Recent soccer success begins talks for new program, facility

By Dave Smith

Union University soccer has come a long way in ten years. When the soccer program began in 1995, it was just a club team in a club sport. In 1996, the squad was recognized as a true varsity team within the NAIA, and the program has continued to grow and develop each year.

In the 1995-96 season, the Lady Bulldogs had just one assistant coach and were supported by one assistant than had to shuttle back and forth between the soccer and tennis schedules.

"Although the on-campus activities were fun, we had only made one game," said Dr. David Blackstocks, Union athletic director. "It was a challenge to be an independent program."

For the 1996-97 season, the Lady Bulldogs had two assistant coaches and were able to focus more on the soccer program. However, the team still struggled to find a home for their games, and the program continued to grow slowly.

In 1997-98, the Lady Bulldogs had three assistant coaches and were able to schedule more home games. The team also began to compete in the NAIA conference, giving the players a chance to face some of the top teams in the conference.

"We were able to host more home games and compete against some of the top teams in the conference," said Dr. Blackstocks. "We also began to see some improvement in our record."
February 17, 2005

Homecoming gains ‘Variety’

Variety Show takes its place among homecoming events

By JACLYN KILKEY

Homecoming is a time when families, music, life at large and a host of other things come together to provide a good show. This year, the next day in my college mailbox she left a note that it was high time we got to know Oscar.

In other words, learn theology from great films. Granted, the Oscars are not necessarily a great place from which to absorb theology; they are not even a particularly and significant part of American life. This requires that Christians, especially Oscar-obsessed ones, think carefully about who they care about people’s amounts and lives, and not just say they do.

Compare correctly, many well-visited films are great starting points for theological conversations. “Return of the King,” “A Beautiful Mind,” “Oscar,” “American Beauty” all beg for discussion, and all are available to anyone within the past few years. Also, the announcement of the awards shows and winners can help us promote great at every university and college campus from here on out. Finally, great art for the Christian should be both beautiful and true.

One often, the Christian artist is quite capable of portraying good theology but lacks the know-how in which to teach it. Yet, the Oscars are not necessarily a great place from which to absorb theology; they are not even a particularly and significant part of American life. This requires that Christians, especially Oscar-obsessed ones, think carefully about who they care about people’s amounts and lives, and not just say they do.

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Occasionally, a movie is a varying mix for film aficionados. Dreams like a swoon to the viewer, we hope that some of the year’s best films actually get recognized for the time. Inevitably, most of them do not and we bear with frustration over how the big, made-for- Hollywood Oscar-style events treat the audience.

Yet somehow we care fervently about the Oscars, even to the extent that we wonder, why is this? Is it because the shows and the events are merely media clichés such as “Sideways” and “ Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind” Gratified, “The Aviator” produces the largest amount of spectacle since last year’s “Lord of the Rings: The Return of the King,” but the shuddering written script got stuck in many places and struggles to provide a theme that can lift through the movies’ thin late-hour running time. Academy voters put all of this aside and focused on what drew them with delight. “The Aviator” is about a man who gave away the fortune include financial and political power to his son, Katelyn Haguera. Never to mention it’s a Martin Scorsese film. Scorsese is one of the finest American directors of all time, but his work is certainly in the past. The Academy neg- lected to reward him for his films such as “Raging Bull” and “Taxi Driver,” so this is their chance to right the wrongs of the past.

In many ways, the Academy Awards feel a bit like the current social security system. The Academy is paying the older filmmakers who missed their dues originally and ignoring a new generation of filmmakers who exoneration each year. I picture 20 or 30 years from now seeing Alexander Payne (who directed “Sideways”) write his first Oscar nom as part of the list his take is granted.

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Gospel Music Association releases Dove nominations

By ALANA KREUS

In two months, the Christian music community will gather in Houston, Texas. A flurry of activities culminating their events known as Grammy’s –The Dove Awards. Top nominees on the list released to the public this week, the Dove awards, these include: Michael W. Smith, with eight nominations, closely followed by Casting Crowns and The Gaither Family, who garnered six nominations each. Outstanding achievement of the award winners, Carman, Mark Hall, also received six nominations as did Gerald Crabb of the Crab Family. Switchfoot was nominated for five categories as a group, as well as three for Jonathan Foreman, bandfront man, including both Rocks You to My Soul, for best group or band for song of the year category.

Other songs in the category included “Million Dollar Baby” by 429, “Glory Defined” by Donnie McClurkin, Casting Crowns, and Matt Redman’s “Blown” by Hillsong.

Local band, Day of Fire, received a nod for best album of the year New Artist of the Year, the Academy Awards feature the year’s best and the best in the music industry that the Academy Awards feature the year’s best albums and artists that have been nominated in the Dove Awards.

Most of the artists are from the industry, though one piece that has garnered all the way from “Second Chance” to “Day of Fire,” which has traveled all the way from the ministry websites to the internet.

Alumni work returns in art department’s gallery display

By ALANA KREUS

The Union, University Arts Gallery will be hosting the works of alumni through Feb. 25. The pieces included cover a variety of mediums from the fine art to digital images, multimedia sculptures and include the works of artists such as Heather Witherspoon, ‘94, ‘95, and Mary Spellings, ‘77.

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Intramurals go back to basics

By JONATHAN TYPOT

Intramurals are a big part of the Union community. With the spring academic semester already in full swing, this time of year is usually marked by the upswing of intramural activities. Students compete against each other and have the opportunity to show off their athletic abilities.

Intramurals go back to basics

The student intramurals program is a great opportunity for Union students and faculty to compete against each other and enjoy themselves. Intramurals are a great way to get involved on campus and to meet new people. They provide a safe and fun environment for students to express themselves and engage in physical activity.

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