TRBC plans Living Tree

By Nancy Coles

The 15th annual Living Christmas Tree will be presented at the Thomas Road Baptist Church this Friday, Saturday and Sunday.

"Round Again to Christmas" is the theme of the three-hour extravaganza which is expected to draw many local and out-of-state spectators.

Tony Norman, who is helping to coordinate the event, explained that several new characters have been added to the program this year, including a puppet named Grump.

"This year will be by far our most creative year. The use of puppets will bring a new twist to the program," he stated.

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Examprins prescribed for exam jitters

By Michelle Wright

It's almost that time again. Time for final exams! However, this year students may get an extra boost during that dreaded time of the school year because the Student Government Association is selling "Examprins." Designed to comfort students during last-minute cramming, the kit comes appropriately in an aspirin bottle. It includes the following essentials for pre-test jitters: a pencil, M&M's, cheese, Kellogg's cereal, chocolate cordials, penny

Christmas banquet

Brown will highlight event

By Elaine P. Lucadano

Hearts will be warmed as the Christmas spirit arrives on campus Saturday evening during the ninth annual Christmas banquet and festival, which will feature a concert by Scott Wesley Brown. "A Touch of Christmas" is the theme for the gala event.

Festivities will begin as students have the opportunity to enjoy a formal candlelight dinner and dining entertainment featuring traditional Christmas carolers between 5 and 7:30 p.m.

Brown shares his music and testimony in more than 100 concerts each year throughout the United States, Canada, Europe and Scandinavia.

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The Student Government Association recently donated more than 250 gift packages to the Lynchburg Area Foodbank to distribute to children for Christmas.

The packages, which were in Christmas-colored bags, included candies, raisins, popcorn, chocolate chip cookies, hot cocoa mix, crackers, raisins, popcorn, chocolate chip cookies, hot cocoa mix, crackers, and gourmet Ghiradelli chocolate.

SGA made a pitch to parents and students to contribute to children for Christmas.

SGA, in conjunction with the Office of Student Activities, sent Formal portraits, available in three packages, will be taken between 4:30 and 8 p.m.

Brown shares his music and testimony in more than 100 concerts each year throughout the United States, Canada, Europe and Scandinavia.

The gourmet meal, served in both the Deli and the main cafeteria, includes turkey a la king over pastry shells, roast top round of beef with au jus, scalloped potatoes, California normandy blend, cranberry salad, mincemeat pie and apple pie.

Brown will make $2.00 on each Examprin package, and bookworms will recover from their sickness thanks to the "perfect" prescription.

Brown will highlight the Christmas festival entertainment with a concert at 8 p.m. in the Multi-Purpose Center. This will be his first appearance at Liberty University.

"This is special entertainment because we've never had an artist like him perform for the Christmas festival," Bev Buffington, coordinator of student activities, said.

Brown shares his music and testimony in more than 100 concerts each year throughout the United States, Canada, Europe and Scandinavia.

Artists including Amy Grant, Sandi Patti and Pat Boone have recorded his songs.

The festival will also include skits performed by fearless faculty and a long-awaited visit from Santa Claus.

The Multi-Purpose Center will be decorated by the Student Government Association, and their personnel will supervise the program.

In addition to these activities, the feature film "A Christmas Story" will be shown Friday night and throughout the afternoon and evening on Saturday.

Formal portraits, available in three packages, will be taken between 4:30 and 8 p.m.

"The students should be excited about the evening. We hope that afterward they will have inside them the uplifting spirit of Christmas," Buffington concluded.

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Santa Claus is not the main figure of Christmas

Vivian Anthony

Little Johnny came stumbling through the front door. Wiping the melting snow flakes from his shiny red face, he rushed through the house looking for memory. He had learned something new in school today. He had learned about Santa Claus.

"Santa Claus?" exclaims the young one, "that's what Christmas is all about. But it doesn't just stop there. He also deserves a gift from us as well--our complete commitment to Him and His will."

One way to do this is to give in His name and for His glory. Webster's Dictionary defines the word giving as "to turn over the possession or control of something to someone without cost or exchange."

As Christians, we should possess a giving spirit. If you've never stroked down the halls or wondered why the baby in the manger is there, take a moment to think about the Christmas story. Can parents expect their children's trust after betraying them by presenting fiction as fact? Can they expect their children to discern the difference between truth after they intentionally "fibbed" in order to maintain a tradition? Can parents teach their children values based upon the Ten Commandments, the first of which tells us not to worship idols. Yet, most parents teach their children not to lie, somehow overlooking their own "white" lies when they tell them, "Yes, Santa is real," or "Why, of course, Santa sees you."

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Santa may portray the spirit of giving and sharing. To some he is the omnipresent spirit of universal joy and peace, yet as Christians we know that only Christ brings the spirit of love, peace and joy. Who will you say is the main character of Christmas when your children ask Santa Claus or Jesus Christ? One day, like little Johnny's mother, you may be faced with these questions.

Santa Claus teaches children how to give

Mark Harpe

It was that time when he sees his face everywhere. We see him in front of department stores singing and laughing in spite of the world around him. Children sit on his lap, pull his beard, yank his nose and punch him in the stomach. And yet, he is a secondary figure to our LORD, and may make the spirit of giving tangible for us. I'm thinking of none other than Santa Claus.

However, as in seasons past, you may encounter someone who will ask, "Santa or Jesus? One day, like little Johnny's mother, you may be faced with these questions.

Suffice it then to say that this is a long and interesting history of development. This case, for this seasonal saint we as Americans celebrate today has his following spread throughout the world. He was a uniquely good man who lived during the fourth century in Myra, which was then a part of Lycia in Asia Minor.

His story of Santa Claus teaches children what giving is about and why it is important. It is important to teach your children this lesson. As Christians, we need to do the same.

Just remember, Santa is as real as you want him to be.
LU officials will require exam passes

By Michael Parker

Administration officials, in an effort to encourage the payment of overdue accounts, will require students to present passes in order to take their final exams this year.

David L. Richardson, director of accounting, explained that more than 50 percent of the student body has overdue bills, and he believes the system will encourage them to reconcile their accounts.

"Last year was the only year we've not used it recently," he said. "We found that without asking the students for payments they just don't make them."

He added that many students believed they could pay the fall semester tuition with money from jobs, parents, grants or other sources; however, their plans fell through.

"As long as they can work out a viable payment plan so that they can pay their account off, we'll work to keep them in school," he said.

Richardson added that most universities require students to pay cash in the fall and explained, "What we do ask is that people pay their bills before they return in the spring."

The business office will issue examination permits through intracampus mail on Dec. 8 to students who have reconciled their accounts or have a balance of less than $50.

Youth program doubles in size

By Patty Schaefer

The youth program at Liberty University has doubled in size this year as approximately 200 students have chosen to major in youth ministries in comparison to 93 who chose the field last year, according to Doug Randlett, LU religion instructor.

Dave Adams, director of youth minister's training, explained that the rapid growth of the program is a result, in part, of the involvement of many undecided majors in the core class, YOUTH 201. "Youth 201 is for every student who is interested in youth," he said.

The course covers basic areas of youth ministry, including cross-cultural principles that focus on evangelism and discipleship for reaching youth. It also provides a historical view on major youth movements of the past.

Adams explained that the idea of a student-led ministry such as the YouthQuest Club, which has approximately 200 members, is attractive to many students. "It is an opportunity for ministry," he explained.

The club was initiated in 1985 to train youth workers, members and nonmembers alike, to work in the peer counseling program, evangelistic outreach programs, follow-up programs, King's Dominion trips and Scaremare.

Randlett explained that the club is a vehicle by which students can become involved in firsthand work with youth. "YouthQuest Club gives the opportunity for participation," he said.

Other factors which contributed to the growth, according to Adams, include the program's emphasis on recruitment, provision of a basis from which students can be better equipped for youth ministry, accommodation of the needs of non-youth majors and provision for students to exercise their spiritual gifts.

"Our goal is to make people aware of the tremendous need for professionals in this area," Adams concluded.

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Our goal is not to make money

Bookstore policies are explained

By Michael Parker

Contrary to the beliefs of many students, the Liberty University Bookstore is not trying to overcharge them for books, according to textbook manager Dennis Ratliff.

Ratliff explained that the general attitude a student holds as he walks into the bookstore is that the books are marked up; however, he maintains, "That doesn't happen just to Liberty. All college bookstores have to have a custom markup to meet their expenses." On a national scale, the bookstore prices are average, if not lower, than those charged at most universities.

"When they come in from the wholesaler, for example, the prices are preset and based upon quite a few factors," Ratliff said. "He cited expenses such as printing costs, color photograph charges, author royalties, and freight charges as a few of the factors which contribute to the price of a textbook. In addition, he added that the expenses of overhead and payroll are never considered in book prices.

According to the College Store Journal, a nationwide bookstore magazine, four to six percent of the total expense is for textbooks. During buy-back, textbooks are inspected and rejected if they have been abused or have missing pages, broken bindings or weather exposure, Ratliff said.

He added that the store purchases used books at 50 percent of the original price, and resells them at 75 percent of the original price. The 25 percent difference helps cover the overhead and personnel expenses of the store, he explained. "Our goal is not to make money," he stated. "We're here more as a service to the student, but you have to have the income to pay your expenses."

Several major texts will be discontinued next semester, including Atkins' psychology book, Divine's history book and Reynolds' "Principles' of Accounting." Ratliff explained that SGA will serve as a channel in the exchange and express hope that the service will provide funds for students to use during the first student book exchange, which will begin Jan. 19. In order to register books, each student should place his name, address, titles of books for sale, and asking prices on cards provided by SGA at DeMoss Hall. The cards will be placed in a catalogue through which students can browse before locating the books on designated tables in the DeMoss Hall when school resumes in January.

SGA President Mike Broomell explained that SGA will serve as a channel in the exchange and expressed hope that the service will reduce the amount of time spent and that it will save students money.

Drop/add system will change

By Cynthia Meaney

A new drop/add system will go into effect next semester, according to Barbara Boothe, assistant director of admissions and records.

Boothe explained that during the first week of classes, a student may drop or add a course without the exchange affecting his or her grade. Each transaction will require a $10 fee.

"From the second to the third week of classes, students may no longer add a course but may drop one with the grade of W regardless of academic standing in the course at that time," Boothe said.

She added that during the tenth week to the last day of classes, students may drop with a W or a W/F, depending once again on academic standing at the time.

W or W/F will not affect the calculation of each student's GPA, Boothe stated. "Because of the traffic in the business office during the first and last week of a semester, students may have drop/add fees placed on their school bill," Boothe concluded.

IRB club boasts record

By Michael Parker

LU's chapter of the Intercollegiate Religious Broadcasters, the campus organization of the National Religious Broadcasters, which boasted 75 members last year, has remained the largest in the organization since it began in 1980, Dr. Fred Haas, faculty adviser, said.

The organization exposes students to new technologies, principles and employment opportunities in the field of radio and television broadcasting, Haas stated.

He explained, "Broadcasting is so much an integral part of our society that a person in almost any field has a better chance if he can utilize the media."

The IRB offers student achievement awards at the NRN convention held in Washington, D.C., each spring, allowing students to demonstrate their best radio and television productions and scripts, Dr. Carl Windsor, department of telecommunications chairman, said.

He added, "In the seven-year history of the awards, Liberty students have won more awards than any other chapter."

In addition, the IRB offers its members field trips to radio and television production facilities, guest speakers in the field of broadcasting, the IRB newsletter and special discounts at the annual NRN convention.

IRB vice-president Brian Strunk said, "One of the best benefits students receive is the chance to meet people in broadcasting. This helps some to get job offers and make important contacts."

Topics including current technologies, problems in broadcasting, marketing research and employment, are included in the format of the monthly IRB meetings, Haas said.

Students interested in joining or attending IRB meetings should contact telecommunications department secretary Pat Lyons (ext. 2235) for further information.

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Phone 239-2250
Cagers begin mission to win

By Roxie Lockwood

According to head coach Jeff Meyer, the Flames basketball team is on a mission to excel. This mission includes the dream of winning the Mason-Dixon Conference and going onto the NCAA Division 2 Nationals.

The Flames opened the season Nov. 21 and 22 with a Liberty Mountain Tip-Off Classic championship. Liberty destroyed Bowie State, 71-61, and Kutztown University, 76-61.

Any similarity between the two games ends at the scores. Liberty’s game with Bowie State was more like a street fight. The game was filled with personal fouls, errant passes and general sloppiness. The Flames plan was to win on an offensive basis. This it did with MVP Pearce, Mike Minett and Fred Morgan providing a bomb squad. But the bomb squad never got off the ground. Instead, the men in the middle arose to the occasion. Brad Hammersley and Rodney Harrison led the Flames to an 11-point halftime lead.

Meyer called their contribution a decisive factor in the Flames halftime score. In the second half, the Flames led balloncled to as much as 20 points as they coasted to a victory. The best performance of the game, however, was displayed by Charles Richardson, who came in off the bench to make what Meyer called, “very valuable contributions in scoring and rebounding.” He led the Flames with 18 points.

If Friday’s game was a street fight, then Saturday’s game was a delicate operation. The Kutztown Golden Bears had come off an emotional upset of the 1986 NCAA Division 2 national champions and number-one ranked Sacred Heart University.

Kutztown had shut down Sacred Heart, and Liberty returned the favor. Jim Pearce delighted the Flames fans by scoring a record-setting 29 points.

“Pearce wrenched control of the tempo of the game,” Meyer said. Almost lost in Pearce’s domination of the game was the excellent play of Brad Hammersley, who, along with MVP Peace, was named All-Tournament. Hammersley scored 14 points against Kutztown and led the Flames in total rebounds for the second night in a row. Lost further in the shuffle were Fred Morgan and Eduardo Soldesi. Neither Morgan nor Soldesi made much impact on the game, statistically, but their play was still essential for victory, Meyer said.

The Flames will continue playing during the semester break. They will open the month of January with two home games, and will then travel to Florida for a three-game stint.
Ex-Falcon shares triumphs, trials

By Robin Brooks

Dave Scott knows what it's like
to go up against the likes of Lawrence
taylor or Ed "Too Tall" Jones because
he has. As an offensive lineman for
the Atlanta Falcons from 1976-83,
Scott met such opponents on the
field, but he knew he was playing
for the Lord.

Scott, a senior interdisciplinary
studies major, is at Liberty, finishing
the education he began at the Univer­
sity of Kansas. After graduation he
is planning to attend Liberty, finishing
his studies major, is at Liberty, finishing
for the Lord.

Scott was saved at the age of six, and
understood repentance and surren­
dered his heart to the Lord. He admit­
ted that it wasn't until he was in his
junior year at the University of Kan­
sas that he realized the Lord had him
in football for a reason.

"I felt exploited as an athlete. I
felt like I was just living out these
men's ambitions, their dreams, their
egos," Scott relaeted. "I had a love­
hate relationship with football until
my junior year when I surrendered
my life. Then I understood for the
first time that yes, men were using
me, but God was using me through
men."

Scott went on to play profession­
ally with Atlanta, which he said had
one of the strongest groups of Chris­
tians in the league. He also added
that witnessing was really no differ­
ent in the NFL than it is anywhere
else.

"There really were no differences. The
problems I had in witnessing when I was a teenager were the same
problems I had as an adult. The peer
pressure is the same no matter what
level you are on," he stated. "I think
we all succumb to it.

"Like with anyone, it's easier to
share with those whom you don't
know than with those whom you do
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with your neighbor in another locale
than with your neigh­
bor right next door.

Scott said he feels that he had more
of a direct influence on the fans than
the players themselves. However, he
has heard that University of Kansas
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Sports are different from any
other entertainment. It is strictly en­
tertainment and that is the reason
they put forth the kinds of shows they
do. It's used to draw attention," he
noted.