Union receives second largest monetary gift

By Andrea L. Aldridge
News Editor

Union University is the beneficiary of a $1.65 million endowment, the second largest monetary gift in its history. The donor created a monetary support organization for the university. Union received this gift at the end of December. Dr. Michael Duduit, executive vice president, said the organization will generate about $100,000 per year for Union. The largest single gift to the university, $2 million, was by James Ayers on Dec. 9, 1997.

“Through this investment, the donor will make an impact on successive generations of outstanding young people who attend Union University.”

Twenty-five percent of the donations will be awarded as scholarships. The other 75 percent has been designated for special projects.

One of the first projects the money will be used for is the construction of the bell tower. As a part of the new campus outlined in the Master Plan, Duduit said the bell tower will follow the construction of the Great Lawn. It will be located across from what is currently Walker Road.

“The tower anchors and will become a signature piece of the campus,” Duduit said. He said the tower will be able to be seen from the Highway 45 Bypass.

The donor is a former member of Union University’s Board of Trustees.

Blackstock steps down as head coach, will share co-head coach position

By Nathan Jones
Staff Writer

Coach David Blackstock is changing his position as head coach to co-head coach of the Union University Lady Bulldogs following this season. Last year’s assistant coach, Lisa Hutchens, presently on a leave of absence pursuing a doctorate degree, will join Blackstock as co-head coach next season.

Blackstock is in his sixteenth season of head coach as the Lady Bulldogs basketball team. In the previous 15 seasons, Blackstock has lead the Dawgs to a record of 443-81. This year, Union is ranked No. 1 in the nation with a record of 24-2.

Hutchens, a former NAIA All-American for the Lady Bulldogs graduated in 1983. She coached at Millington Central High School for one year before moving to Jackson’s South Side High School for five years. She led the school to an undefeated regular season and a berth in the state tournament. Hutchens established a coaching record of 106-42 at South Side, and has never been at Union for seven years.

Hutchens is pursuing her doctorate degree at the University of Memphis and is also teaching classes in Physical Education and Wellness in the Athletic Department at Union. Along with being next year’s co-head coach, Blackstock will remain as athletic director. Under his direction, Union’s teams have continuously put forth winning seasons.

Blackstock started his career at Union in 1973 as athletic director. He began coaching the baseball team in 1977 and led them to a third place finish in the NAIA World Series in 1983.

Under the direction of Blackstock, the Lady Bulldogs rank third in the nation of winningest active NAIA women’s basketball teams in the last five years. With Blackstock in command, the basketball team has never lost more than 10 games in one season.

Lady ’Dawgs are ranked first in the nation with a record of 24-2.
Here on the Fence

By Justin Phillips
Columnist

All right, I promised myself that I wasn’t going to do it. I wanted to be able to rise above the rampant rash of raunchy reporting. Alas, something must be said about the Lewinsky chick. So here goes: She can really figure skate. She

The world calls it love when a boy and girl share good times, when they enjoy each others company and when they give each other gifts. The world calls it love when a male and female have sex, make out, kiss and hold hands.

But is that really love?
The Bible says “Love is patient. Love is kind.” But is that how we really perceive love?

Here at Union, most of us are confused about love. Whenever we see a guy and girl talking or walking around together, we automatically say, “Well, I didn’t know they were dating!” You know it’s true. It has probably happened to all of us.

Love. Does anybody really know how to describe it? Webster’s says love is “a strong, usually passionate, affection of one person for another, based in part on sexual attraction.” I somewhat agree with this statement, but I also feel that love is indestructible.

I have talked to young and old married couples. They say that when you meet “the one,” you just know. My question is, “How do you just know?” Is it like when Bobby Brady falls in love with a little girl in his class on “The Brady Bunch”? Do fireworks explode? Is there an unexplainable perma-grin on your face? Do you want to kiss even if you’ll get the measles? I just don’t get it. Maybe that means I have not fallen in love yet. But is that such a bad thought? I mean, I am only a sophomore in college. I have my whole life ahead of me, and only God knows what all that entails.

Love. Who knows what it is or how to explain it?
The only guide we get is in the New Testament of the Bible in 1 Corinthians 13. It is known as the “love chapter.”

Read it. You might just discover whether or not you are or have been in love with someone or something that you do or places that you go.

Max Lucado, a popular Christian author, wrote a children’s book called “Tell Me the Secrets.” One of the secrets he reveals is the secret of love. The character in the story says, “Seek beauty and miss love. But seek love and find both.”

Alas, something must be said about the Lewinsky chick. So here goes: She can really figure skate. She

The Torch


Sanderson settles into position as provost

By Stephanie Lim
Features Editor

It has only been 17 days since Dr. Carla Sanderson took her place as chief academic officer of Union University, but she is already settling in and moving ahead with her vision-casting.

“I’m a little more focused on my own administration now,” she said.

Sanderson, who is also still serving as dean of the school of nursing, said she now has a clearer idea and understanding of the direction in which she wants to lead. In the winter workshop faculty meeting Feb. 3, she said she made a commitment to faculty members to create a “romance of openness,” a phrase coined by Dr. Bob Agee, president of Oklahoma Baptist University.

“God is the owner of truth,” she said as she explained Agee’s concept. She said she read the following statement to faculty at the meeting:

“ ‘There is tremendous value to a Christian university environment where diversity of opinion is allowed and appreciated and where there is the romance of openness on the part of faculty, students and administrators to learn something new and come to appreciate old understanding with new depth.’ ”

Cardinal & Cream

Union University’s Campus Newspaper

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The Cardinal & Cream is the campus newspaper of Union University. The newspaper is published biweekly and is distributed on campus to students, faculty, staff and administration without charge. The newspaper office is housed in SA 59 located in the Student Union Building.

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