09-30-87 (The Liberty Champion, Volume 5, Issue 6)
Success and sacrifice teach Whelchel real Christianity

By Robin Brooks and Pam Windham

It has been said that life imitates art, but Saturday night that old adage proved wrong as Lisa Whelchel, star of NBC's "The Facts of Life," performed at Liberty University.

Whelchel, who portrays the rich and spoiled Blair Warner, proved life can be so much better than art as she shared her testimony with an enthusiastic crowd in the Multi-Purpose Center.

Between songs Whelchel shared life experiences and God's work in them. After relating the story of the rich, young ruler who refused to give up everything and follow Christ, Lisa told how the Lord led her to give up her Rolex and rings for the cause of starving children in Haiti.

In response to applause from the audience, Lisa asked that people not applaud her actions because she didn't have the "super Christian" she appeared to be. She added that the Lord had continued to convict her about them. After relating the story of the rich, young ruler who refused to give up everything and follow Christ, Lisa told how the Lord led her to give up her Rolex and rings for the cause of starving children in Haiti.

When asked if she sees herself as a role model, Lisa admitted that she has a responsibility, especially since "The Facts of Life" hits young girls at a vulnerable age. "I know them. A lot of young girls get most of their information from what they see on television. They're young and impressionable. They don't know her they assume she is like her character, Blair. "Once we get to talking they can usually, hopefully, real quickly see the difference," she quipped.

Unlike Blair, Lisa stated that she never really had to fight her ego. "My mom raised me very strict and intuitive, and she made sure I didn't get carried away with myself."

Concerning her future on NBC's longest running prime time show, Lisa stated she plans to stay as long as it is on the air. Concerning life after "The Facts," Lisa said: "I'm not locked into acting the whole time; that may not even be an option. I don't know if I'll be able to be an actress; but if I am, it will be because of God's grace."

Also following the show Lisa's opening act, singer-songwriter Billy Crockett commented on the enthusiasm of the Liberty crowd.

"We loved it! You always hear a lot about this school and what's going on here with Dr. Falwell, but it's something else to come here and experience it," Crockett noted.

Also in dealing with issues that are questionable, Lisa has refused movie roles that she feels may compromise her standards.

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Members say Choir like a close 'family'

By Lori Skudler

They sing, they sway, they clap their hands, and they minister all at the same time. They've been called "The Fellowship Choir" and "The Black Fellowship Choir."

But, neither of these is correct. The first title is inaccurate because not only do they fellowship and sing they also sing a unique kind of music. And, the second is incorrect because not all of the members are black.

The group is officially the Liberty University Fellowship Gospel Choir. Currently, the choir is raising money for a singing tour with the "Sing-A-Rap-A-Gram" service. The choir or a smaller group, given 24-hour notice, will make up a rap and sing it for anyone on campus. The cost is $2 for a small group and $4-$5 for the whole choir.

Rod Allen, founder of the choir in 1981, has directed it intermittently ever since. The choir was a part of the Black Student Fellowship at one time, but split from that group when they added white members.

Allen, a graduate of Liberty, is also an ordained minister. In addition to directing the choir at LU, he also serves as minister of music at Seven Hills Baptist Church and choir director at First Baptist Church in Lynchburg.

Eugenia Mills, a junior, who is beginning her second year in the choir, said she heard the choir perform when she came to Liberty for College-for-a-Weekend. She liked the music they sang and the way they came across.

Mills, part of the white minority of the group, said she feels right at home. She added that it's not like being in a regular choir "It's more like a group of friends getting together to sing and just trying to make it sound good," she added.

Tim Cayton, who is president of the choir for the second year, said the members spend a lot of time together outside of choir. "We're very close, he said.

Amitha Faris, a third-year choir member, responded the same way: "We're just like family."

The members learn their songs primarily by listening to their parts. When a soloist sings, there is a lot of freedom to be extemporaneous or spontaneous because the singers and accompanist rarely use written

continued on page 2
Student gets ‘bad’ Rapp for Gospel

By Robert Holmes

Scan the radio dial and you’re probably not going to find it.

Tune in your favorite Christian radio station, and you probably won’t hear it.

Try the record store, and you are going to have a hard time buying it.

It’s Christian rapp music, and a Liberty University senior is cleaning it up and adding the Gospel to it.

Many Liberty University students;

Choir

continued from page 1

music.

But not all Christians get excited about Gospel rapp. McKeehan has found himself defending his music against those who cite Gospel rapp as just another form of satanic rock and roll.

How does he respond to the charges? He encourages his critics to “listen to the lyrics,” saying they are “from my heart” and “Biblically sound.”

McKeehan said he just wants to “be good for the Lord.” Like the Rev. Jerry Falwell says, “If it’s Christian, it ought to be better.”

But, most of all, Toby “D.C. Talk” McKeehan wants to be sure his music is uplifting for his brothers and sisters in Christ. He said a song he and Mike Tate have done together in chapel services called “Heaven-bound” exemplifies this uplifting best:

Don’t look down stand around keep on reachin’ for higher ground. Kinda profound a trump will sound and all God’s children are Heavenbound.

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Have you ever tried to walk someplace in a hurry on this campus? If so, then chances are that one time or another you have probably run into THEM. THEY mosey about with seemingly no particular place to go. THEY usually are in no hurry to get from point A to point B. And THEY often pick the most inconvenient spots to stop and chat with one another. THEY are the Floaters, and THEY can cause no end of frustration to those of US who are members of the rival faction, the Walkers. A Walker’s goal is usually to go from the place he is to the place he wants’ to be in the shortest possible time.

But whenever he tries to get somewhere, he inevitably winds up behind a group of Floaters, especially if he is unfortunate enough to be in DeMoss Hall when classes let out. While his patience thins, he tries to pass the stumbling students. He swerves right to find his path blocked by a hyper-extended formation of floaters jutting into the walkway as they converse beside the bricks. A quick left only results in a near head-on collision with an oncoming floatilla.

The same thing happens to US when WE drive. Even when WE decide not to speed, WE always wind up behind one of THEM. This wouldn’t be a problem except that WE usually wait too long to pass THEM. Then WE get trapped again, as a string previously passed floaters drift by with “Gotcha again!” smiles plastered brazenly on their self-satisfied faces.

Now, the Floaters are probably saying, “Yeah, but you guys should slow down a little. Stop and smell the roses once in a while.”

OUR response: “Yeah, but you shouldn’t walk so slow. You shouldn’t stand in the middle of the hallway to talk.”

But, maybe THEY’RE right. Maybe the Lord put Floaters on the earth for a reason. Maybe THEY’RE here to irritate us so much that WE’RE forced to develop a little tolerance and patience. Maybe WE should take the hint NAAAAAHHHHH!!!!

Mock election results

Approximately 500 people participated in College Republicans’ mock presidential election on September 17, just before the birthday celebration honoring the Constitution.

The Republican results are as follows:

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Yesterday I tried to walk through a door. Oh, I made it all right—only after the third try and some remodeling of the surrounding wall with an axe.

Okay, so maybe I walk a little on the wide side. But, then again, maybe the rest of the world is just a little too skinny. Whatever the circumstances are, I think maybe I should think about going on a diet...again.

Special diets have popped up all over the country and needless to say, I’ll try them all. Usually, these diets are founded by self-proclaimed beauties in the Beverly Hills area: Victoria Principal, Linda Evans, Miss Piggy and the Muppets, etc.

Well, none of those worked. As a matter of fact, after concluding those diets, I often found myself doing wheelies across the bathroom floor. Bummer.

However, never fear, unfortunate friends of flab, because this little hombre is going to come up with his own version of fat fighting. I’m going to call it Dan Ho’s Guide to Gut-busting.

The first area I’ll have to conquer is definitely the biggest and most horrifying sacrifice to my physical well-being: food.

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Each one of my diet will consist of absolutely no food for the first three months, followed by one meal, consisting of raw liver and pickled perch. The liver is for protein. The pickled perch is to let the dieter know that life has not left him or her...yet.

It is extremely unfortunate that I must exclude myself from this area because I’m allergic to liver and fish.

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So, I grabbed a Coke from the frig and plopped down on the couch for a heavy sulking session. But as I worked out desperate last minute ideas to save the Dan Ho diet, I caught an interesting commercial on the tube. Defeat was certain. The Dan Ho diet would remain a dream. I would no longer be up there with the stars.

Worse yet, there was no other way to trim the tummy. It seemed like I’d have to remain looking like a bubble gum machine a little longer. As I grabbed another Coke and a slice of pizza to stuff my face with, it hit me. If God wanted me to be skinny, He would have sewn my mouth shut!
Feature

Student smuggles Bibles to China
By Kip L. Provost

Your heart starts to beat faster. Your palms begin to sweat. On your back you're carrying 50 pounds of Bibles and your mission is to smuggle them in communist China where being a Christian definitely shortens your life span.

Now you've reached the customs house. Before you enter China, your bags will be searched by five or six communist officials. They ask for your bags. You've prayed for an hour that God will somehow blind them so you won't see the 60 Bibles you have in the bag on your back.

You hand them your first bag, a "dummy" bag, which holds everything but Bibles. It passes through the x-ray machine that scans the contents of your baggage. You are then permitted to enter China.

You're in communist China with 60 illegal Bibles. Andy Combs smuggled Bibles into China almost daily this summer and the illustration above is his story.

By the end of summer, Andy, along with his 16-year-old brother and four other students, smuggled 8,000 Bibles into China, plus hundreds of pieces of Christian literature.

The junior pre-med major was given the opportunity to go to China by a man named David Hartman who had worked with Andy's brother, Nathan, on a Teen Mission team.

Last Christmas Andy and Nathan received a letter from Hartman inviting them to China to work with Alvin and Kendall Cobb smuggling Bibles. The Cobbs are head of Bibleway Ministries, Inc., and work Bibles into China where there is one Bible for about every 10 people.

Hong Kong, under British rule, was the first stop. There Andy attended Shenzhen University for two weeks learning the basics of the Chinese language.

While he was there, Andy met a Chinese medical major and was invited up to the student's dorm room where he was shown many long needles and medicines that were strange to Andy, but common to the practices of acupuncture.

While they conversed, Andy noticed a Chinese Bible lying on the student's desk.

"Where did you get this?" Andy asked.

"An American friend gave it to me," the student said.

Andy took the opportunity to show the student John 3:16 and asked him to translate it for him. The fact that the student was so open to the gospel made an impression on Andy.

"I challenged him to read the Bible. I prayed for him and planted a seed in his life," Andy said.

Andy visited a house church, an illegal church in China where the gospel is secretly shared. One Bible divided up in pages was shared among the members. These people hid the pages of the Bible in their shoes to take home and study.

"I mean, I own four Bibles, you know. And they had one Bible for every 10 people, and it was in pages," Andy remarked. His visit to China, he said, helped him realize how much Americans have and take for granted.

The Bibles were supplied by the Cobbs through Bibleway Ministries, Inc. Six workers rented an apartment in Hong Kong. Boxes of Bibles were stacked in one corner of the apartment to the ceiling.

Everyday they each loaded a bag of 60 Bibles and one "dummy" bag full of Bibles into their backpacks for the overnight supplies. From Hong Kong they traveled to a number of different entrances to China either by boat, train or bus.

Once there, the dummy bag was handed to the customs officials first and the second bag, full of Bibles, was always prayed for so that the officials would not ask to check it.

One afternoon the students decided to take no dummy bags and each risked taking two bags of Bibles which became very heavy. More prayer. When they reached the customs house, to their surprise, not a single person was in sight. They entered China once again, this time with twice as many Bibles as before.

They took their bags of Bibles to hotels to be checked in, locked, and later, to be picked up by Chinese Christians who were contacted by the Cobbs.

Andy compared the whole smuggling procedure to that of an undercover agent in a drug ring.

"We were the pack mules," said Andy. "We sacrificed our backs and our money. It was physically demanding and very exhausting."

Ashcroft has come a long way
By Pam Windham

Are you interested in the foreign students? One who might have caught your attention is Andy Ashcroft.

He was born Andrew Timothy Ashcroft in Rosford, England, on Feb. 21, 1965, to Kenneth and Kathleen Ashcroft, missionaries to Italy.

Andy's parents had been missionaries to Italy. When it came time for his arrival, Andy's mother traveled to England so that her son would have English citizenship and to be near her relatives during the delivery.

The early part of his education took place in the Junior English School held in Rome on the Apian Way. He stayed at this school until he was eight years old and his parents moved to Scotland for two years of deputation.

Here Andy learned what a harsh place the world really was. Because of the great battle led by Robert the Bruce between the English and Scots in 1314 at Bannockburn in Scotland, Andy became the victim of many fights. "I always used to get beat up there because I was English!" he noted.

After the two years of coming home with a black eye, Andy went back to Italy to St. George's school in Rome. Here he endured his four years of high school. "It was a joke; it has 60 different nationalities!" he chuckled.

Though he made a profession of faith as a child, as he entered high manhood, he strayed from his fundamental teachings.

Andy's life turned around when he reached the point that nothing could offer him comfort except God. Andy sank into a depression so deep that he tried to end his own life by smashing his car into a brick wall. But God wasn't finished with Andy yet.

As he tried to fight his battles on his own, Andy sank even further into depression. He finally turned it all over to God.

"I prayed to Jesus and decided to put God before life, girlfriend, job and car," he said. "I then felt a peace so tremendous overwhelm me." As he got his life straightened out, Andy applied to a small Christian college in England which did not accept him because he had not been saved long enough. He was attending another school in England when his mother introduced the idea of attending Liberty University.

He filled out an application for LU as a joke on his mother. He didn't think he would be accepted, and he didn't want to leave England.

Unaware of the style and customs of America, Andy arrived at Liberty with hair down his back and patched blue jeans.

Disillusionment set in like a ton of bricks, and all Andy wanted to do was go home to England. Homesickness really set in after he found that someone had stolen his money. "I thought that if this was a Christian college, I could just leave my money lying in my drawer. I was wrong."

It was starting all over again. Andy had always depended on friends to help him and bale him out of trouble. "Friends to me were my total dependence. When I came to America, I had to learn to see through superficial people and depend totally on God."

Andy is in his third year at Liberty. His major is undecided, but his minor is in missions, and he plans to go back to Italy and carry on the work his parents have started.
Soccer team loses by one

By Dan Wagner

The Flames went head to head with Division 1 William and Mary of Williamsburg, Va. on Sept. 23. The Flames kept up with William and Mary through most of the game, with a score of 1-1, but just before the end of the first half the score turned against the Flames 2-1, when Ricky Dahan of William and Mary scored his second of the only two scores that his team made.

Chris Dickens scored the only score for the Flames. William and Mary, currently ranked 11th in the nation, has been "blowing away most of the other teams that they have played so far this year," Bell said.

Bell said the Flames appear to have gotten off to a slow start since their 1-5 record doesn't look too impressive. However, the coach went on to point out that there are two reasons for this.

He explained that it is very hard for a team to be successful when it loses experienced players or moves

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Sports

Key penalty stops comeback attempt

By Bruce A. Stanton

Another Liberty comeback attempt failed in the waning seconds as the Flames football team bowed to Division 1-AA Eastern Illinois 17-14 at City Stadium Saturday.

Sparked by a 94-yard touchdown bomb from Paul Johnson to Willie Parker, the Flames pulled to within three points with just under five minutes remaining in the game.

Head coach Morgan Hout decided to kick off and rely on a tough Flame defense that had proved itself all day long rather than to try an onside kick.

Hout's strategy worked as the defense forced the Panthers to punt after three downs. Liberty gained possession at its own 20 after the touchback on the punt with 3:15 remaining.

After a 2-yard run by tailback Willie Larkins on first down, probably the biggest play of the game occurred.

Johnson hit tight end Eric Green in the flat with a pass, and Green rambled close to 30 yards before being forced down. This put the Flames at midfield with almost three minutes remaining.

The loss leaves Liberty at 1-3 on the season, but the game was not a total loss as far as won-lost records go. What does not show up in the stats are free safety Donald Lindsey (15 tackles), and defensive back Donald Smith (10 tackles).

Soccer

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up to a higher division of competition.

The old record was achieved twice by former Flame quarterback Phil Basso.

Dickens, who scored the only goal for the Flames against William and Mary, is also playing well as a substitute goal keeper, according to the head coach.

"I'm glad Chris also displays offensive talent," he said.

In addition, Nimo also played an outstanding game against Division 1 William and Mary, according to Bell.

"The William and Mary coach said it's hard to find a goalkeeper that good," Bell noted.

The William and Mary coach told Bell the Flames were one of the hardest teams they have played this season.

The Flames next home game will be this Saturday against Eastern Mennonite College at 2 p.m. on the soccer field.

Football bits and pieces

By Bruce A. Stanton

For the second week in a row, Coach Morgan Hout received praise from the opposing coach following the game.

"I walked out to midfield and Coach Spoo (Eastern Illinois head coach Bob Spoo) said 'Congratulations!' I said why are you congratulating me? You guys won.

"He said we really did a great job," Hout said.

The 94-yard touchdown pass from quarterback Paul Johnson to Willie Parker was the longest pass from scrimmage in school history.

That connection broke the previous record of 80 yards.

by Don Hayden

Paige (19 tackles and one sack for minus 12 yards). Liberty did not allow one Panther drive to go farther than 30 yards in the second half. Also turning in strong defensive performances were free safety Donald Lindsey (15 tackles), linebacker Dwight Jones (12 tackles) and defensive back Donald Smith (10 tackles).