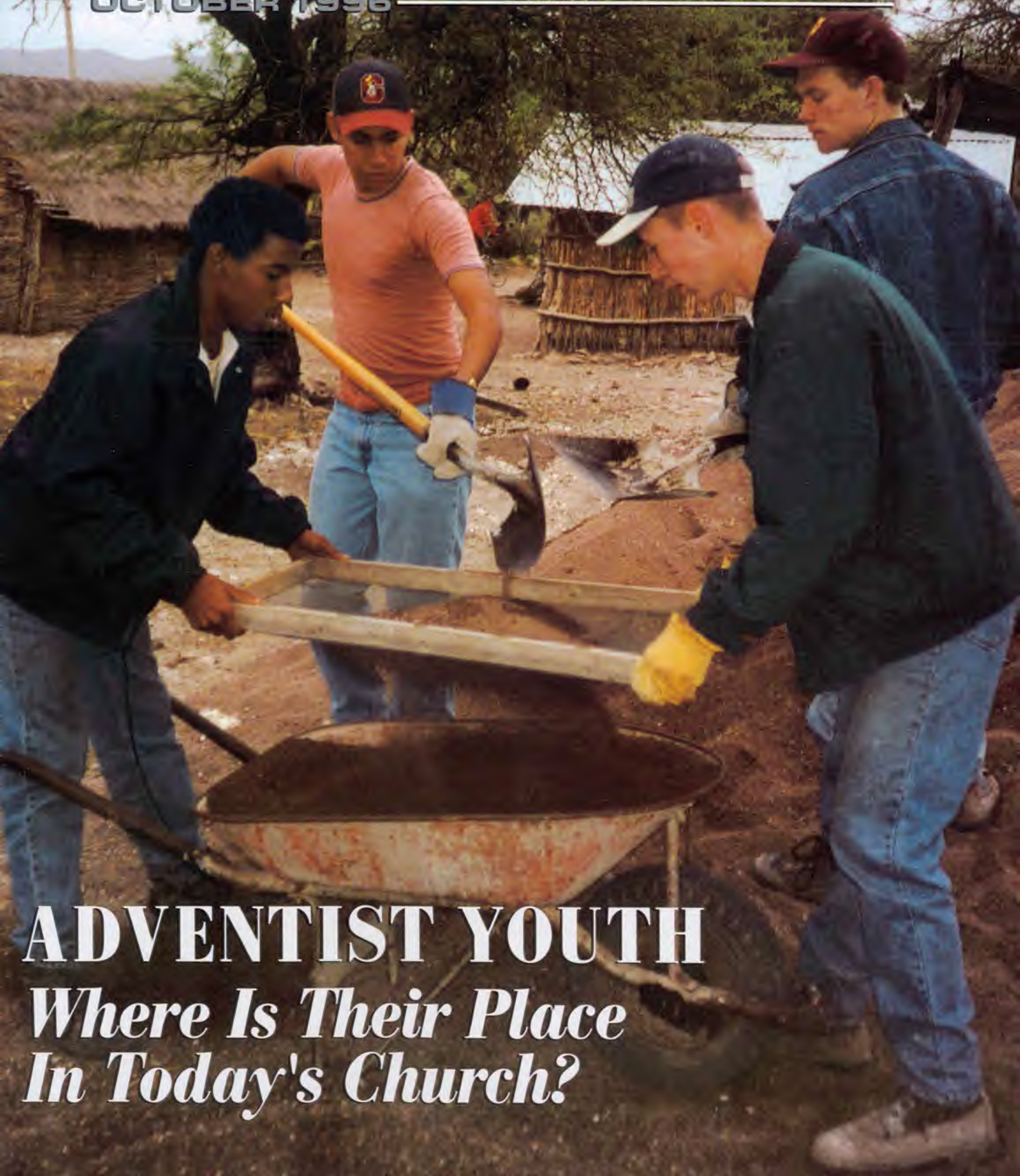


SOUTHWESTERN UNION RECORD

OCTOBER 1996



ADVENTIST YOUTH
*Where Is Their Place
In Today's Church?*

SOUTHWESTERN UNION **Record**

Official Organ of the Southwestern Union Conference of Seventh-day
Adventists

Member, Associated Church Press

777 So. Burlison Blvd. ♦ P. O. Box 4000 ♦ Burleson, TX 76097 ♦ 817/295-0476

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Announcement for Events on Weekend of	Should Be in Local Conference Office by
December 7, 14, 21 and 28	October 18
January 4, 11, 18 and 25	November 15
February 1, 8, 15 and 22	December 13

Volume 95, Number 10

October 1996

Sunset Calendar

	Oct. 11	Oct. 18	Oct. 25	*Nov. 1	*Nov. 8	*Nov. 15
Abilene, Texas	7:12	7:04	6:56	5:49	5:43	5:39
Amarillo, Texas	7:18	7:09	7:01	5:53	5:47	5:42
Brownsville, Texas	7:06	7:00	6:54	5:48	5:44	5:41
Dallas, Texas	6:59	6:51	6:43	5:36	5:30	5:26
El Paso, Texas	6:39	6:31	6:23	5:16	5:11	5:07
Fort Worth/Keene, Texas	7:01	6:54	6:45	5:38	5:32	5:28
Galveston/Houston, Texas	6:54	6:46	6:39	5:33	5:28	5:25
Gentry, Arkansas	6:48	6:39	6:30	5:23	5:16	5:11
Little Rock, Arkansas	6:40	6:31	6:23	5:16	5:10	5:05
Muskogee, Oklahoma	6:52	6:43	6:34	5:27	5:20	5:15
New Orleans, Louisiana	6:34	6:26	6:19	5:13	5:08	5:04
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma	7:01	6:52	6:43	5:36	5:29	5:24
San Antonio, Texas	7:09	7:01	6:54	5:48	5:44	5:39
Santa Fe, New Mexico	6:34	6:25	6:16	5:08	5:02	4:56
Shreveport, Louisiana	6:47	6:39	6:31	5:24	5:19	5:15
Tulsa, Oklahoma	6:54	6:45	6:36	5:29	5:22	5:17

*Standard Time

Adventist Youth

Where Is Their Place in Today's Church?



Max A. Trevino
Southwestern Union
President

We often hear that our youth are the church of tomorrow. That's not true. They are the church of today, and we should treat them as such.

Did you know that the theme song for this year's vacation Bible school was written by a seven-year-old? When Veronica Rojas wrote the song, "Wonderfully Made," several months ago, her parents recognized that Veronica is not a future musician—she is a musician now. So they had the song published, and it was sung in vacation Bible schools all across North America this summer.

In many parts of North America youth are planting churches in unentered territories. College-age young people pastor churches in multi-church districts where the senior pastor can't care for all the churches in his district. Youth go door-to-door selling truth-filled literature. Here in the Southwestern Union our youth are being used by God in mighty ways, and I hope you will take the time to read about it in this issue of the Record.

We all need the vision that Veronica's parents have. We must recognize that our young people love the Lord as much as adults do, and they're eager to serve Him now. And they have something adults don't have—energy and enthusiasm. They're just waiting for the church to empower them to act.

Shortly after Desert Storm, the captain of a large U.S. aircraft carrier was interviewed. The carrier is a floating city with 6,000 Navy crew on board. The average age of the crew members, not counting senior commanding officers, is 19. The captain was asked, "Wait a minute. You have all this technology, all this weaponry, including 86 of the world's most advanced aircraft, and you leave it in the hands of teenagers? Why?"

The captain responded, "Young people aren't afraid. They don't know that a job can't be done; they just get in there and do it!"

If the military recognizes the potential of young people, how much more should the church recognize and use the talents of our youth. This may mean that as adults we might have to occasionally move out of our comfort zones. We may have to listen to unfamiliar music or hear speakers who have not acquired the "polish" that adults are accustomed to.

It seems to me that it's better for us older members to occasionally feel uncomfortable if the youth are attending and participating in church, than for young people to feel unwelcome because they don't fit the mold the adults have made for them. If the young people feel unaccepted or unappreciated, they will stop attending church altogether. They'll go where they feel comfortable.

I hope that every church in the Southwest will make a special effort to use the energy and enthusiasm of our youth for the Lord. Let them tell you what they want to do for the Lord. And don't tell them it can't be done. Let them go out and do it!

Youth Taking Over the Church

Young People Building the Kingdom of God



Bernie Anderson,
Youth Pastor

At first glance, the title of this editorial could seem a bit frightening to some. The idea of our young people "taking over the church" and

finishing the work is

nice to hear from time to time, but when it comes right down to it, some church members are discouraged by the notion and hope that that day will never come.

The fact is that most church members believe that the youth are apathetic, worldly, bored, and that they view the church as being out of touch and hypocritical.

While it is true that we find a segment of young people in the "I couldn't care less" category, there are a vast number who are serious about being a part of God's remnant movement. Shocked? Don't be, because contrary to what many people think, we are no longer dealing with the church of tomorrow; in fact, our young people are quickly becoming the church of today!

So, why aren't they more involved

in the church, you might ask? Maybe it's because the method used to involve them has some problems. In the past we've been content with letting our young people get up front occasionally on Sabbath to play the roles adults give them with specific guidelines on exactly how they're supposed to do things, without considering much of what they have to offer. Somehow we think that this role-playing deepens their spirituality and will keep them coming to church.

While I believe this method has some value, I also believe it is time we become much bolder in our attempts to involve our youth. How about putting a few on the church board and actually giving them

voting power? How about giving them the opportunity to do a church service entirely designed and conducted by them? How about ordaining some as local elders and starting a mentoring program with the adult elders?

We live in a fast-paced

world that competes with the church for the attention of our young people. Their world is much different from the one their parents grew up in. They deal with tremendous personal difficulties such as divorce, teen suicide, sexual temptations, and drug addiction, often without anyone to turn to. Though they appear not to care, many long for something better. They have a desire to fill a void that has been left by the scars of personal tragedies. I believe the church must be there to fill that void.

The church can become that second parent, a new friend, or

Preaching in various churches in the Dallas metroplex and out of town has really been a blessing to me because of the feedback I've received. It lets me know that I'm helping to further the message of Jesus Christ. It is really great to know that Christ can use us if we surrender our lives to him.

Lorraine Henry
Junior at Burton
Adventist Academy



Stephanie Gifford
Graduate from Burton Adventist Academy and
now a first year art student at Pacific Union
College

For me summer camp was a chance to have fun with a lot of really great kids. They're what makes it such a fulfilling experience.

even a place of refuge from an addiction. This happens only as we begin to let them see just how important they are to Jesus Christ, the church and its mission. Spiritual growth does happen in teens, but it must be cultivated in an atmosphere of love and acceptance, with plenty of opportunities for service to others, and not pressure to perform.

This type of involvement with their peers and adults creates a sense of ownership and meaning for each young person and does far more for their spiritual growth than most sermons preached from our pulpits. This format also allows the Holy Spirit to build mentoring relationships between young and old. Understand, we don't push aside those who are reaching their golden years, but we allow our young people to embrace them, roll up their sleeves next to them to do the work or simply sit at their feet and learn.

More than ever before the statement by Ellen White is coming into focus: "With such an army of young people, rightly trained, how soon it might furnish the message of a crucified, risen, and soon-coming savior to the whole world."

Young people are a precious resource for the advancement of God's kingdom that are just now being tapped into. They possess talents and gifts that, when used in service for God, have proven to be effective tools in the Master's hands.

Still concerned our young people are "taking over?" Don't be. Take a look at the photos of some young people who served in various capacities all over this union this summer, and I think you'll be encouraged to see that indeed God is moving on the hearts of youth, and they are taking over the church!



Even though I had gone through an entire week of staff training, nothing could have prepared me for the kids. They were more excited and energetic than I thought possible. But they were such a blast!

They kept reminding me of how simple everything can be. I sometimes forget that there is more to working than the money. This wasn't a job for the summer, it was an adventure of a lifetime. This experience I will never forget.

Preston Smith worked at
Super Day Camp in Arlington.

About the cover:

San Antonio mission team members, from left: Matthew Kucinski, Matthew Mejias, Bryan Laue, and Cody Ackermann sift sand for mortar in San Jose, San Luis Potosi, Mexico. Photo: Tom Hennlein

ADVENTIST YOUTH..

What's on their minds?

What puts a gleam in their eye?

What motivates them?

What inspires them?

Where are they headed?

And what's their future?

Answers can be found in the stories below which tell about their summer activities. They were doing what they love best—helping others see Jesus through their actions.

We touched people's lives with our books and our prayers.

"Northwest Oklahoma will never be the same," was the comment made by Jim Brouhard, Tulsa literature evangelist who worked this summer with eight academy student literature evan-

This summer I decided to do something different. Instead of staying at home glued to the TV, I was offered the chance to sell religious literature in Oklahoma. I knew this would be hard work, considering I don't like talking to people all that much. But when I started out it wasn't as hard as I had thought. It was hard to get used to rejection, but every time I sold a book I would get a great feeling of accomplishment, knowing that God was answering my prayers.



Wesley Payne

gelists who earned scholarships for the new school year. "Working Sunday through Thursday in the unbearable heat, these students combed the streets of Tulsa, Owasso, Claremore, Muskogee, Bartlesville, and Broken Arrow in northeast Oklahoma offering books such as *The Great Controversy*, *Bible Readings*, *Desire of Ages* and other magabooks." Each family visited received some free literature or a *Happiness Digest*. Thousands of people were reached by these young people who were willing to be used by God.

"This was the best student group I've had the privilege to coach," said Brouhard. "They've done more in 10 weeks than any group



Richard Christman

I was a student literature evangelist in the Tulsa area. The experience was not only financially rewarding, but spiritually reviving as well.

I've worked with. It's amazing how God puts them with the right people at the right time. A number of pastors from other denominations bought *The Great Controversy* or *Bible Readings*. I'm convinced that many will be in the Kingdom

Edwin Fisher, who lives in Bristow, Oklahoma, spent the summer selling religious literature with other students in Scranton, Pennsylvania. Each day they would begin the day with prayer. One of Fisher's best experiences was meeting a lady who used to be a Seventh-day Adventist. She was pleased to see him and said she was thinking of returning to church. She signed up for Bible studies and asked Fisher to see if a pastor could come and visit her.



because of the efforts of these soldiers for Jesus."

Over 5,000 *Happiness Digests* were left in homes and 3,000 magabooks sold. In addition 5,000 pieces of free literature were given away. Church members who supported the student program in Oklahoma need to be thanked for their support.



Students who sold religious literature in the Tulsa area this summer are, front row from left: Amanda Rodgers, Lisa Carrizales, Marji Bushong, and Justin Mascarenas. Back row, Tom Spain, Wesley Payne, Richard Christman, and Raymond Christman.

We won people to Christ through evangelism.

Intense, exhilarating, and enlightening are just three of the words which could be used to describe the summer months spent by Charles Reese Jr. of Dallas, Tx.,



Charles Reese, Jr.

Comfort Bell of Mansfield, La., and Zephon Lister of Euless, Tx. in dedicated soul winning in the city of Minden, La. The nightly Youth for Christ evangelistic meetings

began on July 20 and lasted until August 17, 1996. These three youth evangelists were the speakers.

This crusade was not without careful preparation. After a year of intense study and prayer by these young men, a phone call from Southwest Region Conference president, Robert L. Lister, gave the news that funds had been made available for a crusade to revitalize the Minden New Start Seventh-day Adventist Church that was in an inactive state.

Ground work for the gospel presentation started on the stormy Sabbath of June 1 when the youth of the Memorial Seventh-day Adventist Church of Mansfield, La. took to the streets of Minden, passing out *Steps to Christ* and securing Bible studies. Cheryl Jones and Debbie Fuller, Bible workers and pioneers of the New Start SDA Church, set up residence

for the summer in a little white house on Warren Street. This became the headquarters for the Youth for Christ Ministries.

Additional Bible workers arrived the third week of June. Then came the rest of the crusade members to make up a team of 20—a director, youth speakers, Bible workers, a choir director, musicians, photographer, ushers and other volunteers.

Six new converts were baptized on August 10 with an additional 18 the following Sabbath! Further baptisms will result in the coming months.

The Youth for Christ Crusade director, Pastor Norman Stiggers, feels that with God's help and blessing the endeavor to reestablish the New Start Seventh-day Adventist Church of Minden was a success.



Cheryl Harris (center), about to be baptized by Pastor Norman Stiggers, while youth evangelist Zephon Lister (right) smiles in approval. Photo: Bill Wright

Cheryl Jones and Oliver Moore
Reporting Secretaries



Youth for Christ crusade community choir singing at the Minden crusade.

We've been involved in community work.

YES, there's a new look to youth services. It's known as Youth Emergency Services, or YES for short.



YES team members demonstrating gang-intervention techniques. Photo: Tobe Watts

When I finished my degree in social work at the University of Texas, I felt I wanted to develop a community service program in my home church. So when I called Monte Sahlin at the North American Division office he said, "Go for it."

He sent me the community service manual, *Ministries of Compassion*, which describes the different programs in which the church can be involved. After reading it through I realized we could easily involve our youth in community service work, so that's how we got to become part of Youth Emergency Services.

When I explained the YES program to our youth, that they would need to take disaster relief training, learn how to help people in need, and do other volunteer work, they were most enthusiastic. "Yes," they said, "that's what we want to do!"

"The program is great," commented Scott, "When I became too old to be in Pathfinders it seemed I was out of the Adventist involvement, so when this came along, my mom got me involved."

After some promotion, 12 youth signed up, some coming from other nearby churches. Once a month the young people do some type of training. It might be first



The Youth Emergency Service team members in the Grand Prairie church are, from left back: Tom Spain, Scott Severance, and Richard Siewert. Middle row: Melina Aguilar, Shauna Davis, Courtney Chenoweth and Alex Erskine. Front: Amy Spain, Elaine Mendes and Flavia Santos.

aid, sorting clothes, helping someone in need, or cleaning up a park.

The first thing these kids did was to raise money for Hotels and Motels in Partnership—a pool of hotels that provide a free room for one to three nights. When the Red Cross, which had been the coordinating agency, could no longer provide this assistance, we were given the option to take over. Basically, it means calling hotels and motels that wish to participate in donating motel rooms.

Our kids worked hard raking leaves and mowing. This way they earned \$100 which provided 22 room nights for one motel. Then they earned another \$100 which has added a second motel. We're trying to get four more motels. This service is greatly needed in Grand Prairie, since there are no shelters here. People needing a place to stay have to go either to Arlington or Fort Worth.

"Yes," Scott comments, "a few weeks ago we went camping at a small park, and Sunday morning we bagged 75 bags of leaves. We were paid \$1 a bag, so that gave us a little more money."

Our dream is to raise \$5000 to apply to the church's community service program. This will



Kathlyn Severance, sponsor and director of the Grand Prairie YES team.

enable us to get matching funds from the North American Division.

The neatest thing we do is in Teen Court. Judge Polly Flory has asked us to do a program once a month in the teen courtroom to help young people understand more about criminals

and the justice system. It's a prison prevention program. We show a film on what it is like to be in prison or juvenile detention, and then we involve the kids in group discussion. The YMCA has asked our kids to come twice a month to do gang intervention and violence prevention training at the public schools' after school programs.

We also hope to work with kids who have been mandated by the court to do community services. It would be fun to get them involved with our kids to do something constructive rather than punitive.

Our community seems fascinated to find a group of Christian young people who want to do something positive. The group has been invited to paint over graffiti as well. The opportunities for service seem

endless, and we're excited about being able to help in community projects.

*Kathlyn Severance
Grand Prairie Church*



Texas Adventist Emergency Communication ham operators who are also YES volunteers received certificates of commendation at the Johnson County courthouse from Judge Roger Harmon for their services during a recent flooding at the Nolan River Estates. From left: representatives from the Godley Fire department and Salvation Army, Travis Irish, director of Cleburne YES Club; Gerald Mohr, president of Texas Adventist Emergency Communication (TAEC); Melissa Rasmussen and Joe Watts, director of the Texas Adventist Community Services. Photo: Tobe Watts

Enthusiasm is building as the vision for Youth Emergency Service (YES) enlarges. YES is the newly formed organization that replaces the outdated Medical Cadet Corps. Youth who join YES receive training in several areas including disaster relief, first aid, ham radio operation, crime intervention, and other community-based needs programs.

During the fires that burned a large section of the country west of Fort Worth, members of the Grand Prairie YES group went to volunteer their services. Another YES group, the Emergency Communication Club, who are licensed ham operators, sprang into action. They played a vital part in relaying messages from the distribution point to the centers of need. This saved time and confusion in providing efficient service. "If we'd had this set up during the Houston floods of a year ago," comments Joe Watts, Texas Conference Adventist Community Services director, "we would have been able to be much more efficient than we were."

One of the step vans from Texas ACS has been converted into a communication van and will soon have the ability to relay long-distance messages by packet radio—long distance radio relay stations that works almost like Internet.

"Because the state of Texas is depending more and more on volunteer organizations to help in times of disaster," says John Hope, Johnson County disaster coordinator, "I have a feeling that this communication van, equipped as it is with young licensed operators, will be in demand to help coordinate disaster work."

December 7 and 8 offer a special opportunity for YES club members, other youth and Sabbath school groups, academies, Pathfinders and church members to be involved in a project to improve a community.

It's an opportunity to show the city of Houston that Seventh-day Adventists care about their community and about the environment. It's to help clean up an unmandated 2-mile stretch of land in northeast Houston between Hardy Street and Highway 59 that has been used to dump unwanted materials. The city itself has found it impossible to clean up, nor has any other organization volunteered to do this.

"We'd like to see 1000 people arrive that Sunday to help," says Van Hurst, who is spearheading this project. "If 1000 people came together at 9:30 that morning and we worked for six hours, I imagine we could get a lot done. The city will have its trucks on hand to cart away the rubble, and they're excited to find a group who are willing to volunteer their time."

So get your groups together and come to Houston for a work bee. For more details call Van Hurst or Barb Oliver at the Texas Conference, (817) 790-2255, and they'll send you a map and other details. They'd also like to know how many are in your group, as this will help them plan better.

Dear Mom and Dad,

I'm having the summer of my life. You wouldn't believe how real God is to me now. He actually loves me enough to fill every day with miracles just for me. My spiritual life has grown by leaps and bounds. It's so exciting to have Jesus as a friend I can talk to and sing to as I walk down the street. I love God, and He has filled my whole life with sunshine. I want to be rebaptized...

Colporteur-ing is hard work! I pour sweat every day. These people around here are so rich and hard as stones, but God has blessed us with so many Bible studies that our Bible workers can't keep up.

Yesterday I had a girl chase me down the street begging for books about Jesus. Today I sold a Great Controversy to a newly married couple who are studying Revelation and who are wanting to understand end times!

I met a Catholic man whose wife had just been murdered. He told me the sad story and we prayed together. I took his hands in mine and prayed that God would heal his heart. He told me that as I stepped into his yard he saw a joy and peace radiating from me that was so deep he knew I was a Christian. "I can see Jesus in your eyes," he said!...

I could sit here and write all night telling you of the miracles that have happened to me, but I guess I'd better get to bed pretty soon. I miss you all so much. Are you being nice to my pets?

Love,
Jennifer

Jennifer Campbell is a student at Southwestern Adventist College who spent the summer selling books in Orlando in preparation for NET '96.



We helped bring healing to those who sorrow.

The heart of the heartland lost its innocence on April 19, 1995 when a bomb tore open the front of the federal building in Oklahoma City, leaving fear and desolation in its wake. That bomb also blasted away many of the dreams the victims had, leaving only nightmares in their place.

Adventist Community Service workers, which included young people, pastors and Oklahoma Conference workers, flocked to the scene to be of assistance. Growing out of that experience was the desire to help bring healing to the children affected by the bombing. That's how the Sooner Camp came into being in July, 1995.

Staff and counselors provided a program to help the 25 children

who came to rebuild some of the joy they'd had before that fateful day. These kids spent a week doing the fun things children do at any summer camp. In addition, counseling sessions were held throughout the week that allowed the children to talk about their fears and pain. Much emotional healing took place during the week. However, over the winter of '95 and '96, these same children regressed to various degrees in their healing process, and we were asked if we would host another Sooner Camp.

A program was developed with the assistance of Jeanie Edwardson, North American Division media consultant, who was interviewing youth for the Olympic Torch Run, to provide a never-to-be-forgotten experience for these children.

In cooperation with Florida Hospital and Disney World, the campers, with camp staff and supervisors, were flown to Orlando where they spent a week enjoying the beach, sights and sounds of Disney World, and a visit to Cape Canaveral. Astronaut Halsell talked about his space journey and the feelings he experienced. He also talked a little about the Challenger disaster and the emotions the staff went through during that time. This proved very beneficial to the children's healing process.

Upon arriving home, several children asked to attend junior camp at Wewoka Woods. They came and loved it. Brett and Billy, who had attended both the Sooner Camps, came and enjoyed camp so much they asked to stay another week, so they were assigned as junior helpers for blind camp. They both helped blind campers find their way around camp and in their cabins. When their mother, Joann, came to pick them up, she learned about the Oklahoma Conference camp meeting and realized this would give her an opportunity to fulfill a wish that she had been carrying for

over a year. And that was to be able to say thanks to a group of people who had reached out to help a family through a crisis. So camp meeting Sabbath, July 20, found Joann and her boys, Brett and Billy, on stage at Wewoka Woods Adventist Center.

After the boys had talked a little about their camp experience, Joann told members of the Oklahoma Conference that she appreciated all that they had done for her boys and wanted to say thanks. As emotion overcame Joann, she hugged her boys while the congregation gave her a standing ovation.

A very an important part of this healing process was the young people who had been counselors at both Sooner Camps and who had listened while the kids expressed their grief and had helped them focus their lives on Jesus, who is the Healer of hearts.

*Jack Francisco
Oklahoma Correspondent*

We encouraged each other through fun and fellowship.

The Youth Explosion program was an idea born in 1995 in the minds of the New Orleans Study Commission and became an instant success in the New Orleans metropolitan area. Guidelines were presented to youth pastor

Youth pastor Brian Yeager, who pioneered the Youth Explosion in New Orleans last summer, returned this year for a follow-up program which turned out to be much more extensive.



Brian Yeager, who was challenged to organize and expedite the program. From this beginning the Holy Spirit blessed in such a tremendous way that four additional areas were added this summer, touching the lives of approximately 500 youth throughout the conference.

Area "ministers of youth" were appointed, and in southern Louisi-



The Arkansas-Louisiana Conference was divided into five working areas covered by these young men. They are (from left) Matt Orian, Stuart Albertson, Tibor Shelley, Brian Yeager, Greg Hudson, and Ben Orian. Not pictured is James Appel, Baton Rouge area leader who left early to enroll in medical school.

ana James Appel led out in Baton Rouge and area churches. Brian Yeager couldn't wait to return to New Orleans and the surrounding churches of southeastern Louisiana. Greg and Julie Hudson, along with Matt Orian, ministered in DeQueen, Alexandria, Monroe and Shreveport. North central Arkansas was covered by Ben Orian. Stuart Albertson and Tibor Shelley covered northwest Arkansas.

The format of the Youth Explosion program centered around three areas: 1. Christian fellowship where young people from an entire area come together, 2. the sharing of wholesome activities with community and/or church members, and most importantly, 3. a time for devotions and Bible study.

Each of the five youth pastors had a portion of the conference assigned to him, which included the churches within that area. It was the plan of each youth pastor to visit most, if not all, of the churches in his parish to help tie the program together. The activities varied from church to church depending upon the facilities available to them and the number of youth.

Greg Hudson reports that though some of his appointments were recreational in nature, he found that by going to the different churches on Friday night, more of the young people would come to-

gether for an agape feast of spiritual fellowship than for recreational activities. Once a week, usually on Sundays, all the churches in his parish would come together for fellowship of some sort in the out-of-doors. One of the

group's unofficial motto was "Another Sunday, Another Sunburn." To be sure, these outings were designed to be wholesome and refreshing and in keeping with the Adventist lifestyle.

The summer fellowship climaxed with a conference-wide youth rally weekend at Camp Yorktown Bay entitled, "The Great Commission Trip." Assisted by Youth Explosion leaders, Tibor Shelley directed a very balanced and exciting program for the youth. Friday, August 9, was set aside as recreation day at Camp Yorktown Bay. One young person told his leader, "I thought that the water skiing, horseback riding, and other activities would be the highlight of the weekend, but I was wrong! The highlight came during church service on Sabbath when Pastor Keith Gray spoke. He's the best I have ever heard." This young man recommitted his life to Christ, called Charles Dart, principal of Ozark Adventist Academy, and is now enrolled at OAA



One hundred forty-five young people gathered at Camp Yorktown Bay in a final celebration and dedication at the conclusion of the Youth Explosion summer program.

instead of the public school where he had been attending. He said, "This weekend changed my life!"

Sabbath afternoon of "The Great Commission Trip" was geared for share your faith activities. Although not compulsory, the campers could stay at CYB home base while others went on the witnessing tours. However, all the young people selected one of the groups where they could go and witness in Hot Springs or other nearby communities.

Was the summer youth program worthwhile? What price can be put on a young person's soul? Eight young people accepted Christ and were baptized. "This year there is an increased interest among the youth to experience a deeper relationship with Christ and to be radically dedicated to Him," comments Yeager.

The experience of Youth Explosion with the special weekend program climaxing the activities of the summer not only had an effect upon the youth, but also upon some of the adult sponsors. One such adult who was the youth leader in his local church had previously thought that the young people were not interested religious affairs. He was ready to resign his church office. However, after seeing and listening to the testimonies of the young people over the weekend at CYB, he was refreshed, strengthened, and decided to stay with the program in his church.

Conference president James Gilley feels that the youth explosion has such merit that it will warrant doubling the five districts to 10 area youth explosion groups next summer, climaxing with another conference-wide youth rally!

We addressed the violence and drug issue.

The youth of the Berean church in Baton Rouge were sick of it and decided they weren't going to take



Baton Rouge Berean church forum members of the Christian Youth Against Gang Violence youth day program.

it anymore! And so with pen and paper and phone in hand they began to formulate their attack strategy under the leadership of Arlene Mossey, their fearless commander. Their goal was to develop a battle plan for phase one of Operation Christian Youth Against Gang Violence.

Determined to launch an offensive, they alerted the media and of course, the enemy, that there would be a weekend attack beginning with a Friday night rap session led by Alex Horton, a pastor from Houston, Texas.

It was during this session that George Mossey asked, "As a youth group, what can we do to combat violence?"

A youth respondent, Quinton Jones, came up with, "No good comes from being in a gang. You always have to watch your back."

Varied ideas were exchanged during the evening. The youth were in charge of the Sabbath service, with Horton as the worship hour speaker. He emphasized the impact Jesus wants to make in the lives of the youth and how His presence can fill whatever void they think exists.

After a fellowship lunch the temperance parade began at 3 p.m. Local enforcement officers escorted Path-

finder clubs from the greater New Orleans and Baton Rouge areas down the streets. Decorated vehicles, marchers with banners, literature distributors and others joined in the parade which finally came to

a stop back at the church.

The Gang Violence Prevention Forum began at 5:00 p.m. with a panel of community personnel who shared their expertise and told first-hand experiences in dealing with troubled youth. These included Juvenile Court Judge Pamela Taylor Johnson, who maintained that juveniles are primarily responsible for the choices they make and consequently have to live with those choices. Robert Newman, a Baton Rouge police officer with Juvenile Services, countered with, "The solution to the problem lies with the parents who have to share the responsibility"—a reply that took some of the parents and youth by surprise.

Correctional Center for Youth (CCY) chaplain Willis Curtis, whose facility receives the majority of youth referred from the courts, emphasized the role faith in God must play in a juvenile's life and how a solidified Christian experi-



Special Community Anti-Crime Team (SCAT) from the Baton Rouge sheriff's department who addressed the teens attending the Christian Youth Against Gang Violence seminar.

ence can make all the difference in the choices he makes. "A youth can realize fulfillment within himself when he trusts in God," he said.

Dennis Emmons of Toughlove International, talking to the parents in the audience, stated, "One of the first ways to prevent your child from joining a gang or being a victim of gang violence is to get involved with school patrol. Do your part in getting involved with your child's school."

Stephanie Green, a member of the Faith church and a mortician with a local funeral home, shared the consequences of participating in gang activity. "You and I get to meet each other all right," she said chocking back her tears, "but it's

under the worst of circumstances."

The evening ended with feedback from the audience and all were reminded of the counsel in *Messages to Young People*, page 196,

which says, "With such an army of workers as our youth, rightly trained might furnish, how soon the message of a crucified Savior



Baton Rouge Berean church youth enjoyed the Friday night rap session with Alex Horton of Houston, Texas.

might be carried to the whole world."

*Evelyn Edwards
Communication Leader, Baton Rouge*

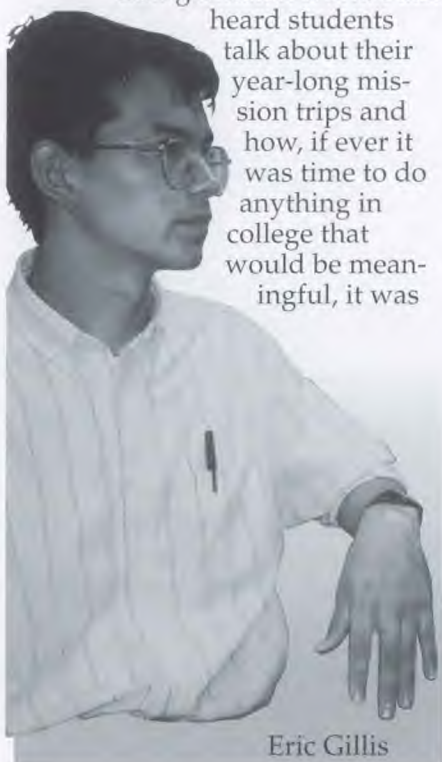
We went far away to share God's message of love.

An interview with two student missionaries from Southwestern Adventist College who recently returned from the Marshall Islands—Adam Andreasson and Eric Gillis.

Adam, what motivated you to take this mission assignment?

Going on high school mission trips to Mexico gave me a taste of doing mission work. I also

heard students talk about their year-long mission trips and how, if ever it was time to do anything in college that would be meaningful, it was



Eric Gillis

to take a year off to be a student missionary.

What was it about the short mission trips that made you feel good?

I think it was the chance of being of service—helping others. And also the chance to enrich myself, to meet people of a different culture.

Eric, what motivated you to follow Adam?

My intention was to also be in mission service, but I was not sure when this would be. Adam had been on the Marshall Islands just a week or two when he sent me a fax saying they were short of teachers and would I come. In a way, it was fulfilling every dream I had of being in mission service. It took only three days to say yes. A church member donated half of my ticket from his frequent flyer miles, and soon I had the rest of the money donated by church members. God opened ways so much faster than usual, and I was there four weeks from when I got the call.

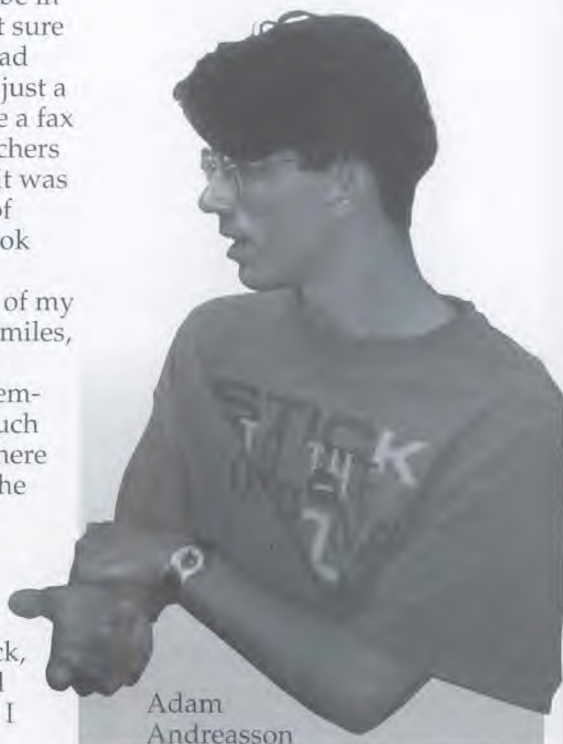
Going to a foreign country like this, did you have cultural shock?

Eric: It was quite a shock, since I had no orientation and did not know what to expect. I taught 8th grade but had no

prior teaching experience.

Adam: It was not such a shock for me. I've had to get used to things that are different. On the island people think totally opposite to what we think, and some missionaries became disillusioned—they didn't see the logic in that culture, so it was a real adjustment process for them.

If ever you went to a different foreign culture like Japan or



Adam
Andreasson

Korea, do you feel you would fit into their culture?

Adam: Yes, I think I've learned to expect the unexpected. You gain flexibility with each culture you come in contact with. Once you have learned that flexibility, you will find it easier to work with other cultures and try to understand their way of thinking and doing things.

Eric: Yes, it gives you a totally different outlook on our own culture. It helps me to be more tolerant. What has changed is my relationship to other cultures.

I'm guessing the Marshalese are not as affluent as Americans. Did you detect a difference in values?

Eric: Yes, the government is more group oriented with everyone helping everyone else. The difference I saw was that there the people share. For instance, when I handed a student a packet of M&Ms he'd share it with everyone around him, whereas here the student would probably eat the whole thing himself.

Were you able to share the love of God with them?

Eric: People see the way you live. They see what you do and the things you don't do, and that's how they understand your character. Personally, I believe that our presence had a positive influence. The people saw a contrast in our behavior to that of some other foreigners who were there. It's amazing how little actions mean a lot and how much attention is paid to them. It's impossible to hide who you are. The witnessing I did and what I think they will remember is what they saw me do rather than what I said to them.

Adam, can you share one valuable lesson you learned on the mission trip?

Yes, it's a realization I need to remember every day of my life, and that is that I need to trust God for what happens in my future. It's not human nature for us to trust Him, we like to be in control, but that is the biggest lesson I learned.

Eric: I learned more what it means to surrender to God. A lot of my prayers were for my students

and for myself. I really felt the need for someone to make me a stronger teacher. I had to depend on God daily to help me do my tasks. This was an experience that has changed my outlook on life.

And I'm going to share my faith in a remote village in Papua New Guinea



Josh Long

"Why do you want to go?" is the question so many people have asked since I made the decision to be a student missionary to Papua New Guinea. There could be many

reasons, but really there is only one answer to this question—people need the Lord.

As one of the most primitive places on earth, Papua New Guinea has captivated my spirit of adventure. Its geographic diversity includes everything from tropical rain forests to jagged mountains. Often tribal dwellings are located in such remote places that for missionaries like me, getting there is half the adventure.

Papua New Guinea is located just northeast of Australia. The village that I will be working in is found in the jungles around the Yellow River. To reach the Yellow River it will be necessary to travel 11 hours up the Sepik River by canoe. And, yes, this might seem a little extreme, until you consider my purpose, or rather, our purpose.

The Lord called me to these people to share His love with them, because they truly need it. They have actually gained some surface knowledge of Christianity; however, in this animistic world, spiritualism still holds a crushing grip on these people. Poverty and poor diet also plague them. Without medicine, immunization and a decent diet, the infant mortality rate is so high that they don't bother to name their children until

they are at least six months old. If ever anyone needed Christ's love, these people do.

To accomplish this task, I must first learn Pidgin English. And then, the stronger my relationships grow and language skills improve, I will minister the love of Christ to them. In addition, my partner and I will be running a front-porch clinic to help improve their health. We will also make an attempt to improve the agricultural situation. And finally, we will be conducting a literacy program to help them learn to read the Bible in their own language.

In order to accomplish this, there are challenges we will have to overcome on a daily basis. The task of survival will limit time to minister. In addition, to maintain personal health in an area where every other Adventist missionary has experienced the trauma of malaria will absorb energy. Yet the biggest challenge and key to our success will be showing God's love to them through our actions.

So, why do I want to go? Why does God want us to go? Can you hear Him calling you? People need the Lord!

Josh Long,
SAC Student Missionary

We shared Jesus' love by our demeanor at summer camp.

Juan is an inner-city camper. Thirteen years old, smart and wanting to be something besides trouble. Monday two sheriff patrol cars came screaming into camp during rest period. Someone had dialed 911, and they were responding to an emergency call only to find out someone had made a prank call.

The officers were not happy! Ascertaining who the last campers were to use the cafeteria phone, the police were soon at cabin seven where they found the kids stuttering with excuses. A camper from the valley had dared someone to dial 911, and Juan fell for it.

After the officers had left, I told the guys I had never been in such a



"Please let me stay here," one of the Kickapoo children said to Van Hurst, Texas Conference youth director, at Nameless Valley Ranch, "I can live in the barn."

predicament, and they would have to make recommendations as to what should be done. Perhaps they should be sent home, or humiliated before the other campers, or do hard labor the rest of the week. They were to think about it while the counselors went to decide their fate.

In 20 minutes we returned and asked Juan to follow us. Silently we walked down the road of execution to the director's cabin.

"What are you going to do to me?" Juan kept asking.

"You're about to find out," we replied. "What you did was very irresponsible. Sit down in this

As the week came to an end, Juan said he really wanted to attend church school this year, to learn more about Jesus, but that there was no money. And then he turned and said, "Do you suppose I could come back here and work as a counselor some day—like these other counselors do?"

The Kickapoo Indian children came to camp on Sunday as planned. When they arrived it was obvious that they were out of their element. Standing with their arms crossed, their expressionless faces like stone, they whispered to each other in Kickapoo.

On Monday they began to move about in a more relaxed manner and started to answer in

English when spoken to. By Wednesday they were laughing and splashing just like any other kids.

"What are you doing?" they would ask their counselor, Amanda, as she prayed.

"What are you reading?" they asked her when she was reading her Bible. "God's book! Can we touch it?"

Soon they were reading the stories of Jesus and each wanted their own magic (Bible) book. "On Friday one of the girls came to Amanda and thrust a wrist watch into her hand. "Here," she said,

"The book says we shouldn't steal. I'm sorry." Amanda hadn't yet missed her watch.

As Sabbath came to an end the children started giving their Bibles back. "Why are you doing this?" Amanda asked. With tears running down their faces they replied, "You don't understand. If we take these Bibles home to our village, our parents will punish us. Maybe we can come back again someday and read from God's book again."

Van Hurst

Texas Conference Youth Director

P.S. One Kickapoo mother who came to fetch her child agreed that her daughter could take God's book back to her village! Look for the another installment next summer!

These Kickapoo children were brought to camp by Carol Porter of KidCare Inc. in Houston, whose mission is to feed hungry children, uplift their living standard and give them a glimpse of God's love.



Devin Adams with her group of campers at Nameless Valley Ranch.

chair," we told him when we reached the cabin.

Going to the refrigerator we scooped up some glasses of ice cream and root beer. While we all enjoyed this, we talked with Juan about his family and what he wanted to do with his life.

"What I did was pretty dumb," he said as he walked out the door to go to his next assignment.



We went to build churches in Panama.

Teenagers from 33 states and five countries took their vacation in Panama to build four Seventh-day Adventist churches during the Ultimate Workout project held July 14-28, 1996. This group of 175 participants, six from the Southwestern Union, was the largest Ultimate Workout since the first in 1991.

Another unique feature of the 1996 Ultimate Workout was the leadership on all four building projects were youth themselves. The construction superintendent, lead mason, project coordinator and spiritual leader for all four churches were between the ages of 19 and 26.

The Ultimate Workout is a one-of-a-kind mission service event for teenagers ages 14-18, sponsored by Maranatha Volunteers International with support from *Insight* magazine and Piece of the Pie Ministries. Maranatha provided

Some of us went on a mission trip.

My diary tells my story:

FRIDAY, MARCH 15: We left San Antonio Junior Academy two hours late this morning, but we were the first to arrive at La Morita Youth Camp near Montemorelos, Mexico. Here we will get training on how to be a successful mission team and be a blessing to those we meet. I'm writing on top of a bunk in one of the cabins. The beds are just metal frames with mattresses, but perfect for our group. We even have showers (cold) and toilets! Since the sewer system cannot handle toilet paper, you must put the paper in a trash can. Not too bad, 'cause I wasn't even sure we'd have running water here.

SATURDAY, MARCH 16: Today is our first Sabbath in Mexico! Spending Sabbath out in nature is so relaxing after a long day cooped up in a van. Church was held in the gym. The gym is nothing like what we have here in the United States. It has gaps between the walls and roof for ventilation. The big windows do let in quite a bit of light, though.

I learned some very important Spanish phrases like "No hablo español" - I don't speak Spanish; "¿Dónde está el baño?" - Where is the bathroom?; "Gracias" - Thank you; and "Feliz Sábado" - Happy Sabbath. I can even sing a song or two in Spanish!

SUNDAY, MARCH 17: Well, today was the big day. Before we left La Morita, we got some oranges to take with us. I'm not really sure what kind of fruit we'll be able to purchase here.

The people are so friendly; the whole church came out to greet us with hugs and handshakes when we arrived. Two families gave us their homes to stay in. Everyone has either a bed or an air mattress to sleep on. The one house even has an indoor kitchen with an apartment-sized stove, but there is no running water in any of the homes in this town. We can heat our water on the stove and have warm showers in the little block room attached to the side of the house. The shower water then waters the cactus garden. Nothing is wasted here.

MONDAY, MARCH 18: Now we can say we've experienced just exactly what building a church is all about - HARD WORK! After stacking our block in a nice, neat pile, we learned how to sift sand and mix mortar. The local church members laid the first course of block, and then we were off. It's amazing that even if you don't speak the same language, smiles and gestures can do the job just as well, even though it takes a little longer. That's okay.

Our first vacation Bible school this evening had 30 kids. We all squeezed onto a small porch while the pastor's wife translated for us. The little kids sing with all their hearts, and the older kids seemed to enjoy watching pantomimed Bible stories.

TUESDAY, MARCH 19: My muscles sure are stiff. It's a lot colder today than yesterday - about 50°F early this afternoon. My friend Alaina and I did the lunch dishes. Dishes take forever when you have to haul all your own water; boil it for sterilization, and have only three basins to accomplish this task. I'll try not to complain about doing dishes at home after this. A few of us did our laundry this afternoon, too. The ladies let us use their glass washboard, I guess so it doesn't rust. Jeans are the worst to wring out. The water was ice cold, so I think that contributed to Alaina's and my colds.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 20: I like the one-sentence prayers we've been having at our worship. Pastor Juárez takes the morning worships and Pastor Hennlein the evening worships. Our evening worships really bring us closer together, since everyone shares their specific thoughts on a question posed during worship.

With only one little grocery store that sells pop, candy and water, going to town is a big deal. San José is only 15 miles from El Cerritos, but it takes about an hour to drive there, since it is just a dirt road. This afternoon we all went to town. We bought avocados, lettuce, potatoes, and pan dulce. Alaina and I each got a pair of leather sandals for 49 pesos (about \$7). Others got film, watches, and hats. All of us got a lot of attention in El Cerritos. I guess they have not seen very many Americans, especially girls.

THURSDAY, MARCH 21: I suppose I should clarify the comment I made yesterday about the bathrooms. The outhouses here in Mexico really do leave a lot to be desired. They have no toilets, just a concrete pipe sticking up out of the ground. One doesn't dare sit down for fear of the cockroaches inside. At least the OFF spray we used got rid of them.

FRIDAY, MARCH 22: Because we'd worked so hard, we were given a trip to San Luis Potosí which took two hours. When we arrived, there was much construction going on near the town square. It was a real blessing that a cop took us down a barricaded street and allowed us to park right in the heart of the shopping district—for free!

Journal, I like this next custom a whole lot. Everyone takes a siesta from 2:00 - 4:00 p.m. - even most stores close down. We ate lunch at this time. Half of the group got a Mexican pizza, while the other half ate in a vegetarian restaurant. The cactus salad we ate was not bad!

SATURDAY, MARCH 23: I found out this morning that one of the little boys, Giovanni, thought we had left for good. He cried his heart out because he hadn't had a chance to say goodbye. He was thrilled to see us Sabbath morning at church.

To show their appreciation, the church gave the girls hand-crocheted doilies. All of us were given "Feliz Sábado" welcome tags and miniature sombreros as mementos of our week there. Then we had prayer and said "Buenos noches." Tomorrow this time I'll be home in my own bed. But for now, I've got a lot to think about.

SUNDAY, MARCH 24: I am so tired, I didn't get much sleep last night crunched up in the van. My cold is getting worse as well. I think a long, hot shower will help me to feel better. Here at home I never realized how much I take for granted. All the running water you want, flushable toilets, dishwashers, washing machines, dyers - the list goes on and on.

As I sit on the edge of my bed, I realize that even though we worked long hours and didn't get much sleep, seeing the gratitude on the faces of the people was worth it all. Being able to help build the church, teach English, and assist with the evangelistic efforts was a real blessing. I learned a lot, too. The meaning of sacrifice - we don't know what it is. The people of San José are glad to do anything to further God's work. They don't have much in material goods, but they willingly share what they do have. Helping people makes you feel really good inside. I know I won't miss the next mission trip for the world!

Rachael Hennlein, High school senior
Alaina Schmidt, High school junior



The San Antonio mission team who helped build a church in San José, San Luis Potosí, Mexico.



Group of students and sponsor who went from the Southwestern Union Conference to the 1996 Ultimate Workout in Panama.

the building projects, materials and financial backing for the annual Ultimate Workout. *Insight* magazine publicized this phenomenon to the Adventist youth and Steve Case, president of Piece of the Pie Ministries, provided leadership, spiritual cohesiveness and project coordination.

Maranatha Volunteers International believes it is vital to provide short-term mission experiences for young people. "Maranatha supports the Ultimate Workout," says

Don Noble, president, "because it builds people while also building urgently needed churches and schools."

The Ultimate Workout brings together young people from all over the United States, Canada and the world. Many of these teenagers attend public school or home school, so the Ultimate Workout offers them a chance to

experience short-term mission service with a larger group of Christian youth. Within hours of meeting, this group of strangers become friends and family. This camaraderie is what brings participants back to the Ultimate Workout experience year after year.

The participants from the Southwestern Union were Michael Ahn, Texas; Anna Blanding, Oklahoma; Shara Nichols, Louisiana; Chris Roque, Texas; Esther Todd, Arkansas; and Steve Williams, Texas.

Steve Williams from San Antonio was one of the adults on the project who takes his vacation on Ultimate Workout. Steve got involved because of his son, Alex, who went on the second Ultimate Workout in 1992. It was on that fateful trip that Alex was killed by lightning during an excursion to the beach. Within two days of his son's death, Steve, his wife, Kim and their daughter, Laura, were at the building project helping finish the church that Alex had started. Since that time, the Williams have been represented on every Ultimate Workout.

Maranatha believes that short-term mission experiences are good for everyone—your church, your school, your family and you! "Our purpose is to provide opportunities for Christian volunteers from all denominations, young and old, to put their God-given talents to use in furthering the Gospel," says Don Nobel, president.

If you are interested in the 1997 Ultimate Workout, contact Kyle Fiess at Maranatha at Volunteers International, (916) 920-1900.

Jessica Gilbert

Maranatha Volunteers International

SOUTHWESTERN UNION

"The Summer Is Ended"

But Harvest Ingathering
Has Just Begun!!

While the NET '96 harvest is in progress (October 5 to November 9), there is another harvest that needs our special attention—Harvest Ingathering! Harvest Ingathering has led hundreds of people to Christ since it started 88 years ago.

There are six Ingathering objectives spelled out in the North American Division Working Policy that could be summed up into two. The first is sharing the love of Jesus, and the second is to receive financial contributions for the humanitarian work of the church.

It is a privilege to make the public aware of our church's work of compassion and to give them an

opportunity to respond. The response we get depends upon the involvement we give to the community, especially during emergencies. It is to God's glory that the church as a whole, as of today, has a great positive image because of the strong Adventist Community Services presence in time of disaster. There is more to be done, though.

In God's cause, as you know, committed leadership makes a tremendous difference. Last year we had good success due to a spirit of cooperation and committed leadership by the conference leaders, pastors, church leaders and the involvement of church members. Of course, we can do better this year!

Matthew 25:34-40 tells us,

"Then shall the King say unto them on His right hand, Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world: For I was an hungered, and ye gave me meat: I was thirsty, and ye gave me drink: I was a stranger, and ye took me in: Naked, and ye clothed me: I was sick, and ye visited me: I was in prison, and ye came unto me... Verily, I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye have done it to the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me."

Let us do both the sharing of God's love and the ingathering of donations for Jesus.



Dem Robles
Personal Ministries Director

A Famous Will

Believe it or not, little has changed as we approach the 21st century. Rabelais' famous statement is still echoed by the vast majority of Americans today. Approximately 70 to 80 percent of the population die without a will or any estate plan, leaving behind a little money or property for a few relatives (some they have never known) to fight over.

Any good estate plan will include a will. The will is a legal instrument to speak for you after death. A carefully planned will, well-written, eliminates many problems which may arise after a person dies. Many people are remembered mainly due to their will which spoke for them after death.

Alfred Nobel truly immortalized himself through his will. A year before his death in 1896, he wrote his will which in simple language gave the world one of the most honored and respected memorials in the world—the Nobel Prize. Nobel stated that his estate funds were to be invested by his executors and only the interest used to found his desires. Without realizing it at the time, he was making what we would call an endowment today. Nobel left about half a million dollars (a lot more in 1896 than in today's inflationary economy) for funding five areas of humanitarian progress made by individuals which include all races, nationalities, creeds, etc. These were in the fields of physics, chemistry, medicine, literature, and working for peace among nations.

Today, every year the famous Nobel prizes are awarded to persons who have been selected for contributing the most in each of these areas.

Your will may never be this famous, but there may be stars in your crown in eternity because of your final gift to the Lord's work. If you would like assistance in planning your will, contact your local conference trust office.

Harvey J. Byram

Trust Services Director



"I have nothing. I owe a great deal; the rest I give to the poor."—*The will of Rabelais, the 15th century satirist.*

"Security for those you love."

Hughes Retires After Serving the Record for 31 Years

The September issue of the Southwestern Union *Record*, was the last issue to bear the handiwork of Leroy Hughes' artistic layout skills. He retired on August 31, 1996.

"I remember coming to work one morning 31 years ago," says Hughes, "when the press manager informed me that the individual who had been doing the typesetting and layout of the *Record* had left and that I'd have to do the job. I was a rookie and really didn't know much about layout, but I got down to work and did the best I could. And I've been doing it ever since and really enjoying it."

The Southwestern Union officers and the *Record* editor wish to pay tribute to Leroy Hughes. The calm manner in which he addressed his work, sometimes under trying circumstances when last-minute

changes, not of his making, were made or when his computer malfunctioned, has made it a pleasure to work with him. He never displayed irritation or annoyance, but always exhibited a kindly Christian spirit.

Leroy, we thank you for your faithfulness and loyalty, not only to your work at ColorGraphics, but also to the Southwestern Union Conference. As you branch out and do some of the enjoyable things you've not been able to do during your eight-hour working days, weeks and years, may God be with you and give you good health. We are going to miss you.



Leroy Hughes

First Asian Convocation Held in the Southwest

Approximately 400 Asians gathered at Evans Hall on the campus of Southwestern Adventist

College on August 3 to attend the first convocation of its kind in the Southwestern Union. The gathering was sponsored by the Texas and Texico Conferences and Southwestern Adventist College.

Sabbath activities were blessed by the presence of George Atiga, North American Division Hispanic coordinator; Art Bushnell, Central California Conference church ministries director; Ralph Orduno, Texico Conference president; Dr. Cornelio Aba, a missionary to Africa; and Steve Gifford, Texas Conference president.

The program catered to all ages, from the youngest to the oldest. John Hivale and Ladelle Ong were responsible for the children's division; Isachar Garsula led the youth group; and Millard Dalida took charge of the adult Sabbath school. Musical numbers,



Texico Conference president, Ralph Orduno, encouraging each of the participants at the Asian Convocation to take the motto above the podium, "Uniting for Christ's Service," as a personal goal for the coming year.

both vocal and instrumental, made the program special. Elder Atiga led the lesson study, and Dr. Aba gave a mission report.

The sermon was given by Elder Bushnell, who stressed the need to

labor diligently for the Master and prepare people for the soon coming of our Lord and Savior. Once again musical numbers by a group of singers from Houston and an instrumental number using the oriental "angkalong" made the service special.

The afternoon was filled with musical numbers and inspirational talks by Elders Steve Gifford and Art Bushnell. Dem Robles, Southwestern Union Conference personal ministries director, expressed the desire to hold a yearly convocation of this kind, not just for fellowship, but to inspire everyone to become a mighty force in sharing the gospel throughout the Southwest.

The day ended with games and tennis in the college gymnasium.

Dr. J. Valdez



Three young men who pleased those attending the Asian Convocation with their musical number.

GC Urges Standardized Church Identity

As a result of the church's World Commission Advisory, a recommendation has been made for a more concerted effort to establish a unified church identity throughout the world field.

One recommendation is not to use SDA as an abbreviation for the Seventh-day Adventist Church. If the name needs to be shortened, the word "Adventist" should be used, but not SDA. This should apply to any written material for the church or the news media.

A second recommendation is to use a unified corporate identity symbol or logo for all letterheads, business cards, mailing labels, outdoor signs and other printed matter relating to the Seventh-day Adventist Church. The final version is currently being perfected and should be ready for use in the new year.

Especially for Communication Leaders

NOTICE

On November 16, ACN will uplink a training workshop for local church communication coordinators, conference and union leaders, and interested members. The workshop is called "Building Bridges: How Local Church Communication Leaders Minister in Their Communities." It will explain the role of communication leaders in the local church, how to recognize a story worth sharing, how to write news releases, how to take great photographs and where to get image-building church signs. Participants wanting workshop materials should contact Jean Thomas at the Southwestern Union office at (817) 295-0476, or call 800-ACN-1119. This workshop will air from 4-6 p.m. EST.

NET '96

Joshua Prepares for NET '96

Come on, kids, let's go to the church and pass out literature this afternoon and help give people a chance to get to know Jesus for themselves.

Yeah, hurray!! Can we have some other people ride with us?

Sure, that would make it more enjoyable. Let's ask some friends with kids your age so it will be more fun for you, and we can work together.

All right, two kids go to the homes on the left and two kids go to the homes on the right, and we will drive

along as you hang bags on each of the doors. Okay?

Before this group knew it, the afternoon was gone, and they had really had an enjoyable experience reaching out to the community.

The Seventh-day Adventist Church in Joshua has been actively involved in getting our community ready for NET '96 and Jesus' soon return. The church chose a committee in January that started planning how we could reach out. Since it is a small church, finances were limited and as a result, they had to go door to door offering the Discovery Bible School lessons to the community. As they brainstormed more, they came up with the idea to stuff bags with



Members of the Joshua church prepare invitations to join the Discovery Bible lessons which the children handed out around the community.

literature and just hang them on the door knobs. This method appealed to the kids much more,

since they didn't have to actually talk to anyone.

The Joshua church decided to work with the Emmanuel church

Churches Holding NET '96 Crusades

Arkansas/Louisiana Conference

Alexandria	Gentry	Bank
Baton Rouge	Gonzales	Ozark
Bentonville	Harrison	Pocahontas
Bogalusa	Heber Springs	Shreveport First
Bonnerdale	Hot Springs	Shreveport South
Booneville	Houma	Siloam Springs
Brentwood	Lake Charles	Spring River
Chapel Valley	Little Rock	Springdale
Clinton	Mandeville	St. Bernard
DeRidder	Mountain Home	West Memphis
Decatur	New Iberia	Westlakes
Denham Springs	New Orleans First	Yellville
Fort Smith	New Orleans West	Zachary

Oklahoma Conference

Ada	Enid	Shattuck
Altus	Hugo	Shawnee
Ardmore	Jay	Southern Hills
Bristow	Ketchum	Summit Ridge
Oklahoma City Central	Lawton	Tulsa
Oklahoma City Spanish	McAlester	Vinita
Choctaw	Midwest City	Waurika Lake
Claremore	Muskogee	Wilburton
Coalgate	Nowata	Woodward
Elk City	Sapulpa	

Southwest Region Conference

City Temple, Dallas, Tx.	Smyrna Mid-City, El Paso, Tx.
Smyrna, Alexandria, La.	Mosier Valley, Eules, Tx.
Berean, Baton Rouge, La.	Ephesus, Harvey, La.
Faith Temple, Dallas, Tx.	

Texas Conference

Arlington	Fredericksburg	Lufkin
Austin	Fort Worth First	Mineola
Beeville	Greenville	Mt. Pleasant
Brazosport	Gulftavern	New Braunfels
Breckenridge	Highland Hills	Orange
Brownwood	Hillsboro	Pharr
Burleson	Houston Central	Richardson
Cleburne	Houston North	Rusk
Cleveland	Houston Northwest	Rusk Spanish
Corpus Christi	Houston West	San Antonio
Annville	Jefferson Academy	Scenic Hills
Corpus Christi	Joshua	San Marcos
DeSoto	Keene	Sequin
East Terrell Hills	Kerville	Stephenville
Elkhart	Killeen	Victoria
Filipino-American	Laurel Heights	Waco
First African	Longview First	Weslaco

Texico Conference

Abilene	Las Vegas
Albuquerque Bilingual	Los Lunas
Albuquerque Central	Lovington
Albuquerque Heights	Lubbock
Albuquerque North Valley	Midland
Amarillo	Midland Spanish
Big Spring	Odessa
Clayton	Odessa Spanish
Clovis	Pecos
Corrales	Raton
Dalhart	Reserve
Deming	Roswell
El Paso Central	San Angelo
El Paso Five Points	San Angelo Spanish
El Paso Meraz Spanish	Santa Fe Marcy Park
El Paso Montana Spanish	Santa Rosa
El Paso Northeast	Silver City
Grants	Taos
Hobbs	Tucumcari
Las Cruces Central	Valencia
Las Cruces Spanish	

in Cleburne. They each covered different territories and had their own Bible schools until NET '96 started and then they merged together for the crusade.

Joshua church covered Joshua area, plus Godley and Rio Vista and all the county west of I-35. Emmanuel church covered the area in Cleburne east of Highway 174. Both churches faithfully prepared their members to reach out to their neighbors in a positive way by watching the videos of Mark Finley, "Making Friends for Jesus."

The Joshua church held several seminars including a Breathe-Free Seminar, a health seminar focusing

on families and elderly and the eight natural remedies. Diet and exercise, how best to feed our kids, make nutritious sack lunches, were also being discussed.

It is exciting to see how interested people are in learning more about the God we love and serve. One lady who has been visiting difference churches searching for truth is now studying the Discovery lessons and has accepted the Sabbath truth. It is exciting to see how many come to the NET '96 meetings!

Barbara Styron
Communication Assistant

ARKANSAS—LOUISIANA

Pete Kostenko, Correspondent

Garage Sale Brings Surprising Results

Hot Springs Seventh-day Adventist Church recently held a garage sale in the gymnasium of the school. Each participant donated 10 percent or more of their sales to Sabbath School Investment.

The event benefited not only the Investment program, but the community as well. Many Adventist books were purchased by browsers. One of the buyers wanted to know about our beliefs. She had been reading *Desire of Ages* and was interested in our church. Imagine her delight to find more

E.G. White books at the sale. Interestingly, she revealed that for over 30 years she has had some of White's books in her library, but she had just begun to read them.

Excitement was high on Sabbath when our new friend came to church bringing a friend and expressing her joy in finding such a warm, friendly church.

Another sale is being planned for October, but more than the blessings of advancing the Investment program is the joy of finding a treasure for God's kingdom, an investment "out of this world."

Ardith Trubey
Sabbath School Superintendent



Hot Springs members preparing for their garage sale.

Evangelism in New Orleans Energizes the Church

Elder Kenneth Cox, in cooperation with five area pastors and a host of active lay persons, has concluded a very successful five-week crusade in New Orleans. At the time of this writing over 80 persons have requested baptism. A total of more than 400 names have been gleaned as prospective interests for additional Bible studies and possible invitations to the Net '96 Crusade.

According to Will McCall, pastor of the New Orleans First Church, there were many blessings as a result of this crusade. Among them was the tremendous opportunity and participation of the lay persons. This included Bible studies, friendship evangelism, witnessing, sharing, visitation and other aspects of the crusade. McCall stated that in addition to the garnering in of new members, this crusade has brought a feeling of revival and warm brotherhood among the church members.

New Church Group Is Formed in Heber Springs

Heber Springs, Ark., with a population of approximately 3,000 inhabitants, is the sight of a new Adventist presence. Stephen Orian, conference secretary, met recently with the enthusiastic group of believers who are optimistic about establishing a church organization. Sabbath morning worship service was followed by a fellowship dinner. At present this group of Adventist believers is renting a Baptist building located on the outskirts of the city. However, the Baptists are not currently using this facility, except for one Sunday out of the year.

According to Orian, with the enthusiasm being exhibited by this new group, it should not be too long before a permanent Adventist presence is established in Heber Springs. And even though they are a small group, they are reaching out to others as they anticipate the results of the NET '96 outreach.

Pastors Are Briefed on Disaster Response

At a recent meeting of pastors in the Arkansas-Louisiana Conference, Larry Buckner, national director of disaster response for the North American Division, briefed them on the church's position on disaster response. The purpose of the meeting was to acquaint ministers with the responsibility and opportunity a church has to be of service to communities in times of disaster.

Adventists have been involved with community services for more than 100 years and have been known for their deeds of kindness during times of need. With disasters striking ever more frequently, now, as never before, church members need to become trained and knowledgeable in terms of providing help where humanity is suffering.

Adventist Community Services (ACS) operates under a written agreement with the Federal Emergency Management Agency and the American Red Cross. Buckner pointed out that Adventists form a very important link in the network of other agencies responding to disasters.

In recent years Adventists have become known for their management and operation of emergency distribution centers, distributing such supplies as groceries, drinking water, blankets, personal comfort kits, disposable diapers and much, much more. When these centers are missing during a disaster, the Red Cross feels handicapped. Adventists can be very effective in fulfilling this important need. But it will not happen unless volunteers in every church are trained to fill these responsibilities. Buckner emphasized that local churches, community groups and concerned indi-

viduals need to know how they can work in concert with authorities and other relief agencies.

ACS helps to facilitate these relationships. In order to help qualify volunteers for disaster services, ACS is prepared to teach various courses, such as disaster volunteer orientation, emergency distribution operations, emergency feeding operations, child care for disaster victims and a number of other skills.

Midwestern Camp Meeting for Deaf

If you were at Ozark Adventist Academy on June 6, 1996, you would have seen cars with out-of-state license plates pull into the parking lot and passengers disembark with their luggage and make their way to the girls dorm. That's not an unusual sight; however, once they greeted each other with smiles and hugs, what was unusual was the way they conversed with their hands instead of their voices. The dorm lobby came alive with the animated movements of talking hands. This was deaf camp meeting weekend.

In years past Wanda Watson of the Clinton church has hosted successful camping retreats on her property, but this year there was a need for larger facilities. The only other deaf camp meeting in the United States is at Milo Adventist Academy in Oregon. Only the deaf



Speakers at the camp meeting for the deaf were (from left), Joel and Cindi DeWild, and Frances and David Trexler. Photo: Esther Watson



Group photo of those attending the deaf camp meeting.

who could afford the traveling expenses ventured out west for the spiritual lift and fellowship.

David Trexler of Christian Record Services and Esther Watson of the Clinton church worked

together to establish the first midwest camp meeting for the deaf at Ozark Adventist Academy.

Thirty-two people came from Arkansas, Texas, Oklahoma, Missouri, Nebraska, Iowa, Tennes-

see, New York, Florida, and Colorado. Trexler and Joel DeWild, a theology student at Southern College and son of Wanda Watson, were the speakers.

Trexler gave the farewell worship and shared the fact that, sure, it's tough being deaf and attending church where there may not be an interpreter, or much less, fellow deaf believers. But carry on, and do God's will. After all, deaf people will probably be one of the happiest people in heaven, because they will be able to hear and sing! Until then, press on!

As good-byes were said and people drove away, they waved signs in the air which read "ILY"—I love you in deaf language.

*Esther Watson
Midwest Camp Meeting for the Deaf*

OKLAHOMA

Oklahoma Features Vacation Bible Schools

Enid Church

"Seaside With the Saviour" was the theme of the vacation Bible school held at the Enid Seventh-day Adventist Church this past summer. The school was attended by about 40 youngsters ranging in age from six to 13. Leaders for the Bible school were dressed in Eastern costumes, adding to the realism of the theme.

Each of the classrooms repre-

sented one of the cities along the sea coast where Jesus taught. Each room was decorated to give an atmosphere of realism to help the students understand the conditions and circumstances that were encountered by Jesus.

There was a wide range of crafts and activities for the students. Students even studied how changes in weather can be predicted by observing changes in the barometric pressure, making possible sudden storms on the sea. Students made their own barometric flags to show weather changes. They also enjoyed a puppet show which illustrated the lessons Jesus taught.

Total results from being at the "Seaside With the Saviour" can only be measured, perhaps, in eternity, yet some immediate results are represented in five new members enrolled in the Pathfinder activities and two new stu-

dents for Enid's church school.

*Harold E. Beltz, Jr.
Communication Leader*

Owasso Church

Twenty-four children, kindergarten through juniors, arrived each morning at 9:00 to hear stories



The theme "Kids in the Kitchen" was what the Owasso vacation Bible school leaders used to help children learn about the different aspects of healthy living including having a healthy heart.

of Jesus' love and learn lessons on healthful eating.

On Monday morning, as the kindergarten class was busy measuring and mixing ingredients for a snack called trail mix, they were surprised to see a crew from



Leaders of the Enid vacation Bible school dressed in Eastern costumes are, from left: Jennifer Cross, Pastor Harvey Kornegay, and Nancy Orasco.



The group who attended the Muskogee church vacation Bible school.

the local Channel 2 television station enter the kitchen.

"We were very pleased to see our children on the 5:00 o'clock news that evening," commented one parent. "Here the kids were explaining how to make healthy food for snacks. We watched as wheat was ground into flour and then used to make loaves of bread."

Each day a different food was prepared, including edible veggie people, cars, airplanes, et cetera. Closing night parents and friends enjoyed hearing songs, seeing demonstrations and sampling the results of our week of healthy cooking.

Muskogee Church

The vacation Bible school conducted in the Muskogee church was a huge success.

Under the leadership of Lois Sullivan and many dedicated volunteers, the children received training in crafts and both moral and spiritual life principles.

The average night's attendance was 48 children, most of whom were from non-Adventist homes.

On Sabbath, June 21, the students and their instructors provided an inspiring program for Sabbath school and church. Most of the non-Adventist parents attended this closing program.

*Curtis Thurber
Communication Leader*

Students Stand Firm for their Beliefs

Reo, Carlo and Ro-An Pugao, who often provide special music and help as ushers at the Midland church, were asked to write about how they are able to uphold the Sabbath in the public school setting. This was Reo's reply:

"The fact is that my brothers and I have gained the respect of our high school faculty and students and our town (Andrews). People in the town know about Seventh-day Adventists, and I pray that the Holy Spirit will encourage them to search for truth.

"The best witnessing my brothers and I do is not showing up for Saturday band marching contests or tennis tournaments. We've been asked about why we don't show up on Saturdays, and that's when we explain, with the Holy Spirit's help, what the Bible really teaches.

"And the Lord has helped us. Ever since my sophomore year, my tennis coach has entered both my brothers and me in tournaments that always seem to end up on Friday afternoons, and every year we have won most of them.

"It has been a thrill to see how Christ has helped us witness by being true to our beliefs."

(Signed) Reo

Reo is a deacon and was a youth camp counselor this past summer.

*Evangeline Richman
Communication Leader*

Your ABC At Work for You

The 1996 Fall Book and Food Display

Schedule for Oklahoma

Please put the following dates on your personal calander and plan to attend the display in your area. As always, it is helpful to pre-order anything you know you are needing such as case foods.

The schedule follows:

Muskogee Church

Sat, Oct 12 - After sundown

Sallisaw Church

Sun, Oct 13 - 2-4 p.m.

Claremore Church

Mon, Oct 14 - 5-7 p.m.

Bristow Church

Tues, Oct 15 - 5-7 p.m.

Shattuck Church

Sat, Nov 2 - After sundown

Hooker Church

Sun, Nov 3 - 2-4 p.m.

Enid Church

Mon, Nov 4 - 5-7 p.m.

Okeene Church

Sat, Nov 9 - After sundown

Lawton Church

Sun, Nov 10 - 2-4 p.m.

Ardmore Church

Mon, Nov 11 - 5-7 p.m.

The rest of the schedule will appear in November issue.

We look forward to serving you. Please have your pre-orders in to the ABC seven days in advance of your display date. To order, call (800) 522-2665.

Donald P. Deisch, Manager

Midland Pathfinders Help Beautify the Environment

Whether camping near Sonora Caverns or Buffalo Gap, hiking and studying nature, or preparing Valentines for Meals on Wheels recipients, the Midland Pathfinders are busy and happy under the direction of McConnell Olivier. He and his assistants, Robbie and Donny Cannon and Marilyn Littlejohn, lead a group that continues to grow.

The fence around the church, as well as several other fences and buildings in Midland, suffered the



Midland Pathfinder Explorer Club on a recent campout at Sonora Caverns.

effects of gang graffiti. Robbie asked the church members, merchants, and "Christmas in April" to donate paint and tools, which they gave gladly. The Pathfinders and other helpers put a base coat of paint on the affected areas of fence, and then they drew and painted biblical and/or inspirational illustrations in their place. The city is furnishing a graffiti-proof sealer. This is an ongoing project.

Another project the Pathfinders are working on is developing and maintaining a picnic area with a table and shade trees near the community services building.

The 25 Pathfinders are proving a blessing to the Midland church.

Big Spring Couple Celebrates 50 Years of Marriage

Domingo A. and Florentina (Tutor) Reyes celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary in the Big Spring church sanctuary July 21, 1996, with a reception in the fellowship hall. The event was hosted by their oldest living daughter, Conny, and her husband, Jimmy Ygay, with the help of their friends and other children.

They renewed their marital vows at 5:30 p.m., thanking God for the past 50

years and making a recommitment for the coming years. The pastor, Abel Cordero, conducted the ceremony in Tagalog. He translated part of his sermonette and dedicatory prayer into English so all could understand.

Domingo and Florentina were married in Tayabas, Quezon, Philippines, and were baptized there in 1975. They have four children, nine grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Dede Smith

Roswell Youth Are Active

Although the Roswell English church has an active membership of about 40, the most active are the youth. Youth Sabbath school leaders Tom and Sherryl Jordan and Pathfinder leader Bobbi DeWeber and her team provide the energy and talents that inspire the youth to be involved in the total church program. In everything from serving as deacons, collecting the offering, leading out in Sabbath afternoon singspirations, and providing special music for church services, they figure prominently.

In fact, on a recent Sabbath the young people were in charge of the entire 11



Domingo A. and Florentina (Tutor) Reyes at their 50th wedding anniversary.

o'clock service, including music by "En La Casa del Señor," a male quartet, and a violin solo by Jonathan DeWeber. Departing from the traditional worship format, a play entitled, "The Glory Express," took the place of the main program. This featured "Miss Come Late," Michelle Olague, who arrived late at an airport terminal (the church platform arranged like a terminal) loaded down with baggage. Her plan was to board the Glory Express, whose final destination is heaven.

Loaded as she was with the excess weight of her luggage, she was unable to board. One by one her superfluous bags—guilt, anger,



Peter DeWeber assisting Sherryl Jordan with the children's story at church. DeWeber was recently chosen Pathfinder of the Year by the Roswell Thunderbird Club. More recent honor was accorded DeWeber when he was named Camper of the Year at the Texico Conference youth camp at Sandia View Academy in July.

hate, jealousy and pride—were jettisoned.

Members of the cast were responsible for the total production, with Alex DeWeber, one of the youth, as the director.

During the past year the youth have participated in a variety of activities. These include a bicycle trip to Bitter Lakes National Wildlife Refuge, about 10 miles from Roswell, and a 50-mile bike trip for the hardier members; track and trail; camping, winter and summer; orienteering (compass reading); and snow tubing.

They have collected food for the poor and gifts for the occupants of the Refuge (for abused people). The musical group "En La Casa del Señor" sang at the Carlsbad Caverns, and the children's choir



Members of the cast with director Alex DeWeber (far right), who acted out the play, "The Glory Express," during a Sabbath church service.

sang at Portales. And the group joined the city Christmas light parade with their own float.

Crafts and working on honors have kept the Pathfinders busy at their regular Wednesday evening meetings, providing them with a variety of interests and

hobbies. Brenda and Bruce Ryberg, David DeWeber, and other parents have assisted Bobbi DeWeber in the many Pathfinder activities.

Sabbath afternoons are spent giving lessons in Christian courtesy and etiquette, proper care of teeth, good grooming and hospitality. After a full Sabbath of worship, the afternoon program or trip, and a spirited sing-along at which the church members gather with the youth for sundown vespers (often followed by a Saturday evening social), Roswell young people have little need to look outside of their church for action and fun.

Jeanne Jordan
Communication Leader

Tulia Holds Their First VBS!

The backyard belonging to Raymond and Christine Rodriguez of Tulia, Texas, was the setting each evening, July 22-26, for the "Seaside with our Savior" vacation Bible school. A group of Seventh-day Adventists



Roswell youth on a bicycling trip to Bitter Lakes National Wildlife Refuge.

who meet in Tulia ran the program.

The songs, stories, Bible lessons, activities and crafts all followed the theme of Jesus' outdoor ministry by the seaside during His time on earth. VBS director, Olla Gillham, reported a total attendance of 50 children, with the enrollment increasing each evening as new children were invited by those who attended.

The closing program with the awarding of certificates of completion was held Sabbath morning, July 27, at the First Christian



Children attending the Tulia vacation Bible school enjoyed the outdoor setting.

Church in Tulia, where the group meets for weekly Sabbath services.

None of the children nor six of the adults who faithfully helped were from SDA homes, but almost a third of the children and four of the adults are attending Sabbath School and church and are staying for the fellowship dinner each Sabbath.

Esther Mesnard

Camp Rio Grande Provides Unusual Activities

For the first time, the Texico Conference used Sandia View Junior Academy as the location for its summer camp program. That might not sound exciting—using a school for a camp site—but it worked well as a base camp for the 87 young people who came to the junior and teen camps, July 14-28.

Recognizing that Camp

Rio Grande would have to be extra special to attract campers, the director and counselors prayed that God would give them the necessary creativity and energy to provide a program that would be hard to beat.

Any other location could not have utilized professional athletes and coaches, such as Marvin Johnson, formerly of the Chicago Bulls, who taught basketball techniques, or Bob Romero of the United States Olympic Committee, who helped in the staff training course. Other advantages included an experience at a veterinarian clinic under Howard Sherrod's supervision, and a "rock gym," with Barry Loucks leading out. There were also activities such as backpacking, water skiing, horseback riding, photography, and leathercraft. These were supervised by Dave Smith, Mick Ferraro, Dorane Jeffries, Dr. Gary and Celeste Siebel and others. K. C. Kreger of the Tandy Corporation was also



Camper Scott Strawter rappelling from the rock wall at Camp Rio Grande.

involved in the staff training course.

Trio Grande, a mixed trio, set the stage with their original compositions for morning and evening worship. Twice each day the staff shared their testimonies with the campers. At teen camp participants worked on a spiritual journal during their reflection time which challenged them to make long-term decisions for Christ.

The camp theme was "Keeper of the Flame," and those who were fortunate enough to be there believe Camp Rio Grande shared the gospel flame dynamically with others.

*Harvey Gil
Texico Youth Director*

New Members Join Santa Fe Church

Members of the Santa Fe Marcy Park Spanish church worked in cooperation with their pastor, Jose Luque, and Ralph Orduno, Texico Conference president, in a three-week evangelistic series June 14 to July 6.

Attendance each evening was good in spite of the fact that Santa Fe is a very strong Catholic city and New Age center. From the outset, many showed great interest in the new truths they were learning.

When the first call was made, over 30 persons indicated a desire



Pastor Jose Luque baptizes Abisai Calzadillas in the Santa Fe Marcy Park church.

to become members of the remnant church. Fourteen were baptized one week, and a subsequent baptism brought the total to 25.

Fall Book and Food Displays

Brought to You by Your Adventist Book Center

Lubbock Church	Sat., Oct. 26 Following sundown
Clovis Church	Sun., Oct. 27 2-4 p.m.
Albuquerque Heights	Mon., Oct. 28 4:30-7 p.m.
Amarillo Olsen Park	Tues., Oct. 29 4:30-7 p.m.

Look for the remainder of the Texico schedule in the November issue of the Record.

Pre-orders are suggested for all case foods.

Christmas is fast approaching, and what better gift to give than a gift from your Adventist Book Center. We look forward to serving you this fall. Put the date above on your calendar and plan to attend when we are in your area. For all your needs call 800-522-2665.

Donald P. Deisch, Manager

SOUTHWEST REGION

Bill Wright, Correspondent

Lawrence Becomes First Woman Elder at Berean

Margaret Lawrence made history recently at Baton Rouge Berean Seventh-day Adventist Church when she was ordained as the first woman elder. It has taken 50 years for a woman to be elected to an office that has traditionally been an all-male group.

Lawrence has been involved in just about every program the church has, from women's ministry to assisting youth in Sabbath school. She has also headed up the community services of the church, feeding and helping senior citizens.

As part of the ordination ceremony, the church's five male elders and the pastor knelt in a circle with her on the pulpit. They prayed and laid hands on her to

ask for God's blessing on her new responsibilities.

"This feels good," Lawrence said after the ceremony. "I have always wanted to serve the Lord as an elder."

The 50-year-old mother of two says she has loved God and His teachings for as long as she can remember. In years gone by she has ministered to prisoners and prostitutes and anyone else who would listen.

"My spiritual gift is to speak, to influence the positive and to teach skills," which seem to come naturally to this teacher of geography and African studies.

Michael Meyers, the newly appointed Berean minister, believes there is a great need to place women in leadership roles in the church. "You look at the composi-

tion of most churches," he says, "and the majority of members are women.

"Many of these women have specific concerns or needs and would probably feel more comfort-



Margaret Lawrence on the day of her ordination as a local church elder.

able being counseled by a church leader who is a woman."

Lawrence has taken her new appointment seriously and has already begun visiting former members and encouraging them to

return to worship services. She also plans to open lines of communication with the young girls in her church by taking them shopping.

"I want them to have fun," she says, "but I also want this to be a time when girls can talk about

their parents, boys, sex or whatever is on their minds." She hopes to become a mentor to the girls and women in her church.

Excerpted from Baton Rouge Advocate

TEXAS

Nilsa Johnson, Correspondent

Schrams Honored for Community Service and Disaster Work

George and Glenda Schram were honored at the three-day ministers retreat at Nameless Valley Ranch for their 56 years of ministry to the church and in particular for their years with the



George and Glenda Schram receiving gifts of appreciation from the Texas Conference.

community and disaster services.

George, who is retiring from directing disaster services in the field, will continue, along with Glenda, to manage operations at the community service depot in Keene. Glenda will continue to direct the volunteers, mostly senior citizens from the community, as they size and package the clothing, and keep the vans loaded and ready for responding to calls for assistance when disaster strikes.

The Schrams received plaques of appreciation and gifts from the Texas Conference. Joe Watts, former Fort Worth First Church associate pastor, is the new community and disaster services field

director. He has also been asked to coordinate disaster work throughout the Southwestern Union.

Academy of Preaching Graduation

The interns serving in the Texas Conference who attended the Academy of Preaching received their graduation certificates from Larry Moore, Texas Conference secretary, at a recent ministers meeting. Their instructors, Vern Carner and Oscar Hernandez, have given them approximately 75 hours of instruction in four separate sessions. They were shown the "how-to's" of good preaching, church management and ministry.

Those who received certificates are David Amador, Bernie Anderson, Ramon Crousette, Jacinto Flores, Marshall Gonzales, Manuel Henriquez, Ronaldo Marsollier, David Montoya, Josue Murillo, Serguei Riapolov, Travis Sager, and Vance Torres.



Academy of Preaching graduation, from left: Bernie Anderson, David Amador, and Travis Sager receive congratulations from Texas Conference secretary Larry Moore and their instructors, Vern Carner and Oscar Hernandez.

Winners of the Best Sermon Contest

There were five winners of the third "Best Sermon Contest." These are ministers who submitted a video or audio cassette of a sermon they have preached. This quarterly contest is the result of the Texas Conference administration's wish



The third Best Sermon Contest winners (left to right): Serguei Riapolov, David Montoya, Jonathan Leach, David Amador, and Ron Halvorsen, Jr.

to reward their ministers for well-prepared and well-presented sermons.

The award of \$500 is well worth working toward and helps motivate ministers to excel in their preaching. The winners of this contest are David Amador, Ron Halvorsen, Jr., Jonathan Leach, David Montoya, and Serguei Riapolov.

Workers Experience Protection During Storm

The carpenters and builders who were working on the sanctuary of the West Houston Seventh-day Adventist Church were away for lunch when a small tornado blew down the church.

They had been working all morning when one man accidentally stapled his finger, and since it was



West Houston church after a small tornado hit the structure.

about 2:00 p.m. he suggested everyone go to lunch. The church pastor, Orlando Zaceta, also felt this was a good idea and said he would stay to watch the tools.

While the workers were away there was a terrible noise and shaking of the building. A tornado hit and blew down the entire sanctuary. The whole roof was blown over to the side where some of the men had been working just before they left. Surely, had they still been there, some would have been badly injured or even killed.

For now all work on the building has had to stop until damages can be fully ascertained. When the builders came back and saw what the small storm had done, they thanked God very humbly and gratefully for His protection.

The news of the workers' protection from the storm was shown three times on Channel 11 TV during the afternoon and evening news.

1996 Convention Inspires Teachers for New School Year

Not knowing if I would ever feel solid ground again, I was relieved when our little plane touched down on the beautiful Texas coast. I bade farewell to my propeller friends and headed for the hotel. Our church pastor-driver, Bryan Aalborg, took us safely to the Corpus Christi beach front Sandy

Shores Hotel.

After a quick stop, we drove down the coast to enjoy a Mustang Island hay ride. The wagon escorted us to a lovely beach front dinner, right at the foot of the Gulf of Mexico. As we played in the water, we renewed acquaintances with fellow teachers and enjoyed the beautiful surroundings, catered meal, and music.

The next morning's devotional speaker shared what God was doing in her life. I was moved and blessed. Then we divided into workshops. I made my way to the science workshop with Randy Gilliam. We smelled, tasted, listened, touched, and laughed about science. The presentation motivated and excited me to present more science in class.

During the afternoon session

As I mailed in my last submission to Home Study International, I looked back over my summer. My favorite part was the trip to Corpus Christi for the Texas Teachers Convention, August 5-8!

We enjoyed some very interesting and educational meetings such as the "Green Goo" analysis, and the amazing wonders you can do with a computer. There was something for every grade level. Even new books for math and social studies were shown to us, and, well, all the presenters did a super job. How kind they were to take their time to bring helpful information to share with us.

Our worships were very good, and throughout all the meetings we were reminded of the importance of keeping our classrooms focused on our Master Teacher.

*Danielle Bunkely, Teacher
Conroe Adventist School*

we learned more about ourselves with the help of Carol Bradley and Debbie Hall who helped group us according to our personalities. We also enjoyed a computer preview of Hyperstudio which included intriguing information about professional presentations that children can do themselves.

Jon Dickerson's worship the next morning was funny, interesting, and reflective. Following the worship, I found a comfortable chair and spent the next hours assimilating all I could about the world of computers and all the great things they can do. Again, I was motivated to try these out in the classroom. The afternoon was filled with a variety of activities from multicultural education, a talk on textbook evaluations, visiting a museum and the ships of Columbus, and a great dinner.

Merv Kesler, from Chisholm Trail Academy, gave a presentation the following morning which helped us understand the real reason we were there—to learn, fellowship and gain encouragement. This last morning was filled with important reports including insurance, advice on school paper work, the lending library, and more.



Sherry May, teacher at Burleson Adventist School, leads out in a kindergarten workshop at the Texas Conference teachers convention.

After lunch, with rested bodies and stimulated minds, we all left for our respective homes, excited about what we had learned and ready to put this learning into action.

On behalf of all the teachers of the Texas Conference, I would like to express our gratitude to Dr. Lyle Hansen and Dr. Darrell Beyer for their love and devotion to education, their support and the encouragement they give to each of us, and their continual willingness to be of help to each teacher.

*Lori Northrop, Teacher
Burleson Adventist School*

Richardson Church Keeps Active

The Richardson church was thrilled with its record breaking attendance at their vacation Bible school. More than 115 children participated in the week-long program, with 30 percent of them coming from non-Seventh-day Adventist homes.

Richardson Adventist School also reported an increased enrollment with 111 students. This year the school is making available educational facilities for the ninth and tenth grades. The school presently has a total of eight teachers and two support personnel (a full-time secretary and school librarian).

A Daniel Seminar was held as a prelude to NET '96. In addition

to NET '96, the Richardsons women's ministries has begun an English as a Second Language (ESL) program under the guidance of the Edith Willis, chairperson of the ESL at Southwestern Adventist College.

The classes, which began June 10, meet Monday and Thursday evenings from 7:00-8:30 p.m. There are three levels of fluency. Classes begin with worship and close with prayer as the staff tries to accommodate the various needs of the students. As of July 31, 1996, the enrollment had reached 42.

Without doubt, this is a great opportunity to serve non-English speaking church members and also to reach out to the community.

*Sue Mathieu
Communication Leader*

Prison Ministries Seminar

On July 13, 1996 over 100 visitors from all over the state of Texas attended a Prison and Jail Awareness Seminar in Waco held at the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

The eleven o'clock hour speaker was Walter Wright, Southwestern Union Conference vice president. Lunch was provided by ladies from area churches and was followed by a musical program and personal testimonies which stirred people's hearts.

Afternoon workshops were given by Buddy Burton, a chaplain at the Hilltop Unit, TDCJ; Virginia Hutto of Jonesboro, Texas; Sharon

Dallas First Church Celebrates Golden Opportunity

Dallas First Seventh-day Adventist Church and Junior Academy have long been a beacon of light to witness daily to the thousands who pass by on Highway 175/Central Expressway. Through the years this house of God has been the church home to many families as well as a refuge for the traveler looking for a place to worship while visiting in the area. Dallas First Seventh-day Adventist Church has been the mother church to many of the other Adventist churches in the area.

This is the year that the church sanctuary will be restored from a devastating fire that occurred last year. Such a tragedy brings members closer together in unity of purpose to finish God's work. We are inviting you, our Christian brothers and sisters, to be a part of this golden opportunity. Please join us at a Golden Opportunity Fellowship Banquet and share in the enthusiasm and dedication of others who want to keep the light burning in central Dallas.

The Golden Opportunity Fellowship Banquet will include gourmet food provided by trained professionals, live entertainment and a silent auction with items donated by the community. Please mark your calendars for Sunday, October 20, 1996, at 7 p.m. The church's gymnasium, Holley Hall, located at 4009 North Central Expressway in Dallas, will be transformed into a banquet garden. The cost per plate is \$25. Reservations are required. To confirm your reservation or for more information, please call today: (214) 227-2190.

Potter of Keene; and Randy Brehms of Keene.

The day's activities concluded with an open discussion facilitated by Walter Wright. People left with a view to start or bolster a prison or jail ministries program in their own area.

The program was hosted by David Moody, director, and Rich Bower, assistant director of the prison ministries department of the Waco Seventh-day Adventist Church.

*Terry Turpen
Communication Leader*

Raels Celebrate 50th Anniversary

Louis and Julia Rael celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary



Some of the 115 children who participated in the Kids in the Kitchen vacation Bible school held in the Richardson church.

Sunday, August 18, in the Keene Senior Citizens Center. Nearly 100 people came to congratulate the couple and to hear the music provided by various family members.

The Raels have been Adventists all of their married life and were charter members of the Burleson Seventh-day Adventist Church.

When asked the secret of a happy marriage, Louis replied: "It's all right to argue, but never try to win the argument. Of course, that way you can continue the argument on the following day."

Thurman C. Petty, Jr.
Communication Assistant

Just for Men!
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When God made man He intended him to be the best husband, the best father and the best spiritual leader in the home. He designed men to be contemporary, relevant, spiritual giants in a confused and evil world. Join other men at an inspirational **SPIRITUAL WEEKEND RETREAT** at **Nameless Valley Ranch, November 1-3, 1996**. Guest speakers will be Steve Gifford, Texas Conference president, who will talk on men as role models, and Roland Hill, from the faculty of religion at Southwestern Adventist College, who will enlarge on entrepreneurial opportunities for Christian living.

To reserve a place, fill in the information below:

Name _____
Phone _____
Address _____

Send registration fee of \$50 with this form to Van Hurst, Texas Conference, P.O. Box 800, Alvarado, TX 76009 or call (817) 783-2223.

Burleson Adventist School Teachers Honored

In a ceremony during the worship hour on August 17, Pastor Bryan Aalborg charged the teachers of Burleson Adventist School (BAS) to maintain the high level of educational excellence which the school has enjoyed in past years.

"Someone has said," Aalborg commented, "that teachers teach for three reasons: June, July, and August. But teachers who teach year in and year out do so because they are motivated beyond these three reasons. They teach because they believe they are making a difference for a lifetime in the lives of others. Usually they are rewarded by seeing that difference. But sometimes they will have to wait for the future to unveil their impact."

"Many of us on the BAS school board have sampled your teaching. And having done

that, we have learned to value your work and ministry. Your talents and abilities are varied and constantly taxed from many directions.

"Because you teach in a Christian school, your instruction and influence are not just for a lifetime, but for eternity. Truly, only the other side of time will reveal all that you have done and given. As the words of the apostle indicate, your work goes beyond all that may be seen in this life."

As a token of the church's appreciation, each teacher will receive a copy of the book, *The Grip of Grace* by Max Lucado as soon as it is released. "We want you to have the best year possible," Aalborg explained.

BAS has 110 students enrolled for this school year.

Thurman C. Petty, Jr.
Communication Assistant

SOUTHWESTERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY

Jenell Rusk, Correspondent

SAC CHANGES NAME TO SOUTHWESTERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY

After seven years of planning by the administration and board of trustees, the constituency of Southwestern Adventist College voted on September 25 to rename the institution Southwestern Adventist University. The board of trustees voted to recommend a name change from college to university during their regular meeting in September 1995.

Southwestern Adventist College was accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools as a level III institution in December, 1989. SACSCS defines a level I as a junior college, level II as a 4-year institution, level III as an institution offering a 4-year and master's level degrees, and level IV as institutions offering doctoral degrees. Southwestern Adventist University began offering a master's degree in

education in 1987. A second master's program, the master of business administration, is scheduled to begin in fall 1997.

The name change has been in the planning stages since the institution's accreditation of its graduate program. Following the board recommendation in September, 1995, the administration recommended a time table which culminated in this year's constituency meeting.

"We felt it was important to focus on geographic and church affiliation as we considered the name change," said Marvin Anderson, university president. "This is a significant step, one that requires careful thought and responsible action."

Southwestern Adventist University has experienced steady growth, setting enrollment records each fall during the last eight straight years. Enrollment for fall 1996 reached 1030 students, mark-

SAC Students Respond to Mission Service

Each year more and more students find the joy of serving both in the United States and overseas fields as student missionaries. We laud their aspirations and support them with our letters and our prayers. The following is a list of those who will spend this new school year in service:



Teaching
English and
Bible

Amy Altman
c/o Douglas Clayville
287-1 Hwikyung 2 Dong
Dongdaemoon-Gu, Seoul 130-092
Republic of Korea



Bible/health/
literacy work

Josh Long
c/o Jack Sample
P. O. Box 54
Wewak 531, E.S.P.
Papau, New Guinea



Assistant
Girls
Dean

Heather Ripley
Garden State Academy
P. O. Box 10
Tranquility, NJ 07879



Teaching
English

Elizabeth Cantu
Brazil English Language School
c/o Mrs. Karen Owen
1843 Adrianopolis CEP
69062-970 Manaus AM
Brazil



Teaching
English at the
academy

Chandra Maloney
Centro Educacional Adventista
Apartado Postal No. 497
San Pedro Sula, Cortes
Honduras, C.A.



Assistant
Boys Dean

Alex Streicher
Garden State Academy
P. O. Box 10
Tranquility, NJ 07879



Teaching
English and
Bible

Steve Connell
Ogikubu SDA English School
3-17-3 Amanuma
Suginamu-ku, Tokyo 167



Teaching
elementary
school

Laura Ochs
c/o David Hill, Principal
P. O. Box 5070
Ebeye, Marshall Islands 96970



Assistant
Boys Dean

Raymond Unsworth
Indiana Academy
24815 State Road 19
Cicero, IN 46034



Teaching
English, and
evangelistic
work

Jason Kowarsch
Russian English Language School
c/o ESD
Krasnoyarskaya Street, #3
Goliano, Moscow 107589
RUSSIAN FEDERATION



Teaching
English at the
academy

Lisa Ortner
Centro Educacional Adventista
Apartado Postal No. 497
San Pedro Sula, Cortes
Honduras, C.A.



Teaching
English and
Bible

Sandy Wagner
c/o Douglas Clayville
287-1 Hwikyung 2 Dong
Dongdaemoon-Gu, Seoul 130-092
Republic of Korea



Assistant Boys Dean

Jim Wilson
Jefferson Adventist Academy
Rt. 4, Box 624
Jefferson, TX 75657

ing the second year of enrollment above 1000. The university is financially stable and has maintained a positive cash flow for 18 consecutive years.

"We can be proud of our history and the dedication of administrators and faculty to quality and to this university," said Anderson. "Today's decision means that we must rededicate ourselves to academic and institutional excellence, for we now have an obligation to respect and uphold the tradition embodied in the word 'university.'"

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

SAC SKI CLUB REUNION

Southwestern Adventist College's snow skiing club, the Cowabunga! Skiers, will have its 25th anniversary reunion during spring vacation of 1997. If you have ever been on the college ski trip, come for all or part of this special 25th year reunion. The reunion will be at the Keystone Ski Resort in Dillon, Colorado, March 6-14. All alumni are welcome to attend. For more information, contact Be Mendenhall at 817-556-4731.

TEXAS CONFERENCE RETIREES CONVOCATION

The retirees annual convocation is scheduled for Oct. 17-20. It is a special program for all retirees from any type of employment. Nameless Valley Ranch awaits your coming! For registration and information, call Darlene May at the Texas Conference office, 817-790-2255.

Real Estate/Housing

REAL ESTATE. If buying or selling in NE Oklahoma or NW Arkansas, call or write Dorothy M. Wilcox, 111 E. Shawnee, Tahlequah, OK 74464. Phone: 918-456-5432 or home 918-456-1484. Fax 918-456-0911. Have listings of lots, acreages, large ranches, homes or lake property. SDA realtor. 8-12t

BEAUTIFUL 4-BEDROOM HOUSE on 4 acres in the Ozarks. 2388 sq ft 2-story, lower part rock. Full living quarters up and down. 2-story workshop. Lower and upper drives with rock retaining walls. Walk-out basement. 8 redbud trees and others in yard. Excellent water well. Growing SDA church and school. \$130,000. Hallock 501-743-3751 Harrison, AR. 10-11

ESCAPE TO HISTORICAL JEFFERSON, TX. For sale by owner: a great place in the country to raise your children or retire. Church, grade school and academy less than a mile away. Beautiful, 3 wooded acres with 3-bedroom, 2 bath home, all updated. Lots of extras including large wood deck, 60'x40' fully insulated steel building, RV parking, fruit orchard and much more. 817-261-9883. 10-11

FOR SALE: Large brick home with 2 nice in-law or adult children apartments and small orchard on approximately 1 acre in rural setting near Keene, TX. Ideal for growing family with young adult, educational or senior care needs. Appraised \$135,000; call 301-680-6416. 10-11

Employment

NEEDED: Someone to assist and care for my 80-year old father in Keene, TX. He is ambulatory, active and semi-self sufficient. Recently diagnosed with mild Alzheimers. Need homemaker/caregiver type with patience, Christian values and cheery disposition who likes to be around elderly challenged individuals.

viduals. Duties include: transportation to physicians, shopping, cooking, light cleaning and assistance with daily living needs. Room and board plus small salary. Send resume and background information to: Lyn Ambridge, 24 Bay Ridge Road, FL Largo, FL 33037. 10-11

IDEAL FOR SDAs: Home-based, independent business opportunity. Flexible hours. Excellent system of health products with high income potential. No traditional selling required. For a short recorded message call H. Hammerly, PhD, at 800-530-1881. 8-31

MISSIONARIES NEEDED in Japan, Korea, Taiwan, Thailand—Asia Pacific Division English Language Schools. Volunteers to teach conversational English and Bible (teaching experience not needed—we train). Requirements: SDA, native English speaker, degreed and non-degreed positions. Dedicate one or more years serving Christ. Contact Ray James, 209-267-0416; fax 209-267-0342; e-mail Jamesr@cdepot.net. 4-121

MISSIONARIES NEEDED IN KOREA: SDA native English-speaking volunteers; singles or couples (without children) who are college graduates with bachelor's degrees or higher; to teach conversational English and Bible for one year or more at the SDA Language Institutes of Korea (teaching experience not necessary—we train you). Benefits include round-trip ticket, housing, utilities, insurance and stipend. For more information contact Ray James, 40 Pleasant Dr., Sutter Creek, CA 95685. Phone 209-267-0416 or fax 209-267-0342. E-mail: ray@korea.sda.org

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The Review & Herald Publishing Association is currently searching for a qualified ELECTRICIAN/GENERAL PLANT MAINTENANCE worker. Applicants must have a thorough knowledge of industrial electrical work relating to installation, alteration, maintenance and repair of electrical systems and general plant maintenance work. A minimum of 5 years industrial electrical experience is preferred. Interested applicants should contact Human Resources, Review & Herald Publishing Association, 55 W. Oak Ridge Dr., Hagerston, MD 21740. Phone 301-790-9710. Fax 301-790-9733. 10-11

PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT NEEDED as clinical director and to assist in developing BS level PA training program. Commitment to SDA Christian education necessary. Bachelor's degree preferred; beginning date negotiable. Contact John Kerbs, President, Union College, Lincoln, NE 68506; 402-486-2500; evenings 402-483-1497; or call Don Wetmore, PA program director, 402-488-2331 ext. 2345, evenings 402-489-8134. 10-11

OAKWOOD COLLEGE seeks full-time mathematics teacher, PhD or equivalent in mathematics education, prior teaching experience at college level. Duties: teaching 12-15 hours math courses per semester, advising, participating in service activities on and off campus. Applications, resumes and letters to Human Resources, Oakwood College, Huntsville, AL 35896. 10-11

EMPLOYEE RELATIONS SPECIALIST. Florida Hospital, a multi-hospital healthcare system with over 9020 employees, is looking for the right person to complete their Employee Re-

lations team. This person would have extensive experience in counseling employees, in investigating and preparing responses to EEO charges, representing their employer in unemployment compensation appeals hearings. Knowledge of current state and federal employment laws is necessary. PC skills in Windows environment and ability to prepare and make presentations is essential. Experience in total quality management, customer service programs and re-engineering efforts resulting in "right sizing" would be desirable. Prefer bilingual (Eng/Spn). If qualified send resume to: Fred Stephens, Florida Hospital Employment, 601 E. Rollins St., Orlando, FL 32803.

SOUTHERN COLLEGE MUSIC DEPT seeks full time band director beginning summer 1997. Master's (doctoral preferred) in performance teaching in brass or woodwind required. Candidates must have experience conducting concert bands and ensembles. Duties include classroom teaching, tutoring and recruiting. Send resumes including 3 references to Marvin Robertson, Chair, PO Box 370, Collegedale, TN 37315. 10-11

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813-848-4567. 10-11

ADVENTIST FRONTIER MISSIONS, an international church planting agency, is seeking applications for the position of chief financial officer. 5-10 years experience required. CPA helpful. International experience a plus. Salary and benefits comparable to denominational employment. Contact Clyde Morgan at 800-937-4236 or P.O. Box 346, Berrien Springs, MI 49103. 9-30

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OBITUARIES

McCLENDON, Karen, was born Sept. 10, 1951 in Muskogee, OK and died Mar. 29, 1996 in Muskogee. Survivors: mother, Evelyn McClendon; father, W. M. McClendon; and sister, Pamela Pritchett. Curtis Thurber

MURPHY, Rachel Bemice, was born July 8, 1908 near Hooker, OK and died July 6, 1996 in Loma Linda, CA. Survivors: daughter, Joquita Kraisoski, Riverside, CA; sisters, Alice Camball, Enid, OK and Laruma Spomer, Shattuck, OK; and brothers, Harold Stabel, Wickenburg, AZ, Wesley Stabel, Shattuck, and Ervin Stabel, Scottsdale, AR. Virginia Burton

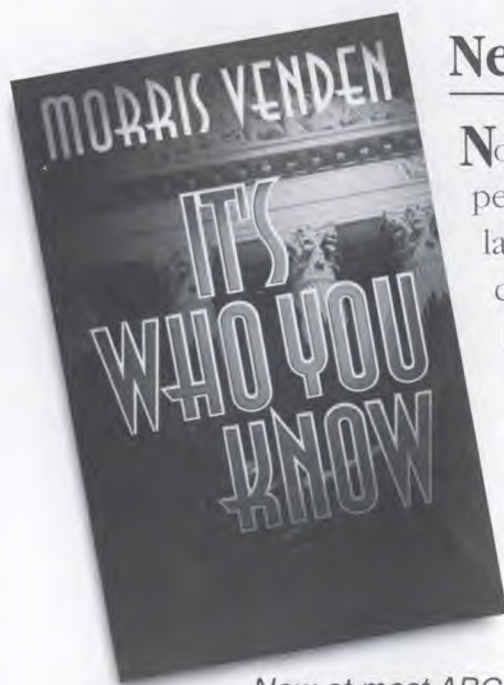
ROBERTS, Alga Louise Bailey Bland, was born Mar. 27, 1907 in Cedar Key, FL and died Aug. 11, 1996 in Keene, TX. She was preceded in death by her first husband, Elder Frank L. Bland, and her second husband, Elder V. L. Roberts, former treasurer of the Southwestern Union Conference. Survivors: daughter, Verna Cason of Maryland; adopted children, Frances and Vertis Barnes, Dr. Bethany Jackson, and Dr. Geneva McCleary; stepbrother, Dr. John Richard Ford; nephews, Dr. Charles Bland, William Bland, and Milton Bland; niece, Doris Arthur; and many grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Richard Peterson

THOMAS, Emma Johnson, was born June 30, 1912 in Shreveport, LA and died July 15, 1996. She was deaconess in the Coushatta, LA church. Survi-

vors: daughters, Sarah Douglas, Shreveport, Doris Shipp, Long Beach, CA, Bessie Holloway, Henning, TN, Barbara Davis and Ellarene Moore, both of Los Angeles; sons, Aris and Philip, both of Coushatta, and Roosevelt, California City, CA. Kathy Grant

TIDWELL, Luther, was born April 13, 1897 and died July 21, 1996 in Marietta, TX. He and his wife were literature evangelists for many years. Survivors: son, Dr. Charles Tidwell, Chehalis, WA; daughters, Ruby Barnes and Dorothy Morgan, both of Marietta, Florence Otto, Yucaipa, CA, and Hazel Church, Loma Linda; 22 grandchildren; 39 great-grandchildren; 20 great, great-grandchildren; and 2 great, great, great-grandchildren. Forrest Tenbrook

WURZBACH, Josephine Marie, was born Aug. 11, 1933 in San Antonio, TX and died July 31, 1996 in Fort Worth, TX. She was a member of the Arlington church. Survivors: husband, Adolph Carlton "A.C.", Fort Worth; daughters, Denise Marie Cromer, Glendale, AZ, and Dorette Gayle Pence, Arlington, TX; sisters, Annie Dorantes, Henrietta Dawson, Carmen Williams and Cathy Stevens, all of San Antonio; brothers, Joseph Carvajal, Jr. and Eddie Carvajal, also of San Antonio; sisters-in-law, Dorothy Jean Youmans, Floresville, TX and Jeanette Strickland, Duncanville, TX; 4 grandchildren; and 1 step-grandchild. Dorothy Youmans



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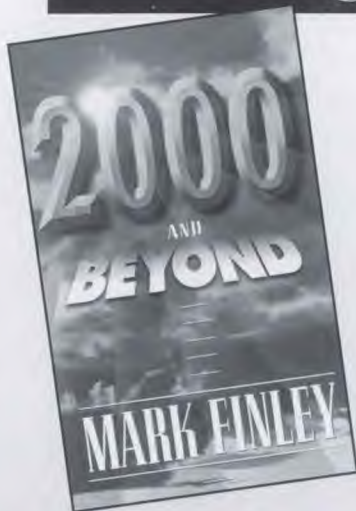
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