

FALL 2015

The Standard



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Jim Marcum



The Standard

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The Standard is the
Official publication of
Southeastern Free Will Baptist College.

"Lift up a standard for the people."
(Isaiah 62:10)

Accreditation. One of my top priorities as president of Southeastern is to bring our school to the place of being an accredited institution. My reasoning for doing so has already been written about in previous editions of The Standard. However, I would like to take this opportunity to qualify some things about becoming accredited.

Our desire to be accredited is not to change who we are or alter our mission. For example, I, nor we, at Southeastern Free Will Baptist College have any desire to become accredited so we can offer multiple degrees. Our intent is not to become a liberal arts college. Southeastern has a mission on which we were founded, and we are determined to maintain that focus. That mission is to supply workers with the right kind of philosophy for our Free Will Baptist local churches.

There is no argument that Free Will Baptists need workers for our local churches. Whether you consider pastors, missionaries, associate pastors, youth and children pastors, music directors and accompanists, Christian school teachers, and financial managers, the need is great—overwhelming, in fact! Therefore, we are thoroughly committed to training young people to return to the local church as ministry workers.

We do recognize that every Christian young person will not be called to a specific ministry listed above. However, we believe that every Christian young person should offer themselves for full time Christian service to God. Young people should be encouraged to put themselves in a position to clearly hear God's call to ministry. We believe that any Christian young person can come to our campus and find God's will for their life.

The main reason that Southeastern is seeking accreditation is to help our students. First, if they find that full time ministry is not where the Lord wants them, through accreditation, they will be able to change educational institutions and maintain the credits that they have earned. Second, when our young people graduate, accreditation will help them to continue their graduate work at another educational institution. There is also the growing pressure from ministries – such as Christian Schools in many parts of the country—where an accredited degree is encouraged or even required.

The days of simply talking about accreditation are over. We are in the process, (see the "Accreditation Update" by Dr. Baer on page 7) and we are determined to see it through to completion. Some have noted that they have heard this before. They wonder what makes this time so different. There are four reasons:

- 1. Finances. Although we are in a continual need for gifts from our supporters (we must raise \$800,000 a year to meet our budget), we are in a much better financial situation that we were 6 years ago when we applied for accreditation. We are out of debt and we are operating in the black.*
- 2. Faculty. Since 2006, when we previously applied to TRACS, we have had a number of faculty members earn graduate degrees or enroll in graduate programs.*
- 3. TRACS Conference: We were able to send four of our administrative staff (President, Academic Dean, Registrar and Business Manager) to the annual TRACS conference in October. The cost was covered by funds designated for accreditation. We have not been able to afford this level of participation in the past.*
- 4. Board Support: Our Board of Directors have been cautious over the years to proceed with the accreditation process. It is, after all, ultimately connected to the Federal Government. We do not, in any way, want to be forced to compromise our convictions and long-held beliefs because of a government regulation. We do not need man's approval to fulfil the work that God has called us to. However, we—and other like-minded Christian colleges such as Pensacola Christian College, Bob Jones University and West Coast Baptist College—have become convinced that aligning with a Biblically based organization such as TRACS will allow us the opportunity to help our students without compromising our beliefs.*

You have been praying for us, and we deeply appreciate it. However, more than ever before, we need your financial support. The accreditation process is, apart from our regular budgetary needs, an expensive process. If it is your desire for us to accomplish the goal of being an accredited institution, we humbly ask that you pray for us and make a substantial financial contribution to that end. For more information regarding this financial opportunity see the "\$25,000 Challenge" on page 11.



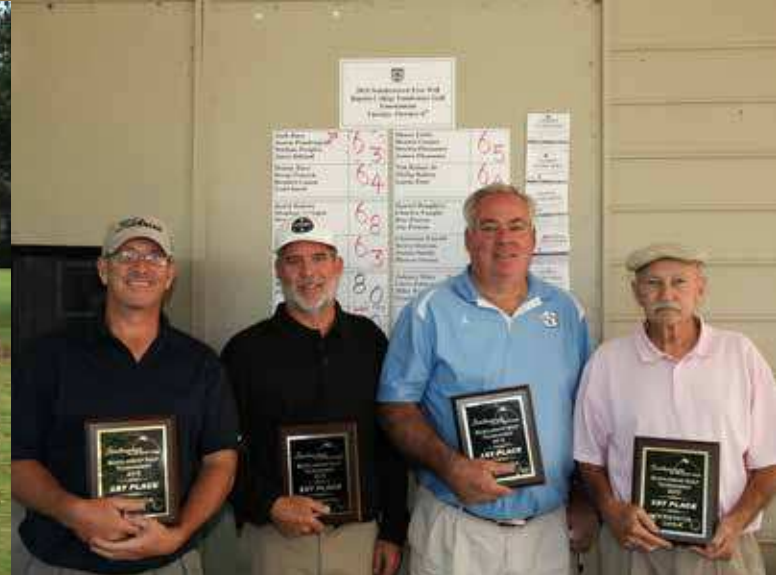
Freshmen Arrive





GOLF TOURNAMENT





GOLF SPONSORS

Platinum

Bobby G. Floars Investments, Goldsboro, NC
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Hilltop FWB Church, Fuquay-Varina, NC
L. Harold Poole Funeral Service, Knightdale, NC

Gold

Cramerton FWB Church, Cramerton, NC
Faith FWB Church, Goldsboro, NC
Free Will Baptist Foundation, Antioch, TN
Rev. Dann & Brenda Patrick, Goldsboro, NC
Woodard and Company, Goldsboro, NC

Silver

In Memory of Mr. Alton Woodard
CrossPoint FWB Church, Suffolk, VA
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Deacon Jones Kia, Goldsboro, NC
Faith Christian Academy
Jackson Builders, Inc., Goldsboro, NC
Randall House Publications

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Braswell Custom Homes, Raleigh, NC
Convenient Glass, Goldsboro, NC
Fiber Care, Goldsboro, NC
Free Will Baptist Board of Retirement
Edwards IGA Foodliner, Inc., Smithfield, NC
Edwards Food Store, Four Oaks, NC
Faith Baptist Church, Knightdale, NC
Financial Advisor Grant Webber, Goldsboro, NC
K&S Bank
Mt. Olive Pickle
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Ragland Productions, Clayton, NC
Schultze Insurance Co., Smithfield, NC
Seymour Funeral Home, Goldsboro, NC
Seymour Homes Reality, Goldsboro, NC
Smith and Company Bleachers, La Grange, NC
Triangle Homes Exterior, Raleigh, NC
Wildwood FWB Church, Wilson, NC

Other

Daniel S. Gray, CPA ♦ Coastal Plains Insurance
Grimmway Farms ♦ Brent King
David Parish ♦ Walter Sloan



Alumni News



Dail Andrews ('00) recently became the Pastor at Good Hope FWB Church in Henderson, TX.

Stephen and Heather (Jolley) Brackeen ('04) were blessed with the birth of their third child, Nathaniel Justice, on October 24, 2015. The Brackeens are currently serving in Shelby, NC, at Bethel Baptist where Stephen is the Youth Pastor. They also operate Harvest Time Bible Camp in Polkville, NC.

Justin ('04) and Amy (Hewes) Smith ('06) welcomed their third son, Bennet Daniel on August 14, 2015. They have two other boys: Jacob (5) and Trenton (2). In July of 2014, Justin transitioned from Outreach/Children Pastor into the role of Family Pastor at Faith FWB Church in Goldsboro, NC.

Mark ('06) and Christina (Jimmeye) Crews ('08) welcomed their third child, Gabriel, on July 24, 2015. They have two other sons, Elias (7) and Josiah (3). Mark currently serves as Pastor at Bethany FWB Church in Norfolk, VA.

Jonathan ('07) and Karen (Cousar) ('06) Osborne welcomed their third child, Hannah Joy, on August 13, 2015. Jonathan has been pastoring for five years at Highland Hills FWB Church in Greeley, Colorado.

Beverly (Holden) Wright ('10) and her husband, Stephen, welcomed their first child, Nehemiah Edward, on May 29, 2015. Beverly is a stay-at-home mom and recently started a personal business as a Mary Kay Independent Beauty Consultant. They attend Good News FWB Church in Chesterfield, VA.

Joe ('11) and Stacie (Jones) Ange ('11) welcomed their first child, Harper Rose, into the world on August 13, 2015. Joe is Associate Pastor at Union Chapel FWB Church in Chocowinity, NC.

Jonathan ('10) and Ashley (Baines) McNeese ('11) welcomed their first child, Alice Juliet, on October 10, 2015. The McNeese's serve as Associate Church Planters at Woodforest FWB Church in Houston, TX.

Don't be left out!
Sign up at alumni.sfwbc.edu to receive email updates from the Alumni Association.



Join the Nehemiah Club

Donations from Alumni through the Nehemiah Club are split 50/50 between the college and the Alumni Fund. This year contributions provided over \$5,000 in scholarships.

Please consider joining by pledging \$20 a month.

Alumni Picnic at Spring Conference 2016

Plan to join us for the annual Alumni Picnic during Tuesday afternoon (April 12) of Spring Conference 2016.

There will be food and fun for the whole family!

As part of the festivities, we will give special recognition to the classes of 1986, 1991, 1996, 2001, 2006 and 2011.



IMPORTANT DATES

2015-2016 SCHOOL YEAR

DEC 10 LAST DAY OF SEMESTER
JAN 13 SPRING SEMESTER BEGINS
21-23 GRAD DAYS
FEB 2 PRINCIPALS CONFERENCE
MAR 7-14 SPRING BREAK
APR 11-13 SPRING CONFERENCE
MAY 6 COMMENCEMENT

Tip Off Tournament



Guys Winners

Hilltop Christian School
Fuquay-Varina, NC

Girls Winners
Great Bridge Christian Academy
Chesapeake, VA



WHO'S WHO

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE FOLLOWING STUDENTS FOR BEING INDUCTED IN THE PRESTIGIOUS "WHO'S WHO AMONG STUDENTS IN AMERICA'S COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES."

DESTANIE AYCOCK

JOSH BUTLER

RUDY MANRIQUEZ

NATHAN PEOPLES

BRIANA PHILLIPS

ALLISON RAGER

MATT TILGHMAN

ACCREDITATION UPDATE

As noted in Brother Jim's "President's Pen" on page 2, we are now beginning the process of becoming accredited. During the next few months we hope to accomplish the following steps:

Application: Southeastern has received official permission from the Transnational Association of Christian Colleges and Schools (TRACS) to apply for accreditation. We are now putting together the application materials and hope to submit them in the coming weeks.

Self Study: The next step in the process will be conducting our Self Study. This is where we, as an institution, examine ourselves in comparison to the standards set for in the TRACS Accreditation Manual. If all goes well, we will finish this process during the spring semester.

Evaluation Team Visit: After the Self Study we will have a team of five members which will visit our campus to evaluate our progress. These individuals will be from other TRACS institutions and will be given the task to make a recommendation to TRACS as to whether we qualify for Candidate Status. We hope that the evaluation team visit will occur in late spring or next fall.

Candidate Status: This means that an institution has met all the Standards and Criteria related to the TRACS Institutional Eligibility Requirements (IERs), has been evaluated by an on-site evaluation team, and in the professional judgment of the evaluation team and the Accreditation Commission, has provided the basic level of quality in instruction and student services required of a pre-accredited institution of higher education. At this point we would become a member of TRACS and would be eligible for a limited amount of benefits. Candidate status might be achieved by next fall, but hopefully will occur no later than the spring of 2017.

Each of these steps takes finances. If you would like to help us, please donate to the college and note "Accreditation Fund" on the memo line.



MISSIONS CONFERENCE



Brian Williams



Daniel Mann



Jim Marcum

Our Missions Week began with our annual Missions Conference which was held on Monday evening through Tuesday. Alumnus, Brian Williams (home missionary to Buffalo, NY) spoke to our students, staff and guests along with Alumnus, Daniel Mann (home missionary to Chicago, IL).

The week continued with our annual Missions Retreat which was moved from its traditional time in the spring.

Our students, faculty and staff were challenged by singing, videos, testimonies and preaching to look to the regions beyond -- "To Make Him Known."



Kevin Denton



Special Announcement

It is with deep regret that the President and the Board of Directors of Southeastern Free Will Baptist College announce that because of an unfortunate situation, Brother Rick Cash is no longer able to serve as the college's Director of Development.

We are saddened to have to make this announcement, as Brother Cash has been a dear friend to Southeastern. He and his family have supported the school and been excellent examples of what Southeastern has tried to do in supporting Free Will Baptist churches around the world.

Due to a series of unfortunate events, Brother Rick was given the wrong medicine. This has significantly impaired his ability to function. We would ask that you join us in prayer for Brother Rick, his wife, Sally, and his four adult married children.

Southeastern honors Brother Rick and remains committed to building on the foundation of ministry into which he sacrificially invested his life.



FALL SPORTS

One of the highlights of the social life on campus is the “friendly” and competitive action between our societies. During the fall our students participate in volleyball and football games.



\$25,000

MATCHING GIFT CHALLENGE



A dear friend of the college has issued a \$25,000 matching gift challenge for funds to be used for accreditation.

Can you help?

Simply make a donation of any size and ear-mark it for "Accreditation."

With your help we can!



SEAN STRONG

February 3, 1995 - October 21, 2015

A few weeks ago we said, "Good-bye" to a student, a friend, and a dear man of God – Sean Smith. After more than two years Sean, a junior here at Southeastern, finally lost his battle with cancer and went home to be with his Lord and Savior on October 21.

Sean arrived on campus on August 24th, 2013 with the new Freshman class. Little did we know that just three weeks and one day later Sean would be in surgery to remove an 8", stage 4, cancerous tumor from his colon. During the next two years Sean would undergo numerous treatments and, at times could hardly hold his head up in class. However, he persevered in his studies and earned 68 credit hours while maintaining a 3.0 gpa. His dedication and love for his family, his friends, his college and his Lord was an inspiration to us all.

In his last days Sean noted, "This verse speaks volumes to me! 'My flesh is failing and my heart gets heavy, but that is the reason He is always there for me! Because he sustains and upholds me when I can't stand myself!' Psalm 73:26"

Sean will be missed greatly. However, his testimony lives on in the lives of our faculty and students. His commitment to Christ continues to inspire us. His strength through one of the greatest difficulties that life can offer will ever encourage us to press on, to fight the good fight, to never give up, to be "Sean Strong"!

It's not my life to live.
It's Christ's to live through me.
-Sean A. Smith



SEAN STRONG

None were nobler, true, or kind;
Fewer still knew friendship like he.
A heart of gold and purest mind
He shared these with all, and me.

His steps were light and full of joy;
Laughter was his mastered trade.
Sour thoughts he would destroy
As happy thoughts he made.

Helping those he lived to love,
Loving those he did not know.
He taught me how to rise above
The pain we know below.

This knight of friendship, so bold,
Was chosen for a special fight.
Cancer would stop his heart of gold,
And rob him of his might.

But oh the comfort it is to know
The truth behind his story!
Sean was called to humbly go
To walk with God in glory.

And none of us beneath this sky
Will ever understand,
But with God's grace we all will try
Until we reach that land.

Now as we look back on this story,
We all will come to see
That Sean's battle cry from glory
Is: "Christ's strength displayed in me!"

Thank you Sean for all you've done,
And for singing your life song.
Now your battle has been won!
It's true...you were "Sean-strong".

The Standard

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SPRING CONFERENCE - APRIL 11-13, 2016

SEARCH ME
O GOD

PSALM 139:23



DR. DAVID GIBBS, JR.



JIM MCCOMMAS



DR. DANN PATRICK