



BAPTIST PRESS
News Service of the Southern Baptist Convention

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BAPTIST SUNDAY SCHOOL BOARD Lynn M. Davis, Jr., Chief, 127 Ninth Ave., N., Nashville, Tenn. 37203,
Telephone (615) 254-1631

September 8, 1969

**Texas Pastor Named SBC
Stewardship Consultant**

NASHVILLE (BP)--A Texas Baptist pastor, Ben C. Gill of LaGrange, Tex., has been named to a new position as consultant in endowment and capital giving services for the Southern Baptist Convention Stewardship Commission here.

Gill, 30, has been pastor of the First Baptist Church of LaGrange, Tex., for the past three years, and previously was pastor of Rock Creek Baptist Church, Glen Rose, Tex.

His major responsibility with the SBC Stewardship Commission will be assisting local churches with building and special fund campaigns, working in cooperation with state convention stewardship offices.

Gill has served for several years as a building fund consultant for the stewardship division of the Baptist General Convention of Texas, though not in a full-time capacity.

A native of Arkansas, Gill is a graduate of Baylor University, Waco, Tex., and Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth.

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**Seminary Coorespondence
Enrollment Up 261 Per Cent**

9/8/69

NASHVILLE (BP)--More than 1300 students were enrolled in correspondence courses offered here by the Seminary Extension Department of six Southern Baptist theological seminaries during the academic year ending this summer, the extension department's director said.

The enrollment last year represents a dramatic increase of 261 per cent during the past five years, said Raymond Rigdon, director of the department. Five years ago, correspondence enrollment was an even 500 students.

The 1307 students enrolled in correspondence study completed a total of 1,859 different courses during the year, compared to the 801 course completions of five years ago when 500 students were enrolled.

Rigdon said that correspondence students last year represented 44 states, the District of Columbia, Canada, Peru, Spain, Egypt, Nigeria, and Taiwan and included many overseas military personnel.

Texas had more students enrolled than any other state, with 194 students. Florida and Virginia each had more than 100 students enrolled.

Students taking correspondence courses offered through the SBC Seminary Extension Department may work toward either or both a basic or advanced certificate, although degrees are not now offered through correspondence courses.

All but one of the courses available at the 197 extension centers operated by the department are available through correspondence. One of the music courses, however, which emphasizes skill development, can only be taken under a qualified teacher at an extension center.

Rigdon said that a complete listing of correspondence courses offered by the six SBC seminaries through the department is available from his office, P. O. Box 1411, Nashville, Tenn., 37202.

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Seminary Dedicates
Walsh Medical Center

FORT WORTH (BP)--Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary here has formally dedicated its new \$205,000 Walsh Medical Center, named in honor of the F. Howard Walsh family of Fort Worth who provided major construction funds.

Walsh, a seminary trustee and board member of the Southern Baptist Foundation in Nashville, was one of several who cut the ribbon opening up the new center housing medical and dental facilities for the seminary faculty, students, and their families.

Seminary President Robert E. Naylor presided over the dedication services, assisted by Walsh, Seminary Physician Dr. Gordon Maddox, Seminary Development Director L. B. Reavis, and Contractor Herman Smith.

Naylor expressed appreciation to all who gave funds for the center, and dedicated the facility "to a ministry of healing in the seminary community for the glory of God."

The center is a long-time dream of Dr. Maddox, full-time physician in the clinic formerly located on the ground floor of the Memorial Building at the seminary. Dr. Maddox, has been the seminary's physician since 1963 when he came out of retirement to become the first resident seminary physician.

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Seminary Appoints PR
Associate, Photographer

9/8/69

MILL VALLEY, Calif. (BP)--Two new staff members, an associate in public relations, and a staff photographer, have been named by the office of public relations at Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary here.

Mrs. Glenn (Sue) Crawford Jr., former artists and writer for three Birmingham, Ala., organizations, has been named public relations associate, responsible for all publications, printing, and direction of the seminary's news bureau.

Mrs. Crawford was previously employed as an artist and staff writer for a Birmingham firm, and prior to that was on the staff of the promotion division director of the Southern Baptist Woman's Missionary Union, and at Samford University (Baptist), both in Birmingham. Her husband is a student at the seminary.

Named official seminary photographer was Preston North, a graduate of Oklahoma Baptist University, Shawnee, Okla., a foreign mission volunteer and former commercial photographer.

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