

Accrediting agencies asked to probe seminary's dismissal of female prof

February 2, 2007

Updated: 2/02/07

Accrediting agencies asked to probe seminary's dismissal of female prof

By Hannah Elliott

Associated Baptist Press

FORT WORTH (ABP)—A supporter of a professor who lost her job at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary—allegedly due to gender discrimination— has filed complaints with the [Southern Association of Colleges and Schools](#) and [Association of Theological Schools](#), asking them to investigate “a serious breach” of accreditation guidelines.

Sheri Klouda
pictured at
Southwestern
Seminary's
convocation
August 29,
2002,
affirming her
adherence to
the 2000
Baptist Faith
and Message.
(The photo
appeared on
[Wade
Burleson's
blog](#)).

[Benjamin Cole](#), pastor of Parkview Baptist Church in Arlington, filed the complaints. He joined Oklahoma pastor [Wade Burleson](#) and prominent blogger [Marty Duren](#) in calling attention to Sheri Klouda's case. Burleson is the pastor of Emmanuel Baptist Church in Enid, Okla. Duren leads New Bethany Baptist Church in Buford, Ga.

WMU suffers from mission

board funding cuts

February 2, 2007

Updated: 2/02/07

WMU suffers from mission board funding cuts

By Steve DeVane

North Carolina Biblical Recorder

RICHMOND, Va. (ABP)— [Woman's Missionary Union](#) of the Southern Baptist Convention, which has seen its annual revenues drop precipitously in the last eight years, now stands to lose hundreds of thousands of dollars more from one of the two mission boards it helps support.

The SBC's [International Mission Board](#) is phasing out unrestricted funding to WMU beginning this year. WMU records show the IMB sent between \$200,000 and \$325,000 a year in such funds over the last 20 years.

Group soliciting signatures for letter to Executive Board

February 2, 2007

Updated: 2/02/07

Group soliciting signatures for letter to Executive Board

By Ken Camp

Managing Editor

A blogger-led coalition of Texas Baptists who [met recently in Mesquite](#) to discuss concerns with the Baptist General Convention of Texas have [posted an open letter](#) to the BGCT Executive Board on the Internet, and they are soliciting signatures for it.

At their meeting, the group expressed frustration with a ruling by the chair at the 2006 BGCT annual meeting in Dallas.

Host families urgently needed to care for Indonesian burn victims

February 2, 2007

Updated: 2/02/07

Host families urgently needed

to care for Indonesian burn victims

By Jenny Pope

Buckner International

HOUSTON—Two host families are needed to care for Indonesian burn victims Ralita, 18, and Asima, 13, when they receive medical treatments at the Shriner's Hospital burn unit in Galveston, beginning in March.

The girls will undergo extensive reconstructive surgery and will need to travel to Galveston up to twice each week for physical therapy.



Two host families are needed to care for Indonesian burn victims Ralita, 18, and Asima, 13, as they receive medical treatments at the Shriner's Hospital burn unit in Galveston, Texas beginning in March.

TBM chainsaw teams offer relief in northeastern Oklahoma

February 2, 2007

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The entire city of McAlester, Okla., was without power for more than a week, and 18,000 people sought the relief provided by Texas Baptist Men volunteers.

TBM chainsaw teams offer

relief in northeastern Oklahoma

By Barbara Bedrick

Texas Baptist Communications

PRYOR, Okla.—Amid an ice storm that crippled much of Oklahoma, prayers permeated the air as Texas Baptist Men volunteer chainsaw crews finished another project for victims.

Jack Macy called the volunteers “angels.” More than 100 families like Macy’s found solace from the ice storm in the disaster relief provided by TBM volunteers.

IMB trustee investigation rejects allegations of board impropriety

February 2, 2007

Posted: 2/02/07

IMB trustee investigation rejects allegations of board impropriety

By Robert Marus

Associated Baptist Press

ONTARIO, Calif. (ABP)—The Southern Baptist Convention's International Mission Board, following an internal investigation, has rejected a trustee's accusations of impropriety and unauthorized tightening of doctrinal parameters.

The board reportedly approved a report, based on its own executive committee's investigations into the charges, Jan. 31. There was no recorded dissent or discussion regarding the report at the meeting, which took place in Ontario, Calif.

Christian faith unites opposing Super Bowl coaches

February 2, 2007

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Christian faith unites opposing Super Bowl coaches

By Hannah Elliott

Associated Baptist Press

MIAMI (ABP)—While much has been made about NFL head coaches Tony Dungy's and Lovie Smith's skin color, they've got a stronger bond than

being the first African-American head coaches to lead their teams to the Super Bowl.

The bond of their common Christian faith is becoming increasingly evident as media scrutiny intensifies surrounding the nation's highest-profile sporting event.

One year later, burned Alabama churches rise from ashes

February 2, 2007

Posted: 2/02/07

One year later, burned Alabama churches rise from ashes

By Greg Garrison

Religion News Service

BIRMINGHAM, Ala.(RNS)—A year has passed since nine Alabama churches were [set on fire](#) by three Birmingham college students, but a lot of rebuilding remains to be done.

By late 2007, those nine churches expect to be restored or have larger, more modern facilities.

New school rises near site of Amish killings

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A
construction
crew works
at the site of
a new Amish
school in
Nickle Mines,
Pa. The
school it
replaces was
torn down
last year
after a
gunman
entered and
killed five
children and
wounded five
others. (RNS
photo by
Gary Dwight
Miller/*The
Patriot-News*)

New school rises near site of Amish killings

By Monica Von Dobeneck

Religion News Service

NICKEL MINES, Pa. (RNS)—An Amish one-room schoolhouse takes shape in a field at the end of a private drive behind a row of houses, within walking distance of the site of the school where [a gunman shot 10 Amish girls Oct. 2](#), killing five of them.

An Amish man who did not give his name said the construction crew expects to open the school in March but would not comment further. The Amish community knocked down the original schoolhouse Oct. 12.

Around the State

February 2, 2007

Posted: 2/02/07

Around the State

- The University of Mary Hardin-Baylor College of Christian Studies and church relations office are partnering with Bell Association to present a seminar titled “Avoiding the Rattlesnakes: Integrity in Ministry.” The seminar will begin at 8:30 a.m. Feb. 10 at Memorial Church in Temple. Featured speakers include Bill Carrell, dean of the College of Christian Studies; David Howard, director of the Marriage and Family Christian Counseling Center; and Tom Henderson, director of missions for Bell Association. For more information, call (254) 295-4606.
- The seventh annual Baylor University Sacred Harp Singing is set for Feb. 10 in the Great Hall of Truett Theological Seminary. Singing school led by Donald Ross will be held from 9:30 a.m. until 9:50 a.m. The singing will be

held from 10 a.m. until 3 p.m. with a break for lunch. For more information,
call (254) 644-2181.



The University
of Mary
Hardin-Baylor
Writers'
Festival
afforded
participants a
variety of
opportunities,
including
poetry
workshops, a
chance to share
their work with
others and an
art class. About
75 writers
participated in
the weekend
gathering.
Authors Myra
McLarey and
Michael
Lythgoe and
reader Scott
Cairns were the
keynote
speakers. The
festival, in its
10th year,
brought
together
writers from
across the
country.

- Dallas Baptist University has announced a doctoral program for educators—the Ed.D. in educational leadership. It will include both higher education and K-12 study tracks. The 60-hour program will require about three years to complete.

- Howard Payne University has announced the addition of five faculty members. Full-time faculty are Bill Fowler, assistant professor of Christian studies; and Derek Smith, assistant professor of physical science. Adjunct faculty additions include Donna Bowman, Christian studies; Peggy Hickey, modern languages; and Debra Powell, business administration.

Beatles' spiritual journey followed long & winding road

February 2, 2007

Posted: 2/02/07

Beatles' spiritual journey followed long & winding road

By Bob Carlton

Religion News Service

WASHINGTON (RNS)—Rock music writer Steve Turner grew up in a Christian home in Daventry, England. Like other teenagers who came of age in the 1960s, Turner was a huge Beatles fan.

“At that time, Christians weren’t too keen on rock and roll music, so people in the church generally weren’t too keen on the Beatles,” Turner said. “Yet, after a few years, the Beatles became interested in religious topics, so there was this interplay between religion and rock music that I became interested in.”

Texas CP 2006 receipts up slightly

February 2, 2007

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Texas CP 2006 receipts up slightly

By John Hall

Texas Baptist Communications

DALLAS—Texas Baptists’ giving to the [Baptist General Convention of Texas](#) Cooperative Program increased by 2 percent in 2006.

Texas Baptists contributed nearly \$40.9 million to the Texas Cooperative Program in 2006, enabling the BGCT to reach 99 percent of its adopted budget.