

# SOUTHEASTERN NEWS

Office of Communications  
Southeastern Baptist  
Theological Seminary

Wake Forest  
North Carolina 27587  
(919) 556-3101

Assistant to the President  
Rodney V. Byard

Home Phone  
(919) 556-1485

June 26, 1986

## HARDIN TO BE CITED BY SOUTHEASTERN SEMINARY FOR EXCELLENCE IN MINISTRY

WAKE FOREST, N.C. - A veteran leader in the lay ministry movement among Southern Baptists will be recognized by Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary at the opening of the fall semester, according to an announcement by Southeastern President W. Randall Lolley.

Reid D. Hardin, director of the evangelism support department of the Home Mission Board in Atlanta, will be the fifth recipient of the Seminary's Citation for Excellence in Christian Ministry. He was chosen by the Seminary's Board of Trustees following nomination by the Citation committee and ratification by the faculty.

A layman, Hardin was part of a group in his native South Florida in the late 1960s who felt that laypersons had a ministry for the Lord. His activities caught the attention of Southern Seminary professor Findley B. Edge and Ken Chafin, director of evangelism at the Home Mission Board. At Chafin's invitation, Hardin left Florida and started the Renewal Evangelism Section at the Board, a ministry that continues to this day.

"Since that time," according to Edge, "through prodigious efforts and the grace of God, against numerous obstacles, he has been a key factor in creating an awareness of the ministry of the laity for Southern Baptists."

Of the 1986 Citation recipient, Baptist layman Fred Roach of Dallas, Texas says: "I can think of very few people in Christian life that have had a greater impact for Christ than Reid Hardin."

The Citation for Excellence in Christian Ministry is presented by Southeastern Seminary from time to time to recognize persons, lay or ordained, whose ministries express the ideals of the Seminary, Lolley said in making the announcement. He noted that the four previous recipients have included a religious educator, a lay couple, and two pastors.

Hardin will receive the Citation during opening convocation ceremonies on August 26 beginning the Seminary's 36th academic year.

