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Puzzled on how to fit in?

Life pieces together campus involvement

SEE PAGE 7

Politically Pumped

Schwarzenegger's strength at the polls

SEE PAGE 6

Happy 70th

Check out Dr. Falwell's b-day gift.

SEE PAGE 4



The Liberty Champion

SERVING LIBERTY UNIVERSITY FOR TWENTY YEARS VOL. 21, NO. 1

SEPTEMBER 2, 2003

Block Concert

Switchfoot draws more than students

By Jake Belue

NEWS EDITOR

It was not a sold out crowd Wednesday at the Switchfoot concert/Liberty Block Party, but that is only because students were not charged a single penny for the powerful, packed-out show.

Students, townies and out-of-towners converged in the parking lots and dotted the hills, making this the largest block party ever.

"I knew it was going to be big when I was getting calls from all over," said Jeff Paul, Associate Director of Student Life. The huge turnout could have been attributed to many things. There was free pizza, an inflated obstacle course, a rock climbing wall, and other amusements throughout the night. But the main event of the night was the concert, and Switchfoot did not fail to please.

The band played all the favorites, including their hit song

from the soundtrack of *A Walk to Remember*, "Dare You To Move." Lead Singer Jon Foreman, a San Diego native and an avid surfer, did some

crowd-surfing while the rest of the band pumped out alternative rock beats.

Freshman Bethany Allen loved the show. "I've listened to their music since the beginning of their career," she said. Allen, like many freshmen, came to the concert to relax after a long and stressful Frosh Week.

Although many students came to sit, unwind, and listen to good music, others came just to have fun. The closer you were to the stage, the more intense the crowd. The audi-

ence jumped, swayed, and sang along with the music. Senior Josh Morris wanted to be in the action. "I was jumping around and just enjoying the music. I had to try and not get shoved around too much," he said.

The band's appearance was a source for much excitement on campus. Within the last year, Switchfoot's music has been featured on many popular TV shows and a movie soundtrack. They made a successful crossover into mainstream music, but the lyrics still contain themes that define the group's rock solid faith. Their devotion to Christ hasn't lessened their popularity though. The band is scheduled to appear on Carson Daly's "Last Call" on September 10.

When Switchfoot released their latest album, "The Beautiful Letdown," first week sales of the CD reached over 14,000, earning a spot at #85 on the Billboard chart for album sales.

The band deals with themes of the human existence, doubt, redemption, and salvation in their latest work. They strive for diversity, claiming the song and not the album is "king," or the most important component of the work. This was evident on Wednesday as the band drove through energy-laden rock songs and strummed softly in their melodic ballads. The result was an eclectic mix that left the audience hanging onto the performance.

This was only the first bash of a year filled with big events. Student Life is hosting concerts that will bring names like "Five Iron Frenzy" and "Passion" to Liberty.

Student Life and Director Jeff Boyer were responsible for the booking of Switchfoot. They aimed to provide students with a fun, activity-filled kickoff to the school year. Paul was pleased with the way things turned out. Just before running up the hill to help with the fireworks show that followed the concert, Paul looked around at the smiling faces and said, "It couldn't have gone better."

More block party photos, page 3

Student Center waits on zoning decision

By Brian Long

REPORTER

Approximately 130,000 square feet of newly acquired building space awaits zoning permission from Lynchburg City Council in order for construction to begin at the former Ericsson property. Once permission is granted and building plans are finalized, construction will commence as soon as possible.

Student Life Director Jeff Boyer said that a start date cannot be made until all the paperwork is finished. The center will take 14-16 months to complete after construction begins.

"I don't want to give a start date that could deceive the student body," Boyer said. "It is the goal of the University to start construction as soon as possible. There are many factors that will determine the start date of a project this size."

According to Director of Field Operations J.O. Reynolds, the former Ericsson

property is currently divided into three different sections for use. One section for LCA (Lynchburg Christian Academy), the second section for Thomas Road Baptist Church, and the third portion will be used as the new Student Center.

The student center is being built to supply leisure, health, and entertainment to students outside of the classroom. It will benefit not only the student body as a centerpiece for recreation and a host of student activities, but will also aid student recruitment.

A large portion of the funds came from Dr. Tim LaHaye. There have also been matching grants from an anonymous donor.

The center will be occupied by mostly students. Faculty, staff, and the community will also have privileges depending on the size of the structure and use by the student population.

Please see CENTER, page 2

Jungle Camp preps students

A glimpse into the sacrifices missionaries make

By Ricky Hardison

NEWS REPORTER

If you have ever wondered what a chicken with its head cut off really looks like, then you can ask several Liberty students who found out this summer by using only their bare hands and a stick.

"I yanked the chicken's body as hard as I could. When the head came off, I threw it and ran," senior Melissa Helmer said. Seven others effectively used this bladeless guillotine on several other chickens to help prepare dinner.

Twenty-one undergraduate and graduate students attended the first Jungle Camp from Aug. 10-16 at Camp Hydaway, a Thomas Road Baptist Church recreational area. The purpose of this camp was to get students interested in tribal missions and to train those who were already committed to reaching unreached people groups, according to LU Missions Director Dr. Don Fanning. The camp is designed to expose potential missionaries to the difficulties they may very well experience on the field.

The Mission's department teamed with New Tribes Mission to teach students skills in teamwork, food preparation and language acquisition. They also learned how to give injections to one another, and they had



RICKY HARDISON

IT'S A JUNGLE OUT THERE — Camp Hydaway prepares graduate and undergraduate students who are considering going into the missions field for potential hardships.

to complete various obstacles, such as scaling a 12-foot wall, as a team.

"Never have I grown so close to a group of people in such a short period of time," sophomore Elizabeth Byrd recalled.

During their class time, students also discussed the need for Bible translation, the inadequacies of the sinner's prayer, the nature of the gospel, how to teach the Bible chronologically and how to understand tribal worldviews.

"My purpose for being here is to show students how much training

they really need," New Tribes Representative Roy Menefee said. "One of the best things they can learn is good study habits."

Humid afternoons, countless insect bites and waking up around 5:30 a.m. every day helped recreate life in the jungle. Each camper had to sleep in a hammock one night.

They also had to carry everything for the week on their back, and they were only allowed to bring three sets of clothing.

Please see JUNGLE, page 2

Jungle: A lesson in survival

Continued from page 1

A big bucket filled with lake water and detergent replaced laundry machines for the week. Some students had a tough time keeping their clothes dry.

Despite these conditions, "we didn't make it as difficult as we should have," Fanning said. "We didn't push them to their limits. The weather was too nice, and they were too comfortable."

The cabins did have air-conditioning, and the kitchen and bathrooms all had modern plumbing. Most of the food was also American. In fact, campers got to eat some home-made biscuits one morning for breakfast.

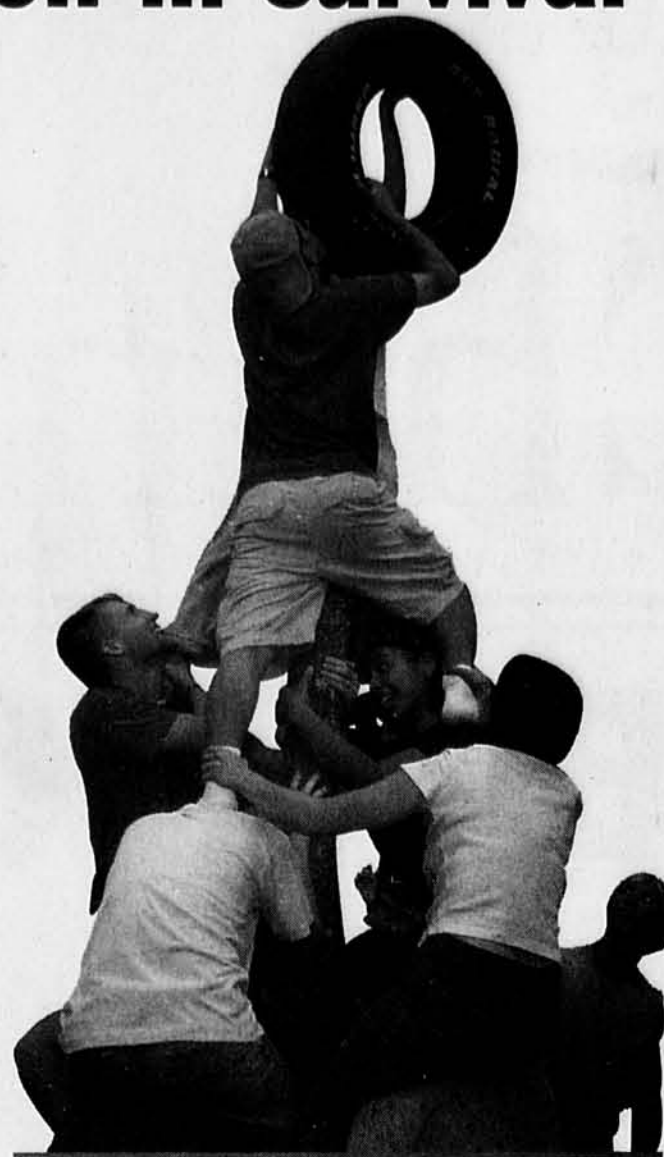
Another educational aspect of Jungle Camp was that campers learned about particular tribal beliefs and customs. Dan Stokes, also with New Tribes Mission, talked about a tribe in Bolivia whose members won't look at rainbows because they believe doing so will cause a snake to bite them.

Stokes also shared that certain non-Western customs might make Americans on the mission field feel uncomfortable. One tribe he talked about, for example, greets new women in the community by groping them on the chest.

As strange as some of these practices may seem, campers got to watch videos that illustrate how similar people groups often readily respond to the gospel when it is presented to them. "Most of the time, if there's perseverance, much of the tribe will come to faith," said Fanning, who himself spent eight years doing tribal missions in Columbia, South America.

After viewing one of the films, senior Lisa Griffith stated, "There are people dying everyday and going to a real place called hell...and many of them are screaming out for the truth, but where are we?"

The jungle camp desires to train a few missionaries who will be prepared to answer that call.



STRETCH — Campers cooperate to hook a tire over a twelve foot tree, the exercise is designed to strengthen teamwork.



When missionaries challenge others to fulfill the Great Commission and serve God abroad, I find it humorous to analyze the response in the crowd. Some repeatedly nod their heads in affirmation and are eager to catch the next flight overseas.

They have no reservations about forsaking family and friends for their faith. They see the obstacles created from demonic influences and third-world conditions, and they cry, "Bring it on!" Such a servant is like a spiritual Indiana Jones ready to raid the lost world with the ark of truth.

Then there are the rest of us. The majority of evangelicals are pew-warmers who think that the Great Commission is a great idea—that is, a great idea for someone else. Some, as we hear missionaries plead for more laborers, simply do not seem interested, and still some sit confused as if we're waiting on God's "call."

How many times have we heard or thought, "I'm willing to go overseas if God leads me there...but I just hope He doesn't." The Great Commission has become a great burden.

Why? Well, we readily throw around statistics about the number of unreached people groups and the shortage of workers to reach them. However, this sort of speech has not produced the desired results. This should not surprise us, for impersonal statistics do little to ignite conviction in hearts.

The church needs a new line of reasoning to challenge able bodies to be missionaries, and—in my opinion—this new logic must be rooted in theology. At Liberty, we distinguish between a major in biblical studies and in missions. This distinction is appropriate, but it is not necessary. Proper theology will produce proper action. In other words, the best way to get others to dig their heels into the mission field is to have them dig their noses into the Word.

That is why this column exists. Each column will attempt to highlight a unique, biblically-rooted motivation for students to consider missions. Plus, each article will show how these same truths have impacted the missions focus of LU students and other figures from church history.

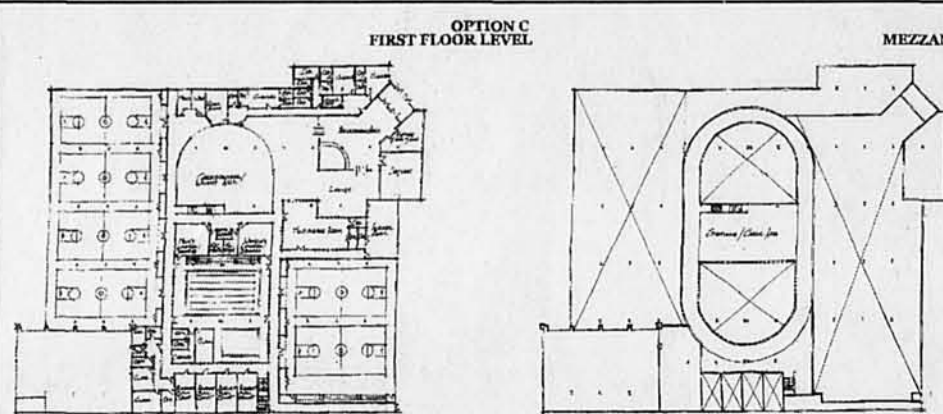
I titled this column "The Glorious Commission" to help reinforce the nature of the task at hand. Webster defines "glorious" as "magnificent...delightful...wonderful." Such is the command to disciple the world, "and his commands are not burdensome" (1 John 5:3). We should be glad that our Father gave us this task. Therefore, may the above observations develop in our minds that the Great Commission is also a great privilege.

Center: still in the works

Continued from page 1

Sports teams will also have use of the facility, but the average student will be given priority. Fees and costs will be decided by the administration.

Students will be able to enjoy a variety of activities in the new center. Current designs include a fitness center, swimming pool, six basketball courts, a variety of areas where students can relax, and four racquetball courts. There will also be multipurpose rooms for aerobics, kickboxing, and a running track. Finances will determine additional programs.



FROM THE DRAWING BOARD — Proposed plans for the Student Center as seen on Student Life's website.

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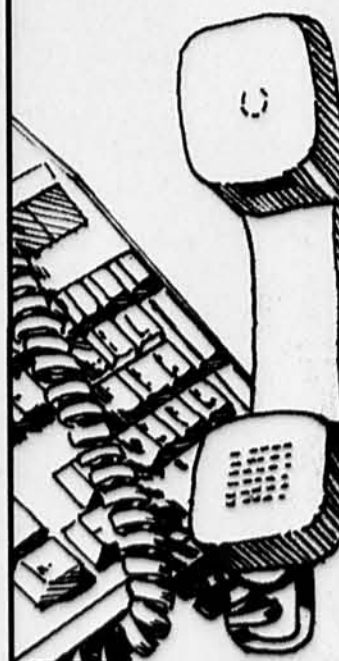
Available to work Monday-Sunday = \$8.00 an hour. Required hours: Friday 8:45pm-9:45pm, Saturday 8:00pm-12:00pm and Sundays (8am-1pm and 8pm-1am OR 8am-6pm and 8pm-9pm).

Additional shifts are available weekdays and evenings.

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Law School Update

By Misty Maynard
REPORTER

Last October Liberty University announced its intention to start a school of law. Originally it was slated to open this October. However, the Board of Trustees decided to give the process another year to fully develop. "It takes 18-24 months to prepare to open a law school. The original date was modified as soon as a founding Dean was named," said Rodlyn F. Davis, the Administrator and Executive Assistant to Bruce W. Green, Dean of the School of Law. The law school is now scheduled to begin its inaugural class in August of 2004.

The Liberty University School of Law's mission as stated on the new website is to equip graduates with a superior legal education in fidelity to the Christian faith expressed through the Word of God. The law school is unique in that it emphasizes a Christian world view and stresses the moral

responsibility of future leaders.

Liberty University aims to train its students to impact the world around them. As LU's official website reports, "Liberty University School of Law is founded upon the premise that there is an integral relationship between faith and reason, and that both have their origin in the Triune God."

The School of Law is already receiving applications from individuals who are interested in enrolling. The official opening date for applications is October 1, though several qualified applicants have already been accepted as students.

If you are interested in applying to become a student in Liberty University's School of Law, you can contact Rodlyn Davis by email at law@liberty.edu or by calling 434-582-2800. Updated information and announcements concerning the law school are available on the official website.

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Dr. Falwell celebrates 70th b-day Liberty introduces the new OneCard

The present of a lifetime

By Ben Eppard
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

When most notable personalities hit their 70th birthday, the day comes along with notable gifts, ranging from Cadillacs to Rolex watches, so when our very own Dr. Jerry Falwell passed the milestone, this reporter was interested to see what he received. And the present is... a museum?

The Dr. Falwell Library, was given to Dr. Falwell by his wife Macel and his three children, Jonathan, Jerry Jr. and Jeanne in affiliation with Liberty University and a host of friends. The impressive gift, which was unveiled the night of Aug. 11, was painstakingly kept a secret and took two months of hard work to complete in its present form.

The museum is dedicated to collect, preserve, present and interpret the work of Jesus Christ through the ministry of Dr. Jerry Falwell. Complete with the actual radio from which Falwell heard the sermons of Dr. Charles Fuller, the museum exhibits many of the original items that surrounded



IN CASE YOU HAVEN'T BEEN UPSTAIRS — The new Dr. Falwell museum spans his life from birth up to the present with video, pictures, and even a classic car. The museum is located in the 2nd floor atrium.

Falwell's youth, even boasting a Model T Ford like the one that Falwell's father drove.

The museum, which is in its first phase, currently covers Falwell's ancestry and youth. Plans are already underway to add many more exhibits, including his work through Thomas Road Baptist Church, the Moral Majority and Liberty University. There will also be

that will include a library of relevant publications and an archive of unpublished work.

How was all this kept a secret? "That was the hardest part," Jerry Falwell Jr. commented, "especially because (Dr. Falwell) was regularly checking in on the completion of the atrium. All the workers had set signals, and when they would see him coming they would cover everything up and

turn the lights off."

How does the chancellor himself feel about all of this? "Having been Chancellor at Liberty from the beginning, this is the first time that I have been totally flim-flammed. I had no inkling, Jerry Jr., Jonathan, Paula Johnson and many others worked together to give me the greatest surprise of my life," said Dr. Falwell.

By Ashley Haygood
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

Change seems to be the norm at Liberty and with all the "newness" that permeates our campus comes the new Liberty OneCard. Doubling as an ID card and Debit card in one, the Liberty OneCard promises to make life here at LU a little less stressful.

As all the signs around campus indicate, activating the card is the first step. Your card will not function on or off campus without activation. Simply log onto www.libertyuone.com and follow the steps.

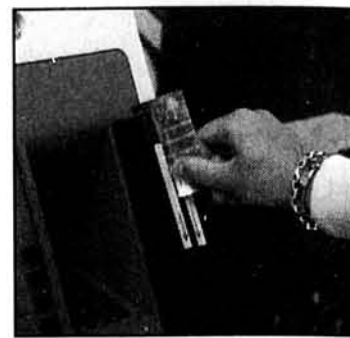
While activating your card, you can also specify how you would like to receive any school refunds, if you would like to attach outside accounts to your Liberty OneAccount, and other information.

The University recommends choosing the OneAccount during activation. Students need not worry about opening a bank

account, as the FDIC-insured OneAccount has no monthly fees or required minimum balance. Students can also use OneAccount ATM's located on campus without receiving withdrawal fees.

The OneCard can be used at all the vendors on campus, including the Hangar, A-la-cart, and the LU bookstore. It is accepted off-campus as well for use as a debit card.

Liberty OneCards were mailed to students' permanent addresses. If you are not sure what address is on file with the University, log onto ASIST to verify your personal information.



New dorms worth the wait

By Joe Reitz
REPORTER

Nearly one year ago, Dr. Jerry Falwell announced the plans to construct new apartment-style dorms via the Bostic Brothers Company. However, weather has put a hold on construction of the new dorms, sliding the original completion date further back into the fall.

"Some of the dorms could be done as early as September, while others may be finished as late as November" Joey Colson (Housing Office assistant) said.

According to Colson, students currently occupying local hotels will enter the new dorms dorm by dorm as the construction of each dorm is finished. Men will have to wait a little longer than the ladies since females will be the first to occupy the new residence.

Although the dorms are close to completion, many students are discontent with how long the process has taken. This feeling seems to be spreading rapidly throughout the cramped quarters of both existing dorms and local hotels.

These are just the growing pains of an ever-expanding student population.

"Living in the dorm can be so much fun. But if there are too many people, it can become a burden," senior Lauren Mathews explained.

Occupants of the new dorms are guaranteed only one roommate per bedroom among many other precious perks.

The new apartment style dorms will be worth waiting for.

Each unit boasts high-speed internet, cable ready rooms, private bedrooms and bathrooms, a kitchenette with a dishwasher, a washer/dryer combination, and a common living room for every three bedrooms. There will also be lounges with big screen televisions for hanging out or studying, and exercise facilities.

But until they move in, students will have to make the best of their current living situation.

"The hotels offer the same amenities as would the new housing," Colson explained. Students who are designated to live in the new dormitories are required to pay an extra \$500 for the additional amenities offered.

A weekly update on the progress of the new dorms is available on the Student Affairs website.



CLOSE TO COMPLETION — The new apartment style dorms just across the highway are all scheduled to be done by November.

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Campus Calender

September

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|--|--|
| <p>5-6 All Night of Prayer! All night at the Prayer Chapel</p> <p>6 LU Football at Toledo 7:00 pm</p> <p>7-10 Spiritual Emphasis Week with David Nasser in the Vines Center</p> <p>10 Jazz Night in the Courtyard: Refreshments and live jazz after church in the DeMoss courtyard</p> <p>12 True Worshipers: Praise Festival 7:00 pm at David's Place</p> <p>13 LU Football at Bowling Green 6:00 pm</p> <p>12-13 Women's Volleyball Invitational. Times TBA.</p> <p>16 Women's Volleyball vs. JMU 7:00 pm in the Vines Center.</p> | <p>19 Play- The Gospel According to John 8:00 pm at David's Place</p> <p>19 Five Iron Frenzy concert 7:30 in the Schilling Center \$8 for LU students \$12 for visitors</p> <p>20 LU Football vs. Kentucky Wesleyan 1:30 pm at Williams Stadium</p> <p>20 Student Day Trip to Baltimore. \$5 deposit to save seat (returned upon arrival) 8:15 am at David's Place</p> <p>22 Karaoke 9:00 pm in the dining hall</p> <p>26 Fellowship Gospel Choir Talent Competition 10:00 pm at David's Place</p> <p>27 LU Football vs. Youngstown State 7:00 pm at Williams Stadium Family Day!</p> |
|--|--|

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the Spring House

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Opinion

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Blind

News wanders without integrity

By Ben Eppard
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

School starts back and the campus is buzzing with the excitement of new classes and a new year. Still, as much as the Champion office catches on to the fresh spirit around us, there is a measure of sullenness in every journalist's work these days. News, as an American establishment, has taken a beating. The events of this summer, specifically the demise of the New York Times, has left a shadow across every newspaper editor's desk. It is with careful hands and wary eyes that editors now double check their sources, and stretch themselves to ensure that every word is backed by integrity.

Proverbs 23:23 says, "Buy truth and do not sell it." This is a very telling passage, because the truth often comes at a price. It is often harder to acquire and harder to guard than false information. And it can often be profitable to give it away or to compromise it.

From a newspaper perspective it's surely easier to be inventive than it is to tell the truth. It is harder to search for the truth and double-check it. The importance of maintaining the truth, however, is imperative. Truth has a price, but we must pay it, and we must not sell it.

In 1994, a talented young freshmen arrived at Liberty University. Unlike many students, who wait for their junior or senior years to begin preparing their portfolios, he immediately went to work, joining the Champion as a reporter. In his first year alone Jayson Blair made 10 page one stories, a feat that has never been equaled by a first time student.

After only one year at Liberty, he transferred to the University of Maryland, where his rise to success was equally quick. After only one year working for the Diamondback, the University's student paper, he became the editor-in-chief. The following summer he landed an internship with the New York Times. Blair never returned to school, because the Times offered him a job.

At first, Blair's story seems impressive. He worked hard and got where he wanted to be in a short time. In eight months the seniors of Liberty University will once again be graduating and many of them will be wondering what

they want to do. By that time Jayson Blair had been working for the Times for over a year. This alone could instill jealousy in many seniors. Blair didn't even have to finish school and with the Times on his resume it could be argued that finishing school would have been unnecessary. It seems like the perfect easy way out. On top of all this, Blair was honored by the University of Maryland among its distinguished alumni, although he never graduated. From a worldly perspective this would be considered success.

Psalm, however, says that "Ill gotten gains do not profit," and while some of Blair's successes must be attributed to hard work, somewhere along the way he began to cut corners. Blair's associates complained to faculty even in school that he had turned the University of Maryland's newspaper into a publication of rumors, fabrications and unreliable leadership, but both the faculty and the media group that backed the paper continued to support him.

Six years later on May 1 of this year Blair resigned from the New York Times amid numerous allegations of plagiarism and invention of sources. On June 5, both the Executive editor and the Managing editor resigned as well in the wake of the Blair catastrophe. Blair is now the black sheep of the news industry. He symbolizes the demise of news integrity. Much of what he wrote is now in question, and as looked back at Blair's writing they other writers, some over five years

What is my point? News is best entertaining and informative, and writing is best when things go as planned. do that, however. As easy as it is to cut tual and honest is far more important than Yes, the the truth is easily sold, but it's quickly spent and rarely regained.

There is a saying that, "All truth is God's truth." It's also true, however, that all distortions of truth are not of God. It is the job of all Christians and journalists to reflect and guard that truth, and that is what the Champion is dedicated to this semester.



SpeakUp: What was your most exciting event of the summer?



"I made cement blocks in Honduras."

—Arlene Zelinskas, Fr.
Dayton, Ohio.



"I got to go on a trip to San Francisco with all of my best friends."

—Jonathan Merritt, Sr.
Atlanta, Ga.



"I went swimming in Maine and camped in my car."

—Autumn Hugo, Jr.
Weathersfield, Vt.



"I served as a middle school ministry intern at my church and worked with about 100 crazy students."

—Matt Kozma, Fr.
St. Peters, Mo.



"Climbing Mt. Kathadin with my dad and my boyfriend."

—Laura B. Robison, So.
Burnham, Maine.



"I got engaged!"

—Ekaterina Chekashkina, Jr.
Russia

Commentary

Schwarzenegger Right and Left

California is a mess. The huge load of debt caused by years of overspending has led to a reduction of California's credit rating, cuts in basic services, rolling blackouts, tax hikes, and most recently, a large exodus of citizens and businesses from the state. Frustrated with the leadership of Governor Gray Davis, the citizens launched a petition to recall him.

That petition which seemed like a long shot just a few short months ago has become reality. As of last week there were 134 candidates on the ballot, and with Davis' disapproval rating hovering close to 70 percent, it's likely that one of them will be the next Governor of California.



jeremybroggi

Even Democratic Party officials who ardently opposed the recall are now hedging their bets with what they call the "no, yes" option, encouraging voters to vote "no" on the recall, but "yes" on Lt. Governor Cruz Bustamante, just in case.

While the bi-partisan recall effort is hardly the "Republican power grab" that Davis labeled it, the current situation has undeniably opened a door for the GOP. And though there are many Republicans on the ballot, perhaps the one with the best chance of ousting Davis is Arnold Schwarzenegger. Certainly he has more name recognition than many of the other candidates, leads in several polls, and has the star power to elevate him over the crowded field of contenders. But is Schwarzenegger right for California?

What California needs most right now is a good dose of conservatism to revive its lagging economy and reduce its enormous deficits. And

while most Republicans expected Schwarzenegger to be liberal on social issues, some of the actor's early campaign hinted at a degree economic liberalism as well. Statements alluding to the need for social programs for children and the elderly worried many conservatives, and Schwarzenegger's

naming of Warren Buffet as his economic adviser, who suggests raising taxes in California, did little to allay those fears.

In spite of these early warning signs, Schwarzenegger's campaign may be getting back on track. At a recent press conference, Schwarzenegger publicly reprimanded Buffet for recommending tax hikes, adding that in California taxing "goes on all day long... Tax, tax, tax, tax, tax." He also reiterated in strong terms his support for Proposition 13, and spoke of the need to cut wasteful government spending.

So which is the true Arnold? Though

some might interpret his later statements as pandering to the right, Schwarzenegger's personal experience in this country tends to demonstrate otherwise. An immigrant who came to the United States with nothing, Schwarzenegger experienced first hand

the power of the American dream. Of all people, he should understand the incredible benefits of economic liberty and

"Though some might interpret his later statements as pandering to the right, Schwarzenegger's personal experience in this country tends to demonstrate otherwise."

the powerful incentive it provides to those who are willing to work hard. Schwarzenegger must remind people that part of what makes this country great is the ability to experience the fruit of our labor in a way that no other people in the history of the world has ever dreamed. If he does this, and will support policies that enable people to achieve, Schwarzenegger may just have what it takes to terminate Davis.

Homosexual Marriage: The Battle Over Legalities

The issue of whether or not gays and lesbians should be able to legally marry has been in the forefront of political news this summer causing much debate.

This past May, House Joint Resolution 56, also known as the Federal Marriage Amendment, was introduced by Republican Congresswoman Marilyn Musgrave. The amendment would specify that "marriage in the United States shall consist only of the union between a man and a woman."

President George W. Bush voiced his support in July by stating, "I believe marriage is between a man and a woman, and I think we ought to codify that one way or another."

Many other individuals and groups including Jerry Falwell Ministries, Focus on The Family, and the Traditional Values Coalition also have spoken out in favor of the amendment and are encouraging supporters to sign petitions that will be sent to Congress.

In opposition to such an amendment, are many gay rights advocacy groups like the Human Rights Campaign and the ACLU. Political director of the Human Rights Campaign, Winnie Stachelberg was quoted by CNN as saying, "We are very disappointed that the president is trying to further codify discrimination into law."

I am completely in favor of this amendment based on my understanding of our nation's history. When the Constitution was written, the term marriage did

not need to be specifically defined as the union of a man and a woman because they could only think of that meaning of marriage. Apparently, a redefinition is now necessary in order to prevent the Constitution from being misconstrued.

I also support the legislation on the basis that marriage is a sanctified and sacred institution which should not be available to homosexuals because it is sin. Leviticus 18:22 (NLT) says specifically, "Do not practice homosexuality, it is a detestable sin." Verses in Romans and 1 Corinthians also make it clear that homosexual behavior is unholy. An unholy act should not be declared holy by the union of marriage.

Gays and lesbians want to be able to be married, not in order to have a marriage certificate, but so that they can feel that their relationship is healthy, normal, and legitimate. Sadly, even if our society accepts them wholeheartedly, and allows them to be married, it will not satisfy them because they are deceiving themselves and living in sin apart from the will of Almighty God.

As far as this amendment being discriminatory like some would suggest, discrimination is not the real issue. The issue is a moral one. Immoral behavior should not be elevated to the same level as moral behavior which is exactly what allowing gay marriages would do. It would justify and embrace homosexuality as heterosexuality's equal. If that is discrimination, then in this case, I'm all for it.



juliaseymour

Racism Upheld in Education? The Need For Colorblind Admissions

On June 23, the United States Supreme Court handed down two long-anticipated rulings regarding the legality of race-based admissions policies at the University of Michigan. In a 6-3 decision, the Court rejected the undergraduate school's racist policy of giving a 20-point bonus to minority students on a 150-point scale. At first glance, this decision came as a significant victory in the battle for a colorblind society. However, in a separate 5-4 decision regarding the admission's policies at Michigan's law school, the Court practically reversed itself and confirmed the government's compelling

principles that this nation was founded upon—that people are created equal and that people have a right to equal protection under the law.

The use of affirmative action policies in higher education has stigmatized minorities as second-rate. Imagine the insult if you were told that in spite of your supposed inferiorities (i.e. your score was too low), you are going to be granted a special preference. As a result, the principle of achieving excellence within higher education has been dealt a severe setback.

Instead of implementing race-based admission's policies and resorting to preferences and reverse discrimination, colleges and universities should instead employ race-neutral means of attaining

minority students. For example, in Florida, Texas, and California, they have implemented a percentage system in which a percentage of top performers at all high schools, even those schools that are mainly comprised of minority students, are assured admission into more prestigious state colleges and universities.

The practice of affirmative action is replete with contradictions. Affirmative action is a policy that practices reverse discrimination on people of non-minority status. Targeting supposedly historical disadvantaged groups, in other words women and minorities, will undoubtedly further intensify divisions and delay the hope of a more colorblind society. The Supreme Court has upheld an initiative that proves to be imprudent by advancing inequality.

The irony of the June decisions is that they came on the 40th anniversary of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s "I have a dream" speech where he said he wanted his children to not be "judged by the color of their skin, but by the content of their character." It seems now his dream will have to wait.



gabrielwasson

"Instead of implementing race-based admission's policies and resorting to preferences and reverse discrimination, colleges and universities should instead employ race-neutral means of attaining minority students."

Hammering away...

at your head - the idea just will not leave you. It pounds on the inside of your temples until it nearly drives you mad. You have an idea or debate, and you just have to let it out. Well, here's the ticket. Write a Letter to the Editor. He'll read it over and you will have gained an audience of one. Then if he publishes it you'll have an audience of 5000. To do so just send your article, which must be under 400 words to editor@liberty.edu or swing by DeMoss 1035 and drop it in his lap.

The Liberty Champion

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The Champion encourages community members to submit letters to the editor on any subject. Letters should not exceed 400 words and must be typed and signed. The deadline is 6 p.m. Monday.

Letters and columns that appear are the opinion of the author solely, not the Champion editorial board or Liberty University.

All material submitted becomes property of the Champion. The Champion reserves the right to accept, reject or edit any letter received — according to the Champion stylebook, taste and the Liberty University mission statement.

Send letters to: Liberty Champion, Liberty University, Box 2000, Lynchburg, VA 24506 or drop off in DeMoss Hall 1035.

The Champion is available online at: www.liberty.edu/info/champion.

picks of the week

• 8/6 All Night of Prayer

Join fellow students at the Prayer Chapel lawn for an opportunity to pray for your campus in preparation for Spiritual Emphasis Week and See You at the Pole during the All Night of Prayer from 10 p.m. until 5 a.m.

• 8/07 Thomas Jefferson's Poplar Forest

Visit Thomas Jefferson's Poplar Forest on Sunday, Sept. 7 and take a tour to learn more about Jefferson and his family. Tours start at 12:15 p.m., 1:15 p.m., and 2:15 p.m. Refreshments will be provided.

fun fact of the week

Every year, more than one million miles of Twizzlers licorice is made.

Taken from www.uselessfacts.com

Life!

Shepherd Ministries

By Annamarie McCoy

REPORTER

Are you a Liberty student desiring to minister while in college? Do you have a passion for evangelism and discipleship? Are you longing to use the talents that God has blessed you with to minister to lost and searching souls? Why not use your talents to serve others heartily as unto the Lord. Colossians 3:23-24 says, "And whatever you do, do it heartily as to the Lord and not to men knowing that from the Lord you will receive the reward of inheritance for you serve the Lord Christ."

Shepherd Ministries allows you to do just that. They train you in discipleship and evangelism so that you may make an impact on the surrounding community for Christ.

The purpose of Shepherd Ministries is to travel to various churches spreading the Good News and to come along the side of the local

church for edification, evangelism, encouragement, and discipleship. Shepherd Ministries is a group of ministry teams with the purpose of discipleship and evangelism.

Shepherd Ministries does this through various teams involved in singing and drama, preaching, interpretive worship, children's ministry, prayer and encouragement and women's ministry. The teams also participate in the DISCIPLENOW programs in assorted churches on the weekends. The pastor of the church will ask the team to

speak about a certain topic pertaining to their ministry outlet.

Shepherd Ministries gathers in DeMoss Hall, Room 1090, on the first Thursday of every month. The dates are as follows for the fall 2003 semester: September 4, October 2, November 6, and December 4.

Randy Spencer heads up these



PHOTO PROVIDED

MINISTERING THROUGH SONG—Members of Shepherd Ministries minister to junior high and high school students.

meetings, which begin with praise and worship, prayer concerning the ministry teams that are at that moment serving, ending with testimonies from teams which have just returned from traveling to the diverse churches.

Shepherd Ministries is looking for students who are committed to serve, disciple and evangelize. Do you consider yourself someone who would like to participate in one of these exciting and rewarding ministries? If you are interested and would like to find out more information, or if your home church would like to have the Shepherd Ministries come and allow their teams to present the Gospel to your church through either singing, dramatic performances, DISCIPLENOW weekends, worship, or preaching, contact the coordinator, Monica Rose, at extension 2430.



Student Life

By Amanda Smith

REPORTER

You have definitely seen members of this group around campus. They have already provided over a week of activities for the freshman, as well as an amazing block party and Switchfoot concert for all students. This group is Liberty University's Student Life. Throughout the school year Student Life will provide Liberty students with opportunity after opportunity to get involved and get to know other students.

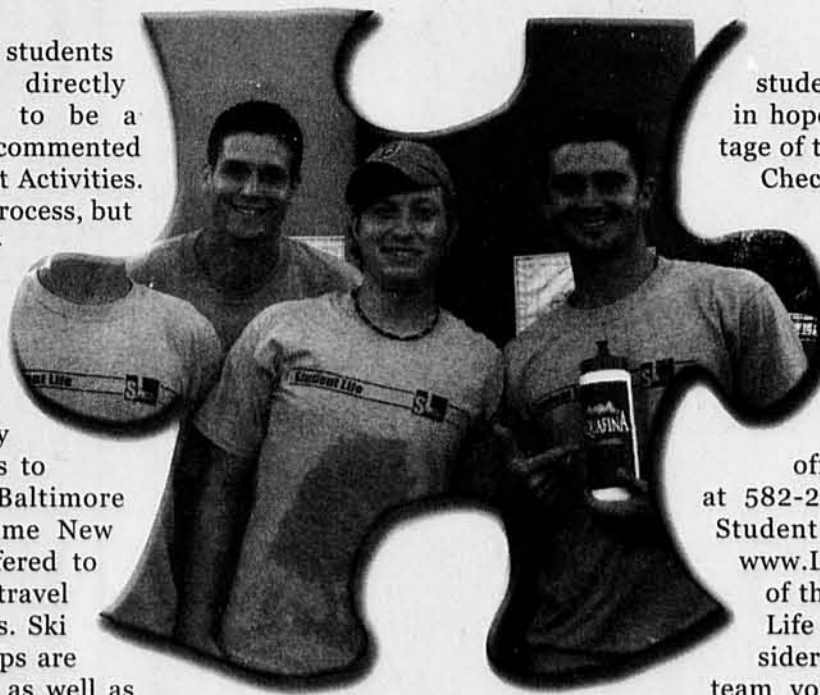
Student Life will also sponsor many concerts throughout the course of the year. In an attempt to cover all areas of interest the concerts will range from the music genres of rock, gospel, contemporary worship to punk/ska.

Perhaps the most anticipated activity that Student Life provides is their bi-annual Coffeehouse.

"This is the most popular event that we present

because it allows the students themselves to be directly involved. They get to be a star" for an evening," commented Nic Carver, of Student Activities. There is an audition process, but in this two-hour talent show of sorts, students have the freedom to express themselves in front of their peers.

Also provided by Student Life are trips to Washington D.C., Baltimore and, for the first time New York City will be offered to students desiring to travel the surrounding areas. Ski and snowboarding trips are offered in the winter as well as horseback riding trips in the spring.



SUSAN WHITLEY

SAYING CHEESE FOR THE CAMERA—Three LU students smile for the camera in the midst of student life fun.

"We are here to serve the students, we put these events on in hopes that they will take advantage of them," commented Carver.

Check the events calendar in the Champion as well as keep your eyes out for posters around campus that will announce upcoming events.

For more information on Student Life events you can call the Student Life office located in David's Place, at 582-2132 or you can go to the Student Life link on www.Liberty.edu. Take advantage of the opportunities that Student Life offers this semester, or consider joining the Student Life staff team yourself, where you have the opportunity to make friendships and memories.

amyjordan

Missing the memo

It seems like I never get the memo about anything anymore. I feel like I'm out of the loop in any and every situation lately. Does anyone else feel this way, or is it just me that is constantly unaware and unprepared? One would think that as a person soon to graduate with a college degree that I would have a better grasp on what is going on around me, but this is clearly not the case. I've been missing a lot of memos lately.

Recently, I had an event to attend, and due to the fact that my voice mail has not been working, I did not receive the message that I was supposed to bring athletic wear and tennis shoes for this event.

Now, most normal people would have either worn or brought tennis shoes on a weekend retreat, but being the typical girly girl that I am, I was of course without tennis shoes or a T-shirt.

Did I have my straightener and three different pairs of dressy sandals? Yes. Did I have athletic wear? No. So yes, I was the girl running relays in clunky sandals, trying to do the wheelbarrow race

and the crabwalk in my nice little blouse and shoes designed to hide the fact that I'm barely five feet tall.

But the tennis shoes are just one of many memos that I have missed out on in the past few weeks.

I also feel annoyed that I missed the memo that said that college seniors are supposed to act and feel differently than college freshmen. My five-year-old brother called me the other day, with a little bit of dialing help from my mom, and I cried when I heard his voice on the phone just because I missed him. Seniors just aren't supposed to do that kind of thing when they've been away from home for barely a month.

I expected to come back to school as a graduating senior, fully prepared to easily slip into the roles that I occupied

last year, both in leadership and as an editor. I thought that everything would be so simple this year, and that nothing would be complicated. This is not proving to be the case for me.

I was definitely never informed by anyone that my senior year would be one of sheer panic and fear over the fact that I simply don't know where I'm going to be in a year, or what I'm going to be doing. Having known what I wanted to do with my life since I was in the second grade, I wasn't told by anyone that your entire future can be changed with a just a few simple decisions made during your senior year of college.

Now, granted, I am more than willing to admit my spacey nature, and while I am usually the girl who asks, "what's going on?" I nonetheless typically feel prepared for

things. I like to have everything planned out days in advance, and I'm the girl that begins preparing for a trip far before the departure date.

So with that said, probably the biggest memo of all that I have clearly never received is the one that says that I'm just not going to get all the memos. Sometimes I'm going to be a little bit in the dark. And you know what? You just may be a little bit in the dark as well.

So this year, I'm trying to learn that it's really okay, and I encourage you to try and learn the same thing with me. Whether you're a graduating senior like me, and completely uncertain of what your future holds, or whether you're an incoming freshman, and feeling equally uncertain as to how you feel about college life, you're going to miss a few memos. And the world is not going to come crashing down despite what you or I may think.

Choose to trust that even though the glass you're looking through right now is kind of cloudy, the sun is eventually going to come shining through. Despite any urge that you feel to be resentful or annoyed that you missed the message, choose not to be. Every so often the unexpected turns out to be a lot more fun than you could have imagined.



Public Relations Student Society of America

By Laura Beaton
REPORTER

The Public Relations Student Society of America is a student organization of the professional PRSA.

The PRSSA was started to help students interested in public relations build mutually beneficial relationships with professionals in the field of public relations. By networking and learning of career and internship opportunities through the PRSSA, students will have a greater chance of finding a job in public relations after graduation.

Don Egle, a student that has a real passion for public relations, took it upon himself to bring a PRSSA organization to Liberty University.

"The reason why the PRSSA exists is to provide an exciting organization outside of the classroom setting that will assist students in their future careers in public relations and to assist the students in their further develop-

ment in knowledge and training from a Christian perspective," said Egle.

Egle is the president, and he will start the PRSSA monthly meetings by the end of September. Egle and his team of officers want the organization to be fun and at the same time provide students access to all of the opportunities available through the PRSSA.

Chances to network, meet with PRSA members and listen to professionals in the field of public relations include many of the activities the organization will be a part of.

Any student is welcome to join the organization. It is a great resume builder plus being involved in the PRSSA will give students a better understanding of the professional work environment.

For more information about the PRSSA meeting times, dates and location keep an eye on the splash page or email Egle at www.dkegle@liberty.edu



SUSAN WHITLEY

Sports.

"(Intramural Sports) are a great way to enjoy the sport of your choice without the rigorous training of college athletics," said Jordan Watkins of Student Life.

Intramural Sports take place throughout the year depending on what season coincides with regular sports teams. To just name a few of the sports offered in Intramurals, there are indoor and outdoor soccer, basketball, volleyball, flag football, and softball. All the equipment is provided, except for baseball gloves.

The sports take place in the

Intramural Sports

By Brit Engbrecht
REPORTER

Have you ever wanted to participate in an activity that was fun, a way to meet new people, and a way to stay in shape all at the same time? Then you may want to get involved in Intramural

Intramural Field located on the circle next to dorm 28. Indoor sports like basketball and volleyball take place in The Schilling Center located across from The Hangar. All teams playing Intramural Sports pray before and after each game along with having fun and getting good exercise.

First of all, if you want to get involved in Intramural Sports, your team needs a manager. After that just go to the Student Splash Page and click on the Student Interests link, then click the Student Life link. When you get to the Student Life web site click on the Intramural Sports link, type in your Liberty username and password and sign up for the sport of your choice.

"I'm definitely a big fan of Intramural Sports, because it breaks up your day with something that you enjoy that is a Christ centered athletic activity," said Watkins, who is also an Exercise Science major.

For more information or any questions you might have regarding Intramural Sports contact Ed Barnhouse Coordinator for Intramural Sports at ebarnhouse@liberty.edu.



SUSAN WHITLEY

LIFE SHORT-PLAY HARD—This LU student takes part in one of the intramural games offered during the fall season.

So what are you waiting for? There are currently more than 100 students signed up. If hanging out with other students and having fun while praying and fellowshiping

sounds great to you, don't delay. Get involved.

For more information and a list of the students involved with Campus Mission Fellowship go to the Splash page, find the calendar, type in "Campus Fellowship" and read up on one of the newest ways to be involved on Liberty University's campus.

Campus Mission Fellowship

By Cami Jordan
REPORTER

Are you new on campus or just looking for something new to do with your spare time? Much of the time being home sick is caused by too much "down time" spent alone in your dorm room. Let the Champion give you a few ideas as to what you can get involved with right here on campus.

One of the newest groups to make its

way to Liberty University is called Liberty Campus Mission Fellowship. The organization is student led with a leadership team of at least 15 young people who are

excited about missions. This is a great opportunity to meet other students interested in missions.

In addition to encouraging students to fulfill their role in the great commission the Liberty Campus Mission Fellowship prays for Liberty alumni who have already gone ahead and became involved in being on the mission field.

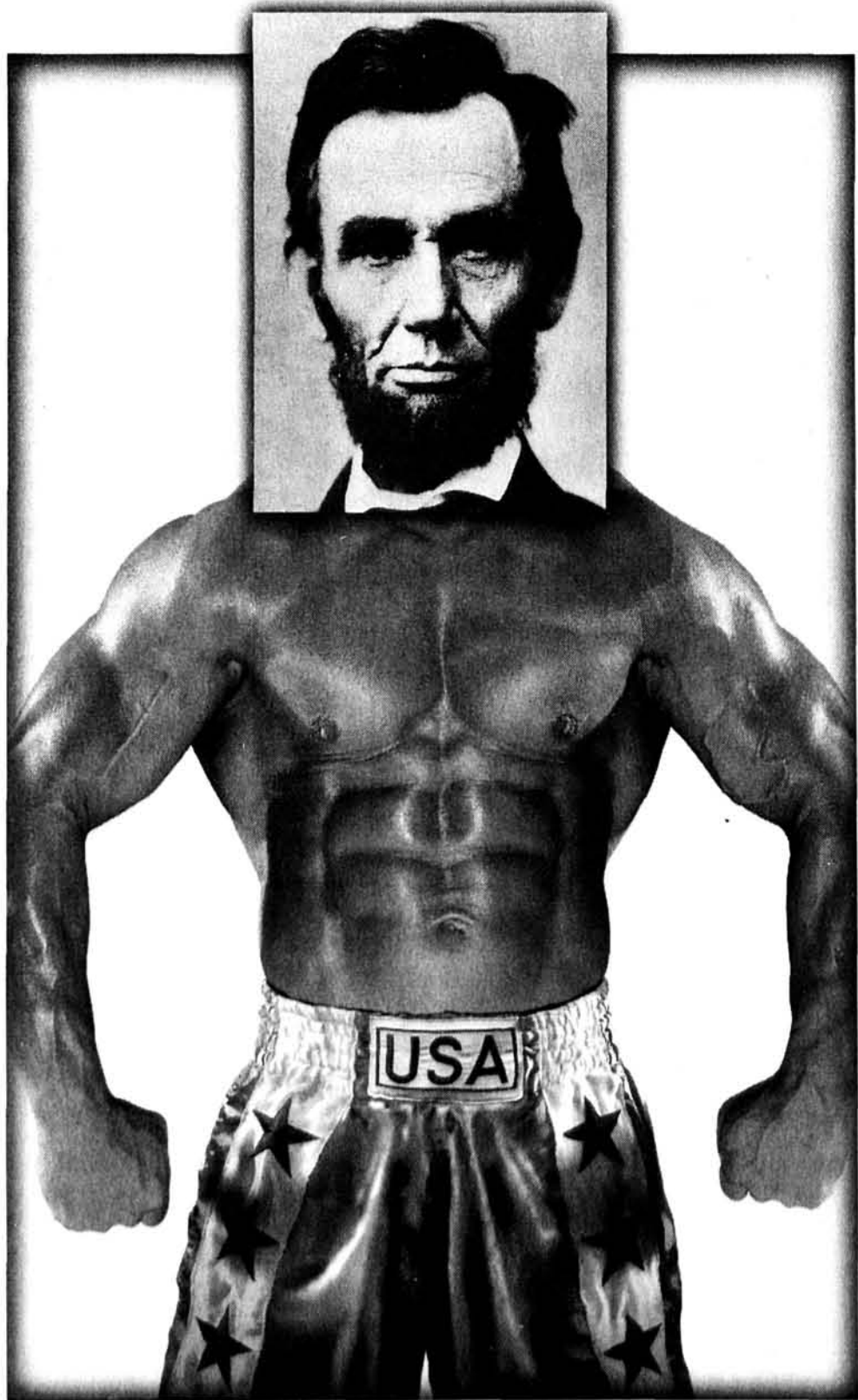
If this organization sounds like something that you would like to get involved in,

send your name, your student classification (sophomore, junior, etc.), and e-mail address to

missions@liberty.edu.

Campus Mission Fellowship is an excellent organization for students seeking for more involvement with missions.

Campus Mission Fellowship hopes to better communicate upcoming events, trips, rallies and even special prayer requests throughout the student body. The group meets every Thursday night at 7:30 in DeMoss 1090.



are you history buff?

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The LIBRARY of CONGRESS



Kim Werther hands out one of the 2,300 antacid tablets she served to overstuffed participants at Monroe County's annual Chili Cookoff.

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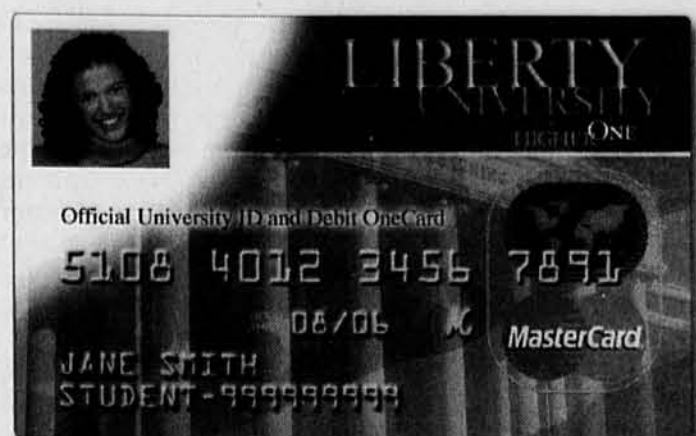


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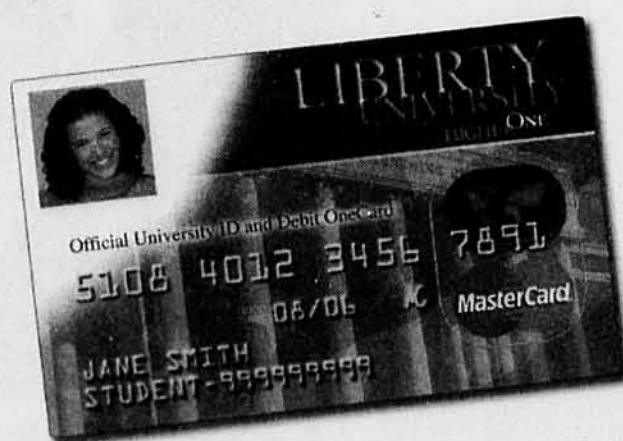
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Volleyball

Continued from page 12

The schedule for the Lady Flames though is daunting. They start out the season with a pair of tournaments, then sandwich a game against Virginia Commonwealth in between the second of the opening two tournaments and the tournament the Lady Flames host September 12-13.

They then host James Madison University on September 16, then leave for the Northern Arizona tournament which is held September 19 and 20.

After all of this is completed, they start the real task of the conference schedule, where UNC Asheville and Winthrop look to be the major opponents. At this point of the season, the Flames should be in top form.

The Lady Bulldogs and the Lady Eagles are projected tied for second in the conference, only 2 points behind the overall total LU has amassed.

2003 volleyball		
Sept. 5	at UVA	
Sept. 6	GMU	
Sept. 6	Campbell	
Sept. 9	at VCU	
Sept 12-13	LU Invit.	
Sept 16	JMU	
Sept 19-20	No. AZ	
Sept 26	at UNCA	
Sept 27	at Radford	
Oct. 3	at CSU	
Oct. 4	at CCU	
Oct. 10	HPU	
Oct. 11	Winthrop	
Oct. 14	VT	
Oct. 18	at BSC	
Oct. 21	at W & M	
Oct. 30	UNCG	
Oct 31	at Winthrop	
Nov. 1	at HPU	

Football: LU undone

Continued from page 12

The second half did look somewhat better for the Flames. They scored early in the fourth quarter, as Eugene Goodman ran into the end zone on a short play, capping off a 95-yard drive for Liberty's offense. But the two-point conversion failed and the score was 34-6.

It did not take long, however, for the Dukes to come charging back. Led by LeZotte, JMU scored on their next possession. Later it was Pervis Binns who scored on his second touchdown of the day. His was an impressive run that spanned almost sixty yards.

While the Flames did struggle for much of the game, they also showed some definite potential. Barnes ran for 105 yards, and Liberty quarterback Gus Condon completed 21 of his 34 passing attempts.

Coach Ken Karcher and the rest of the staff will be working with the team this week on its weaknesses. Meanwhile the Flames'

strengths can easily propel them to victory if the team can get hot.

Barnes must continue to have 100-yard rushing games, and, together with Condon, lead the offense.

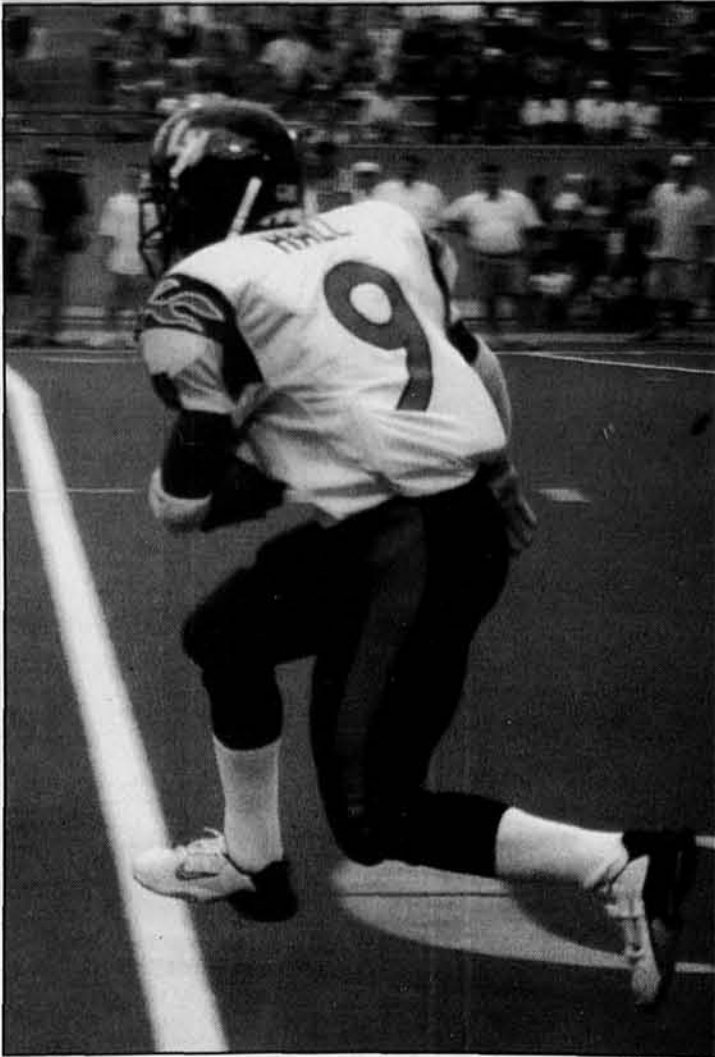
Also, the defense must improve significantly from Saturday. If the Flames can do these things, there will be a successful season ahead.

This game is only one loss, they still have 11 games on the schedule potentially to win.

The Flames can now put the past behind them, and focus on their difficult schedule to come. Next week they travel to Ohio to take on the Toledo Rockets.

They then continue with another tough matchup against Bowling Green on September 13. Both Toledo and BGU are in the MAC conference

The Flames must try to navigate thru a tough road schedule, until they arrive home against Kentucky Wesleyan on September 20.



RECORD HOLDER—Adrian Hall became Liberty's all-time kick returner in Saturday's opener against James Madison

Mike Troxel

Women's Soccer : Preview of what's to come this year

Megan Fatkin

SPORTS REPORTER

The Liberty women's soccer team is at the beginning of what looks to be their most exciting season ever. With a few new faces and a new formation, the Lady Flames are ready to take on the strong competition and win the tough games.

"We have a lot of talent and a lot of depth this year. It is going to be exciting," senior captain Jenny Davis said.

This talent is partly due to the addition of Freshmen Mande Judd and Abby Mott, both strikers with a desire to score. The return of Junior Lauren Zealand will also provide some quickness and leadership up top.

Coach James Price is excited about the depth coming off the bench but said that all this talent can make it hard to choose a starting line-up.

The Flames changed their formation for this season in hopes of becoming more

offensively minded. Their 9-0 win over Randolph Macon last weekend proved that the women know how to score.

Now all they have to do is remember how to score and keep it simple when facing some big teams.

"It will be difficult to adjust," said Davis, sharing her thoughts on the new formation. "But we have smart players that will figure it out."

Liberty's schedule has them traveling to Wake Forest, William & Mary, Georgia, South Carolina and Virginia. "We are going to learn a lot about ourselves as a team. It is going to be exciting," Davis added.

The Lady Flames' new talent and new formation are not the only things that have the team excited about the fall.

"We have a solid group of Christians on this team," said Sophomore Rachel Bendzlowicz, "and we believe that God is going to use us in great ways both on and off the field. The women have put extra time and effort into finding more effective ways to witness to the teams they play."

"I have never seen a team with so much drive and motivation on the field," Bendzlowicz said. "It is even more rare to see a team with the same determination off the field."

The team's drive and determination will be tested early as their first four games of regular season will not be easy. However, the women are ready for anything. The tough early schedule should make them game ready for the task ahead in the conference schedule. This is where they are needing to excel.

Liberty's home opener is September 13 against Longwood. Kickoff is set at 4p.m.

2003 Women's Soccer Schedule

September 4	at Wake Forest
September 7	at William & Mary
September 13	Longwood
September 18	at VCU
September 20	Coastal Carolina
September 22	Western Carolina
September 26	at Georgia
September 28	vs. South Carolina
October 2	Virginia Tech
October 4	at Birmingham-Southern
October 9	at High Point
October 11	Winthrop
October 14	Radford
October 19	Georgetown
October 21	at Virginia
October 25	at Charleston Southern
October 27	at UNC Asheville
Nov. 6-8	Big South Tournament



FILE PHOTO

DAVIS DOMINATES — Last year Jenny Davis dominated the 50/50 balls, she looks to do the same again.

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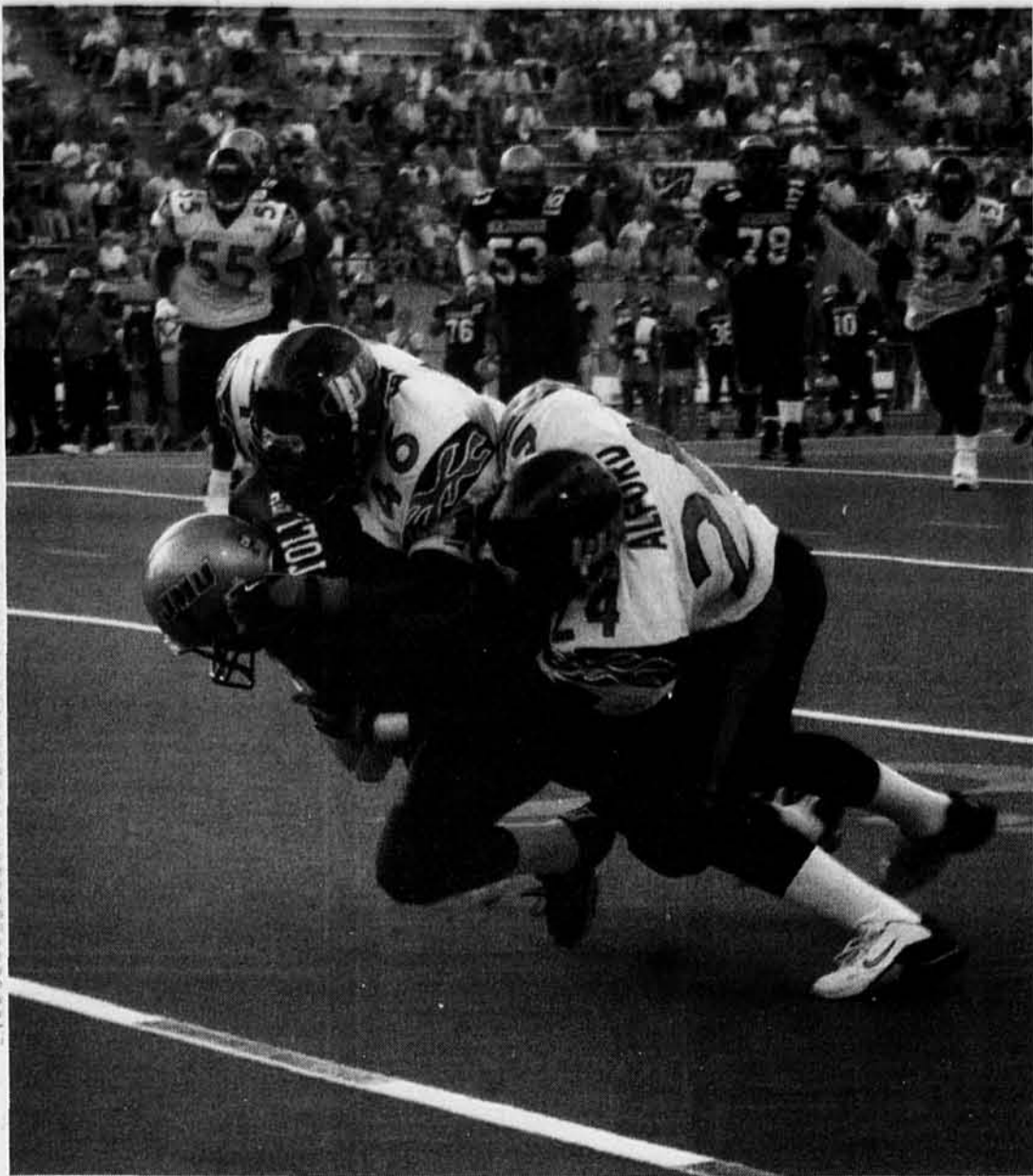
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SUSAN WHITLEY

TANDEM TACKLING — Jordan Alford and Nick Vaughn team up to make the tackle on James Madison's receiver Nic Tolley. Vaughn recorded eight tackles for the flames, including this assisting tackle. Alford was listed as having three tackles for LU.



SUSAN WHITLEY

NIGHTMARISH SIGHT — Victor Hart is caught where no defensive back wants to be, trailing a receiver about to score. The Dukes' receivers caught 17 balls for 254 yards. Junior DB Hart, from Milledgeville, Georgia had five tackles on the game for the Flames.

Flames begin year with Record Setting Roberts

By Allie Kearns
SPORTS REPORTER

The Liberty University men's soccer team enters this school year with high hopes of having yet another successful season. Last week, the Flames were selected third as the preseason favorite for the 2003 soccer season by the League's coaches and sports information directors.

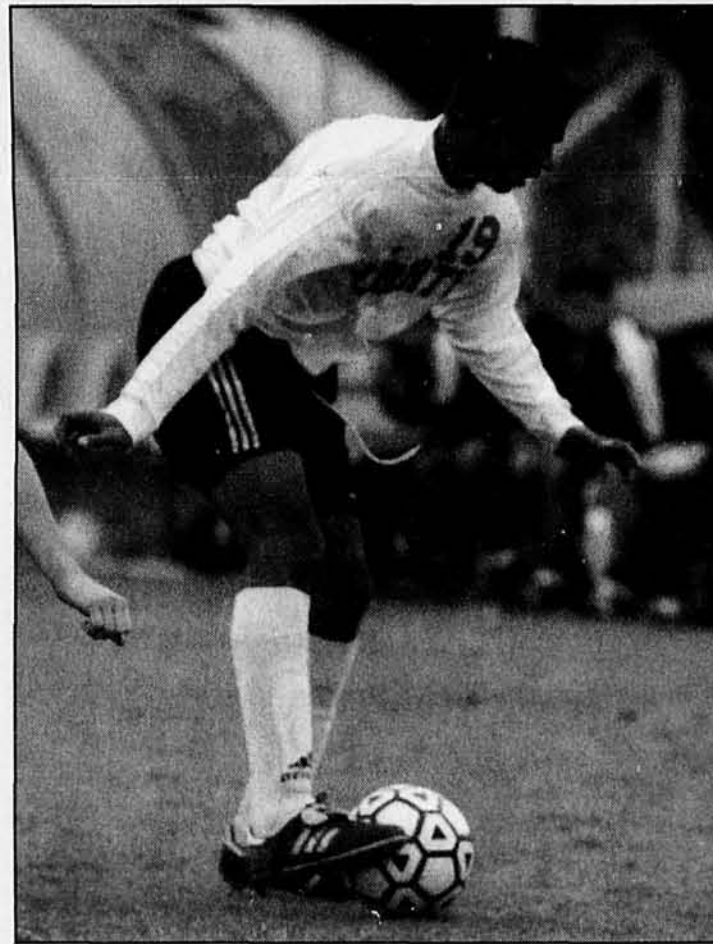
The Flames start their season with some tough competition. Their first two opponents, Duke and NC State, are both in the Top 25. According to head men's soccer coach, Jeff Alder, this season is one of the most difficult in Liberty's soccer history. "Every game is going to be difficult. It's going to raise the level of the team's play," said Coach Alder. "Every difficult game will help us prepare for the Big South

Championship". The Flames will count on the strength of many of it's returning players. The team is looking to Darryl Roberts, a sophomore, to score goals and make plays. Last season, Darryl set a school Division 1 record with 17 goals. He had seven assists and led all NCAA Division 1 freshmen, scoring 41 points in just 21 games. The team will also be depending on the strong play-

ing and leadership of Brentley Kellum and Pavel Cancura, both seniors this year. Coach Alder is counting on his team's chemistry as a key for their success this season. "At the end of the day, our chemistry is one of our biggest strengths. This team is just a bunch of guys who work hard and pull for each other." The team's coaches and players are looking to create an environment where everyone is learning and growing, individually and as a team.

To set themselves apart from all the other teams they will be facing this season, the Flames have specific goals in mind. "Day in, day out, our mission is not going to waiver. We want to use our abilities as a platform to witness. In everything we do, we want to glorify the Lord. Every game we want to go out and give it our all," Coach Alder said. The Flames head coach has a few keys to ensure success for this season. "We need to stay healthy and focused. We need to get better. Each day out is a chance for us to improve. We need to peak at the end of the season, just in time

for the Big South Conference Championship." What can men's soccer fans expect this season from their Flames? They can count on seeing a tremendous work ethic every time they come out. Fans will see an enthusiastic team of players and coaches who are playing great, high energy soccer.



File Photo

Returning to Action—Super Soph. Darryl Roberts is back as the Flames try to build on the success he had last season.

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2003 Men's Soccer	
Sept. 3	at Campbell
Sept. 6	SVU
Sept. 9	VMI
Sept. 13	Wofford
Sept. 16	at HPU
Sept. 20	at GWU
Sept. 27	Winthrop
Oct. 4	Radford
Oct. 4	Marshall
Oct. 14	Elon
Oct. 19	at CCU
Oct. 24	at UVA
Oct. 29	at UNC-A
Nov. 1	at GSU
Nov. 4	at VT
Nov. 7	at BSU

Sports

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The Liberty Champion

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INSIDE

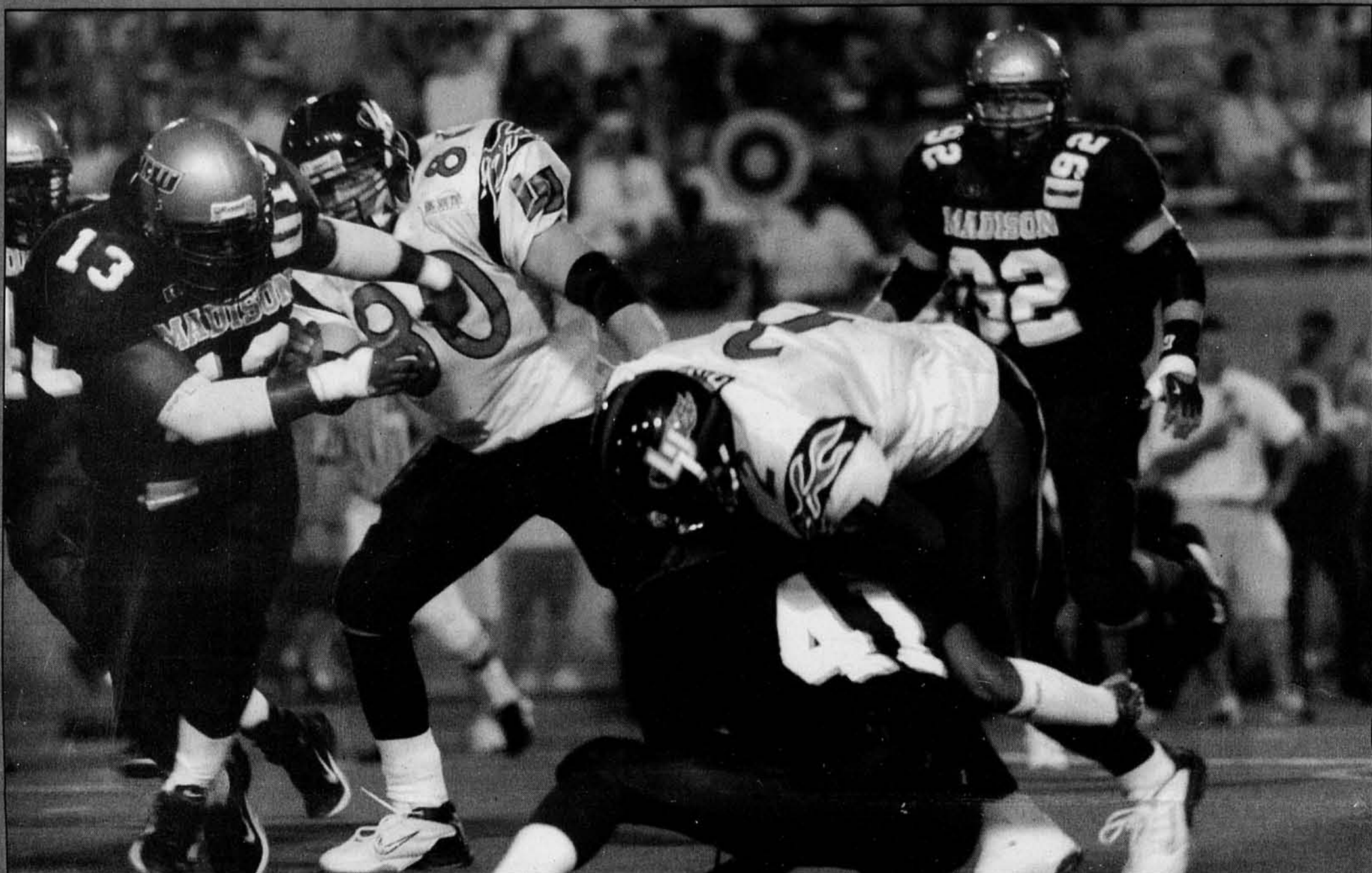
♦ **M. Soccer Preview:** A look at the Flames tough schedule this year. See page 11.

♦ **W. Soccer Preview:** Jenny Davis leads the Flames into the new season. See page 10.



Flames upended by JMU

Flames lose fourth straight season opener



SUSAN WHITLEY

UP AND OVER—Sam Gado gets taken out at the knees by a JMU defender in the second half of LU's loss to the Dukes. Gado had six rushes for 41 total yards in Saturday's contest.

By Ben Cates

ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

Long before Saturday's season opener against the James Madison Dukes, everything appeared to be going well for the Liberty Flames. The 2003 roster, complete with experienced offensive and defensive starters, was healthy. Running back Dre Barnes was named the Big South Preseason Offensive Player of the Year, and the Flames were picked to finish second in the Big South preseason poll.

As the Flames emerged from Saturday's game in Harrisonburg on the wrong side of a lopsided 48-6 Dukes victory, it's members came together to find they were still healthy. Barnes still rushed for 100 plus yards, and the Flames can still easily finish second in the Big South.

However, it will now be more difficult for the team to reach that goal. The opener against James Madison was a challenge for Liberty, but definitely a game that, if won, could have raised their confidence level to a new high. As a word of caution, it should be noted

that the Flames cannot be judged by their first game of the 2003 season. Instead, the game should be viewed as a learning experience, a chance to grow and improve amidst the ranks of a difficult schedule.

From the start of Saturday evening's game, it was all JMU. It did not take them long to get on the scoreboard as quarterback Matt LeZotte led the team on a 76-yard drive, which included a 10-yard touchdown pass to Chris Iorio. It was their first possession of the game, and it took only four minutes for the Dukes to complete it. Just like that, JMU never looked back, and Liberty was never able to recover.

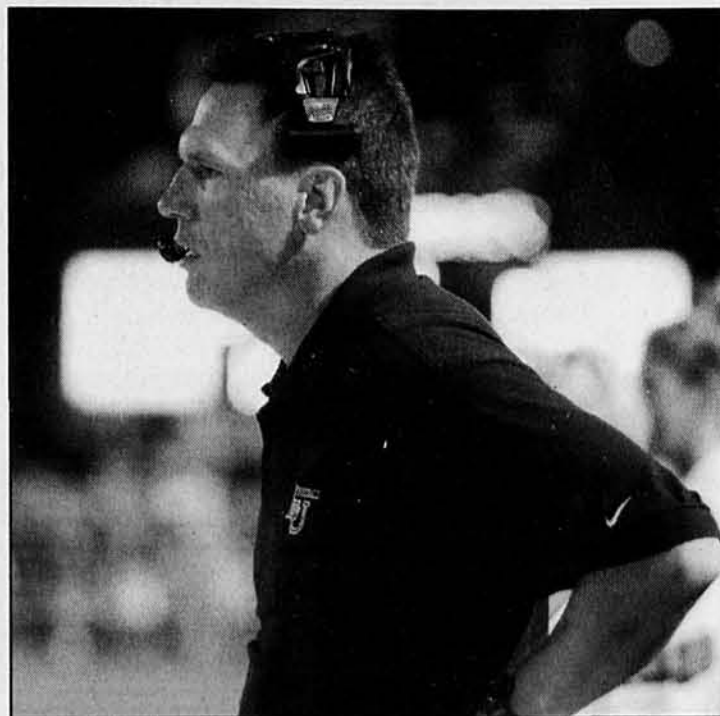
It appeared to take no time at all for the Dukes to get the ball back and score again. As the first quarter came to a close, James Madison had already had the football on three occasions, and they had scored twice. They were doing everything right. There was no question as to how dominant their

offense was, but the team's defensive qualities were outstanding as well.

Meanwhile, Liberty continued to struggle both offensively and defensively. Scott Kivovsky missed a couple of tough field goal opportunities, as the offense failed to get within a safe and comfortable field goal range. Dre Barnes also fumbled twice in the first half, and the Flames defense failed to stop JMU.

By the end of the first half, the score was 34-0, as Pervis Binns, Alvin Banks and Burke George all contributed to the Dukes' lead.

The second half did look somewhat better for the Flames. They finally scored early in the fourth quarter, as Eugene Goodman ran into the end zone on a short play, capping off a 95-yard drive for Liberty's offense. But the two-point conversion failed and the score was 34-6.



SUSAN WHITLEY

ASTONISHED—Head Coach Ken Karcher looks on as his team fell behind 34-0 in the first half against the JMU Dukes.

Please see FOOTBALL, page 10

Coming up in LU Sports...

Football

- 9/6 @ Toledo, 7 p.m.
- 9/13 @ Bowling Green, 6 p.m.
- 9/20 KY Wesleyan, 1:30 p.m.

Men's Soccer

- 9/3 @ Campbell, 7 p.m.
- 9/6 Southern Virginia, 7 p.m.
- 9/9 VMI, 7 p.m.

Women's Soccer

- 9/4 @ Wake Forest, 7 p.m.
- 9/7 @ William & Mary, 2 p.m.

Volleyball

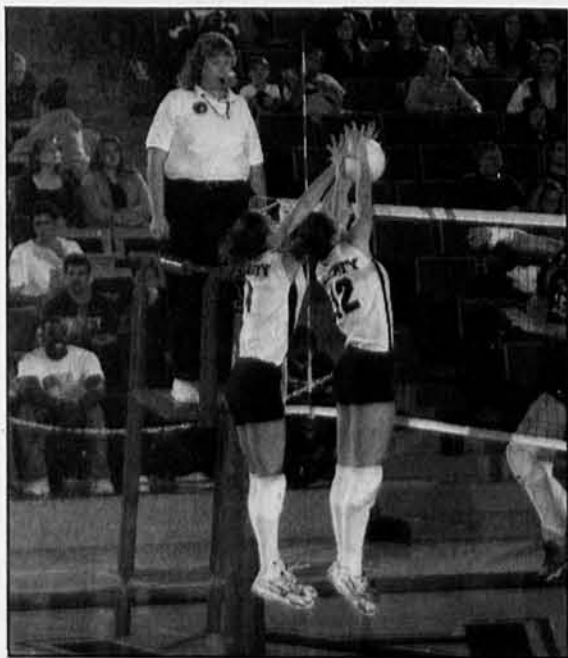
- 9/5 @ Virginia, 7 p.m.
- 9/6 George Mason, noon
- 9/6 Campbell, 5 p.m.
- 9/9 @ VCU, 7 p.m.

Here's the first Champion of the year, are you ready for the scoop?

Volleyball looks to stuff the competition

By Andrew Martin

SPORTS EDITOR



FILE PHOTO

TEAM EFFORT—Erin McKeown and Tatiana Tkachuk will be working together to block the opposition all year.

The Lady Flames start the volleyball season in the same situation as last year, but they are hoping the ending is different.

The Lady Flames are the preseason Big South Conference favorite. Last year they entered the season as the preseason favorite, only to finish the season with an overwhelming loss to Winthrop University. They were defeated in the conference championship 3-0.

Three seniors are back as the Flames look to change their fortune from last year. Tatiana Tkachuk, Theresa Passamani, and 2002 first team all-conference member Erin McKeown lead a talented group towards the common goal of a championship.

McKeown recorded 19 kills in the championship match against the Eagles. Because of the performance, she garnered top honor of the tournament being named the Most Valuable Player. She returns for the Flames as the team leader in

kills tallying 423 kills for the 2002 season.

Along with the stellar senior group coming back, there are also some fantastic returnees in the junior class. Both Jennifer Belk and Kristin Colson of the junior class, who made large contributions to the Lady Flames last season, are back.

Colson returns as the team's main setter. She averaged over 12 assists per contest giving her a season total of a stunning 1,482.

Belk, on the other hand, is one of the ladies that will be hitting Colson's sets. She will be finishing what Colson starts. Last year, Belk had 402 kills and added 398 digs to lead the team in the latter category.

Because of their experience and talent, is that the Lady Flames have the experience to overcome the obstacles that will be thrown in their way.

With their returnees, they have the leadership skills necessary for a team to be successful in the long run.

see VOLLEYBALL page 10