Homecoming spirit unites

By Ellie Evans
Editor-in-Chief

“If My Friends Could See Me Now…” that’s what Homecoming is all about, relationships, renewing relationships and reconnecting with the bond of friendship that was developed during school,” said Gary Williams, executive director of alumni services.

“If My Friends Could See Me Now,” is not meant to infer the idea of showing off, but was established to create a fond memory of friendships and to inspire alumni to make contact with their college friends.

“Homecoming is an important time on campus for students, faculty, staff and alumni. It reminds us of our past, connects generations of Unionsites, and points us toward a common future,” said President David S. Dockery.

Alumni events are scheduled throughout the week including the fifty year reunion and recognition dinner for the class of 1951 on Friday, alumni brunch, campus tours, alumni awards luncheon, Greek open houses and a Communication Arts coffee house on Saturday.

Homecoming officially began on Monday with Reggie Thomas, 1985 Union graduate and pastor of First Baptist Church, Walnut, Calif., speaking in chapel. Minister to the Campus Todd Brady said that he chose Thomas to speak because he “wanted students to be able to see someone who has been used by God in a significant way to accomplish so many things.”

“Reggie is a kind of guy who has crossed very diverse cultures.”

Ball concludes festivities

By Leslie Bryant
Staff Writer

Union students will dance the night away bring an end to homecoming week activities. The Cardinal Ball for Homecoming 2001, “The Masquerade,” will be held Feb. 17 at the Jackson Holiday Inn from 8 p.m. to 1 a.m.

The campus-wide ball, sponsored by SGA, will be “a unifying social event with an edge of class, yet geared toward the personalities of Union students,” said junior Autumn Alcott, executive coordinator of social events.

“It will be a classy and memorable evening,” said Alcott, featuring music from Nashville DJ Chris Jackson, finger foods, beverages and pictures.

“We wanted all of the student body to have the opportunity to participate in a formal event,” said Stephanie Lee, SGA Advisor. “All are encouraged to come out and enjoy a relaxed, good time,” said Alcott.

“This is an event for all Union students to enjoy and to build memories and is also a great way to tie up the week of Homecoming,” said Alcott.

This year’s formal marks the second such event in Union’s history after the huge success of the Millennium Ball last year.

Planning and preparation for “The Masquerade” began in September and has been handled entirely by students.

“Student leadership has been tremendous,” said Kimberly Thornbury, dean of students. “I’m very impressed with the leadership that has been involved.”

The students who have had an active role in planning and preparing for this event include Alcott, junior Sarah Phillips, sophomore Katie Hempfling, and junior Sarah Jane Head, executive panel members.

Junior Michelle Harder, senior Ashleigh James, sophomores Chad Coulburn and the Freshman Council were also involved in planning the event.

Topping the tower: Construction of the Bell Tower began in late fall and the tower topper was added the second day of Spring Semester. Currently encased in scaffolding, the tower is projected to be complete by the Trustee meeting in April. Three bells hang from the topper and are illuminated at night. The bells are scheduled to ring for the first time at Spring Graduation, May 19, 2001.