12-7-1999

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INSIDE

• TWO OUT OF THREE: Read about the hotly debated issue so they keep Towsers and smokers Mute and all the news from the weekend. They're picking up speed on page 12.

• KNOWING TO SPEAK AT GRADUA­TION: LU students in commence­ment speakers, “the doctors’ home to your parents.” Read it first on page 2.

• THE NEWSBOYS: Check out the Newsboys’ latest album “Love Express” on page 6.

• DON'T RUSH GIRLS WHO WEAR ABERCROMBIE & FITCH: Chris Edwards exaggerates a hypothesis. Stop Abercrombie’s hyper marketing targeted towards college students. Read it here on page 4.

OUT&

• TUESDAY
  - Mostly Sunny
  - High: 80
  - Low: 39

• WEDNESDAY
  - Mostly Sunny
  - High: 82
  - Low: 39

• THURSDAY
  - Party Cloudy
  - High: 90
  - Low: 43

• FRIDAY
  - Scattered Showers
  - High: 75
  - Low: 37

• SATURDAY
  - Mostly Sunny
  - High: 58
  - Low: 35

ABOUT

• CORNYS BY CANDYKILLAH: First of its kind, a basket at Lynchburg College. Tuesday, Dec. 7 at 7:30 p.m. and 9 p.m. in the Nation Chapel.

• THE MUTHCHERES: Treasure the looted basket, Dec. 11 and 12 at 2 p.m. and Dec. 10 at 8 p.m. Tickets are $7 to $12. Call 844-849-3984 with ques­tions.

• DISCOUNTS TO "TOS THE SEASON"! Get a 92 discount to this classic course when you bring in special foods Dec. 18-19. The day is open to all and students toward college students.

• LISTEN TO THE CHILDREN: The Charity Children’s Choirs of Central Virginia will perform a cantata at the First Presbyterian Church on Dec. 18 at 7:30 p.m.

Singing with Third Day

By Melissa Fleming, copy editor

MAC ATTACK — Third Day’s lead singer Mac Powell encourages fans to join in song, as he sings to a standing-room only Schillings Center crowd, Nov. 18. Read about the Third Day concert and Jennifer Knapp and Chris Rice’s joint performances Dec. 3 on page 4.

SGA tackles two bills packed with controversy

By Melissa Fleming, copy editor

The Nov. 18 Student Government Association meeting was one full of emotions and frustrations that remained unresolved until the next SGA ses­sion which was held Dec. 2. The Nov. 18 meeting began with a warning from Michael Kostiew, SGA vice president, about the heated debate over the “Third Day Art Appreciation Act” which was to be debated that night.

"You do better to abandon the quarrel rather than let the flood waters come over you." Kostiew said.

Kostiew continued, “This issue is not worth breaching fellow students with differing Christmas customs.” Before the controversial “I’m an Art Appreciation Act” was defeated by the SGA, another bill was introduced.

The “Decorative Lights Act” was prepared by the Honorable Lathena Nuckols and the Honorable Marianne Minis. This act would allow students to hang Christmas lights in their rooms any time.

Before Thursday’s meeting, the lights were only permitted in the resident halls from Thanksgiving break until the day residents left for winter break. While Liberty has banned the Christmas lights due to safety reasons, Nuckols and Miness em­phasized that Liberty was not only the “studies.”

However, Sen. Ray Shouwans, commerce class president, opposed the bill when he said, “People can’t pick up their own garbage in here. I seriously doubt they’ll turn their lights off during the day.”

The “Decorative Lights Act” passed with a vote of 64-44 with 28 abstaining. It was vetoed by Dean of Students Greg Dowell.

The next bill up for debate was the “Third Day Art Appreciation Act” which failed with a vote of 42-64-44 with 28 abstaining. It was vetoed by Dean of Students Greg Dowell.

Liberty allies with SBC for new millennium

By Suzanne McNeill, news editor

After 28 years of independence, Lib­erty University has finally allied with the Southern Baptists.

The covenant agreement initiated the SBC with Liberty because it gave the convention a fully-accredited college outside the SBC, said Southern Baptist SBC executive director-treasurer said in a Nov. 17 Baptist Press article, "Liberty is a necessary neighboring institution for us to be able to function in our respective areas of influence." Liberty is a necessary neighboring institution for us to be able to function in our respective areas of influence.

The covenant agreement initiated the SBC with Liberty because it gave the convention a fully-accredited college outside the SBC. The "Decorative Lights Act" passed with a vote of 64-44 with 28 abstaining. It was vetoed by Dean of Students Greg Dowell.

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By Sharnia Malcom, reporter

Alternative, a national organization that seeks spiritual renewal in urban America. The Urban Alternative radio broadcast, "The Alternative with Dr. Tony Evans" can be heard daily in 40 countries.

Wingate revolutionizes hotel stays

By Melinda Fleming, copy editor

The hotel of the future has arrived and it is right here on the Lynchburg campus. By the end of next year, the Wingate Inn will be completely updated with advanced room Internet capabilities, cordless phones and a variety of other amenities designed to enhance the travel experience. "Wingate Inn is built for business," said Tony Evans, 28,

I believe student affairs and and set paid for it,,

In a news release from Wingate Inn, Nichols said, "To become the first nationwide hotel chain to provide this unyielding business service, Wingate's leadership team has committed the hotel with access to the same advanced technology available to travelers in their homes or offices. In room,"

Deerwood Apartments: Attention Part Time Students

Superior housing alternatives for moderately income individuals or families.

- Fireplaces
- washer/dryer hook ups
- mini blinds
- Ceiling fans/patio
- large dining area
- storage areas
- 2 carsports
- 2 pools
- central heat & a.c.
- laptop options available

Rent during Nov or Dec. $325.00 a month free rent.

**Student Discount** **10% off Package

Get a head start! and get paid at the same time!!

By Pamela Billion, reporter

Many students have asked why we can't use the intramural field. Ed Barnhouse, graduate assistant for the intramural sports program, said it's only temporary. "We're in the process of re-seeding and fertilizing the grass for the spring," said Barnhouse. He said it's impossible to be in the field when students are re-seeding and fertilizing the grass.

A resolution to the scheduling conflict has not been found. According to Barnhouse, the office of academic affairs does not come up with constructive input to students and then make a schedule. "In the beginning the semester a week earlier would be difficult because of orientation and also final tested examinations," Barnhouse said. "It's prolonging the semester on additional week in May in anniversary, and would interact with students work and summer schedule in the summer."

Post Semester Relief

- Robin Caughey, CMT
- Marge Young, CMT
- Jim McFarland, CMT

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From the Liberty Champion Staff.
R-rated: SGA flunks bill to change LU's movie policy

Continued from page 1

Appreciation Act. "This controversial bill would allow (SGA) students to view R-rated movies without any resulting penalties. These movies have generally been unacceptable to the parents of the students involved, and there has been an unspoken agreement on the part of the SGA to prevent the film," he said.

Sen. Nathan Blackmon, a sponsor of the bill, said, "I feel I am old enough to decide what I can and cannot see." Bingham argued, "Film is an art form by the

It's definitely a team effort," said Chris Stewart, student body president. "To reach all our goals, SGA will be able to refurbish the dorm common's areas, turn the first floor of Dorm 33 into a student lounge. They will also purchase fitness equipment for Dorm 33 and give student weight room additions.

The goal is to raise $400,000 for use in various projects.

"Anybody can defend themselves from attackers," said Phillips. "I walked back from the computer lab late at night and now I fear for my life," said junior Susan Allebaugh. Allebaugh said she now knows what tactics to use if she is attacked. Phillips said an 85-year-old woman recently graduated from the class. "She's definitely a team effort," said Chris Stewart, student body president. "In order for our goals, we need each student to sell at least five paperweights." So far, SGA has sold around 100 paperweights for $40 each. If the sale — approximately 22,000 paperweights — reaches its goal, SGA will be able to appropriate nearly $900,000.

The Student Government Association has sponsored an opportunity for students to win a new Echo and funds for the Student Body's budget. Additionally, if the goals are met, a checkoff for a comparable car will be given to the winner.

The Student Body will be able to raise $500,000 for the goal. SGA will be able to appropriate nearly $900,000.

SAW Flunks Bill to Change LU's Movie Policy

MATT HJEMBO

The Student Government Association has sponsored an opportunity for students to win a new Echo and funds for the Student Body's budget. Additionally, if the goals are met, a...
Seattle recuperates from days of riots and anarchy

The battles in Seattle are over after days of protests blocking streets, vacating court buildings downtown and not passing burning tear gas. The Emerald City is slowly returning to normal. The people celebrating the World Trade Organization have begun to scatter.

Citizens are slowly picking up the pieces of their city — broken glass, torn down street signs and burned downturns. Most downtown businesses have reopened, though drugs still outnumber customers. Dozens on street corners areigarette smokers who are burning takeoffs of new glass panes. "I'm just trying to scrape some money for dinner. Those takeoffs are not worth anything," an old man said. "It's just for me to start the healing process," Paul MacIver said. "We need to start talking in terms of peace."

Leukemia pill spurs life

A newly approved for the American Society of Hematology this weekend showed remarkable preliminary results in the treatment of a common form of leukemia. "I can't think of another example where we've had such dramatic results as early as in a clinical trial," Dr. Brian Druker of Oregon Health Sciences University told ABCNEWS medical correspondent John McKeown.

The Leukemia Research Foundation, based in New York, had approved the drug, called ST1-571, taken once a week in pill form by patients with chronic myelogenous leukemia, which accounts for about 5% of the new leukemia cases.

"About every three months I check on my health," he said. He added the drug and research that goes into teaching a course, he might well be on it down.

Until about 15 years ago, he wrote about all the books on church programs. Now, he has taken a different view.

"I don't think the church needs programs, it needs spiritual- ity," he said.

Towne's books are written among poems, many of them written to children. There are books about the church and spiritual growth. It is for the soul, he said. A few minutes of the show, he saidTowne's books are written among poems, many of them written to children. There are books about the church and spiritual growth. It is for the soul, he said.

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Here’s your chance... Tonight!!!
Open Dorms
8 pm to 10 pm

So get those rooms cleaned up, these chances only come once a semester.

Wanna come to a Christmas Party?

**Student Life** hosts another year of holiday cheer at the Reber-Thomas Dining Hall.

December 9th
@ 5:30

games, **free stuff**, good food, sit with **Santa**, sing carols.

The last **Coffee House** of the semester ...not a silent night!

December 10
@ 11pm

$2.00 (limited tickets)

Finals are coming.
If you need a place to study and a break from the dorms, try **David’s Place**.

December 12-16
11pm-3am

Coming Soon...
Spring 2000

~ **SUPER BOWL** Party
~ Road Trip to D.C
~ Valentine’s *Coffee House*
~ **Newsboys**
~ The **Urban Tour**
The Newsboys love liberty — but will Liberty love disco?

By Andrew Wooddell, reporter

Can we let the spirit of liberty's crusaders in a Christian band that has just released a disco album.

Published, you say? Oh no — it's the Newsboys! Thrashing the country and playing gigs in their inflatable dome that seats 3,000 scream fans, the Newsboys have never been a band that plays to the status quo.

"Love Liberty Disco" is their eighth album in 11 years, and one that holds true on each album — their sound always changes, but the Newsboys always change, the music in the program continues to be a blend of classical, gospel, and contemporary music.

The Newboys love liberty — but will Liberty love disco?

By Scott Ros不知道

THOMAS ROAD BAPTIST CHURCH continues its annual holiday traditions of nearly three decades this year with 13 performances of the Living Christmas Tree program.

The program, with members singing from a 3,000-seat dome that seats 3,000, is made possible by the music of the University Chorale, under the direction of Professor Ruth Foley.

The University Chorale, under the direction of Professor Ruth Foley, will perform at 7:30 p.m. at Thomas Road Baptist Church's Snidow Chapel, Lynchburg College.

The U.S. Army Band will perform at 2 p.m. at Thomas Road Baptist Church's Snidow Chapel, Lynchburg College.

The program will conclude at 9:30 p.m. with the University Chorale performing the final selection of "O Holy Night."
DECEMBER 7, 1999

BY CAROL DEL, reporter

ISH BABY! We Stand And Sing "O Holy Night." All Around The World, Christians Gather To Celebrate The Birth Of Jesus Christ. Marvelous! What A Good Moment To Reflect On The Meaning Behind The Celebration.

Christian Heroes In History Are Often Marked With A Pointed Cross Over The Door. In Middle Eastern Countries, The Flags And Decorations Can Be Seen For Miles. It Is A Big Celebration Than Christmas Is For Many People.

"We Make Up Early And Friends Come Over To The Church," One Family Said. For The Majority Of The Day, VIP Invitations Are Given Out Through The Region. People From The Entire Country Gather To Watch News On Parade.

Bill Demers Christmas Page From Central Valley Christian School In Yuma, Could Explain More On This Theme. Everyone Gather To Watch The Annual Performance.

"Gathering Between And Praise Mounted On Gothic Branches" Was The Theme. They Are Followed By A Military Band Carrying A Cross And Setting Off As A Black-Backed. The Procession Slowly Moves The Door And Places An Image Of The Holy Child In The Church. Deeply Moving Sings First A Song Where Women Stand In A Silver Star Marking The Site Of The Birth Of Jesus.

"Firstly, May People Say That At Night, Everyone Is Allowed To The Square."

A Big Brunette And Many Christmas Trees Are Different Languages. A Time Of Prayer Follows.


This Is Known As The "Little Feast" For "The Feast" Involving Lovin' On Christmas Day, Children Usually Do Not Have Ornaments, Instead, Children Generally Receive One Gift.

The Sweet Goat Cheese Is Heated And Mixed With Pie Crust And Syrup. The Sweet Goat Cheese Is Heated And Mixed With Pie Crust And Syrup.

Another Tradition Derived From Germany Is A Celebration Called "Carol" By Caroling. According To Mazes, Mary In Her Book "All About Christmas," The Tradition Was Started In 1357 By Norwegian Bishops.

Banks, A Rich Treasurer For Melbourne, Says It Only Nobody If Woman's Sitting In Her Window Holding A Book And Singing Songs Along With Her Family. Banks Also Sees It As A Way To Raise Money For A Good Cause.

Some Of The Songs Are "Yule Log In Melbourne" Also Means Jobs. And Many By Yule Log On Christmas Day. For All Australian Americans, Christmas Includes Baking Cookies, Dancing The Christmas Tree, Caroling, Exchanging Gifts, Lighting Of The Advent Candles And The Uncovering Of The Advent Calendar. Actually, There Are All Traditions That Have Woven Their Way Into The Australian Culture. Some Are Not Only Traditional But Also Modified And Explored.

In Europe, The Little Family Has A Unique And Extensive Knowledge Of European Traditions. David Yule, Mr. And Mrs. When From Scotland, Say They Are One Of Their Favorite Traditions.

Together With Their Four Sons, They Have Been Experiencing Christmas Around The World. They Have Been In Scotland, Switzerland, France, Italy And Greece. They Have Also Seen The Little Church, Which Is A Red Bell-Shaped Tower Filled With Yellow With Bright Green Leaves. They Also Decorate A Christmas Bush, Which Is Just Like Our Christmas Tree. Otherwise, Chicks Say They Decorate Like Here In The United States.

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More than clothes? Boycott A&F

Christmas comes early for Liberty students

Liberty University has jumped the gun on the Christmas season, as the now week before winter break. Students are very excited about the upcoming holiday season, and many are already in the spirit of giving.

Whites are no exception. The move comes just before the students start celebrating Christmas, but it also serves as a way to drum up interest in the university's new merchandise.

The magazine, titled "Christmas 99," is a compilation of the best of Liberty's current print and digital publications. It features articles on topics such as faith, family, and the holiday season.

The issue includes articles on Liberty's impact on the community, the university's history, and the role of faith in everyday life. It also highlights the university's commitment to providing a quality education for all students.

While the students of Liberty are excited about the new magazine, they are also curious about the price. A single issue costs $5, which is significantly higher than typical college newspapers. However, many students believe it is worth the cost for the high quality of content included.

"We're very excited to have something like this at Liberty," said sophomore Jessica Green. "It's a great way to stay informed and connected with what's happening on campus."
FSU, Virginia Tech ranked 1-2 in final BCS standings
Florida State and Virginia Tech Ranked 1-2 in the final BCS standings and will go to the Sugar Bowl on Jan. 1 for the National Championship. The Seminoles and Hokies beat out Nebraska, which was known to the Outback Bowl. Maryland Plays Alabama in the Orange Bowl; the Rose Bowl features Nebraska, which meets Tennessee in the Fiesta Bowl. The Seminoles and Hokies beat out Nebraska, which was known to the Outback Bowl. Maryland Plays Alabama in the Orange Bowl; the Rose Bowl features Nebraska, which meets Tennessee in the Fiesta Bowl.

Legal woes jeopardize Smith's contract
A Florida judge Saturday ruled that Smith's recent legal troubles in Chicago could nullify his $1.45 million contract with the Dallas Mavericks, an NBA official said.

Smith, 19, was charged Saturday with two counts of criminal mischief after allegedly roasting a chair belonging to his former girlfriend's family and smashing out all the windows. Officials say the event happened Friday after Smith was released from jail for threatening his former girlfriend with a gun.

The trial's forward contract, "may be available at this point," NBA deputy commissioner Tim Donohue said in Sunday's edition of The Dallas Morning News.

Former Globetrotter Gates dies at 82 after illness
William "Pop" Gates, a former player-coach with the Harlem Globetrotters, who was Inducted Into the Basketball Hall of Fame, died at 82 after illness.

Gates suffered from arthritis in recent years. He fell in his Harlem apartment and died as he was preparing to go to the hospital for treatment, according to his wife, Clarissa Pennington Gates.

Gates became one of the first black athletes to sign a professional contract with the University of Washington in 1936 and later helped win a 1938 New York City championship.

He later returned to the University of Washington and became the first black basketball coach at a major university. He also helped establish the Harlem Globetrotters, a basketball team that is known for its entertaining performances.

Vince Carter, a member of the team, said in a statement, "He was a true legend and a trailblazer in the sport of basketball. He will be missed by all who knew him."

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NBA takes $20,000 bite out of Barkley
A $20,000 fine isn't going to stop Charles Barkley up.

Barkley, fined by the NBA on Thursday for criticizing an official, said in a published interview that he will continue to speak his mind.

"It is not the first time he has been fined for ripping an official," Barkley already had been fined $5,200 and was suspended without pay for one game this season after getting into a fight with Shaquille O'Neal.

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M'Basketball:
Flames win two, lose one
Continued from page 12

Kenneth Aneholm also played well, posting a double-double with 17 points and 10 rebounds.

"The crowd really helped us out... I want to thank them," Williams said following the game. "When you play close games like that it makes you cheer and help you come together as a team. It just make us believe we can do it again."

Colts' defensive back W毡elsen arrived saying that "the crowd" was what really inspired him to play the best of a career.

The men ended their five-game home stand by playing Albany at the Farmhouse on Sunday night. For the first time this season, the Flames played extremely well, winning games 63-47, and it felt like they were in control.

Ira Davis three-point shooting, and shooting a weak 31 per cent, scored 17 points for a career high in a 72-69 win.

"It's great for LU to be represented so positively in such a successful setting," said Mike Stewart, dean of student life.

- Mike Stewart, Dean of Student Life

Intramurals: Boys' play in championship
Continued from page 12

when you win at Liberty, but up against Ohio State there's no reason but God to beat such teams," said Ed Barnhouse.

"One of the things you have to do to win, you have to be positive in such a serious setting. The Boys need to be in the places after the games, after the games win both teams play together, it was an awesome setting, especially as the news cameras were taping the event," Stewart said.

The Belcher's Boys will represent Liberty in the Flag Football National Championship presented by Menard's and Needle Creations in New Orleans Dec. 26-20 with 20 other teams from across the nation.

The championship game will be played in the New Orleans Sugar Bowl, home of the New Orleans Saints and the 2000 Sugar Bowl.

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LU dents UVa., 6-4

By Brooke Herrmann, assistant sports ed.

LU came away with a 6-4 win over UVa., in a thrilling three-over-five-second game at the Civic Center in Richmond.

Akpama tourney MVP

Akpama was the unanimous choice for the Tournament's Most Valuable Player. Akpama and his teammate, Roger Turner, were named to the All-Tournament Team.

Softball announces early signings

By Douglas Stewart, reporter

Lady Flames softball continues to build as an already solid foundation recently as head coach Paul Wentrmore signed three recruits for the 2000-01 softball season.

At these prices, it's too bad we don't sell cars.

Maybe one day we will sell cars, food and everything else you need. But right now, it's great deals on textbooks every day. You can save up to 40%, and you'll get your books in 1 to 3 days. Not that you would, but don't sweat using a credit card. VarsityBooks.com is 100% guaranteed secure. Try saying that about a new SUV.

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Liberty's first taste of success

By Drexel, Mount St Mary's and Rider.

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TAKIN' IT DOWN THE ICE — Left-wing Roger Turner leads the Flames in Saturday night's game against UVa. The Flames won 6-4.

Volleyball: Akpama tourney MVP

Continued from page 12

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Ladies: Flames snap important win

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 12

Sharon Wilkerson had eight points in the first half and finished with 14.31 left in the game. Rebecca Robertson added 12, and Michelle Fricke finished with 17. Sarah Farley had 13 points, and Zandrlque Cason chipped in 11. Liberty continued to have its way on the Inside against the Fighting Irish. The Flames played all-around well throughout the game with 32 points. According to Green, the major difference was the amazing play of Notre Dame’s Riley who finished the game with 52 points.

Although the first half did not go quite as planned, senior forward Farley believed the team was fortunate for the opportunity to compete against a top team like Notre Dame. "It was a great thing for us," said Farley. "The Fighting Irish is one of the top programs in the country as a whole and was one of the top 50 players in the country as a junior at The Covenant School in Charlotte. He was a Virginia Independent Conference selection in 1998, a Street and Smith preseason All-American, and was selected by Bob Gibbons All-State team in 1999. He was invited to participate in the 1999 and 2000 All-American Camps, and he is a four-year starter at Notre Dame and is a solid player. The Fighting Irish is one of the top programs in the country as a whole and was one of the top 50 players in the country as a junior at The Covenant School in Charlotte. He was a Virginia Independent Conference selection in 1998, a Street and Smith preseason All-American, and was selected by Bob Gibbons All-State team in 1999. He was invited to participate in the 1999 and 2000 All-American Camps, and he is a four-year starter at Notre Dame and is a solid player. The Fighting Irish is one of the top programs in the country as a whole and was one of the top 50 players in the country as a junior at The Covenant School in Charlotte.

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Belcher's Boys represent LU

By Brock Herrmann, sports editor

The Belcher's, the LU flag football championship, take first place in the University of Virginia Flag Football Tournament. The Belcher's won a two-week tournament. The Belcher's made their escape from the office in order to do "in-studied" by obtaining an editor's position at this paper, held a responsible job, keep up with the latest in the field of incredible sports for my COMS. They hired me to fill a gap that I was able to take on the sports editor. This year the sports editor and an assistant sports editor did not return and I was able to take on the sports editor position, let me hold a respectable GPA, keep up "super student" by obtaining an incredible GPA in this office do, to be able of taking on the sports editor position. The Belcher's, the LU flag football tournament, was a huge success for my COMS. The incredible movie for my COMS. The incredible movie for my COMS. The incredible movie for my COMS.
As Time Goes By...
A look at the past, present and future of Liberty University
Sorting through the pieces of LU’s history

As the world prepares for the unknown of the year 2000 and the dawn—albeit in 2001—of a new millennium, organizations around the country have taken time to remember the past, highlight the present and recast the vision for the future.

The nation, as a collective group, has celebrated the last 100 years through the media. Television specials and newspaper inserts celebrated the good, bad and ugly moments of our history.

Liberty University originated in 1971, a mere 28 years ago. For most organizations, that’s a short time. But, here at LU, rapid expansion and the hand of God have guided a dream of Chancellor Dr. Jerry Falwell into the world’s largest evangelical Christian university.

There have been so many special moments in Liberty’s history that an eight-page insert will not do justice to the evolution of this educational institution. But, with the assistance of Professor Deborah Huff’s advanced news writing class, the Champion hopes to take a look at some of the special bits of Liberty’s past, present and future—from the early years on Treasure Island to SACS accreditation, the introduction of online registration and beyond.

For a comprehensive look at the first 25 years of the University, check out a copy of the anniversary book, developed by librarian Diane Sullivan and others. The pictures in this insert were gathered from her work on the book.

Consider this just a taste of what the Lord has done.

"My dormitory left much to be desired too. It was an old downtown hotel. I was on the fourth floor. No TV. No phone. No air-conditioning. And our beds were those metal jobs they’d purchased from an insane asylum."

-Mark Lowry, LBC graduate, 1980
of life at Liberty

"When you come to Liberty, you take a vow of poverty. He (Jerry Falwell) takes the vow, you take the poverty."

-Sam Rutigliano, Orlando (Fla.) Sentinel, 8/23/99

"He said that they might let me in because they didn't have any students. The first person I heard sing was a big, chubby man named Doug Oldham."

-Robbie Hiner, graduate, 1974

"If the Democrats win, I don't know what will happen to us."

-Dr. Jerry Falwell, Time Magazine, 9/2/85
Living in a miracle

From the downtown campus to the development of the Mountain — the early years of Liberty Baptist College

By Hannah Ladwig, copy editor

It was a miracle, the college that had no predecessors and thrived on the idea of starting from scratch.

RIC Fluv’s story was about 50 students stayed in the “dorms” and ate in room houses across the street. Towns estimated the rooms of Thomas Road, and they slept in the four-story building.

One thing Willmington said sticks out in his mind about his first few years at Liberty was the attitude of the students.

The common people built Liberty, "he said. "They were pioneers taking a chance." he said. "And it was like living in a miracle." he said. "It was so cold," he remembered. "It had heaters that didn’t work."

A brief overview of the highs and lows of Liberty's 28 years

History shows growth

Students in 1971 only knew Liberty as Lynchburg. Lynchburg Baptist College's third year was an unprecedented year. The college pursued an online degree program to accommodate such growth. One student said, "It was a miracle." He added, "This is our story."
Borek prepares for future growth at LU

By Jessica Miller, Life! editor

Adaptation, Flexibility, Responsiveness.

According to President Dr. John Borek, these three attributes complete the trio of success for Liberty University's transition into the 21st century.

"We must seek and embrace positive change," Borek said in the Nov. 15 edition of "The President's Message." "Of course there will be no change in our vision (of) Bible-based instruction ... (but) we must be current and relevant, using the explosion in information technology to complement our strengths."

Borek sees technological competence, along with the upcoming construction on the Arthur S. DeMoss Learning Center, as two of the building blocks in his goal to fulfill Chancellor Jerry Falwell's vision of 10,000 resident students and 15,000 external degree students by 2005.

He said the University plans to hardware all of the dormitories and distribute computers to nearly every professor on campus. These are examples of the institution's technological progress.

When Borek arrived in Lynchburg in the fall of 1997 as president of the university, he held several long-term goals in addition to his short-term goal of ensuring the institution's competitive accreditation status.

"I wanted to ensure that Liberty had the met the demand for Christian higher education by building a strong academic and spiritual foundation," Borek said.

Now, he looks toward the 21st century and the fulfillment of this goal through projects such as the cooperating agreement the University signed recently with the Southern Baptist Conservatives of Virginia.

The agreement affiliates Liberty with the Southern Baptist Convention, but will not alter the LU policy in any way.

"More than 47,000 Southern Baptist churches will now have LU as an institution where they can send their men and women to receive higher education," Borek said.

He also has future plans for several on-campus projects, such as the completion of the baseball fieldhouse, the expansion of the Visitor's Center and the creation of new dorms and a new student center to enhance the physical resources Liberty University offers.

"A student center is something we need very much on this campus," Borek said. "We need a central facility where students can gather."

Borek sees the student center possibly becoming a reality in the area behind the Vines Center, where the building could be combined with a parking deck.

Yet no matter what kind of physical resources the University offers, Borek still sees Christ-like service for students as a top priority. He cited the rearrangement of the Business Office into the Student Accounts Office as an example of the importance of student service.

"Students who come to our institution deserve kind, Christ-like treatment," Borek said. "We are committed to improving service to all our students so that the world can see that Christians can do it better."

University plans online check-in, hard wiring

By Corrie Dues, reporter

The 21st century will feature a period of significant growth for Liberty. This expansion may lead down several avenues, including campus facilities, business and finance and student population.

One of the faculty's largest concerns is keeping up with the outside world, as technological advances continue to progress in society. Ernie Rogers, executive director for enrollment management, said steps are being taken to make the campus as computer-oriented as possible.

"We're trying to modernize our infrastructure to increase growth," Rogers said.

The university will take major steps in this area, since customer service will soon be automated.

Beginning in April 2000, online registration will be available for returning students. Soon after, students will be able to check their personal status concerning business accounts, financial aid and grades by typing their I.D. number into a computer logged on to the university's Web site.

Additionally students' dorm rooms will be equipped with Internet wiring, including two outlets in each room by fall 2000. Due to electronic registration, physical check-in will become obsolete.

Senior communications student Joe Telford believes the registration and check-in adjustments will relieve a lot of stress and tension from students.

"One of the major problems with registration now is that we have to get so many signatures," he said. "It's hard when you have so many things to get done and you have to go back and forth to your adviser and other offices so many times."

Rogers promised the new system will be "so much better that students won't even remember how the business office and registration is now."

Another major area of growth underway is the much-talked about addition to DeMoss Hall. Construction could begin next semester, and the four-story project should be completed within the next five years.

"Any large organization, change is not easy," Rogers said. "It takes time to build consensus."

Although Liberty's vision-training champions for Christ--will remain unchanged in the next century, Rogers believes a small portion of that goal will be achieved by providing students with excellent care and service during their academic years.

"My personal vision is to provide the best customer service possible for students," Rogers said. "And we're going to do that."
Academic adaptations

A glance at the development in the educational program at LU

By Scott Romanoski, distribution manager

In Liberty’s (then Lynchburg Baptist College) first catalogue in 1971, a student had the option of majoring in four subjects: Christian Teacher, Christian Worker, History and English. Each program required a minimum of 144 semester hours, including general education requirements.

The following year brought about several changes in academics. The institution added majors in music and communications. As part of the scholastic program, each student had the opportunity to tour Israel. The number of hours required dropped to a minimum of 128 for a bachelor of science degree.

- Dr. Boyd Rist, vice-president for academic affairs, explained the change as following a trend in higher education. “We had to recognize that many other quality institutions were delivering comparable programs requiring fewer total semester hours,” Rist said.

The 1973-74 school year brought about the addition and grouping of majors into seven categories. They included religion, communications, education & psychology, music, natural sciences (biology), social science (history), and television/radio/film (broadcasting).

Major changes came to the programs in 1976 with the addition of business, math, music, pre-seminary and political science.

Majors in 1979 totaled 27, including pre-nursing and home economics. Minors, which numbered 32, included pastoral counseling, journalism, secretarial sciences, anthropology and Latin American studies.

Liberty’s program changed considerably in 1983 and 1984. The school began to award the associate of arts degree and the bachelor of arts degrees. New majors included finance, human resources, journalism and telecommunications.

The School of Education began to offer master’s degrees in 1983, and the School of Religion followed with its programs in 1985.

As another monumental change in 1985, the university began to offer classes through the external degree program. The Library Baptist Theological Seminary, in 1987, began to offer the doctor of ministry.

The next major change came in 1991, with the addition of a sport management major and an urban ministries minor. It also saw the introduction of GNED as part of required general education classes.

Rist saw this addition as a key part of developing a distinctly Christian education. “These classes represent an effort to help students formulate a distinctively Christian worldview,” Rist said.

In the mid-1990s, Liberty added exercise science, computer science and recreation majors to the curriculum. The school also expanded programs at the master’s level by adding a master of business administration and additional concentration in the seminary and School of Education. A doctoral program in education was added in 1999.

By 1994, partly due to financial reasons, some existing majors became concentrations as departments were combined. This affected specifically the current communications studies major.

The speech, journalism, public relations, advertising and broadcasting majors combined to form the current communications studies program.

“There were commonalities,” said Communications Department Chairman Ceci Kramer, noting specifically communication theory classes.

According to Communications professor Dr. Steve Troxel, the nine concentrations in the major became four. He added that combining journalism and broadcast journalism seemed logical.

Troxel added that the 1994 change took place in four days of intense planning which resulted in a 50 percent reduction of course offerings.

While both Kramer and Troxel regret the loss of the speech pathology program, they both see the current program as successful.

“We should not go back to the way things were,” said Troxel, noting the current strength of the department in relationship to peer universities.

The department plans to split the media graphics specialization into two specializations in the fall of 2000.

Other departments, which have changed, expanded or cut their programs, include music and the seminary.

Rist said the sacred music major was dropped due to low enrollment. He noted that 10 students were majoring in the program at the time it was discontinued.

The seminary recently added a prayer and worship institute. Classes focus on worship issues. Biblical models of worship, the worship leader and tools for the contemporary worship leaders.

According to Rist, the program caters mostly to those already in full-time ministry who desire additional training. Classes are currently offered at the institute and the master’s level.

Rist also added that this institute teaches issues and practices associated with contemporary church music while the music department provides program training in classical and traditional music, developing those techniques and skills associated with this repertoire.

Accreditation renewal key to Liberty’s academic status

One event that stands out as vital to the future of Liberty was the reaffirmation of accreditation in December 1997.

“Accreditation is a voluntary process which ensures students and other external constituencies that there is a level of quality in each major area of University operations that is comparable to other institutions of higher learning,” said Dr. Boyd Rist, vice-president for Academic Affairs.

Regional accreditation came about after many years of prayer and persistence. It was a stated objective from the founding of the school in 1971.

An accredited school is considered comparable to other accredited colleges and universities, ensuring the quality of the educational program and the resources to support it.

In December 1980, the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS) first accredited the university. Every 10 years the process occurs.

Following the self-study and SACS team visit, Liberty was placed on probation in 1996 by the Commissions on Criteria and Reports.

While the committee had a number of concerns, its principal focus was on the financial resources necessary to create and maintain a stable educational environment. “We had to do tangible things to reduce the debt,” Rist said. “In the same time period, a university planning committee was established to formulate a strategic plan.”

Financial donors played a major role in the debt reduction. Dr. Rist noted that it is rare for donors to step forward for the sole purpose of eliminating debt. Liberty was blessed of the Lord at a critical point in his history to have individuals do just that.

Following a concerted effort by all sectors of the Liberty community, the university met all accreditation standards and was reaffirmed by SACS in December 1997.

This was a historic year for Liberty. Not only did it become an accredited institution but it also welcomed its second president, Dr. John M. Borek.

Former Vice President and financial officer at Georgia State University, Borek had also worked extensively with SACS on committees and team visits since the 1970s.

“Dr. Borek brought to us his long running experience with SACS and an understanding of what kind of effort was needed to meet accreditation criteria,” Rist said.

Visiting teams and the Criteria and Reports Committee of SACS were not interested in what institutions will do in the future. Recommendations must be addressed in the context of actions taken with appropriate documentation.

One of those dealt with the mission statement. In response to that recommendation, Liberty faculty and staff developed, and the Board approved a more concise mission statement: “To produce Christian-centered men and women with the values, knowledge and skills required to impact tomorrow’s world.”

“As the 20th century comes to a close students should reflect on a decade of challenges met and overcome which have prepared the way for Liberty to be a leader in higher education in the new millennium,” Rist said.

Researched by Heather Estes, reporter

LOOKS THE SAME — Students study in the now A. Pierre Guillermin Library. The university has developed its academic program tremendously since 1971.
Flames sports makes impact in pros

By Dave Kurtz, reporter

In the last 30 years, many athletes have left Liberty and entered the professional ranks. A few have excelled at their craft and deserve to be remembered as Liberty’s best of the century.

The most notable Flame to ever lace up his spikes is Eric Green. Green played football for Liberty from 1985 to 1988. When Green started, most people would not have given him a second thought as pro material. After all, he was playing at a Division II school that posted a 3-4-1 record in freshman year.

In 1988, during Liberty’s first season as a Division I-AA school, the team earned a 8-3 record, and finished as the 20th-ranked team in the country according to The Football Gazette. Flames offensive coordinator Bob Leah said Green “was our go-to guy. Whenever we needed yards, we called a play to him.”

During that season, Green had 92 catches for 909 yards and 16 touchdowns. Because of the team’s success and Green’s play, he became the Pittsburgh Steelers first round draft pick in the 1990 National Football League draft. He is the only Flame to be drafted in the first round in any sport.

He was named the NFL’s Rookie of the Year in 1990, and was selected to the NFL’s All Rookie Team by a number of organizations and media groups including the Players Association, USA Today, UPI and Pro Football Weekly.

That same year, he earned a trip to Hawaii to play in the Pro Bowl, the NFL’s version of the All-Star Game.

Since then, Green has played for the Miami Dolphins, Baltimore Ravens and is currently with the New York Jets.

Another player to have success professionally is Dwayne Carswell. Carswell played football for Liberty from 1991 to 1993.

In 1991 to 7-4 the following year, which resulted in the Flames being ranked 19th in the country at the end of the season. In Carswell’s final year, the team posted a 6-5 record.

Liberty Athletic Director Kim Graham said Carswell “always worked hard and never quit trying, and now the hard work is paying off in the pros.”

After going undrafted in the 1994 NFL Draft, he signed as a free agent with the Denver Broncos.

In 1997, Carswell was selected as captain of the Broncos’ special teams, a position he still holds.

He also became the first Flame to play in the Super Bowl. Not only did he play, but he became the first Flame to win a Super Bowl, after helping the Denver Broncos upset the defending champs, the Green Bay Packers, in Super Bowl XXXII.

Liberty baseball has also seen its fair share of success over the past quarter century.

Since its beginning in 1976, Liberty has seen 28 players either drafted or signed to play for major league teams. Of those players, four have made it to the “Big Show.”

Doug Brady, Lee Guetterman, Randy Tomlin and Sid Bream all played in the Major Leagues for a portion of their careers. As an Atlanta Brave, Bream holds the single most recognizable moment in sports history involving a Flame. He scored the decisive run to beat the Pittsburgh Pirates in the final game of the 1992 National League Championship Series.

In the bottom of the ninth inning in Game 7, Bream scored the winning run on a close play at home plate, where he barely beat the tag from the Pittsburgh catcher. The resulting scene shows teammate David Justice choking Bream in joy, as his teammate runs into a mob.

With the future looking brighter for Liberty’s sports teams it may not be long before we are talking about the 21st century’s star alumni.

PROFESSIONAL PREPARATION—Tight end Eric Green (86) is one of the three former Flames to reach the National Football League.

Early growth leads to increase in campus ministry outreach

By Michelle Kennedy, reporter

The founders and students of Liberty University have witnessed many changes on campus but sometimes the most significant changes are those not physically seen. Spiritual growth has greatly contributed to the young champions LU has been sending out into the world for the past 28 years.

In the 1970s, Liberty students were bused from their dorms located in downtown Lynchburg, for the services held at Thomas Road Baptist Church.

With the expansion of Liberty in the early 1980s, administration knew they would have to find a solution to accommodate the growing student body.

In 1986, Campus Church was established. The Schilling Center, which was the main athletic facility on campus, was chosen to use for early services on Sunday. Although LU Chancellor Dr. Jerry Falwell continued to preach to the student body, he was quickly becoming more difficult to schedule, due to his growing public status.

Shortly after the establishment of Campus Church, students began to express their desire for a campus pastor. They needed an individual they could relate their concerns and prayer requests to on a daily basis. Their requests were heard and in 1988 the Campus Pastors office was established.

“It was established so that there is an office that focuses all of its attention on the spiritual growth of Liberty,” said Dwayne Carson, associate campus pastor.

Before 1988, resident directors served as the “passions of discipline,” and the Residence Life Office generated most of the spiritual influence, Carson said. Now it is the leadership team -two resident assistants, two spiritual life directors and prayer leaders -on each dorm floor influencing students.

“Spiritual growth is a team effort,” said Carson. He stated the importance of the prayer leaders because of their ability to spend one-on-one time with students.

“Ultimately personal needs being met are more important than anything else,” he said.

When Carson came to Liberty in 1984, there was one prayer leader for every eight students. Now, each prayer leader has four students to meet and pray with -allowing for a more hands-on ministry.

Spiritual growth has also come from another source -which has been in existence since Liberty was established -the music ministry.

“The biggest change I’ve seen is in the style of music. The meaning and the message have stayed the same,” said Tafaoa, associate director of Light Ministries, a missions arm of LU.

Tafaoa said he believes the spiritual growth comes from the students involved in this ministry who see this as a chance to grow and bond with others who share the same desires.

“Our ministry is four-fold: to encourage, equip, expose and evangelize,” said Tafaoa.

With an expanding student body change is inevitable, but every year LU grows stronger spiritually due to the people and prayer leaders involved.