



The Columns



Vol. 48, No. 3

The Student Voice of Louisburg College

October 1988



Helen Thomas, UPI White House Bureau Chief

A White House Bureau Chief Visits Louisburg

By Deidre Choporian
Editor-in Chief

Helen Thomas, the UPI White House Bureau Chief, is one of the twenty-five most influential women in America today, as reported by the November 1976 *World Almanac*. And with all her accomplishments over the past fifty years, this is not hard to understand.

Thomas has covered the Iran-Contra scandals, Watergate, and in her travels around the world, has covered every economic summit with Presidents Nixon, Ford, Carter, and Reagan.

Thomas was the first woman to accomplish many feats in the journalism field. Some of these are being the first woman officer of the National Press Club, first woman to close a Presidential news with "Thank you, Mr. President" (which she and many others have continued to do ever since), the first woman officer of the White House Correspondents Association, and the first woman member of the Gridiron club in its ninety year history.

She has been delivering lectures on the White House and the Presidency for several years as well as serving as commencement speaker at many colleges.

On November 29, 1988, Helen Thomas will be speaking here at Louisburg College in the Jordan Student Center at 8 pm. Her speech is sponsored by the Public Affairs office and is offered to the public without charge. All students are invited to come and hear a woman who has truly become "a legend in her own time."

Getting Out the Vote

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Steinert is Artist of the Year

By Stacey Mangum

Staff writer

Louisburg College Choral Director and Instructor of Music Daniel A. Steinert was recently chosen Artist of the Year for 1988 by the Franklin County Arts Council. Steinert was recognized on Friday, October 7th, at the Arts Council dinner.

The Artist of the Year designation is given each year to a person in Franklin County who has excelled in performing arts, fine and visual arts, literary arts, or heritage and traditional arts. According to the October 10, 1988 *Franklin Times*, "a major requirement for eligibility is that the recipient must have brought public recognition in and outside of Franklin County to include state, regional or national media."

Steinert holds degrees in music from the University of Wisconsin (B.A.) and Westminster Choir College (M.M.). He has performed with Robert Shaw and Leonard Bernstein and at the Spoleto Festival of Two Worlds.

In addition to his other professional accomplishments, Steinert leads the amateur musicians of Louisburg College and Franklin County in exploring and appreciating musical classics. In 1987, he took the college Ensemble to London for performances. In the spring of this year, he took the Northeastern Piedmont Chorale, a five-county singing group of which he is founder and director, to the famous Spoleto Festival in Charleston, S.C. He is presently organizing and rehearsing a multi-county



production of Handel's *Messiah* to be presented just before Christmas.

The Columns congratulates Daniel Steinert.

Louisburg Student Killed

Stephen L. Pendergrass, 20, of Cary, died Friday, October 21, of injuries sustained in an automobile accident two days earlier.

Pendergrass was traveling toward Raleigh on U.S. 401 at about 1 p.m. Wednesday when the Ford Escort he was driving collided with a 1984 Chevrolet dump truck pulling onto the highway.

The funeral was held on Monday, October 24th in Cary; the college community held a memorial service in Benson Chapel at four o'clock the same afternoon. Special guests for the campus service were his parents, James and Susan Pendergrass of Cary, and his brother, James E. Pendergrass, of Durham. Pendergrass is also survived by a sister, Robin Swilling, of Crandall, Georgia.

The Pendergrass family requests that memorial contributions be made to the Wake County Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (S.P.C.A.), 503 Highway 70 East, Garner, NC 27529.

