Staff Writer

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According to Jennifer Allen, graduate assistant responsible for planning Campus Day, activities will begin at noon and are spread throughout Union’s campus.

Well-known Coach Lou Holtz to speak at scholarship banquet

By Andrew Long

Notre Dame’s former football head coach, Lou Holtz, will present the keynote address at the first Union University Scholarship Banquet Thursday, Oct. 9.

The event will benefit Union students by “providing valuable scholarship dollars,” said Dr. David Dockery, University president.

According to Kent Freeman, director of major gifts, the search to bring a prominent speaker to Union began in January 1997. Throughout the spring semester, 10 to 12 businessmen and community leaders were invited to visit Union’s campus each month.

The purpose of their visit was to get community feedback about the university and “to build a relationship with the business community,” Freeman said.

Efforts failed to bring former military leader Colin Powell to speak at the banquet. With input from the group of community leaders, Freeman then decided to invite Holtz.

The cost to bring Holtz to Union is approximately $40,000, but is being paid for by four premier sponsors.

According to Freeman, the event is expected to draw $100,000 for the university. The table seating is sold out. Seventy percent of which went to first-time contributors.

Students will be able to attend the banquet, which begins at 7 p.m. at the Jackson Civic Center.

For information about the banquet, contact Freeman at ext. 5454.

Union Station will roll in with express student service

By Jennifer Kormann

When Union Station opens, students will have one-stop shopping for all their financial and admissions questions. According to Executive Vice President Dr. Michael Duduit, Union Station’s purpose is customer service.

Students will be able to check their accounts, pay their bills, request transcripts, handle late registration, pick up financial aid documents and request applications for admission.

In addition to the students, Union Station will also serve faculty and staff. The customer service team will be able to distribute forms, paychecks and other materials, as well as cash checks and handle payments on university accounts.

“Union Station is being staffed by a great team of student-oriented people whose job is to help students meet needs and solve problems in a quick and efficient manner,” Duduit said.

Training for the Union Station team began July 30, and will continue into early October. The team was drawn from various administrative departments in order to assemble a group with diverse talents and backgrounds.

The positions of president, vice president, secretary and treasurer of the freshman class no longer exist. In an effort to end an election process that has been criticized as being a “popularity contest” the Student Government Association has decided to replace the old offices with an entirely new structure.

In place of the old system, SGA decided to appoint a Freshman Council consisting of 16 members, chosen by the current members of SGA.

According to Annie Laurie Crane, SGA Secretary, the selection process is based upon an application and interview. “Over 40 students applied for a spot (on the council), but, unfortunately, we could only choose 16,” she said.

The selection of the students for the council was based upon previous experience, knowledge of parliamentary procedure and the legislative process, or the desire to learn it.

The responsibilities of the council include working on a project to commemorate the 175th anniversary of Union at Homecoming in February 1998.

“They will set short and long term class goals and goals for SGA, as it is likely that they will be the leaders of SGA in two or three years,” said Crane.

The Freshman Council will choose a chairman, secretary and treasurer.

A statement from SGA read, “The number composing the committee was expanded to 16, allowing for the installation of eight committees to be filled by the alternates of this council. All Freshman Council applicants will be placed on a committee.”

Those selected to the Freshman Council include Tonya Dotson, Ellie Evans, Micah Holton, Alicia Jackson, Neal Rager, Carla Rose, April Schrader, Julie Seaborn, Abby Thomas, Caleb Trent, Joshua Trent, Mary Tullis, Sarah Beth Waller, Alex White, Chad Wilson and Leah Young.

According to Tim Patterson, SGA president, “Everyone who we interviewed deserved to serve actively on the council, but, unfortunately, that was not possible.”

SGA takes new approach to class leadership for freshmen

By Fred Shackelford

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According to Jennifer Allen, graduate assistant responsible for planning Campus Day, activities will begin at noon and are spread throughout Union’s campus.

White Student government association (WSGA) has been in the process of developing a new approach to leadership for freshmen.

According to Jenifer Kormann, Executive Vice President of the WSGA, the council will be responsible for the planning of Campus Day, activities to be held on Oct. 4. It will perform at 6 p.m. in the chapel.

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Alumni return to Union as missionaries-in-residence

By Nikki Dunn
Staff Writer

The Rev. Kim and Katherine North joined Union University as the new missionaries-in-residence for the 1997-98 school year. The Norths are associated with the International Missions Board and serve in the southern Philippines. They will be working at Union during their furlough.

Their job as missionaries-in-residence gives them “an opportunity to talk to students interested in missions, who God may be calling to a vocational work as a missionary.” Their job duties also include talking to students in missions, ministering to members of Mu Kappa, a fraternity for missionaries’ children, as well as speaking at local churches. Kim said his goal during his furlough here at Union is to “share and report what God is doing in our part of the world.”

After their furlough, the Norths plan to return to the Philippines where they have been ministering since March 1993. Kim’s primary job in the Philippines is church planter while his wife, Katherine, is a church and home planner. For Katherine, this includes home schooling their three children. Durham Alan, age 11, Mary Katherine, age 10, and Steven, age 3.

Kim and Katherine are both graduates of Union. Kim graduated in 1981 with a bachelor of science degree while Katherine graduated in 1986 with a bachelor of science in nursing. They will stay at Union until May 1998.

U.S. News ranks Union in top tier

By Jennifer Kormann
Staff Writer

How would you rank Union? Recently, U.S. News & World Report ranked Union in the top tier of Southern regional liberal arts colleges for the second consecutive year. Union was the only West Tennessee university to be ranked in the top 35.

“This ranking should give Union’s admissions a big boost,” stated Suzanne Pierson of Admissions, “It will get our name out to prospective students.”

According to U.S. News, the rankings were based on such criteria as student-faculty ratio, retention and graduation rates, and ACT/SAT scores of entering students. Carroll Griffin, director of admissions, contributed Union’s high rating to low 13:1 student-faculty ratio, high retention and graduation rates and the high ACT scores of students entering Union.

In a university press release, President David S. Dockery said, “We are delighted to again receive this affirmation of the outstanding education available at Union University, the 1998 rankings demonstrate that Union continues to provide a level of academic excellence that is ranked among the top schools in our region by objective criteria as those used by U.S. News.”

Union also ranked third in operating efficiency among Southern regional liberal arts colleges. This means that Union provides a quality education while spending relatively less.

Union has also been recognized in other national publications. “The Student Guide to America’s 100 Best College Buys” listed Union as one of the 100 best college buys. This guide profiles schools that are the highest rated academically but have the lowest total cost for the college years.

“Peterson’s Competitive Colleges in 1996-1997” and “Peterson’s Choose a Christian College” also recognized Union.

PowerSource changed ‘meet a need’

By Andrea Aldridge
Staff Writer

The campus worship service known as PowerSource begins Sept. 29 and meets every two weeks this semester, according to Ernie Jackson, director of PowerSource. The student-led campus worship service met weekly in the past.

Jackson, junior, said the service will be held in Harvey Lecture Hall at 6:15 p.m. with worship lasting about 50 minutes to an hour. PowerSource will be held Oct. 13, 27, Nov. 10, 24 and Dec. 8.

PowerSource will be offered every two weeks in order to give Jackson, Todd Brady, campus minister, and Jimmy Duke, co-director, time to plan, prepare and promote. Jackson believes the key is to promote.

By having PowerSource every two weeks, Jackson feels that it will be less of a burden for those helping which will result in “more people...interested in coming.”

“We want to meet a need.” Duke, senior, said. He believes that having PowerSource every two weeks will make it more special. Students are encouraged to attend the relaxed chapel services on Friday mornings, which are also similar to PowerSource.

PowerSource is open to all students who want to spend time worshiping God. Jackson said that the first service will include a comedy sketch, special music and a message from Jackson.

“We want to help you worship in the way God wants to be worshiped by His people on this campus.” Duke said.

Anyone interested in Powersource may contact the Campus Ministries Office at ext. 5161.

GO Week and Renewal Week highlight fall ministries calendar

By Ricky Gray
Staff Writer

“My prayer is that all of us would take the steps necessary to become more what Christ wants us to be, and that God would instill within each of us a burning desire for his name to be glorified in every part of our lives,” said Todd Brady, campus minister.

To help students achieve this, Campus Ministries has planned Global Opportunities, or GO Week for Sept. 22-26 along with Renewal Week, Oct. 5-9.

According to Brady, the purpose of GO Week is to communicate to the world that Jesus Christ is alive in all aspects of life whether it be in business, education, athletics, music. GO Week also hopes to place a more global emphasis on missions and highlight different ministries that are within the reach of all individuals.

Brady said the speaker will be Mildred McWhorter, a retired home missionary from Houston, Texas. A variety of booths will also be set up inside the cafeteria to inform students about current missions and ministry opportunities available.

In conjunction with GO Week, Todd Brady intends to journey with 30 students to Costa Rica in April on “GO (Global Outreach) Trips.”

Students will travel throughout the U.S. and minister to those who do not know Jesus or have not accepted Him into their hearts.

Brady feels that GO Week will reveal to everyone that God is working miracles not only in the United States but also in many countries overseas.

“This week will emphasize what you can do in ministry and throughout the summer.” Brady stated.

Renewal Week was called Fall Revival in past years. The name change is, according to Brady, due to the insatiable need to be closer to God. He said the word “renewal” signifies that everyone must seek the Lord in order to be renewed daily in their spiritual relationship with him.

During this week, Dean Register, pastor of Temple Baptist Church in Hattiesburg, Miss., and Christian artist Jeff Berry of Abilene, Texas, will visit the campus.

Brady said the focus of this week will be centered on spiritual growth as well as finding the time to be “alone with God in hopes of gaining knowledge about what He is doing in your life and in the lives of others.”

Film Festival returns to Union

Chapel credit will be given for attendance at the Second Annual Union University Film Festival taking place Sept. 29-Oct. 1 in the W.D. Powell Theatre.

The festival features a different film each night:
• Sept. 29- 8 p.m.- “Il Postino” (“The Postman”)
• Sept. 30- 8 p.m.- “Vertigo”
• Oct. 1- 8:30 p.m.- “East of Eden”

Admission is free. This event is sponsored by the Lyceum committee.
Germantown

According to Lindy Hannah, coordinator of programs at Union’s Germantown campus, 63 students enrolled in a program for registered nurses returning to school to receive their bachelor of science degree in nursing. Union admitted "just under 100" to the program. Hannah said the Germantown campus currently offers only this nursing program.

Germantown nursing student, Dagny Odom, of Bartlett, said she previously received her RN degree from Union when they had a campus located at Baptist Memorial Hospital in Memphis. She said, “I wanted to stay with Union.” Currently, Odom works full time as a hospice nurse while attending classes.

Union previously had a Shelby County campus at Baptist Memorial Hospital, but had to close the program in 1996 when the hospital opened its own nursing program, according to Geri Smith, assistant professor of nursing.

During his message, Dockery said, “It is something very new, yet it is something intrinsically very old.” Mary Nell Murphy, of Memphis, said she chose Union’s program, because “mainly, it’s convenient. It allows you to work and go to school at the same time.”

Dockery said, “The essence of Union University is traditional, undergraduate, residential, Christian liberal arts education, but we have an opportunity to expand on that with the special program in Germantown.”

In February, Union plans to open a master of business administration program, and plans to include a master of education program starting in June 1998.

According to Hannah, the university plans to help students grow spiritually by requiring students to take Old and New Testament survey courses at the Germantown campus.

Dockery said students would have access to the Christian resources in Mid-America’s library, as well as Christian faculty.