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God bless our troops

The Champion supports the U.S. troops fighting in the Persian Gulf. See Page 2.

Great guitarist

Guitarist Phil Keaggy makes his first appearance at LU Friday. See Page 4.

Agony of Defeat

LU coach Jeff Meyer and his players are persevering through a 2-14 season. Page 7.

The Liberty Champion

Liberty University, Lynchburg, Va.

Tuesday, January 22, 1991

Vol. 8, No. 14

GULF WAR RAGES!

Six-month gulf crisis erupts; war begins

Compiled by USA Today Wire Service

July 17, 1990: Saddam Hussein makes a Revolution Day speech, claims Kuwait stole oil from border oil fields.

July 22: CIA has information that Iraqi radar units are nearing Kuwaiti border.

July 24: Two Iraqi armored divisions on the Kuwaiti border.

July 25: U.S. ambassador to Iraq, April Glaspie, tells Saddam the State Department won't take sides in his dispute with Kuwait.

Aug. 2: Iraq invades Kuwait. Emir flees to Saudi Arabia. U.N. Security Council condemns invasion and demands Iraqi withdrawal from Kuwait.

Aug. 3: United States announces it is sending naval forces to the Persian Gulf.

Aug. 6: U.N. Security Council imposes trade embargo on Iraq except for medicine and food for humanitarian purposes.

Aug. 7: United States deploys combat troops and planes to Saudi Arabia.

Aug. 8: Iraq annexes Kuwait.

Aug. 10: Twelve Arab leaders agree to send pan-Arab force to protect Saudi Arabia.

Aug. 16: Iraq orders 4,000 Britons and 2,500 Americans in Kuwait to report to hotels or be rounded up.

Aug. 28: Iraq declares Kuwait its 19th province and orders all Western women and children hostages freed.

Sept. 13: Iraqi troops storm residence of French ambassador in Kuwait and raid other Western missions.

Oct. 9: Saddam threatens to hit Israel with new missile.

Oct. 23: Iraq announces release of all 330 French hostages.

Nov. 8: President Bush orders more than 100,000 extra troops to gulf.

Nov. 18: Saddam offers to free an estimated 2,000 Western and Japanese men held in Iraq and Kuwait over three months starting Dec. 25.

Nov. 20: Iraq announces it will free all German hostages. Saddam says he will send a quarter of a million more reinforcements to Kuwait.

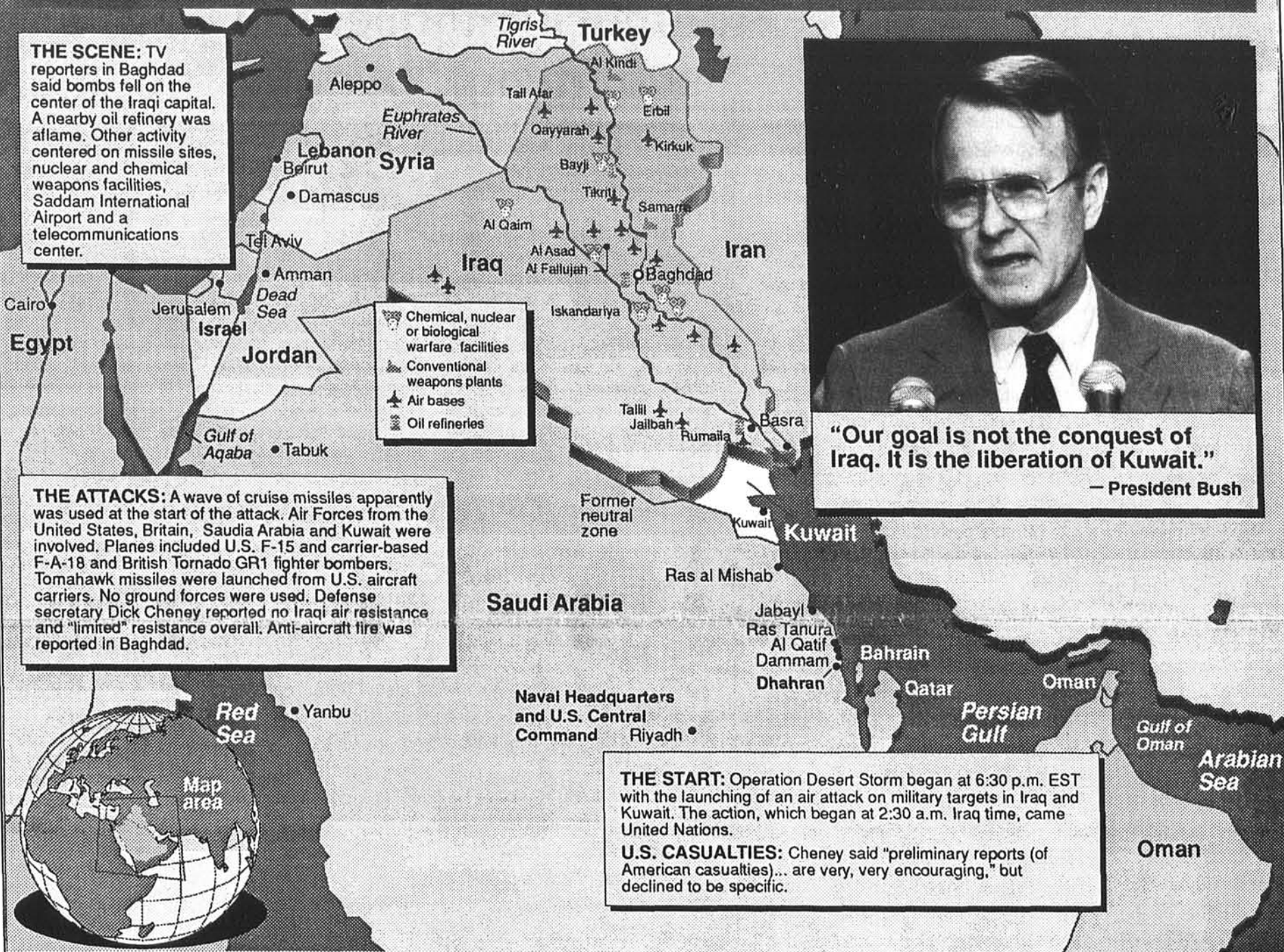
Nov. 22: Bush spends Thanksgiving Day with the U.S. forces in the gulf. Britain announces it will send an additional 14,000 troops and more aircraft to the gulf.

Nov. 29: U.N. Security Council passes a resolution backing the use of any methods necessary to remove Iraqi forces from Kuwait if the Iraqis don't leave by Jan. 15, 1991.

Allies launch attack

THE SCENE: TV reporters in Baghdad said bombs fell on the center of the Iraqi capital. A nearby oil refinery was aflame. Other activity centered on missile sites, nuclear and chemical weapons facilities, Saddam International Airport and a telecommunications center.

THE ATTACKS: A wave of cruise missiles apparently was used at the start of the attack. Air Forces from the United States, Britain, Saudi Arabia and Kuwait were involved. Planes included U.S. F-15 and carrier-based F-18 and British Tornado GR1 fighter bombers. Tomahawk missiles were launched from U.S. aircraft carriers. No ground forces were used. Defense secretary Dick Cheney reported no Iraqi air resistance and "limited" resistance overall. Anti-aircraft fire was reported in Baghdad.



Sources: Pentagon, defense briefing, Enquirer wire services, CNN, ABC, CBS, NBC.

Rob Schuster and Ron Huff, The Cincinnati Enquirer

Nov. 30: Iraq rejects the U.N. Jan. 15 deadline. Israel announces it would strike back if Iraq were to attack it. Bush invites Iraqi foreign minister Tariq Aziz to Washington for talks and offers to send Secretary of State James A. Baker III to Baghdad.

Dec. 1: Iraq accepts Bush's offer for talks and says it wants to discuss other Middle East issues as well.

Dec. 6: Saddam announces the release of all foreign hostages.

Jan. 1, 1991: Iraq rejects peace proposal from Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak.

Jan. 3: Bush tells Iraq he will send Baker to Switzerland to meet with Aziz.

Jan. 4: Iraq agrees to send Aziz to Geneva to meet with Baker on Jan. 9.

Jan. 9: Baker-Aziz meeting in Geneva ends with no agreement.

Jan. 10: U.N. Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar

leaves for Baghdad to discuss possible resolution to crisis.

Jan. 10: Congress begins debate to authorize Bush power to use force in the gulf.

Jan. 11-13: Baker meets with leaders of Saudi Arabia, Egypt, the United Arab Emirates, Syria and Turkey.

Jan. 12: Congress votes to authorize Bush the power to use force in the gulf.

Jan. 13: Perez de Cuellar meets with Saddam in Baghdad. Talks fail.

Jan. 14: European Community foreign ministers decide against sending peace envoys to Baghdad.

Jan. 14: Emergency session of Iraqi parliament reaffirms support for Saddam's actions.

Jan. 14: White House warns that military action could take place at any time after the Jan. 15 deadline.

Jan. 14: French, Yemeni, Algerian and Libyan leaders appeal to Saddam to withdraw from Kuwait to avoid war.

Jan. 15: Worldwide demonstrations; in United States and Europe peace demonstration, in Baghdad demonstrations of support for Saddam.

Jan. 15: U.N. makes a final appeal to Saddam to withdraw from Kuwait.

Jan. 16: Pope John Paul II sends peace appeals to Bush and Saddam.

Jan. 16: Operation Desert Storm begins at 7 p.m. EST. White House press secretary Marlin Fitzwater, in a press conference quotes President Bush: "The liberation of Kuwait has begun." "In conjunction with the forces of our coalition partners, the United States has moved under the code name Operation Desert Storm to enforce the mandates of the United Nations Security Council," Fitzwater said.

Jan. 16: Bush addresses the nation at 9 p.m. EST and promises: "We will not fail."

Jan. 17: Second wave of allied attack on Baghdad begins Thursday morning. Saddam Hussein said "The great showdown has begun! The mother of all battles is under way." He called the attack "The evil push of Satan."

Jan. 17: Seven Iraqi Scud missiles are launched toward Israel, injuring 12. Five die by accidents relating to panic.

Jan. 17: U.S. Patriot missile intercepts Scud missile shot toward Saudi Army base.

Jan. 18: Iraq bombs Israel for a second day.

Jan. 18: U.S. continues air strikes on Baghdad.

Jan. 19: U.S. sends 35 Patriot missiles to Israel.

Jan. 19: U.S. claims victory over Iraqi skies and starts bombing Saudi-Kuwait front line. Patriot missiles delivered to Israel.

Jan. 20: Nine Patriot missiles intercept Iraqi attempts to hit Saudi Army base. One Scud falls into Persian Gulf.

Bond verdict reversed

By DOUGLAS R. DEMPSEY

The Virginia Supreme Court announced Friday, Jan. 11, that Liberty University's request for tax-free bonds was a violation of the first amendment, and LU spokesman Mark DeMoss said the university will not appeal the decision to the U.S. Supreme Court.

The decision, which reverses a lower court ruling in favor of LU, means that Liberty will have to seek taxable bonds. These bonds, however, have not yet been approved by the company which is issuing them.

DeMoss said that he does not expect any problems with the taxable bonds as a result of the Supreme Court's ruling, but he does not know when the taxable bonds will be finalized.

"I stopped issuing deadlines and timetables a long time ago," DeMoss said during a press conference. "In November we believed we were within days of completing the process, and it didn't happen."

In December we thought we were close. We are now into January, and we still haven't completed the

See Bond, Page 5

Falwell endorses Gulf action

By KEVIN M. BLOYE

One day after the United States air attack on the Iraqi capital of Baghdad, Liberty University chancellor Jerry Falwell commended President George Bush for his decision to honor the Jan. 15 United Nations deadline.

"Obviously I'm in total support of the President's actions," Falwell said. "Up until yesterday (Jan. 16, the day of the attack), he (Bush) has been very restrained and has made sure that every passive form of negotiations had been exercised. He didn't attack until the United Nations, Congress and the American people were clearly behind him."

Had the United States let the Jan. 15 deadline pass without taking military action, America's reputation would have suffered greatly Falwell said.

"If he (Bush) had not attacked quickly, American credibility would have been seriously damaged. No one would have believed us anymore," Falwell said.

Falwell, who has established a well-documented, personal friendship with Bush that began during Falwell's Moral Majority days, acknowledged that the president has spent several hours in prayer since the beginning of the Persian Gulf Crisis six months ago.

"Macel and I attended a Christmas reception at the White House last month, and it was obvious to me that the President was very personally exercised over the entire matter," Falwell said. "We prayed with him that evening at the White House, and he has requested prayer from Christians everywhere. Last night before the attack, he asked Dr. (Billy) Graham to spend the evening with him to conduct a prayer service. It is our responsibility as Christians to pray for the president at this time."

Before the outbreak of war on Wednesday, thousands of anti-war demonstrators lined the streets of America protesting that no blood be lost for the sake of oil. Falwell called the demonstrators a "very small minority" and refuted their arguments by saying that oil is not the real issue for the war.

"The real issue is a madman (Sadaam Hussein) who doesn't know where to stop. If he (Hussein) is not prevented from taking Kuwait, it wouldn't be long before he moved into Saudi Arabia and eventually Israel," Falwell explained. "Iraq is not far from developing nuclear weapons and now is the time to prevent this crazed dictator from literally raping the entire Middle East and hurting our own economy."

After Iraqi missiles attacked Tel Aviv (Israel) on Thurs-

See Falwell, Page 10

Days of Desert Storm

Day 6

The Liberty Champion joins the millions of Americans who are praying and hoping for the safe return of the more than 430,000 military personnel. We ask the LU family to join us until all Americans are safe on American soil. People are requested to write to the men and women serving in Saudi Arabia by writing:

Any Service Member (Army) APO NY 09848-0006	Any Service Member (Navy) Fleet P.O. NY 09866-0006
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Editorial

"...Where the spirit of the Lord is, there is Liberty."
II Corinthians 3:17

U. S. troops need support, prayers of all Americans

After several months of strained tensions, the fine wire has finally broken and war has been hand-delivered to the Middle East.

Millions support the war as a "just" cause. Daily thousands demonstrate against it as the outrageous attempt of a money-grubbing nation to sacrifice its young men to guarantee an ample supply of cheap oil. And, unfortunately, as incredulous as it may seem, there exists a portion of the population which opts to ignore the situation altogether.

The next weeks will see an onslaught of red-faced warmongers calling for more death and destruction and bleeding hearts weeping about deaths which may never come or screaming about injustices which don't even directly affect them. Armchair warriors will ease themselves out of their squeaky La-Z-Boys in order to choose sides.

And amid all of this turmoil and the petty arguments concerning a situation over which none of us has control, the men and women of our armed forces will often become lost and forgotten.

The true issue at hand, then, should be channeling our energies into demonstrating a concern and support for those men and women who are actually doing the killing, the bleeding and the dying rather than arguing about the morality of the war itself. After all, none of our servicemen or women asked to be shipped off to a desert on the backside of nowhere. None of them asked to live in the subhuman conditions they have endured during the past five months. They are performing the job which they have been instructed to perform.

The most obvious symbol of troop support is the yellow ribbon which seems to be popping up everywhere. Many local businesses (i.e. Leggett and Daybreak Restaurant) are distributing yellow ribbons, free of charge, to any members of the public who want them. These ribbons can be secured to front doors, placed in windows, attached to car antennas or placed basically anywhere where they will serve as a beacon of the public's support of the troops, even if not the war itself.

Another easy way to demonstrate support for the U.S. troops in the Middle East is for motorists to drive with their headlights on during the day. A simple gesture? Perhaps. But even this small action can serve as a constant reminder of those who are serving and risking their lives in the Middle East. We don't need to agree with what our troops are doing in order to support the fact that they are doing it.

Displaying the American flag is another way to show that we back the troops. Finally, the *Champion* staff has designed an emblem which can be cut out and placed in a car or dorm window as a reminder that Liberty remembers the Americans who are currently or may soon be serving in the Gulf (See the bottom of page 3).

As all the excitement and hype dies down and the Gulf War drags on into monotonous drudgery, our troops will have little to build their morale other than the knowledge and belief that there is, somewhere, a nation and homeland which loves them and will not blame them for the actions which they must take and the deeds of war which they must commit.

Those of us who have been glued to our television sets during the past week may soon tire of religiously following every new development. How much sooner will our troops tire of living close to death in the Saudi Arabian desert? We can simply change the channel or turn the set off, but they cannot just pack up and come home.

Although some of us may believe in the war and others think it is deplorable, let us celebrate our men and women and their courage and assure them that their nation is waiting and praying for them to come home.

Liberty Forum Policies

The *Champion* welcomes members of the Liberty community to submit letters to the editor on any subject.

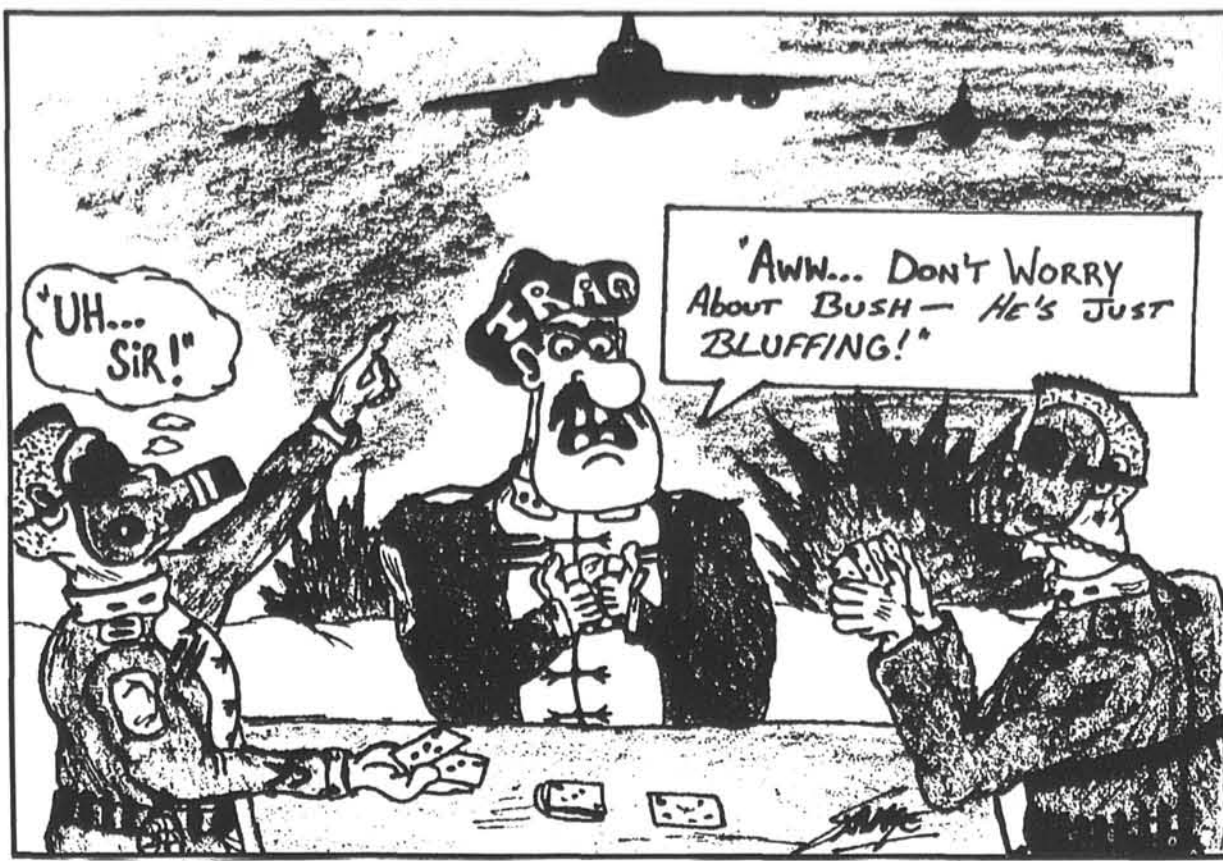
Letters should not exceed 300 words and must be signed. The *Champion* asks that all letters be typed.

All material submitted to the *Liberty Champion* becomes the property of the *Champion*.

The *Liberty Champion* reserves the right to accept, reject or edit any letter received, according to the policies of the *Liberty Champion*.

The deadline for all letters is 6 p.m. Thursday.

Please address all letters to "Editor, *Liberty Champion*" and drop them off in DH 109 or Box 21247.



Sneaking into the Movies

Amusing thriller will leave audience squirming, "bugging" for more

Before you climb into bed, check under the blankets. Before you put your slippers on, check inside them. Think twice before you casually slide your hand inside your coat pocket. And before you do anything else this weekend, go see "Arachnophobia," this week's movie at David's Place.

"Arachnophobia" is the directing debut of Frank Marshall, one of Steven Spielberg's protegés.

Marshall has created a world that crawls, jumps and creeps as it fills the viewer's mind with nightmarish apparitions of what might be hiding under the bed or lurking behind the



DOUGLAS R. DEMPSEY
Campus news editor

closest door at night.

"Arachnophobia" is the story of young Dr. Jennings (Jeff Daniels) fight against small-town snobbery and a big-time menace: poisonous spiders. Evidently, a certain spider hitched a ride to America inside the casket of one of its victims.

Through a variety of circumstances, this killer arachnid ends up in a barn

in a small Midwestern town.

Meanwhile, Jennings and his family have just moved into the house next to the barn, hoping to find a new life away from big-city problems. Jennings is supposed to inherit a medical practice from Dr. Metcalf, the town doctor who is about to retire.

Unfortunately, Metcalf changes his mind about retiring. Jennings is then stuck trying to find patients among the few townspeople who aren't blindly devoted to Metcalf. His first patient, however, dies shortly after being taken off of blood pressure medicine.

The locals call it a heart attack. Jennings, however, is suspicious. When two more people die, including the aging Metcalf, Jennings decides to exhume the bodies and examine them. He discovers that all three have been bitten by a spider.

Jennings calls in a nationally-known expert on spiders and, along with the town exterminator Delbert McClonk (John Goodman), goes hunting for the spider. The pair soon discover that the spider has multiplied and its offspring are just as deadly and extremely aggressive.

"Arachnophobia" may sound a bit corny on the surface. Killer spiders invade small-town America. However, if you give it a chance, you won't be disappointed. The acting is uniformly excellent, especially Goodman as the amusing exterminator.

"Arachnophobia" is filled with creepy, crawly spiders that are bound to have you squirming and jumping at every turn. Marshall has infused this film with heart-stopping suspense and plenty of thrills.

It may not be Academy Award material, but "Arachnophobia" is an excellent movie, guaranteed to send a chill up your spine and inject even the bravest of souls with a strong fear of these little eight-legged beasts.

TOP TEN COUNTDOWN



By Kathleen Donohue
Feature/Opinion Editor

Popular slogans found on Iraqi T-shirts

10. "To err is human, to really foul things up takes a dictator."
9. "Along the way take time to invade your neighbor."
8. "You don't have to be crazy to thumb your nose at the world's most powerful military alliance, but it sure helps."
7. "Don't have a camel, man!"
6. "Have you hugged a hostage today?"
5. "Please, be patient, Allah isn't finished with me yet."
4. "It's an Islamic thing, you wouldn't understand."
3. "Insanity is hereditary. You get it from your leader."
2. "I'd rather be hijacking."
1. "My Mom and Dad blew up a busload of nuns touring the Holy Land, and all I got was this lousy T-shirt!"

Answers, Please

By the *Champion* Staff

We asked students:

How do you feel the war in the Middle East will affect the United States?



"We need to keep our troops there to protect Kuwait from Saddam Hussein."

Shannan Badskey;
Goshen, Ind.



"Bush is doing the right thing, and he made a good speech about it."

Jon Goodwin;
Memphis, Tenn.



"It's showing that people don't want Saddam there and are backing us up."

Jon James;
Buffalo, N.Y.



"Short term will unify public opinion of Bush and help lessen the effect of the recession."

Steve Green;
Baltimore



"I might get stuck being drafted over there."

Jim Woolace;
North Pole, Alaska



"Oil prices should go down."

Cheryl Stinnett;
Exeter, Cal.

LU Forum

Hammer headline takes back seat to personal spats

Editor,

I hate to be the next one to swing at the dead horse (the use of secular lyrics from M. C. Hammer's song "Pray" as a headline in the *Liberty Champion*), but the arguments are now between fellow students and the original issue is fast becoming secondary.

One student in her letter made many strong points in her opposition to the headline. True, this institution does not condone secular music and this makes it a double standard to use secular lyrics.

It is also a contradiction to have the headline in question on the same page as an article for Christian musician, Kim Hill.

Furthermore, the rebuttals carried weight as well. I'll agree that the reference to the rock group Heart was totally unrelated to the argument which the writer was making. Also, the letter could have been more distinct in its use of Scriptures, and fewer generalizations about the newspaper staff members being backslidden could have been used as well.

I strongly agree that the writer should not have judged the staff of the paper "lest she be judged." And, true, there are more pressing issues in Christianity than the headline of a college newspaper.

However, as I read along patiently, I repeatedly came across comments such as "get your facts straight" and "use your brain" which were included in the letters which defended the use of the headline. Yet why, just after accusing someone else of not using facts, were neither writers able to present readers with more facts than accusations?

The motive of the headline seems to be what is under examination. Yet, no matter how sincere the motive, the use of lyrics from a secular song demeans the article's purpose which was to remind us of the importance of prayer.

Instead, the focus of prayer was shared with M. C. Hammer. Was this the purpose behind the use of the headline?

Finally, I ask you, the editor, why include a headline in the *Champion* that is going to stir up controversy the way this one did?

We could accuse all those who have written letters to the editor, including myself, for continually beating a dead horse, but the truth is, the use of a simple headline about the necessity of prayer would have sparked virtually no controversy and avoided all of this to begin with.

My advice to you for the future is that when you can satisfy everyone, please do so, rather than succeeding in offending some.

Oh, by the way, "Close, but no cigar?" Gluttons for punishment, aren't you?

David Simmons

The Liberty Champion

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The *Liberty Champion* is distributed every Tuesday while school is in session. The opinions expressed in this publication do not necessarily represent those of Liberty University.

Invasion spawns legitimacy debate

After all of the waiting, all of the speculating and all of the talking, the inevitable consequence of the U.S. presence in the Middle East has been realized. War has begun.

Before it is all over, this act of interventionism on the part of America will be paid for with our dearest blood.

Throughout the entire ordeal, however, one simple question screams for an answer.

Why? Why are we so eager for war? Why do we have hundreds of thousands of troops stationed in a desert on the other side of the world? Is there any logic or reason to the madness that has gripped the international community and, more directly, Washington, D.C.?

The cliché answer to these questions is that we are fighting to stop the mad ravagings of a lunatic. We are fighting to stop Saddam Hussein. But this pat answer simply leads us to another question: stop him from what?

Surely a man who fought eight years against a decimated Iran and only managed a draw cannot be considered a serious threat to our own national security. Even if he were to take Saudi Arabia (an event which is highly unlikely), it is implausible to think that Hussein's military could stretch across the ocean to the United States.

The crisis in the gulf is a squabble within the Arabian community. At one time the troublemaker was Iran, then Libya, and now it is Iraq. But Arabian dictators have a long track record of big talk that lacks the might to back up their empty boasts of power. Hussein is no different.

Once we dispose of him, someone else will rise up and spew forth anti-American/anti-freedom rhetoric. If we keep knocking off Arabian dictators until we find one we like, we will be fighting forever.

Some have said that Hussein is dangerously close to controlling a major share of the world's oil supply. That, they argue, could translate into a hardship for the American consumer as gas prices would surely skyrocket. But even with control over Saudi Arabia, Hussein would only control 46 percent of the world's oil. That may seem like a lot, but it isn't enough for him to dictate the price.

Let's suppose Hussein decides to raise the price of oil. What happens? Simple. We buy more oil from other nations. Not even the mighty OPEC alliance of the '70s could reach a consensus on the price of oil. Certainly no bratty dictator will be able to do it.

Either way, is cheap oil worth fight-

ing for? Few people think so now; even fewer will think so when the first wave of American bodies begins to wash ashore.

Make no mistake about it. There will be American casualties in this war. Don't be fooled by the apparent ease of the early stages of the war. Iraq will strike back, and when it does, it will hit hard. That isn't to say Iraq might triumph. It won't. Hussein is facing the most powerful military alliance ever assembled. But how many lives are we willing to sacrifice for a victory that will reap so few benefits for us?

What about democracy? Hasn't that always been an ideal worth fighting and dying for? Yes. But Kuwait has never been a democratic nation.

Essentially, we are denouncing one form of dictatorship in defense of another. Kuwait is not an oasis of democracy nor is it our friend. The Arabs, whether they be Iranians, Saudis, or Iraqis, hate the United States. They tolerate us only when we serve their purposes.

If we were fighting for something as glorified as democracy, then why are we not standing up to Mikhail Gorbachev and his Soviet war machine? The evil empire has thundered into Lithuania and has crushed the spirit of democracy that was just beginning to bloom.

Lithuanians have been brutalized and murdered in their fight for democracy. The bloody carnage of the Soviet invasion is more of an affront to democracy than Hussein will ever be, and yet not one U.S. troop has been sent to help the Lithuanians. In fact, just last week the U.S. gave Gorbachev nearly one billion dollars worth of grain.

The issue, clearly, is not one of democracy. War advocates argue that the issue is more complex than just cheap oil. But no matter how you examine the issue, it comes back to economics. We are fighting and dying for oil.

One last point: Let's all remember to support the troops regardless of our views on the situation. It is not the soldiers' decision to be in Saudi Arabia.

They do what they are told to do. So save all the protesting, all the angry words, and all the shattered lives for the men in Washington whose lust for oil has led us into an abyss of violence and death.

Point & Counterpoint



DOUGLAS R. DEMPSEY
Campus News Editor



CURT W. OLSON
News Editor

The deadline for Saddam "Who's So Insane" Hussein has passed. He made his move on the Persian Gulf chess board many months ago and thus challenged the United States and its United Nations allies. A Gulf war is the inevitable outcome.

In the days preceding the Jan. 15 U.N. deadline, Americans saw the anti-war crusade reach a pre-combat high.

Amid the debate on whether or not to go to war in the Persian Gulf, however, numerous facts have been ignored that seem to provide evidence against the U.S. presence in Saudi Arabia.

Contrary to popular belief, we are not fighting for a democracy because Kuwait is not a democracy. Kuwait is governed by a large family that gained control hundreds of years ago. So the United States is not fighting for the American way of life.

Also, the harshest reality of all is the fact that the West aided the rise of Hussein. During the Iran-Iraq war, the United States and others in the NATO alliance aided Iraq financially. In recent years the independent-thinking French have been strategic in giving Iraq the ability to produce nuclear weapons. However, the French are not the sole guilty party because the United States and others played vital roles as well.

To add insult to injury, as early as June 1990, intelligence reports provided evidence that Saddam Hussein would attack a country. The United States went so far as to say that it would not get involved in Iraq's border disputes. Tell that to Saddam Hussein now.

However, we should forgive the U.S. government for these honest mistakes because the case for fighting is quite compelling.

The first reason is the isolationist vs. interventionist dilemma.

Many people, mainly conservatives, have stated that America must look out for itself. They say that the current economic problems combined with the federal budget woes and issues like crime, drugs and education are reasons enough for the United States to stay away from the confrontation in the Middle East.

"America must focus on home," they say. Since George Bush does not take the isolationist position, he had to intervene in the crisis because Saudi Arabia is a longtime U.S. ally

among the Arab nations. On Aug. 2 Iraq swiftly man-handled Kuwait and was well on its way to invading the Saudis when Bush responded with U.S. troop deployments.

Had Bush not responded when he did, Saudi King Fadh would have been on the telephone telling Bush

to get his troops on the Saudi north-eastern doorstep to Kuwait ASAP!

Another reason the United States must fight Iraq is because of its dependence on foreign oil. The reason people are crying, "Our boys can't die over the price of oil," is simply because America has neglected to develop its own resources.

A major contributor to this failure is the active environmental lobby in the United States that has succeeded on every attempt to stop the drilling of oil in Alaska and offshore in the Gulf of Mexico, the Atlantic Ocean and the Pacific Ocean.

Finally, the most compelling reason for fighting a Gulf war is simply to uphold the principle that a larger country, anywhere in the world, cannot march into another smaller country, rape it of its government and wealth and then murder its people.

Because of this, the United States cannot negotiate with Hussein because any negotiation would undoubtedly provide a compromise and not only would the United States lose, but Israel would lose as well. To allow Saddam Hussein to gain a victory in any way would send a dangerous message. The message would be that taking over any country and literally raping it will be rewarded if you hold out to get what you want. That is a dangerous precedent which would be bait for any future dictator anywhere in the world.

The majority of us have friends and some even have family who are now in Saudi Arabia. This is a rallying call for America. The U.S. troops need the support of the American public.

Pray for our President. Pray for our troops and trust that Almighty God will allow this war to end as soon as possible.

It's Laughable

Holiday debris creates need for redecoration

Congratulations, everyone! You have just successfully entered the messiest portion of the school year.



TIMOTHY HOLLINGSWORTH
Staff Columnist

this season. Now I realize that many of you prefer traditional, quaint country charm to the abstract lines of modern art. Well, that's fine too. There are a few ways to give your dorm the ambience of a humble cabin in the woods.

First and definitely the most important is to mount on your wall the head of the deer that you killed during the Christmas break. Old deer horns are OK too, but it takes two sets of horns to equal one good deer head.

Secondly, you can purchase two wagon wheels to line your doorway.

Then gun racks should be placed in various strategic positions around the room in order to properly display your favorite Bambi blasters.

With all of this surrounded by the walls papered with all of the ribbons you won at your favorite tractor pulls, how can you possibly go wrong?

Another popular option for this part of the country is the Southern tacky look. The staples of this theme include black velvet portraits of Elvis; little yellow, red and blue windmills; red, gingham-plaid curtains and plenty of ceramic farm animals.

The supplies are endless, so if you have the room, make certain that you don't forget the plastic pink flamingos and whitewashed-tire flowerpots. They'll do y'all proud every time!

Now there is no excuse for you to continue abiding in your post-Christmas trash heap. Instead take your roommates' junk and toss it before they decide to do it to yours first.

"Oh, by the way, have either of you guys seen my deer head? I'm sure it was here a minute ago."

See Ya, Saddam!



I support U. S. troops

The Liberty Champion



"I understand, dear. You got a special student price on the PS/2.... And you're what? Sending money home! Hang on, I'll get your father."

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What's in a name?

Title is matter of personal preference

By DIANE HOFSESS

USA Today Wire Service

Like Prince, Madonna and Cher, Saddam Hussein prefers to be known by his first name.

And that's one reason why many reporters refer to the Iraqi president as Saddam, rather than using his last name, Tom Kent, news editor of the world services division of The Associated Press in New York, said.

"Our style is to refer to him as Saddam, because that's the way he refers to himself, and the Iraqi news media refers to him by his first name," Kent explained. "People are entitled to be known by the name they choose."

Part of the reason for Saddam's preference is that Saddam is more

distinctive than Hussein, Juan Cole, associate professor of modern Middle Eastern history at the University of Michigan, said. "A great number of people (in the Arab world) are called Hussein," Cole said.

Beyond that, Ron Stockton, professor of political science at the University of Michigan-Dearborn said: "It's just a custom in the Middle East that you often get called by your first name. It's just common usage."

The name Saddam means "one who confronts." Hussein was the first name of his father, who died before he was born.

Actually, Saddam's full name is Saddam Hussein Al-Tikriti, Cole said. "In fact many of the high officials of

the government of Iraq are cousins or clansmen of Saddam Hussein and are members of the Al-Tikriti clan.

"It's a last name that indicates where you're from. He (Saddam) discourages the use of last names that show where you're from precisely because if that were done, it would become obvious how dominated the government there is by the Tikriti clan."

Another reason for the first-name reference to Saddam Hussein is to avoid confusion with King Hussein of Jordan, Kent reported.

Saddam Hussein is the troublemaker under attack because his nation invaded Kuwait. He presides over an enormous pool of oil and is often compared to Hitler. He's the one who

refers to hostages in his nation as "guests."

The other Hussein — King Hussein of Jordan (not to be confused with Jordan Almonds candy) — has been married four times and has sired 11 children. His fourth and present wife is U.S.-born Elizabeth "Lisa" Halaby, a Queen Noor — a Princeton-educated architect.

Neither Saddam Hussein nor King Hussein should be confused with the late Zakir Husain. He was the former president of India, who died in May 1969.

Another player to keep straight is Ibrahim Hussein of Kenya. He won the Boston Marathon in 1988 and never, ever invaded Kuwait.

Gulf war contradicts beliefs, citizenship of U.S. Moslems

By RHONDA GRAHAM

USA Today Wire Service

They served in Korea. Some served in Vietnam, although less willingly. But Operation Desert Storm raises religious dilemmas not obvious in previous wars for U.S. residents who share the same Islamic faith as Iraqi Arabs.

"We're getting a number of calls from people who are Moslems. They are saying, 'I don't want to go over there' and 'I will not fight against my people,'" David Treber of the National Interreligious Service Board of Conscientious Objectors reported.

Moslems with prior military service, specifically combat duty, will find it difficult to get conscientious objector status. The government does not allow personnel to pick which war is objectionable.

"For some Moslems, there is such a thing as an acceptable war and for other Moslems there is not," Harold Jordan, military counselor for the Quakers said. Jordan has been working with three Fort Campbell, Ky., Moslems. All have filed for conscientious objector status on religious grounds.

"They are all people who tried to apply before they left and were told that they could not. They are seriously Moslem, they pray, they follow the prescribed religious diet," Jordan said.

Jordan knows of 38 similar cases. Complaints filtering back from the Persian Gulf include claims that some U.S. Moslem soldiers are given front-line duty at the Saudi-Kuwaiti border, and those who have filed for conscientious objector status have their weapons taken away but remain stationed in potential combat zones, Jordan said.

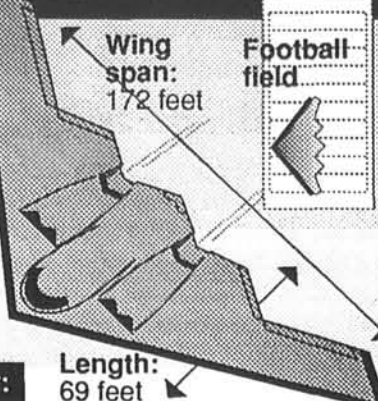
Long-established Islamic beliefs state that Moslems should not be the aggressor in any conflict.

"The major concern is to be on the side of right, to be on the side of justice, for a Moslem. And if there is a Moslem aggressor, then a Moslem will not hesitate to fight that aggressor even if it's a Moslem," Egyptian-born Yahia O. Hashem explained.

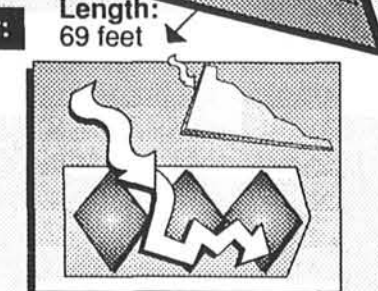
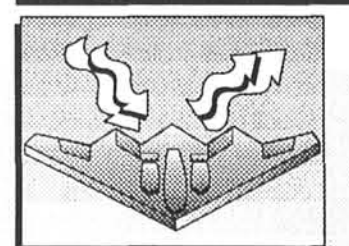
"There are many dimensions to this issue, not only the religious aspect, but fairness and justice, and also the practical aspect of getting a peaceful solution to this problem," Hashem said.

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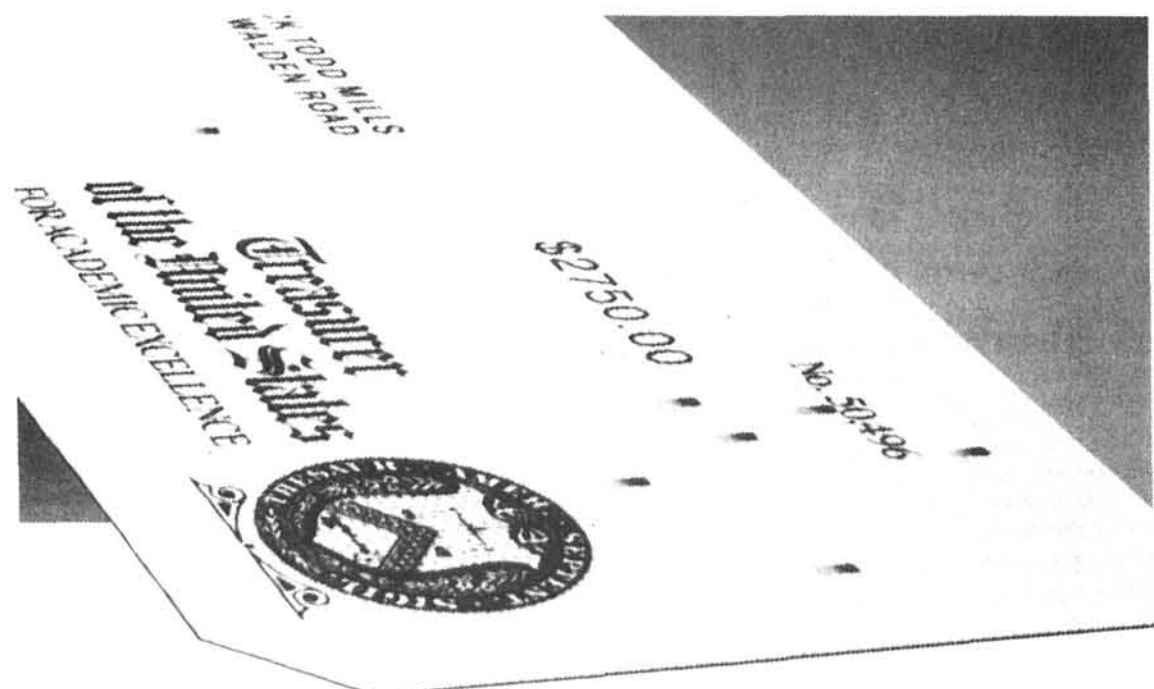
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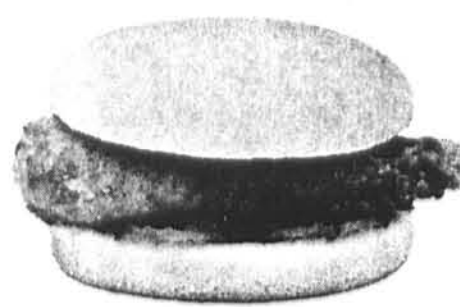
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RIVER RIDGE MALL

Coyote caper not part of satanic ritual

By BEN LaFROMBOIS
Champion Reporter

Twelve coyote carcasses left to decay on Liberty Mountain by the Liberty University Biology Department were found Saturday, Jan. 11, causing Lynchburg city officials to speculate that they were the result of satanic cult activity or the work of a deranged individual.

The carcasses were discovered in a secluded area by someone who was four-wheeling.

"We never expected anyone to come across them," Dr. Paul Sattler, chairman of the biology department, said.

Much of the speculation was due to the condition of the carcasses and their supposed arrangement. The animals had been skinned and their heads removed for the skulls, Sattler explained.

"We also removed the stomachs for diet analysis," he added. The Lynchburg News & Daily Advance reported that the hearts and paws had also been removed from the animals.

Sattler explained that paws from three or four of the coyotes had been removed from the animals before Liberty received them in November from the Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries. "We didn't take the paws off, and the hearts were not removed," Sattler said.

The arrangement of the animals caused investigators to think that the coyotes had been "hand-carried into the woods with some kind of uniformity. There was some kind of pattern, not in a ritualistic sense, (but) they all had a pattern in the way they were laid out," police Cmdr. R. J. Morrison said, according to the News & Daily Advance.

"There was no pattern in the distribution. They were spread out so natural decomposition would take place," Sattler said. "We wanted the bones available if they were needed. We wanted to reconstruct one of the animals."

The carcasses are no longer available to the biology department. "They were probably buried in the landfill when they were removed Sunday," Sattler speculated.

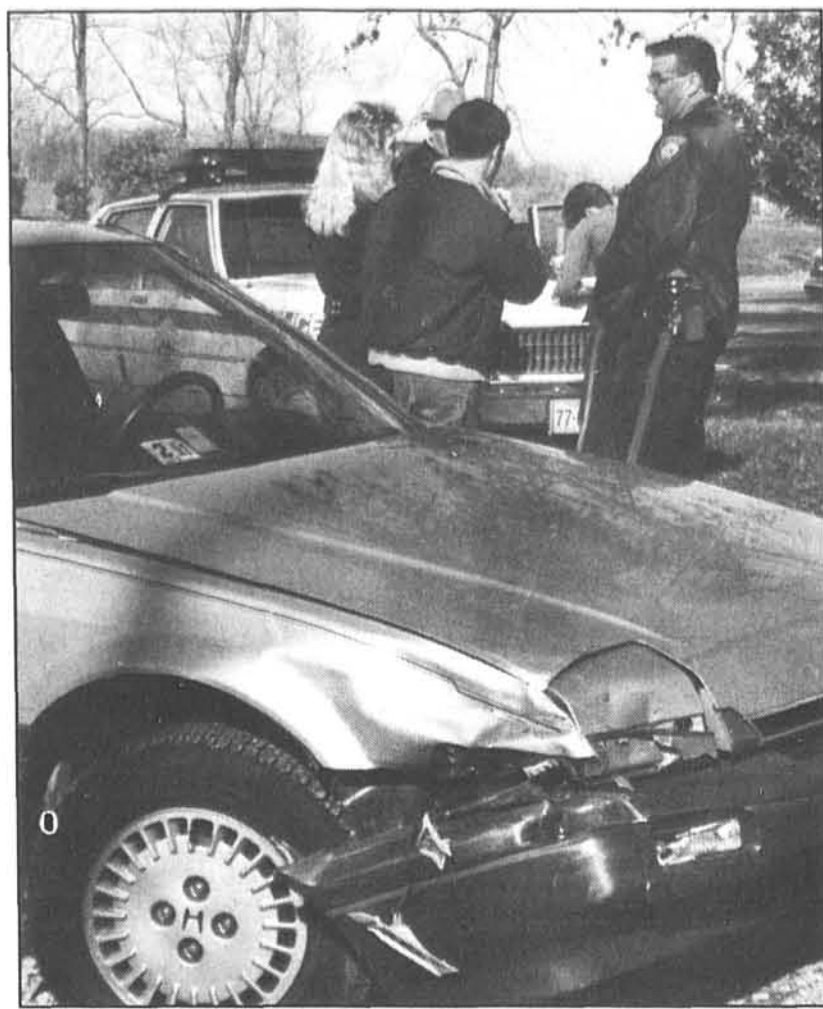
The carcasses were not a health risk, and Liberty was not in violation of any laws. "If any law was broken, it probably was trespassing," Sattler said after talking to authorities.

The carcasses were received from Virginia's coyote control program as a donation to the LU Museum of Natural History, Sattler reported. The coyotes were processed during late December and early January.

The biology department only needed certain parts of the coyotes for the museum. "Skins and skulls are primarily what we took from the coyotes for the museum," Sattler said. The story drew attention from papers hundreds of miles away and from National Public Radio.

"This was publicity we were not seeking. Just because we're Liberty a lot more attention was paid to us," Sattler said.

The conclusions of the police and the media surprised Sattler. "There was a tremendous amount of speculation. The implication that Liberty students could even be involved shows that people do not know about our school and what we stand for," Sattler said. "Our students would not be involved. The general impression was that it was some outside group," he explained.



People were delayed by a traffic accident involving a Honda Accord (pictured) driven by Ludwig Brown and a Plymouth Sundance driven by LU student Carla Thomas. Brown attempted to turn into the Visitor's Center and struck Thomas's Sundance. Neither driver was injured in the accident.

photo by Jeffrey A. Coia

School spokesman addresses issues

By DOUGLAS R. DEMPSEY
Campus News Editor

Even though the Virginia Supreme Court's decision to deny Liberty tax-free bonds will probably cost the school \$2 million a year in interest, no more budget cuts are planned, Mark DeMoss, spokesman for LU and the Rev. Jerry Falwell, said in an interview Friday.

"It is never safe to say there will be no more cuts," DeMoss said, "but we are pleased with the progress over the last two years in cost reduction. So I can say there will probably be no more cuts."

DeMoss said the university is now operating "in the black." However, that does not mean there is any extra money to be spent. "We are operating in the black from the standpoint that revenue exceeds expenditures. But all excess revenue is going to debt payments. So I don't want to give anybody a false sense of security."

DeMoss also talked about the new cafeteria, which was supposed to be opened in time for the spring semester.

The projected completion date is now August, DeMoss said.

"The cafeteria will be finished sooner than it can be occupied," DeMoss said.

Because so much of the equipment from the current cafeteria will be used in the new cafeteria, the school must wait until the summer to make the conversion. Otherwise, DeMoss said, the conversion may not be finished in time and the university would have no means of supplying meals to the students.

"Dr. Falwell had hoped it (the conversion) could be done over spring break," DeMoss said. "But that was an overly optimistic thought."

Campus safety was also discussed during the interview. When asked about rumors of women being raped on the LU campus, DeMoss said he had not heard anything definite on the subject. "I don't know of any that have been confirmed," DeMoss said. "There have probably been attacks, but not necessarily rapes."

See DeMoss, Page 6

City council accepts King memorial proposal

By DOUGLAS R. DEMPSEY
Campus News Editor

The Lynchburg City Council voted unanimously to accept the recommendations of a special committee regarding a proposed memorial to Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., but the result of the vote was unclear.

The committee recommended that a Martin Luther King Jr. educational center be established in the reading room of the Lynchburg Public Library. The committee left the details of the memorial to be decided by the council or by a separate committee established by the council. After the vote there was still confusion as to

what would happen next. Some council members felt the council had voted to proceed with the memorial, while others felt they were simply accepting the report of the Civil Rights Committee.

Councilman Steve Newman said he did not think the vote equalled an official endorsement of the proposed memorial. "If I had thought in any way that this vote was an endorsement, I would have had a real problem voting in favor of it," Newman said.

Councilman Julian Adams also voiced concern about the proposed memorial. "The public library should not be a place where specific points of

view are placed as superior to others," Adams said. "If we set aside a part of the library to honor King, then what about all the other people who deserve honor?"

The committee also recommended that \$2,500 per year be set aside to establish and maintain the memorial. Adams said he didn't feel such a monetary commitment was appropriate. "I don't think it is appropriate to earmark particular funds for any one person or interest. I believe the appropriate city funding for this project would be zero (dollars)," Adams said.

Vice mayor Pat Lovern disagreed

with Adams. "Once it becomes reality, it (the memorial) will be an important part of the library," Lovern said.

The educational center is just one of several ideas the committee had considered. The others included renaming Fifth Street in downtown Lynchburg, renaming the public library in honor of King, and creating a traveling exhibit to educate people about King and other civil rights leaders. The plan for the education center, however, received the most support from the committee.

Bond

Continued from Page 1

process," DeMoss said. DeMoss said he did not expect the additional cost of the taxable bonds, estimated to be approximately \$2 million a year, to be a major obstacle for the university. "We can afford it as long as there are no dramatic changes in the current structure (of the bond issue)," he said.

In denying the bond request, the court said Liberty University's reputation as a Christian university, including its mandatory chapel and church requirements, made it ineligible for the tax-free bonds.

DeMoss disagreed with the court's reasoning and its interpretation of the First Amendment. "The separation of church and state is a phrase that gets tossed around a lot, but most people have trouble explaining what it means," DeMoss said.

He said that the lower court had decided that the tax-free bonds were not state aid, a point reversed by the Supreme Court.

"We take issue with the high court in all matters (in regards to the bond issue)," DeMoss added.

The decision not to appeal the ruling

to the U.S. Supreme Court was made because of financial reasons, DeMoss said. "The costs associated with these endeavors (pursuing the tax-free bonds) have been immense," he said. "These costs include not only direct legal costs but also the costs of not yet having refinanced our debt as we were prepared to do one year ago."

"We continue to believe that the primary principle at stake in this case is one worth fighting for," Demoss said. "However, we have fought alone for over one year now, losing valuable time, energy and resources."

DeMoss said it would have helped LU if other evangelical institutions, which would have benefited from a Liberty victory in the case, had offered more help.

"I don't want to say I'm disappointed (about the lack of assistance), but it would have been nice," the spokesman said. "In the future countless schools could have benefited from this situation."

"Religious discrimination as endorsed by the Virginia Supreme Court in this case can hardly be considered a victory for anybody," DeMoss concluded.

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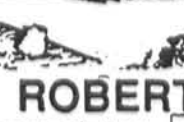
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Local pro-lifers gain strength

By DOUGLAS R. DEMPSEY
City News Editor

While war rages halfway across the world, capturing the attention of nearly every man, woman, and child in America, another war is being fought on the streets of Lynchburg. This war is over the lives of babies, and Sunday, Jan. 20, was the date of an important battle in this war—a life-chain rally at the intersection of Wards Road and Fort Avenue.

David Lytle, president of the Christian Action Council, was the organizer of the event. Under a bright and sunny sky, Lytle said he was pleased with the day's turnout.

"Yes, I am pleased. We always like to have more, but I am happy," Lytle said. "I'm sure the war (in the Persian Gulf) has had an effect, especially with people who have friends or loved ones over there fighting."

The event, the second such pro-life demonstration in Lynchburg in the last six months, drew a crowd of approximately 600 people. The protesters lined both sides of the street and held posters that read "Abortion Kills Children."

Lytle said there were approximately 20 area churches represented, a figure he was happy with since the group has only 21 churches on its mailing list.

Charles Poe, a professor in the psychology department at LU and a frequent participant in pro-life events, was also pleased with the turnout. "I'm glad we have this many, especially since we have competition from the war and the football games," Poe said.

Poe did express concern, however, over the small number of LU students at the rally. "I don't think it was announced in chapel (at LU)," Poe

said. "We tried to get an announcement but didn't have any luck."

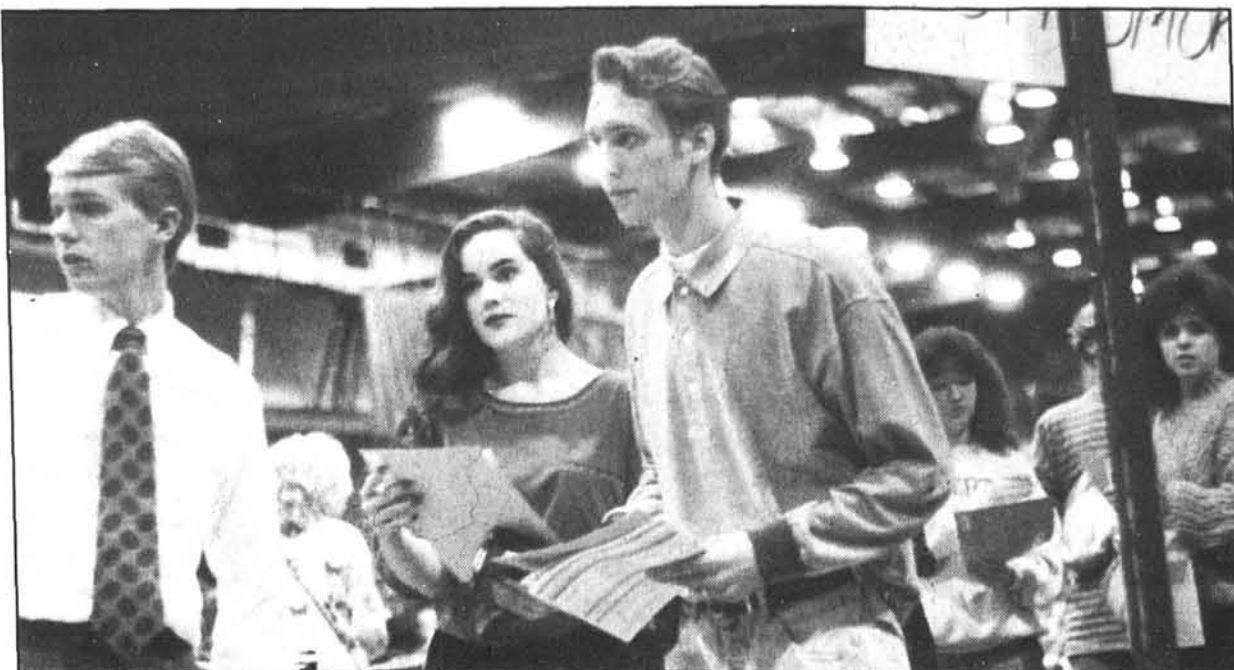
Poe said that although many battles are being won in the fight against abortion, the war, like its counterpart in the Middle East, may not be over any time soon. "The battle (against abortion) is going to be a very long and grueling campaign I'm afraid," Poe said.

As the three o'clock hour descended, marking the end of the demonstration, Lytle expressed concern about the apathetic attitude of many Christians.

"Christians are hard to arouse," Poe said. "Once they are saved they start to feel comfortable. But when Planned Parenthood opens its office in Lynchburg, we will probably see a

free-standing abortion clinic. I hope that arouses people."

Lytle said that the Christian Action Council is making plans for more demonstrations this year, including a Jericho rally in which the demonstrators march around an abortion clinic in the same manner as Joshua and the Israelites did in the Old Testament.



Deana and John Saylor are directed to a cashier during check-in of returning students last Tuesday.
Photo by Jeffrey A. Coia

Liberty reacts to Desert Storm

By KERI BURNS
Champion Reporter

The outbreak of war in the Middle East Wednesday sent shock waves not only throughout the world but also throughout the student body, as was demonstrated at both the Wednesday evening church service and the Thursday morning prayer meeting.

During the Wednesday night service, 25 students with immediate family members involved in Operation Desert Storm came forward shortly after the announcement was made that the allied forces were at war. These students were introduced to one another in order to form a support group for each other.

Many students have family and friends involved in the war. Approximately 70 percent of those in attendance at the Wednesday night service indicated that they know someone overseas.

"I think the announcement came at the perfect time, just before church services all across the country," campus pastor Rob Jackson said.

In addition, the regular Thursday morning prayer meeting, which has averaged 150 to 200 students, boasted 350 students in response to the recent developments in the Middle East.

He encouraged students to obey the passage in 2 Timothy that in-

structs Christians to pray for peace and wisdom for the leaders of the country. "I'm proud to be an American today because of the classy way President Bush is handling the entire situation," the campus pastor continued. "He is supporting a short conflict with as few casualties as possible."

In a recent *Champion* survey, several LU students and faculty members were asked these questions concerning the Persian Gulf War: 1. Do you know anyone serving in Saudi Arabia? 2. What was your reaction of the American bombing of Baghdad? 3. How long do you feel the war will last? Here are some of the responses (see page 10 for more):

Dr. Frank Chimenti
Chairman of the computer science department
Forest, VA

Do you know anyone serving in the Gulf? No
Reaction: "It was justified because we had given Saddam adequate time and warning to get out of Kuwait. He knew what would happen if he did not get out. Based on the background of the situation, it was fair."

How long? "My concern is for driving the Iraqis out of Kuwait and containing his abilities to retaliate. From all the reports I have heard he is well

entrenched. I figure we will continue to attack from the air for about one week. The ground attack will be much longer though."

Dr. Kevin Clauson
Chairman of the government department
Lynchburg, VA

Do you know anyone serving in the Gulf? Yes. A friend.

Reaction: "It caught me by surprise because it happened so soon after the U.N. deadline. It happened less than one day after the deadline. There has to be some psychological game being played in all of this."

How long? "From all the reports I have heard, a ground attack will last at least two months. But another question is, when is it over? Do we occupy Iraq or do we just drive Iraq out of Kuwait? There are too many questions that need to be answered."

Dr. David Partie
Chairman of the modern language department
Lynchburg, VA

Do you know anyone serving in the Gulf? Friend might be going

Reaction: "I am not surprised by war breaking out. I was surprised by the suddenness to the deadline."

How long? "Don't underestimate our opponent."

Guitar great Keaggy to perform Friday night

By CURT OLSON
News Editor

World-renowned and respected guitarist and songwriter Phil Keaggy will perform his first ever-concert at LU Friday at 7:30 p.m. in the Multi-Purpose Building.

Keaggy, who started his music career in the late 1960s, has performed with such rock music elites as Chicago, Iron Butterfly, Yes and Glass Heart.

Though he has been associated with these well-known groups, Keaggy's talents have been showcased by his solo career in contemporary Christian music, where he has found a loyal following.

Keaggy's introduction to Christianity came upon the tragic death of his mother. Her death forced him to reflect on his rock-and-roll lifestyle, and, ultimately, he left the group Glass Heart.

Keaggy is widely known for his acoustic-guitar playing. But as Keaggy said, "You couldn't say I'm classical or jazz, or that I'm country or folk, or even that I'm a rock guitarist, but as a dedicated musician, I desire to improve and become more creative as time goes on."

This creativity was most recently displayed on the album "Sunday's Child." The album built its artistic premise on the sound of the '60s: old guitars, old amps and a feeling

of camaraderie. The entire album was produced live in a music studio, as opposed to sound tracks and vocal tracks being recorded separately and then mixed. The album brought a Beatles-like style to Christian music which it had not previously witnessed.

The album not only received critical acclaim, but it attracted crowds across the country as Keaggy toured with Christian musician Randy Stonehill. Stonehill, along with Christian solo artist Russ Taff and bass guitarist Rick Cua, aided in the recording of the album as well.

Keaggy's newest album, "Find Me In These Fields" was built on the artistic premises of "Sunday's Child." Keaggy, though wanting to be more creative, conceiving a message on the album straight from his heart.

"This record was born out of my hunger for heaven and part of what I wanted to say is that you may feel fear or guilt, a loss of innocence or even a loss of purpose, but there is a refuge for us with our Lord," he explained.

Other Keaggy albums include "What A Day," "Love Broke Through," "Emerging," "Getting Closer" and "Way Back Home."

The cost for the concert is \$5 for general admission seating and \$7 for reserved.

LBN sells Family Net

By DOUGLAS R. DEMPSEY
Campus News Editor

LU announced on Jan. 16 that Family Net Inc., a satellite television network owned by the Liberty Broadcasting Network and the "Old Time Gospel Hour", has been sold to the Radio and Television Commission of the Southern Baptist Convention (RTVC).

The terms of the deal were not disclosed, but Liberty spokesman Mark DeMoss said the sale included air time as well as cash.

The final details of the sale should be finalized within 30 days, DeMoss said.

Jack Johnson, president of the RTVC, said the acquisition of FamilyNet would allow his network to reach an additional 700,000 homes and 70 television stations.

Some of FamilyNet's current programming, including the "Old Time Gospel Hour", will still be carried on the network. The Rev. Jerry Falwell was pleased with the transaction.

"As a result of this agreement, the outreach of the 'Old Time Gospel Hour' will be greatly enhanced, and the programming on Family Net will be strengthened," Falwell said.

DeMoss said the decision to sell FamilyNet was the result of a lack of OTGH funds to expand the network.

Current plans call for the OTGH to be broadcast on FamilyNet at 9 a.m. and 10 p.m., Monday through Friday, and 8 a.m. and 11 p.m. on Sundays.

FamilyNet was founded in 1987 by Falwell and the Liberty Broadcast Network.

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Flames Feedback

Marvin Hamlett

Record does not indicate true talent of 2-14 Flames

I guess by now you've probably heard that the Liberty men's basketball team snapped its nine-game losing streak. It's true. The Flames beat Eastern Mennonite Saturday night in the Vines Center, 70-63, to improve their record to 2-14.

On the same note, you've also probably heard certain pessimists say that this year's squad couldn't win a pickup game against an intramural team.

But here's something that you probably have not heard: This year's team has more raw talent than any of the LU teams I've ever seen in my five years at Liberty. In a team dominated by underclassmen, Liberty could be a perennial power in year or two. Its true! Hear me out!

If you've seen the Flames play this year, you'd recognize that the players have shown a few flashes of brilliance, but they have a lot of maturing to do. But the good news is that time is something the Flames have on their side. There isn't even one senior on the team, and there's only one junior (Mike Coleman) who gets substantial playing time.

Of course you know about Coleman: the hardworking 6-foot-7-inch center who is averaging 16 points per game (a 62 percent field goal percentage) as well as 11 rebounds per game. Coleman's field goal percentage and rebounds are good enough to rank him second among all players on independent teams.

But other than Coleman, who else do the Flames have that can shoot the lights out? The obvious answer is Julius Nwosu, a 6-foot-10-inch sophomore forward from Nigeria. Nwosu is in his infancy as far as learning the game of basketball. Already this year, he has tripled the number of games that he has played not only during his career, but his *during entire life*. He has made great strides this year, and he's not afraid to dunk the ball in heavy traffic. Can any other past or present Flame boast this? I've even heard one coach forecast him as an NBA prospect if his skills continue to develop.

Nwosu, in less than a year of play, is averaging 11 points and six rebounds a game. He's also quickly developing a turnaround jumper. Under the watchful eye of Coleman, Nwosu should develop the needed skills to give Liberty one of the most promising tandems of big men in all of Division 1-AA.

So why aren't the Flames winning more games? The main reason is that they have a freshman-dominated backcourt. Matthew Hildebrand, Chris Toomer, Jeff Bloom and Brett Anthony are the fearless freshman foursome. However, when compared to the average freshman player, all four have shown great ability.

Hildebrand is the man at the point. He averages nearly eight points and six assists per game. He has decent ball-handling skills and can shoot the long jumper.

Toomer is the shooting guard. He only averages six points per game but makes up for it with his tenacious defense. He plays with a lot of emotion and when he's on, he's hard to stop.

Bloom is the one who is hard to describe. He doesn't excel in any particular category, but he is solid in all facets of the game. He averages six points, three rebounds and three assists per game as well as a team-leading 1.5 steals per game. Although he's listed as a forward, he's not afraid to shoot the trey.

Anthony is usually the first man off the bench. He too is not flashy, but instead he's the most physical of the freshman guards.

The main problem for this fearless freshman foursome is turnovers, which is an aspect of the game that is conquered only by experience. Currently, the four contribute to make up 48 percent of the team's turnovers. That is a number that

See Hamlett, Page 8

Flames win against Division 3 EMC, snap losing streak

By MARVIN HAMLETT

Champion Reporter

The Liberty men's basketball team snapped a nine-game losing streak Saturday night with an unimpressive 70-63 home victory over Division 3 Eastern Mennonite.

The Flames, 2-14, placed four men in double figures including freshman guards Matthew Hildebrand (19 points) and Chris Toomer (12 points), sophomore forward Julius Nwosu (11 points) and junior center Mike Coleman who had a solid 18-point, 13-rebound performance.

"This was a big win," Coleman said. "The more games we go, the more team unity we have."

After battling to a 36-34 halftime advantage, the Flames had their sights set on coming out strong in the second half. Toomer began the half by knocking down a three-pointer for a 39-34 lead.

But LU's man-to-man defense could not contain the Royals guard tandem of Rodney Shields (18 points, 10 assists) and Gary Chupp (game-high 26 points, eight rebounds). "Defensively, we gambled a little bit, and Eastern Mennonite played with a

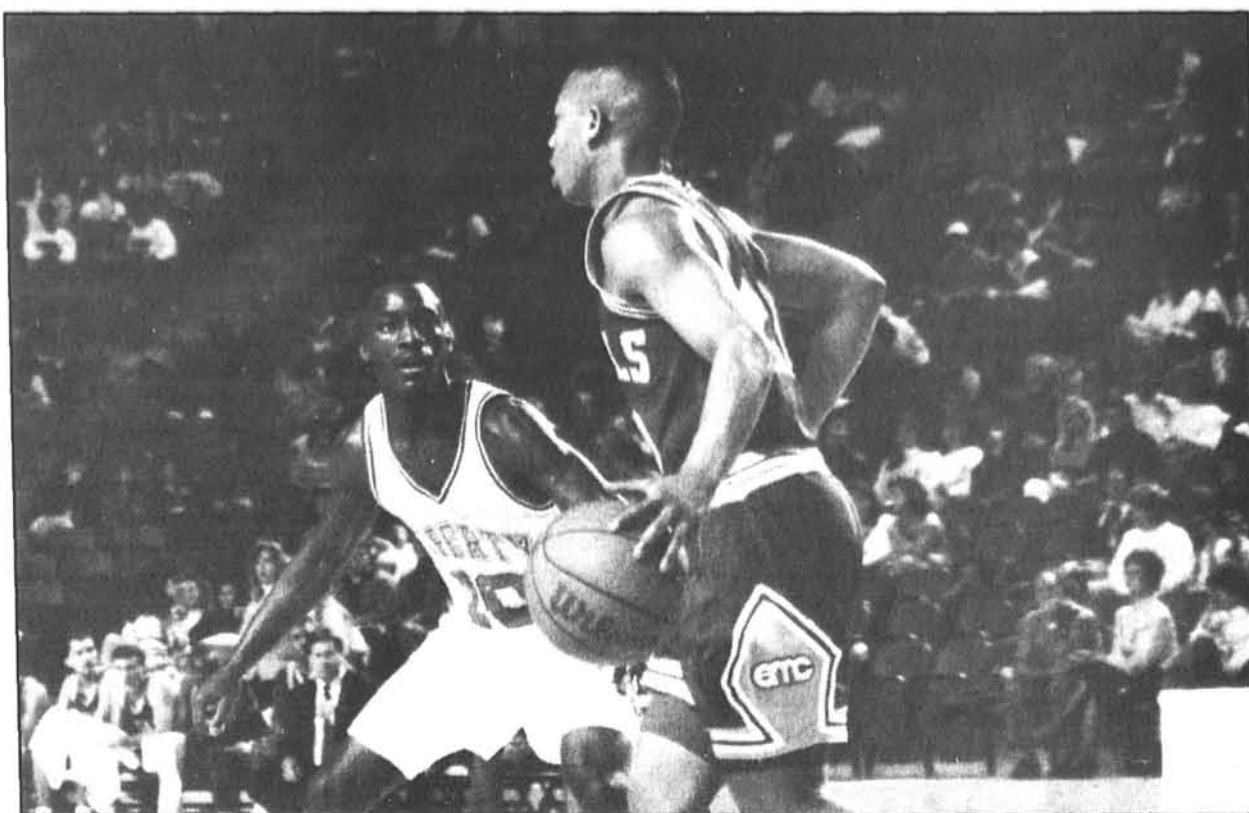
lot of poise," Flames coach Jeff Meyer said.

Liberty's biggest lead of the game was 53-44 with 12:48 remaining in the game. But LU, which doesn't have a senior on its squad, watched Chupp score eight of the game's next 10 points with a layup sandwiched by two three-pointers, cutting the LU lead to 55-52 with 9:47 left in the game.

The teams traded baskets during the next five minutes. LU still led 61-58 with four minutes remaining. Then sophomore forward Danny Pratt (four blocks) ignited a 6-1 LU run with a one-handed dunk. Toomer capped the run with a spectacular off-balance 10-footer with 21 seconds left as he was hammered by Eastern Mennonite's Mike Sommers. Toomer missed the free throw, but his field goal gave LU a 67-59 lead which proved to be insurmountable.

"Down the stretch we had some big shots to get us over the top," Meyer said. "Danny Pratt really gave us a lift, and Matt (Hildebrand) hit some clutch shots."

Liberty began the game with a 7-0 run with two inside shots by Coleman



Flames freshman guard Chris Toomer covered Eastern Mennonite's Rodney Shields like a blanket in last Saturday's win over the Royals, 70-63 in the Vines Center.

photo by Jeffrey A. Cota

and Nwosu and a 22-footer by Hildebrand. But the Royals, 4-8, kept chipping away until Chupp nailed a trey to tie the game at 21. Chupp followed with another three-pointer to give the Royals their first lead of the game, 24-21, with 7:38 remaining in the first half.

But LU responded with two Pratt field goals and two Coleman baskets

to give the Flames a lead they would never relinquish, 28-27.

The Royals, who did not sport a player taller than 6-feet, 6-inches were outrebounded 46-35 including 22-12 in the first half. In the second half, the Royals made only nine field goals (28 percent).

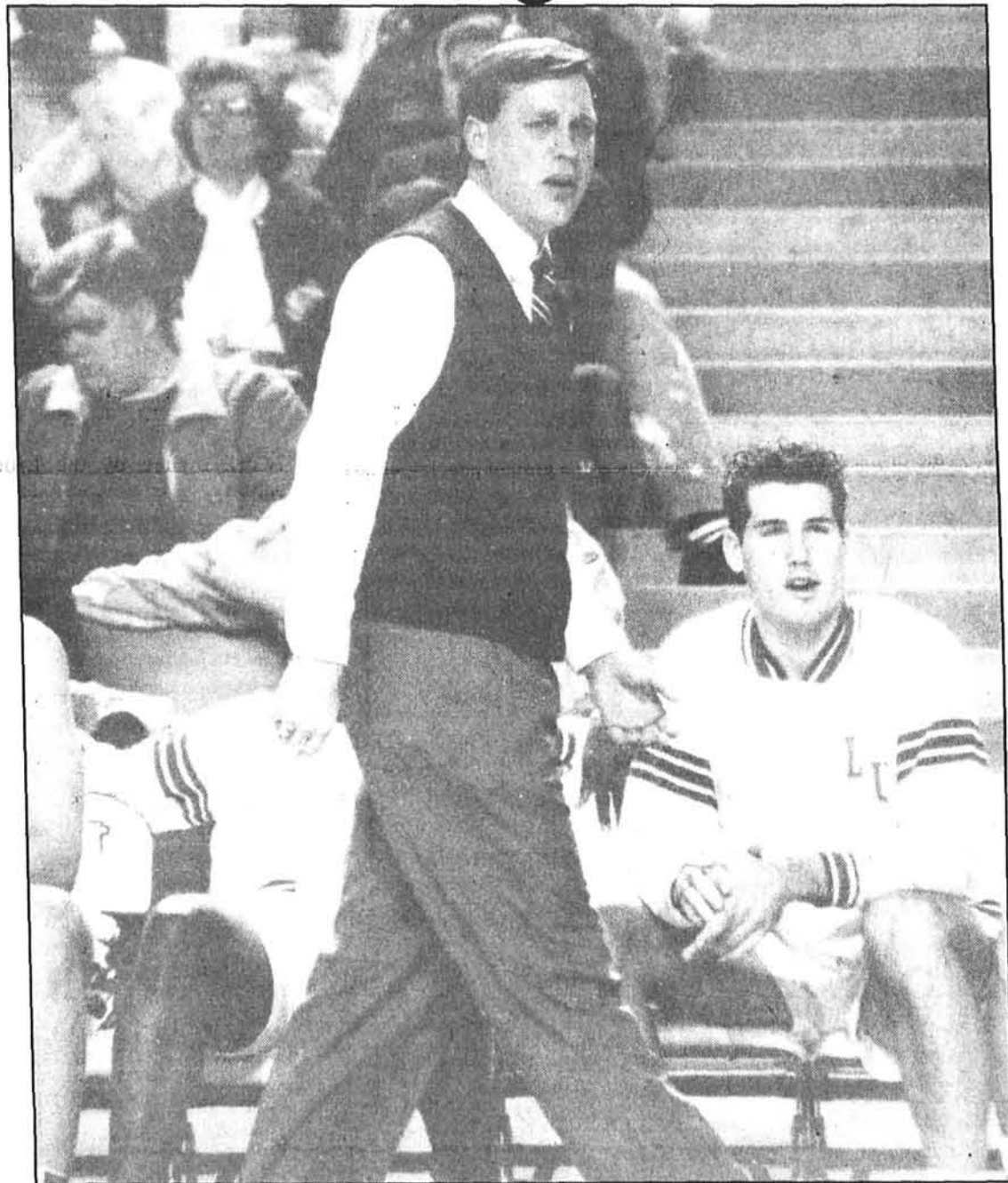
Liberty opened up the week against Furman University Thursday, but the

Paladins took advantage of a 17-2 second-half run to overcome a 14-point deficit and pull away from the upset-minded Flames, 67-62.

Coleman led all scorers with 24 points on 12 of 13 field goal shooting, including a short jumper which gave LU a 52-46 lead with 7:14

See Basketball, Page 9

Growing Pains



Youth, inexperience plague Meyer, team

By KEVIN M. BLOYE

Editor

The beginning of the 1990-91 Liberty basketball season was supposed to be the beginning of a new era for a program which had struggled every year since its induction into the Division 1 ranks in 1988. This season possessed the freshness and innocence of a newborn baby.

There was a new state-of-the-art, domed basketball arena.

There was the introduction of a 6-foot-10-inch Nigerian center whom many had labeled the "franchise."

There were eight new faces and a fresh "just-glad-to-be-here" attitude to accompany them.

There were no unpleasant memories of the past two seasons.

Sixteen games into the season, however, it is evident that one aspect of the program remains intact: losing. Saturday's narrow victory over Division 3 Eastern Mennonite gave the Flames only their second win of the season with both wins coming at home against Division 3 opponents.

Before the beginning of the spring semester, Liberty endured a grueling eight-game holiday road trip from

which they came home empty in the win column. The cruel reality of big-time college basketball has hit the freshmen-dominated team quickly, and 10th-year Liberty head coach Jeff Meyer faces his biggest coaching challenge to date: maintaining an optimistic outlook in an otherwise dreary season.

"The most difficult aspect for me personally this year has been in terms of motivating the kids when they've played so hard the entire season and have had so little to show for it," Meyer said. "I constantly share biblical illustrations with the team that say you reap what you sow and hard effort will merit good results; but so much of it seems like theory to them until they actually start experiencing it."

While many factors have led to the Flames' 2-14 record, none is more glaring than the incredible youth and inexperience factor. Of the 12 players on the current active roster, five were playing high school ball at this time last year while five others sat out the entire 1989-90 season for various reasons (red-shirt, injuries, and eligibility purposes). Only starting center Mike Coleman and utility man Jon

Yates were on the team's active roster last season. Coleman has been the team's only consistent player (16.0 points, 11.3 rebounds a game), while the rest of the team has performed like freshmen: red-hot one game, nonexistent the next.

At Big East power Providence three weeks ago, the Flames looked like a team on a mission as they raced to an astonishing 56-50 halftime lead in front of more than 13,000 confused fans. However, the youth and inexperience factor pounded the Flames in the second half as the Friars outscored Liberty 52-22 to claim a convincing 102-78 win. The Providence game provided a glimmer of hope for the future, but Meyer realizes that breeding a winning Division 1 program will take time.

"We had a feeling it was going to be a difficult year from the beginning. It was not like we were not aware of it," Meyer said. "It is going to take some time for this group to learn how to play together. With time comes experience and with experience comes wisdom and with wisdom comes vic-

See Struggle, Page 9

Women begin strong, finish slow in 55-47 loss to George Mason

By PAMELA WALCK

Champion Reporter

George Mason took advantage of a 13-2 run to start the second half and held on for a 55-47 win over the Lady Flames basketball team Friday night in the LU Gym.

Trailing 23-17 entering the second half, George Mason wasted no time in bridging the six-point gap, as the Lady Patriots capitalized on four LU turnovers in the first five minutes.

Junior forward Theresa Bream (18 points, 12 rebounds) hit two free throws with 15:45 remaining to pull LU to within 26-25. Liberty connected on its first field goal of the second half with 13:48 left when freshman guard Sandy Schwasnick hit a short jumper, cutting the lead 32-27.

An assist from Schwasnick allowed Bream to score inside, cutting the lead to three at 32-29 with 12:41 left in the game. Bream pulled the Lady Flames to within two with 8:15 remaining as she hit a free throw to convert a three-point play. But the Flames could get no closer.

The Lady Flames remained at a standstill for the rest of the game as their inexperience showed. The Lady Patriots consistently broke through Liberty's man-to-man defense forcing the Flames to foul. GMU hit 6 of 7 free throws in the final minutes.

When asked about the second-half slump, LU head coach Rick Reeves said, "We lost our leadership in the second half. We don't have the leadership needed to play from behind—

we need to stay ahead."

Bream commented, "We need determination to win the game, but it needs to be continued."

Liberty came out strong to begin the game by grabbing a 9-4 lead on freshman guard Dawn Coleman's three-pointer with 11:40 left in the first half.

GMU fought back and tied the score at 11, but Liberty took control again by scoring the next six points. The two teams then swapped baskets for the remainder of the half as Liberty led 23-17.

The Lady Flames defense held the Lady Patriots to only six first half field goals on 19 percent shooting. Of the six, only two baskets were scored outside of the paint.

But in the second half, GMU nailed 47 percent of its field goals.

Overall, the Lady Flames' points were spread thin among the players. The low scoring of the game resulted in only a 33 percent field goal percentage for the Flames.

One of the main problems in the loss was turnovers. Liberty gave the ball away 21 times including 15 during the decisive second half.

Despite a 5-8 record, Reeves maintained a positive perspective about the game. "Nobody expected us to win a ball game," the first-year coach said. "I have a great group of kids with a great attitude and great recruiting possibilities for next year, but we want

See Lady Flames, Page 7

Holiday, Fisher power LU to finish in second-place

By ERIC YODER

Champion Reporter

The Liberty Flames wrestling team traveled to Old Dominion University to compete in the Virginia State Championships Friday and Saturday. And although the team didn't come in first, it did turn a few heads.

Out of the eight NCAA Division I teams that competed in last weekend's tournament, the Flames finished second with 70 cumulative points, topped only by the host team of ODU with 87.

Five of the Flames' wrestlers captured top positions within their individual weight classes, including senior Craig Holiday who swept his 167-pound class by not allowing any points to be scored against him during the entire tournament. "We performed well as a team. Everyone wrestled up to his seed or better," Holiday said.

Rodney Fisher, a 158-pound senior, also captured a first-place position by pinning his opponent in the last 53 seconds of the match. An outstanding performance was given by freshman Aaron Bruce who placed second in the 177-pound class, losing only one match to an ODU wrestler by two points.

Other top contenders for the Flames were as follows: sophomore Steve Demlan who finished second in the 142-pound class, Derek Thoreson who finished third in the 118-pound class and Christian Holiday who finished fourth in the 158-pound class.

The team is now 5-4 in dual meets and it is also wrestling well in tournament competition. Head coach Don Shuler said that he was pleased with his team's performance, as much of the opposing talent was ranked in the top 20.

Liberty returns home Saturday at 3:00 p.m. to square off with the same ODU team. Shuler is expecting fierce competition from the well-rounded Monarch grapplers. "They're tough all the way through," Shuler noted.



Flames' Clipboard

By Kevin Bloye

Mascot ruffles ref's feathers, promises to continue act

A freakish thing happened during the Liberty-Furman game Thursday night that left the 2,650 in attendance at the Vines center in disbelief. Midway through the second half with the Flames clinging to a narrow lead, referee Duke Edsall ejected Liberty's Danny Coupland from the arena floor. Who is Danny Coupland you might ask? Coupland plays Liberty's obnoxious, fun-loving eagle mascot during all LU home games.

The "Bird" as many people call Coupland, was ejected shortly after dismembering and body-slaming a stuffed figure of a referee during a pause in second-half action. As soon as the mascot's ejection was announced, the student section heartily booed Edsall for several seconds while passing the stuffed referee several rows up the student section. Shortly after the ejection, the Flames lost the lead and eventually the game leaving many to believe that the "Bird's" ejection sealed the fate of Liberty.

"I don't know why but for some reason, he (Edsall) got really offensive and took the whole thing personally," Coupland said after Saturday's Eastern Mennonite contest. "He's a good referee and well-respected everywhere, but he just lost it for a second."

Coupland has used the stuffed referee act during almost every home game during the past two seasons and was given clearance to continue the act by the LU athletic department - despite the ejection.

"The coordinator of referees for the Southern Conference was there Thursday night and he even said that the referee was being a little touchy," Coupland said. "As long as I still have the support of the team and the fans, I will continue to do it."

Who will be officiating this Saturday's home game against the College of Charleston? You guessed right. Duke Edsall.

Stay tuned.

Holiday Blues:

During Christmas break, the Flames played eight consecutive road games and came home with an eight-game losing streak. The quickest rundown: Dec. 15 Brooklyn College 91 Liberty 65, High Scorer: B.J. Burton 15 Dec. 17 St. Francis (NY) 63 Liberty 50, High Scorer: Mike Coleman 11 Dec. 21 Delaware State 96 Liberty 73, High Scorer: Mike Coleman 18 Dec. 22 Alabama State 67 Liberty 59, High Scorer: Mike Coleman 12 Dec. 29 Providence 102 Liberty 78, High Scorer: Mike Coleman 19 Jan. 3 Furman 87 Liberty 76, High Scorer: Julius Nwosu 22 Jan. 7 Samford 62 Liberty 61, High Scorer: Mike Coleman 28 Jan. 10 East Tennessee St. 86 Liberty 55, High Scorer: Mike Coleman 20

Captain Mike:

In a season where bright spots seem few and far between, junior center Mike Coleman has breathed life into the Flames and established himself as

an excellent low-post player.

Named the team captain at the beginning of the season, Coleman leads the team in points, rebounds, blocked shots, field goal percentage and free throw percentage.

"We have been so pleased with Mike's work ethic and leadership this year," LU coach Jeff Meyer said. He has easily been our most consistent player this year and has developed into a dominant post player."

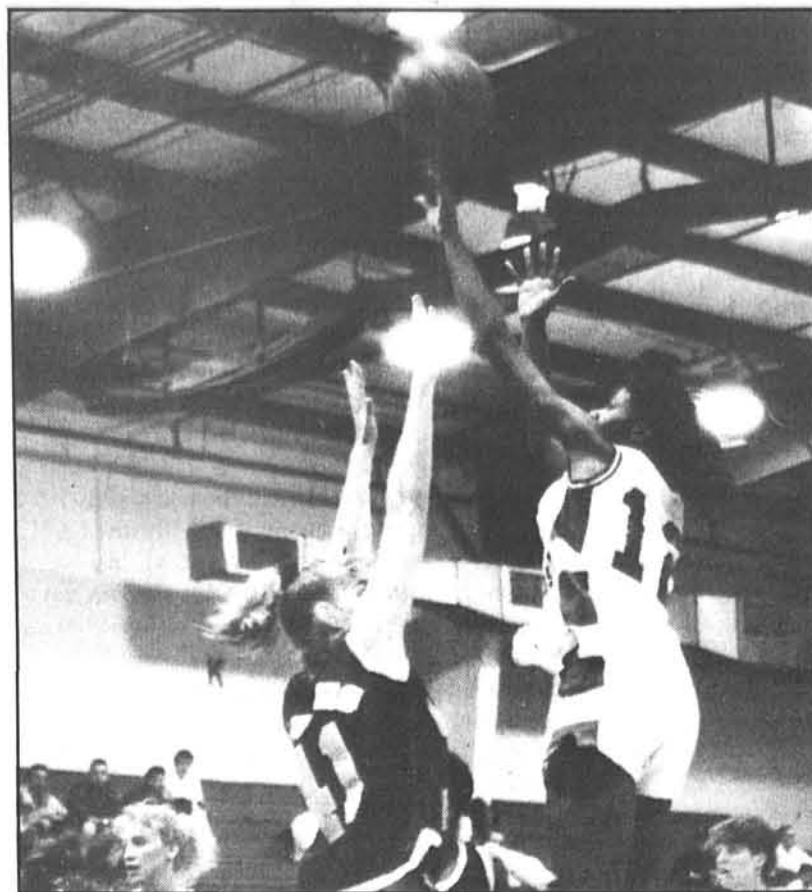
The junior center from Rochester, Pa., is the top rebounder in the country among Independents and is second in field goal percentage and fourth in free throw percentage. Who is least impressed with Coleman's performance? Coleman himself.

"There are so many areas that I need to improve on," Coleman admitted. "I'm not close to reaching my potential yet. All I can do is to continue to work hard every day."

Player's Club names Co-Players of the Week:

The Players Club has named Rodney Fisher and Craig Holiday as its Co-Players of the Week.

Fisher captured first place in the Virginia State Championships held at ODU this weekend. Holiday also received top honors as no one scored on him the entire tournament.



Lady Flames' guard Jeri Wiley pulls up for the short jumper during Friday night's loss to George Mason University. photo by Jeffrey A. Cota

Lady Flames

Continued from Page 7

to win this year."

The Lady Flames play three games this week: Tuesday at home against Baptist College at 7:30 p.m., Thursday on the road against Coastal Carolina at 7:30 p.m. and Saturday at home against Western Carolina at 3 p.m. These are three teams that Reeves feels he can and will beat, which would even the team's overall record to 8-8.

"I will promise the fans that we will get better all of the time, and we will not let them down," he said.

Hamlett

Continued from Page 7

should sharply drop with each year. The next Flames game you go to can be the true test to my theory. When you see Liberty start making mistakes, take note as to whether it is a "freshman mistake."

One player that may be the forgotten man is sophomore forward Danny Pratt. At 6-feet-6-inches and 215 pounds, Pratt may be the best athlete on the team. He had four blocked shots against Eastern Mennonite last Saturday and added two tomahawk dunks. He could be the go-to man of the future.

If you still doubt my word, take the word of Furman head coach Butch Estes: "Liberty is an improving basketball team. If they could win two or three games, they'll be reeling."

Similarly Coleman said, "I have a great deal of players to work with. We just must overcome our mistakes."

Pratt agreed, "We're better than our record indicates. Minor problems early in the game usually cost us the win."

The point to all of this is that only time will tell if these young players can fulfill their potential. In the meantime the Flames continue to play an exciting style of basketball as they consistently give 150 percent effort to win every game. With each passing year, this year's freshman class will be getting better and better.

Liberty plays seven of its final 10 games in the Vines Center, which may give the team the priceless confidence that could carry over into next season. The right thing to do now is to give them the support that they need and deserve.

In the long run, this promising group of youngsters will not let you down.



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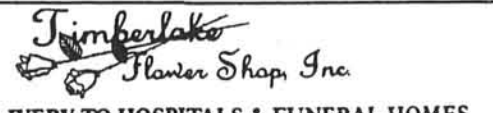
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Struggle

Continued from Page 7

One player who consistently displays wisdom on and off the court is the 6-foot-7-inch, 215-pound Coleman. Guided by an incredible spark of self-motivation that is rare in college athletes, Coleman has developed into a dominant force under the basket, leading the team in almost every major offensive category. Despite the lack of any consistency from his supporting cast, Coleman is excited about the future.

"We have a great core of talent here. The young players are finally starting to get comfortable with the system, and they're being able to read one another on the court," Coleman explained. "We have a great bunch of guys with a great attitude. The future looks really bright."

In late December the team was dealt its most crippling loss off the court when sophomore starting guard B.J. Burton and senior reserve forward Zach Harris were expelled from the team for violating university policy. The loss of Burton left Liberty without its top offensive perimeter player and best overall defensive player, but Meyer maintains that incident is not a reflection on the team he has assembled.

"It has always been our motivation to develop the best possible basketball team on the court and to try and honor the Lord and represent Liberty in a positive manner," Meyer explained. "It is my primary responsibility to Liberty University to work very hard at discipleship. This is not only a profession; it's also a ministry. From day to day, we conduct devotions that will hopefully teach the kids to make right decisions in life."

"The downside of youth is that they tend to make bad decisions and poor judgment calls," Meyer said. "The upside of youth is that they are very resilient. I'm proud of this team in that none of them have hung their heads. I hope as we improve in the future that we will not forget what it is like to experience consecutive losses, and we learn to appreciate victories."

While most agree that there is nowhere to go but up for the LU basketball program, Meyer feels success will come a lot sooner than many think.

"I truly believe that next season we will not only be competitive, but we'll be a team that finishes well over the .500 mark," Meyer predicted. "Our schedule will have a better balance of home and away games, and our young players will have developed."

Basketball

Continued from Page 7

remaining. But Furman, using a trapping press and a tenacious man-to-man defense, began to take charge as LU committed 14 of its 17 turnovers in the second half.

The Paladins scored six points in the next 26 seconds, taking their first lead of the game when senior forward Tracy Garrick hit his only three-pointer of the night to give Furman a 53-52 lead with 6:48 left.

After LU missed a quick shot, Garrick scored again from the paint to increase the lead to 55-52 with 6:11 remaining as Meyer called a timeout. But things got worse for the Flames as they failed to score on their next five possessions.

Finally, Coleman hit a baseline jumper to pull LU to within 59-54. But Furman's Derek Waugh, who led

the Paladins with 19 points and 12 rebounds, scored four straight to increase the lead to 63-54 with 3:10 remaining.

A Toomer three-pointer followed by another Coleman field goal cut the lead to 63-59 with 42 seconds remaining. But the Paladins hit 4 of 4 free throws to ice its ninth win against five losses.

Furman hit 19 of 20 free throws for the game and held Liberty to 1 of 11 on three-point attempts in the second half.

"We didn't have the productivity coming out of the locker room (after halftime)," Meyer said. "If we had more experience, it could have been different."

The Flames began the game on fire as they hit 51 percent of their field goals in the first half including five of

10 three-pointers. They also committed only three turnovers in the first half as they led 37-25 at intermission.

"Our kids came out strong in the first half," Meyer said. "But Furman's experience was a definite factor."

While Furman could not contain Coleman, they did shut out LU's other big man as Nwosu scored only four points, including a scoreless second half.

The Flames also shot themselves in the foot, hitting only 4 of 11 from the free-throw line.

Paladins' head coach Butch Estes was very impressed with the Flames. "We played a great Liberty team tonight," Estes said. "These guys played like it was the championship."

The Flames play two road games next week (The Citadel on Monday and Charleston Southern on Wednesday) before returning home to face the College of Charleston in the Vines Center Saturday night at 7:30 p.m.

Eastern Mennonite (63)
Agnew 0-1 0-0 0, Martin 0-0 1-2 1, Dean 0-0 0-0 0, Shields 6-15 5-6 18, Sommers 1-7 3-4 5, Carter 2-3 0-0 4, Chupp 10-21 2-2 26, Smith 0-3 0-0 0, Troyer 2-11 5-6 9, Ramsey 0-0 0-0 0.
Totals 21-61 16-20 63
Liberty (70)

Nwosu 2-7 7-10 11, Miller 0-1 0-0 0, Toomer 4-9 2-6 12, Hildebrand 5-12 7-9 19, Anthony 0-6 0-0 0, Bloom 0-3 2-2 2, Coleman 9-13 0-2 18, Pratt 4-5 0-1 8. Totals 24-56 18-30 70

Halftime-Liberty 36, Eastern Mennonite 34, 3-point goals-EMC 5-12 (Agnew 0-1, Shields 1-2, Sommers 0-2, Chupp 4-7), LU 4-13 (Toomer 2-5, Hildebrand 2-5, Anthony 0-1, Bloom 0-2), Rebounds-EMC 35 (Chupp 8) LU 46 (Coleman 13), Assists-EMC 16 (Shields 10) LU 17 (Hildebrand, Toomer 5). Total fouls-EMC 22, LU 15

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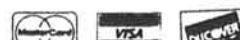
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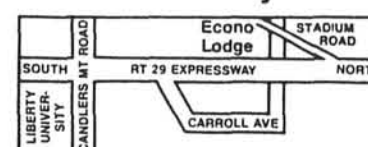
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LU faculty, students respond to breakout of gulf war

The following are responses to a survey conducted for the Liberty Champion in which students were asked the following questions:

1. Do you know anyone in Saudi Arabia?
2. What was your reaction to the attack of the Allied Forces on Iraq?
3. Were you surprised by the quickness of the attack?
4. How long do you think the war will last?

Jimmy Jackson; Senior; Kalamazoo, Mich.
 Friends? "I have a good friend over there right now."
 Surprised? "I was surprised that it happened so quick."
 Duration? "It will probably last less than a month."
 Reaction? "I am solidly behind the war. It is a just war and a necessary evil in a fallen world."

James McKnight; Freshman; Orlando, Fla.

Friends? "Yes."
 Surprised? "I wasn't surprised. I expected it to happen."
 Duration? "I have no idea how long it will last."
 Reaction? "I don't want to hear about it. I'll hear about it when it's over."

Lori Friedman
 Sophomore; Paris, France
 Reaction? "It's scary, but I'm glad

we're there."
 Surprised?: "I just want them to get it over with."
 Duration?: "Hopefully no more than a month."
 Relations in Gulf?: "Yes"

Kelly Lake
 Junior; Cleveland, Ohio
 Reaction? "It's about time we went in."
 Surprised?: "No, they took too long

waiting."
Stephen Witham, assistant professor of government
 Friend? "No."
 Reaction? "I was surprised it happened that quickly. I was disappointed that diplomacy didn't prevail."
 Surprised? "This was a real test of high-tech weapons. The real question is 'Can we dislodge them with a ground attack?'"

How long? "The air war will probably last two to three weeks."
Dr. Jim Stevens, associate dean of the School of Religion
 Friend? "Yes, a friend of mine's son is in the Navy."
 Reaction? "I had expected it to be successful. I'm just waiting to see what's ahead."
 Surprised? "No. I was glad to see how Bush did it."
 How long? "The massive air strikes

indicate it's not going to last long."
Don Hubele, assistant professor of English
 Relations in the Gulf? "Yes. A cousin."
 Reaction? "I am just thankful that we dodged a bullet. My biggest fear was Iraqi retaliation against Israel."
 How long? "When you start talking about ground forces in that region, you are talking about religious zealotry."

Falwell

Continued from Page 1

day and Saturday, Israeli retaliation was deemed inevitable by several military experts. Falwell stressed the importance of Israeli restraint, not retaliation. "Israel has the opportunity to display true integrity if she does not retaliate. If she does retaliate, it will destroy the Arab coalition against Hussein," the LU chancellor said. "It is imperative that Israel leave this war to the United States." While many Biblical scholars have directly linked the Persian Gulf War to the final days in the Book of Revelations, Falwell remains doubtful. "I seriously doubt that the happenings in the Middle East are leading to any particular fulfillment of prophecy," Falwell stated. "But I do believe that in the greater plan of prophecy, continued bloodshed even after this war is prophesied. There will be no peace until Jesus sits on the throne of David."

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