. Kesterson related his experiences doing Bible distribution. During one distribution the students distributed 300 New Testaments within 5 minutes. Kesterson literally had to stand on the package of Bibles to keep them from being dragged away by the crowd. During one incident Kesterson suffered a bruised back when the crowd pressed in on him. "It was a frenzy, like sharks feeding," he recalled.

Kesterson said that he could see the desire in people's eyes and the joy in their faces when



Rick Kesterson

they received the Bibles. "It was painful to look at the people when the Bible's ran out."

Both Feeny and Kesterson overflowed with exuberance in their accounts of the trip to Romania. Their excitement affirmed their belief that the trip was worthwhile and accomplished something important in the spreading of the Gospel.

RECYCLING PROVIDES ASSISTANCE FOR COMMUNITY

He is usually merry but you probably do not see Meade Long in a red suit as he carries his sack on his back. As Student Council Ethics Committee Chairperson, Meade is responsible for collecting the aluminum cans out of the blue bins scattered around campus. Meade is assisted in this task by students Bill Clarke and Jeff McKinney.

When the bins are full, the cans are collected and taken for recycling at the Reynolds Aluminum Recycling Center. The proceeds of the recycling are then donated to the Wake Forest

Area Crisis Ministry, located at the corner of S. College and W. Owen. Meade notes that last year's recycling proceeds were approximately \$250.

Southeastern is a primary supporter of the Crisis Ministry, providing funds through the recycling efforts and student personnel to staff the center. Food and clothing distribution, as well as counseling services are available to the community. Staff members evaluate those requesting help according to specific criteria and may provide financial assistance in emergency

situations. Presently the availability of student personnel limits the operating hours of the center from 9 to 11 a.m., Mon. - Fri.

Some students, like James Henley, choose to do their Supervised Ministry at the Crisis Ministry. James found his experience at the center to be valuable and a good opportunity to witness. He notes that some people came in specifically seeking Bibles, but that was not the norm. "Most of the people need something. They can't find it in the clothes and food we provide, but they can find it in Christ."

STUDENT CONSTRUCTS LASTING GIFT

People traveling up South Avenue, (Route 98 East), will notice a new gazebo on the campus grounds behind Lolley Dorm. The Gazebo was donated to the Seminary and now sits in the midst of a circle of dwarf bamboo in an area called the Prayer Garden.

Rick Kesterson, an A.Div. student, built the deck and assembled the gazebo. By trade Rick is a carpenter and mechanic. While attending school, he works part-time for Realiscape, the company contracted to keep the grounds at Southeastern.

Kesterson is very excited about being able to build the gazebo. "Though we pay our money, most of us, as students, are takers. This is something I can give. I'm building it and I'm leaving it here," he said.

While visiting the National Cathedral in Washington D.C., Kesterson came across a room called the Sanctuary of the Holy Spirit. He said he felt the presence of God in that room more than any other place, and he hopes the gazebo will be such a place.

"This place is special. I want this gazebo to be a place where God's presence is greatly felt. I don't want this to be another symbol of anger or line for battle," Kesterson said.

In the deck, which he built from scratch, Kesterson inlaid a cross. He wanted anyone, Christian or not, to know the purpose of this place. He is very pleased with the appearance of the cross in the deck. Within an hour after the roof was finished, someone was already sitting inside the gazebo and reading the Bible.



photo by Phillip Capps

PRAXIS MAKES PROGRESS

A letter from an apartment complex manager says it well. "...I can only humbly say thank God, that someone has finally realized that apartment dwellers in this neighborhood are not second class citizens of this city." He speaks in reference to the work of the Commonwealth Baptist Church and Praxis worker, Heidi Borowsky in Charlotte, NC.

Heidi, a second year M.Div. student, spent ten weeks this summer in the Praxis program of the Home Mission Board. She describes the ministry as "contagious," as she observed church members give of themselves by helping the residents of inner city apartment complexes.



Heidi Borowsky

The primary focus of Heidi's work was surveying managers from 17 different apartment complexes as to the needs of the tenants. She also helped the church with Backyard Bible Clubs and Vacation Bible School.

One of Heidi's best memories is of the last day of VBS, at the end of a rainy week, when she and her partner went to one of the complexes to tell the children that VBS would be cancelled because of the rain. To their surprise, all of the regular children showed up wearing their rain gear. Instead of cancelling they all stood under umbrellas and had a short Bible lesson.

Another memorable experience for Heidi was her encounter with an elderly lady outside one of the apartment complexes. The woman said that she "was so lonesome she could just die." Heidi sympathized with the woman and reported her

situation to the church. Soon a woman in the church volunteered to visit the lady and this volunteer now visits 4 elderly ladies in the same apartment complex weekly. What makes this even more special to Heidi is the fact that this volunteer has Multiple Sclerosis, yet never complained about being too sick or too busy to minister to someone else's needs.

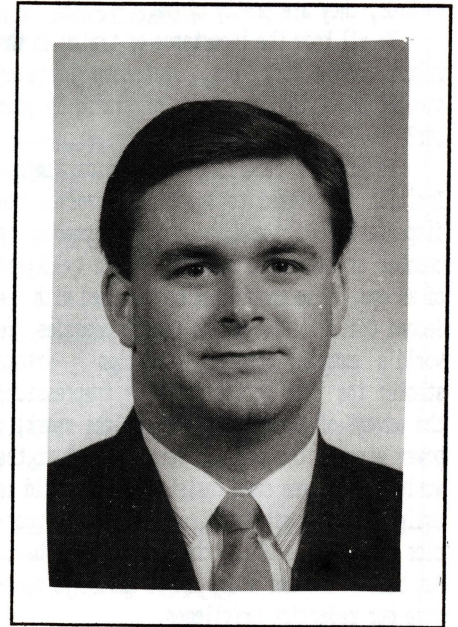
Heidi's work was sometimes frightening and dangerous as she ministered in an area plagued by drug and alcohol problems, as well as violence. She believes the ministry was effective, however, and learned more about faith. "I turned it over to the Lord and He took care of everything!" she said.

Anthony Allen, a second year M.Div. student, had a different ministry in his summer Praxis experience.

His assignment was in Sparta, NC and his primary focus was to start new church work. Once on the field he found that his responsibilities would be divided between the new work and working with the nine existing churches in the association on a Church Growth Probe.

Anthony and his partner, M.Div. student Bill Clarke, targeted new work in a small community called Glade Creek. Results included the starting of a Bible study on Wednesday evenings.

"Most of the results we saw were on the ground level. We encouraged the local association to see the needs in this county and begin to meet those needs," said Allen. "The work that we did and the people that we reached are now being ministered to by the Associational Missions Committee."



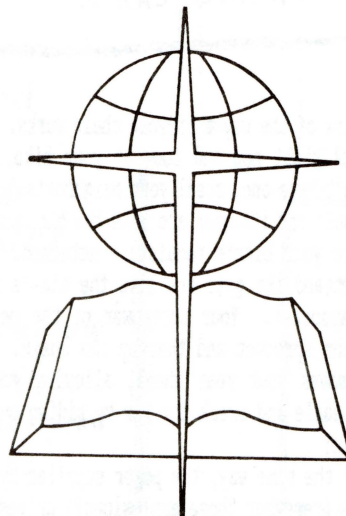
Anthony Allen

Though the Praxis assignment ended for Anthony and Bill in August, their ministry did not. Both attended a meeting on September 14 with the Association to further plan for the new work.

Anthony feels that his experience reinforced his belief that the church needs to have the vision to reach people at their own back door. "1 out of every 2 people in North Carolina are not Christians, and it is our responsibility and commission to share the good news of Jesus Christ with them," he said.

Would he do it again? Allen replied, "Yes, most definitely. Praxis provides us with the opportunity to put into practice on a one to one basis the things we learn in seminary."

Heidi agrees: "I wouldn't trade this experience for anything in the world. It's time we as Christians reach beyond the fortress walls and share our love for Christ and the plan of salvation to those around us."



"... And they changed their oil with a great changing, and great was the changing of their oil..."

Greetings to you out there in the land of theological insight! As you read this article, remember that these words are not infallible. However, they are pretty close.

We all know the importance of timing in the pulpit, choir loft, etc. But have you ever thought about the importance of timing in your car?

We are not referring to ignition timing. Ignition (unrelated to Ignatius) involves the dispensation of the spark to your combustion chamber at the right instant, in the twinkling of an eye. This should not be confused with the Second Coming. The Second Coming precedes the world's exhaust stroke. Creation = intake stroke; the time before Christ = compression; the advent of Christ (delivery of the spark) = power stroke; the exhaust stroke = end of the world. Of course some insist that the world is equipped with a catalytic converter which recycles doomed souls before they become ozone bait. But that is another story and we choose to exercise our redaction privileges.

We want to explain the mechanical timing which coordinates the valves and the piston strokes. In your car's internal combustion engine the pistons complete four strokes. On the intake stroke the piston moves downward in the cylinder while the intake valve is open. Thus the fuel mixture is sucked into the cylinder (along with the butterflies, grit, and pollen that get through because you're too cheap and lazy to change your air filter).

During the second, or compression stroke, the piston moves upward while the intake and exhaust valves are closed. This compresses the fuel mixture into a very small space. Toward the end of the compression stroke the spark is delivered and there is a violent but controlled explosion (probably not unlike the burning bush). This marks the beginning of the power stroke.

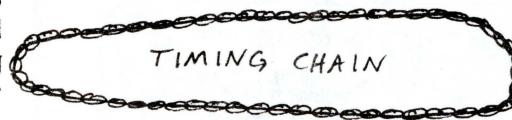
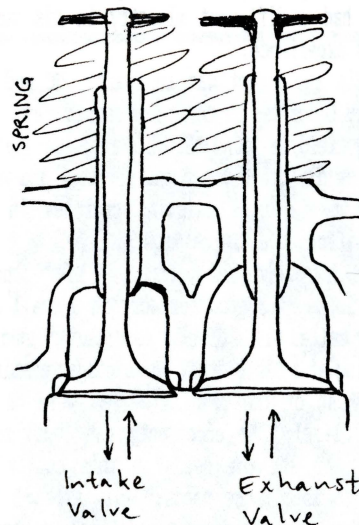
During the power stroke, the explosion forces the piston to travel downward in the cylinder while the valves are still closed. The pistons turn the crankshaft, which in turn drives the wheels (not to be confused with Miss Daisy), all of which hurtles you down the highway to your next revival. (And we know your sense of Christian ethics would not allow you to speed.)

At the end of the power stroke the exhaust stroke begins. The piston travels upward while the exhaust valve is open, expelling gases which irritate your sinuses and destroy the ozone layer. You eastern religion fans will enjoy knowing that this is a recurring cycle. However, it is

not eternal-- every engine has its eschaton.

If the piston is on its compression stroke and a valve is stuck open, even a little bit, there will be no compression. The fuel will simply be forced back out of the delinquent valve. The same is true of the power stroke. If a valve is open the explosion will vent through the hole rather than driving the piston downward. If the timing of the valves is at all sloppy your engine's performance will be sloppy. How do the valves know when to open or remain shut in relation to the piston strokes?

We're glad you asked! The movement of the valves is physically controlled by the camshaft. The pistons are connected by either a timing chain or a timing belt. This chain ensures that when your crank moves, your car moves with it, thereby maintaining the proper timing.



Think of the way a bicycle chain works. (Go out back right now and look at your bike. If you don't have one, steal your neighbor's.) The crankshaft and its gear are like the big sprocket where your bike's pedals are attached. The camshaft and its gear are like the bike's rear wheel sprocket. Your footpower on the pedals drive the sprocket and thereby the chain. The chain moves your rear wheel, allowing you to annoy people and break the law by riding on the sidewalk.

In the same way, the power supplied by the pistons (remember those explosions?) drives the crankshaft around, moving the belt/chain. The

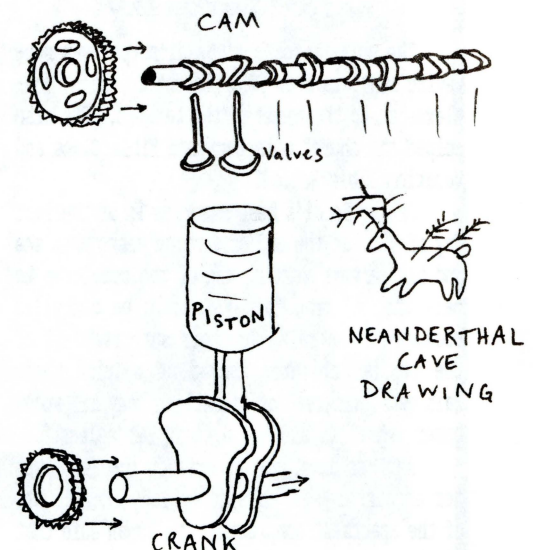
belt/chain in turn rotates the camshaft which opens and shuts the valves.

Have you ever seen the chain on an old bike which has become saggy and loose? This is because the chain stretches and the sprocket teeth wear down. This happens to a timing chain as well. If the chain becomes loose your engine's timing will become sloppy. Most cars with V-8's and V-6's have timing chains. If you have over 70,000 miles on your car (this is a general rule, not dogma. We're not speaking "ex carthra.") and your car is sluggish, giving you poor mileage, and runs poorly when cold, the problem could be a loose chain.

On many four-cylinder engines there is a rubber timing belt. Unlike the chain, the belt can simply break with a spine-tingling SNAP! On some models a broken belt means bent valves and big bucks. (If the belt breaks the valves stop moving, but the pistons continue their strokes for a very short time. If a valve is sticking down into the cylinder while the piston slams upward - WHAM!) This is a danger with early 80's model Hondas and Ford Escorts. It's a good idea to replace the timing belt every 40,000 miles or at the next dispensation, whichever comes first.

Free sermonette: Good stewardship includes taking care of your car. Jesus certainly would have changed his oil every 3,000 miles (or sooner, in the desert.)

Bill and Craig



In an effort to revamp the intramural awards system the Student Activities Office is introducing a few changes in the intramural sports program.

T-Shirts will be given to winning team members for Flag Football, Volleyball, Basketball, Softball, Walleyball, and 3-on-3 Basketball. Additionally, trophies will be awarded to individual winners for Golf, Tennis, Racquetball, Ping-Pong, and Pool. T-Shirts will also be awarded for Benchpress Qualifiers and F.I.T. participants. A plaque will be presented to the outstanding referee each semester and a sportsmanship award will be given for each of the big 4 team events.

These awards will be presented at the intramural sports fellowship planned for December 2, 1991. Also part of this fellowship dinner will be a slide show of the various intramural events during the semester.

The intramural sports program is designed to promote fellowship, to encourage getting to know one another, and to help maintain physical fitness, all to God's glory. The Student Activities staff encourages everyone to participate in one or more of the intramural sports events this semester.

FALL INTRAMURALS

Co-Ed Flag Football
Sept. 17 - Oct. 17
T & TH, 5:15 & 6:15

Golf Tournament
begins Sept. 23

Racquetball Tournament
begins Oct. 8

Tennis Tournament
begins Oct. 8

3-on-3 Basketball Tournament
Oct. 22 & 24

Co-Ed Volleyball Tournament
Oct. 31 - Nov. 26
T & TH, 7:00 & 8:00

Benchpress Qualifiers
Oct. 7-12 & Nov. 18-23

Student Wives Fellowship

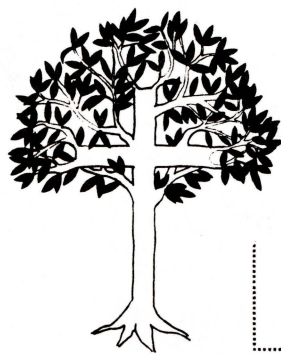
JOIN OUR

"Focus on Prayer!"

Monday September 23rd
7-8:30 P.M.

Ledford Student Center
Childcare R.S.V.P. 556-1977

Please Note! Mini Conference with
Mrs. Paige Patterson, Sept 21st, 8:30-12:00
Wake Cross Roads Baptist Church
For details phone 266-2957



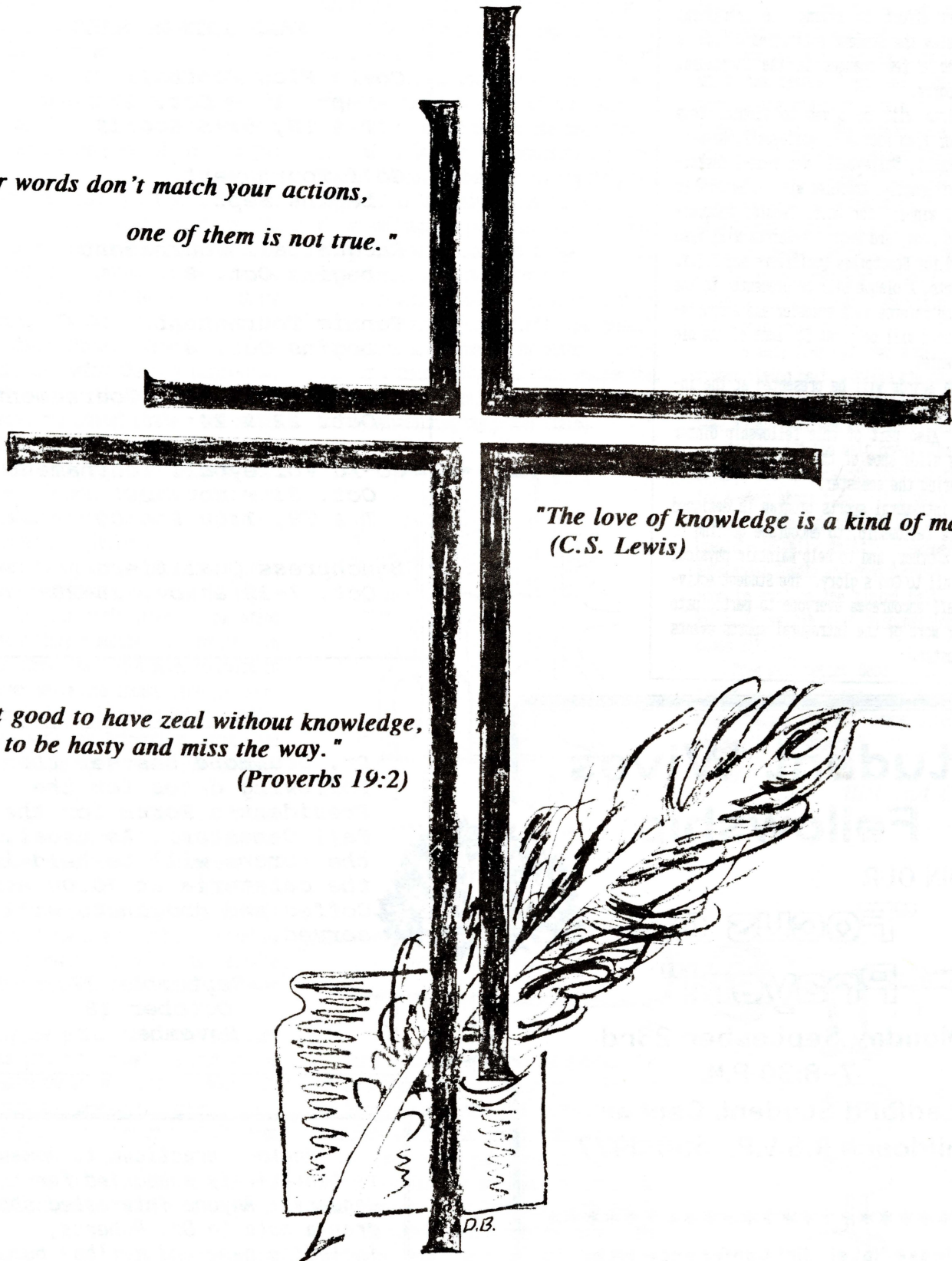
Dr. Drummond has set the following dates for the President's Forum for the Fall Semester. As usual, the forums will be held in the cafeteria at 10:00 a.m. Coffee and doughnuts will be served.

September 27
October 18
November 22

Another practicum to Romania is tentatively scheduled for January. Anyone interested should drop a note to Dr. Roberts, including name and mailbox number. The trip will cost approximately \$1800 per student.

Dr. Roberts will help in writing letters to churches and friends for those interested and in need of financial assistance.

*"If your words don't match your actions,
one of them is not true."*



*"The love of knowledge is a kind of madness."
(C.S. Lewis)*

*"It is not good to have zeal without knowledge,
nor to be hasty and miss the way."
(Proverbs 19:2)*

*"Behold, I send you forth as sheep in the midst of wolves: be ye therefore wise as
serpents, and gentle as doves."
(Matthew 10:16)*