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2003 – 2004

Liberty University School Newspaper

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Fall 10-21-2003

## 10-21-03 (The Liberty Champion, Volume 21, Issue 5)

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## Bandaging America's Soldiers

SEE PAGE 10

## Best Baptist paper in the land

Liberty Champion wins "Best Overall" at student journalism conference

SEE PAGE 5

## Searching for Starlight

Student's play premieres

SEE PAGE 4



# The Liberty Champion

SERVING LIBERTY UNIVERSITY FOR TWENTY YEARS VOL. 21, NO. 5 OCTOBER 21, 2003

## LU graduate to speak at IMB fall conference

By Ricky Hardison  
NEWS REPORTER

In a time when ministry in the Middle East seems about as dry as that region's climate, one missionary from the area reports that God is bringing about amazing victories in this Muslim-saturated land.

LU graduate Tommy Weir will be sharing some of these optimistic testimonies in next Monday's convocation, Oct. 27, as a part of this year's fall missions conference.

"I will be speaking about...the need for aggressive evangelism if we are to have a harvest. It is an exciting time to serve in this part of the world. Muslims are open to the Word of God," Weir said.

"Most people expect to work in the Middle East for a lifetime and maybe see one person come to Christ. There is really very little expectation for God to move here," he added. But this summer Weir watched nearly one person per week get saved, one of which was a sheik, a Muslim religious leader. "I never dreamed it would or could happen."

Weir has been developing mission strategies in the Middle East with the IMB for two years and has been in full time ministry for 11 years. While at Liberty, Weir majored in Religion and met his wife Paula.

He went on to earn his master's at Criswell College and his doctorate from Regent University.

"He knows what it is to face a high risk environment and to trust God for protection as he tries to reach the most difficult people in the world," Missions Director Dr. Don Fanning said.

Unlike Missions Emphasis Week in the spring, which brings dozens of mission organizations to fill DeMoss Hall with information tables, the fall conference is conducted by only one agency, the International Mission Board.

The purpose of this conference, Oct. 26-29, is "to get our students aware of the immense opportunities available through the largest protestant missions organization in the world, the International Mission Board," Fanning said. The IMB is the foreign missions branch of the Southern Baptist Convention.

"A Missions Emphasis Week my freshman year really had an impact on my life because I realized the need for people to hear the gospel. At that moment I committed my life to world missions," junior Heather Murray said.

Weir is only one of nine IMB missionaries that will be teaching workshops during the four-day conference. These missionaries serve everywhere from Middle America, Southern Africa, the Middle East, South Asia and East Asia.

"I get really excited about these conferences," Murray added. "I encourage everyone to take advantage of everything the week has to offer."

## I Have a Dream tour comes to LU



SUSAN WHITLEY

**I GOT A TICKET** — Toby Mac and Kirk Franklin team up for a gyrating duet of "J-Train." The pair caused quite a sensation at the Friday night concert in the Vines Center. Around 3500 people from all over the country came out for the three-hour event.

By Sara Lesley  
COPY EDITOR

The crowd sat in eager anticipation as the words of Martin Luther King Jr. resonated across the Vines Center. "All of God's children, black men and white men, Jews and Gentiles, Protestants and Catholics, will be able to join hands and sing... 'Free at last! Free at last! Thank God Almighty, we are free at last!'" King's 40-year-old dream rang true Friday night as 3500 fans of all ages and races joined hands and sang songs led by Toby Mac and Kirk Franklin in a riveting concert.

Lines wrapped around the block as students waited for hours in the rain to get a good seat. The concert drew a diverse crowd from all over the country. Fourteen-year-old Brittany Barr made the four-hour trip from Rockville, Maryland with her family. "I've lis-

tened to Toby Mac pretty much all my life," she said. This was the first concert ever for Grace Meyer. The 8-month-old was bouncing in her mother's arms on the second row. College for a Weekender Ashton Kelley waited outside in the rain four hours. "I've been listening to Kirk Franklin ever since I was in elementary school," he said.

As the crowd stood to their feet and roared in applause, Franklin and Toby embraced on the stage. "We're gonna have a spiritual gumbo tonight," said Franklin, "we're gonna have black, and white, gospel and rap."

Toby performed first, and paused to tell the audience, "Some of you may just be here to see Kirk Franklin tonight," said Toby, "but don't be offended when I say the word 'freak.'" The crowd exploded in ecstatic applause, and joined Toby as he interacted with the audience on many of his songs. At

one point he jumped off the stage and made his way through the screaming fanatics while he sang.

"If you don't know this by now, everybody's welcome to this party tonight," said Toby. "If the kingdom of God can't love each other, tell me who can, huh?" The crowd erupted in electric enthusiasm when Franklin joined Toby onstage the song, "J-Train."

Midway through his performance, Toby explained the reason behind his ministry. "I ain't down with the whole 'color blind theory' because I think colors are beauty," he said. "We're gonna have a house of God right up in this Vines Center tonight," he said, as the band began playing the rhythmic tune of "Love is in the House."

Toby told the crowd about his time at Liberty as a student, saying it was a "special place in my heart" and even talked about his former DC Talk partners, Kevin Max and

Michael Tait. He explained that the band was still together, but were all just having solo stints. "We put our friendship before our business," he said. Toby ended his act with a rowdy performance of head-banging action, after pumping up the crowd with the fast-paced "Extreme Days."

Franklin entered the stage with audacious style in a white leather coat and shoes breaking straight into his enthusiastic act, which revved up the crowd even more. Toby came onto the stage and interrupted his performance, saying he wanted to see some 'white stuff.' Franklin "apologized" tongue-in-cheek and stretched to get ready for his next performance. Toby introduced Franklin as "one of my heroes."

Please see DREAM, page 3

## Code Confusion

### Main Campus Annex violations prove unsubstantiated

By Jake Belue & Robert Sisk

The University received a letter from Building Commissioner Karl Cooler earlier this month stating that the school had changed the type of occupancy in the Main Campus Annex by moving LUPD into the facility this July. The letter warned that Liberty would need to get a new Certificate of Occupancy (CO) for the office or move LUPD out of the Annex by October 16.

The letter from Cooler prompted a meeting between him and University officials on October 10 to discuss whether or not a new CO was required for the use of the annex.

Cooler's position on the matter was that a change in occupancy meant a change in the owner of the property. And since a change in occupancy required a new certificate, the university had violated the rule by not getting permission.

But Jerry Falwell, Jr., General Counsel for the university, and other lawyers working with him, believe that LU was not in any violation, and was using the facility in accordance with the guidelines that are stated in the current CO used by Ericsson before.

"A CO was issued to Ericsson for this facility many years ago. The building code states that a user must obtain a new Certificate of Occupancy (CO) only when the occupancy changes. The code further states that a change of occupancy results only when there is a change in the purpose or level of activity within a structure that involves a change in application of the requirements of the code,"



LIBERTY MOQUIN

**ACQUITTED** — The new LUPD office was said to be in violation of proper occupancy. City officials have since backed down.

Falwell said. "LU's uses inside the building do not involve such a change in the application of the requirements of the code."

During the meeting the two sides reached an agreement that LUPD could remain in its present location as long as Liberty made the necessary changes to keep the building and its occupants safe.

"If they are working toward it, and the time table is short, then I agreed I would give them an extension on the deadline," Cooler said.

Please see CODE, page 4

## Winterfest gets ready for 6000

By Jake Belue  
NEWS EDITOR

For most of the winter holidays, the campus will be deserted. But on the three days surrounding New Year's Day, the streets will be hopping with bundled-up youth heading to the Vines Center for a big show.

The Winterfest concert series is rounding up some of the biggest names in the Christian music industry and attracting close to 6000 people from all over the country.

Michael Stewart of Creative Activities Programs and Services will be in charge of the logistics of the event. With the arrival of such a huge group, Stewart said that there will be a great need for volunteers.

"We had 5,000 last year, so our goal is to have 6,000 this year," Stewart said. "We've had about 35 helpers sign up to help so far and we need another 85 or so."

Those helpers will be used for many things including setting up and tearing down equipment and security. "Students will be ushering, selling merchandise, taking tickets and greeting people," Stewart said. Some volunteers will be showing families, youth groups, and prospective students around campus.

Stewart said that the help provided by Liberty students is vital to the event. "Those students are the key component. We can't do it without them."

Please see FEST REQUEST, page 4





**By Chris Price**

"I don't care what your boyfriend tells you, he is just one weird look away from pummeling all your guy friends. It isn't that your boyfriend doesn't trust you, it is that no guy trusts any other guy."

- **The awkward-hug guy.** This guy has to hug every person that he comes in contact with. He

I hope that this short list will help us all to live in a relative peace. If you find yourself on this list, don't worry. You can get help. Also if you have an idea for any others that should be added to the list you can drop me an email with annoying in the header at [cdprice@liberty.edu](mailto:cdprice@liberty.edu). When it comes to annoying people, the Price is Right.

what students still may not know

**By Joe Reitz**

NEWS REPORTER

The LibertyOne card has other advantages as well. Student refunds from loans and financial aid can be directly deposited into the OneAccount. It is actually the fastest way to receive those funds, according to LU. This prefer-

The LibertyOne card is also in the process of instating the "One Reward" program. "This is an exchange program in which, once so many dollars have been spent using the LibertyOne card, points will be accumulated that will go towards gift certificates and merchandise" Director of Technical Services Phil Offield said.

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## Lynchburg airport adds jet service

By Robert Sisk  
NEWS REPORTER

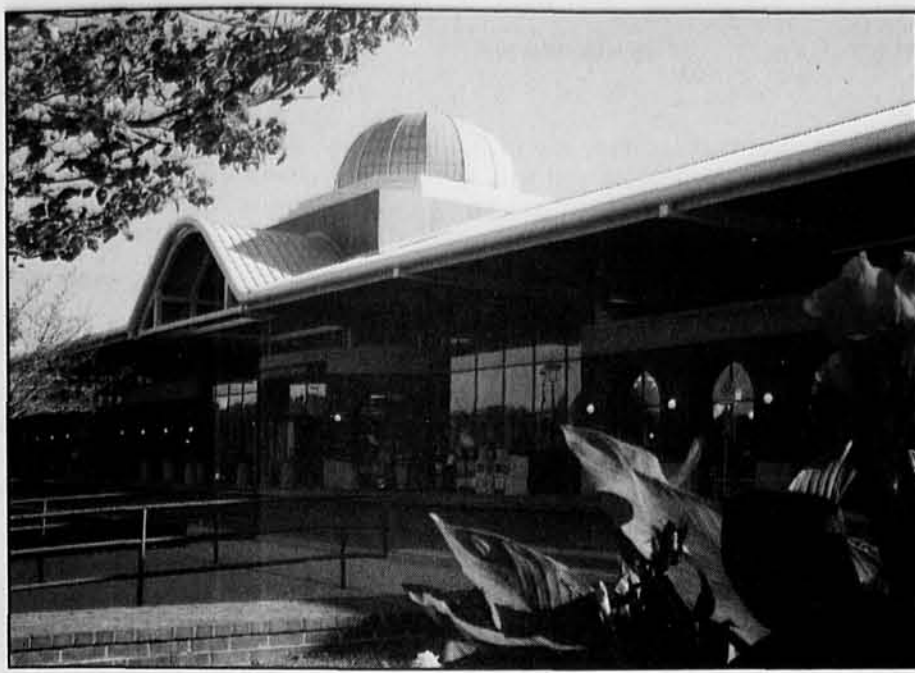
In an effort to provide their customers better, faster service, Lynchburg Regional Airport (LRA) is now providing a new jet service with the Delta connection carrier, Atlantic South East Airlines (ASA).

On May 4, the airport retired its old Embraer Brasilia turboprop aircraft and replaced it with the new Candair Regional jet. The new jets have 50 seats, which is 20 more spots than the former aircrafts.

The Candair has also brought comfort to flying by providing a vibration-free cabin with plenty of leg room as well as 6 feet of head room. The change at LRA also marked the retirement of all Brasilia turboprop airplanes from service with ASA.

LRA is excited about the new service and has begun a multi-media advertising campaign to make residents of Lynchburg aware of the newer, faster airplanes. "We are hoping the small lines and the less congested parking will help bring in passengers," airport Manager Mark Courtney said.

The new jets are making roundtrip flights to Atlanta, about an hour and a half trip, where passengers are then connected to over 800 other flight con-



KRISTEN HILLER

**NEW AND IMPROVED — LRA expands service and space with its new jet service.**

nections all across the nation. However, if traveling to the north, Courtney recommends flying U.S. Airways and connecting in Cincinnati.

A roundtrip seat in coach from Lynchburg to Atlanta runs around \$300 during the holidays, but can be bought at a discounted price off travel sites on the internet, such as Expedia.com.

"Students traveling home over the holidays should make reservations as soon as possible due to a limited amount of seating," Courtney said.

When flying through LRA, as with all airports, they recommend passengers arrive at least one hour early due to the new security measurements required by the government after September 11.

## City says LU can use Annex for fun

By Jake Belue  
NEWS EDITOR

The 135,000 square foot section of the Main Campus Annex facility will soon be open for use by students, said Jerry Falwell, Jr. following a meeting with City Council last Tuesday night.

In a unanimous decision, council members approved a Conditional Use Permit (C.U.P.) that will allow the proposed LaHaye Student Center to be constructed in the existing space. The only member not to vote was Robert Garber, whose wife Diane Garber works as a DLP Librarian at Liberty.

Falwell said that work began

last week on the construction of a firewall that will isolate the recreational facility.

"As soon as the wall is built and the City issues a Certificate of Occupancy, students will be able to use the facility for basketball, running and other indoor recreational activities," he said. There is already a basketball court in the facility that is ready for use. "The construction of the recreational amenities such as a swimming pool, an indoor track, additional basketball courts and a fitness center will follow in the very near future."

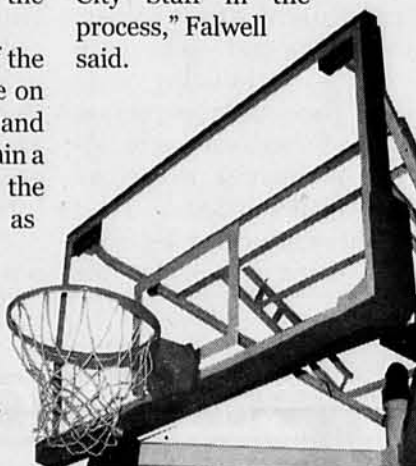
The only other thing that stands in the way of recre-

ational use of the building is how students will get to the building. The city was concerned over whether sidewalks would be built for foot traffic traveling to and from the Annex.

But council said that if the ministries get an estimate on the cost of the sidewalks and promise to build them within a year, then occupation of the building could continue as planned.

The approval vote came as a relief to ministry officials. It was the first formal decision by the city on how the University could use the facility.

"We are very appreciative of the City Council's affirmative vote Tuesday night and we are appreciative of the cooperation that we received from City Staff in the process," Falwell said.



## DREAM: Concert review

Continued from page 1

Franklin also interacted with the crowd, and walked around the entire floor of screaming fans and children as he sang "Lovely Day." He satired the crowd with his humor, showing different moves for blacks and whites. He even invited Liberty student Brad Hovis onstage to perform.

He was also transparent with the crowd when he shared with the audience about his former lifestyle of promiscuity and pornography addiction. "Don't be fooled by what you see on stage," he said, explaining that, "trouble knocks at everyone's door."

"This generation needs to know that no pit is too deep that God is not deeper still." He invited the students at Liberty to "get radical," which ignited cheers. He asked the crowd to join hands and sing together as he led them in praise songs, then broke out with some gospel, with his hit song, "Stomp." The concert closed with Franklin and Toby's exhilarating performance of "Revolution."

After the concert, both Toby and Franklin gave autographs and interacted with the fans. Toby even joined the Liberty students and CFAWers in the Schilling Center for "Midnight Madness."

Right after his performance on stage, Toby though physically drained, was spiritually pumped by the Liberty audience. "The crowd tonight was brilliant. They were so alive and responsive,"

he said. "Tonight was obviously a very diverse night, which we love," he said. "We don't see that often," he added.

He was enthusiastic about coming back to Liberty, where he said he learned foundational truths from the Word of God that carried him through his career. "I don't know if I learned it there (at Liberty) to apply it to life, but I learned as I began living," he said, "and I began living on that foundation as the hard times came." He described Liberty as "one of the most massive instrumental places of my life." I developed a passion to write music that uplifts Christ and hope-fully turns people's heads to God," he said.

David Wyatt, the keyboardist for Toby Mac, who also went to Liberty, said, "It's kind of surreal" to be back. "This is where I met my wife. If I had not come to Liberty, I wouldn't have met her."

The fans obviously were pumped after the concert too. Sherry Starkey from, an adult youth leader from Rocky Mount, Virginia said afterwards, "I really did enjoy the spiritual atmosphere here. I definitely received a blessing today." She couldn't stop singing Franklin's "Lovely Day." "It was very moving. It was one of the things that actually inspired me to apply to Liberty," CFAWer Scott Barron from Woodstock, Georgia said. "And the diversity was amazing," he added. "I've never seen anything quite like this."

## M.E.W. events schedule

Workshops will be held throughout the afternoons

of Oct. 27-28. Topics include:

•Fresh Ideas for reaching the unreached

Oct. 27, 3:15 p.m. -- DH 1077 / Oct. 28, 4 p.m. --

DH 1079

•How to evangelize Roman Catholic Latin America

Oct. 27, 4:15 p.m. -- DH 1080 / Oct. 28, 3 p.m. --

DH 1106

•Jesus and Jihad--Ministering among Muslims

Oct. 27, 7 p.m. -- DH 1077 / Oct. 28, 3 p.m.

DH 1079

•Becoming a global Christian

Oct. 27, 7 p.m. -- DH 1080

•What does it take to be a missionary?

Oct. 27, 8 p.m. RH 114/116

•Short-term mission opportunities for college

students Oct. 28, 4 p.m. -- DH 1106

•Students will also have the opportunity to

have lunch with a missionary in the dining hall

on Monday and Tuesday from 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.

\*For more info contact: Center for Global Ministry

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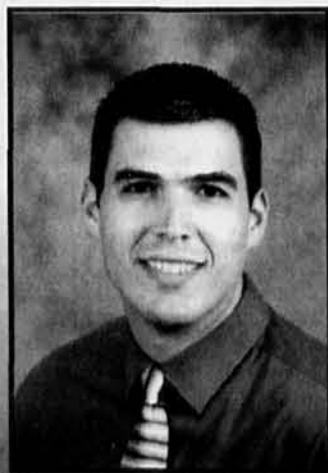
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## ILRC updates to fit LU students' needs

By Joe Reitz  
NEWS REPORTER

Liberty University continues to expand, but what most students do not realize is that the computer lab located on the second floor of DeMoss has been a focal point of the university's growth.

"About 170 new computers have been added to the computer lab to replace the older, out of date machines," ILRC Coordinator Daniel Andre said. With a total of about a 400 computers, capacity was nearly doubled this year.

The technical specifications for these computers, called P4's, are 512 MB RAM, 40 GB hard drives, and brand new 15-inch LCD flat panel monitors. To the non-technical student, these specifications mean that the computers are about three times faster and have more space to store larger files.

Additionally, these computers take up far less desk space than their older counterparts (the tower is mounted on the backside of the monitor), reduce electrical costs, and do not give off as much heat as Cathode-Ray Tube monitors.

"We got all these computers because we knew that the kids would need computer access as we try to provide accommodations to students in the new dorms (or students without computers of their own)," Aaron Mathes, Director of IS Operations said.

Along with the new computer technology available to the school, the ILRC is encouraging students to purchase USB drives for file storage.

These portable devices serve the same function as floppy and

zip disks, but are much smaller and have a higher storage capacity.

To use the USB drives, simply insert them into a USB slot on the back or front of a computer, and save your files to the removable storage device, usually drive F.

The sizes available are 128 MB for \$40, or 256 MB for \$60; both sizes are much cheaper to buy from the computer lab than from any commercial vendor, and will easily hold all the presentations and reports of the average student's college career.

"They handle volatility better than 3.5 inch floppies or Zips. USB drives are made to attach to your keys and are built to last and store a lot of information with quick transfer speeds," Andre said.

Another little known fact about the computer lab is its newly extended hours of operation.

Starting on Sunday at 1 p.m., the computer lab stays open 24 hours, breaking only for convocation and Wednesday night church services (6:30 to 8:30 p.m.).

On Saturdays, the lab is open from 10 a.m. until 9 p.m.

Not only are the hours of operation expanding, but the amount of equipment is growing too.

"We are in the process of moving approximately 25 machines down to the first floor. As well as setting up an additional 45 on the second floor where programming services and MISO are situated," Mathes said in regards to future expansion.

And for now, students can look forward to the arrival of five new printers.

## Student playwright debuts at LU

By Misty Maynard  
NEWS REPORTER

For anyone that has ever fallen in love at first sight, "Searching for Starlight" is just your ticket. The student-written, student-directed performance features a creative new twist on spontaneous romance.

Will Jensen is a young man who becomes fascinated with a girl he meets in a café. During the course of their conversation, the only thing Will discovers is her first name, "Tiffany." Will initially decides that he should just forget about his chance meeting. But his two best buddies, Alex and Turp, convince him to go on a wild goose. They work in a restaurant called Starlight where the majority of the action takes place. The storyline follows the three friends as they search for the elusive girl.

"Searching for Starlight" was written by Liberty's own Kent Walter. A senior English major, Walter is a compulsive writer, but he felt that he was "horrible at dialogue." To refine his skills, Walter decided to take English 401, a script writing class that birthed Walter's first stage effort.

Walter decided he did not want to write yet another research paper for his senior honors thesis. He would rather direct a performance. "Searching for Starlight" was the

result of his creative brainstorm.

He took his script to Linda Nell Cooper, the theater director, and submitted his manuscript for approval by the Fine Arts Committee.

He kept pushing his play into every hand that would take it. Evidently, he pulled the right strings, because he finally received permission to bring his play to life. As director, Walter transfers his vision from the pages of script to the performance on stage.

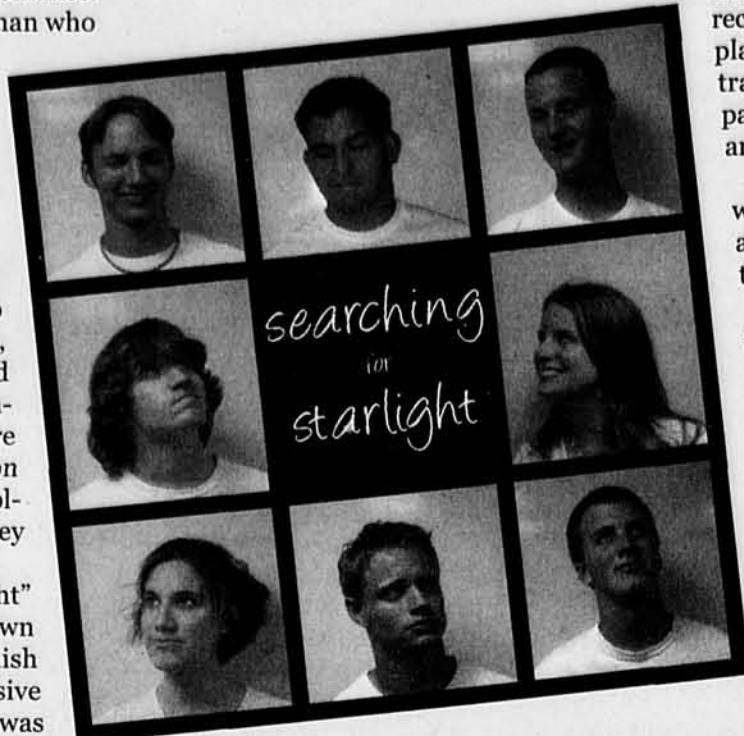
As an added twist, Walter will emulate Alfred Hitchcock and take the smallest part in the play.

Inspiration for "Searching for Starlight" came from Walter's personal experience as a cook in a restaurant. He even commented that the main character, Will, has some traits that resemble his own. But as Walter was writing, the plot thickened and the characters evolved.

"Even the dumbest things can seem important when you're right in

the middle of them," is a key statement from the script that sums up the basic theme of the play. While the play is a comedy, Walter wanted to emphasize that nothing is really unimportant to the person close to the situation.

"Searching for Starlight" has a two-day run on October 24 and 25. Each night it will be performed at 7:30 and 10 p.m. General admission for the play is \$2.



## Code: LU brings in legal consultants from Richmond

Continued from page 1

TRBC and LU are receiving legal advice from lawyers in Richmond who are experts in building code laws. The outside lawyers are aiding Falwell on any building code matter, as well as the issuance of C.O.s.

These attorneys believed that there was cause for

Jerry Falwell Ministries to acquire COs to hold the Easter service and the recent Super Conference.

However, they do not believe that moving offices from LU, such as LUPD, into spaces already classified as offices in the Annex constitutes a change in occupancy.

"In summary, the city is not entitled to anticipate the

changes that Liberty University might make to the building at an indefinite time in the future or to request a new CO merely because the Building changed ownership," said Attorney John M. Mercer in a memorandum to Falwell.

LU's architects are now in contact with Cooler and keeping him informed with

new design plans to help make the building safe. Such plans include firewalls. Cooler does not believe that the changes will be extensive, but wants to ensure the safety of the people working inside the building.

Falwell said that the remodeling of the Annex will continue as planned despite the conflicts.



# RM Automotive

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**Barry Deaner**

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\*Weight: 210

Occupation: Automotive Technician (15 Years)  
\*Hobbies: Rock climbing, Hang Gliding, Marathon Running, & Iron Man Competition



**Frank Goff**

\*Height: 6'4  
\*Weight: 220

Occupation: Automotive Technician (17 Years)  
\*Hobbies: Winston Cup Crew Chief, Kickboxing, Swimming the Amazon & Alligator Wrestling



**Robert Minnix**

\*Height: 6'4  
\*Weight: 190

Occupation: Automotive Technician (19 Years)  
\*Hobbies: Skydiving, Surfing, Barefoot Skiing, and Snowboarding

\*These statements may be stretching the truth a bit. In fact, they are only our techs daydreaming, but one thing we do take seriously is fixing your car with their combined 51 years experience they will apply all their knowledge to fixing your car right the 1st time.

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## Fest Request

Continued from page 1

Volunteering, however, will not go without reward. Those who help will get to see groups like Relient K, Newsboys, and Audio Adrenaline for free. Staying on campus during that time will be free also for those who are helping with the event. Normally, students would have to pay \$10 for every night they spend on campus.

Those who have helped in the past think of it as a great way to spend New Year's.

"I did get to hear some great music and meet some famous people. It was just a good experience being able to work in an event like that," Admissions Counselor Eric Viets said.

Additionally, Liberty students can satisfy their Christian service requirement. "We got it approved that they can get their entire Christian service done for the spring semester just by working the four days of Winterfest," Stewart said.

For visitors, the three-day event will offer a host of activities. Attendants will join in praise and worship with the Charles Billingsley Praise Band every day. On Wednesday, trips to Wintergreen, the Ice Station, and other local attractions are offered.

On New Year's Day, Audio Adrenaline will perform in the morning.

Volunteers will have their hands full, but according to those who have worked in the past, it is well worth it.

Viets suggested that anyone "should do it if they like the Christian music industry and have a good work ethic."

"(The event) also gave me a chance to make some contacts in the festival industry," he added.

Food will be the only thing volunteers will have to provide for themselves. Some meals, however, may be complimentary.

Students who would like to work at Winterfest should email their contact information as soon as possible to winterfest@liberty.edu.



# Civil War authority to speak at LU

By Brandon Bryant  
NEWS REPORTER

The war ended over a century ago but the history of the Civil War is still alive today. From books, movies, and reenactments of battles, many Americans love to look back in history and study, watch, and relive that divisional time period.

Soon all the Civil War buffs at Liberty will get a chance to hear from a well known authority on the civil war. Robert Hodge will be coming to Liberty University to speak about his book "The Unfinished War," Friday, November 7 at 7 p.m. in Fine Arts 101.

Hodge will discuss the "myths and realities of the Civil War," Co-Director of The Center for the Study of the Civil War in Central Virginia, Kenny Rowlette said. Those who attend the event will hear about today's meaning of the Civil War, along with Civil War heritage and tourism, and the Confederate flag controversy, Rowlette said.

Robert Hodge is not only a writer but he is also a consultant and film producer. He has appeared in the movie "Gettysburg" on CBS's Late Late Show, and on the History Channel. Hodge is also involved in the preservation of battlefields. He has raised over \$100,000 to purchase Civil War sites that are in danger of being lost.

"The vast majority of Civil War reenactors are highly knowledgeable historians who provide a valuable service in that they portray as accurately as possible the life of the Civil War soldier and the battlefields of that great conflict," Rowlette said, concerning the valuable lessons to be learned from the event.

In addition to the speech, Hodge will also be involved in a book signing at the Barnes & Noble bookstore in Lynchburg on Saturday, November 8 at 2 p.m. For more information about the event call Kenny Rowlette at 582-2087 or e-mail him at krowlette@liberty.edu.

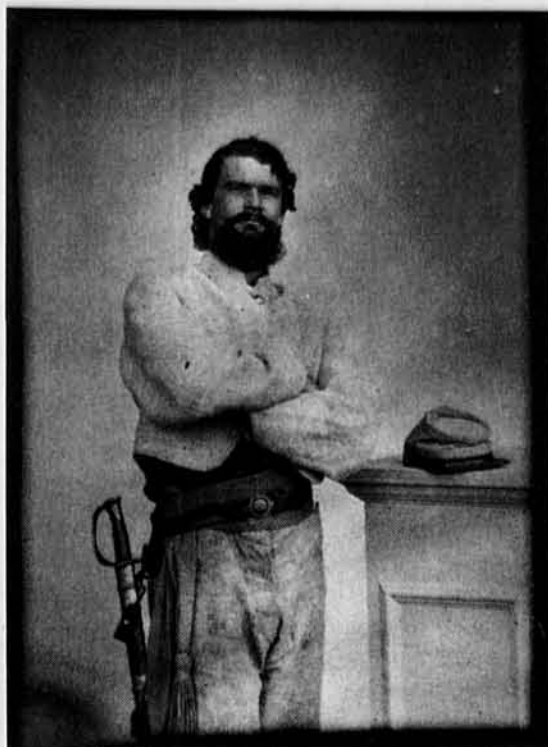


PHOTO PROVIDED  
**HISTORY BUFF**—Robert Hodge, noted authority on the Civil War, poses in authentic garb.

# A heart for the world: Campus Pastor Rob Jackson

By Brandon Bryant  
NEWS REPORTER

Dr. Rob Jackson has been teaching at Liberty long enough to see a few changes. "Physically this whole campus has changed," Jackson said, speaking of the "small Bible school mentality" and personalized nature the school had in its beginning.

Jackson says that Liberty's student population has increased tremendously, and its opportunities have broadened. "We've gone from a small Bible school mentality to a Christian Liberal Arts Institution," Jackson said, but "The heart and the mission of the place has remained the same."

Jackson was born and raised in the Sacramento Mountains of New Mexico, where he enjoyed the outdoors and the Dallas Cowboys. Jackson has been a sports enthusiast most of his life, winning the racquetball State Championship only a few years ago.

Jackson is not the only sports nut in his family though; most of his siblings, his children and his dad have all been involved in sports. In fact, his dad even trained for the Olympics but was injured and unable to continue.

Since moving to Lynchburg, Virginia and Liberty University, he has been teaching here for 23 years. He has one bachelor's degree, three masters and a doctorate from Liberty. Jackson says that he came to Liberty because of people he knew here, because of Dr. Falwell's testimony, and for his family.

"I wanted to come to a Christian school where I could keep my family together, yet get trained," Jackson said.

Jackson, along

with his wife, Tammy, and daughter, recently visited Germany where they got the opportunity to minister along side of an Army Ranger chaplain who is a Liberty alumnus. While in Germany, the Jacksons were able to help minister to some elite trainers and their spouses, through a marriage and family seminar.

Jackson and his wife both have a passion for family. "The two words in my life that really have meaning to me are family and church," Jackson said. "I really think those are God's avenue for changing the world... The church is only as strong as the families within the church."

The world is also an important part of Jackson's life. Every morning as he walks into his office he sets his eyes on a map of the world. He says this reminds him that God has called us to reach a lost world and that fulfillment in life ultimately comes from plugging yourself into the "real stuff." "What you give yourself to is where you spend your time."

Over the years, Jackson has realized that keeping spiritual disciplines and developing a love relationship with God are incredibly important. He advises students to come to recognize their purpose in life and focus on that purpose. "Try to keep your life simple," Jackson said, "If you're not careful life runs you over rather than you accomplishing anything."

Jackson says that he and his family are grateful to be a part of Liberty University.

"I feel like I'm the most

blessed guy here in some ways,

because I get paid for what every Christian is supposed to do."

HUONG NGUYEN posed

# Scaremare still delivers after 32 years

By Alicia Wotring  
NEWS REPORTER

Friday night a loud, continuous howl echoed through the cold night air on Carroll Avenue signaling that it was once again time for Scaremare. The sound swept through the line where hundreds of people waited to enter the first Scaremare weekend of the season.

"This is a very good Friday night," Dr. Steve Vandegriff said, indicating the long line of people waiting to enter the haunted house. Vandegriff, who is in charge of Scaremare along with Dr. Lee Vukich, speculated that they might have had as many as 1,500 people on their first Friday night.

Vandegriff said that last year 18,000 people participated in Scaremare and he hopes to match or surpass that this year.

They may meet that goal quite easily too. In only their second night, they already had

two television news stations covering the event, as well as national coverage by a reporter from USA Today.

"I think we've become a tradition in the city of Lynchburg," Vandegriff said. "(People) almost expect it after 32 years."

Scaremare was started by Dr. Gordon Luff, the first professor of Youth Ministry at Liberty. He brought the idea from Southern California, where Youth for Christ had started it as a fundraiser and promotional event more than an outreach.

Since that time, though, it has had an opportunity for great impact within the community.

After the thrill-seekers have a frightening experience in the haunted house, they see a final scene of Jesus on the cross, then are led to preaching tents, where volunteers share the gospel with them.

"We want people to be entertained," Vandegriff said.

"They're paying money to come to be scared...but our purpose behind all this is to somehow have an opportunity to (show) faith in Christ to them."

Vandegriff said that last year more than 1,500 people made first time decisions to follow Christ.

Freshman Steven Crowder, who spoke in the preaching tents Thursday night, said he saw 12 decisions for salvation and 15 for rededication that night alone.

However, Vandegriff says that they want to do a good job scaring people as well.

"We're kind of earning the right to be heard in a very short amount of time," Vandegriff said.

Students volunteering also appreciate both aspects of Scaremare. Sophomore Kelly Sargent, who is working her second year at Scaremare, said her favorite part is being able to scare people and see their reaction.

Vandegriff said one of the main differences they focused on this year is backing away from goriness while still making the rooms scary.

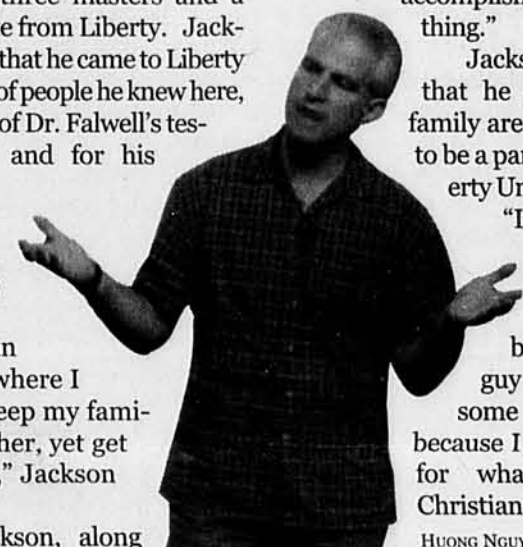
So far, it seems to be working.

"That was the scariest thing I've ever done," Emily Scranton said.

"I held on to a complete stranger's hand!" joked Amber Guertin. Guertin and Scranton are both visiting for College for a Weekend.

Scaremare will run two more weekends, Oct. 23-25 and Oct. 30-Nov. 1. Thursday nights are College Night and admission is only \$3 for students who show their ID. Regular admission is \$7 per person, or \$5 per person for groups of 10 or more.

Volunteers are still needed to help with Scaremare. Vandegriff said that anyone interested in working Scaremare should go and will be placed to work upon arrival.



# Champion wins "Best Overall"

By Jake Belue  
NEWS EDITOR

Several members from the Champion staff journeyed to Nashville, Tenn. earlier this month to attend the Baptist Press Student Journalism Conference. They returned with the trophy for "Best Overall Newspaper" in the larger school bracket, beating out schools like Baylor University.

For the staff members who attended, it was not just the awards that they went for.

"They had graphic design workshops and I just wanted to go to Nashville," senior Kevin Boyd said.

Boyd is now the design manager for the staff and is responsible for many of the appealing, and sometimes appalling, graphics in the "Life!" section this semester.

Editor-in-chief Ben Eppard, who may as well move his bed into the Champion office, was another staff member who attended.

"There were a lot of good papers there," he said. "It was interesting to compare what we're doing here at Liberty to what everyone else is doing."

Eppard was honored with the first place award for "Cartoon/Art/Infographics Design."

Among the other awards received at the event were: first place in "Photojournalism Photo spread (Black and White)"; first place in "Sports-writing"; three third place awards for photojournalism in sports and creative categories.

"I hope we can duplicate or surpass the accomplishments of last year's staff," said Sports Editor Andrew Martin, who is such a permanent spectator at sporting events he could be mistaken for the 1st down marker on the football field. "I expect that we will with the talent that we have."

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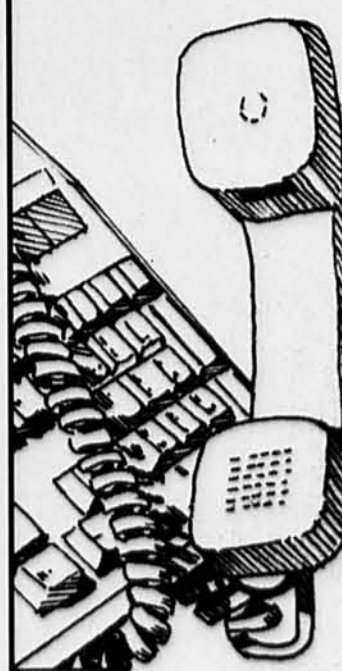
Available to work Monday-Sunday = \$8.00 an hour. Required hours: Friday 8:45pm-9:45pm, Saturday 8:00pm-12:00pm and Sundays (8am-1pm and 8pm-1am OR 8am-6pm and 8pm-9pm).

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## Kanakuk Kamps recruit from LU



PHOTO PROVIDED

**TIME OUT—** Students at camp take an afternoon break to go canoeing on the lake.

**By Richard Gretskey**  
NEWS REPORTER

Representatives from Kanakuk Kamps will be visiting Liberty University on Tuesday, October 28, to interview students about possible summer jobs. The meeting is at 7 p.m. and will take place in DeMoss 1101.

Every fall and winter the directors from each of the 11 camps within Kanakuk and the inner city ministry Kids Across America, travel around the nation to colleges in an attempt to recruit workers for the next summer.

Over 250 schools are visited each year and of the 5,000 students interviewed, about half of them will be hired.

In the past, Liberty University has had upwards of 80 students to work at Kanakuk and KAA during a single summer. However, recent years have seen that number dwindle.

"Although our numbers haven't been as high as they've been in the past, we trust that God will provide the people that He wants at Kamp because it's not always about numbers. We just trust that God will provide the staff necessary to reach out to the kids at Kamp." Bill Rodriguez, campus representative for Liberty University to Kanakuk and KAA, said.

This type of faith is indicative of the Liberty students who work at the camps. The students do not simply work at the camps; they care about the ministries.

"We support Kanakuk and KAA ministries because we've seen how it changes lives," Rodriguez said.

Thandizo Sibande, another campus representative, agreed, "I love Kanakuk and KAA because we are able to reach the hearts and minds of kids in this generation with a bold

gospel that also impacts my life."

These camps have not only been highly supported by Liberty students, but have also been endorsed by prominent Christian leaders including Today's Family President Gary Smalley, former Chicago Bears Linebacker Mike Singletary, and Focus on the Family's

James Dobson.

Another Christian leader who is a proponent of Kanakuk is former Major League Baseball pitcher Orel Hershisier. "Kanakuk Kamp has been an incredible experience for my boys these past several years. Their emphasis is on sports and Christian fellowship led by top-notch Christian college athletes. Outdoor recreation and adventure activities make this place a real kid paradise!" Hershisier said.

Kanakuk.com, the website for the Kamp, says that this "kid paradise" was founded in 1926 as an all boy's sports camp. Kanakuk has since grown to 11 summer camps that has changed the lives of thousands of boys and girls across the nation.

Anyone who is interested in working at Kanakuk this summer can contact campus representatives Bill Rodriguez at (301) 758-4420 or Thandizo Sibande at (434) 426-9545.

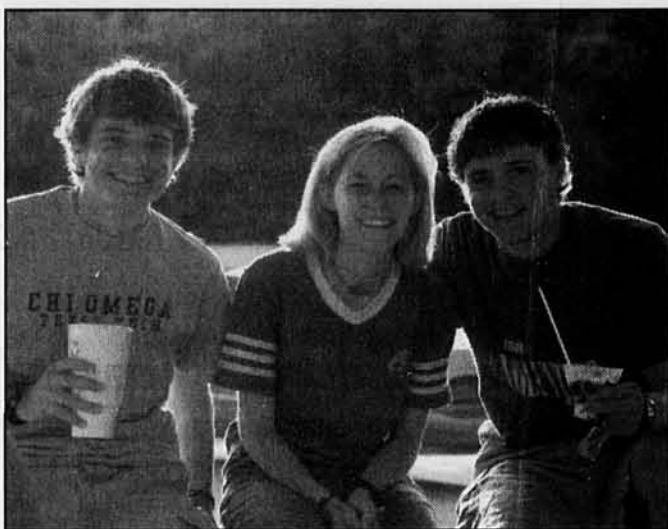


PHOTO PROVIDED

**SUMMER PLANS —** College students Andy and Austin Puryear and Kelly Busby worked together as camp counselors.

## RAGTIME: LU first in nation

**By Justin Faulconer**  
NEWS REPORTER

Performed for the first time in the nation at a college, "Ragtime" hit the stage featuring some old, familiar faces and some very new ones. Liberty University's theater program showcased the musical to the community from October 3-18.

"We had an amazing ensemble," said sophomore Hannah Hughes, who acted in the play. "With all the dancing and singing, you almost felt left out of all the excitement if you were a principle character."

Overall, 41 students and a former student, who is now a New York stage actor, took part in the production about music, immigration, and racism in the early 1900s. Linda Nell Cooper, the show's director and choreographer, said that they all came together from different majors and academic backgrounds to work together with a dedication that was inspiring. This was her 22nd production as Drama Director at Liberty.

The cast of the play rehearsed for about four weeks and met together every night for three hours before the first show opened on the first weekend of October. Attendance for the shows was very good according to House Manager Alexandria Laing, a freshman. "Almost every one was sold out," she said.

"This story really touched my heart when I first saw it performed five years ago," said Cooper.

"I felt that it was important for our campus because its message about prejudices and segregation needs to be examined, even at a Christian university. I also like to be the first at things, and we were the first college in the United States who were given permission to do this show."

The show featured Will Perez, who played the lead on

behalf of AEA (Actor's Equity Association) in New York City. Perez performed in LU plays such as "Crazy for You" and "Big River" from 1997-1999. He received his Equity contract after spending just a year in New York.

Cooper said his return that came in conjunction with Homecoming pleased the attending alumni. And current students found it inspiring for an alumnus to come back and raise the acting standard for drama students.

"It was like a mother who saw her child come home," Cooper commented on Perez coming back to perform. "I was so full of pride for him and what he's doing. Of course, the relationship went from professor and student to colleague and colleague."

But Perez was not the only special appearance. Near the end of the show, Nicolas Anderson, the 6-year-old son of a Liberty graduate student took the stage as "Coalhouse." He was one of many children considered for the part. The role proved difficult to fill though. Parents were hesitant, particularly when they found out the show would be three hours. The cast members didn't give up so easily and asked everyone, from neighbors to strangers, until Nicolas was found.

"I thought the play was awesome," said Bryan Hoarman, a College for a Weekend visitor. "The seamless transition from scene to scene and the impact of the storyline was all very well done. The audio was crisp and clear and the lighting was fantastic."

"It was a pleasure to be a part of this cast," said junior Aaron Bauer, who performed the part of "Edgar." "There were a lot of new people who brought new life and energy to the stage and it helped us maintain our testimony as a theater and as a school."

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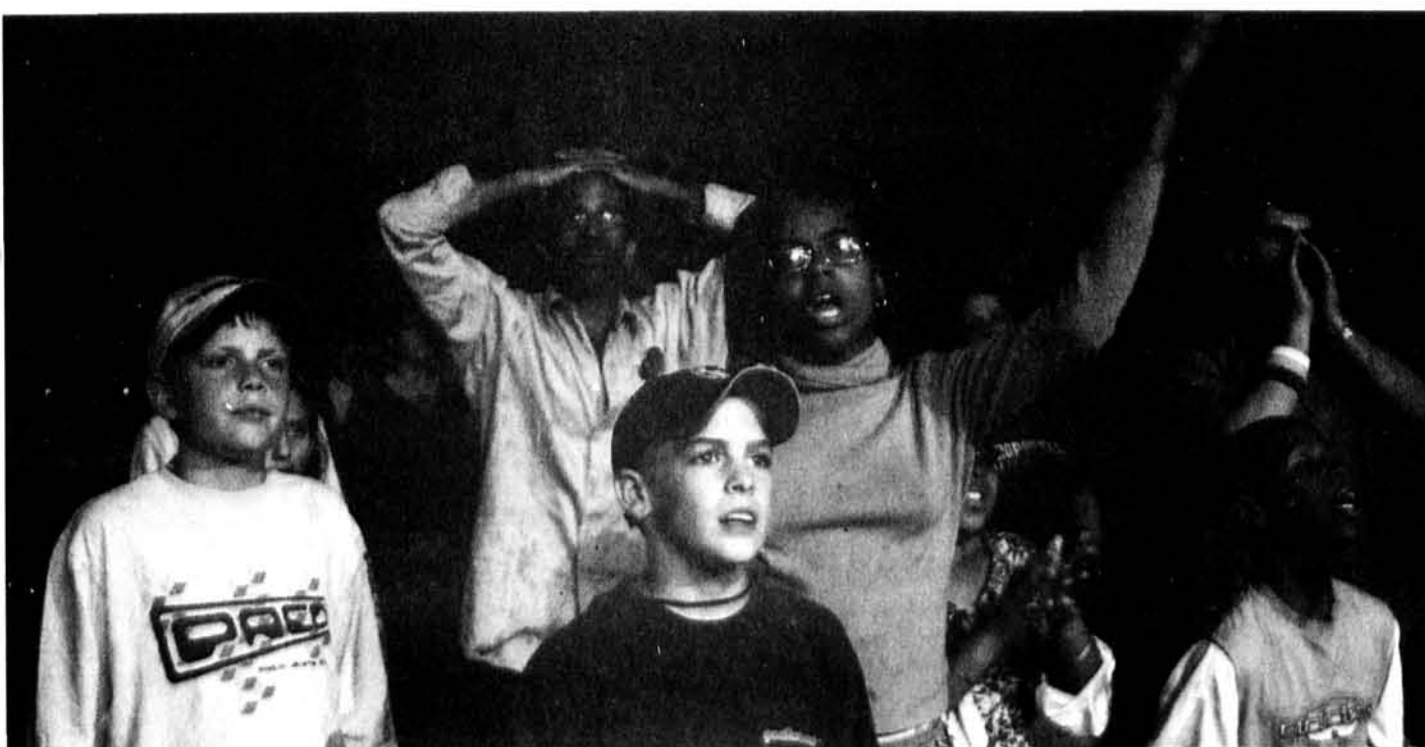
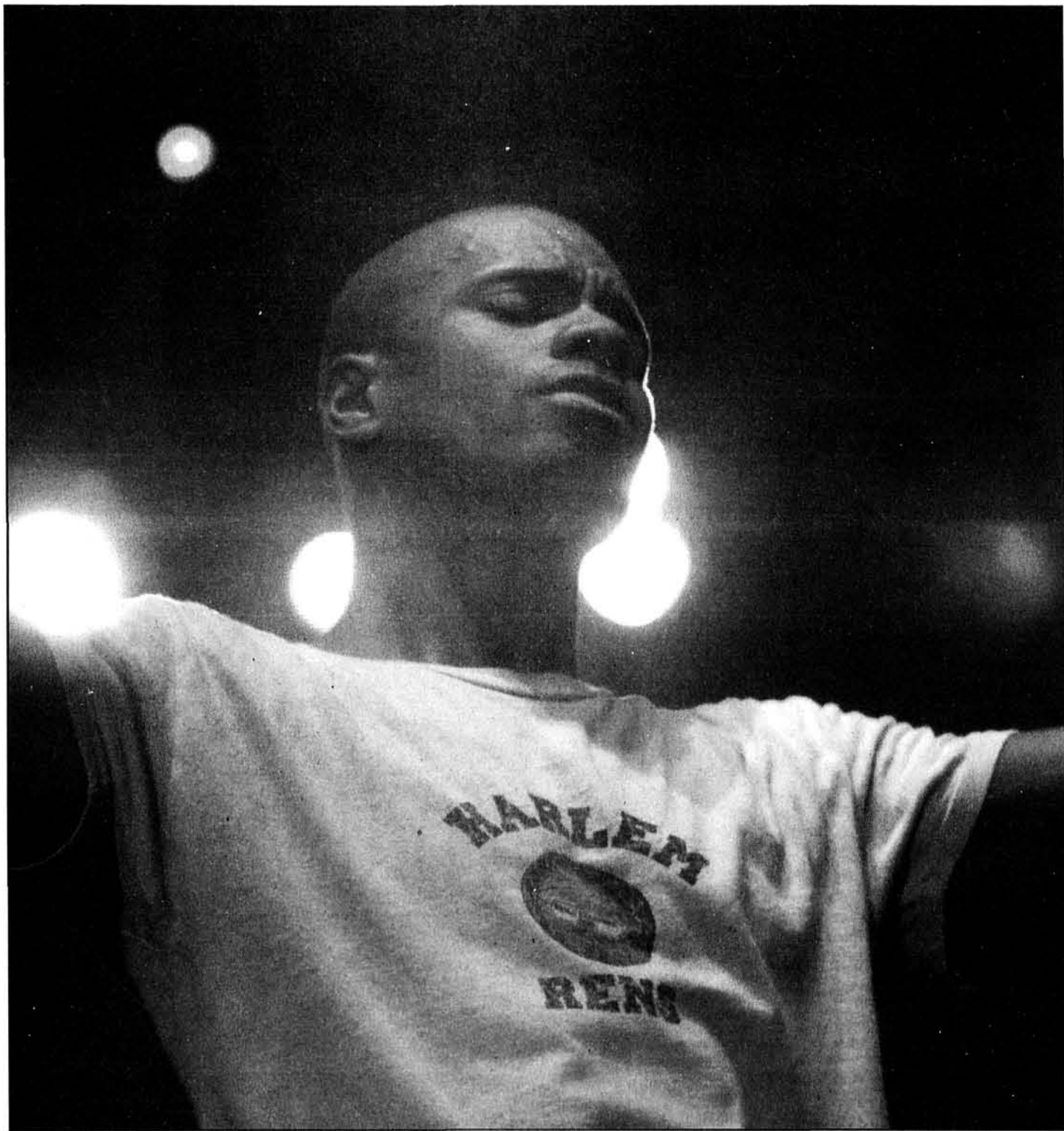
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# I have a dream

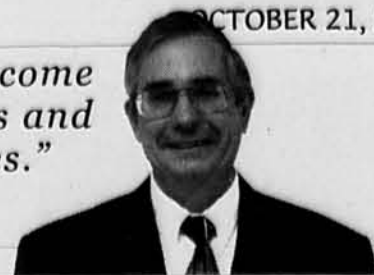




# Opinion

*"Unrestrained judicial action is likely to become one of the greatest dangers to our freedoms and religious traditions in the coming decades."*

Prof. Stephen Witham  
GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENT



## Imposing state atheism?

Court to decide between 'patriotic expression' and atheistic chasm



benppard

The 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals has a reputation for being decidedly liberal, so it was not entirely surprising when it ruled last June that the phrase "one nation under God" in the Pledge of Allegiance was unconstitutional. The ramifications of the case are now becoming national, however, as proponents of the pledge appeal the case to the Supreme Court, turning what once affected only eight Western states into one of next year's most anticipated court battles.

The case, *Elk Grove Unified School District vs. Newdow*, pits avowed atheist Michael Newdow against his 9-year-old daughter's school system. Newdow, who claims his daughter is also an atheist, insists that it is unconstitutional for the school to initiate the Pledge of Allegiance in its current form, because the phrase "one nation under God" is an affirmation of religion and a violation of the separation of church and state.

"I believe in the Constitution," Newdow said in an interview with CNN. "The Constitution says that government isn't supposed to be infusing religion into our society, and so I asked to have that upheld."

Ironically, the pledge is voluntary, and those who opt out often do so because of their belief in God. Many Mennonites and Jehovah's Witnesses choose not to participate in the pledge not because of its reference to God but because they believe all allegiance should be his. In 1943, eleven years before the phrase "under God" was added, the Supreme Court ruled in a case involving Jehovah Wit-

ness schoolchildren that they could not be forced to pledge allegiance if it contradicted their religious beliefs.

Newdow, on the other hand, insists that voluntary or not, the pledge is unconstitutional, because his daughter is being forced to hear it, an act he claims bears the weight of government approval.

Complicating matters is the question of whether Newdow even has the right to sue on behalf of his daughter because of a custody dispute over the child. He and the mother, Sandra Banning, have never been married and at the time of the 9th Circuit Court ruling, Banning had full custody.

Banning, who said she thinks the Pledge of Allegiance is simply "patriotic expression," decries the notion that her daughter is an atheist; instead, she says that her daughter enjoys saying the pledge with her classmates.

She and the U.S. Solicitor General Theodore Olson, the government's chief lawyer before the court, filed a brief claiming that Newdow did not have the right to bring the case before the court, because he was not the child's guardian. "If, as the non-custodial parent Newdow believes the mother's educational decisions are causing harm to the child, the proper remedy is for him to resort to family court and seek a modification of the custody agreement," Olson argued. This argument, however, has been stymied by partial custody, which was granted Newdow three weeks ago.

Just how good then are the chances that supporters of the pledge will not find themselves saying an abbreviated version at every high school graduation across America? There is some evidence to suggest the case could go either way. Statistically, it is true that the 9th Circuit is the most overturned appeals court in the United States, and both public opinion and the majority of political leaders support the current version of the pledge. In fact, the United States Senate responded to the 9th Circuit Court's ruling by passing a resolution 99-0 "expressing support for the Pledge of Allegiance."

In addition to public opinion, the Supreme Court starts every day by an invocation in which the marshal says "God save this honorable court." In other words, the Supreme Court would have to find its own traditions unconstitutional in order to agree with the 9th Circuit.

Some elements have weakened the school's case, however. In its ruling, the 9th Circuit Court pointed out that the phrase in question was actually not a part of the original pledge, rather it was inserted in 1954 as an affront to atheistic communism. The Supreme Court could find it easier to remove the phrase because it was not a part of the original.

Also, Justice Antonin Scalia, who would most likely have ruled in favor of the pledge, has decided not to take part in the case. Scalia, who publicly criticized the 9th Circuit Court, did not elaborate on why he chose to sit out, but each individual justice may decide if personal or financial interests could inhibit their ability to rule on the matter. This presents the potential for a 4-4 split, which would leave the Pledge of Allegiance banned in the 9th Circuit with the possibility of national judicial implications.

As the most anticipated court battle of next year, it is also the most crucial. A ruling affirming the unconstitutionality of a government endorsed reference to God could expand the separation of church and state into an atheistic chasm, affecting everything from references to God on our money to the invocation of the Supreme Court. The United States has never imposed a state religion on its people, so why should it religiously impose state atheism when the majority of Americans support the pledge as it is?

May the Justices see that there is no state mandated religion in the pledge, and that it is merely a positive affirmation of our country with respect to a greater being. "God save this honorable court."



Jason Pope  
Ben Eppard

## SpeakUp: Who do you want to eat dinner with the most?



"Michael Chang because of the way he uses tennis to tell others about what Jesus has done for him."

—Maria Clara Gonzalez  
Dorado, So.  
Rosario, Argentina



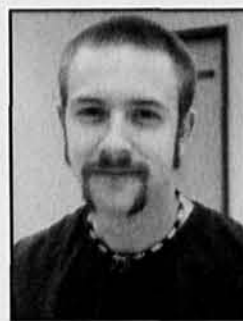
"My girlfriend because there is nothing better than being with her."

—Marcus Eddy, So.  
Washington, D.C.



"Jerry Falwell because he has been used by God in so many different ways; he has influenced our society incredibly."

—S. René Jiménez, Jr.  
Herndon, Va.



"The Teutuls of Orange County Choppers because I love their bikes and they are really funny."

—Adam Ferguson, Jr.  
Granger, Ind.



"The Beatles because I like their music. I would like to know how they came up with the ideas for their songs."

—Noelle Coulson, Fr.  
Port Sydney,  
Ontario, Canada



"My boyfriend because I'm usually busy with classwork which makes it hard for us to go out to dinner a lot."

—Anna Evans, So.  
Union, Mich.



# Commentary

## Fallen, but not overcome: Limbaugh not hypocritical

It's always tough to watch a hero stumble. Nowhere is this more true than in the case of nationally syndicated radio talk show host Rush Limbaugh. Limbaugh, who is famous for championing conservative values and satirizing their liberal counterparts, recently admitted to a prescription drug addiction in response to allegations made in the *National Enquirer*.

The *Enquirer* story charged that Limbaugh illegally obtained OxyContin, as well as two other unnamed painkilling drugs, and that the talk show host was abusing them. After the story ran, Limbaugh admitted the drug addiction publicly on his radio show. He said the addiction started when his doctor prescribed the drugs to treat pain resulting from failed spinal surgery that was intended to correct two herniated discs in his back. He explained the "medication turned out to be highly addictive," and admitted that he had become "addicted to prescription pain medication."

Limbaugh said that he had tried to break the habit, and had twice checked himself into medical facilities in order to do so, though those attempts had failed. He asked his audience to pray for him, announcing that "Immediately following this broadcast, I am checking myself into a treatment center for the next 30 days to once and for all break the hold this highly addictive medication has on me."

Though stumbling is far from unique to Limbaugh, what makes his situation particularly painful to watch is that through it, as always, his every misstep is met with glee from many who oppose him. Jonathan Alter, a senior editor for *Newsweek*, was downright cheery in his mockery of Limbaugh's shortcomings, disparaging him as a hypocrite. Tony Norman, a columnist for the *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette*, lampooned Rush as "a mere notch or two above a low-rent crack addict," while liberal comedian Al Franken, author of *Rush Limbaugh is a Big Fat Idiot*, stated that he was "looking forward to the perp walk." Though many on the left are typically sympathetic regarding celebrity drug addiction, that sympathy is notably absent when the celebrity is Rush Limbaugh.

As contemptible as such loathing may be, the reason for its existence is readily identifiable. Limbaugh has long been acknowledged as one of the conservative movement's most prominent, articulate, and persuasive spokesmen. His influence in strengthening and shaping the political ideology and voting behavior of many Americans is undeniable. From his perch behind the "golden EIB microphone," Rush reaches out to over 20

million listeners on more than 650 radio stations every day, making his show the highest rated, and arguably the most influential in the country. It goes without saying that certain opportunistic liberals would be anxious

to exploit any weakness in order to silence Limbaugh. They feel that by silencing him, they silence a large part of the conservative message. Alter expresses this thinking by asserting, "If Rush goes, so does the biggest megaphone in the GOP's elephant echo chamber."

Though there is no excuse for Limbaugh's drug abuse, he is not guilty of hypocrisy as

his detractors are alleging. As highly regarded as he may be, Limbaugh does not hold a position that requires him to be any more publicly accountable than he chooses to be. While he may find that candor serves him best in the court of public opinion, Limbaugh is not obligated to be as forthcoming as a religious leader for example, or perhaps even an elected official. Consequently, he does not have the obligation to step down as the result of a moral failure the same way someone in one of those positions might.

Additionally, as Gary Bauer, President of American Values points out, "From a moral standpoint, there's a difference between people who go out and seek a high and get

addicted and the millions of Americans dealing with pain who inadvertently get addicted." Limbaugh fits into the latter category, and

though he is still responsible for his actions, he didn't get hooked because he was out looking for a good time.

Most importantly, when confronted with his problem, Limbaugh responded by taking responsibility for his actions. He admitted his wrongdoing, and asked for help in dealing with his addiction. This alone frees him from the charge of hypocrisy. After all, falling short of a standard is not hypocrisy; claiming to meet that standard while falling short is.

As difficult as it is to watch a hero stumble, it is even more difficult to be the one actually taking the fall. Now more than ever, Limbaugh needs the support of those who have come to love and admire him. Conservatives owe a great debt to this man for what he has done to further their cause. His failings do not negate his accomplishments, and in dealing with his addiction honestly, Limbaugh is setting the stage to rise to his feet stronger than ever. Limbaugh's career is far from over, and as he closed last Friday's broadcast with typical poise, he noted that he looks "forward to resuming our excursion into broadcast excellence together." So do we Rush, so do we.



jeremybroggi

*"Though there is no excuse for Limbaugh's drug abuse, he is not guilty of hypocrisy as his detractors are alleging."*

## Christianity is the target of a modern pervasive attack

An ongoing war continues to be waged against us. No, I am not speaking of the continued threats of Islamic extremists. The war I am referencing is the continuous attack on Christianity (and even more specifically, evangelical Christians) that has permeated all facets of our society from the classrooms, the mainstream media, Hollywood, the courts, and government institutions.

It has become increasingly popular to mock Christianity and the Biblical values that we adhere to. Whereas tolerance and diversity are often promoted as society's highest virtues, tolerance and respect is rarely extended to Christians. Instead, we are perceived by the popular culture as mindless, uneducated, brainwashed, Bible-thumping, backwoods fanatics. Our society is quick to decry the mistreatment of any group, but discrimination directed towards Christians deliberately goes unnoticed and some might say, is even encouraged.

My recent articles in the *Champion* have served merely to educate and create meaningful discussion, but my expectation for this article serves a different purpose. The assault on Christianity must provoke us, as Christians, to a call to action. In a letter addressed to William Smith, Thomas Jefferson wrote of the importance of our

young nation to undergo a revolution every 20 years. Similarly, as Christians, we must continually revolt

against our current cultural stereotype and bigotry. As Dr. Ergun Canor, Associate Professor of Theology and Church History, eloquently stated in Convocation recently, we must adopt the mindset that we are sick and tired of our plight within society.

Christianity has been singled out as so offensive and intolerable that it must be silenced and removed in many segments of society. For example, in a public school in St. Louis, fourth-grader Raymond Raines was ordered to stop praying before his lunch. After refusing to stop praying on three other occasions, Raines was publicly scorned and given a week's detention. Two students at Lynn Lucas Middle School in Houston had their Bibles thrown in the garbage by a teacher because the Bibles were deemed "trash." In California, all seventh graders were compelled to a three-week Islamic course. Students were mandated to take on Muslim names, plan a pilgrimage to Mecca, and chant, "Praise to Allah, Lord of Creation." A junior at Ave Maria College in Ann Arbor, Michigan had her government financial aid pulled after she declared theology as her major. Last year, the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill began to require all incoming freshmen and transfer students to read *Approaching the Quran: The Early*

*Revelations*. At the Virginia Military Institute in Lexington, Virginia, dinner prayer ceremonies, a practice dating back since the 1950s was ruled unconstitutional and inappropriate.

The secularist worldview in which these and numerous other instances of Christian discrimination stems from Jefferson's "wall of separation between church and state." Yet this infamous phrase, which has now replaced the actual wording of the First Amendment, was part of a letter Jefferson wrote to a group of Baptists to calm their fears that that the federal government would not establish any single denomination of Christianity. And even if Jefferson's phrase were to

be incorrectly applied, it should affect all religious groups and not just evangelical Christians. Actor and producer Mel Gibson has been the recipient of a scurrilous reaction to his reportedly accurate portrayal of Jesus' last hours in the soon-to-be released film, "The Passion." The secular press insults and berates President Bush in an attempt to portray him as a demagogue. What is the underlying reason for President Bush's ridicule? The answer may be that he is a self-avowed born-again Christian! So many times Dr. Falwell and Pat Robertson are

labeled leaders of the "Religious Right." However, you will be hard pressed to ever hear Jesse Jackson, a "religious" liberal,

labeled a prominent leader of the "Religious Left."

American statesman Patrick Henry once said "I am, however, much consoled by reflecting that the religion of Christ has, from its first appearance in the world, been attacked in vain by all the wits, philosophers, and wise ones, aided by every power of man, and its triumphs have been complete."

At the 1964 Republican Convention, Senator Barry Goldwater said that "Extremism in the defense of liberty is no vice; moderation in the pursuit of justice is no virtue." As Christians, it is unacceptable to be moderate in our stance for Christ. Alternatively, the defense of Christianity is the extremism that we must pursue! American essayist Thomas Paine, said, "I love the man that can smile in trouble, that can gather strength from distress and grow brave by reflection. 'Tis the business of little minds to shrink; but he whose heart is firm, and whose conscience approves his conduct, will pursue his principles unto death."

No longer can our downfall be our silence. No longer can we be as sheep led to the slaughter. I urge my brothers and sisters in Christ to stand united and take action in our duty to dismantle this cultural onslaught that seeks to undermine our faith.



gabrielwasson

*"Our society is quick to decry the mistreatment of any group, but discrimination directed towards Christians deliberately goes unnoticed and some might say, is even encouraged."*

### The Liberty Champion

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jason pope



## picks of the week

## • 10/24-25 Searching for Starlight

Treat yourself to the student-directed and produced play "Searching for Starlight" on Friday and Saturday at 7:30 and 10 p.m. This sitcom-natured play will be a delight you won't want to miss.

## • 10/24 Fellowship Gospel Choir Talent Competition

Come out on Friday at 10 p.m. to David's Place and experience this "American Idol" type talent competition. The competition lasts until 2 a.m. and is an approved late night event.

# Life!

## fun fact of the week

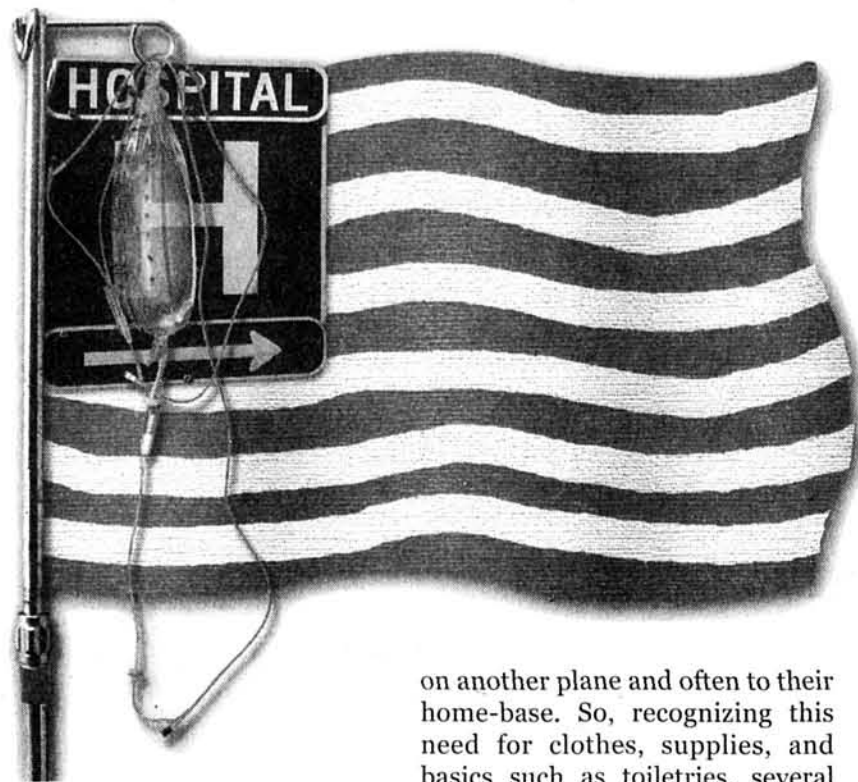
**\$171,661,000**  
is the total value of all  
pumpkins harvested annually.

Taken from Health magazine

## BANDAGING AMERICA'S SOLDIERS

★★★★★

BY CARRIE FRASZ



Iraq is still a dangerous place for American troops supporting the global war on terrorism. Daily news reports of a bombing or shooting spree keep reminding us that our troops are in constant danger.

Those soldiers who do receive injury are flown to Ramstein AFB, Germany, where they catch a flight to Andrews AFB, Maryland, located just outside of Washington, D.C. Upon arrival at Andrews the wounded are taken to the Contingency Staging Aeromedical Facility, where more than 6,000 returning troops have received medical care since March.

Col. Russ Frasz, Vice Wing Commander of Andrews AFB, explained, "The CASF is a waiting place for the wounded soldiers...they might be here overnight, or for three days." It was during the soldiers' stay at the CASF that a great need was realized.

The service members were returning home with just the clothes on their backs. Their luggage and gear would be sent later

on another plane and often to their home-base. So, recognizing this need for clothes, supplies, and basics such as toiletries, several Andrews AFB residents teamed up with Susan Brewer, founder and president of America's Heroes of Freedom. Together, Operation Lifeline was started, a project to procure and deliver the much-needed supplies to the soldiers who come through the CASF.

From the CASF the wounded are sent to surrounding military hospitals, their home-based hospital, or even home to recover. It is when they reach the CASF, back in the states, that they really get a chance to reflect on their service.

Scott Peck, Army E-5, was returning from his eighth deployment to war. He was on his way to the airbase for his flight home to the states when his convoy hit an Improvised Explosive Device (IED). This hidden explosive caused a broken arm, as well as various minor injuries. "I have seen a lot of accidents and had been lucky to remain safe during each deployment. It was my last day at war that I received my injury, and it could have been a lot worse, so, I still consider myself lucky," Peck said.

Peck was stationed in Baghdad as a senior ranking enlisted man,

with several men under him. He had been there since April and was ready to return to Kansas, where his wife and three kids were anxiously waiting to see him.

Missing home is a way of life for the soldiers. "We all looked forward to the rare phone calls and chances to email family and friends. There was nothing better than getting a care package, filled with luxuries like Kool-Aid, beef jerky and family pictures. These packages were shared and traded with the whole camp," Peck said. "Things like Spam, soda and eggs were a treat. It really makes you appreciate what you have when you come home."

"I was dedicated to keeping up the moral among my guys. Five of the seven men under me were about 19 or 20 years old. This was their first deployment, and for some their first time away from home. It was weird to hear them tell stories about high school, or celebrate their 20th birthday," Peck shared.

Many of the soldiers are young, college-aged students on their first deployment. These men choose to go fight terrorism for our country instead of attending college.

Twenty-year old Zach Smith is a member of the Army National Guard. He attended Illinois State University, until he was called up to fight in Baghdad. Smith fought on the front lines, right in the middle of major combat areas. "It's an experience, I can't say whether good or bad, but I wouldn't take it back," Smith said.

Smith's father is the pastor of a non-denominational church in Illinois. Smith himself spent five years of his childhood in Brazil while his parents did mission work there. He explained how his faith made a difference, "Being a Christian helped a lot. Whenever I was scared, I would pray to have God send angels to protect all of us...I found myself praying a lot, more than normal...I was scared a lot."

Faith helped many of the men during their time away. John Jordan, a 22-year-old Chaplain's Assistant for the Air Force, spent four and a half months in both Qatar and Iraq. Jordan is currently a student at Mt. Olive College in North Carolina, majoring in religion. His duties while deployed included providing

protection for the chaplain, assisting with counseling and supporting the soldiers through prayer and encouragement.

"No matter what hardships come your way, if you keep your eyes on God, He will pull you through," was advice Jordan often repeated. He explained that the majority of the people needing counseling, were struggling with the issue of taking someone's life, "they often felt like they were sinning." Jordan had many opportunities to serve, including riding along with security police to bases and camps and provide ministry services where there were none.

His favorite moment, however, was the night he got called out of bed to go pray with the pilots of the Stealth bomber that were about to drop the first bombs on what was thought to be Hussein's hiding place. "It was cool to be a part of that and know what was going on before everyone else in the world. I was able to pray over and encourage the pilots of the plane," Jordan said.

Some experiences brought people to God. Army Sgt. David Clouse was shot by a nine mm gun. The bullet entered through his front side, squeezed between two ribs, barely scratched his liver, and exited through his back. "One inch one way or the other and I wouldn't be here," Clouse recalls. "That was the moment that I knew someone was with me, someone was standing right next to me for that—and for everything else."

The conditions the soldiers were placed in are not ones to wish upon anyone. Most of these men were

there through the hottest months of July and August where the temperature can reach 130 degrees at times. "Our shirts would just be white when we took them off from the salt of our sweat," Peck explains. Peck, along with others never experienced a drop of rain his whole deployment. The soldiers often sleep on floors, cannot take regular showers, use "burning barrels" as bathrooms and eat pre-packaged meals.

## Author's Note:

*The war on terrorism in Iraq and Afghanistan seems so far away, often allowing us to forget its very existence. Especially while away at school, with little connection with the outside world, students are not always well informed with current events and world news.*

*It is easy for us to go about our daily business and not to think of our heroes doing the fighting. However, it should not be placed on the back burner of our minds or forgotten in our prayers.*

*It is important that even as students thousands of miles away, we can remember the men and women who are doing good for the world and our country. Just acknowledging their existence and remembering them in prayer can be enough. However, there is always more you can do to get involved. Do some research and find ways to help, write letters, donate supplies or even just keep up with the news to know how to pray.*



GRAPHICS BY KEVIN BOYD

amyjordan

### Irresistible autumn...

There is something about autumn that is absolutely irresistible. That first day of autumn when there is a slight nip in the air and a crisp quality to everything is the type of day that has the ability to instantly restore my mood, or to put a smile on my face. Does anyone else feel this way?

When I was growing up, the first fire of the fall season was always a big deal. I'm not sure if it was everyone's family, or just mine that made huge events out of small things, but looking back I'm glad that my parents did. I can remember hopping off of the bus as a little second or third-grader and being so excited when I would see my dad gathering up firewood from our woodpile to take to the fireplace in our family room.

My father would take my little brother and me to the woods behind our home, and supervise while we found the perfect

sticks to use for kindling. It was simply a fun time as a family. Later, once the fire was crackling and glowing we would sit in front of the hearth, playing games and toasting marshmallows.

All through elementary school, I can remember the air getting a little bit nippy and the leaves starting to turn colors, and feeling a sense of anticipation at the seasonal activities to come. I knew that once it started getting colder and the leaves began to fall it would mean Halloween costumes and candy corn, Thanksgiving dinner and eventually the Christmas season. The cooler temperatures and changing colors were just a sign of the good things to come.

It occurred to me recent-

ly that I don't view autumn the same way that I did as a child. Although it's definitely still my favorite time of the year, I don't view it with the same childlike excitement and anticipation that I once did.

Now, instead of getting stars in my eyes over thinking of the walks through the leaves, or apple-picking on a clear, crisp day, I think about the fact that I need to go home to get my winter clothes, or all that I have to accomplish before Thanksgiving arrives. The little things that were so special when we were children, like the first fire of the season, are no longer so meaningful or important in comparison with the huge issues we have going on.

It's so easy to let the stress in our lives take over the simple

pleasures that the fall season can bring. And you know what? I don't want to be that kind of a person, and I hope that you won't let yourself become that person either.

This fall I'm choosing to enjoy the moments that are placed before me, whether it's a chance to go to the pumpkin patch, or to sip hot chocolate on a cold evening. Take advantage of the opportunity to admire the fall colors with a special someone, or to go and pick apples in an apple orchard. Instead of getting so caught up in the mid-terms that are coming up, or the 12-page paper that has to be written, don't forget to focus on the autumn pleasures in front of you at the moment.

The poet George Eliot once said, "Delicious autumn! My very soul is wedded to it, and if I were a bird I would fly about the earth seeking the successive autumns." Let's enjoy this season, and have childlike wonder in the changes in the world around us. Sit outside on a blanket while you study for that anatomy test. Carve a pumpkin. Don't resist the irresistible enjoyment that autumn brings.





## Do You Know



**JACK HOEY**

**Hometown:** Charleston, S.C.

**Favorite Verse:** Isaiah 46:8-10

**My ideal Saturday afternoon would be:** Make some coffee, read the Purpose Driven Life for 4-5 hours, meditate on it for 2-3 more, then, if I'm in the mood, read my Bible for ten minutes.

**Accomplishment you are most proud of:** Remembering all the lyrics to the Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles theme song.

**If I could spend a day with anyone in the world it would be:** Rick Warren

**What I do in my free time:** I'm either studying for Dr. Fowler or out with Aidan.

**Favorite kind of sandwich:** Sheetz sub, any kind.

**If anybody could play me in a movie I would want it to be:** Nicolas Cage

**First thing I notice about people:** Their handshake

**If I could name a band it would be:** Charles Billingsley and the Purpose Drivers.

**Favorite kind of coffee:** Starbucks verona

**If I could only eat at one restaurant for the rest of my life I would want it to be:** Mo's, the hot wings place in Lynchburg.

**Favorite Book:** *Desiring God* by John Piper

**Where I see myself ten years after Liberty:** I would like to be planting a purpose-driven church while working on a purpose-driven doctorate.

—Compiled by Amy Jordan, LIFE! editor

# Student Life meets the Big Apple

By Amanda Smith  
REPORTER

The bright lights, the skyscrapers, the hot dogs, the Broadway shows, the colorful crowds—there is no place like New York City. This past Friday, Oct. 11, nearly 70 Liberty students loaded buses and headed for those bright lights. Student Life had made arrangements for rooms at the Doubletree Suites in Times Square.

"The fact that we stayed in the middle of Time Square was amazing. There was just so much to do," commented Freshman Bethany Baker. The hotel location was ideal and in walking distance to many of the city's attractions. "We would walk out of our hotel and be at Rockefeller Center or Central Park in no time at all. It was a great place to stay," said Student Life staff member Nic Carver.

The hotel was only one of the many reasons why this trip was so enjoyable. With New York City offering such a plethora of experiences, the students were able to pick and choose how to spend their time.

"My favorite part of the trip was being able to see both AIDA and Beauty and the Beast on Broadway," said senior Ben Zimmer.

While a number of students did choose to see a show, others spent their time shopping. "All I can say is, if you go to Canal Street limit yourself," exclaimed freshman Cynthia Benally. Canal Street, located in Chinatown, is lined with vendors selling every knock-off purse, watch, wallet, or almost anything else you can think of. "It was more than just jewelry and purses," continued Benally, "It was culture shock."

The food was another aspect that was enjoyed by all on the trip. "We had dinner on the top of the Marriott Marquee in Times Square, it was called The View, and it actually rotated," commented freshman Erica Turner. "There is



PHOTO PROVIDED

**ON THE ROAD**—Students headed toward New York City on the student life trip smile from their seats on the bus.

nothing like getting pizza in New York City," said Carver.

A group of students even spent Sunday morning worshipping at The Brooklyn Tabernacle. "It was amazing, Jim Cymbala was extremely culturally relevant. God is really using him in inner city Brooklyn," commented Senior Bethany Allen.

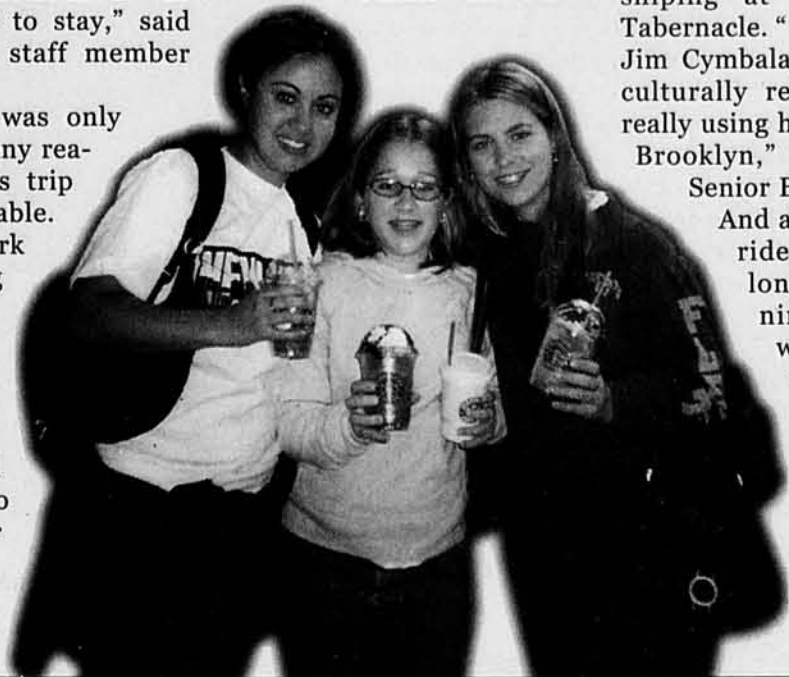
And although the bus ride was a rather long one at over nine hours, "It was a good time to sleep," said Benally.

"The only complaint that we have gotten is that the trip was too short, and we

agree," commented Director of Student Activities Jeff Paul. "Next time we do this trip we hope to extend it a day or so."

"Overall the New York City trip was a total success," commented Dean of Student Life Jeff Boyer. "The students were great, we didn't have one problem, that just ensures that we will be able to do trips like this in the future," added Student Life staff member Ira Richards.

Thanks to Student Life for providing yet another awesome opportunity for Liberty students. Be looking next year about this time for another opportunity to travel to New York City.



## RELEVANT Magazine Review

By Amanda Smith  
REPORTER

I would call this magazine hip, I would call it cutting edge, refreshing, I would call it thought provoking, and I would call it RELEVANT. RELEVANT defines who they are as, "We are twenty something Christians. We want to break stereotypes, challenge status quo and enact change through the media. We're seeking God, living life and striving to impact the world around us. It's pretty simple, really." And after reading through the magazine for the first time, I can see how it is attempting to reach its goals.

The issue for September and October is unlike any Christian magazine I have ever read. "RELEVANT discusses faith, career, relationships, music — basically everything we're into — from an intelligent, fresh perspective. It gets beneath the surface and asks the questions no

one else is asking," according to the RELEVANT web site. The contents are very diverse; book reviews, artist spotlights, feature stories, editorials, and more.

This issue includes article titles such as, "The Quest for Contentment," "Dealing With Debt," "Parting Ways: How to break up gracefully," "The Struggle to Love" and "Mission Aborted: facing the pain of recovery."

One article that struck me as extremely fascinating was written by Dan Haseltine of Jars of Clay, entitled, "The Greatest of These is Safety." Haseltine confronts Christian trends by stating, "The Church has rallied around another golden calf and has come to believe that safety and comfort are key elements in the Christian life. The effects are devastat-

tating." He discusses how the attempt to live a life void of real pain and suffering strips away opportunities for joy to enter into lives. He goes on to say, "this line of thinking is a threat to deeper faith, a bigger worldview, and ultimately a greater knowledge of the one true God." Something to consider. At least that's what I thought throughout the entire magazine, "that's something to consider."

There are so many varying points of view even within the Christian community. Since this was my first encounter with RELEVANT, I felt the

need to go through it a few times. One thing that was challenging for me while flipping through the pages was that I was ingesting truth in different forms than what I am used to.

I do not doubt that the writers and contributors of this magazine are Christians, but being that there are secular books, music groups and movies discussed, I was cautious in my reading.

At first I even thought, "Is this really a Christian magazine?" The answer is "yes," but it also seems like it would attract non-Christians. Its colorful and edgy graphics, artsy photography, and cultural applicability make for an appealing format for truth.

I would love to be able to hand this out to my "hip" non-Christian friends at home in Southern California and say, "check this out." I am excited about the effects this magazine could have on Christians and non-Christians alike.



# CPR saving lives at local YMCA

By Carrie Frasz  
REPORTER

There is no accurate way to measure exactly how many people know how to correctly perform CPR. However, with approximately 700 cardiac arrests occurring everyday, it is likely that you may need to know it. Over 75 percent of cardiac arrests happen at home, meaning this could easily happen to someone you know.

In the past few months two Liberty students have stepped up and provided immediate care to severely injured strangers.

On September 10, a normal Wednesday at the Downtown YMCA, junior Karugah Kariuki was on routine lifeguard duty when he was summoned from his post on the pool deck by Marty Hallgren, the Aquatic Safety Specialist and lifeguard trainer. A 54-year old male who had been using a treadmill had collapsed in the men's locker room. Upon arriving at the scene Hallgren and Karugah began CPR and use of the Automated External Defibrillator, AED. Within just a few minutes the defibrillator

had administered one shock. The two rescuers with the help of onlookers continued CPR until EMS personnel arrived. "He was breathing his last breaths", Kariuki said, "We had to help him. He was dying. This was everything we have trained for. Recognize the symptoms and just act. Do your training. It sounds so simple but it all was happening so fast." The AED is a relatively new device available to lay rescuers. It is quickly connected to the victim, begins heart rhythm analysis and tells the rescuer what steps to take next. "The YMCA has had this device for a few years," Kariuki continued, "Marty has drilled us over and over with it. You have only a few short minutes, if that, to help someone. This guy was very fortunate his heart decided to quit at the Y." Kariuki received his lifeguard, first aid and CPR training at the YMCA and continues his training there

with the aquatics staff. "Marty is a great trainer. You never know how or what is going to happen or who will need help," he added, "we are trained to be ready. Anyone can want to help, but get the training and do it right."

On September 23, a student was struck by a vehicle while in a crosswalk between the prayer chapel and the P1 parking lot. Another lifeguard trained at the YMCA, junior Mike Ford, was on the scene providing immediate care. "We have a set approach to every rescue," Ford said. "Scene safety is always first. In this case, because of her injury another major concern is for spinal injury management." Ford has been a lifeguard at the

YMCA as well.

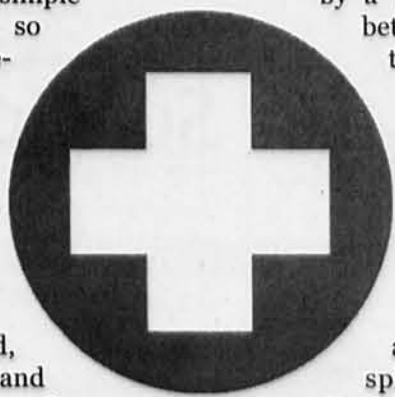
"The training we get at the Y works on the pool deck, parking lot or playground or really anywhere a person can be injured." Ford added, "The training we go through

helps keep us ready for any event. The Y is talking about even more first aid training just to be sure we know what to do. The lifeguards are required to have first aid and CPR."

Hallgren spoke highly of these rescuers. "We have candidates who take classes, get certified and hope they never have to really help. Blood, and other body fluids can get to people," he added, "but when there are only seconds to help and no else is around, you just do what you trained to do. This person may not be here in the time it takes you to worry about it. This is what fire fighters and emergency responders do all the time," said Hallgren.

"I am very proud of our aquatics staff at both YMCA's. If you come to training, you will be ready. These two guys were ready, more importantly they were willing," Hallgren said.

Are you ready? Be the one who is able to help. Learn CPR. These heroes know how and are out helping others with their knowledge. Call the YMCA, 847-5597, for information on classes being offered.





# Eugene Goodman: Small stature, large results

Allie Kearns  
SPORTS REPORTER

Someone once said that good things come in small packages. Whoever it was, must have been watching the 5'9" Eugene Goodman fight his way through the high school football ranks and onto the NCAA Division I football level.

The junior running back for the Flames' football teams hails from Smithfield, Va., where he was raised by his mother, Linda, and then later by his stepfather, Hugh.

Although Goodman's stepfather didn't enter his life until he was 10 years old, Goodman says that he played a huge role in his life. "My mother was a hard-working woman so when my stepfather came along, he helped to ease the load. He taught me how to be a man."

Another influential man in Goodman's life is his brother who is 13 years his senior. Goodman credits his brother as being his male role model and father figure, who taught him a lot about life.

Goodman made his football playing debut in eighth grade. In high school, he played on the junior varsity team and was also in marching band. Due to the dedication that both activities required, Goodman was faced with a tough choice: football or band. Goodman chose football and hasn't looked back since.

It has not always been an easy road for Goodman. His freshman year of playing football, the coaches told him that he was not fast enough to be out on the field. However, this setback didn't get

Goodman down for long. Through determination and hard work, Goodman proved himself and came back as a sophomore.

In the years since, Goodman has had quite a bit of success playing the game. Last season, he finished second on the team and sixth in the Big South Conference as he rushed for 401 yards on 69 carries and had two rushing touchdowns. He is a power running back who understands the Flames system of playing ball.

Goodman has some areas in his game where he sees room for improvement that he hopes to work on this season. "I want to work on catching out of the backfield more. I want to catch with my eyes and carry the ball more with my left arm."

Goodman is a team player who wants to make his contribution to this year's squad. He says he is faster this season and can lift the team up so they can reach their full playing potential.

Like any great athlete, Goodman wants to leave an imprint of himself upon his team-mates. "I want to be a silent leader. I want to come to practice every day and work hard. I want to lead by example and be a motivator."

Goodman's success in football is partly due to the constant support of his family and friends, specifically his mother, Linda. She has never missed a game, even if it means driving to another state hours away. She is Goodman's biggest fan and critic. She keeps his stats even though she hardly knows a thing about the game. "When I'm on the field, I'll look up to her to get a report

of how I'm doing and what I need to work on. She doesn't know much about football except that you need to play with heart."

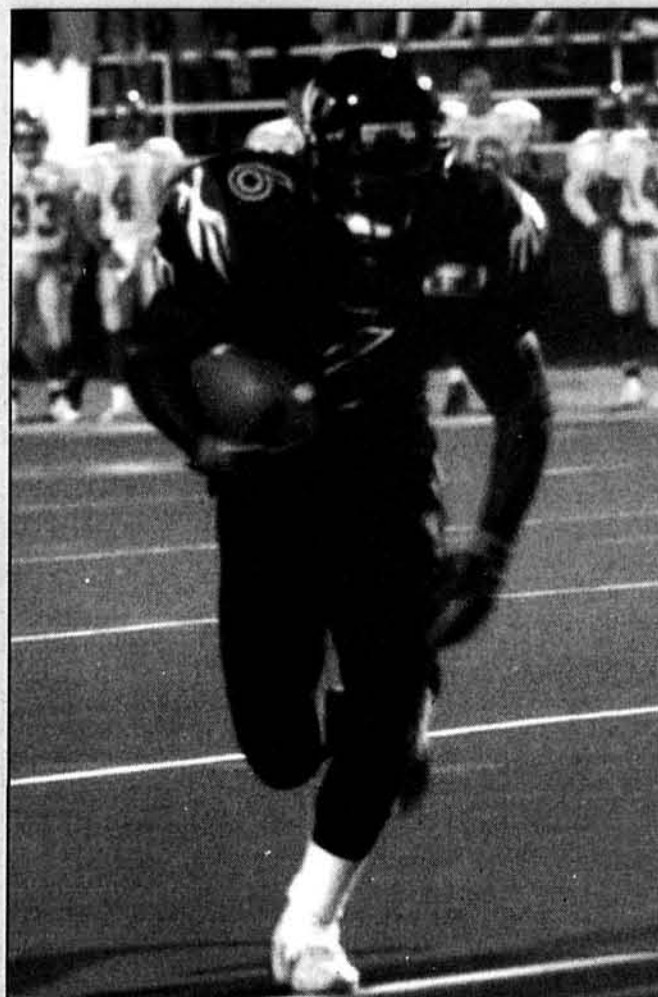
Goodman became a part of Liberty's football program due in part to a commitment that his mother insisted he keep. "I got offered scholarships from other schools but I had already committed to Liberty. My mother is big on keeping your word and she and my stepfather were

impressed with the sincerity of Coach Clark. My mother felt he was honest and she was comfortable with me attending here."

Although Goodman spends a great deal of time on the field, he makes time to pursue a degree in sports management and would possibly like to go into sports marketing when he graduates. He is also open to the idea of a career in football in the future. "I really hope to continue playing football if God calls me to it. I try to take it one day at a

time and wait my turn."

Goodman has overcome many obstacles in his life to get where he is today. As a young person, he was told repeatedly that he was too small. Goodman refused to let the words of others get in the way of the things he wanted to accomplish. "I felt I could overcome being told I was too short. In the areas where you lack, you can become strong."



**CONSTANT STAPLE**—Running back Eugene Goodman has been a constant in the backfield for the Flames.

## LU Womens Soccer falls again

Andrew Martin  
SPORTS EDITOR

The Lady Flames were defeated 2-1 by Georgetown University on "Senior Night." Two late second half goals propelled the Hoyas to the victory.

Senior Rachel Lindon celebrated her night in dramatic fashion, producing Liberty's only goal of the game.

Less than three minutes into the game, Lindon received a pass from freshman striker Mande Judd and hit a shot from about 20 yards out, putting it into the back of the net.

The Flames held on to their lead throughout the next 70 minutes, due in part to senior Christie Goodman-Williams' huge saves in the first half.

The Hoyas broke their doughnut in the 77 minute on a goal by sophomore Kyle Holsinger-Johnson.

Six minutes later, the Flames gave up a penalty kick, which Georgetown's Nicole DePalma did not squander, pushing the Hoyas in front of the Flames 2-1.

Liberty could not get any shots off in the second half, being outdone by the Hoyas 8-0, and for the game they were outshot 15-4.

The other seniors honored on the night were Jenny Davis and Sarah Foster.

The Flames are back in action Tuesday, October 21 when they take on the University of Virginia in Charlottesville.

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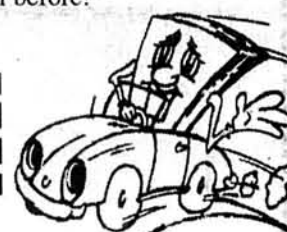
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## Flames Football

# LU punter ventures into uncharted water



MIKE TROXEL

**PUNTER**—Crouch has averaged a shade under 40 yards per punt in his sophomore season. Noah was redshirted the previous year.

**Andrew Martin**  
SPORTS EDITOR

Punter Noah Crouch received national recognition for his outstanding efforts in a 27-17 loss at Gardner-Webb on October 11.

He was named National Special Teams Player of the Week by Don Hansen's National Weekly Football Gazette, along with two other players. Keylam Davis of Southern Louisiana and Leonard Goolsby of South Carolina State shared the honor with Crouch.

In the contest against conference rival Gardner-Webb, Crouch amassed 322 total yards on seven punts. It was a career best game total for the redshirt sophomore.

Equally as impressive as the career

high yards total, he also was able to pin the Bulldogs inside their 20-yard line on three different occasions.

Crouch has been doing this all year. His punting has backed up opponents inside their 20-yard line on seven different occasions through the first seven games of the season, giving opponents' offense a long field, game after game.

"Noah has worked his rear off all year, it's a great honor for him," Special Teams coach Bernard Clark said.

In an area that cost the Flames last year, Crouch has been spectacular. The Flames lost to Appalachian State last year due in part to the punt team.

Late in the fourth quarter against ASU last season, the Flames failed to get a punt off deep in their own terri-

tory. The Mountaineers capitalized on LU's mistake and took a 29-22 lead with three minutes to play in the game. That was the final score.

"This was a big problem area last season," Clark said. "It gives the guys confidence to see it corrected this year."

Along with the Don Hansen award, Crouch also racked up Big South Conference special teams player of the week for the second time this season. He received this award the first time September 14 for his endeavors against Bowling Green University.

In the game against Bowling Green, Crouch punted four times at an average of 39.8 yards per punt. He pinned the Falcons inside the 20-yard line one time in the game.

## Flames unable to crash ETSU's last-ever Homecoming

**Paul Lundy**  
SPORTS REPORTER

The "Mini Dome" of the Eastern Tennessee State Buccaneers was the site of the Flames football game on Saturday. The team loaded up the buses and headed into Eastern Tennessee for a non-conference battle.

The Flames were unable to play the role of spoiler in ETSU's last ever homecoming game as they fell 33-23 to the Bucs. After this season the Bucs football program will be disbanded due to budget constraints. The mistakes that have hurt the Flames all season continued to haunt them in the game on Saturday.

Miscues on special teams and costly turnovers proved to be too much of a mountain to climb for

the Flames. The Flames still seem unable to decide who will get the most playing time at the quarterback position this season. Senior Quarterback Gus Condon started the game for Liberty but lasted only three possessions before being replaced by backup J.R. Barley.

On the first play of the game from scrimmage ETSU running back Andrew Nuckolls broke free from the Flames defense and ran for a 65-yard touchdown score. The Flames opening possession ended in a Bucs interception return for a touchdown. Liberty trailed by 14 before the game was six minutes old.

The Flames got on the scoreboard for the first time as Barley connected with tight end Jay Cline for a five-yard passing touchdown. The Flames added a

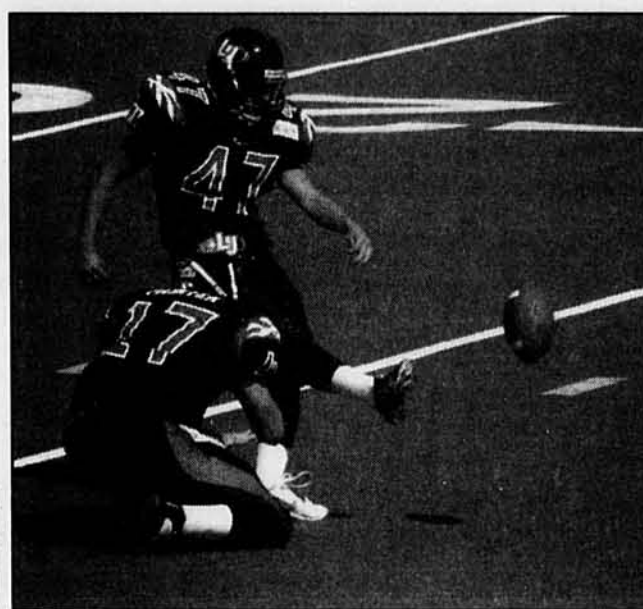
Scott Kiovsky field goal in the second quarter to go along with a touchdown and field goal for the Bucs to arrive at the 24-10 half-time score. In the second half ETSU tacked on nine more points on lengthy, time-consuming drives. The Flames offense found the endzone twice in the second half but were unable to bring the lead back under 10 points. Wide receiver Marcus Hamilton and running back Eugene Goodman both scored second half touchdowns for the Flames.

The Flames offense was never completely in sync and only moved the ball downfield sporadically. After coming off the bench, Barley had a good game against the tough defensive secondary of ETSU. Barley completed 17 passes for 272 yards and a pair of touchdown strikes. The

Flames rushing attack struggled most of the day as they gained only 123 yards on the ground. Running back Dre Barnes was held under 100 yards rushing for the afternoon.

The Flames defense, which allowed only 246 yards total offense, was led by linemen Aaron Deberry and Seth Reichart. Liberty allowed 33 points in the game, but the offense and special teams handed the Bucs 21 of those on two interceptions that were returned for touchdowns and a fumbled snap on a punt attempt that gave the Bucs the ball on Liberty's one-yard line.

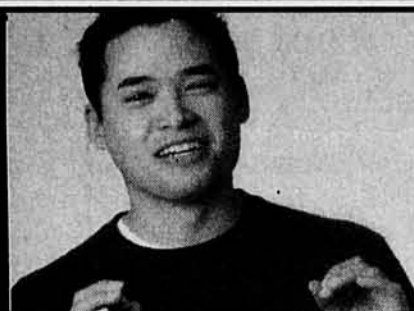
The loss gives the Flames a record of two wins and six losses for the season. Injuries have hurt the Flames all season long, but with key home games still to come the players and coaches remain confident that the season can be salvaged. The Flames have a week off this weekend before heading to South Carolina to play a Big South Conference game against Charleston Southern on November 1.



MIKE TROXEL

**IT'S GOOD**—Field goal kicker Scott Kiovsky drilled one kick versus the Buccaneers of ETSU.

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- Oct 23 - Nov 1 Scaremare, Thurs, Fri and Sat nights
- Oct 24 LU Hockey @ Indiana, 7 pm
- Oct 24 Fellowship Gospel Choir Talent Competition, 10 pm David's Place
- Oct 29 Vaccination Clinic, 11 am - 3 pm DeMoss Hall outside bookstore
- Oct 29 Campus Church, 7:15 pm Vines Center
- Oct 30 Women's Volleyball vs. UNC Greensboro, 7 pm Vines center
- Oct 31 Student Life Presents Coffeehouse
- Oct 31 LU Hockey vs. University of Dayton in Charlottesville

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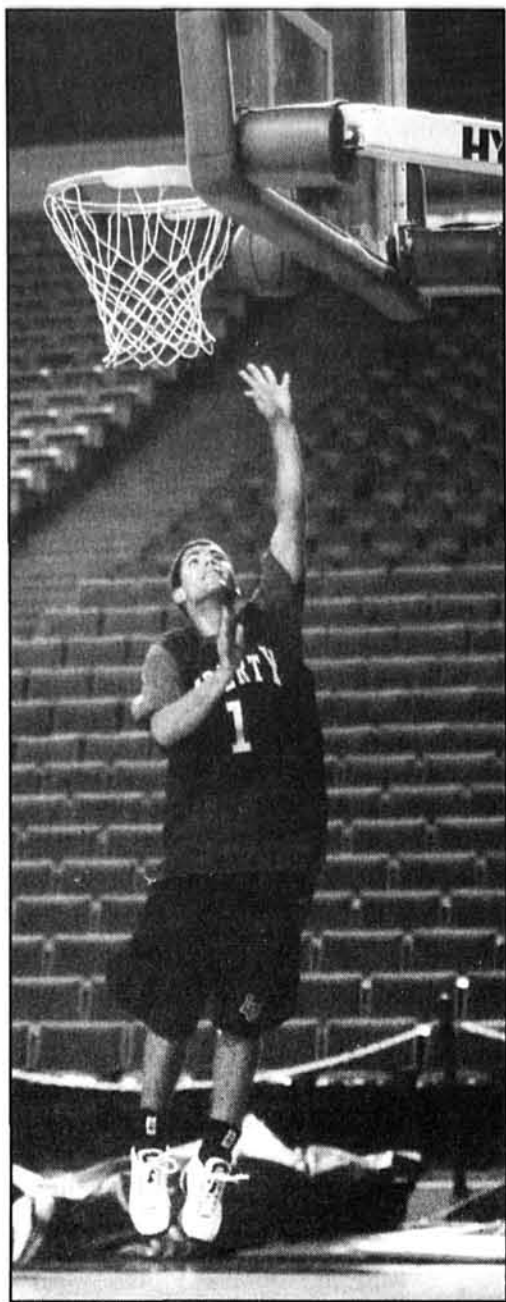
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# Madness continues with afternoon of practice



**RETURNEREE**—Jeremy Monceaux comes back for his second season with the Flames. Last season Monceaux helped lead LU to good

Continued from 14

Blair's final dunk was intended to mimic Michael Jordan and Julius Erving's takeoff from the foul line, but he jumped one step inside the charity stripe before takeoff while hitting the dunk.

"I was highly impressed with 22 (Blair)," Sophomore Scott Miller said as he watched the contest. "The little man has mad hops."

In the HORSE contest, the trio of Jeremy Monceaux, Ryan Mantlo, and freshman David Dees beat a student body trio H-O-R-S-E to H. The players used a barrage of three-pointers in defeating the students. "It (midnight madness) was a successful event," Dunton said.

About 12 hours later, the guys went back at it with a tough first practice. It was one filled with emotion and hard work from all involved.

The practice started off with a set of six stations that the players rotated in and out of. These stations focused on shooting, dribbling, boxing out, closing out and an individual offense station.

"Let's go to work fellas, let's go to work," Assistant Coach Stephon Leary yelled as he watched the opening drills.

Two of the main things that the coaching staff was constantly reminding the players throughout practice were to work on rebounding and ball control. The entire second half of practice was geared toward developing both of these through defense and rebounding.

"The opening practices are to set the tone of the structure of practice (for the players)," Dunton said.

With a lot of first-year players in Liberty's system, the beginning of the season will be a time of adjustment into the program that Coach Dunton runs. "Early on they will feel a lot of pressure to catch

up," he said.

The new players held their own though against the veterans in a passing competition during practice.

This competition consisted of an offensive and defensive set of five players on the floor, where the offense tried to pass the ball around from player to player without it being intercepted or deflected by the defense.

The younger white team outlasted the more experience blue team, 79-77, winning the highly intense defense pressured drill.

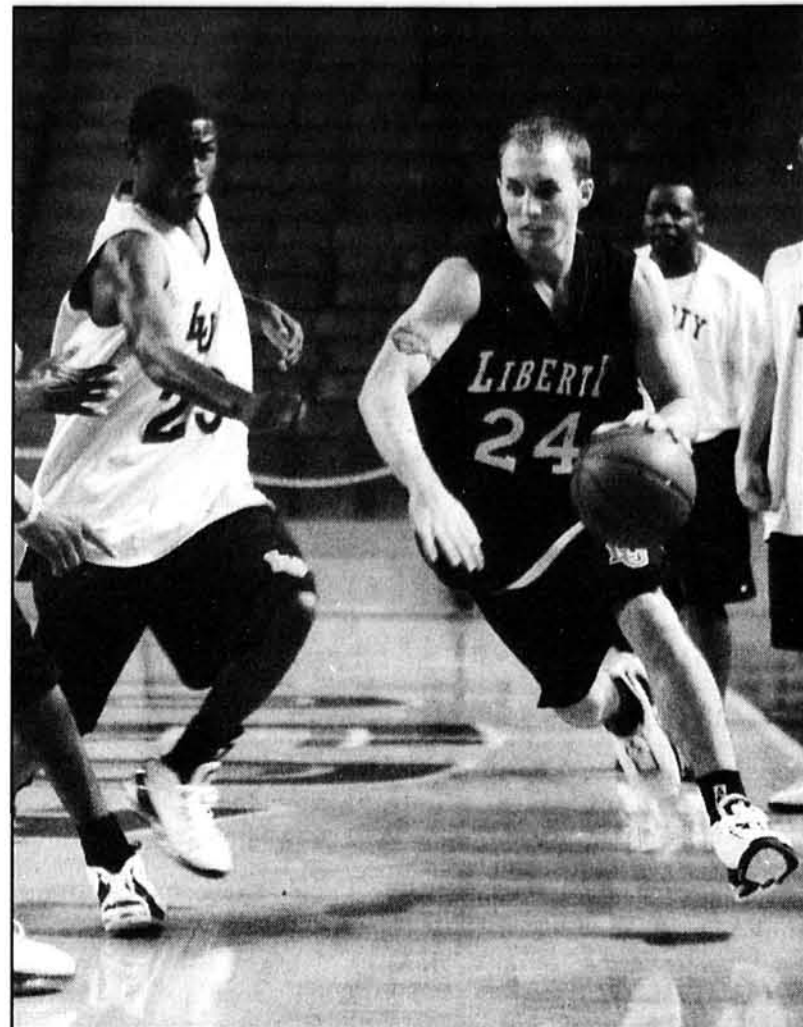
The blue team got their revenge at the end of practice when they beat the white team 17-16 in a full court competition. The blue team was led by the returnees from last years squad: Gabe Martin, Jason Sarchet, Mantlo and others.

"Oh, yeah, I'm happy," Dunton said after practice. "There was great effort and great preparation as we advance into the stage of being a program."

While there isn't a regular season game for another month, there are things happening constantly

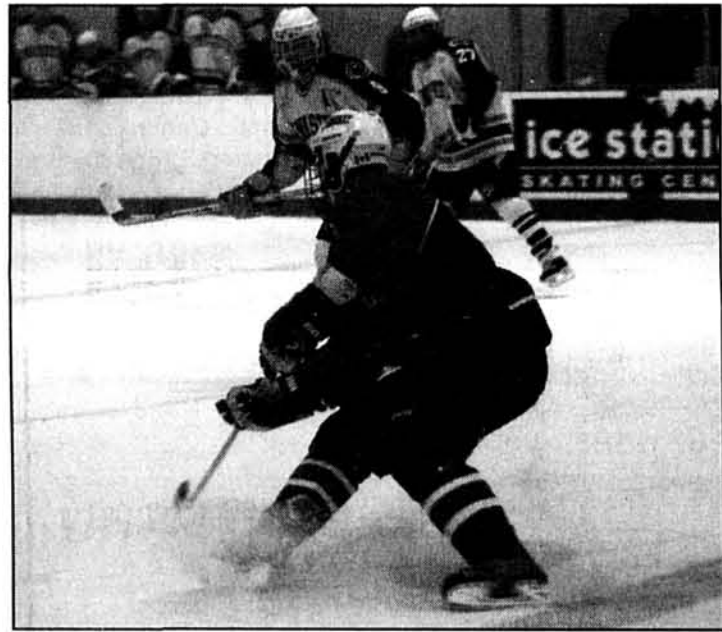
with the basketball team. Each day of practice is open to the public and next Saturday the team is having a intrasquad scrimmage at 11 a.m.

Everything now is to tune up for the exciting season to come. This is only the beginning. The end will come after the national tournament.



**VETERAN**—Ryan Mantlo leads the Flames after a strong junior season.

# Flames drop pair to PSU, but heat up the ice



**FLAMES ON ICE**—Liberty hockey fans are excited again as the hockey team starts their season again. They had a dominating season last year, which saw the Flames go to nationals, out in California.

Ben Cates

ASST SPORTS EDITOR

The Liberty hockey team opened its season this weekend battling the Penn State Nittany Lions in Roanoke. Despite two valiant efforts from the Flames, they were unable to gain a victory against a very impressive Penn State team.

The Flames played well Friday night, but Penn State was simply too strong. In their first game of the season, the Flames stayed with the Nittany Lions but were unable to be victorious, as Penn State took the game 4-3.

Saturday night's game

was a little different. From the beginning of the match, both teams came out with enough internal fire to heat up the ice. But it took Penn State only a little over three minutes to obtain its first goal. Liberty had only a few opportunities to even the score in the first period. This was primarily due to the fact that PSU's defense was incredible.

In the second period, the Nittany Lions came out with good defense again, but the Flames began to get more shots on goal within the first six minutes. But Penn State's goalie handled everything that Liberty shot his way. After many futile attempts,

Liberty finally tied the score as Jordan Wilson slashed down the ice and scored on a rebound goal. Liberty's first goal came at the 10:17 mark.

That was all it took to get the scoring fest going. There were a total of six goals scored in the second period, and they all took place after the 11 minute mark. Liberty's hopes of taking the lead were short-lived as Penn State was next to score. It took them roughly 20 seconds to regroup and score on a fast break after Liberty had evened up the game. Less than a minute later, at the 9:18 mark, PSU scored again, this time on a slap shot from 15 feet outside.

That put the Nittany Lions up by a score of 3-1.

With 7:09 left in the game Liberty found itself once again in the hunt of the game. At that point, Liberty's Josh Singor slashed past three Penn State players on a fast break and put a backhand shot into the goal.

It was then that the Flames began to seriously attack and penetrate the Nittany Lions defense. But that defense remained strong, and that was a big factor in the game.

At the 5 minute mark, PSU scored again, this time on a shot that appeared to sneak in the goal, just out of reach of Flames goalie Kevin Rainey. A little more than two minutes later, Penn State once again scored, making the score 5-2.

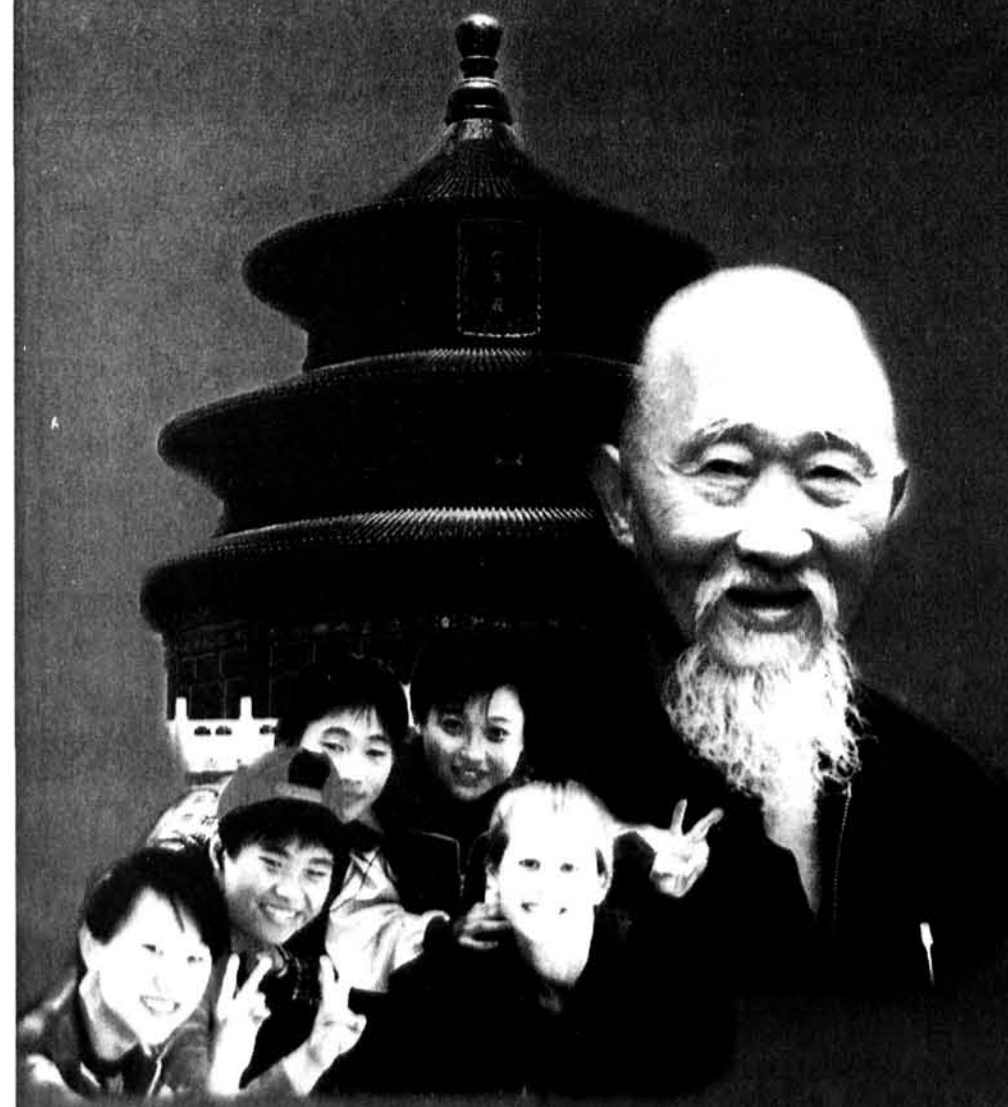
At that point, it appeared that the game was getting out of hand. As the period came to a close, however, Jeff Smale of the Flames was able to lead a one-on-one fast break and get Liberty back into the game. With that, the most heated period of the game came to a close.

The third period was less dramatic but much more physical. Throughout the period, there were many scrambles and spearings on both sides, and even a few fights. Penalties were being thrown out left and right.

Both teams played very physical games, but it was Liberty who was shut out in the 3rd. Penn State returned back to the scoreboard on a slap shot from 15 feet out only :30 seconds into the period. The Flames had many chances to come back and make the game close, but they were unable to do so, mainly because of the quality defense of the Nittany Lions. Penn State never quit and scored again with only 25.2 seconds remaining the game. It ended with a final score of 7-3.

The Flames played relatively well in their first two matches of the season. They will return to action next weekend as they travel to take on Indiana University.

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# Cross-Country participates in North Carolina State Champ.

**Evan Falat**  
SPORTS REPORTER

In life and in sports people always say that you should expect the unexpected. Sometimes the unexpected is good and sometimes it can be bad. On Saturday the men's cross-country team experienced a little bit of both.

Both the men and women cross-country teams traveled to East Carolina University and raced at the North Carolina State Championships this past Saturday. With this being the teams' first race in three weeks both the men and women were anxious to run, especially since it is a very flat and fast course that tends to lead to many runners finishing with personal best times.

For the men's team though the unexpected occurred and what was supposed to be an easy 30-minute drive to the course on Saturday morning turned into an ninety-five minute mix-up of

directions and a frantic eleven runners. Arriving at the course barely 20 minutes before the race, the men's team rushed a quick warm-up that was far shorter than the hour long routine that they are accustomed to. Despite all the obstacles, the Flames showed great composure and all eleven members ran personal records at the course.

In a field of 209 runners, with many conference foes competing, the Flames finished fifth out of twenty-two teams. Josiah Melly continued his strong front-running for the Flames and finished the 7900 meter course third overall.

Melly ran tough, leading the front pack for most of the race, and finished with a blistering time of 23:39. Dan Rabe also returned to key form as he finished in 17th with a time of 24:18. Finishing third for the team and 36th overall was sophomore Evan Falat in a time of 24:45. Aaron Gogain, who has continued to run

extremely well, finished in 47 place in 24:57. Twelve seconds behind Gogain was Jason Brown who finished 56th overall and notched a personal best of 25:09.

Senior Josh Zealand ran a 25:29 to finish 76th while Chris Lyons had an impressive race, finishing the course in 25:37 and garnering 84th Christian Nichols ran 25:54 for 97th place and Ben Melin clocked a time of 26:02 and finished 107th. The Flames final runners were Ryan Otter and Mike Tucker. Otter finished in 114th place and ran a time of 26:13 while Tucker covered the course in 28:43 and captured 178th.

Commenting on the race, head coach Brant Tolsma said, "This is the first time the men's team as a whole ran solid and it is very encouraging to have that occur as the conference championship is only two weeks away."

One downside for the men's team was that even though they all ran great times so did their Big South counterparts High

Point and Coastal Carolina. Both of these teams beat the Flames in the team standing.

"It should be a great race at conference," Tolsma said, "overall the conference is improving and we'll have to battle both High Point and Coastal tough in order to try and capture the championship."

The women's team was again besieged by problems, most notably injuries, as for the second race in a row they were limited to only fielding a team of five runners. Melissa Blackstone and Chelsey Swanson both sat out their second consecutive race due to injuries and freshman Reyna Quirioz was unable compete as she is still waiting for NCAA papers to clear her to run.

"Unfortunately for the ladies, team injuries are keeping us from being the team that we should be," commented head coach Brant Tolsma.

Leading the women's team again was Samantha Pelletier who

finished in 27 place and captured a time of 18:07 over the 4900 meter course. Senior Rebecca Parsons had her best race of the season as she finished just seconds behind Pelletier in 34th place with a time of 18:20. Third for the team was freshman Casey Ulinski who finished the course in 19:18 and received 72nd for her efforts. Sally McEnany was 89th in a time of 20:05 while Crystal Pruitt was the Lady Flames fifth runner, finishing in 100th with a time of 20:31.

The Lady Flames race consisted of 158 runners and they finished the team standings in ninth place out of eighteen teams. Former Flame standout and current assistant coach Heather Sagan won the ladies overall competition covering the course with a time of 16:53.

The Flames return to action in two weeks when they travel to Myrtle Beach, South Carolina to compete in the Big South Championships on November 1.

## Will the lovable Cubs ever be able to shake the daunted curse?

**Commentary**  
**justinfaulconer**

It's game six of the National League Championship Series and the Cubs have only five outs to go until the World Series. There's a foul ball hit and an overzealous fan reaches out to catch it and the outfielder drops it causing an unusual chain of events. Thing after thing goes wrong and the Cubs end up losing 8-3. Thus the myth about "the curse" is all everyone is talking about on

sports shows and in Chicago.

Well, it does make for good drama. And as this poor lifelong Cubs fan got soaked with beer by other fans and had to be escorted out of the stadium for his personal safety, I couldn't help but laugh at it all. How can you blame the guy? Only in Chicago would an entire city turn on someone like that. They are starving for a World Series because it's been 68 years since they even went and 95 years since they won. Any other ball club would call it bad luck or a misfortunate incident, but in

Chicago, there is a "curse."

Legend has it that once a local tavern owner came to Wrigley Field to watch a Cubs game, but they would not let him in because he had a billy goat. he placed a curse on the ballpark and since then the franchise has yet to make it back to the Series. Today a statue of the billy goat resides at the same local tavern on the corner of the same block as the ballpark. Even if the goat thing happened in real life, it's just a fairy tale.

There is no curse. Things go wrong in life and this game was n o t h i n g more than a s w e e t reminder of that fact. This poor

guy was just in the wrong place at the wrong time. An error-proof shortstop suddenly has sticky fingers, a wild pitch takes place and the Marlins become the better baseball team just like that. Instead of blaming the fan, Bernie Mac should be blamed for jinxing the team in the seventh inning when he prematurely labeled them "champs." He should have shut up and just sang the stupid song.

We've all heard the phrase "not so fast," or "don't count your chickens before they're hatched." The Cubs were giddier than a teen on prom night, and they choked. It is human nature to do that, just like it is human nature to call all this jazz a curse.

What is not in human nature is to hear the governor of

Chicago say about the fan (we know his name is Steve and that he is 26) "he'll never get a pardon in this state, that's for sure."

One Liberty student said "they should crucify him!" Do you realize that puts this guy in the same company as the Son of God? All because of a silly baseball game! "Steve" is now called Public Enemy Number One in Chicago, even more than Osama bin Laden and Sadaam Hussein. Who cares about mass homicide? At least these men aren't keeping the Cubs from winning the World Series. All that seems to matter in that city are the words "CUBS WIN! CUBS WIN!"

That's funny, that's strange, and like the actor Richard Gere would say, "That's Chicago."

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**MAINTENANCE TUNE-UP**  
From \$29.90\* 4cyl  
Includes:

- Install new spark plugs (platinum plugs add'l)
- Inspect, filters, belts & hoses
- Other engine performance items additional
- 12,000 miles, 12 month guarantee, whichever comes first.

**OIL CHANGE & LUBE**  
From \$11.90\*  
Includes:

- Oil change (up to 5 qts. Penzoil 10W30)
- Replace Oil Filter
- Lubricate chassis
- FREE Brake & vehicle maintenance inspection.

**FREE OIL CHANGE LUBE & FILTER**  
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**30/60/90 SCHEDULED MAINTENANCE**  
From: **\$159<sup>90</sup>**  
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Includes most vehicles  
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- Maintenance Tune-Up
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- New air filter
- New spark plugs (platinum plugs additional)
- Cooling system service with new anti-freeze (up to 1 gallon)
- Transmission service & filter
- Tire rotation
- Clean & adjust brakes
- Repack wheel bearing (if applicable)

**ALL TUNE TRANSMISSIONS.**  
From: **\$39<sup>95</sup>**  
Includes:

- Free Road Test • Change Fluid •
- Adjust Linkage • Clean Screen •
- Parts Additional •

**SALE**  
From: **\$199<sup>95</sup>**  
Includes:

- 30/60/90 Scheduled Maintenance
- 12,000 miles, 12 month guarantee
- 12,000 miles, 12 month guarantee

**ALL TUNE TRANSMISSIONS.**  
From: **\$39<sup>95</sup>**  
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- Free Road Test • Change Fluid •
- Adjust Linkage • Clean Screen •
- Parts Additional •

**SALE**  
From: **\$199<sup>95</sup>**  
Includes:

- 30/60/90 Scheduled Maintenance
- 12,000 miles, 12 month guarantee
- 12,000 miles, 12 month guarantee

# HOWL-O-WEEN PET PARTY


A party for people and their pets!

**All Day**  
Pony cart rides  
Pet-cures  
Refreshments  
LHS Merchandise Sale  
Used CD and Book Sale  
Free Literature


**Schedule of Events**  
(times are approximations)  
Bobbing for Hot Dogs 12:30pm  
LPD K-9 Unit Demo 1:30pm  
Musical Chairs 2:15pm  
Tricks for Treats 2:45pm  
Pet Parade & Costume Judging 3:15pm

**The Lynchburg Humane Society**  
(behind City Stadium)

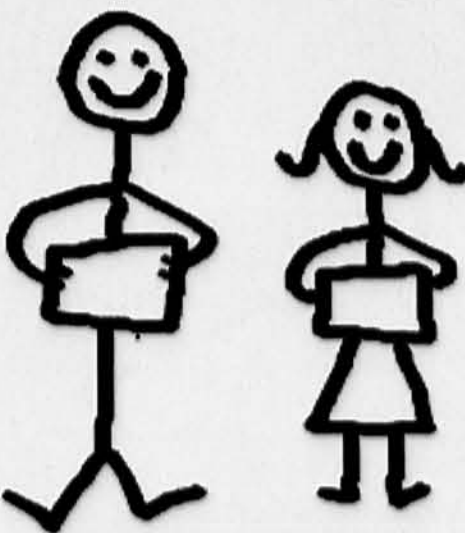
**Saturday, Oct. 25**  
**Noon - 3:30 PM**



# Operation Christmas Child




Pick up boxes and labels in the Champion Office in DeMoss



Gifts due Nov. 20

Bring smiles to the faces of God's little children!





# Sports

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The Liberty Champion

(434) 582-2124

## LU Football

The weekly Flames football report and update page

Page 14

## LU Hockey

Hockey's back in session, trying to repeat last year.

Page 14

# Flames destroy Hokies

Liberty defeats Big East member Virginia Tech Hokies

By Pat Doney  
SPORTS REPORTER

On a day that would have made Noah jealous, the Lady Flames continued the downpour theme indoors, and pounded Virginia Tech, 3-1, in a non-Big South Conference volleyball match last Tuesday night. The Hokies, although having the size advantage and an enrollment advantage, made many mistakes, and were just outplayed by our girls. Liberty showed hustle and an overall greater desire for victory as they defeated Goliath and earned some much-deserved respect around NCAA volleyball.

The opening game of the match was as one-sided as Division 1 volleyball can get. Liberty dominated coming out of the gates, taking a 7-3 lead early and never looked back, winning 30-19. Led by a sick back row crush by Junior Jen Belk, the Flames looked up and ready to defeat the giant-at-hand.

Throughout the entire game, a look of surprise was smothered all over the not-so-happy-to-be-called, yet-still-called "Lady Hokies" faces, as they seemed shocked that a Big South Conference team would not only take their lunch, but eat it in front of them. The Flames had comfortable aura about them as they were in control, and had no doubt that this was their night to shine.

Senior Tatiana Tkachuk began the Flames victory in the second game with a huge crush right off the face of Virginia Tech's Kaitlin McPeak. The Hokies then began to use their height advantage, and went on to take the lead, 15-12. Led by clutch serving by Belk and big-time blocks by Becky Rudnick, the Flames began chipping away at the point deficit. The Flames had a few balls bounce their way, and capitalized with a 30-27 victory, putting them one victory away from glory.

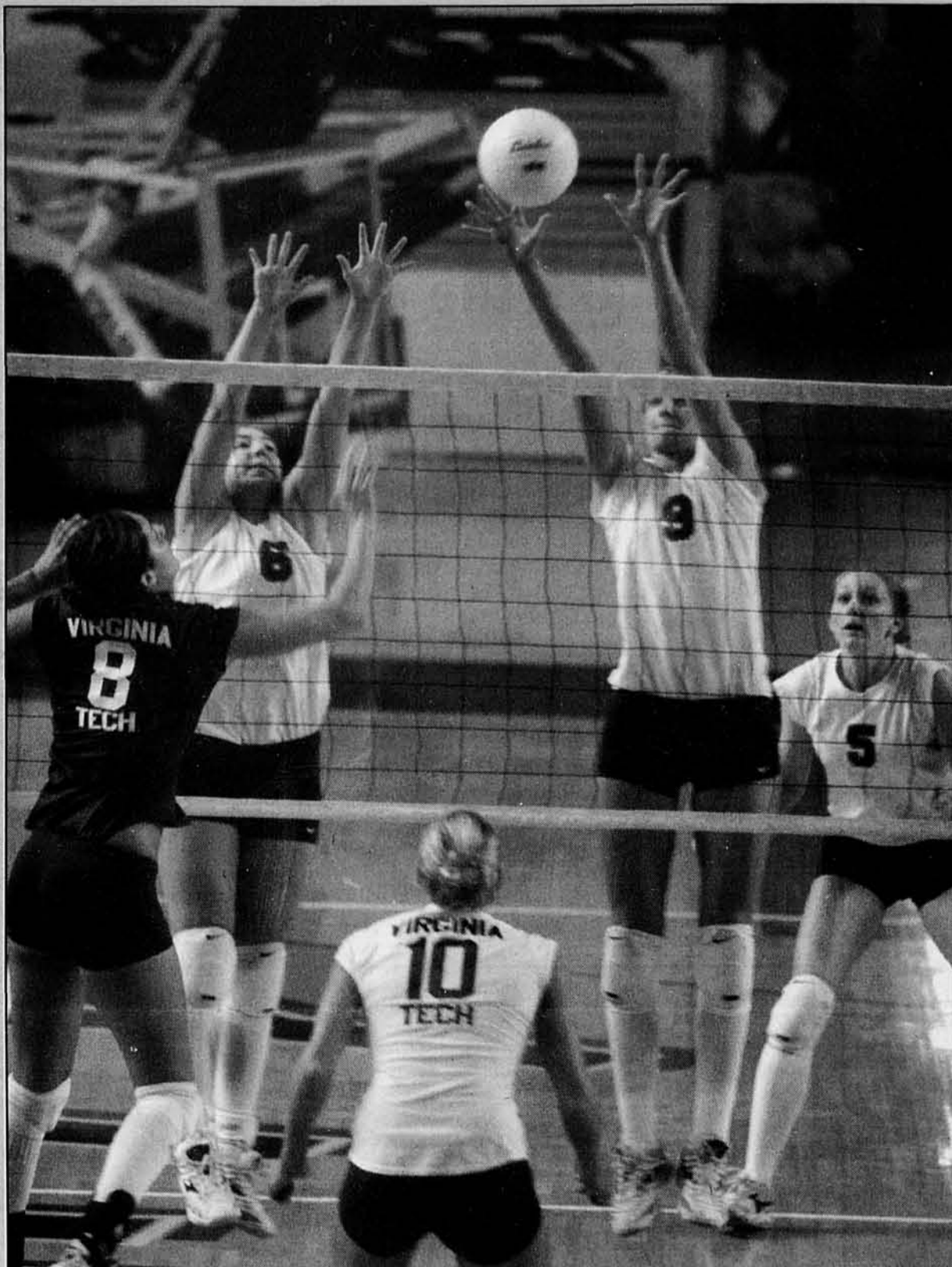
The Hokies got on the board with a victory in the third game that can only be described as a war of trading punches. Determined to finish and willing to do anything for victory, Belk came back onto the court after being sidelined with a back injury, and got the fourth game going with a gigantic crush, giving the Flames a 5-3 lead. Senior Erin McKeown hit the ball with accuracy, and led Liberty with 17 kills. Each team began a sort of streaky play, as LU had a stretch of seven points at one time, while Virginia Tech had as many as eight in a row to keep the game close. Eventually, McKeown got the kill to seal it, as the Flames went on to win the fourth game 30-27, and the match 3-1.

After the game, the Flames were all smiles, knowing that they had accomplished something great this night.

"We came together as a team today, and we never gave up," Belk said. "My teammates helped me when I couldn't go anymore, which is what this team is all about: picking each other up."

"This is a big win for us. Virginia Tech is a good team and number three in the Big East, and it's just great to get a victory against someone involved in the rankings," said Coach Chris Phillips. "Our girls came out expecting a battle and got just that. I think we played well and did a great job hanging on to get this big win for our confidence."

After a loss on Saturday to Birmingham-Southern, the Flames are now 6-1 in the Big South, sitting alone in first place after the first half of conference play. With five of the final seven conference games in "The Furnace." The Lady Flames have the homecourt advantage to put up a good record heading into the Big South Championship.



JEN SUNSHINE

**BIG WIN**—The Flames captured a big-time win behind players such as Kristin Colson (left) and Becky Rudnick (right)

# Mens Soccer vs. Elon was suspended due to storm

Ben Cates

ASST. SPORTS EDITOR

Heavy rains threatened the Men's Soccer game Tuesday night against Elon, until the match was finally suspended in the 58th minute. As of Sunday, no makeup game had been announced. Liberty's record stands at 6-3-1 overall. They are still undefeated in Big South play, boasting a record of 3-0-1.

The Flames were coming off an exhilarating and physical matchup on October 7 against Marshall. In that game, senior Brentley Kellum led Liberty to victory with the only goal of the game at the 77:38 mark. The goal was Kellum's fourth of the season.

Both Darryl Roberts and Bo Fisher also have four goals this year for the Flames.

After much physical play between the Flames and the Marshall Thundering Herd, Kellum was able to score after his free kick was blocked. He then gathered the ball and fired on Marshall goalkeeper Chris McKinney. He scored from 20 yards out. The goal put the Flames ahead and they never looked back from there.

Liberty remained stellar on defense, as Marshall tried in vain to even the score. Senior goalkeeper K.J. Sabotchick was able to shut out his opposition, and the defense rose to his aid. Marshall rushed to score, but the Flames were simply unstopable.

In fact, the Thundering Herd rarely made a shot on goal, while the Flames made 12 of their own. With the win, Liberty foiled Marshall's hopes of winning just their third game of the season. Instead, the Flames dropped them to 2-9-0.

Since the cancellation of Tuesday's game, the Flames saw no play this week. They will return to action and attempt to remain undefeated in Conference play when they play at Coastal Carolina (9-2-0) on Sunday afternoon. They will then travel to Charlottesville on Friday to take on the Virginia Cavaliers, who are currently ranked 25 in the nation.



MIKE TROXEL

**NOT GETTING PAST ME**—Flames defender Hollis Donaldson hawks an opponent early in the year.

## Coming up in LU Sports...

### Football

- 11/1 @ CSU, noon
- 11/8 Norfolk St., 1:30 p.m.
- 11/15 Coastal Carolina, 1:30 p.m.

### Men's Soccer

- 10/24 @ UVA, 7 p.m.
- 10/29 @ UNC Asheville, 4 p.m.

### Women's Soccer

- 10/21 @ UVA, 7 p.m.
- 10/25 @ CSU, 2 p.m.
- 10/27 @ UNC Asheville, 2 p.m.

### Volleyball

- 10/21 @ W & M, 7 p.m.
- 10/30 UNC Greensboro, 7 p.m.
- 10/31 @ Winthrop, 7 p.m.

Have any suggestions or an opinion you want to voice? Send them here and we'll review your thoughts.

# Mens basketball starts with Midnight Madness

Andrew Martin

SPORTS EDITOR



JEN SUNSHINE

**DUNK CONTESTANT**—Freshman Larry Blair, seen here in practice, won the Midnight Madness contest.

The Flames men's basketball team started their season off Saturday, opening with a midnight madness session and ending with an afternoon of practice.

This year the season started a little later than normal because of NCAA regulations that states that practices can't start until the Saturday closest to October 15. This year it happened to fall after the 15th, which gives the Flames just a little over a month before the first game against Miami of Ohio, November 21 at home.

"We're kicking the season off in traditional Liberty fashion," Head Coach Randy Dunton said when addressing the packed out Schilling Center crowd attending Midnight Madness.

Liberty Gym, as it used to be called before the Vines Center opened, was rocking again on the night, throughout the duration of the festival, beginning with the introduction of the 2003-2004 team. A large multimedia presentation

welcomed the players onto the floor, while an excited crowd gave them an ovation.

A dunk contest and a "student vs. players" HORSE shootout concluded the night's events.

Freshman Larry Blair wowed the crowd with his dunking ability in the contest. He went head to head in the finals against sophomore newcomer Bryan Woodson.

Blair, a shade under 6 foot, was not under matched against Woodson. On the first dunk of the finals, Blair received all 10's from the panel of judges with a thunderous, down the middle of the lane dunk. He brought the ball from the right side of his body, over his head and slammed it down with authority.

Woodson then stepped up and threw down a dunk where he bounced it off the hardwood, grabbed it with his left hand and hammered it home. His dunk received all 9's from the judges, but his next attempt was missed and Blair won.

Please see MIDNIGHT MADNESS, page 14