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The Liberty Champion

Vol.1, No.1

. . . Where the Spirit of the Lord is there is Liberty. II Cor. 3:17.

October 24, 1983

Kennedy Woos LBC Students



KENNEDY AND FALWELL - More than 5,000 people watched attentively Monday, Oct. 3, as the unexpected meeting of two well-known adversaries, Dr. Jerry Falwell and Sen. Ted Kennedy, unfolded before them with relative ease. - Photo By Kyle Cave

Activities Varied for Spirit Week

A variety of activities has been planned for the week of Homecoming, Oct. 24 to 30.

"Spirit Week" will begin on Monday with the majority of the events taking place on the weekend. The multi-purpose weekend features Homecoming with alumni returning to campus. In addition, parents are hosted and prospective students are introduced to campus life.

Miss Liberty for 1983 will be crowned at the Miss Liberty Pageant at Thomas Road Baptist Church, Oct. 28, at 7:30 p.m. Meredith McRae, former star of "Petticoat Junction" and now hostess of "Midday L.A." will emcee the pageant.

The contestants for this year are as follows: Susan Andrews, Rebecca Bartholomew, Laurie Bartram, Patricia Berry, Amanda Bliss, Karen Coffey, Robbie Coleman, Lori Fichtner, Carol

Hardman, Connie Haviland, Pearl Jackson, Carol Kobus, Jenny McCracken, Yvonne Monahan, Lydia Moore, Cathy Palmer, Susan Pangburn, Donna Pessagno, Cathy Rawlings, Debra Sheggrud, Shelly Solero, Lois Starr, Kathleen Wilk and Tracie Wooldridge.

Sports fans will have plenty to get excited about with the volleyball and wrestling teams competing in the gymnasium on Thursday night at 7 p.m. to start. The volleyball team faces Longwood College, and the grapplers will conduct a blue and white Intra-Squad tournament. Also the First Annual 4-Miller and Fun Run will take place on Saturday, starting at 8:30 a.m. Saturday. These two events are being sponsored by the LBC Alumni Association. Those wanting to participate in either should contact Ralph Brasure in the Records office.

Flames football and soccer are also on the agenda with the opening kickoffs beginning at 1:30 p.m. and 2 p.m. respectively. First, the football team lines up against Presbyterian College at the City Stadium while the soccer team squares off against Christopher Newport at the GE field.

The Alumni-Faculty basketball game will round out the day's athletic events at 7:30 p.m. in the gymnasium.

Homecoming is a reunion for many graduates who return to campus. In honor of the Alumni, a 10:30 a.m. brunch will be held on Saturday morning. Later in the day, a reception for Alumni will take place from 4-6 p.m. at the Lynchburg Hilton.

Homecoming Events

FRIDAY

College For A Weekend
Miss Liberty Pageant
President's Reception

SATURDAY

1st Annual 4 Miller
R.A. Alumni/Reception
Alumni Brunch
Caravan to Stadium
Football Game
Alumni Reception
Alumni/Faculty Basketball
Blue/White Intra-squad Bball
SUNDAY
Services TRBC

By Steve Leer

In a speech punctuated with rhetoric and sprinkled with liberal overtones, Sen. Edward M. Kennedy of Massachusetts presented his views on religious tolerance and truth in America on the evening of Oct. 3.

Addressing a mainly conservative audience of more than 5,000, Kennedy was restrained in his comments on the controversial stand he takes on various issues.

Senator Kennedy entered the LBC gymnasium to a standing ovation and jokingly remarked, "I always thought it would be easier for a camel to pass through the eye of a needle, than to have a Kennedy come to LBC."

Turning to the topic of the evening, the senator began by recognizing the fact that his views clash with those of the college. He hoped, however, that "We will always respect the right of others to differ...and never lose sight of our own fallibility." He added that he believes there is such a thing as truth, but "...who among us can claim a monopoly on it."

Don't Misuse Government

Citing several examples of early American attempts to forge religion with government, Kennedy urged his audience not to misuse government to impose values which others cannot be persuaded to accept. The end result would lead to a country in which "everyone's freedom is at risk."

Kennedy proceeded to outline a four-part test by which a line could be drawn and the differences defined between what he called "imposed will and essential witness."

First, he stressed the importance of respecting the integrity of religion itself.

"People of conscience should be careful how they deal in the

word of their Lord," Kennedy declared. He rebuked those who have used religion as an excuse to practice prejudice and condemn labor unions and public spending for the poor. He also suggested that God takes no position on the Department of Education and that a balanced federal budget is a matter for "economic analysis, not heavenly appeals."

Place for Religious Values

The senator was quick to add that religious values cannot be excluded from all public issues, but he did not mention any specific examples.

The second test Kennedy spoke of was respecting the independent judgments of conscience.

Kennedy explained this as being those persons who treat a position on a public issue as a test of "fealty to faith." Referring to the Moral Majority, he viewed the controversy surrounding the organization as arising from not only its opinions, but from its very name. "In the minds of many," he stated, "it

seems to imply that only one set of public policies is moral and only one majority can possibly be right."

Individual Conscience

He emphasized his belief that a respect for one's individual conscience is in jeopardy. He pointed out that American society is most at risk when people re-establish a religious test for public office. "We must never judge the fitness of individuals to govern on the basis of where they worship, whether they follow Christ or Moses, whether they are called 'born again' or 'ungodly.'"

In the third place, in applying religious values, Senator Kennedy cited respecting the integrity of public debate.

Regarding faith as no substitute for facts, Kennedy utilized this foundation to speak out in favor of a nuclear freeze. "They (religious groups) have every right to argue that any negotiation with the Soviets is wrong." He continued by adding, "I do not believe that, but it surely does not violate the standard of fair public debate to say it." The violation occurs, according to Kennedy, when the opponents of the freeze assume they are infallible.

Kennedy presented pro-freeze rhetoric when he declared: "There is no morality in the mushroom cloud. . . . The Earth is still here; and if we wish to keep it, a prophecy of doom is no alternative to a policy of arms control."

Final Test

The final test that the senator revealed was a respect for the motives of those who exercise their right to disagree.

He questioned the ability of Americans to live peacefully together if they too readily doubt each other's integrity. Realizing that it is harder to suppress feelings when moral principles are at stake, he stressed the need to allow those individuals with differing beliefs "sincerity and

essential decency."

In his comments, Kennedy this time defended ERA supporters. "Those who favor ERA are not 'anti-family' or 'blasphemers' and their purpose is not 'an attack on the Bible.'"

Summing it up, Kennedy hoped for an America "where neither 'fundamentalist' nor 'humanist' will be a dirty word but a fair description of the different ways in which people of good will look at life and into their own souls."

Students Differ with Kennedy

By Dolph Bell

Students reacted differently to the address by Sen. Ted Kennedy during his Oct. 3 appearance at LBC. Many students were impressed by the senator; but, as might be expected, most of them did not agree with him. Here are some of the comments.

"I really enjoyed it," Tracy Dores, freshman.

"I still think he's pretty liberal...nothing much different," Phil Day, sophomore.

"Although I'm not for him politically, I thought he was pretty good," Allyson Brown, sophomore.

"It is evident that Sen. Kennedy does not understand God and the truth of Christianity," Will Honeycutt, senior.

"He was a very knowledgeable person. He seems to know what he's talking about," Kerry Freely, freshman.

"I was frustrated that he would

not commit himself to any issue that I felt was of importance. Basically hollow," John Reeves, senior.

"I respect him and I appreciate what he was saying, but at the same time I'm pretty happy with what Mr. Reagan is doing," Nikolai Pankratz, senior from the Soviet Union.

"I thought it was very disappointing. Some of the questions were weak, and it didn't get to the issues," Doug Schneeman, senior.

"He had his head underneath his belt where he could just avoid

everything," James Robert Lawton, freshman.

"He gave us a different perspective to look at," Scott Washburn, junior.

"He is an excellent speaker, and a clever politician," Paul Spanski, senior.



THE KENNEDY TOUCH - Sen. Ted Kennedy came to LBC crusading for tolerance. Speaking in quotable quotes, Kennedy provided the media with easy copy as he urged the Moral Majority to exhibit tolerance in their dealings with politicians. - Photo By Kyle Cave

Academics do not a student make

By Kim Valcanoff

Academics is a word which has become increasingly important to the aspiring college student.

But what constitutes good academics? Certainly, the quality of professors and the basic structure and position of an institution are major factors; however, the single greatest factor in determining the quality of education is the student's own sense of responsibility.

In essence, the student is the key to his own education. If he wants good, solid academics, he will get just that. Being goal oriented and self disciplined is the first step to personally-applied academics.

Liberty Baptist College certainly places importance on not only the intellectual but also the spiritual aspects of educations.

President Pierre Guillermin has said, "We consider academic changes and their implications, and we must plan effectively and innovatively for the future."

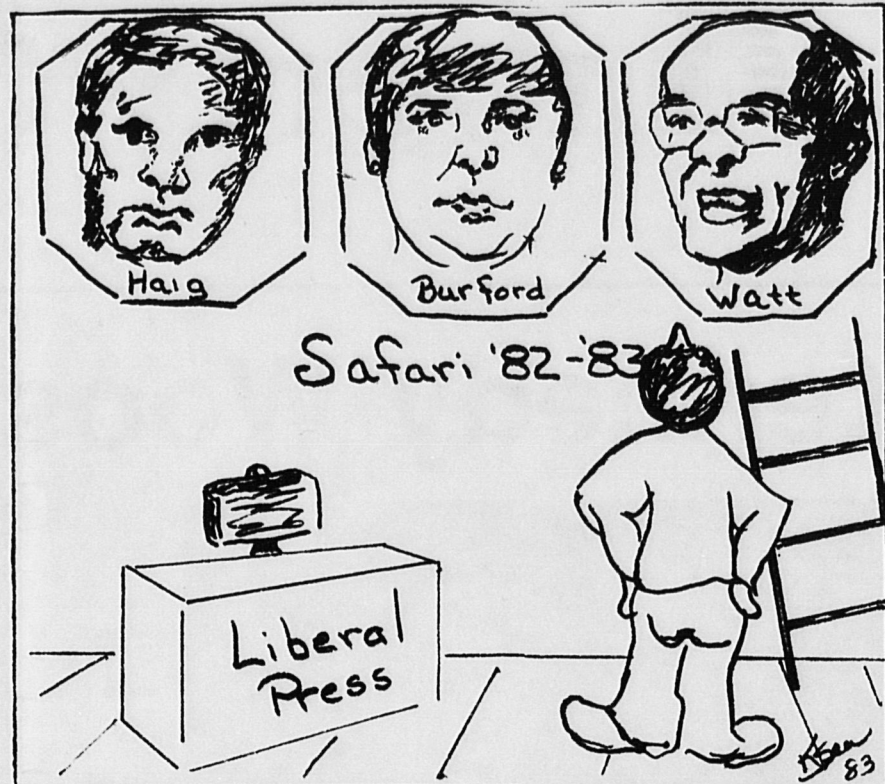
It seems as though his words have already been implemented. Liberty now has

one of the most technically advanced journalism labs in the nation for a school of its size. Opportunities for practical work experience in the areas of political science, education, journalism and accounting are readily available.

Successful students have made their own academics. Steve Murdock, for example, graduated from LBC in 1981 with an accounting major. After only one interview, he received a position in the state of Georgia's auditing department.

His career at Liberty, though, was not limited to books. He was involved with the Business Association, with Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) and with on-the-job accounting experience as night auditor for the Ramada Inn. Steve admitted that he must continue to set high goals in order to progress.

It is the student who makes the academics, not the academics who make the student. The student makes a decision of the will, choosing the quality of his education.



Conservative Review

Watt mounted by liberals

James Watt is gone and, once again, the headhunters in the liberal press have tracked and killed their game. The only question now is whether the trophy will be awarded to the Washington Post or the New York Times.

Since Watt was widely recognized as a Christian, we need to realize that there is more at stake in this than just a good man's reputation. This time they have not only discredited a conservative, but a fundamentalist conservative. I dare say. Watt's religious persuasion was one of the major reasons the papers had him targeted since the day of his arrival in Washington.

The liberals are trying to generate negative associations in the public mind: James Watt equals fundamentalist equals fool. Ted Kennedy told us, "I hope for an America where neither fundamentalist nor humanist will be a dirty word." Perhaps Mr. Kennedy should direct his words at those who have the power to smear and uproot government officials.

Of course, the other reason for the attack on Watt was that his policy was conservative. Along with the crime of being in the Reagan administration, Watt also began treading on liberal holy ground when he was appointed to handle the environment. If you're the secretary of the interior you don't advocate nuclear energy, and you don't open up wasted government land. Neither can you speak your mind freely about abortion, rock music or government advisory panels.

In a recent article in the **Fundamentalist Journal**, LBC Chancellor Jerry Falwell said that the liberal press seems to consider it, "... a greater sin to condemn sin than it is to commit sin." The forced resignation of James Watt is simply another example of this double standard.

By Dolph Bell

Murder heads long list

It's a sad day in American history when it takes the murder of a congressman to wake this lethargic nation from its decades of slumber. It's a dark world when good men have to die to point out the errors of the wicked.

Why is it, I wonder, that we act as if we are surprised to learn that the Soviets have no regard for the lives of the innocent?

Where were the front page stories and the cries of outrage when Joseph Stalin shipped Soviet grain abroad while five million people starved to death in the Ukraine? Where was the coverage while Alexander Solzhenitsyn agonized in the Gulag Archipelago or when women and children

were slaughtered in Afghanistan?

The Soviet Union doesn't even care for its own; how can we expect it to show concern for the lives of Americans and Koreans? How many times must Americans see the ugly face of communism before we gather enough resolve to stop it in its tracks? Perhaps the voice of American blood crying from the sea will sound in the deaf ears of liberal congressmen, but I doubt it.

Of course, we should all mourn the untimely and cruel death of a great and godly man like Larry McDonald, but we must also weep for those countless millions who have died at the bloody hands of world communism.

By Dolph Bell

Can we prove ourselves?

Beth Beckham

Changes continue to take place across the campus of Liberty Baptist College. A flag waves majestically; buildings have arisen and expansion is prevalent. But among these massive innovations are changes which are less noticeable, changes which affect the student body on a daily, personal level.

Some are evident, such as the mustaches we see. Others are somewhat less noticeable.

These changes are purposeful steps made by the administration and the Student Government Association for the student body. They recognize college students as responsible persons - responsible for their taste in dress, style, and grooming.

A student is not a robot who requires every move, every decision, every action, to be dictated to him. Rather, the student is an individual beginning his first, faltering steps away from home and the author-

ity thereof. By this stage in life, an individual needs to become responsible for his decisions and how these decisions will affect his present and future life.

By giving the student body a looser reign under which it can make decisions, the administration is giving us more responsibility. But this responsibility is not something to be taken lightly. Seemingly simple decisions must be weighed in the light of one's testimony - present and future.

The students at LBC have been given a chance to prove themselves as responsible adults. There is a warning to be issued, however. If the loosened reigns are taken as an opportunity to step past the realm of a dynamic testimony for Christ, then the reigns will be tightened once again.

We have before us an opportunity to prove ourselves. The responsibility we learn on campus now will strengthen our Christian testimony in the future.



Cast Does Fine Job — The Liberty Baptist College Drama Department 1983 - 84 season got into full swing in October with the opening of **Dirty Work at the Crossroads**, a romantic melodrama first produced in 1890. The LBC players began work on Sept. 1. The cast and crew spent approximately 15 to 16 hours a week working together, not to mention the hours upon hours working individually on lines and characterization. The entire cast did a fine job, but the major strength of the production had to be the complete command of their parts by Dan Morano (who played Munro Murgatroyd), Sallie Scruggs (Ida Rhinegold), and Michael Manosky (Mookie Magugins). Another strength of the play, according to director Roger Miller, is the chance for some of the cast members to show their acting ability as well as their singing ability. Credit also must go to director Roger Miller and his production staff for their excellent job in choosing and preparing the crew and cast.

THE LIBERTY CHAMPION

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Roundup

Education To Change

Stressing the changing role of higher education, Dr. Pierre Guillerman, president of Liberty Baptist College, addressed the 1983 - 84 faculty during orientation week. Citing the 80's as the decade of change, Guillerman pointed to the forces impacting themselves upon higher education and the plan for success for coping with them.

Library Sets Hours

The library is now open until 12 a.m. Sunday - Thursday. Friday and Saturday the library will close at 10 p.m.

Pre - Law Club Started

LBC's new Pre - Law Society was founded on Sept. 6th at the organization's first meeting of the year. The society presently consists of about 40 members and their faculty sponsor Dr. Jerry H. Combee.

Bloodmobile Visit Set

According to Mrs. Noel Draper, director of blood services, "The bloodmobile that came to LBC on Sept. 6, was another success." Although they did not make their quota, many people came and they collected 162 pints of blood. The next blood drive will be Nov. 14th.

WRVL Expands Power

WRVL is seeking to expand its listening area by increasing their present output of 10,000 watts to 50,000 watts. The radio station was slated to go full power this week.

WW Survives Rain

Rain did not dampen spirits though it cancelled some events of S.G.A.'s Western Wildness Night, Oct. 1. A barbeque, Candler Mountain Boys' music, and a hayride were a part of the festivities.

Phillips Addresses YAF

Young Americans for Freedom sponsored Howard Phillips, director of the Conservative Caucus recently. Phillips urged the group of listeners to grade the Reagan Administration carefully and to examine his performance on key issues.

Students Make Decisions

Missionaries from all over the world visited LBC for Missionary Emphasis Week Sept. 27 - Oct. 1. The week culminated with 90 decisions: 39 surrendered to go to the mission field; 13 made decisions to enter full - time Christian service; 20 expressed interest in missions; and 18 made other decisions.

Students in News Writing II conducted one - on - one interviews with a number of the missionaries. Those interviews will appear in other issues of *The Liberty Champion*.

Conference Coverage Will Follow

Super Conference was held Oct. 16 - 20. Follow-up coverage will appear in the next issue of the paper.

Three Artists Open Year

Appearing on the concert series agenda so far this year have been three musicians: Chris Christian, Christine Wyrzten and Steve Green.

Chris Christian, well - known gospel musician, sang many of his own favorites in a concert given in the Multi - Purpose Center on Oct. 14.

Christine Wyrzten was the second performer of the year. She introduced some songs from her latest album to the approximately 2,000 people, who attended the concert.

Steve Green opened the school concert calendar with his appearance on Liberty Mountain in September.

Band Toots Its Own Horn

By Dolph Bell

You are desperately trying to keep in step despite the distractions around you. Mighty Mouse

and Bull Winkle are your marching partners. As the object of scrutiny for more than 100 million pairs of eyes, the members



GIVING A TOOT! - One LBC musician puts his heart into his performance. Such dedication paid off earlier this month when the band was chosen to perform in the famous Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade.

of the Liberty Baptist College Marching Band will perform at the annual Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade in New York City.

The band will be in New York

on Thanksgiving Day, Nov. 24, to represent the college in what Band Director Ray Locy calls "the Super Bowl of parades."

An estimated three million people will line the parade route in New York and close to one hundred million viewers will be watching on television.

The LBC band is one of 12 bands that were chosen to be in the parade. According to Locy, there were probably a thousand bands that coveted participation in the event.

While they march the band will play "On Broadway." For their two minute drill routine, which most likely will be covered by NBC - TV, the band will play "Mambo," a song from the musical *West Side Story*.

The band will leave LBC on Nov. 22 and return the 26th. While in New York, members will attend a parade practice at 3 a.m. Thanksgiving morning. They also plan to do some sight-seeing and attend a Broadway play.

Locy said that he wrote to the sponsors and asked what the requirements were for being in the parade. He then sent a videotape to judges who made the selection. The parade, sponsored by Macy's Department Store of New York, is two miles long and lasts three hours.

The band is made up of 160 LBC students, mostly freshman, and the color guard.

In past years, the band has performed at pro - life and "I Love America" rallies in Washington.

Newspaper Staff Studies/Works

By Kim Geresy

LBC has a new campus newspaper, *The Liberty Champion* with four issues planned for the fall semester. Three thousand copies of this first issue have been printed.

Commenting on the planned issues, faculty supervisor Ann Wharton said, "Because this is a new endeavor and because everything but the printing is done by the students here on campus, these first issues are foremost a learning experience. Because of this the goal of three additional issues is dependent upon the students' speed in learning all they need to produce the paper on a regular, deadline basis."

A major assistance in the production of the paper is the new journalism laboratory with its state-of-the-art equipment. According to Dr. Dennis Lowry, head of the journalism area, it is the newest, most up-to-date computerized word processing equipment available.

The students and staff are already doing much of their work on the video display terminals and are still in the long process of being trained to use the other equipment.

She also stated, "It is a fantastic opportunity for the students who work on the paper." She added that by working on the school paper the students get a

feeling of how a newspaper goes together; therefore the experience should benefit the students immeasurably.

Lawrence Swicegood, a senior broadcast management major, is the editor of the paper. Assistant editor is senior Andy Nagy. They have a staff of about 25 students working on the paper.

The other staff editors are the following: news editor, Steve Leer; editorial page editor, Dolph Bell; feature page editor, Linda Robertson; sports editor, Tony Virostko; copy editor, Janice Bellair; layout editor, Belinda Dickinson; advertising and circulation, Alan Jackson; head photographer, Janet Iglesias.

Falwell Gets First - hand Look At El Salvador

By Steve Leer

The tiny country of El Salvador, only about as large as Massachusetts in area, has been a focal point of world attention in the last few years.

The democratic government has waged war with the Soviet and Cuban-backed guerrillas for four years, gaining victories in some battles while losing others. The United States stepped in within recent months to aid the Salvadoran army, although many conservative Americans claim that the aid has not been sufficient.

For that reason, Dr. Jerry Falwell, accompanied by Moral Majority leaders Ron Godwin

and Cal Thomas, traveled to the Central American nation to get a first-hand look at the circumstances there.

Departing from Lynchburg on Monday, Sept. 12, Falwell and his associates made stops in Nacogdoches and Lufkin, Texas, where they were received, Falwell said, in an almost heroic fashion at Texas A&M University.

Continuing their journey, they arrived in San Salvador, El Salvador on Tuesday morning. They were greeted at the airport terminal by the U.S. ambassador to El Salvador, and briefed by Jose Castro, a Christian Salvadoran,

in charge of military maintenance.

Castro showed them a portion of the obsolete Salvadoran air force. Antique U.S. and French planes and helicopters lined the runway, many of them with bullet holes and shattered windows.

Yet with such a small defense budget and deteriorating weapons, the army of El Salvador has held off the guerrillas and Sandinistas. With newer equipment and arms, the Salvadorans feel certain they could drive the rebels out for good.

Falwell has said, "If we allow El Salvador to fall to the Communists, the forces of Marxism

will eventually move northward to the United States."

With Godwin and Thomas choosing the sights, Falwell visited San Vicente and San Lorenzo. In San Vicente a city once held by the leftist guerrillas, power has been restored and many citizens are returning, following the Salvadoran victory there.

Guerrillas ravaged San Lorenzo and leveled a local church. The scrappy Salvadorans reclaimed the city in June and are rebuilding from the rubble a new San Lorenzo.

During his seven - and - one - half - hour visit to El Salvador,

Falwell was convinced that U.S. leaders need to re - evaluate the situation there.

As he points out, "We must take a stand everywhere in El Salvador. If we do have to choose between aiding the Lebanese and Salvadorans, I feel at this point El Salvador would have to be the bigger priority."

"Success is doing the will of God according to the Word of God." - Ed Hindson

"The greatest miracle is when you find Christ without getting into the garbage can." - Tom Mahairas

Injuries Hamper Football Season



STRONG SPIRIT - Flames spirit is still strong despite numerous injuries.

Alumnus Moves to Big League

By John Peters

The Los Angeles Dodgers found themselves trailing the Cincinnati Reds by one run in the bottom of the ninth inning. With two men on base, a young rookie stepped up to bat and smacked a game-tying single into center field.

"Doesn't this kind of thing happen all of the time?" you ask. Yes, it does, to other people, but this was a first for former Liberty Baptist College student Sid Bream.

Bream was called up to the major leagues from the Dodgers triple A farm club in Albuquerque, N.M. at the start of Sept. With two weeks left in the season at Albuquerque, Bream had 147

hits, 31 homers, and 116 RBIs while batting .308.

These numbers are similar to another young player who recently played at Albuquerque - Greg Brock - the Dodgers' current first basemen. This will make it particularly difficult for Bream, who also plays first base, to make the Dodgers big league team.

"I want Greg Brock to do the best he can," Bream said in an interview with **Baseball America**. "But if he goofs up, I want them (the Dodgers) to know I'm down here."

The Dodgers seem to be taking plenty of notice of Bream's playing, evident by his move from Albuquerque to the Dodgers, but they're not the only ones who have noticed Bream's statistics.

Baseball America rated him as the best power hitter and the best all-around hitter in triple-A baseball. He was also rated as a slightly better fielder than either Brock or Mike Marshall, the Dodgers' fine back up first basemen.

So, with all this going for him, why wasn't Bream called up earlier? Well, the truth of the

matter is he hasn't always had such lofty statistics.

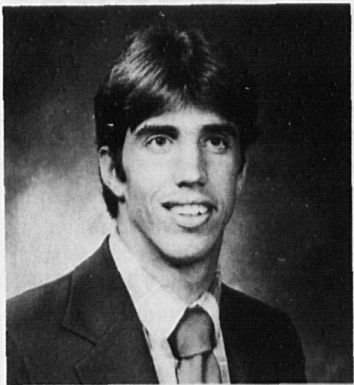
Although Bream still holds more than six LBC records and has never hit below .300 in his career, his power has been rather disappointing since his entrance into the pros.

In his first season at single A club Vero Beach, Calif., Bream hit only one home run in 70 games. In his second year he started the season at Vero Beach, was moved up to a double-A farm team in San Antonio by mid-season and finished the season in Albuquerque with only 13 homers in 136 games.

This year has been different though. With a little hard work and a slight change in his batting stance and swing, Bream has begun to come into his own as a power hitter.

And what does Bream have to say about his chances of making it in the big leagues?

"Being here (in Albuquerque) another two or three years could be discouraging," Bream said in **Baseball America**, "But I believe the Lord is on my side. If he wants me to get to the Major League, I will."



Sid Bream

Young Team Works Toward Championship

By Tony Virostko

There's a new excitement stirring on campus over the soccer team. Their season has been a winning one and student support is growing strong.

The team itself is very young; most of the players are freshmen or sophomores, but the quality of the players, however, is at a high level.

The team consist of students from Mexico, Haiti, Africa, Guatemala and many parts of the U.S.

Coach Bill Bell is the man who heads the soccer organization. Bell played professionally for many years and is a native of Scotland.

The players hold Coach Bell in high esteem. "He sets a great example for the team," said one player of Coach Bell. "He works

the team hard and expects their best effort."

"This year's team is special," according to Gary Kramer, the team's captain. "The unity of the players, the dedication to hard work and the physical and spiritual growth are all factors that attribute to it."

"This year's schedule is the hardest one we've ever had," said Kramer. The team has played against several top ranked teams in the NAIA and NCAA.

The team has one more home game on Oct. 29 against Christ-opher Newport before the NAIA/VISA play-offs beginning Nov. 5.

The soccer team's activities do not end with the season; they use soccer as a means to spread the Gospel in detention centers, high schools and church youth groups.

By Tim Brockway

With football season well under way, the Liberty Baptist Flames' hard work has been offset by a plague of injuries.

Head Coach Tom Dowling feels that the injuries have played a major role in the team's performance.

Both offense and defense have been hindered with major and minor injuries and after six weeks of play the Flames hold a record of 2 - 4, exactly the same record as last year.

Probably the most devastating blow to the Flames came in their game against Virginia State University when quarterback Phil Basso was taken out with a shoulder injury that had been injured the year before.

Basso had been doing a superb job for the Flames. He had completed 103 passes for 1,360 yards and seven touchdowns. It is uncertain if he will be able to return this season.

Liberty has done well in other aspects of the game. James Cole leads the Flames in rushing with 601 yards and a 4.8 yard average per carry.

Cole had five straight 100 yard games but was replaced by Richard Keenum in the Virginia State game. Keenum was unable to match Cole's 100 yards but picked up the slack by catching three passes for 48 yards.

Kelvin Edwards has 27 pass receptions for 471 yards and five

touchdowns. Edwards leads the Flames in total points scored with 30 while Mark DeMoss and James Cole both share 24.

DeMoss had his extra point conversion record end at 82 when he missed in the Central State game. DeMoss has hit 6 of 12 field goal attempts.

After a humiliating loss to Central State, 66 to 16, the Flames defense came back and shut out the Virginia State Trojans. The Flames defense held the Trojans offense scoreless though the Trojans led in total offense.

The Flames team statistics are evidence of the 2 - 4 record they hold. They won against Howard 15 - 10 and then dropped the next four to Saginaw Valley, 15 - 18; Towson State, 3 - 13, James Madison, 35 - 44; and Central State, 16 - 66 before they picked up their second win of the season against Virginia State 14 - 2. Their opponents have out-scored them 153 - 98.

When asked earlier about what his team needed to improve its record, Coach Dowling said, "We need to win a game badly, then the next game will come a little easier."

The Flames now have that crucial win tucked under their belt as they prepare for the next challenge. They faced Delaware State Saturday, Oct. 22, and will face Presbyterian College for Homecoming the 28th.

Dowling Proves Optimistic

By Phil Day

Making the NAIA Division II play-offs and eventually developing a Division I program are the immediate and long-term goals of the Liberty Baptist Flames head football coach Tom Dowling.

"Our goal right now, however, is to be the best football team we can be," stated Dowling in a telephone interview.

"Our past losses hurt us, but I'm confident that the team will bounce back and win."

The Flames have improved in many areas this year, especially the running game. Tailback James Cole has lead the team in rushing and yardage gained.

"We have moved the ball reasonably well on the ground,

but we're not as effective with our passing game. Also our defense has allowed too much yardage on long drives," stated Dowling.

To compound the problem of a porous defense, the Flames have also lost many players because of injuries.

Most notable of those injured were quarterback Phil Basso, who suffered a shoulder injury; free safety Steve Clark, who has a plate in his arm; and defensive tackle Bill Gray, who has a dislocated shoulder.

"We have a problem with depth too, but our attitude is a winning attitude. We have a fine bunch of young men. We have to play smart football and not play over our heads," Dowling said.



BIG WINNERS - The LBC soccer team has a record of 10 - 1 - 1, and the players are looking for a championship.