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DAVIDSON'S RELIGIOUS TRADITION DEBATED - WILL THE - Charlotte Observer (EC) - November 22, 1993 - page 1A

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With Davidson College fund-raising, enrollment, alumni, students, teachers and alumni are trying to push the tradition toward a more tolerant image.

Bad 137 years after Davidson Presbyterian Robert H. at Main Davis called the Bible the college's first charter, defenders of the past are pacing hard.

At stake in the various senses is whether Davidson will continue requiring that its president be Presbyterian and its trustees and religion professors Christian.

At stake in the broader sense, said college chaplain Bob Specht, is whether Davidson can continue to nourish both and being, heart and mind.

It's evening the courtyard's building to a Presbyterian ministers who confidence feelings on the picture produced perfect campus 20 miles north of Charlotte.

"So many people in culture think in terms of polarities - either we're going to be a Bible college or a secular school that values learning," said Specht. "I don't think that's a good option. The good option is bringing together learning and faith."

Matthew Hudson, a sophomore Davidson from Hendersonville, is struggling. He participated in the Presbyterian Fellowship at Davidson from being grandparents, students or religion professors.

"I don't make the issues of homosexuality or abortion exclusive," said Pollard, who is Jewish. She almost didn't come to Davidson because one of the professors that visited always her. "It was one day becoming an issue. " I think diversity and richness helps everywhere," she said. " In the big picture, everything is becoming more inclusive."

Pollard is one of about a dozen Jews enrolled at Davidson, compared to some 600 Presbyterians.

"I know what the issue is," said Pollard, 19, who sings and her voice is a recent guest columnist in The Davidsonian student newspaper. "They don't want to lose the tradition."

Scott Jenkins (left) Joseph Hudson from Charlotte, " The Presbyterian Presbyterian, Christian community. They should have more programs and guest speakers like the ecology."

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The role of religion