

THE ENQUIRY

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Seminary Community Celebrates Christmas

A Christmas Story

by Dennis Hester

Three little pair of feet dashed down the staircase, across the hallway to the corner of the den. There stood a tree with icicles dangling and angelhair clinging-- a mountain of glitter. It was surrounded with boxes of presents, all shapes colors, and sizes. Christmas had finally arrived.

"Look Tommy! the big green box has your name on it," said Tommy's sister, Sue. "No," said Tommy. "That can't be mine; it's too big to be a catcher's mitt."

Billy was ripping paper and trying to tear a big yellow bow that was fastened on top of his box. He just knew inside was a spaceship he had waited for.

Sue was excited about her doll that really walked and laughed. The only thing she could say was, "Oh, me! Look there! Look at her!"

When the presents had been opened, Dad began to read the Christmas story; the children sipped hot chocolate, with lots of marshmallows. The crackling fireplace added to the joy and warmth of Christmas as Mother led the family in singing "Away in a Manger" and "Silent Night."

After a long day of celebrating had passed, the children were kissed and tucked into bed. Who could ask for a better Christmas? Everyone had received a gift, the food was filling, the neighbors were friendly and all were healthy. A Christmas with everything -- everything except the celebrating of one untaken gift. It lay neatly wrapped under the tree, unnoticed, untouched.

This family is fictional, but the gift is real and the message is true. The greatest of all gifts was wrapped in swaddling clothes and laid in a manger long ago, a gift to the world. "For God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten son, that whosoever believeth in him shall not perish, but have everlasting life."

To leave Christ out of Christmas is to miss its true meaning and joy, but so often God's Son becomes the untaken gift.

Reflections . . .

I am the Innkeeper,
Withinkeeper,
My rooms are full of self.
Persons as animals I have equated
To stable isolation relegated,
Out in the cold,
Oh, so many Christ kin.
There is no vacancy here
For humanity.

Father, forgive
Throughout the year
The cold shoulders we impart.
And in the abrasive warmth
Of the Christmas season
Scour clean
Our scaly hearts.

-F. Schuszler

SBC President Comments

by Paul Godwin

Dr. Jimmy Allen certainly carries a title which impresses most of us- President of the Southern Baptist Convention. However, the most impressive thing about Dr. Allen is not his title, but his optimism and enthusiasm, coupled with the determination of a dedicated man of God.

Dr. Allen, in an interview after his reception on Dec. 4, spoke of the future of the Convention as one of "considerable expansion." "I see a whole capturing of the energy of the laity in missions," he said. "Also, the laity is increasing its leverage within society." With this increased interest of the laity comes an increased need for the training of the laity, especially in reference to the fast changes our society is experiencing. Dr. Allen said, "The seminaries have the job of equipping pastors who will then equip the laity of their churches."

The greatest need within the Convention, Dr. Allen said, is for spiritual awakening and renewal. "Money, expansion, missions-- these are not problems when you put them in relation to the real problem: the need for a renewed spirit within each Christian. Christians should be a willing people," said Dr. Allen.

The greatest strength that Baptists have in dealing with this need and other problems is a "grassroots effort toward a Biblical fidelity to bringing the message of the Lord Jesus Christ," according to Dr. Allen. "Little churches out on the countryside faithfully serving God are the backbone of the Convention."



Photo by David Haywood

Late Professor's Study Book Contains Personal Touches

In January, 1979, thousands of Southern Baptists will be studying the text for the annual January Bible Study, Mark: The Savior for Sinners by the late Raymond Bryan Brown, Distinguished Professor of New Testament Interpretation at Southeastern until his death on December 16, 1977.

In a recent interview, Caralie Brown of Raleigh, North Carolina, talked about the book and what it meant to her husband.

"He researched it as a scholar but wrote it as a Christian witness," Mrs. Brown explained. "He prepared it as he would have prepared the material for the classroom, but he presented it as a pastor." Brown was a pastor for seven years before embarking on his teaching career, which included posts at the University of Richmond and Southern Seminary as well as thirteen years at Southeastern.

Mrs. Brown said her husband had been very excited about his research on Mark. She would often come home from her elementary school teaching to find him engrossed in his manuscript, with books and papers spread all over the table in the family room. He liked to study and write at home, where he could look out over his hobby, a yard full of azaleas and impatiens.

"He often said this book would reach more people than anything he would ever write," Mrs. Brown went on. She recalled that her husband always carried a strong devotional emphasis into his work. This is especially evident in the frequent use of poetry and hymn lyrics throughout the book, she said.

"He was very down-to-earth, but he had a mystical bent to his personality," Mrs. Brown explained. This impression of Brown is echoed by former students who recall that, although his lectures were scholarly and stimulating, "you always felt as if you had been to church."

Another personal touch in Mark: The Savior for Sinners is the use of a painting by Mathias Grunewald. Called "The Small Crucifixion," the painting was a favorite of Brown's and hung in his office on the Southeastern campus. Mrs. Brown explained that he liked the painting because it caught the reality of the crucifixion with the starkness of Christ's suffering more graphically than many paintings.

One of the things that Brown liked about the book of Mark was the author's account of the resurrection, Mrs. Brown added. He wrote, "God trusted women first to proclaim the gospel of the resurrection. He trusted the women to tell the men. Has a greater tribute ever been given women?"

But above all, Mrs. Brown remembers her husband's joy and excitement reflected in the final pages of his last work, completed just before his unexpected death: "All the world changed for the disciples, because the Lord was victor over death. The women went to the tomb expecting the good news to be that someone would help them roll back the stone that barred them from the dead Jesus. Instead the good news was that He was not there! . . . Easter is God's pledge of the triumph of the cross over pain and death . . ."

The library announces the following schedule during the Christmas holidays:

Fri., Dec. 15	7:45 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Sat., Dec. 16	CLOSED
Dec. 18-22	8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Dec. 23-Jan. 1	CLOSED
Jan. 2-15	8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Tue., Jan. 16	RESUME NORMAL SCHEDULE

The Enquiry

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR are welcomed. All received in good taste will be printed as space permits. LETTERS MUST BE SIGNED, but name will be withheld upon request.

JESUS CHRIST IS LORD!

Bibles To Russia

Soviet Baptists have been granted official permission to import 25,000 Bibles and 5,000 concordances in the Russian language, according to the Baptist World Alliance.

The import permit, granted to Russia's All-Union Council of Evangelical Baptists, allows for the largest shipment of Russian Bibles into the Soviet Union since it was established.

The last major shipment of Bibles was in 1947, when 10,000 copies were imported.

Spiritual Giants

by Dennis Hester

Christianity, undoubtedly, has to be the most enjoyable way of life, and the most rewarding work, that one can be engaged in.

As I leaned back in my reading chair, I thought of those who have labored endlessly for the Master. Their spiritual lives grew to be giants and their witness touched a multitude by word and deed. My book case shelves some of the most influential and well-known writers, and others not known as well, but nevertheless who have stirred my desire to reach for higher spiritual ground. Their names-- C.H. Spurgeon, Elton Trueblood, C.S. Lewis, William Barclay, Charles Allen and Vance Havner-- have become music to my ears, and their words food for my soul.

William Carey, the one-time cobbler who became one of the world's great missionary figures, comes to mind as a recall spiritual giant.

I think of the life of D.L. Moody, the shoe salesman who lacked education but not loving zeal for Christ. His message from God shook Great Britain.

As I think of the disciplined life of a Christian, I hope to be on the road to maturity. But then I remember the German Christian Dietrich Bonhoeffer. He believed that freedom in Christ was worth dying for-- so he did. I am humbled at the words he spoke before he was hanged: "This is the end. But for me it is the beginning of life."

I ask myself, "What made these men great?" Many times we fail when we try to imitate them. We do not become spiritual giants by imitating great people. Instead, we become great and useful by letting God be the giant within us.

Those who commit their lives to Christ are undergirded by means not their own. They offer God that which He desires of everyone-- their total life. The result is evident. They live and die rejoicing in the truth that has made them what they are: "Greater is He that is in you than he that is in the world." (I John 4:4)

Let God be the giant within you, and you shall be great for His sake also.

Supporters of public smoking in California spent a record \$5.6 million in a campaign to defeat an initiative which would control smoking in public places. About 97 per cent of the funds came from tobacco companies, who pumped in over \$700,000 in the final days of the campaign.

Comments

A TWIST IN THE AMERICAN CLASS SYSTEM

by David Sumner

There is a new social class emerging in America. It may replace the "silent majority" as the most powerful in numbers and influence. Since almost all seminary students are members of this class, I decided it would be worthwhile to discuss it in this column.

This is a hybrid class that doesn't fit any of the neat categories of lower, middle, upper-middle and upper classes that sociologists are accustomed to think of. It comes out to be a mixture of the lower class economically, and the upper-middle and upper classes educationally and socially. I shall call it, for brevity's sake, the "educated poor."

The affluence of the sixties and early seventies, enabling a large number of middle-class children to go to college, coupled with the inflation and decline of the dollar in recent years, is combining to produce this powerful class of educated poor. We have recently been told by our nation's economists that the dollar buys half as much now as it did in 1967. That means that there are probably twice as many of the educated poor now as there were then.

The educated poor typically have from four to eight years of education beyond high school. At one time in our history, they would have been part of the elite in our social and economic structure. But now many of them are on food stamps, or wishing they could swallow their pride long enough to apply for them.

The basic problem with being a member of the educated poor is that you have "champagne tastes on a beer budget." We who are part of the educated poor have been around the affluent and sophisticated people in our society, and have acquired their tastes and values. Since we have chosen a simple life style (economically) by entering the ministry or other professions of noble intent and low pay, our tastes for the finer things of life are whetter by those of our friends. But the problem is that we can't pay for them.

In our artistic tastes, we can discuss the French impressionism of the 19th century but the paintings on our walls came out of Aunt Sally's attic after she died. Perhaps we can argue the relative merits of Wagner and Chopin, but the most we can do in the way of entertainment is go to the free seminary concert. We may reflect on the beauty of French and Roman architecture, but in traveling, if we can get to visit the family in Spartanburg at Christmas it will be a luxury.

The rise of the educated poor should produce a boom in church attendance, since it gives people a chance to go somewhere and do something for free. Sometimes it provides free, or at least inexpensive, means at church suppers. A good choir and a good sermon may give some people a good morning's entertainment. And certainly it probably is "where all the friends are." But pastors should be cautious: some people may come an accidentally respond to the gospel.

But we can be poor and have a jolly good time. If you are fascinated by the lure of exotic islands and overseas adventure, you can sit down for the evening with National Geographic magazine. If you are fascinated by the intricacies and harmony of symphonic music, you can tune in WUNC-FM. If you are ready for bold and exciting adventure, you can write Senator Helms about removing tobacco price supports. Or if your taste runs to fine cuisine, Wake Forest has a new Hardee's.

If you decide that you simply can't take the hardships of the educated poor, and want to join the ranks of the upwardly-mobile, then you can get your Ph.D. after you finish seminary. With ten years of post-high school education, you will become part of the super-educated elite (just like our professors). You will then be able to discuss extant Greek miniscules while sipping your Chek cola. Then you can snub your nose at the lowly educated poor, and call yourselves the "doctorated destitute."

Merry Christmas. See you next year.

Allen Cites Myths Hindering Missions

"God is creating a sense of urgency about world missions for Southern Baptists," Jimmy R. Allen declared in the Missionary Day address on December 5. In his intense and expressive manner, the Texas pastor said, "We have had an increased tempo about missions in the last several months. The movement of God's Spirit is among us. We are going to move into an intensity about missions that we've never seen before."

Speaking to a large crowd in Binkley Chapel, he went on to cite three myths about foreign missions that hamper its development. The first was made famous in James Michener's novel Hawaii, which Allen called "the myth of the happy native." This myth implies that overseas natives are content in their own culture and religious practices, and the intrusion of foreign missionaries may upset and spoil their unique way of life. "The myth of the happy native is moving upon us and crippling the missionary thrust of many denominations," he said. Allen declared in reply to this myth that "there is no adequate understanding of God except through Jesus Christ."

"The myth of many roads" is the second that is threatening foreign missions, Allen said. This type of false thinking, especially among the educated, says that there

are many different ways to know God and that each is as satisfactory as the other, depending upon the person. "This myth threatens the urgency of foreign missions," Allen said, and we must declare the uniqueness of Jesus Christ in meeting man's needs.

"Another myth is the myth of geographical progression," Allen went on to say. He said that Jesus does not mean that we are first to go to Jerusalem, then to Judea, and then to the "utmost parts of the earth" in that progression. There is no geographic progression, for each of us is to go where God leads us, whether that be in our hometowns or overseas. Each person receives a calling, and each person's calling is unique. Allen says, "God does not make saintly missionaries and then ordinary folks. God has called us all to be ordinary folks through which He does extraordinary things."

In closing, Allen called for a renewed urgency in spreading the Gospel. "In the midst of wars and rumors of wars, amongst sick religion that kills 900 people, in the crises and threats of our age, our task is to go and share that Good News of Jesus Christ within our world. What has God called you for, and where has He called you to be that?"

Letters To The Editor

To the Football Predictor:

What predictions will you come up with next? I cannot see why anyone would continue predicting anything the way you miss. I, myself, would hang it up if I made all those blunders. To be sure, you must know more about sports than you make out. Why don't you put your crystal ball away and do something else. Or, do you know what a crystal ball is? I hope you don't try to predict basketball scores. You will be laughed at then. If you do try, I hope you'll leave the best basketball conference in the nation alone-- the SEC.

-A TRUE SPORTS FAN

Student Recaptures Miracle Of Birth

by David Schell

"It's a boy!"-- exciting words climaxing a nine-month vigil often filled with doubts, worries, and fears. You hear the first cry and then hold the warm bundle, knowing that you have participated in the grandest of all earthly things: the creation of a new life who will have a personality and will all his own.

Memory floods back. What a shock it was to find out that that lingering case of the flu was actually going to be a baby! Of course, back then it all seemed very unreal. Even after a few months, with your wife wearing maternity clothes for the first time, it still seems impossible that you are going to have a baby.

But you quickly pass from the first shock of finding your wife expecting, and a kind of euphoric joy floods your entire being. Nothing else seems to matter anymore. You walk with your head held very high, and notice in malls that people have all begun to nod and smile when you pass. Some even look directly at your wife's middle. But this time passes as well.

A time of doubt and fear begins to take over. Here you are, a seminary student. Your wife has worked for the same company for nearly seven years, and you have depended on her income. Now that is to be taken away, and you wonder how you will make it. You tend to worry more about yourself than about how your wife feels. You forget about her fears and anxieties. It is at this point that you begin to mature, ever so slightly, toward your call of fatherhood.

Somewhere between the seventh and ninth months you begin to be anxious about whether or not your wife will survive childbirth, remembering the cousin who died and others you have heard about. And if both mother and child survive, will the child be hyperactive, brain-damaged, physically deformed-- thoughts like these help remind you how very fragile life really is.

Finally, the day arrives. Your wife goes into labor, the pains begin to be regular-- but suddenly they become erratic, though every other sign says she's in labor. She cries with pain and you call the doctor, who says it is false labor. This goes on for forty-eight hours; neither you nor your wife have slept in sixty hours. You call every friend you have, and they gather in a vigil of prayer, concern, and advice. Those who have had children before tell you to go on to the hospital. You go, find that your wife is really in labor, and your doctor is called.

The rest is anti-climactic. A mere eight hours later, the baby is there. Your wife is grinning euphorically, even after nearly 70 hours without sleep, and promptly suggests that you have another baby, for this wasn't so bad after all!

It is an age-old story, but to have a baby in the surroundings of your family at seminary is a joy both unspeakable and full of glory, one not to be feared, but to be welcomed with rejoicing!

by Francis E. Skelton, Jr.

I sent an invitation to the Master I so love
Asking Him to visit me from His holy place above,
For I love Him deeply and dearly, I'll love Him
till the end.
He helps in times of trouble and is such a
steadfast friend.

He was quick to answer, a message came my way.
He had accepted my invitation, and would be at
my house . . . "today!"

I rushed home quickly, for the place was in
a mess.

There was a feast to be prepared for my beloved
Guest.

No sooner had I cleaned the rug when the door-
bell rang.

"Jesus is here!" so I thought, and to the door
I sprang.

It was Clyde, the town drunk, who fell through
the opened door,
And as he fell he spilled cheap wine all over
my nice clean floor.

"Clyde, you're supposed to have changed your ways
but I can't talk today,
I have a guest who's coming soon,"
and I sent Clyde away.

As I prepared the table, again the doorbell
rang.

It was John, the plumber, and in the door
he came.

John was sad, and down on his luck,
he hadn't worked in awhile.

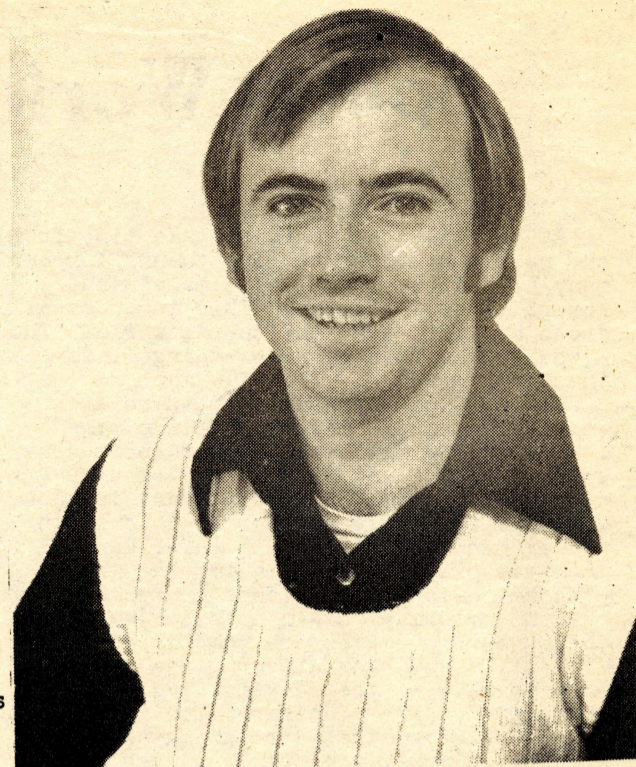
"Could you help me in any way?" he asked
with a worried smile.

"John, I know you're broke, but I can't help
you today,
I've spent all I have for my guest,"
and I sent John away.

As I prepared the festive meal, again the door-
bell rang,

This time it would surely be my loving Lord
who came!

A wounded youth walked in the door, he was
upset from a fight.



He said he'd been "rumbling" with some friends
and I knew that wasn't right.
"Friend, you know," I said to him, "that
violence is not my game,"
Then I opened the door and threw him back
to wherever it was he came.

The feast prepared, I settled down and waited
with my best.

The sun sank low behind the hills, and still
no honored guest.

Then suddenly, with dazzling light, the Master
briefly came,

His words fell solid as the stones, and roused
my inner shame.

"In answer to you summons, I came three times
today,

Three times I sought to find your love, three
times you turned me away."

C.P.E. Experience A Challenge

by Mike Barker

C.P.E. is an experience that I would
recommend to anyone in seminary. If I had
one word to describe my experience it would
be: challenging. This is for several reasons.

First, my experience was in a mental
hospital. Most people in these institutions
need to be handled with kid gloves at times,
but at other times one needs to be confront-
ing, to show emotions and to be painfully
honest with the patients.

Next, I went into C.P.E. expecting to
find certain things to say and respond with
in certain circumstances. However, I
quickly found out that this was not possible.
The most important advice I was given during
those eleven weeks was, "Be yourself." In
other words, do not try to be something you
are not.

Finally, it was challenging to be con-
fronted by my fellow students participating
in this experience. Many questions were
raised to and by us during this time. Also,
you cannot be with people for eleven weeks,
five days a week, for eight hours a day
without learning some of their quirks. We
were constantly questioned by each other,
and by our supervisor, as to why we resp-
onded in certain ways toward the patients and
toward each other. This helped shape our
critical awareness, of others and of ourselves.

Anyone considering C.P.E. needs to consider
many things in preparing for it. First, a
basic pre-requisite for C.P.E. is Pastoral
Care. In looking for a place to enter C.P.E.,
the C.P.E. Directory is helpful, and may be
found in the library, in Dr. Hester's office
or Dean Meiburg's office.

Centers have differing facilities and offer
different compensation. Some centers give
stipends, some give rooms, and some provide
neither. Each center has its own requirements
as to workload.

Each C.P.E. center requires that the
applicant go through a screening interview,
which will cost the applicant \$25.00. The
applicant can have this done at the center
to which he is applying or any other approved
C.P.E. center (consult the directory).

C.P.E. may be taken during a regular sem-
ester or during the summer, both offering
eight hours credit. It is advisable that one
apply early for summer C.P.E. (before spring
semester) because positions fill quickly.

"Star of Bethlehem", the Morehead Plan-
etarium's annual Christmas show, will play
through January 8 on the Chapel Hill campus.
Group rates are available, and members of
the clergy are admitted free at all times.
Shows are at 8 p.m. weekdays; 11, 1, 3
and 8 p.m. Saturdays; and 2, 3, and 8 p.m.
Sundays.

R.E. Class Assesses Ministers' Competency

by Dottie Williamson

In an effort to measure competency among
ministers, a survey was sent to ministers
in five states by a small group from Dr.
Bruce Powers' Introduction to Religious
Education class.

Respondents were asked to indicate
on a scale of 1 to 5 (1 being strongly
negative, 5 being strongly positive) their
agreement or disagreement with a series
of statements as applied to their personal
or ministerial lives.

75 per cent of those surveyed answered
5 to the statement, "I took time to get
ready for my ministry educationally."
Only 2.7 per cent answered most negatively.
91.6 per cent answered very positively
to the statement, "I was sure of my call,"
while no one answered negatively, or even
undecided (3).

17.6 per cent of those surveyed indi-
cated that, to one extent or another, they
selected their sermon themes late. Far more
ministers said that they selected their

themes early (38.8 per cent answering 4;
20.6 per cent answering 5).

All those surveyed believed that they
were relatively accessible to their people.
Also, the statement "I spend time at prayer
daily" was affirmed by almost everyone.

Nearly one-third of those surveyed were
undecided as to their support of the state-
ment, "I change my methods of preaching
periodically". Also, over one-third could
not strongly support the statement, "I
schedule time for myself and my family."

According to a survey administered to
150 Baptist laymen in North and South
Carolina, the "ideal" Baptist minister is
"a clean-shaven white male between the ages
of 36-45 who has been in the ministry 15-
24 years. He graduated from college with
a major in religion and from seminary with
a Master of Divinity degree. He is the
pastor of a suburban church, and he is
married with two children." Does this
necessarily describe a competent and
professional minister?

Sports World Commentary

by Mike Barker

At this time of year, we take time from our hectic routines to give thanks for our many blessings, and also to make wishes for gifts at Christmas. This includes all areas of life, even the sports world. Thus I would like to name a few things I am thankful for.

First, I am thankful that there are still players who play with all of the intensity and skill that their sport deserves. At the same time, many of these players can still show sportsmanship and are able to handle a win or a loss in the proper manner. Along with this, many of the same players are able to play tough without deliberate violence or "cheap shots." They do not play to win at all costs; they understand what the game is all about.

Next, I am thankful for those fans who show loyalty to their teams (and coaches) whether they are winning or losing. These fans understand that everything cannot go perfectly all the time. Thanks should go to many of these fans who are not unruly or violent toward visiting teams (or their own) and officials.

I am thankful for officials who have the courage, knowledge, and interest to help make their sport work. Officials face many difficult situations, and are often berated by fans and players when a decision is unfavorable.

As a summary, I thank especially Brian Piccolo, Roberto Clemente and Daryle Stingley who gave themselves on and off the field for mankind. I am thankful that I was able to see these players in action.

As a special note, I am thankful that I had the chance to be sports editor this semester. This is my final semester; I will graduate and take on new responsibilities. You, the readers, have made my writing more enjoyable with your comments, and I will miss you.

This is my final Bruiser chance. This time I predict the bowl games, and to add interest, I have included the number of points in the margin of victory. Here goes!

- Independence Bowl
Louisiana Tech by 8 over East Carolina
- Sun Bowl
Maryland by 5 over Texas
- Liberty Bowl
LSU by 6 over Missouri
- Tangerine Bowl
Pittsburgh by 2 over N.C. State
- Peach Bowl
Purdue by 15 over Georgia Tech
- Fiesta Bowl
Arkansas by 7 over UCLA
- Gator Bowl
Clemson by 5 over Ohio State
- Cotton Bowl
Houston by 6 over Notre Dame
- Rose Bowl
Michigan by 3 over Southern Cal.
- Orange Bowl
Oklahoma by 7 over Nebraska
- Astro-Blue Bonnet Bowl
Georgia by 11 over Stanford
- **Sugar Bowl****
Alabama by 8 over Penn State
- SPECIAL- THE SUPER BOWL*******
L.A. Rams by 3 over Pittsburgh

The Stargazer

I have so many items of interest today that I hardly know where to start. So, let's start with the fellow who, during the rain the other day, rushed from the library a good thirty feet into the rain, realized that he had forgotten something-- and went back in for his umbrella!

Did you notice what effect the Stargazer has on the groundskeepers? All I did was mention that some of the poles didn't have lights and Bingo! Now if the fellow who does the lights in the Chapel would just read the column.

Speaking of chapel, what do you think of the chapel services in Appleby? What's that, you say you haven't noticed? Now a few good words: love, value, worth.

They finally got the water, hot, that is, fixed in Simmons apartments. Now it works just like the hot water in Johnson and Bostwick.

Did you hear about the seminary couple who went canoeing at the reservoir? It seems that the lady wasn't satisfied with the way the canoe was being paddled, so she decided to paddle her own canoe. For those of you who know canoes, you don't have two canoe bosses at the same time. Fortunately the young man's steady influence averted disaster. Now for a few kind words: friendly, sympathetic gentle. More recent are the plans of Sherri Wheeler. She and Roger Turk, a landscape designer from Florida, plan to marry June 21. Marilyn Vandenhengel of the Day Care Center is expecting in April. Congratulations to you both, Jack and Marilyn, two future missionaries.

What are your feelings about professors who make last-minute unspecified expectations of the students which were not mentioned in the syllabus?

Remember that fellow in the Forum some months ago who was trying to get seminary housing because of his peculiar housing situation? I wonder what has been done for his case?

Have you ever walked by Lea Lab at night and noticed that the lights reflect in those old ripply glass windows and look like Christmas trees inside?

Say, speaking of Christmas: do you suppose that Santa for the folks in South America lives at the South Pole? Maybe Dr. Neely could tell us. Certainly would make his trip shorter. . .

You know, the strangest things happen on a seminary campus. I was talking to a fellow in Johnson dorm who told me that some time ago there was this terrible ruckus in the hall. He said that there was a tremendous amount of frivolity on the part of male and female (or at least female-sounding voices). This was followed by splashing in the fountain pool. One might think this is Wake Forest University rather than a seminary.

Here's one. This pulpit committee was interviewing a young man, and asked for his educational background. He said that he had just left Purdue when he received his call to the ministry. He was hired, but after several weeks, the congregation began to wonder about his sermon delivery. His grammar left something to be desired. The deacons decided to ask if he had taken English grammar while at Purdue. He said "No. . . I was in the chicken processing line!"

Overheard in hallway: "That really was some test he gave. How many false answers did you have?"

Have a Merry Christmas, and a Happy New Year!



TAKE-A-BREAK: The Student Council Social Committee will be sponsoring a "study break" in the Mackie Hall Commons Room, Thursday December 14 from 10:00 p.m. to 2:00 a.m. Refreshments will be available. Come and enjoy the fellowship as well as the opportunity to relax for a few moments.

(from Human Behavior, Dec., 1978)

Cynics claim that Christmas is just an orgy of gift-giving with little faith or devotion to back it up. But recent Gallup polls show that about 94 per cent of Americans still believe in a universal spirit; and 69 per cent believe in a personal God and life after death. Over half the nation believes in angels; 39 per cent believe in devils. Hell, however, is taking a beating. A study by priest-sociologist Andrew Greeley showed that while 70 per cent of Roman Catholics expect life after death, just one-third buy the idea of hell. A busy psychotherapist reports that many clients worry about death but that nobody seems anxious about hell fires.

NO JANUARY ISSUE
NEXT ENQUIRY DEADLINE:
FEBRUARY 14

Intramurals

by Raiford Hill

The intramural basketball tourney finals were wild and wolly. The Midnight Express played the Heritage Ten Tuesday Dec. 3 on their home court. It looked for awhile as if it was going to be a runaway for the visitors, but the boys in red finally made a game out of it. The score at the end of the first quarter was 17-11 in favor of the Heritage Ten. At the half, the margin had widened to 31-19 in favor of the ten.

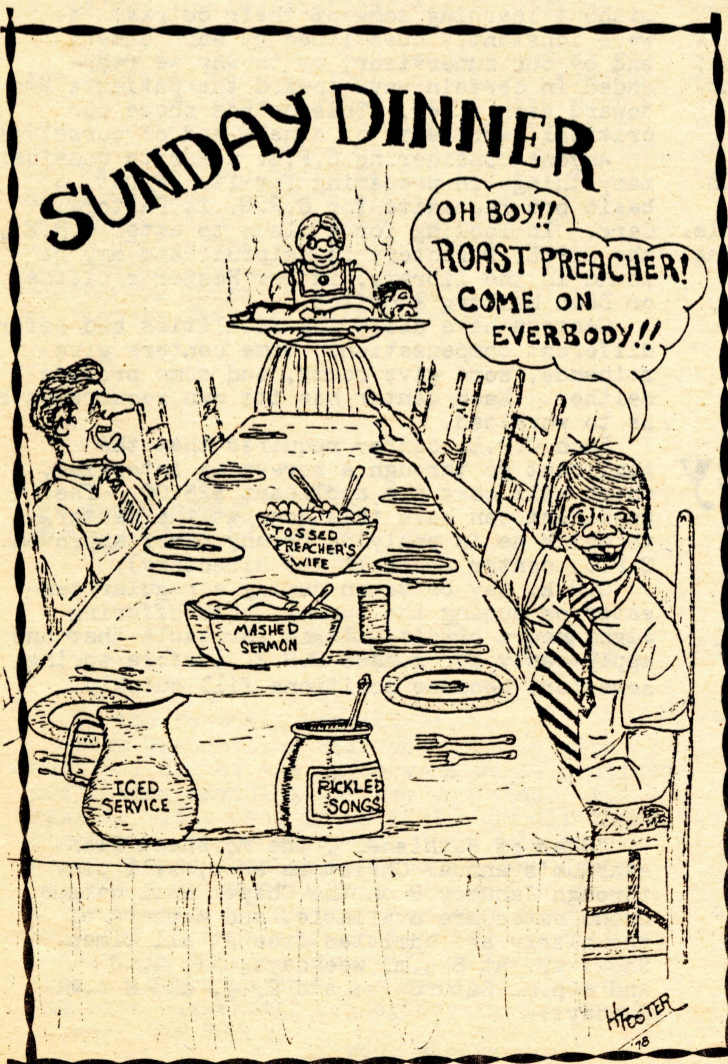
The second half was entirely different, as the Express closed the gap to 35-34 at the end of the third quarter. The fourth quarter was the most exciting, with Garry Parker hitting on a layup with 29 seconds left. Keith Dixon then hit another layup after a defensive rebound by Parker with 4 seconds to go. Dixon then intercepted the inbounds pass and tried a half-court shot at the buzzer, but missed. Scoring for the Express: Marcaht, 21; Chase, 14; For the Heritage Ten: Jefford led with 14 and Parker had 14. The Ten had 38 rebounds while the Express had only 24. Both teams used the 2-3 defense and offense. Attendance: 15,243.

The Spring semester will include a 14-game basketball season, plus volleyball and softball.

On May 3, 1979, there will be a sports banquet held in the cafeteria. Details are not available yet.

David Daly, Sports Director, wishes to thank all participants in past programs for their participation. And he also wishes everyone a MERRY CHRISTMAS! I also wish you the same.

Girls, be sure to get the sports surveys in to the gym as soon as possible. If you didn't get one, pick one up at the gym.



The Associate Class wishes to invite everyone wishing to contribute to the purchase of Dr. Leo Green's Bible to do so by seeing O.P. Hatfield, Raiford Mill, Dr. Blackmore, or any member of the Associate Class. Make checks payable to the Lottie Moon Fund. The Bible is being presented to the library in the name of Associate Class and Friends.