

Local

Evangelist Josh enjoys his battles

By MARCY BOYCE
Battalion Staff

Travelling from university to university, evangelist Josh McDowell said he feels like Patton when he looked out over the battlefield. Envisioning what battles lay before him, the general said, "Oh God, I love it."

"And that's the way I feel. Oh God, I love it—seeing people's lives change, people challenged to consider things that they've never considered before," said McDowell, whose ministries with Campus Crusade for Christ have taken him to 570 universities and 58 countries in the last 10 years.

His lecture on "Maximum Sex" tonight in Rudder auditorium at 8 p.m. will mark the end of his three-part lecture series at Texas A&M University and the completion of his most recent 11-day tour. McDowell lectured at a conference in Denver and at Louisiana State University and the University of Houston before coming to College Station.

In an interview Monday, the magna cum laude graduate said he feels most comfortable with university student audiences because it was in a university that he first struggled seeking the truth to questions such as "Who am I?" and "Where am I going?"

"It was in that context that I was searching for truth and I think it's the context most people are searching for truth," he said.

"I like the give and take (at universities). I think it's where I can appeal to people's minds and not be out of character because I find Christianity is a very intelligent faith, a very rational faith," McDowell said.

Sunday night in a lecture titled "The Resurrection Hoax" the former law student shared with the 1,500-member audience how several years ago his attempt to refute both the Christian faith and the resurrection of the body of Jesus Christ backfired on him.

McDowell said he became a Christian as a result of the findings of those two years of research which have been documented in one of his six best-seller books.

Monday night to an even larger crowd which packed Rudder auditorium to capacity, McDowell again made an appeal to the intellect of those present. Addressing the topic of prophecy, he repeatedly referred to current events, particularly in the Middle East, as fulfillment of

biblical prophecies over thousands of years old.

The last of his lectures, "Maximum Sex," or as he said Sunday, "Is Love Still Possible in a Junkie World," will be presented tonight.

The content of his lectures changes, but never the topics, McDowell said because he believes the resurrection is the intellectual basis for Christianity, prophecy is the hope and sex is the problem.

The evangelist's tours usually take him on the road two weeks at a time, home for one week and on the road for two more — creating both a tremendous physical and financial strain on him, he said.

McDowell has been on the road with his ministry for 17 years now, and during that time he said he has seen the attitude of students change from activism to apathy, from fulfillment to emptiness.

"Texas A&M has a lot going for it,

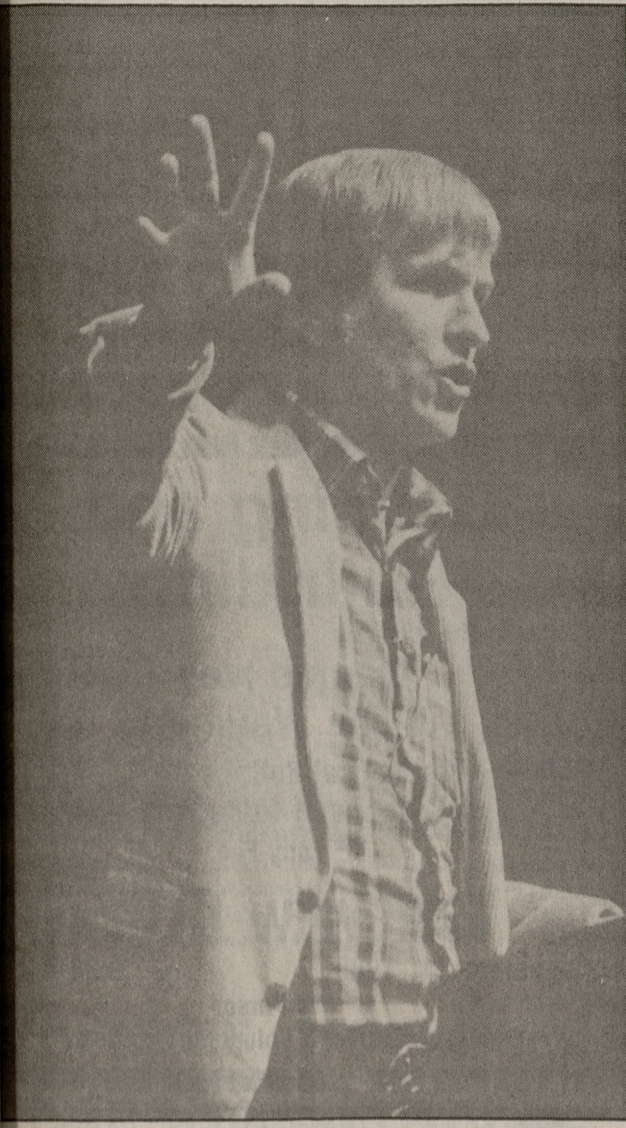
so much more than other universities," McDowell said, noting particularly the traditions of the University which he said he believes develop character and self esteem.

But aside from that, most universities are the same, the lecturer said.

University students today are lonely for the most part, very isolated, he said.

"Probably some of the loneliest people in the world are in the universities," he said. "Most people are bored with themselves."

They feel there aren't any causes. And on top of that, he said they are discouraged with our government and society as a whole. Students no longer feel there are any answers anymore, McDowell said.



Staff photo by George Dolan

Biblical prophecies from thousands of years ago are being fulfilled everyday, Christian evangelist Josh McDowell told an overflowing crowd in Rudder Auditorium Monday. It was the second of his three-part lecture series on campus.

Campus worker dies

A Texas A&M University custodial worker died Monday shortly after an apparent heart attack.

Pauline L. Jenkins, 60, was taken by a Texas A&M emergency medical team from the third floor of Mosher Hall. Jenkins was pronounced dead

on arrival at St. Joseph Hospital in Bryan.

Jenkins had worked for the University since September 1969.

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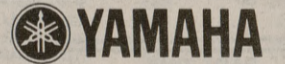
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