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The Liberty Champion

Liberty University, Lynchburg, Va.

Tuesday, October 7, 1997

Vol. 15, No. 7

Third Day erupts in Furnace

Christian alternative bands Third Day, All Star United and Switchfoot blanketed the Vines Center with a wall of sound last Saturday, Oct. 4. The show, sponsored by Student Life, was the third date on Third Day's "Conspiracy Tour," which was designed to promote their new album, "Conspiracy No. 5."

For more on the concert, please see related article on page 6.



TED WOOLFORD
THIRD DEGREE—Third Day's Mac Powell croons for the Liberty crowd.

Pro-life organization faces opposition

By SARAH POLLAK
Champion Reporter

Liberty University's pro-life outreach, Students Active for Life and Truth (SALT), continues to protest every Saturday morning in front of the Lynchburg Planned Parenthood on Langhorne Road even though its presence leads to more funding for abortions.

SALT, formerly Students Active Against Abortion, is a ministry to educate the community about abortion and the

sanctity of life. This fall, the group began a new campaign to pray and picket in front of the local Planned Parenthood office.

Planned Parenthood opened in Lynchburg in the fall of 1995 and its supporters have since started a program called "Pledges for Pickets."

"People in the area who support choice have pledged everything from 25 cents to a dollar per picket per day," said Joan MacCallum, the Community Development Coordinator of Lynchburg Planned Parenthood.

"Those funds go to help poor women be able to afford abortions. The combined pledges amount to now, in the Blue Ridge area, about \$85 per day per picket that is raised to help poor women."

SALT director John Reyes said he had been informed of this program a few weeks ago when he was confronted by an employee of Planned Parenthood. Reyes said he and the organization stand firm in their belief that picketing is still important.

Reyes feels this program is "an old tactic used by the pro-abortion forces to try to intimidate Christians to not get out there on the streets to proclaim the truth. They don't want us out there proclaiming the truth and showing what they do. What they do is to come up with these types of harassment to get Christians to stay away."

Even though the Planned Parenthood office is closed on Saturdays, SALT still goes out to

Please see SALT on Page 2

City registrar warns against possible election fraud

By JASON INGRAM
News Editor

Students that tried and failed to register to vote in the city of Lynchburg during the '96 Election now have the information necessary to avoid a repeat of last year's fiasco.

Lynchburg Registrar Carol Spencer-Read said that in order for an individual to vote in Virginia, the individual must have a domicile, or permanent residence, as well as an abode, or temporary residence, in Virginia. Plus, students who are attending school in Virginia but are still financially dependent on their parents are still considered residents of their home state, regardless of whether they have an abode in Virginia or not.

"The problem with students is that most of them are in the area to go to school and the city does not consider them residents," Spencer-Read said.

According to Spencer-Read, students encountered problems last year when they registered to vote in Virginia, thereby cancelling their rights as voters in their home states. However, those students failed to qualify as voters in Virginia because

they lacked a domicile, effectively removing them from the voting process in two states.

In addition to the inconvenience, Spencer-Read also said that any person that knows an individual is not a resident of Virginia and encourages or aids that person in the registration process can be found guilty of election fraud.

Travis Griffin, the Chairman of the LU College Republicans, noted that registering in another state as a domicile could also affect a student's financial aid.

"(When a student) suddenly declares himself a Lynchburg voter, it may affect a whole laundry list of things," Griffin said. "If someone wants to register in Lynchburg, (the College Republicans) will give him information, but we warn against things like (losing) scholarships, grants and insurance."

Spencer-Read suggested that students attending schools outside of their home states should vote by absentee ballot in their respective home districts.

"Our desire and responsibility is to assist anyone in becoming a registered voter within compliance with the law," Spencer-Read said.

And the winner is . . .



ISN'T SHE LOVELY?—The 21 semi-finalists for the Miss Liberty crown line the steps behind the Vines Center. The field of 21 was narrowed to five finalists on Monday, Oct. 6. The winner of the Miss Liberty Pageant will be announced during the Homecoming game on Saturday, Oct. 11.

WIC gift to help Russian church

By LANCE OLSHOVSKY
Champion Reporter

Bill Grieg, Jr., Chairman of Gospel Light Productions, received a \$4,000 check from the university during Ministry Chapel on Friday, Oct. 3.

The grant was given as a result of the university students' donations of \$10,220 during the annual World Impact Conference, Sept. 22-26. The remainder of the donation will be used to build two churches in India.

The donation to Gospel Light will be used to fund the translation of evangelical teaching videos from the English language to Russian.

"What we are doing is taking a six part training video called

"What The Bible Is All About" and translating it from English to Russian," said Dr. Elmer Towns, Dean of Religion.

"What the Bible Is All About", originally a book by Henrietta Mears, was written to give an easy-to-understand survey of the Bible. Towns has taken Mears' book and compiled six teaching videos which cover the complete canon of the Bible.

"From Genesis 1:1 to Revelation 22:21, we've covered the Bible in story form and developed doctrines in story form," Towns said.

On Sept. 27, Russian President Boris Yeltsin signed into law an order that had been passed through the Russian assembly 60 days earlier making



GO YE THEREFORE—Jim O'Neill presents Gospel Light Chairman with a check for \$4,000 raised during WIC.

the Russian Orthodox Church the official church of Russia. According to this law, no new missionaries will be allowed into the country. Despite the closed doors to missionaries, the videos will make it into the country

because they were ordered by the Orthodox church.

The genius of this system, said Towns, is that the tapes will be able to evangelize Russia using its own church. "We will cover Russia like the snow."

University updates students on SACS

Black speaks on progress, SACS upcoming visit

By JENNIFER BONA
Champion Reporter

Representatives from the Liberty administration held an informative meeting and question and answer session last Wednesday night, Oct. 1 after the regular campus church services in regards to the current reaccreditation process.

Dr. Ellen Black, Vice President of Planning and Research, led the forum. She informed the stu-

dents that on Oct. 19-21 the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Visiting team will be coming to explore LU's campus. The main purpose of their visit will be to examine past areas of concern such as technology advances, the external degree program and Liberty's financial debt.

University President Dr. John M. Borek, Jr., along with other members of the faculty and staff, have written and directed the production of an 11-volume set of books with six exhibits. These editions have been presented to SACS to increase Liberty's probability of reaccreditation. The administration has spent many

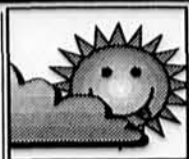
Please see SACS, Page 2

Words of Wit ...

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High 81,
Low 55



Thur.
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High 84,
Low 60



Fri.
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High 85,
Low 62



Sat.
Partly cloudy.
High 78,
Low 59



Sun.
Partly sunny.
High 83,
Low 64

Inside:

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- Randy bites the long arm of the law **pg. 6**

Rick wants more than fire insurance **pg. 8**

Matt on the real discriminated group **pg. 8**

Laurelei's first impressions **pg. 14**

Convocation:
Wed.—Dr. Falwell
Fri.—Dr. Bill Anderson
Mon.—Dennis Agajanian

Here There

Writer's Conference: The Liberty University Library will hold a writer's conference on Oct. 11 at David's Place. The conference will be divided into two programs, morning and evening. Guest authors Marilyn Fanning, Darrell Laurant, Bob Liparulo, Byron Huggins and Lisa Samson will participate in panel discussions and individual workshops at 9, 10 and 11 a.m. during the morning session and will be available for book signings after lunch at 12 p.m. The evening session will commence at the Holiday Inn Select, where the guest authors will again participate in a panel discussion based on audience questions. The cost for the morning session is \$15; the evening session costs \$20, which includes dinner at the Holiday Inn Select. Make check payable to LU Library. For more information, call extension 2845.

Canadian Thanksgiving: Dr. Jerry Falwell and the Old Time Gospel Hour invite all Canadian students and faculty to the Canadian Thanksgiving Dinner on Sunday, Oct. 12 at 4:15 p.m. in the Reber/Thomas Dining

Hall. Kevin and Christy Garber will provide the special music and a television crew will record the event for broadcast on the Old Time Gospel Hour. The dinner is free to all Canadian students and faculty; guests can attend for \$7 per person. All seats must be reserved by 5 p.m. on Oct. 7 by calling Jaime at LBN, extension 2607.

Campus Clean-Up: The Minority and International Student Office will sponsor Campus Clean-Up Day on Wednesday, Oct. 8 from 2-5 p.m. Students and representatives from the MISO will meet at the Bookstore at 2 p.m. before mobilizing to clean up the campus. For more information, contact the MISO at extension 2688.

Homecoming: The undefeated Liberty University Flames football team will face off against Hampton on Saturday, Oct. 11 at 7:30 p.m. in the annual Homecoming game. During halftime of the game, the Wingate Hotel will put on a fireworks display and representatives from Student Life will announce the winner of the Miss Liberty Pageant.

Send postings a minimum of two weeks prior to the event to Jason Ingram c/o Liberty Champion.

CORRECTION

The photo credits that appeared underneath the outline in last week's edition of the Liberty Champion were inadvertently switched. The photo of Steve Camp was taken by Ted Woolford, and the photo of the missions representative and Liberty student Chris Wilson was taken by Sarena Beasley.

Jerry

SALT to protest Planned Parenthood despite 'intimidation' tactics

Continued from Page 1

protest and to share with Lynchburg "that the largest child killing industry is in their midst."

"We don't care if (Planned Parenthood) makes a million dollars off of us being out there," Reyes said. "We are not going to stop and we are not going to back down."

To Reyes, stopping the work that he feels God has given him and other Christians to do would be a compromise. He gave the illustration of the leaders of a nation telling a missionary organization that they would donate money to help spread Hinduism even faster than the missionaries could spread Christianity. He said the missionaries wouldn't stop spreading the Gospel,

because of the "intimidation."

Reyes believes that "although (Lynchburg Planned Parenthood) doesn't do surgical abortions yet, they want to become the foremost abortion facility in this college town."

MacCallum disagreed. Because a woman can get an abortion at the Roanoke Planned Parenthood office, she said the branch in Lynchburg does not plan on providing on-site abortions. They do, however, offer abortion referrals to women as one of their services.

Among the other services the

office provides are: all basic gynecological services and birth control, PAP tests and examinations for sexually transmitted diseases. Planned Parenthood

"We don't care if (Planned Parenthood) makes a million dollars off of us being out there."

—John Reyes
SALT Director

also provides educational information resources on women's health, reproductive health and sexuality.

MacCallum said she feels there are several reasons for

Planned Parenthood to be in Lynchburg. She said that because Lynchburg is a college town, as well as a poorer city, it indicates a need for the local office.

"Lynchburg is 16th out of 136

localities in the state of Virginia in out of wedlock births, which suggests that for a lot of women, family planning services are either not affordable or accessible," MacCallum said.

SALT stands firm on its convictions that the sanctity of life is more important than anything that Planned Parenthood could do.

"(Believers in pro-choice) always say that we intimidate them, but the bottom line is they try to intimidate us by scaring people out of not going out there," Reyes said.

"(The intimidation) is not going to work, because we serve a God that has commanded us to rescue those unjustly sentenced to death. Not to stand back and let them die just as Planned Parenthood would want us to."

SACS to send team to LU in October

Continued from Page 1

hours preparing these volumes for Liberty, and according to Liberty faculty, this work will not be in vain.

"God has sent us a president with great expertise in the area of reaccreditation," Black said. These volumes are now available at the library for further research.

Also included in the 11-volume set is a five year strategic plan that presents the Southern Association with Liberty's goals as a university. This strategic plan will be cumulative. Every year another step will be added to the five-year plan to establish future goals for the university.

There will be nine members of SACS on campus. These representatives will be personnel from different schools. "They are coming as peers and not enemies," Borek said.

Two of the nine representatives will be dealing with Liberty's financial problems. There will also be one technology specialist and two people

involved with academic specifics.

"Monday the 20th, the SACS board will be on campus all day," Black said. Students should be aware of the presence of SACS officials on campus, Black said, because the student body is the "best-selling part of Liberty University."

According to Black, it is highly unlikely that Liberty will lose its accreditation.

"Losing accreditation is not going to happen; we fought too hard for this," Black said. If the Southern Association board

VP recaps reaccreditation, visit

On Oct. 19-21, 1997, a Special Committee of the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools will visit Liberty University. This special committee is comprised of nine professionals who are reviewing Liberty's progress in resolving issues identified by the previous visiting team. The Committee bases its review on the "Criteria," the SACS document that articulates the standards for accreditation.

Throughout the summer, extensive work by many individuals led to the completion of an 11-volume Special Report in

which Liberty responded to the recommendations given to us by SACS. Members of the Special Committee have received copies of this report as well as additional information related to their specific areas of expertise. Copies of this report are on reserve in the Liberty University Library.

Following the October visit, Liberty will receive a written report of the Committee's findings. We will provide SACS with additional documentation regarding any remaining recommendations prior to the annual meeting of the Commission of Colleges held in December.

The administration, faculty and staff are committed to the accreditation process which has enabled us to focus attention on improving our programs and services to our students as we work together to fulfill our mission. We welcome the upcoming visit from our colleagues and peers.

All students are invited to an Open Forum sponsored by SGA regarding the SACS visit on Wednesday, Oct. 8 at 4:15 p.m. in DeMoss Hall 160.

—Dr. Ellen Black
Vice President
Research and Development


does not feel satisfied with the administration's changes, then Liberty will be placed on probation for one year.

Liberty's debt was SACS' main

concern, and since the debt is no longer so substantial, SACS may only put us on probation to "make sure we can keep it up," Black said.

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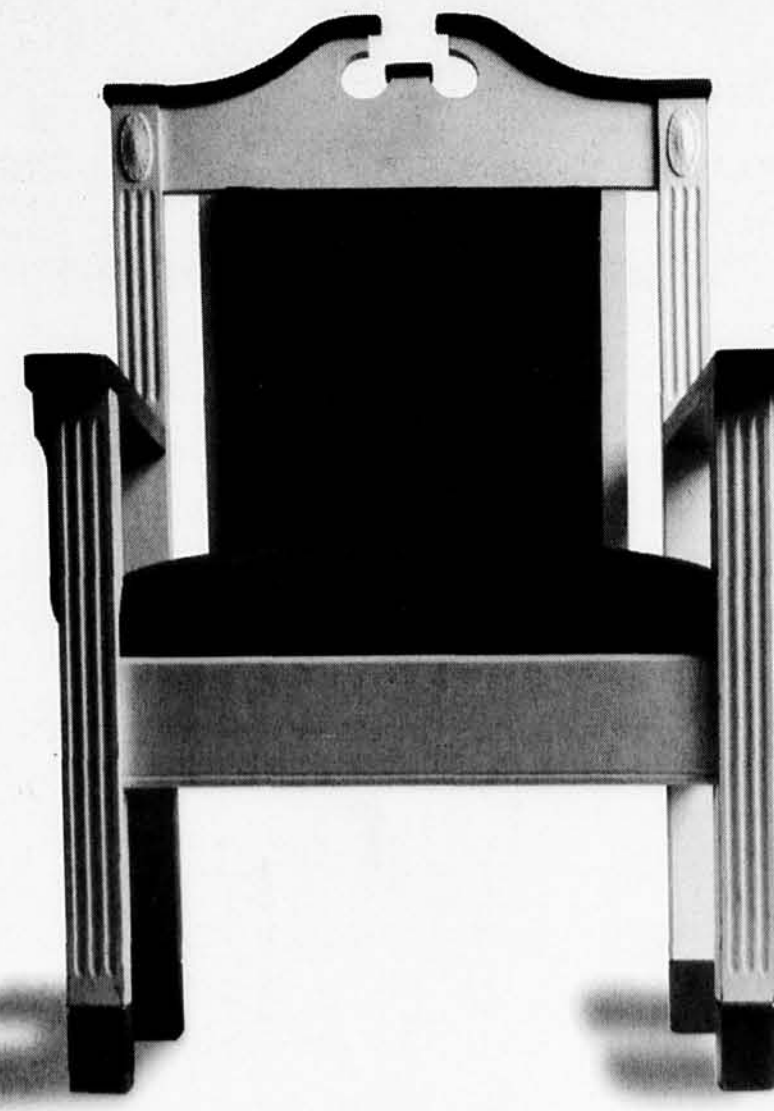
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Yearbook staff dedicates '97 "Selah" to Towns



STAFF PHOTO
Dr. Elmer Towns

By SUZANNE McDUFFIE
Champion Reporter

Dr. Elmer Towns has contributed 40 years of his life to education, yet never in all this time has a yearbook been dedicated to him. Other schools where Towns has taught all told him, "one more year and you

would have got it." Dr. Towns has remained faithful for 27 years at Liberty University and he is "very grateful" for the dedication of the '96/'97 edition of the yearbook.

Mrs. Deborah Huff, the yearbook advisor, was one of the first people to sign Towns' copy of the yearbook. Now her name is just one of thousands, as Dr. Towns encouraged every student to sign his or her autograph.

"He was selected because of his relationship with the students," Huff said.

"I like them," Towns said. "I try to be a good model. They see that I love and follow the Lord and I don't try to put on a show, I just try to be myself."

When Towns was a freshman at Columbia Bible College, one of his teachers inspired him to reach for the position of college president. By the age of 27, he had attained this goal. However, he soon tired of his presidency at Winnipeg Bible College.

"(As a college president), you spend too much time in the

kitchen and you never get to taste the meals," Towns said.

Towns relishes the "prospect of changing the lives of students." Presently, he teaches freshmen and sophomores along with graduate students. In addition, Towns serves as the Dean of Religion.

When reviewing the faculty and staff for the dedication selection, the Selah editorial staff weighed Town's tenure at LU very heavily. In 1971, when the campus was founded, he served as the only full-time teacher, academic dean and executive vice president.

Along with commitment, the committee considered character. According to Huff, the editors of Selah chose Dr. Towns because "he likes the students as individuals and not just in academics, but he takes personal interest in them as well."

As the yearbook composes its next edition, the staff is preparing copy for the '98 Selah and continues to distribute the '97 book.



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the Joneses
the Champion

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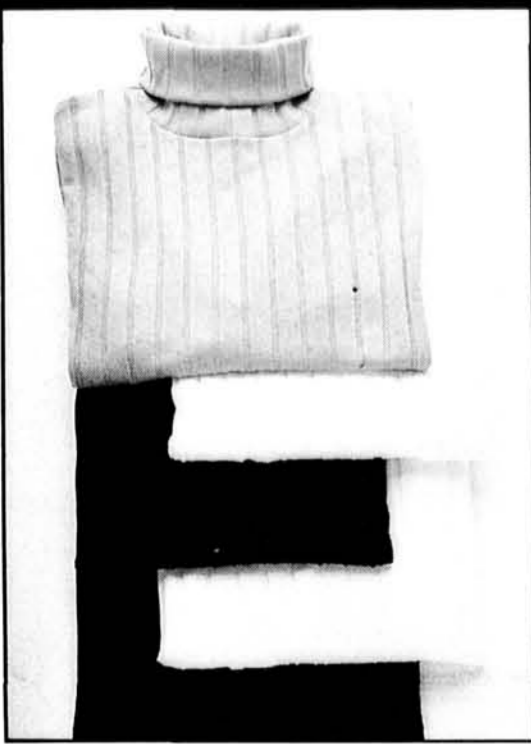
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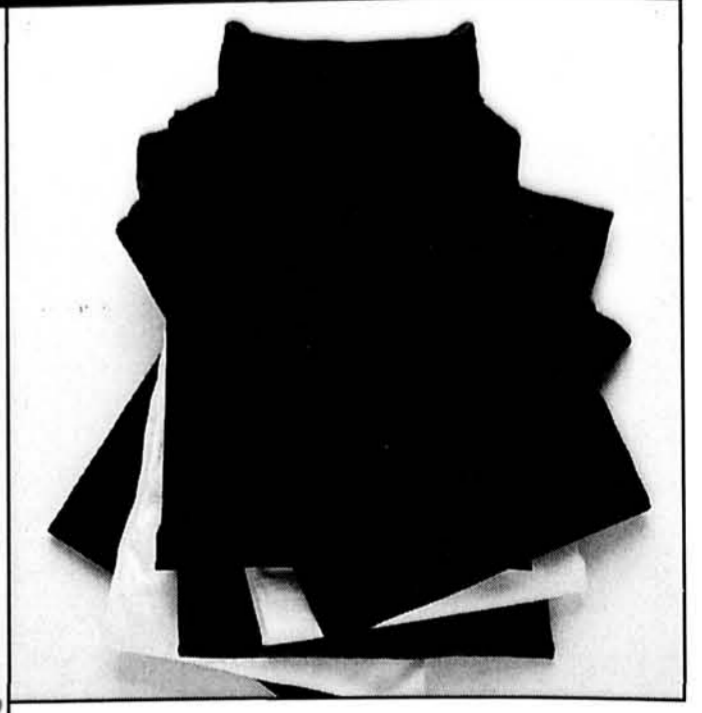
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All For You!

Life!

National Internship Office gives students a start



By MARIANNE GILLESPIE
Life! Reporter

The old adage "practice makes perfect" is relevant for college students today. So, how do Liberty students practice what to do when they graduate? The answer is internships. Internships give students the experience that they need to set themselves apart from and above others.

The administration saw the need for internship opportunities to be organized and approached Lew Weider to be the first director of the Internship Office in the late 1980s. He then began to set policies for the students to follow.

Glen Belden now coordinates and has the final say over all the registered internships. Belden also teaches the workshops on career decisions that are offered for free to students several times a semester.

Shelley Selbert, the Career Services Coordinator, works one-on-one with students who are interested in doing internships.

Each department then assigns the number of hours needed to receive credit. Credit hours gained by internships can range from one to six credit hours depending on the student's major.

Other agreements and guidelines need to be filled out and signed as well. This includes an Internship Agreement sheet and two Job Description sheets that need to be filled out by the student and the student's internship establishment. Students also need to keep in mind that companies have their own deadlines and applications for internships.

fact, approximately 50 organizations contact the office about internship opportunities.

This last year approximately 350 students registered for an internship, according to Lydia Lawrence, Office Manager of the Internship Office.

Internships can also be discovered by students who research on their own or by past LU students who have worked at different internships. Whether students find the opportunity at the office or know of a place they want to intern at, it is their responsibility to contact the company and arrange to intern there.

Once students have found a place to intern, they need to fill out an application before certain deadlines set by the Internship Office or by Registrar's Office in order to receive credit for the internship.

After an internship is reviewed and approved, the Faculty Internship Advisor in each department gives the student their assignments and requirements to complete the internship.

Each department then assigns the number of hours needed to receive credit. Credit hours gained by internships can range from one to six credit hours depending on the student's major.

Other agreements and guidelines need to be filled out and signed as well. This includes an Internship Agreement sheet and two Job Description sheets that need to be filled out by the student and the student's internship establishment. Students also need to keep in mind that companies have their own deadlines and applications for internships.

One of the most important aspects to keep in mind is to have a good resume. The career center helps students put together resumes for free.

The career center charges \$15 to design the resume and will update information on the resume for free. "It is your advertisement," said Selbert.

Selbert encourages students to take their schoolwork seriously and to do a good job on their projects and research papers. Not only do internships look good on a resume, but companies like to see students giving the extra effort to understand their field of work," said Selbert. "Internships are beneficial to the students for two reasons. One, it gives the student work-related experience to build their personal resumes. The second reason to do an internship is to help the student decide if that career field is right for them."

"Internships give students a chance to try out their skills."

— Shelley Selbert,
Career Services Coordinator



GATEWAY TO THE FUTURE — Internships let students gain the upper hand in the job market. Lydia Lawrence of the N.I.O. assists Charu Stokes.



RANDY KING

The Us and Them Mentality

The call comes during Optimum Student Revolt Time. Officers jump up, spilling partially consumed donuts and coffee over the room.

"Back up! Back up! For the love of everything sacred to Rescue 911 fans, I need back up!" The voice on the radio is harsh and strained. The boys in blue check their pistols and handcuffs, knowing that the situation might call for action.

Two rookie officers glance at each other, apprehension obvious in their tense faces. This is the moment they have dreaded and dreamed of since they cheered for Boss Hawg and Roscoe as mere children. They are going out to fight crime, to battle the bad guys. This is their first occasion to try to right the many wrongs of this corrupt world.

Those who have been on the force for a time are slightly more relaxed, knowing that it probably isn't the start of Arneggedeon. However, they are nervous too. They know that it is a civilian eat cop world out there. The morals of society have so decayed that one must be ready for anything when answering a call for back up.

All the uniformed men in the room wait expectantly for a warning as to what kind of situation they are being called into.

The radio crackles again. "I have a student that must have a . . . a . . ." the room is silent as each officer strains to hear what terrible thing the student has.

"I think the guy has a radar detector!" The voice cracks in excitement, "Oh, please hurry up and send me some back up!"

One of the more experienced officers grabs the microphone of the radio. "Get a hold of yourself, man!" he shouts into the transmitter.

"Don't confront the perpetrator until back up arrives!" Sweat pops out on the veteran's forehead as his eyes dart around the room. "Car 1, 2, 5, 8, and 11 head down and back him up!" he shouts. Then, with a solemn look on his quivering face, he turns to those heading out to face the cruel world.

"Be very careful. They always look harmless, the real psychos do."

With lights flashing and tires screaming, the five squad cars roar away to the scene of the crime — Marriot parking lot.

When the officers arrive at the scene, they find their comrade in Car 3, huddled behind the steering wheel of his vehicle with all the doors locked.

The officers surround the criminal's vehicle en masse.

One of the rookies pulls out the squad's mega-phone.

"Please step out of the vehicle!" he shouts eagerly.

The student, who has been sitting in his car, growing impatient for the last 10 minutes, jumps out of his vehicle. Every officer drops a hand to his weapon.

"What did I do?" questions the student.

"Do we need to read him his rights?" asks one of the more professional officers.

The officer who pulled the student over steps bravely forward. "You must have a radar detector in your automobile. Those are illegal in Virginia!" he states triumphantly.

"What makes you think I have a detector?" queries the student.

"You were driving exactly the speed limit and that means you detected me," the officer declares.

"What if I'm just a law abiding citizen?" the student asks.

The officers all look bewildered, finding this concept impossible to comprehend. They have encountered the oldest dilemma in law enforcement, citizen vs. police.

FALL 1997 CAREER WORKSHOPS

Preparing an effective resume

Monday, Nov. 3*

Presenting yourself well in an interview

Monday, Nov. 10

Strategies for getting the job you want

Monday, Nov. 17

Employer expectations

Monday, Nov. 24

* All seminars are held from 4:30 until 5:30 p.m.

Third Day and All Star Uncovered

By LORI BRIDGEWATER
Life! Reporter

What is it about a weight room that makes full-grown men act like little boys again? Both Third Day and All Star United could probably answer that question if you could pull them away from the weight machines long enough to get a response. But then again, you would miss out on all the silly antics and unusual grunts that are heard while weights are being lifted.

After Third Day and All Star United were done with the weights, they willingly took time to share their testimonies with us.

This is the third date of the Third Day, All Star United, and Switchfoot tour, and already God is moving in a mighty way in each of their lives.

Third Day lead singer Mac Powell is learning to know who God really is — "I'm trying to learn more about God," Powell said, "and it's difficult being on stage and telling people about God when I'm in a relationship with Christ and I'm trying to figure it all out myself."



LOUNGE FREAKING IT — Lead singer Mac Powell and guitarist Brad Avery of Third Day bring their new sound to the Vines.

Guitarist Mark Lee relates to this issue, "There's so many things in the Bible that would make you a radical Christian if you would follow them, and I want to live my life like that," Lee said.

Third Day drummer David Carr admitted to being in a constant state of not wanting to listen or not wanting to seek what God's been trying to teach him. "God is trying to teach me not to be in the habit of doing something because I won't get anything out of it," said Carr.

Guitarist Brad Avery focused on why Third Day continues to get up on stage night after night to share Christ despite its own human frailties. "God gives us a desire to do what we do," said Avery. "He's given me a great desire to play music, and also a great desire to serve Him."

Bassist Tai Anderson stated that Third Day wanted to challenge listeners with their new album. There are a lot of times when Third Day doesn't feel like they are on the mountain top. "It's easy to see God on a mountain top, but you don't ever really live for God on a mountain top," Anderson said. "You're really living for God when you are in the valley putting into practice the things that God has taught you."

After they bored themselves with the weight machines in the Vines, All Star United shared in much the same way as Third Day.

There's a big difference between All Star United and Third Day — Third Day is somewhat serious, but the All Star guys bounce off the walls, or as they put it, "We float."

Lead singer Ian Eskelin confessed to being an impatient person. He wants everything to happen now, all though he knows that all the time is perfect to wait on the Lord. "A lot of times I don't wait on the Lord and I do it myself and find out I'm wrong, and I have to go through this whole process of correction — of correcting all the things I've done to mess it up with my human spirit instead of just waiting on the Lord," Eskelin said. "It would have been fine if I had been patient."



UNITED WE STAND — All Star United's guitarist Dave Clo stands out during Saturday's show.

Although they label themselves "the most impatient band," All Star United is quick to focus on what its calling as a ministry is. "We all come from different backgrounds, and we definitely have different things to say to different people," said Eskelin, "but collectively as All Star United, we give 110 percent every night, even when the situations aren't the best."

"We definitely try to shine God's creativity that's given to us, and a lot of times, you don't have to say the right words to let people know there's something different about you or that you are a Christian," Eskelin said. "We've found out from people coming to our shows that they can sense a joy or the Spirit just bouncing off us."

Christian Stage added that All Star United's main ministry on stage is singing its music and entertaining and hoping that the Holy Spirit will speak through them.

The one thing that Ian Eskelin would like to communicate to "students around the world" is that Christianity is not about religion. Although Eskelin grew up in a spiritual family, he was apathetic about God. Eskelin was living in a Christian bubble pointing his finger at everybody. Things changed for Eskelin when he realized that God is the Savior of the entire universe and not just his own little bubble.

"I think the thing that everyone ought to know is that Christianity is not about religion, it's not about rules and regulations," Eskelin said. "It's about a relationship with Jesus Christ. If you have a relationship, all the other things like rules and regulations, and even the desire in your heart to go to church on Sunday, will come out of that relationship, not out of religion."

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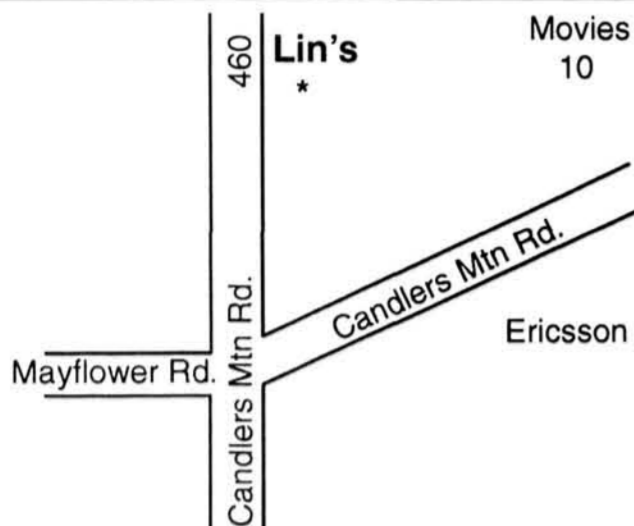
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OPINION

The Liberty Champion

The Official Newspaper of Liberty University
Established 1983

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Liberty's not the same school as a year ago

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We note just a few of the changes. There are the obvious, practical things. There are 25 new computers in the lab this year. The ever-vigilant Liberty Way has been changed. TVs in dorms, facial hair for men, casual dress in the cafeteria are just a few of the really noticeable things.

The football stadium has new turf (and houses a winning team ...). The school's debt is miniscule in comparison to what it was a year ago. The library is connected to Lexis-Nexis, opening a whole new world of information to the studious. We are even working toward computers in the dorms and a campus-wide internet connection.

There are some less structural changes as well. The University's statement of purpose has been changed slightly. Of course, the alumni will notice our new President, Dr. John Borek, Jr.

If all goes well, we may even be through the re-accrediting process before this year is out. All in all, Liberty is a totally different school from what it was a year ago. Most of the changes are for the better. God has blessed the school greatly since last year at this time. The alumni should join the students, faculty and administration in praising Him. Welcome back to the new Liberty University!

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OK, we're complaining again. Probably this complaint is not limited to Champion staffers, either. Isn't there some better way of accommodating customers to the coffee shop in the center of DeMoss?

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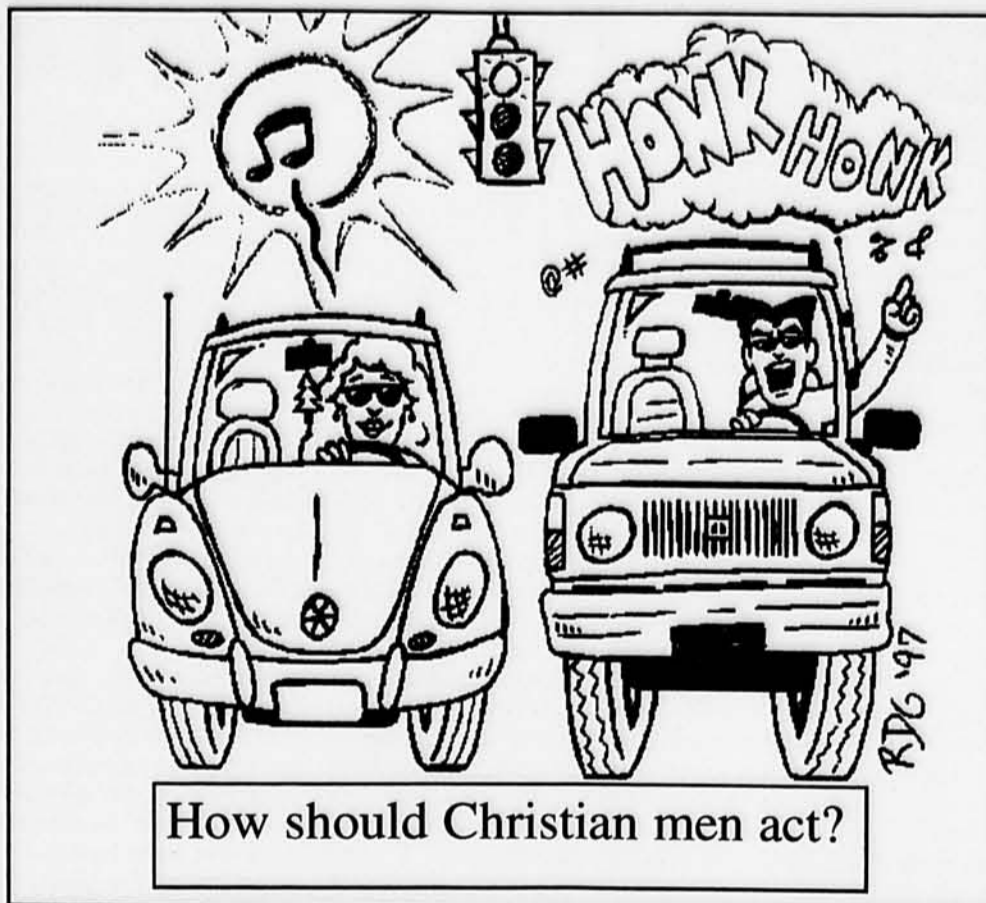
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At least this way, while coffee-starved students would have easy access to the drink of their dreams, others en route to class would be able to move from class to class without being crushed in the crowd. Why not consider marking out a definite place for coffee customers, and making life a little less frustrating for everybody?

Quotes of the week...

"Create in me a clean heart. O God, and renew a right spirit within me."
— Psalm 51:10

"All I have seen teaches me to trust the Creator for what I have not seen."
— Ralph Waldo Emerson



How should Christian men act?

Christianity: fire insurance or a changed lifestyle?

I have a confession to make. I'm not perfect. Most people who know me would never have guessed, but I know better. I find myself less than immune to temptation. But I can still criticize with the best of them. So here I go!

What is Christianity? Is it just another religion? Or something more? Maybe a good fire insurance policy. But a life-changing relationship, a standard by which we measure our actions? Let's not go there. Now we're talking about changing our lifestyles. No one wants to do that!

Why are we Christians so easily satisfied? Why do we treat Christ's sacrifice so casually? Why do we feel that the price He paid demands no more from us than clapping to the music in Evangelism class?

We seem to feel that we are free from the law, saved forever, free to do whatever we wish with little fear of divine wrath. Christ has paid for all sins past, present and future, right? With forgiveness so easily obtained, why worry about permission?

Scripture sets a pretty high standard in 1 Peter 1:16. "Be ye holy, for I am holy." God exhorts us. In Christ's Sermon on the Mount, He told his disciples, "Be ye therefore perfect, even as your Father which is in heaven is perfect" (Mt. 5:48).

Two areas of my own life, and the lives of many of my "inner circle," are especially troublesome to me. The more obvious, and probably more symptomatic, is the issue of the tongue. I can't speak for the ladies, but I know in guy circles the "guy talk" is getting more risqué all the time. The goal seems to be to walk the fine line without stepping over it. Why not try to avoid the "line" altogether?

I guess the real problem, though, lies in the thought life. If it's not right to do, don't spend your time thinking about it. Jesus said, "that which cometh out of a man, defileth the man" (Mark 7:20). We're assured that as a man "thinketh in his heart, so is he" (Prov. 23:7). "Defile" is a strong word. Certainly Christ is not preaching freedom to do whatever we choose.

The believer is indeed free from the law. Paul says, "the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has made me free from the law of sin and death" (Rom. 8:2). The implication is that we are not free from responsibility to do right but from inability to do so.

Are we just "Sunday Christians" who put on a spiritual face in church, and live the

rest of the week in total disregard for our testimonies? Paul has much to say to Christians who talk a good line but fail to walk it. They are "carnal," "babes in Christ," and other such unflattering terms. In Revelation God threatens to "spew out" the lukewarm church at Laodicea.

We have this idea that attending convocation and dorm prayer meeting, and maybe even witnessing once in a while, makes us good Christians and servants of the Lord. While these are important, they're not the most important issues. Some even sincerely feel that the important thing in the Christian life is to perform enough acts of service to God. But Samuel told Saul that "to obey is better than sacrifice" (1 Sam. 15:22). God is most concerned with our own personal relationships to Him.

Jesus condemned the Pharisees for hypocrisy, charging them with sweating the small stuff but having "omitted the weightier matters of the law, judgment, mercy and faith" (Matt. 23:23). He compared them to whitewashed tombs, beautiful on the outside but filthy where it counts.

Indeed, man looks on the outward appearance, but God looks on the heart. We may fool the rest of the world, but we can't fool God. We can't even fool people all the time. It's been said that the greatest causes of atheism are Christians who talk one line and

live another. Our witnessing efforts may be ruined by a single incident of inconsistency. Now I'm not endorsing living a certain way to impress people, but there is a certain point beyond which we destroy our credibility. A convicted drunk driver has somewhat lower credibility when preaching safe driving standards than a police officer might.

I guess I'm just questioning myself. Maybe we all should. If I were on trial for being a Christian, would there be enough evidence to convict? If Jesus were to come to my house, look through my music, hear my language, see what I allow my eyes to watch, read my every thought; how would I feel? I'm trying to learn the tough lesson of thinking and acting as if Jesus were right there watching every thought, word and action. Guess what. He is.

Popular Christian singer Ray Boltz asks a thought-provoking question in his song "Feel the Nails." He asks, "Does He still feel the nails every time I fall? If I'm causing Him pain, then I know I've got to change." How about you? How about me?



Rick Boyer

Christian men: Problem Cases or Promise Keepers?

Feminists will tell America that we're the root of everything sinful, oppressive and corrupt. Liberal groups will blame us for whatever unfairness women have suffered throughout the ages, and accuse us of attempting to dominate the "weaker sex."

We are men. More specifically, we're Christian men. We are rapidly becoming the scapegoat of a misled, easily-confused society. We are quickly becoming the punching bag for a nation that can't find a better way to vent its frustrations.

Bitterness and hatred of men, especially Christian men, is becoming obvious in almost every facet imaginable. Even here at Liberty the hall echoes with cries of "That guy's a jerk," or "Men stink."

Though some of those statements may be justified, it's high time that Christian men take the initiative to break down these walls between us and women. It's time that men act in love and respect to others.

It sickens and embarrasses me to hear the basis of complaints of some female Liberty students. They can't even jog around the circle without coming under a barrage of whistles, screams, horn-honkings and wagging-tongues as guys show their true immature, juvenile form. The sad thing is that those male perpetrators probably aren't educated enough to read this column.

Seriously guys, if we can't be respected by our own Christian sisters, what will we do when we're out there under the attack of leftist organizations? We must reform ourselves. We must grow up.

The Promise Keepers' "Stand in the Gap Rally" in Washington D.C. drew some 2.3 million men. Men who were eager to make a commitment to God to become better husbands, fathers, friends and churchmen.

The National Organization of Women still has the gull to attack the Promise Keepers for striving to reassert their manhood at home. Undoubtedly, they'll claim that PK men oppress and even physically abuse women. Rather, the truth is that women would have more freedom in a godly home with a godly leader than otherwise.

The NOW erroneously claims that it wants to achieve equality among sexes. Just take a look at some of the quotas the NOW pushes for. Equality through reverse discrimination? I think not. Quotas can nothing but insult and belittle the beneficiary.

There was nothing that smacked of domination or control about the PK rally. The entire gathering of men was there to express repentance for its failure to live up to its responsibilities to wives and children.

The recent rally is proof that there are many Christian men ready to take a stand. In what was the largest gathering of men since Moses and the Israelites, the message was sent loud and clear. To the nation's law-makers, to women, to families, to churches, to everyone.

Christian men are willing to make a change and stand up for God and His will. The recent gathering in Washington was truly a "million-man march." In fact, it was twice that.

If we'll stand up and be counted, perhaps the nation, as well as stagnant Christians, will wake up to the fact that we're here and we demand a voice.

More than two million men are on fire and ready to make a change in themselves and in the country. Will we follow? The time is now.



MATT SWINEHART

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Also, all articles, except editorials, bear the endorsement of the author, solely.

All material submitted becomes the property of the Liberty Champion. The Champion reserves the right to accept, reject or edit any letter received, according to the Champion stylebook, taste and the Liberty University mission statement. The deadline for letters is 6 p.m. Wednesday.

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— Becky Gilmore, So. Virginia



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— Guy Troyer, Sr. Michigan



"No, because it would be stupid. It would just become a joke."

— Kristen Lancaster, So. Florida



"Yes! But any guys who are interested... two words — seek help!"

— Scott Woodward, Jr. Alaska



"Why?"

— J Land, Fr. Missouri

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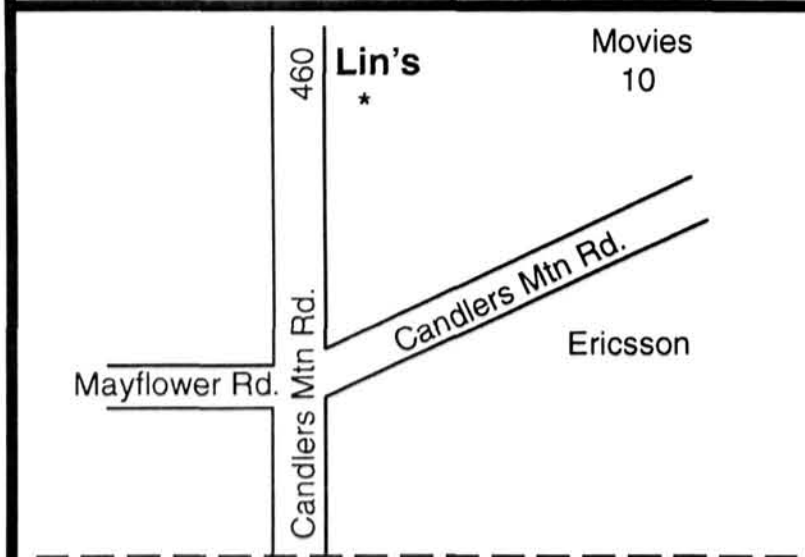
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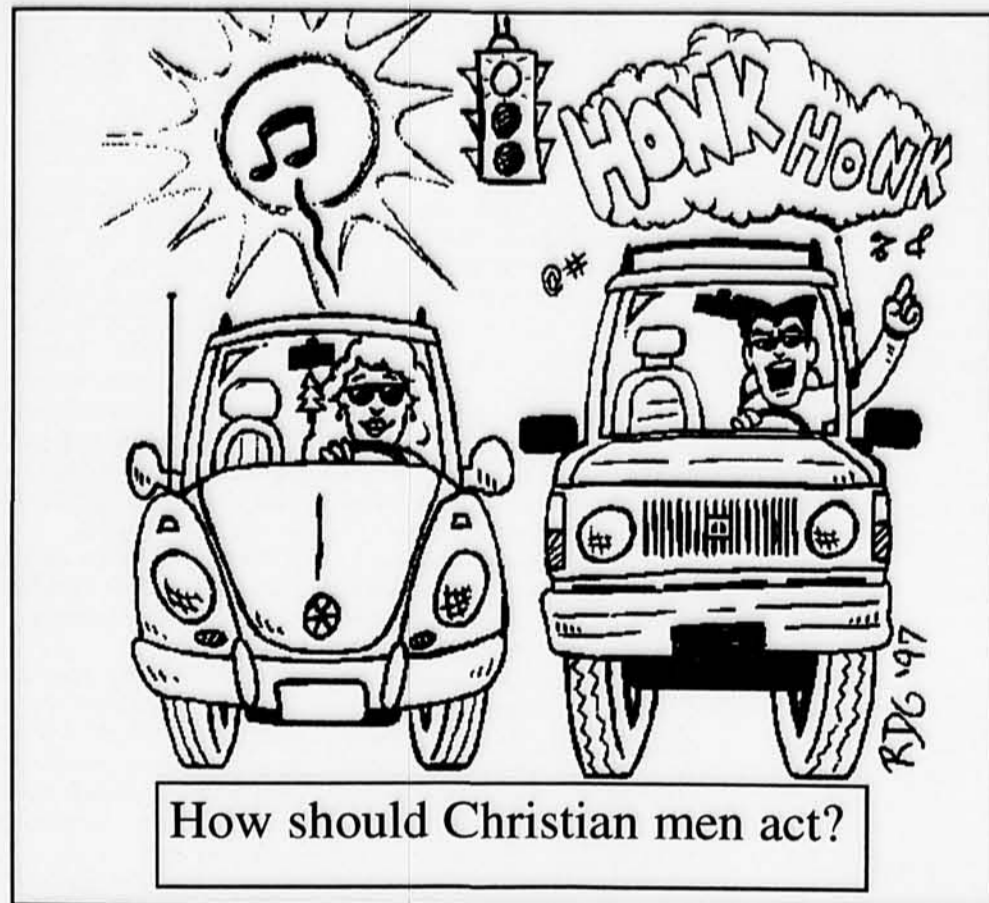
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Scripture sets a pretty high standard in 1 Peter 1:16. "Be ye holy, for I am holy," God exhorts us. In Christ's Sermon on the Mount, He told his disciples, "Be ye therefore perfect, even as your Father which is in heaven is perfect" (Mt. 5:48).

Two areas of my own life, and the lives of many of my "inner circle," are especially troublesome to me. The more obvious, and probably more symptomatic, is the issue of the tongue. I can't speak for the ladies, but I know in guy circles the "guy talk" is getting more risque all the time. The goal seems to be to walk the fine line without stepping over it. Why not try to avoid the "line" altogether?

I guess the real problem, though, lies in the thought life. If it's not right to do, don't spend your time thinking about it. Jesus said, "that which cometh out of a man, defileth the man" (Mark 7:20). We're assured that as a man "thinketh in his heart, so is he" (Prov. 23:7). "Defile" is a strong word. Certainly Christ is not preaching freedom to do whatever we choose.

The believer is indeed free from the law. Paul says, "the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has made me free from the law of sin and death" (Rom. 8:2). The implication is that we are free from responsibility to do right but from inability to do so.

Are we just "Sunday Christians" who put on a spiritual face in church, and live the

rest of the week in total disregard for our testimonies? Paul has much to say to Christians who talk a good line but fail to walk it. They are "carnal," "babes in Christ," and other such unflattering terms. In Revelation God threatens to "spew out" the lukewarm church at Laodicea.

We have this idea that attending convocation and dorm prayer meeting, and maybe even witnessing once in a while, makes us good Christians and servants of the Lord. While these are important, they're not the most important issues. Some even sincerely feel that the important thing in the Christian life is to perform enough acts of service to God. But Samuel told Saul that "to obey is better than sacrifice" (1 Sam. 15:22). God is most concerned with our own personal relationships to Him.

Jesus condemned the Pharisees for hypocrisy, charging them with sweating the small stuff but having "omitted the weightier matters of the law, judgment, mercy and faith" (Matt. 23:23). He compared them to whitewashed tombs, beautiful on the outside but filthy where it counts.

Indeed, man looks on the outward appearance, but God looks on the heart. We may fool the rest of the world, but we can't fool God. We can't even fool people all the time. It's been said that the greatest causes of atheism are Christians who talk one line and live another. Our witnessing efforts may be ruined by a single incident of inconsistency.

Now I'm not endorsing living a certain way to impress people, but there is a certain point beyond which we destroy our credibility. A convicted drunk driver has somewhat lower credibility when preaching safe driving standards than a police officer might.

I guess I'm just questioning myself. Maybe we all should. If I were on trial for being a Christian, would there be enough evidence to convict? If Jesus were to come to my house, look through my music, hear my language, see what I allow my eyes to watch, read my every thought; how would I feel? I'm trying to learn the tough lesson of thinking and acting as if Jesus were right there watching every thought, word and action. Guess what. He is.

Popular Christian singer Ray Boltz asks a thought-provoking question in his song "Feel the Nails." He asks, "Does He still feel the nails every time I fall? If I'm causing Him pain, then I know I've got to change." How about you? How about me?



Rick Boyer

Christian men: Problem Cases or Promise Keepers?

Feminists will tell America that we're the root of everything sinful, oppressive and corrupt. Liberal groups will blame us for whatever unfairness women have suffered throughout the ages, and accuse us of attempting to dominate the "weaker sex."

We are men. More specifically, we're Christian men. We are rapidly becoming the scapegoat of a misled, easily-confused society. We are quickly becoming the punching bag for a nation that can't find a better way to vent its frustrations.

Bitterness and hatred of men, especially Christian men, is becoming obvious in almost every facet imaginable. Even here at Liberty the hall echoes with cries of "That guy's a jerk," or "Men stink."

Though some of those statements may be justified, it's high time that Christian men take the initiative to break down these walls between us and women. It's time that men act in love and respect to others.

It sickens and embarrasses me to hear the basis of complaints of some female Liberty students. They can't even jog around the circle without coming under a barrage of whistles, screams, horn-honkings and wagging-tongues as guys show their true immature, juvenile form. The sad thing is that those male perpetrators probably aren't educated enough to read this column.

Seriously guys, if we can't be respected by our own Christian sisters, what will we do when we're out there under the attack of leftist organizations? We must reform ourselves. We must grow up.

The Promise Keepers' "Stand in the Gap Rally" in Washington D.C. drew some 2.3 million men. Men who were eager to make a commitment to God to become better husbands, fathers, friends and churchmen.

The National Organization of Women still has the gull to attack the Promise Keepers for striving to reassert their manhood at home. Undoubtedly, they'll claim that PK men oppress and even physically abuse women. Rather, the truth is that women would have more freedom in a godly home with a godly leader than otherwise.

The NOW erroneously claims that it wants to achieve equality among sexes. Just take a look at some of the quotas the NOW pushes for. Equality through reverse discrimination? I think not. Quotas can nothing but insult and belittle the beneficiary.

There was nothing that smacked of domination or control about the PK rally. The entire gathering of men was there to express repentance for its failure to live up to its responsibilities to wives and children.

The recent rally is proof that there are many Christian men ready to take a stand. In what was the largest gathering of men since Moses and the Israelites, the message was sent loud and clear. To the nation's law-makers, to women, to families, to churches, to everyone.

Christian men are willing to make a change and stand up for God and His will. The recent gathering in Washington was truly a "million-man march." In fact, it was twice that.

If we'll stand up and be counted, perhaps the nation, as well as stagnant Christians, will wake up to the fact that we're here and we demand a voice.

More than two million men are on fire and ready to make a change in themselves and in the country. Will we follow? The time is now.



Matt Swinehart

The Liberty Champion

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Speak "Do you think there should be a Mr. Liberty, and why?"



"I think it'd be a good chance for a male student to give his testimony like Miss Liberty does."

— Becky Gilmore, So. Virginia



"Yes! But any guys who are interested... two words — seek help!"

— Scott Woodward, Jr. Alaska



"No, because it would be stupid. It would just become a joke."

— Kristen Lancaster, So. Florida



"Why?"

— J Land, Fr. Missouri

— Photos by Michele Petterson and Randy McDowell

COMMENTARY

God has a reason for authority

By **CHRISTINA LOH**
Champion Editorialist

A student in a responsible position on campus once lamented the fact that she could no longer watch R-rated movies. Her reasoning was not that she would break The Liberty Way, but that, if caught, she could lose her status.

Most students don't consciously choose to rebel against Liberty authorities. But they do, through their disregard for The Liberty Way, for Resident Assistants and through their complaints over deserved parking tickets.

Most of us recognize that Scripture commands us to obey authority. "You younger men, likewise, be subject to your elders" (1 Peter 5:5).

Some even recognize that God commands us to obey our elders as we would Him. "Slaves, be obedient to those who are your masters as to Christ" (Eph. 6:5). If God commands slaves to be obedient to their masters, how much more does He expect us to obey authorities that we willingly, as students, subject ourselves to?

Very few truly realize, however, that obedience does not consist simply of "keeping out

of trouble." God calls us to obey completely. "Whoever then annuls one of the least of these commandments shall be called least in the Kingdom of Heaven" (Matt. 5:19). Not only does Jesus call for us to obey each individual law, James tells us to obey the law as a whole.

"For whoever keeps the whole law, and yet stumbles in one point, he has become guilty of all" (James 2:10).

Students very readily dismiss music regulations, curfews and the dress code. R-rated movies enter dinner conversations as easily as yesterday's homework assignment. Immoral music blares from cars driving around the circle. Many students sported TV sets in their dorm rooms well before the start of this semester.

Aside from what God says about obedience, what does He say about disobedience? "For rebellion is as the sin of divination, and insubordination is as iniquity and idolatry" (1 Samuel 15:23).

This was not an accidental comparison. If you do not follow God wholly, loving Him with all your mind and with all your strength and with all your soul, who do you follow? Yourself. And if you follow yourself,

who do you truly follow?

The majority of Christians have no trouble acting like a "good person." But rare is the Christian who fulfills the command to be "perfect, as [his] heavenly Father is perfect" (Matthew 5:48). Satan does not challenge obvious Christian standards. He aims for the subtle, the "minor," as he did with Eve.

God does not restrict His children to burden them with meaningless rules. He knows that we can safely grow only within His protective boundaries.

The Liberty Way can stifle your social life. The dress code probably cost you extra money, and hall meetings take up your valuable time.

But why did you come to Liberty? To become popular? To experience freedom away from home? If so, you came for the wrong reasons. You may not have the freedom here to do all the things you want to. But you have freedom to do what God has sent you here to do—to prepare yourself for war as a soldier under Christ.

God will grant us the success He so wants us to have—but only on His terms. He has made Himself clear. "If you love Me, you will keep My commandments" (John 14:15).



It's about time for Liberty students to quit their complaining

By **SCOTT MCGINNIS**
Champion Editorialist

It may be hard to find good parking spots on our beautiful "walking campus," but it is easy to find people who like to complain about Liberty University Police Department and its ticketing habits.

Anytime a conversation comes up about LUPD, parking or anything related, someone is bound to start complaining about the number of tickets they received last semester. When asked why they got it they'll say something like, "I was parked on a white diamond; I mean, is that all security

can do, give tickets to people who park on white diamonds?"

No, it's not all they can do, but it's something they must do. The bitterness displayed toward campus police is almost palpable, yet is completely unfounded. It's so interesting that the same people who get mad about freshmen parking in their spaces go berserk when they get tickets for parking in a faculty space.

It's funny that just because good parking spaces can become scarce at times, some students think it is totally OK to park in the wrong space and to become indignant and just plain mad if given a ticket.

David's Place or the pit?

Here's a remedy for the freshmen. Jog from David's Place to Dorm 21 everyday and you'll be ready to join the track team. If freshmen think it's too far to walk (or jog) they can park wherever they wish, but quit complaining about the well-deserved ticket under the windshield wiper.

The second group is the rest of the Marriott-eating campus dwellers. This group is probably the most ticketed. They feel that since they are no longer puny freshmen with their dorm keys swinging around their necks, they are pretty much entitled to any space on campus.

Who cares if the name Jerry Falwell is printed on the curb? What are they gonna do, tow the car?

They also seem to feel that all diamonds are the same. Needless to say, the tickets received by this group are usually appealed for reasons which make little or no sense.

The third group of drivers/complainers is the commuters. They have, seemingly, the best argument of all. This group probably generates the most complaints. They say they will be late for class if they park somewhere like David's Place or the back of P-1.

Too bad; rules are still rules. Leave ten minutes early if you have to. Stop complaining. LUPD is just doing its job. Maybe we as drivers should try doing the same.

I HATE BIBLE CLASS! WHY DO I EVEN HAVE TO TAKE IT? IT'S NOT LIKE I ACTUALLY CAME TO A CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY TO LEARN ABOUT GOD...



There are three major categories of students who drive. First there are the freshmen. From 1981-1991 freshmen couldn't even bring their precious rides to school.

Freshmen are lucky to even have cars on campus, but some of them still think it is OK to park wherever they want to. Why are there green stickers in just about every parking lot on campus? What's wrong with

"Stop complaining. LUPD is just doing its job."

Parents should be held responsible for their children's behavior

By **SUZIE FULKS**
Champion Editorialist

There is a new solution to the growing problem of juvenile crime, and this time the young criminal is not the only one responsible. At least 17 states have enacted laws that require parents to be legally accountable for their child's offenses.

The latest town to propose this counterpunch at crime is Muscatine, Iowa, where parents are required to keep illegal drugs and weapons outside the home, make sure the children stay in school and obey curfews, keep them from associating with gangs and delinquents and prevent them from the destruction of property.

And what would happen to the parents of destructive and out-of-control children? The first offense carries just a warning; the second a \$50 fine. Other offenses can carry penalties ranging from a \$200 fine to community service to a parenting class.

"I see more kids running the streets at all hours of the night and day, and no parental supervision at all. Some of these parents just don't care," parent Bob Slutts said to the Associated Press about forcing parents to get involved.

Alderman Jeff Pawlinski of Milwaukee plans on proposing an ordinance this fall for the city as well. He wants parents whose children break laws repeatedly to attend parent classes or pay a \$1,000 fine.

Why such a stiff penalty among parents who let their children run amok? According to the U.S. Department of Justice, in 1993 (latest year for statistics), over two million juveniles were arrested by law enforcement agencies. Juvenile court cases in 1992 involved over 300,000 crimes against persons, over 800,000 crimes against property and over 70,000 involved violations of drug laws.

Parents just do not care anymore. Even Hillary Clinton in her speech at the Democratic National Convention for the 1996 elections said "It takes a village" to rear a child in a dig on Bob Dole who said, "It takes a family."

In 1996, The Chattanooga Free Press stated, "She enlarged her book-title theme of 'It Takes a Village' to suggest that it takes the federal government — under the Clintons — to raise a child."

Parents are relying on the state and the public schools to teach their children, and the schools cannot do the job right, since it is not their job in the first place. Kids are out all hours of the night, creating havoc and breaking the law.

When a couple decides to have a child, they must realize that to a child comes responsibility. Parents need to take control of their house and let the kids know who is the boss. They must begin to be accountable for their children's actions. And if not, then fine or arrest them ... our future depends on it.

"Parents need to take control of their house and let the kids know who is the boss."

Liberty Forum

Tutors should be polite

Dear Editor,

First of all, I would like to say that I greatly appreciate the new computers in SH 130. I have not had to wait more than 15 minutes in any of the labs this semester. This could be because of the additional computers, or the times I choose to utilize the facilities.

However, I have overheard discussions of a new "problem" that has developed. The past two times I was in the computer lab, a certain tutor negatively commented on e-mail users. The first time, he actually kicked the young lady beside me off her computer after she had waited in line and finally sat down.

The next incident was early in the morning before my 9:25 class. There were at least nine open computers and the same tutor commented, "This is really sad. Out of everyone in this room, only

one, two, three are not on e-mail."

The advantages of e-mail are obvious. It is quicker and cheaper than traditional correspondence, especially if you correspond frequently with your friends. No one can afford making long-distance telephone calls every night.

I understand that one might hold homework over maintaining relationships, but everyone has paid the same lab fee. Only people who procrastinate find the lines too long right before the class in which their paper is due. There are plenty of times during the day that the computers are not being used.

I do not think a Christian university should have employees that show such bitter impatience and unfair bias. I work in the library, where the Internet computers are seldom all being used. If anyone is in such a hurry, it is only 10 cents a page to print, and the Internet is free.

— Corina Hansen

Christians ought to be more efficient

Dear Editor,

I was doing a word study recently and discovered some interesting information. I looked up the words "efficiency" and "inept" and came to some startling realizations. In light of the facts, we fall dangerously short of the mark.

According to the "Money Words Glossary," the definition of efficiency is "doing the right things right." Seems simple and innocent enough on the surface, but taking a closer look at this definition can bring us to some startling conclusions. I pose some questions for thought. How often do we spend countless hours studying the same thing over and

over and never really comprehending it? Or how often do we sit daydreaming in classes, while precious knowledge slips away? We've all been there. So, after these reflections ... how well do we really measure up to the standard? How efficient are we?

I also looked up the word "inept." The "Money Words Glossary" said of this word, "incapable of doing something." Now that is a solid statement. I work as a Lab Assistant in the Liberty University Computing Labs and I can think of numerous times when I was just unable to help a student. Of course, there's always the famous inability of the Business Office to produce a loan check or some other such vital piece of information. When it really comes down to it, wherever you go, in any environment, there will always be people who are incapable of doing their job. Simply put, we are inept.

So what am I trying to say? Am I

trying to discourage people from trying at all? On the contrary, I am simply attempting to make a point. One that gave me a rather rude awakening as well. When we look at what being efficient or inept really means, we can see patterns in our lives. We can see how much time we waste and how ineffective we may be. But if we are not at college to learn to be more effective in life, then why are we here? And as Christians if our goal is not to become better, more efficient workers for Christ, then what are we doing? The Bible tells us in James 1:22, "But be ye doers of the word and not hearers only ..." So I would encourage all of us to produce a little more efficiency and start DOING something.

— Chrissy Remsberg

Seniors anchor defense between posts

Hutchison breaks LU career save record

By PAUL PIERSON
Champion Reporter

A flame. Alone its damage is minimal, with potential to ignite and create a stir. The Liberty women's soccer team is a fire. Among its flames is senior goal keeper Shannon Hutchison.

Soft spoken and perhaps a little shy, Shannon could come off to a stranger as being delicate. She seems to have the innocence and beauty of a young rose in a princess's garden. Her easy smile and thirst for Christ make her appear harmless. But don't be fooled, her talents on the field are respected like a knighted warrior in a king's battle.

Shannon has participated on many teams of different sports. While attending high school in Richmond, Va., she played field hockey, basketball and soccer. The latter for only the last six years of her life. Hutchison was named to districts in all three sports and regionals in field hockey.

As the starting forward on her

basketball team, Shannon averaged 12 points and 12 rebounds per game. It happens that soccer was the last sport she attempted.

Her senior year in high school brought athletic honors and spiritual honors as well. Attending an institution of higher education with a Christian atmosphere was extremely important to Shannon, so she chose Liberty. "I wanted to keep my focus on God and grow more in him," Shannon said.

In the spring of '98, Shannon will walk away from Liberty with a degree in Physical Education and a concentration in health. She aspires to be a basketball coach and teacher, and she seeks to spend her life serving God. That same year, she plans to marry her fiancé, who also attended Liberty and participated on the wrestling team in '93.

This year's women's soccer team has seen many changes. The most obvious is new Head Coach James Price. "He's really turned a lot of things around for us," she said. "He's a great coach." The change has resulted in a stiffer competition level and a rise of determination from the team members.

Commenting on how the team has changed Shannon replied, without hesitation, "It's only getting better." She added, "For myself, from when I first came

in, I hadn't been a part of a Christian school team before in my life, and I've really learned and really grown over the years in knowing what it's like to give things, even in sports, to God."

"I wanted to be a Christian that happened to be a soccer player and not a soccer player that happened to be a Christian," Hutchison said.

Her dedication to God can be seen in her life. Her dedication for soccer can be seen in her talent. Hailed as one of the best goal keepers in the Big South Conference in the first game this season, she broke the school record for most career saves (formerly 296) with a current total of 408.

In 1996, she started and finished every game for the Lady Flames, notched over 140 saves and recorded one shutout. 1995 saw Hutchison being honored as second team All Big South and ranked third in the conference with a 1.98 goals allowed average. During her rookie year in '94, Shannon compiled 30 saves and one shutout.

"This season, I want it to be for God," Hutchison said. When many people leave their school, they wish to be remembered as noteworthy persons. Shannon, on the other hand, wishes only that people will say, "She had a heart for God."



Larson, LU defenders stifle opponents

By PAUL PIERSON
Champion Reporter

Success. It's a word that is warmly embraced by anyone or any team. It chooses those who work hard and have the determination to be the best. Usually success attempts to attach itself to a certain type of character. A good example would be Liberty men's soccer goalie, senior Joe Darlod Larson.

For a decade, Larson has laced and relaced his cleats to perform a skill that few can handle, the job of goal keeper. A successful goalie bears many qualities. Communication with his team is crucial. "Just let them know (that you're there) and be mentally supportive," stated Larson.

Dedication to his team and hard work to do whatever it takes to win, make a goalie tough to score against.

In his final season with LU, many coaches consider Larson to be one of the top goalies in the conference.

Leading a strong Flames defensive squad, Larson is expected to again be named, to the All-Conference team this year.

Last year, he was named to the Big South All-Tournament team, 1996 Big South Conference first-team, and second-team All-South Atlantic while posting four shutouts and two split shutouts on the season.

In 1995, Larson shared keep-

er duties with former LU goalie James Price. Price is now Head Coach for Liberty women's soccer. Larson recorded four split shutouts and held five-time national champion UVa. to a scoreless half. During his freshman year, Larson earned Big South All-Tournament and tallied one shutout.

In high school, he allowed just a dozen goals in three years of varsity soccer, and the goalie earned All-State and All-Tournament honors on a team that was rated 19th in the country.

Pretty impressive stats — especially for a person who was told that he would never accomplish anything great in soccer.

to major in Sports Management. "I want to be involved in sports for the rest of my life, (SMGT) is a good major, and it's something that interests me."

Being dedicated to Christ, Larson decided that Liberty would be the best place for him to attend college. "I wanted to play at a Christian school," replied Larson. His dad had worked for the Old Time Gospel Hour, and his brother, Ben, was already at Liberty when Joe decided on a school.

After being on nationally ranked high school soccer teams that won state titles, Larson rates Liberty's '97 team as the best team yet. "We've got a bunch

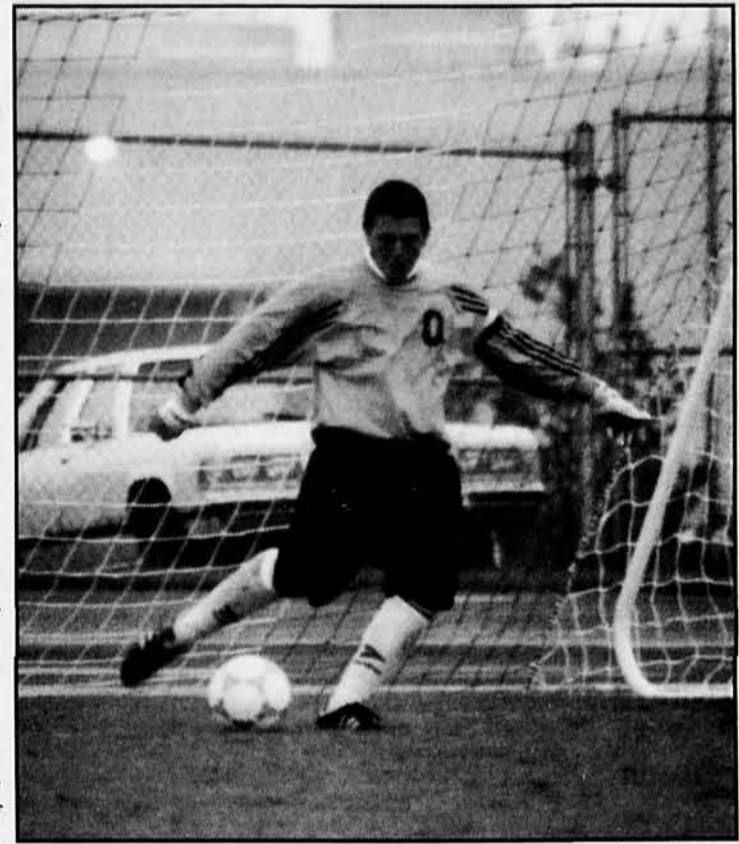
of guys that just wanna work hard," he said.

"They'll do whatever it takes to try to win a game, within the rules. We have a strong bond. A lot of us older guys have been together along time. So this year's pretty special to all of us. We play every game like it's our last game."

One of the biggest differences from past years to this year is attitude. "We look from one game to the next. We don't concentrate on the big picture. It's a

plus because in the past we looked at trying to see the big picture. Now we're focusing on taking it one game at a time," stated Larson.

Leading a Division I athletic team to a successful 9-1 record is tremendous. With his hard work and determination, Larson has proved many of his critics wrong.



LEZAH CROSBY

IRON CURTAIN — LU goalie Joe Larson has only given up 1.23 goals per game this season.



MICHAEL SPEIGHTS

I'LL HUG YOU AND KISS YOU AND CALL YOU GEORGE ... — Lady Flames goalkeeper Shannon Hutchison stops a ball, and records another save.

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W-soccer blanks Flashes

By **MATT KEENAN**
Champion Reporter

The Liberty University women's soccer team pounded the visiting Lady Flashes (2-10) of Kent State 3-0 Saturday, Oct. 4. Liberty's senior forward Jerri Lucido scored two goals, her third and fourth of the season to up the Lady Flashes' record to 5-7. Senior Jessica Kerth accounted for LU's third goal at the 85:40 mark.

Lucido put the Flames on the board 15:28 into the game. Kerth recorded the first assist of her career as she teamed up with

freshman Dana Gianl to assist Lucido who put the shot over the goalie's head.

"Our defense has been doing a great job for us the whole season," Lucido said. "Coach (James Price) told us forwards that we need to start doing our job by putting the ball in the net."

Lucido's early goal accounted for the only scoring of the first half. "We knew that we were going to win today. It was just a matter of when and how," Price said. "They were a physical team, but we just wanted to keep them in their half."

Lucido seemed concerned that her team had only one goal at the half. "In this kind of heat you want to put away a team early," Lucido said.

The Lady Flashes came out in the second half and dominated the action early. Liberty countered Kent State's aggressive play with its own physical strength leading to a lopsided shots-on-goal ratio. For the afternoon, LU out shot the Flashes 21-7.

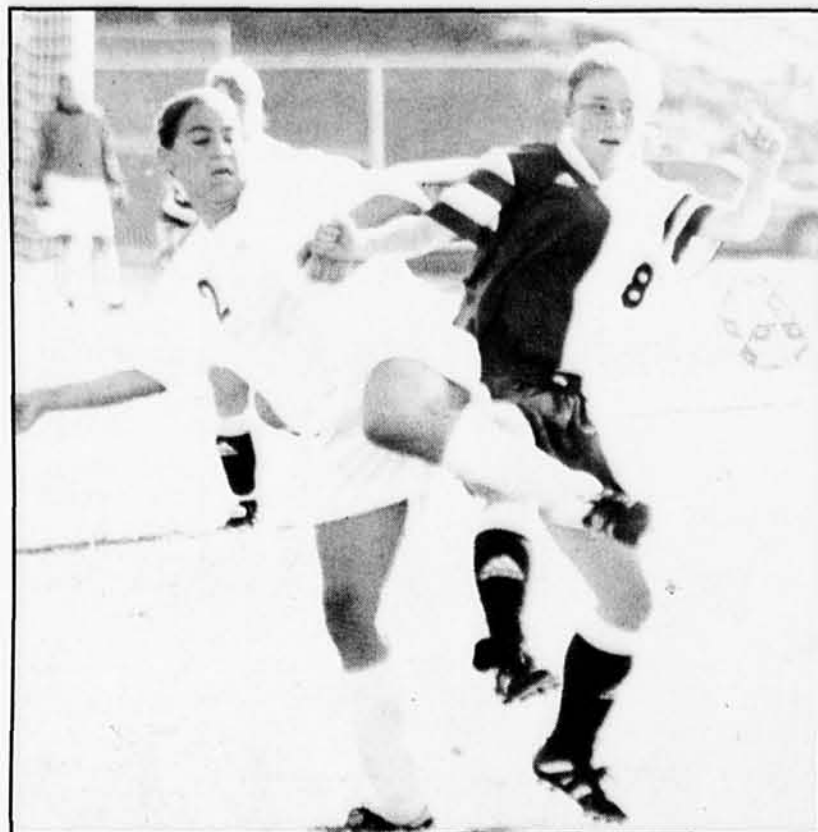
At the 72:22 mark of the game, Liberty's control began to show on the scoreboard as Lucido blasted her second goal of the game into the right corner of the net — unassisted. "Jerri's been coming along for us," Price said. "Both of her goals were pretty aggressive."

Kerth broke the game open for Liberty, scoring an open net goal with less than five minutes to go. The score came courtesy of senior Christina Popoff when she took a shot in front of the goal that sent Kent State's goalie scurrying to secure the net. The ball bounced off the goaltender and Kerth netted a put-back.

On Wednesday, the women dropped a midday heartbreaker to Furman enduring a 1-0 shutout in double overtime. LU's senior goalie Shannon Hutchison outplayed her counterpart from Furman by collecting 8 saves — double the save total for Jen McNutt of Furman.

The break of the game came at the 109th minute as Furman's Tara Brexel collected a crossing pass from Melissa Sutton and lofted the ball over Hutchison's head for the only goal of the game.

The LU women will now face a three-game road trip against Big South foes Radford, South Alabama and Charleston Southern.



SARENA BEASLEY

HAI-YAH! — Lady Flame Dana Gianl battles for position against a Kent State opponent.

Volleyball bags 3-in-a-row

By **KERRY RODRIGUEZ**
Champion Reporter

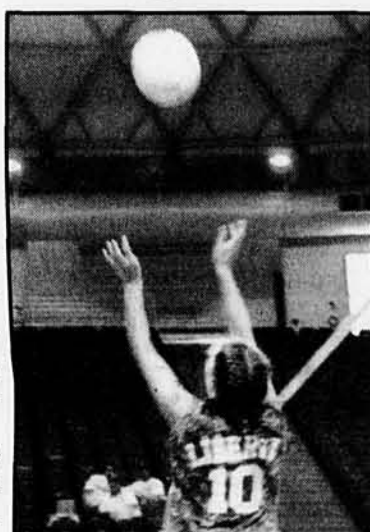
The Lady Flames volleyball team (16-6, 3-1 Big South Conference) rolled through three opponents last week. The squad toppled conference foes UNC Asheville and Winthrop, as well as non-conference opponent, High Point University.

On Saturday, Oct. 4, Liberty battled back from a two sets to one deficit at UNCA, stunned the Lady Bulldogs, 15-6, 11-15, 6-15, 15-9, 15-13.

Leading the team in kills, LU's Anthonia Akpama hammered 18 balls as teammate Kyrle Dorn nailed 14 kills, in Liberty's offensive effort.

Angela Brookshire led the Flames' defense with 18 digs. Other contributors were Athena Sherwood, with 15 digs and Dorn, with 10 digs.

UNCA controlled the match, coming out on top in nearly every area, except the final score. The Lady Bulldogs out-killed Liberty by 14, out-set the Flames by seven, out-



SARENA BEASLEY

RAISE YOUR HANDS IF YOU'RE SURE — Ashley Fletcher sets up an LU win.

blocked LU by two and made the same number of digs.

However, Liberty did manage to tally two more service aces and four fewer errors than their Big South opponent. Athena Sherwood led the Flames in service aces with eight.

"I think that this is the best match that I've played so far this season," Akpama said. "We played very well as a team against UNC Asheville. ... I have a lot of confidence in our team."

The Flames' other conference win came at the expense of the Winthrop Eagles. LU cruised to a 15-8, 15-6, 15-12 victory.

The Lady Flames had little trouble in ousting visiting High Point University 15-11, 15-4, 15-1 Monday. Akpama led Liberty in kills and digs with eight apiece.

The Lady Flames travel to Campbell University on Tuesday, Oct. 7, and opponents Charleston Southern University and Coastal Carolina University at home on Friday night and Saturday afternoon, respectively.

Nation's No. 4 team halts LU win streak

— Continued from Page 12

individual totals in the country. "Robbie's injury definitely had a toll on the game," junior Flames defender Ben Johnson said.

"The rest of the team is going to have to step up their games to compensate for his loss," senior midfielder Ryan Trumbo added.

Wednesday, the Flames traveled to the UVA, seeking revenge for last year's tough 2-1 loss. This year's results were somewhat the same as the Flames came out on the losing side again as Virginia sealed a 5-2 win.

Liberty got on the board first with a penalty kick made good by freshman Derek Avilez. The nationally ranked Cavaliers didn't let that goal slip by without a response.

Less than three minutes later, UVA forward Brian West put in a header off a cross to even up the score at one apiece.

According to Liberty players, mental errors cost them a 4-1 half-time deficit, as they allowed Virginia's senior forward Matt Leonard to score three goals within 20 minutes — to tally a hat trick for the night.

In the second period UVA's offense was held to only one goal, scored again by West, soon after the start of the half.

For the final Flames goal of the contest, junior midfielder Tim Wood headed in a Johnson cross to bring the pointspread to three.

"It was a great learning experience," LU Assistant Coach Jeff Alder said. "We know that we did not play as well as we could have against UVA. We can build on this loss."

Liberty starts the toughest part of its schedule this week, playing four must-win conference games in a row. The Flames travel to Winthrop Wednesday, Oct. 8, and then return home to play host to South Alabama Friday, Oct. 10, at 7 p.m.



PATRICK FAY

INJURY — A fractured leg in the game vs. Elon ended Flames assist leader Rob Weaver's season.

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National Football League

21 Green Bay Packers (4-2)
16 Tampa Bay Buccaneers (5-1)
 Brett Favre threw three touchdown passes to lead the Packers over the Bucs. The Bucs lost for the first time this season. Gabe Wilkins of Green Bay highlighted the day with a 77-yard interception return for a touchdown.

42 Pittsburgh Steelers (3-2)
34 Baltimore Ravens (3-4)
 Kordell Stewart passed for three-second half touchdowns against the Ravens to overcome a 21-point deficit. Stewart finished with 328 yards of total offense and Jerome Bettis ran for 137 yards for the victorious Steelers.

22 Buffalo Bills (3-2)
13 Detroit Lions (3-3)
 Bruce Smith tackled Barry Sanders in the end zone for a safety with 2:12 remaining in the fourth quarter to give the Bills the lead. Antwan Smith added a 56-yard touchdown run to clinch to victory for Buffalo.

21 Jacksonville Jaguars (4-1)
13 Cincinnati Bengals (1-4)

Mark Brunell threw for 164 yards and three touchdowns to secure the victory for the AFC Central leaders. The Bengals have lost four straight games after winning on opening day.

17 Miami Dolphins (3-2)
14 Kansas City Chiefs (4-2)
 Olindo Mare kicked a 26-yard field goal with 5:40 remaining to give the Dolphins the win. The Chiefs' four game winning streak ended on Sunday.

20 New York Giants (3-3)
17 Dallas Cowboys (3-2)
 New York Safety Tilo Wooten returned an interception 61 yards for a touchdown to give the Giants their third victory of the year. The Cowboys failed to kick a potential game tying field goal as time expired in the game.

24 Philadelphia Eagles (2-5)
10 Washington Redskins (3-2)
 Ricky Watters ran for 104 yards and two touchdowns as the Eagles defeated the Redskins. Watters carried 31 times for his second 100-yard rushing game of the season.

20 Minnesota Vikings (4-2)
19 Arizona Cardinals (1-4)
 Eddie Murray kicked a 38-yard field goal with 10 seconds left as the Vikings came back from a nine point fourth quarter deficit to beat the Cards.

25 San Diego Chargers (3-3)
10 Oakland Raiders (2-4)
 The Chargers won their second straight game. Greg Davis kicked six field goals to lead the Chargers in scoring.

13 Tennessee Oilers (1-4)
16 Seattle Seahawks (3-3)
 The Seahawks rallied from a 10 point half-time deficit to defeat the Oilers. Steve Broussard, the Seahawks third string runningback rushed for two touchdowns in the second half.

16 New York Jets (4-2)
12 Indianapolis Colts (0-5)
 The Jets have won three straight games for the first time since 1993. Meanwhile, the Colts are off to their worst start since 1991. Adrian Murrell carried 30 times for 99 yards to lead the Jets.

Collegiate Football Results

1. Florida (5-0)
 The nation's top-ranked team showed no signs of slowing down as Florida blasted Arkansas 56-7. Gator quarterback Doug Johnson threw for 232 yards on 18-of-30 passing.

2. Penn State (4-0)
 Penn State extended the nation's longest winning streak to nine games by defeating Illinois 41-6. PSU quarterback Mike McQueary threw for an impressive 266 yards, while completing 13-of-21 passes. The fighting Illini plummeted to 6-5 with the loss.

3. Nebraska (4-0)
 Nebraska continued its quest for a national championship by beating Kansas State 56-26. After taking last week off, the Cornhuskers came ready to play, and did not give KSU a chance for victory.

4. Florida State (4-0)
 The Florida State Seminoles handed the

Miami Hurricanes their worst shutout loss since 1927 on Saturday, by blanking them 47-0. FSU quarterback Thad Busby threw for 230 yards, while the Seminole defense held Miami to 13 total yards.

5. North Carolina (5-0)
 North Carolina continued on a perfect season by beating Winkless Texas Christian 31-10. The Tarheels benefitted from great performances out of quarterback tandem Chris Kelduff and Oscar Davernport.

6. Michigan (4-0)
 The Michigan Wolverines hammered Big Ten rival Indiana 37-0 on Saturday. The Wolverines scored 38 points in the second quarter to eliminate all hope for the Hoosiers. Michigan's defense caused five Hoosier turnovers.

7. Ohio State (5-0)
 Ohio State played a nearly perfect game against Big Ten foe Iowa, beating them 23-7. OSU sophomore linebacker Andy

Katzmoyer helped hold the Hawkeyes to 82 rushing yards.

8. Auburn (5-0)
 Auburn continued their perfect season by beating South Carolina 23-6 on Saturday. Tiger quarterback Dameyune Craig completed 24-of-39 passes, while throwing for 321 yards. The Game Cocks were held without a touchdown throughout the entire game.

9. Tennessee (4-1)
 Heisman Trophy candidate Peyton Manning led the Volunteers to a 31-17 victory, throwing for 324 yards and two touchdowns. Tennessee tailback Jamal Lewis rushed 22 times for 155 yards.

10. Washington (3-1)
 The Washington Huskies remained in the top 10 by beating Arizona State 28-14. Washington moved to 7-2 all-time against the Sun Devils.

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BACK PATCH STUDY: Males & Females, age 18 and over. Starts Wed. 10/8/97 through Wed. 10/29/97 through the hours of 3:30-5:30 pm. 10 visits over 4 weeks. STUDY PAYS \$60

BACKPATCH STUDY: Males & Females with fair skin, ages 18 and over. Starts Tues. 10/14/97 (Tues. thru Fri.) through 10/31/97, 2 week rest period. Last visits 11/17/97-11/21/97. Approximately 19 visits over 6 weeks. STUDY PAYS \$100

BACKPATCH STUDY: Males & Females with fair skin, ages 18 and over. Starts Mon. 10/27/97 through Thurs. 10/31/97, 5 visits over 1 week. STUDY PAYS \$200

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The Champion Sports

Fighting Christians meet fiery demise Flames trounce Elon 41-9; Liberty protects untarnished record

By LAURELEI MILLER
Sports Editor

After the Flames' three-play first drive of the football game put seven points on the board, Elon College took the ball and ran with it, to no avail.

A well-rounded Liberty effort clobbered Elon's Fighting Christians 41-9 in an afternoon sweat-a-thon, Saturday, Oct. 4.

The lopsided win dropped Elon to 3-2 for the season and preserved LU's undefeated record, sending the final tally to 4-0 on the season.

Implementing almost solely a wishbone offense, Elon counted on rushing the ball via the quarterback option or a hand-off to its runningbacks.

Its above-ground game was completely ineffective, as the Fighting Christians picked up just three of eight reception attempts.

Liberty's aerial attack was more than EC could handle. LU quarterback Ben Anderson completed 254 passing yards in just 13 completions. A performance that propelled him into 10th place in NCAA standings.

Anderson repeatedly initiated big passing plays that moved the ball quickly. Of the Flames' five touchdowns, four occurred after a drive of less than 1:30, including a two-play, :36 possession one minute before intermission. LU's quarterback saw wide receiver Courtney Freeman entirely

open and connected for an 86-yard reception and touchdown sprint.

While the Flames struggled in the opening half to light a fire on the ground, (rushing for only 22 of 248 net yards) running back Stacey Nobles came out of the locker room on a mission.

In the second half Nobles out-matched Elon's defensive line as he added two more touchdowns to his previous one and finished the game with 156 yards rushing. Nobles was the last Flame to rush for more than 100 yards when he tallied 139 yards on just seven carries eight games ago, versus Charleston Southern, Oct. 26, 1996.

"We just knew we needed to balance it out, and we just wanted to establish the run in the second half, and it worked

out," Nobles said.

Sophomore Flame Alonzo Matthews upped the point spread to 31 with a touchdown when the fourth quarter clock read 1:29.

Pulling in 144 yards on eight receptions, Robert Butz also contributed greatly to the Flames' surge.

Liberty's defense threw its weight around and held EC to two field goals and a touchdown (with missed two-point conversion.) Senior Joe Stone and sophomore Ramsey Moore each tallied a sack for two 10-yard losses in the facoff.

Elon netted 252 yards in the game to LU's 476. As in LU's past three games, the Flames dominated the turnover ratio, forcing three fumbles.

Placekicker Phil Harrelson booted a career-best field goal of 42 yards in the game along with another field goal and five extra points.

"Our kicking game has been really special, covering kicks, making plays," Head Coach Sam Rutigliano said. "Six field goals in a row ... that's how you avoid losing games."

One of the biggest problems that the Flames dealt with was penalties. Liberty accumulated 13 penalties for a loss of 113 yards.

"Penalties continually hurt us during the entire game," Rutigliano said. "But big plays overcame it. Our pass protection was just outstanding."

The Flames will spend this week preparing for the Homecoming game and according to Coach Sam, their most formidable foe yet in Hampton.



IT AIN'T "NO BULL" — Flames running back Stacey Nobles muscled his way past an Elon opponent. Nobles scored three touchdowns in the game, and amassed 156 yards of rushing in the 41-9 domination of the Fighting Christians Saturday, Oct. 4.



EAT MY DUST — With no one else in sight, Liberty's Courtney Freeman caught a Ben Anderson bomb, and cruised into the endzone.



laureleimiller

"Just Do what?"

Nike says, "Just do it." Do what? Their ads and commercials highlight athletes who remain determined to accomplish what they set out to accomplish, despite muddy, sweaty bloody odds.

Part of Nike's message is to be yourself, which they interpret, "just do" whatever you want.

Such a generalized statement offers a myriad of possible applications. Sometimes slogans are like life. Perspective shapes meaning.

When your car breaks down, you can kick the tires, collapse to the ground in a puddle of tears, rant and rave like a 4-year-old, or calmly realize that it could have been a worse problem. Or it could have happened at a worse place, and many people in the world are much worse off than you.

Attitude carries a powerful punch and it leaves an indelible mark on others who see your life.

If Nike says, "Just Do It" they could mean: make a statement.

It's a statement that is an unmistakable scream for attention. Few people would get the impression that he has a positive, healthy outlook on life. Terms like "freak," "eyesore," and "dirty player" would sooner be mentioned within the same sentence. His "delicate" side is a bit too delicate.

Just because some people make the wrong statement, doesn't mean that standing out is bad altogether.

In fact, it's important for Christians and Christian athletes to counter the world's "bad apples" with positivity, and an attitude that reveals a difference.

After a minor scuffle between a Liberty and an Elon player interrupted the end of Saturday's football game, the mood was still tense as the clock ran out.

Instead of letting one incident influence the impression of the whole team and sending Elon home with a bad taste in its mouth, the Flames invited the Fighting Christians to join in a dual squad prayer.

As sweaty members of the two teams formed a circle to pray and ended with a rendition of "Victory in Jesus," I thought, "Wow, they're taking a stand and making a statement with their attitudes."

Liberty running back Stacey Nobles shot off the line of scrimmage like a cannon stuffed too full of gun-powder, when he ran 55 yards for his third touchdown of the game. The moment he crossed the goal line, he dropped to his knees and gave every ounce of credit to God. I thought, "That's the best thing about our football team."

It may be undefeated, but the guys on the team care about leaving a lasting impression with more than their abilities, with their attitudes.

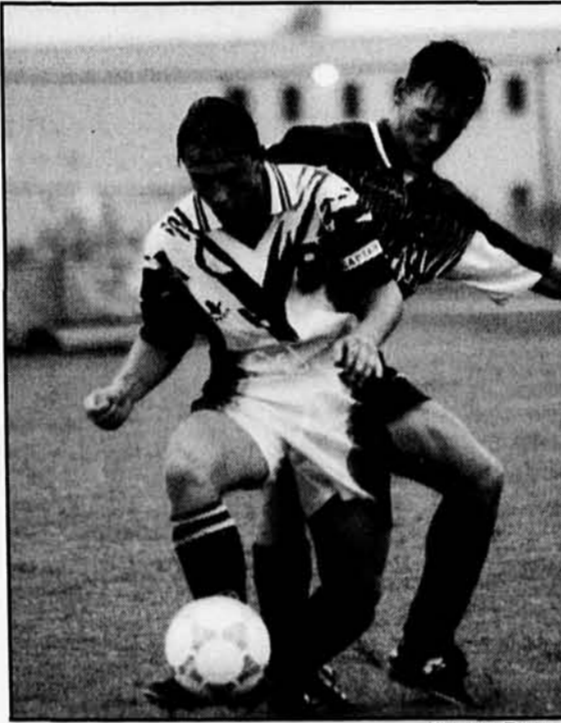
Ten years from now, fans may not remember our team's record or who we defeated. They'd be more likely to remember the way a team presents itself.

I'll always remember my trip on the team bus to the girl's NCAA basketball tournament. They sang and gave testimonies the whole way. They left an impression in my mind. They made a statement.

It's important for Christians to stand out against the world. So if Nike says "Just Do It," and means, "Be yourself, and make a statement," then "Just Do It."

Top 10 THINGS TO DO AT LU SPORTING EVENTS

1. Throw marshmallows at opposing football players.
2. Toss "York" peppermint patties onto the ice during hockey contests and watch the ensuing mayhem.
3. Bring your own pom-poms and a megaphone; the cheerleaders can always use some help.
4. Roil head first down the Vines Center stairs.
5. Put your classroom antics to good use; fly a paper plane into a car's sun roof and drive it home.
6. Watch a) six-year-old gymnasts, b) six-year-old basketball players, or c) six-year-old karate experts during basketball half-times.
7. Slap a high-five with the No. 1 Fan.
8. Move and jive to the groovy tunes of the Spirit of the Mountain Marching Band.
9. Do the wave — but not the Miss Liberty kind.
10. Feed and clothe yourself at one of LU's volleyball matches.



TWO-STEPPING — LU midfielder Rob Weaver keeps a Campbell defender at his back during the Sept. 24 contest. An injury

Soccer wins 9th; loses assist leader

By AMY BENNETT
Champion Reporter

After sustaining its first loss of the season to UVA Wednesday, Oct. 1, Liberty's men's soccer team bounced back Saturday and defeated Elon College 1-0 to finish the week 9-1, 2-0 Big South Conference. The win keeps LU's undefeated home streak alive and dropped Elon's season record to 1-8.

The Flames capitalized early in the first half when freshman scoring leader Gary Ricketts put the lone score on the board off of a Ben Johnson and Ryan Trumbo pass. The goal was Rickett's ninth of the season as LU out-shot the Fighting Christians 17-4 in the game.

Despite the victory, the Flames took a major blow that could affect the rest of their contests. Less than 25 minutes into the game, junior assist leader Rob Weaver was slide-tackled by an Elon player and had to be taken off the field in an ambulance. He will miss the remainder of the season with a fractured leg. In the Flames' 10 games, Weaver tallied eight assists, one of the top

— Please see Injury, Page 10

Golf squad sinks 2nd place finish in tournament

By MIKE DETMER
Champion Reporter

The Liberty golf team missed first place by ten strokes, but claimed second place in a field of nine at the finish of a two-day competition at the Virginia State Championship.

In individual results, Flames Dan Willis and Jon Wolfe tied for second place, each with a final score of 151, only two strokes behind James Madison University's golfer Bryan Jackson who shot a five-over-par, 149.

The Flames crippled Stony Creek Country Club's fast greens and 36 hole, 6,700 yard, par 72

course and came out with a team score of 615 — a score good enough to subdue the seven other Division I schools by up to an 86 stroke margin.

LU's senior Willis and junior Wolfe each shot 78 to help earn a first day team score of 311, and both gave one-over-par 73 stroke contributions to a second day team score of 304.

Rookie freshman Tom Giles shot 155 to aid Liberty's team efforts, while veteran seniors pulled their weight. Jared Albert shot a 159, and Mark Setsma a 169 in Liberty's silver medal performance.



"SMALL" STEPS GET THE JOB DONE — Forward Michelle Small fights for position.

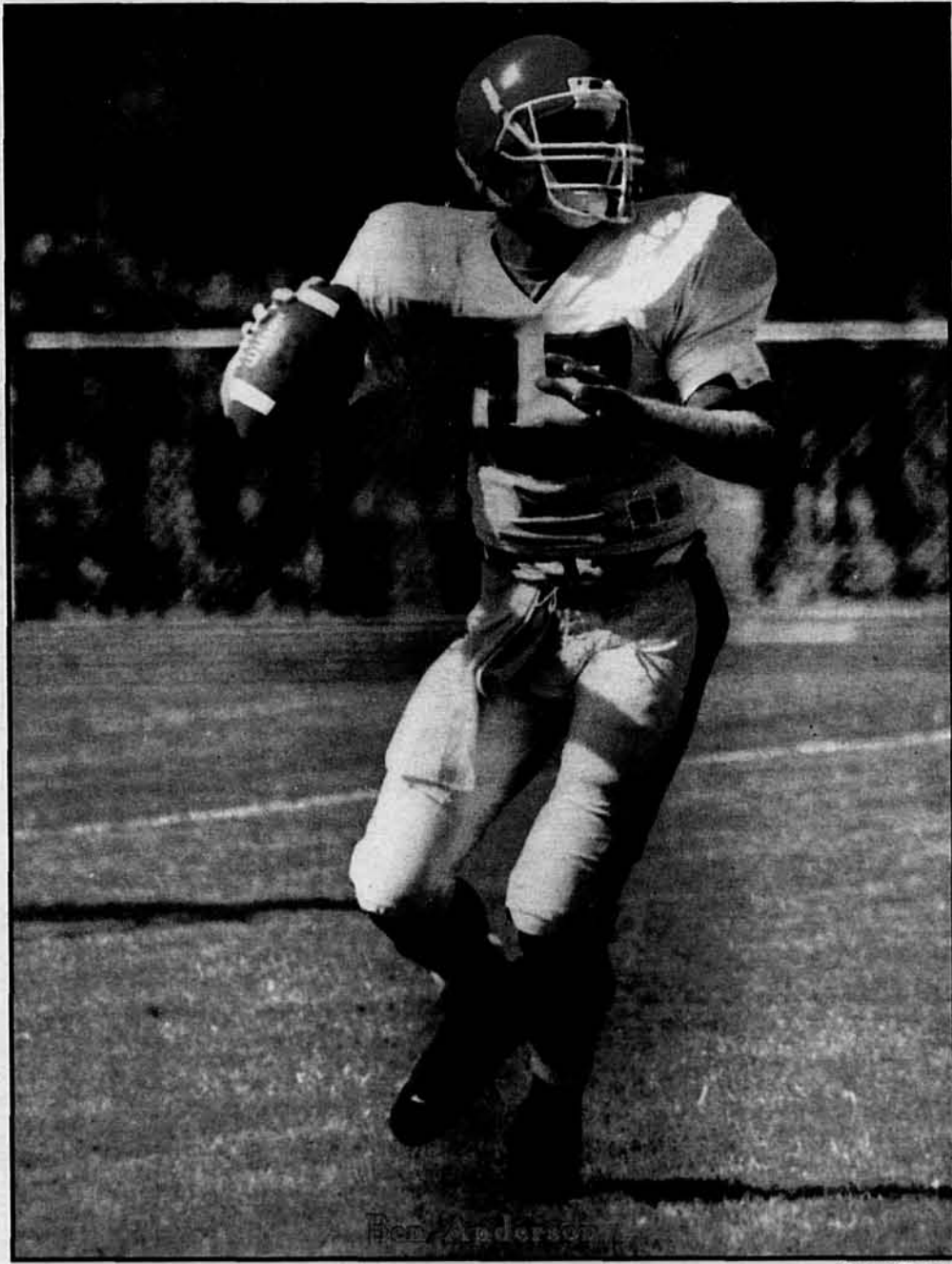
Special Edition
**The Liberty
 Champion**

Homecoming Preview

Tuesday, October 7, 1997

Liberty University, Lynchburg, Va.

Homecoming Preview, Page 1

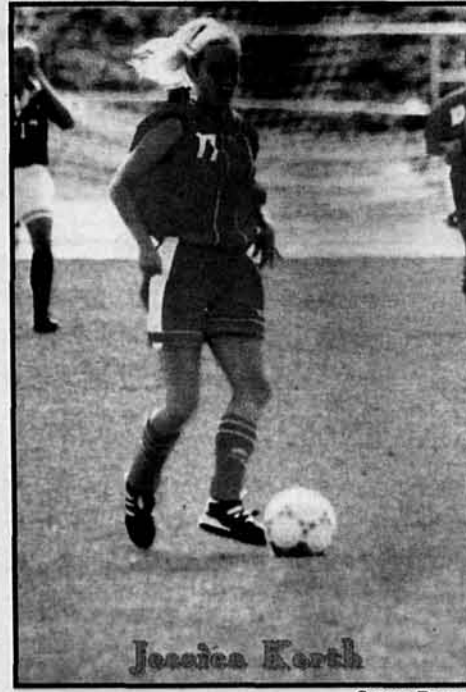


Ben Anderson

SARENA BEASLEY



TED WOOLFORD



Jessica Kerth

SARENA BEASLEY



David Johnson

LEZAH CROSBY



Spirit of the Mountain Marching Band

SARENA BEASLEY

Inside ...

P.2 *Miss Liberty:
 The Final Five*

P.3 *Getting to know
 the "Flame Thrower"*

P.4 *Men's Soccer is
 on a roll*

P.5 *The 'Big Game:
 Liberty vs. Hampton*

P.6 *'Beneath the Feathers*

P.6 *Fire in the Sky*

P.7 *Statistical Rankings*

Homecoming Preview, October 7, 1997
 Liberty University, Lynchburg, Va.

Trista Dene Pinkard is a 21-year-old Elementary Education major. She envisions teaching on the mission field after graduating from Liberty. If given the opportunity, she would like to share the gospel with the people of northern India.



Trista Pinkard

"After being there with them, I have a special desire to see them again and the only topic they need to hear about is how to know Jesus," Pinkard said. Ms. Pinkard's parents are William and Parr Pinkard.

Jennifer Lynne Ward is a 20-year-old Elementary Education major from Cheltenham, Md. After graduation, she sees herself teaching elementary school. If selected as Miss Liberty, Ms. Ward would like to address the nation's youth.



Jennifer Ward

"If I could communicate to such at-risk students that their life has meaning and a purpose, then I will be leaving with them a message of hope for their future," Ward said. Ms. Ward's parents are Roy and Wanda Ward.

Sarah St. John is a 23-year-old Elementary Education major from Jacksonville, Fl. who wants to teach in the public school system upon graduation. If given the opportunity to travel the country, St. John would choose to speak to young women on the topic of self-image.



Sarah St. John

"I think that too often we as women fail to realize our inner qualities and worth," St. John said. "As a result, our personal relationships and achievements suffer."

Kaley Hill is a 21-year-old Elementary Education major from Binghamton, N.Y. Upon graduation from Liberty, she wants to teach third or fourth grade. If given the opportunity Hill would choose to speak to youth.



Kaley Hill

"I strongly believe that if youth in America understood what it meant to be close to Jesus, the impact they would have on our country would be greater than we can imagine," Hill said. Ms. Hill is the daughter of Douglas and Nancy Hill.

the Quest FOR THE Crown

By Jennifer Pillath

Sunday Rae Beckman is a 22-year-old FACS major from Cincinnati, OH. After graduating from LU, she hopes to work with youth. If chosen as Miss Liberty, Beckman would speak to youth about the need for a relationship with God.



Sunday Beckman

"Today's youth is the foundation of our society and we are responsible for training them," Beckman said. Ms. Beckman is the daughter of Richard Beckman and Bonnie Hopper.

The competition for the title of Miss Liberty has now entered its final round. With only five young women left in the contest, the student body will have the chance to vote for their representative for the '97/'98 school year during convocation on Oct. 10.

The field had been narrowed to 21 competitors early last week. The traditional top 20 was altered due to a tie.

Dean of Student Life, Mike Stewart extended his congratulations to the top 21. "Even being selected as one of 21 is a pretty big deal," Stewart said. "It does say something."

Due to the early homecoming weekend, several senior ladies were left off of the voting ballot. "We're sorry, but there was nothing we could do at that point," said Stewart.

The top five women will have the chance to give a testimony in convocation before the student vote is taken. As in years past, a senior's vote will be worth five points, a junior's four, a sophomore's three and a freshman's one.

On Saturday, Oct. 11, the new Miss Liberty will be crowned by reigning Miss Liberty Katerina Terzic at the Homecoming football game.

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Getting to know Liberty's "Flame Thrower"

By **MATT SWINEHART**
Editor in Chief

As leader of the Flames' 4-0 fire, senior quarterback Ben Anderson fully understands the team aspect of his sport.

Proving that he is an offensive force to be reckoned with, Anderson has completed 52 of 97 passes for 992 yards and 6 touchdowns on the season. However, Ben doesn't let the numbers get to him. After last week's trouncing of Elon College, he remarked, "We won 41-9 today. ... What do I care if I threw for 10 yards or if I threw for 270 yards? My personal goal is to help the team win, whatever it takes."

The attitude is contagious amongst team members. "There's no 'Hey, I scored this touchdown or I got this quarterback sack,' it's always turned directly upon the team," Anderson said.

Football has been part of Anderson's life for a long time, dating all the way back to his infancy.

"When I came out of the womb

I went ahead and threw a bomb," Anderson joked. "I guess if you count backyard style (I've played football) ... pretty much all my life." Anderson recalls roughing around with his older brother. "He knocked about three of my teeth out," Anderson said.

Ben was the lone athlete in the family. "My mother, father and brother all played in the band. So, when it came time to choose

between band and football, ... I chose football."

But football wasn't all Anderson choose. Ben excelled in more than one sport. At Chapin High School (S.C.), Ben sank shots in basketball, smacked hits in baseball and ran track in addition to his roles on the grid iron.

On the high school hardwood and gridiron, Anderson compiled two-time All-State, All-Conference,

All-District and All-Region honors.

Anderson admits that he didn't originally intend to come to Liberty. But now, "I'm glad I did," he said. "Regardless of if you're the starting quarterback or starting point guard on the basketball team, if you don't like the people you're around, you need to find another place. I like the people I'm around; I like the people at Liberty University."

Anderson's parents, John and Carol Anderson have backed up all of their son's athletic endeavors. "My parents have gone to every game, home and away. They've been really supportive, very encouraging," Anderson said.

In between his busy schedule — juggling his exercise science major and biology minor — Anderson

says he enjoys taking in a round of golf. "I always get my money's worth when I go out there," he said. "I'm gonna hit between 90 and 120 shots a game."

"Actually, (golf is) something that kind of relaxes me. It's totally different than football," Anderson said more seriously. "Sometimes, I get in those open weeks and the last thing I wanna think about is 'what blitz,' so I just go out and hit a couple (golf balls)."

While the football team's long-term goal is to make the playoffs, Anderson understands that it must be done step-by-step. "Things will take care of themselves," he said. "If you prepare each week for each team and win each game, you'll find yourself in the playoffs."



TED WOOLFORD

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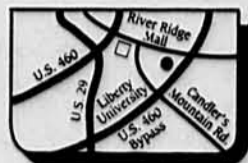
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Liberty's soccer squad rolls to 9-1

By **AMY BENNETT**
Champion Reporter

The Flame cannot be extinguished. Georgetown tried, VMI tried, Marshall tried, and the list goes on.

Each of these teams came out with a game plan of defeating Liberty's men's soccer team, and each of these, and more, have failed.

Although they've suffered their first loss of the season, Liberty's squad is not distracted and will still continue to chase after the Big South Championship.

The start of the '97 men's soccer season has been the best in school history. After last year's injury-plagued squad finished at 11-6-2, the guys came back determined to make the most of their talent.

Added to the already gifted team, came rookie forwards Jose Gomez (five goals, one assist) and Gary Ricketts (eight goals, four assists) and midfielders freshman Derek Avilez (three goals, one assist)

and junior transfer from England, Rob Weaver (two goals, eight assists). These four account for 18 of the 24 Liberty goals on the year.

"The addition of Gomez, Ricketts, Weaver and Avilez gave us more depth since we lost Klan Brownlee and Troy McLean to injuries," assistant coach Jeff Alder said.

Gomez also added that not just one person is scoring, it's a team effort.

Not only are the Flames scoring goals like never before, but the defense is working just as hard to keep opposing teams from scoring.

Before the loss to UVa., LU's defense, led by senior goalie Joe Larson, sported a .75 goal against average. Even after the game, Liberty still defends only a 1.22 goal against average.

Last year's first team Big South goalkeeper, Larson, has already tallied 43 saves and three shutouts. He has only given up 11 goals on the year, five of those coming against Virginia alone.

The underlying factor of LU's success is attributed to God by all the team members.

"We have a good team, but the Lord's really blessed us," senior midfielder Ryan Trumbo said.

Junior defender Ben Johnson agreed, "We never look past one game to the next,

just one game at a time."

The most challenging part of their schedule is yet to come. This week kicks off four straight conference games, with three of those games being at home, where LU is still unbeaten for the year.

This team has talent, character,

leadership and determination. They will not be satisfied until they play up to their potential. There is room for improvement.

The outcome of the season will depend on whether or not the team works on improving in the areas where they are now making mistakes.

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The First Cow Jumps Over The Moon



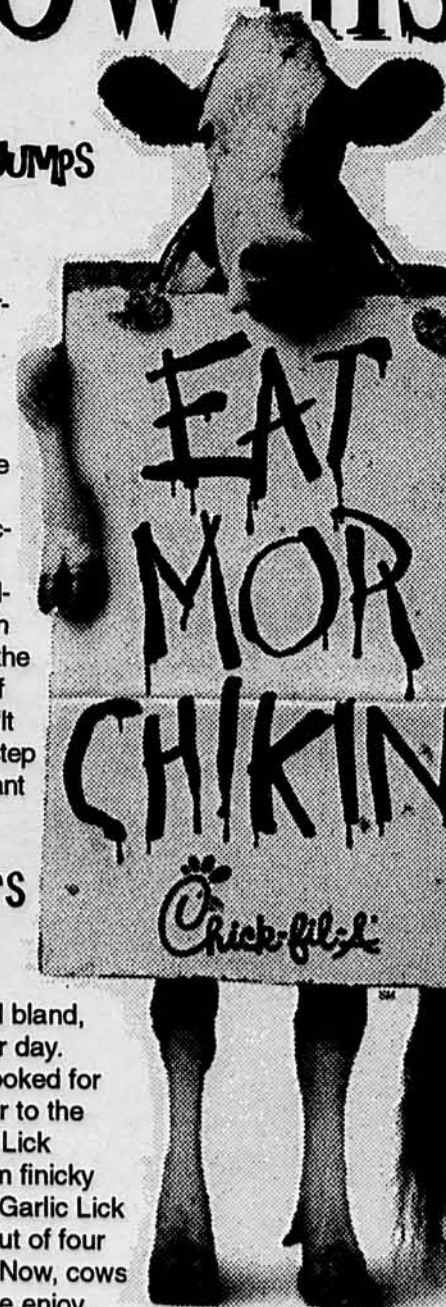
This fearless adventurer won the hearts of cows everywhere when he made the first lunar leap. The taste of victory was especially sweet because horses had simultaneously been working on secret technology toward the same goal. In the words of the cowsmonaut himself: "It was, mooooo, one small step for me, mooooo, and a giant leap for bovine kind."

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LEZAH CROSBY

I AM MICHAEL, HEAR ME "ROHR" — Flames senior Mike Rohrer carries the ball upfield as he eyes the goal.

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The Big Game: LU vs. Hampton

By **MARK HOGSED**
Champion Reporter

The football Flames will attempt to improve their record to 5-0 against the Hampton University Pirates in this season's Homecoming game, Saturday at 7:30 p.m. in Williams Stadium.

After coming off a disappointing season last year, which left the team just under .500, at 5-6, HU currently stands at an impressive 3-1. The frustration of last season led to Hampton's '97 football theme- "Unfinished Business." This theme simply means that opponents should be aware of the Pirates presence, because they are legitimate and will not be denied.

Sixth-year Head Coach Joe Taylor has had great success with the Pirates, leading the team to an overall 47-14-1 record since his arrival in 1992. Coach Taylor, however, is 0-3 against Liberty, which leads the all-time series 4-0.

Hampton, a member of the Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference, lost only five lettermen from the '96 team and has eight returning offensive and 10 returning defensive starters.

Sophomore quarterback Roy Johnson will keep the Flames defense busy, as he is averaging nearly 130 passing yards per contest. Johnson threw for more than 1,700 yards and 10 touchdowns last season.

The Pirates will rely heavily

on a strong backfield, consisting of fullback Tyrone Mayer and running back Charles Jackson. Mayer was named All-MEAC in 1996, rushing for nearly 1,000 yards, while Jackson is averaging 110 yards per game in the '97 campaign, which is second in the MEAC.

Pre-season All-MEAC Lamont Turner, a 6'7" 295 pound offensive lineman, will also try to leave a lasting impression on the LU defense.

Although the Pirates are expecting a good game from the offense, the defense is looked at as the strong point this year. The backfield is the focal point of the defense.

Senior Kyle Payne, who doubles as a receiver, leads Hampton with two intercep-

tions this season and will work with fellow cornerback David Turner to try to contain the Flames offense. All-MEAC selection Jay Clarke, who had 50 tackles in 1996, will assume his role at free-safety.

So far this season, HU is averaging 330 total yards per game, nearly 30 points per game and is giving up 270 yards per game.

When Liberty met Hampton last year, the game ended in a 34-30 victory for the Flames. An interception by the Flames Torrey Rush sealed the victory for LU, and prevented what could have been a scoring drive for the Pirates. Hampton will be looking for revenge after last years heart-breaking loss.

As ninth-year Head Coach

Sam Rutigliano leads his team onto the field Sat., he will once again rely on senior quarterback Ben Anderson for offensive leadership. Anderson will look to targets such as Brannan Duncan to get the job done.

Liberty's defense has also been playing well all year. In last weeks contest versus Delaware State, LU's defense caused five turnovers, and will be counted on to do the same against Hampton.

This season's Homecoming match-up promises to be exciting, as both Liberty and Hampton are having good seasons and are fighting for a top 25 spot in the national I-AA poll.

Alumni return to alma mater for homecoming

By **BECKY WALKER**
Life Editor

Next week, alumni will be flocking back to Liberty for Homecoming weekend. It will be a time of reminiscing and catching-up for past LU students and a time for alumni to get caught up in the school spirit of their alma mater.

Mark Smith, co-director of the alumni association for the past two years, said that they are expecting up to 600 alumni next weekend.

The first event planned for the alumni is the annual alumni banquet. The banquet is scheduled for Friday on Oct. 10 and will be hosted by Dr. Jerry Falwell, Dr. Borek and Dr. Guillermin.

During the banquet, several

alumni will be awarded the Eagle Outstanding Alumni Award. The award is given to alumni who were nominated by fellow alumni

through a ballot which was sent to them in the mail.

To keep the tradition, dinner entertainment will also be brought in for the alumni banquet. Last year the alumni who attended the banquet dined to music by Christian singer, Wayne Watson. This year banquet attendees will be entertained by the Christian group,

"Truth." The dinner costs \$20 per person and \$35 per couple.



On Saturday from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., an alumni picnic will be held before the Homecoming game at William Stadium. The cook-out style lunch with all the trimmings will be catered by Marriott. The cost is \$5 per person.

The awaited football game against Hampton Univ. will then end the Homecoming events at 7:30 p.m.

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Banquet at the Reber-Thomas Dining Hall: \$20

Sat., Oct. 11, 11:30 a.m.
Alumni picnic at Williams Stadium: \$5

7:30 p.m.
Football game:
LU vs. Hampton
Fireworks will follow

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Beneath the feathers

By **MIKE DETMER**
Champion Reporter

Here's a riddle: "In name it's a flame, but in body a bird." No guesses? How 'bout a hint, his attendance is required at every Liberty home football or men's basketball game. The answer is obvious — or should be — the Liberty mascot. But, why an eagle when Liberty calls itself the Flames?

The Bird's answer was this: Liberty's motto is "Knowledge Aflame," a slogan that embraces and includes liberty, honor, justice, truth, etc.— things the Olympic flame and the American eagle stand for, all rolled into one. This concept is best represented by, coincidentally, an eagle. His reasoning: an eagle can portray — with some degree of accuracy — a range of emotions, serious, and not, while a flame (how would you make his costume?) would most likely be condemned to a perpetual existence of ludicrousness.

Without a person inside, the eagle would just be a bird suit that is 60 degrees warmer than the outside, with a 20 pound head. Who is that man inside the costume, the one that holds Liberty's image in his curved beak, the one who can make or break everything the eagle is, does or stands for?

When the head pops off of the hot Eagle suit at the close of a game, a smiling red-head with freckles wipes the sweat off his brow, and heads for the showers. LU junior Paul Pierson is the man inside the bird. He hails from Toledo, Ohio, but spent his first 16 years in Detroit — hence his undying support of any and every professional Detroit sports team.

He boasts a dual major of Sports Management/Business and a minor in journalism, while many students have a hard time simply declaring a major.

Paul's hobbies include snowboarding (he's a nine-year veteran), reading (he reads roughly 15 books a month — mostly fantasy) and sports. Speaking of sports, Paul began wrestling



TED WOOLFORD

ATTACK!!! — The Liberty mascot caught in action

in fourth grade and was the captain of his high school wrestling team. He was the starting tailback during his senior year on the high school football team (he averaged five yards per carry) and he was unanimously voted "most enthusiastic" by his football teammates. He also played attack on Liberty's club lacrosse team.

However, sports aren't everything to Paul. He has a brother and five sisters, as well as a niece and a nephew. He balances mascotting, a full-time job, writing for the Champion, working out and last but not least, 15 credit hours.

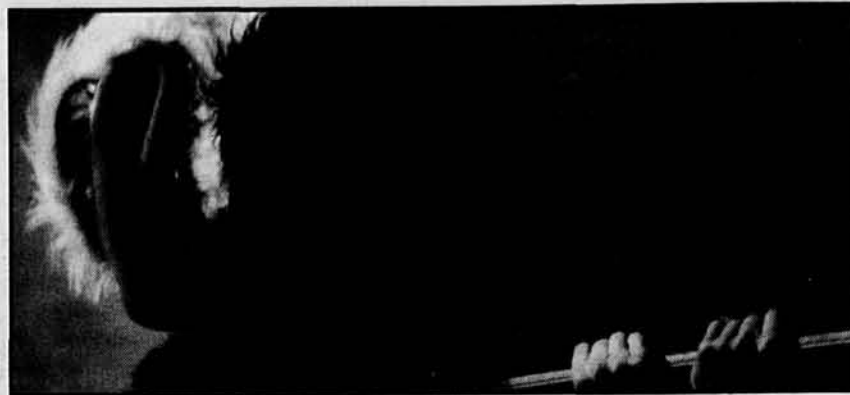
Paul is quick to say, "I would never change what I've got" — which may be the reason his high school graduating class voted him "most optimistic." Paul wants to pursue a two-year internship after graduation in order to give him practical experience and good references, but he would also thoroughly enjoy being a professional mascot for a couple years.

So who is that feathered foul patrolling the sidelines and the stands, instigating, fighting, cheering for and generally supporting the Flames? Is it Paul Pierson or Fire Incarnate? Paul says, "It's a mixture of the two." When he dons the eagle costume, it's a partial expansion of his person, but for the most part, it's a different character. Most importantly, he says, "It's all about getting the crowd into the game."

Pierson applied for the position of mascot on a dare from his roommate. He was accepted the night before the Flames football team played before a crowd of over 12,000 people.

The final score was 52-0 Liberty. According to tradition, the eagle has to do an equal amount of push-ups as the new amount of points, every time the Flames score. Paul had to do a total of 192 push-ups and 49 sit-ups plus all of his other antics during the game.

Paul thinks that one of the hardest parts of being a mascot is that everyone's eyes are on him as the representative of the school. "There is someone watching all the time," he said. That's not his only advice. To freshmen in particular he says, "Get involved." In both areas, Paul has swallowed his own advice, and come out on



SARINA BEASLEY

WHO'S CHICKEN? — Liberty's eagle mascot performs for the crowds at a sporting event.

Fire ... in the sky

By **JEREMY PIONTEK**
Champion Reporter

When the game is over on Saturday night, and the lights go down in William's Stadium, turn your gaze in the direction of the Wingate Inn — currently under construction across Highway 460 — and get ready for a treat.

Dave Hamel, general manager of the new Wingate Inn, as well as Days Inn on Candler's Mountain Road, is a Liberty graduate who had an idea last summer. This year's homecoming will be just a little bit brighter, thanks to Hamel.

With a phone call to the Newcastle, Pa. based fireworks company, Pyrotecnico, his idea began to take shape.

"The people at Liberty were nice enough to schedule a night game so that we could do it," Hamel said. The game had originally been scheduled as an afternoon affair.

Hamel wanted to make this year's homecoming just a little more memorable. "I went to Liberty, and I just thought it would be a nice thing to do."

The fireworks show, sponsored by the Wingate Inn, will be launched from in front of the new hotel. "Since the hotel won't be

opened yet, we'll be able to do it right out of the parking lot," Hamel continued. "It's nice and elevated, so you'll be able to get a good view."

Hamel said that several hundred shells will be used. "We're going to try to make it last about 15 minutes, so that there's something in the air all the time. That way we don't have 'poof,' and then wait a minute, and then 'poof' again. That gets boring."

Pyrotecnico subcontracted with a local group of experts called "The Starshooters" who will be in charge of actually setting off the fireworks.

John Tucker is one of two men from the group who will be creating the magic for Saturday night. "I've been doing it for the last five years," he said.

"Eleven of us ... actually started by doing the Uncle Billy's Day festivities in Alta Vista," said Tucker. "After doing that show for a couple years, the fireworks companies asked us if we would shoot some other shows."

What started out as merely helping out with a community festival eventually became a part-time job.

"Now we shoot approximately 20 to 25 shows a year," Tucker said, referring to it as a hobby. "We don't really do it for the money. We just do it kind of like individuals who are in bands."

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Liberty nears Top 25 rankings

By **MATT KEENAN**
Champion Reporter

With a perfect 4-0 record entering the homecoming game, Liberty's football team is slowly moving up in the IAA polls.

Heading into last Saturday's game versus Elon College, Liberty was ranked No. 20 among IAA schools in Jeff Sagarin's USA Today Power Rankings. After the trouncing of Elon the Flames jumped up four spots to No. 16 in the Power Rankings.

Even though Liberty's power ranking is among the Top 25 in the nation, it has yet to convince the pollsters who vote weekly on the Top 25, that they belong with the best. (The current voting polls were unavailable at press time.)

According to the USA Today/ESPN IAA poll Liberty had

not yet cracked the Top 25 heading into the Elon matchup.

With an impressive 41-9 drubbing of Elon, Liberty just might garner some votes to move up from their current No. 29 rank in the USA Today/ESPN poll.

Head Coach Sam Rutigliano seems to think that with his team's win against Elon it belong in the Top 25. "I definitely think that we should be in the Top 25. We have a better record than most of the teams in the Top 25," Rutigliano said. "But polls don't mean anything until the fat lady sings on November 22 (Liberty's last regular season contest versus Appalachian State)."

Liberty moved up in its power ranking thanks to the Hampton Pirates. Hampton stunned No. 10 ranked Florida A&M 18-15 last week, which vaulted the Pirates up from their No. 34 power rank to No. 29.

With the loss Florida A&M plummeted from the No.18 spot to No. 30.

Flames senior defensive lineman Rodney DeGrate also believes that the Flames deserve higher spot. "I believe that we deserve a Top 25 ranking, but we'll just have to stay focused and come out ready to play next

week," DeGrate said. "Hampton has a good team and they're going to come ready to play."

Along with the team seeking national recognition, there are two individuals on Liberty's squad who are garnering All-American status. According to NCAA statistics, senior quarterback Ben Anderson is 10th in the nation in passing efficiency and also No.22 in total offense.

Flames junior place-kicker Phillip Harrelson is ranked No. 4 in the nation in field goals and No. 10 in scoring.

The results from other IAA games this past weekend should help boost the Flames into the Top 25. Six teams out of the Top 10 lost over this past weekend, including

the No.1 ranked Montana Grizzlies who lost 28-13 to Wyoming.

The Youngstown State Penguins and Villanova Wildcats won to remain the only two schools left in the Top 5 that are undefeated.

Other ranked teams who lost include: No.10 Florida A&M, No.11 Appalachian St., No.17 Eastern Washington and No.19 Furman who lost to Western Carolina, 17-16. Liberty beat the Catamounts of Western Carolina 17-10 earlier this year.

More importantly for Liberty, No.23 James Madison lost to Villanova 49-17, and No.24 Northwestern State lost to Northeast Louisiana 17-7 which should provide some room for LU to jump up in the polls.

"Polls don't mean anything until the fat lady sings on November, 22."

— Sam Rutigliano

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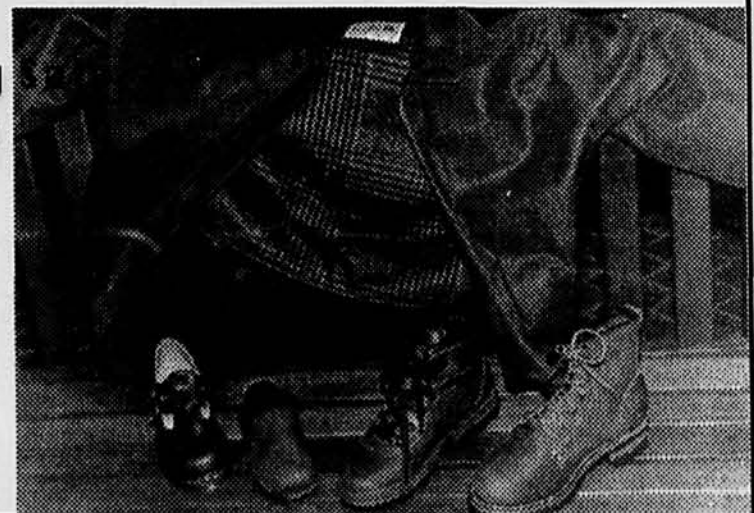
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