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**EXCLUSIVE ONLINE CONTENT:** "Silent Ranks of Vision" & More

## Iberty CHAMPION TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 2010 · VOLUME 28 ISSUE 9



**RUTH ВІВВУ** 

see A8

**PRISON MINISTRY** 

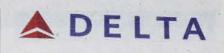
**REACHES YOUTH** 

## **Military Emphasis Week kicks off**

Military Emphasis Week officially kicked off on Friday night at the Military Appreciate Night Banquet at Williams Stadium and continued on Saturday afternoon at the Liberty Flames halftime show. The show was a moving tribute to our nation's veterans and

the men and women who are currently serving in the military. The show began with the Liberty Marching Band presenting each branch of the military's hymn as a mixed guard presented their colors. Charles Billingsley sang "Proud to Be an American" while the Liberty Theatre department reenacted the famous flag scene from Iwo Jima. Former chief financial officer at the Old Time Gospel Hour George Rogers was honored as a surviving POW from WWII. Rogers is a survivor of the 1942 Bataan Death March. See related stories inside.

# Liberty's flight team dominates sixth straight regional championship



#### OMAR ADAMS oadams@liberty.edu

The School of Aeronautics' flight team won the Region X competition for the sixth consecutive year. They are regarded as a shining example of outstanding performance and excellent sportsmanship.

The National Intercollegiate Flying Association (NIFA) team at Liberty was founded eight years ago by retired Navy pilot Capt. Ernie Rogers. Since then, Liberty has dominated regional competition. Rogers is now the School of Aeronautics assistant dean for residential studies.

"From having a couple people compete the first year to having six consecutive Region X championships — that's pretty neat," Rogers said. "It's been really rewarding." The competition is divided up into two portions: flight and ground. Events include things like precision landings, navigation, preflight inspection and aircraft recognition. Both portions are combined for an overall score, and Liberty pilots took first in each.

"The ground portion we absolutely dominated," senior Christian Traxler said. "The flight portion was a little bit closer, but we still did really well."

Liberty also received the Safety Award and Red Baron Team Sportsmanship award. The latter was given for unique sportsmanship shown by the team. One school was short a pilot and could not compete in the message drop event. Since the "drop master" was the main focus, one of Liberty's captains, Jeffrey Wietholter, flew the aircraft while the other student dropped his container. "They actually ended up placing pretty well (sixth), so we were like, 'Darnit!" Traxler said, laughing. "It was all in good sport, though."

While most aviation students are male, the women in the program have been making a name for themselves.

"One of our female pilots, Melanie Evans, took first place in the power-on landings this was the first time a female has won a landing event in our region," Rogers said. "The girls are really stepping up and getting better and better every year."

Since the team represents the aviation program and the university as a whole, an emphasis is placed on excelling in the national competition. After winning 15th in the nation during finals last year, the NIFA team is aiming for a top 10 finish this spring.

**CONTINUED** on A8

#### City scrambles to keep Delta, lure another airline

JONATHAN PARKER Jparker17@liberty.edu

Lynchburg Regional Airport leaders are scrambling to convince Delta Air

Lines to reconsider its plans to pull out of the city in January.

City Manager Kimball Payne said the city is also targeting other airlines that would provide flights to Washington, D.C.'s Dulles International Airport or Philadelphia International Airport.

"Service to

Dulles would be

Payne said.

fyi Tickets for

November and December that have already been purchased will not be affected by Delta's departure.

#### City to seek students' input on proposed Wards Road bridge

#### JONATHAN PARKER Jparker17@liberty.edu

Liberty University students will get a chance to sound off on a proposed plan to build a pedestrian bridge over Wards Road. Liberty and Lynchburg officials will survey students in the coming weeks to gauge interest in a bridge. The officials met last Friday to discuss plans to make crossing Wards Road safer for pedestrians.

"We want to make sure what we do the students will really use whatever we build," Chancellor Jerry Falwell Jr. said.

Last September, council members unanimously agreed to build a street-level pedestrian crossing on Wards Road. The project includes placing crossing signals and marked crosswalks on the highway and a fenced-in pedestrian refuge in the median.

Council members set aside over \$2 million for the project, which includes placing walking trails on Rock Castle Creek along Wards Road.

**CONTINUED** on A2

**CONTINUED** on A2

a homerun, particularly for companies

that need international connections,"

Inside the Champion

News A1

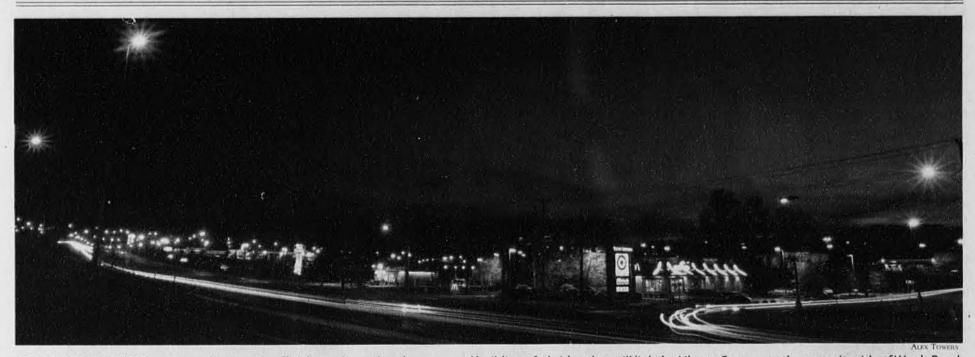
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4



BUILDING THE BRIDGE — City and university officials are discussing the proposed building of a bridge that will link the Liberty Campus to the opposite side of Wards Road.

#### WARDS continued from A1

This summer, Liberty leaders asked city officials to place a bridge above Wards Road.

Pedestrians would access the bridge by elevator or stairs on the east side of Wards Road and exit likely by stairs or a ramp in the Sam's Club parking lot.

City Manager Kimball Payne said city and university officials want to know if students will use a pedestrian bridge.

"Having 500 students say they will use a bridge twice a year is much different than 300 using it everyday," Payne said. Payne wants city and university officials to reach a consensus and present a clear plan to council members.

"It's incumbent on us to come together and have a plan," Payne said. "We have not decided what to do yet."

Payne said officials discussed paying Liberty to build the bridge if the university was willing to own and maintain the structure.

Falwell said university leaders have not made a decision on owning a bridge.

"It was a good open discussion on how we can work together," Payne said.

Liberty officials suggested the city could

save money on the project by scrapping plans to build walking trails along Rock Castle Creek. Payne said the trails were essential to pedestrian safety.

City Planner Tom Martin is preparing a survey for Liberty students. The survey is expected to measure interest in a pedestrian bridge and determine how often students cross Wards Road on foot and in a vehicle.

Falwell hopes to present the survey in the coming weeks. "It was a very good meeting," Falwell said. "The city is willing to do its part. I don't think there is going to be any disagreement."

Falwell said seeking student input will help

#### **DELTA** continued from A1

Delta offers three daily flights to Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport, which has 150 connections to other U.S. and international airports.

Delta is only offering two daily flights to Atlanta in November and December.

Liberty University Chancellor Jerry Falwell Jr. said Falwell Aviation has considered providing flights to New York City.

"Falwell Aviation might be able to bring another flight," Falwell said. "Falwell Aviation has the potential to fill some of the void being left by the loss."

Falwell said the company currently offers daily charter flights on eight-seat jets for Areva and other companies.

Falwell said university leaders talked with city officials about adding a flight to a major northern airport before Delta decided to leave.

The university owns one jet and Falwell Aviation charters two others.

"We keep those three planes in the air almost everyday," Falwell said.

Falwell said city leaders were excited about the idea of Falwell Aviation adding a northbound flight.

leaders make a decision. "We want to measure twice and cut once," Falwell said.

Payne said city and university leaders have time to prepare a detailed plan for council and begin construction in the spring.

Liberty will build a \$1.3 million pedestrian and bicycle tunnel this summer in conjunction with the pedestrian crossing.

The tunnel will be built under the railroad tracks behind the Vines Center, allowing students direct access from the campus to Wards Road shops.

#### PARKER is a news reporter.

lines and Colgan Air about bringing flights to Lynchburg.

"If you get lucky, it could be seamless," Courtney said. "A lot of things have to fall into place and there has to be an element of luck." Courtney said U.S. Airways is adding an-

other flight to Charlotte, N.C.

"U.S. Airways has indicated they have no intention of raising their fares," Courtney said. "My primary objective is going to be to make sure U.S. Airways is happy and their airplanes are full."

U.S. Airways receives 60 percent and Delta 40 percent of the city's passengers, Courtney said.

Delta and U.S. Airways have dropped prices from over \$300 in early 2008 to just under \$200 this year, ac-

cording to airport records.

For questions about tickets call the Lynch-burg Regional Airport (434) 455-6090.

A DE LTA KLIM AIRFRANCE

DELTA DEPARTING — Delta announced plans to leave the Lynchburg Regional bound flight. Airport two weeks ago. This change will not affect students who have already purchased tickets through Delta. bound flight. a 30- to 50-

### www.LibertyChampion.com

### LIBERTY CHAMPION

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#### LETTER TO THE EDITOR POLICIES

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members to submit letters to the editor on any

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and must be typed and signed. The deadline is

5 p.m. Friday. Letters and columns that appear

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#### Send letters to:

Liberty Champion Liberty University, Box 2000, Lynchburg, VA 24502

or drop off in DeMoss Hall 1035.

Falwell Aviation would have to operate a 30- to 50-seat jet to accommodate larger flights, the chancellor said.

"The devil is probably in the details though," Falwell said. "I doubt if we could serve the general public. Charter flights would be limited to large companies or groups."

Lynchburg Regional Airport Director Mark Courtney said Delta leaders did not mention leaving the city during his annual meeting with them in June.

"We received no indication whatsoever that they had any profitability problems," Courtney said.

Nearly 90 percent of Delta's seats were filled in October, Courtney said. Delta, which has operated out of Lynchburg since 1994, lowered its prices in an effort to compete with U.S. Airways.

City leaders suggested ways Delta could increase profits, including better seating allocation and increasing ticket prices, during a conference call with airline representatives Tuesday.

"They agreed to review ideas for tweaking fares out of Delta and improving the revenue environment," Courtney said, adding that Delta provides high-quality jets. "People will pay more for better quality."

Courtney said securing another airline for Lynchburg is a complex process.

City officials are talking with Pinnacle Air-

#### **CORRECTION BOX**

to write a personal letter to Delta's CEO Richard Anderson.

The Lynchburg Regional Chamber of

Commerce is urging local business executives

"We are absolutely saying time is of the essence. Within the next seven business days, Delta needs to be flooded with letters from Lynchburg," Christine Kennedy, executive vice president, said.

Kennedy said the chamber is working with businesses that rely on Delta's service.

"Our priority is to do anything we can to keep Delta from pulling out," Kennedy said.

City leaders have also contacted legislators and Governor Bob McDonnell.

"When you have one airline, there's no competition. What's the incentive to lower fares?" Kennedy said. "The danger is no competition creates a monopoly."

Kennedy said city officials have a strong case for bringing in another airline that offers flights to a large airport.

"We have 75,000 passengers a year that need a carrier," Kennedy said. "The companies themselves depend on this access. If you can't get in and out of here, how are you going to do business?"

Payne said the city is working hard to keep Delta or find another airline.

"We want to demonstrate that an airline can be profitable (here)," Payne said.

Falwell added, "It might be time for Lynchburg to guarantee a certain amount of profit to these airlines to keep them here. Other cities have taken this approach in the past."

PARKER is a news reporter.

A clarification needs to be made concerning the Oct. 12, 2010, edition of the Liberty Champion. In the article "SPC Curtis Davis: Returns home uncertain, hopeful for future," Davis was unable to attend Liberty in the fall due to his grades, not because he arrived back home late from Iraq.

CARTOONIST hason EDITOR The Champion encourages community

## Election Results 2010: Going Red

#### AMANDA SULLIVAN amsullivan3@liberty.edu

The U.S. House of Representatives political color scheme shifted from being predominantly blue to mostly red during the recent election. The Republican's major victories during national elections gave the party control of the House, while the Democrats managed to maintain power in the Senate. Below is the election breakdown.

#### SENATE

The Democratic Party was able to stake its claim in the Senate by allowing the Republican Party only an additional six seats. The Democratic Party currently holds 53 seats, with the Republican Party holding 46 seats and Independent candidates holding two seats. The Senate will have the power to adjust the House





vote on matters that disagree with President Barack Obama's policies. Harry Reid will remain the Senate Majority Leader.

#### HOUSE

The House drastically changed affiliations as the Republican Party picked up a total of 60 seats during the election, making this the largest shift of power since 1938. The election has left the House with 239 Republican representatives claiming victories and 188 Democratic representatives holding their ground. Previously, the Democratic Party maintained control of the House with 256 representatives having Democratic affiliations and 177 representatives having Republican affiliations. At stake are issues such as health care, the national budget and debt. John Boehner may take the Speaker of the House position. Nancy Pelosi has expressed plans to run for minority whip.

#### **GOVERNORSHIPS**

Prior to the most recent elections, the governorships among the states were evenly distributed with 26 states represented by a Democratic candidate and 24 states represented by Republicans. During the last election only 37 seats were up for grabs, and the breakdown now includes 17 states represented by the

#### Gicarnie's Prove Values's Means Democratic Party, 29 represented by the Re- group

publican Party and one state represented by an Independent. The gubernatorial races were important as the newly elected officials will be responsible for reviewing the voting districts, which will affect future elections.

#### PUTTING IT ALL TOGETHER

On a local level, Robert Hurt (R-5) won the highly contested 5th District Senate race, beating out former representative Tom Perriello (D-5). Congressmen Bob Goodlatte (R-6) will still represent the 6th District.

The College Republicans at Liberty University have been recognized for the hours of work the group contributed to Hurt's campaign. The group made approximately 60,000 phone calls and knocked on about 11,000 doors, College Republican Chairman Zach Martin said. The group also recruited more than 70 members and fielded 110 volunteers. Second Vice Chairwoman Caroline Biggs was responsible for organizing most of the recruits.

"(The College Republicans) played a significant role. I worked closely with them," Political Activist Wendell Walker said. A lot of phone calls were made on behalf of Robert Hurt, even though the

#### Virginia - District 5

2010 8	lection			
Name		Party	Votes	%Won
*Robert Hurt 🧐		R	119,242	50.8%
Tom Perriello		D	110,586	47.1%
Jeffrey Clark		- 0	4,981	2.1%
Recen	t Electio	ons		A 1
Year	Name		Party	%Won
•2008	Thomas S	P. Perriell	o D	50.1%
*2006 Virgit H. C		oode	R	59.1%
*2004	Virgil H. Goode		R	63.7%
6th Di	strict			
Name		Party	Votes	96 Won
Robert Goodlatte		R	126,7	10 76.2%
Jeff Vanke		1	21,64	8 13.96
Stewart Bain		L	15,30	9 9.2%

group is located in the 6th District.

Walker said that he believes God has given the country a second chance, and that it is Christians' responsibility to bring the country back to God. Although the political power shift seems to be a sign of success for Republicans, the party may still face some strife in overturning such items such as the recent health care bill, because Republicans have only gained control of the House and the Democrats maintain control of the Senate.

"It's going to be a gridlock. I think you will see a lot of fighting going on," Walker said. "I think that the new conservatives and the tea party are committed to freedom. I think this new class of congressional leaders is much more committed to family values. They seem to have more courage and backbone."

Walker said that the Republican Party is changing by becoming more conservative and less moderate.

"This is an opportunity for us to get things right. If we don't step up to the plate and provide the leadership, we will be in the minority two years from now," Walker said.

 SULLIVAN is a Graduate Assistant working for the Liberty Champion.

## The Whole Church to the Whole World

#### Third Lausanne Congress on World Evangelism held in South Africa

CINDI FAHLE

Town 2010 conference is "to



of the church in the next generation," Moore said.

Moore also said that missions trips are an important part of missions, but they are not the only part. terms of taking the gospel to the whole world.

The Lausanne Congress first met in Switzerland under the leadership of the Rev. Billy Graham in 1974. Prominent Christian leaders from all over the globe met for 10 days of worship, prayer and discussion. According to the Lausanne Movement website, Time magazine called this meeting "a formidable forum, possibly the widest-ranging meeting of Christians ever held." The response to this Congress was so great that the movement was kept alive by those who caught the vision. There have been dozens of global, regional and topical conferences held around the world in the same spirit as the original Lausanne Congress.

#### cfahle@liberty.edu

More than 4,000 Christian leaders from around the world gathered in Cape Town, South Africa, for the Third Lausanne Congress on World Evangelism, Oct. 16-25. They discussed the critical issues facing the church today, such as other world faiths, poverty, HIV/AIDS and persecution and how these issues relate to evangelism specifically. Among those in attendance was the Rev. Johnnie Moore.

"This is the most diverse gathering of evangelical, missions leaders in the history of Christianity. It will have a number of effects, the fullness of which will only be known well after the Congress has concluded," Moore said.

The goal of the Cape

re-stimulate the spirit of Lausanne represented in the Lausanne Covenant: to promote unity, humbleness in service and a call to action for global evangelization," according to the Lausanne website

Moore said that he sees the conference impacting the church by being the launching point of a renewed commitment to the gospel and the lordship of Jesus Christ, as well as resulting in a more unified global church.

The theme of the Lausanne movement has been "the whole church taking the whole gospel to the whole world." The original Lausanne Congress impacted modern missions and evangelism in a profound way. Not only was it the most diverse gathering of evangelicals to take place, **EVANGELIZING THE WORLD** — Campus Pastor Johnnie Moore attended the Third Lausanne Congress in October to discuss world evangelism.

ideas such as the term "unreached people groups" were introduced, changing the approach to missions.

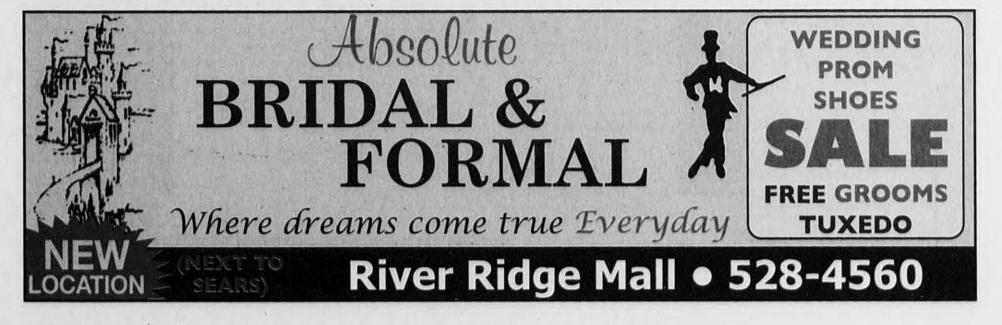
"As the world's largest Christian university that is fanatical about missions, I hope that Liberty's expansive missions efforts can be more closely married to local churches in every country of the world. In the end, I hope that Liberty proves to be a substantial part of the history

"We have to get the body of Christ to take missions to another level even while the modern missions trip movement continues. Missions trips are primarily a first step of missions commitment that should lead to subsequent steps. I think everyone should go on a missions trip," Moore said. He also said the Liberty will keep doing what its doing, and trust that students will continue to nurture a passion for the gospel, regardless of their career aspirations.

The uniqueness and strength of the Lausanne Movement is that it is not about an organizational agenda, according to a video by Paul Eshelman on the Lausanne website. Eshelman said it is about the agenda of the scripture interpreted in the

For more information about the conference or the Lausanne Movement, visit www.lausanne.org.

 FAHLE is a news reporter.





We asked... Will you start Christmas shopping on Black Friday?



Most likely not, because I am in love with the Christmas season and I start celebrating really early.

> Sydney Bordeaux, Freshman



When my family's wired, we picked stuff up all times of the year. We find something cool for one another, we'll buy it and save it for the holidays.

> Greg Buscher, Sophomore



Most likely, yes, because that way they have really good sales, and if I don't go on Black Friday, I'll start after.

> Ashley Caudle, Junior



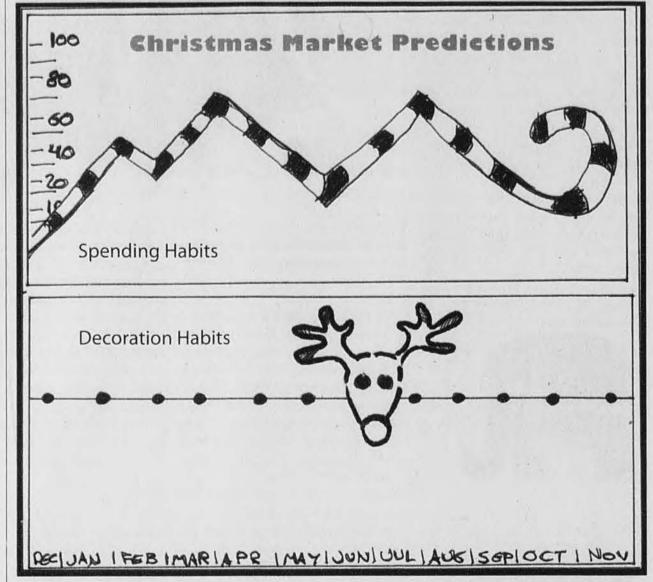
on t

street

I will do most of the shopping before Black Friday because I don't like going shopping when there's too many people.

> JunYoung Oh, Senior

### **Decorations hit shelves earlier**



JOHN GOSSLEE

November 9, 2010

#### TYLER FLYNN tflynn@liberty.edu

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Black Friday, the day after Thanksgiving, has traditionally been the start to the Christmas shopping season. Going against tradition, many retailers have begun to offer sales as early as October, causing increased competition. This has led to a wider range of stores offering steeper discounts for a longer sales period. Stores such as Sears and Toys "R" Us commenced Black Friday discounts the weekend of Oct. 29 and Abercrombie & Fitch sent out an email to customers Oct. 24 offering Christmas savings. Christmas products, such as ornaments, wreaths and candy are now being displayed by companies such as Wal-Mart and Target. Even online distributors, such as Amazon.com, began offering markdowns on brand name electronics. findings report that three-quarters of consumers plan to change the way they shop this holiday season to save money. Thus, retailers have become more strategic and aggressive in their advertising campaigns to ensure their stake in cautious shoppers' limited budget.

"Retailers think if they're not putting their stuff out until after Thanksgiving, people may have already spent what little money they have," Knutson said, according to the Lansing State Journal.

Many people complain about the market's early release of Christmas-related products and the resulting burnout from months of holiday advertising. However, in the end consumers have only themselves to blame.

Advertisers have begun marketing Christmas items earlier for one simple reason — it works. The National Retail Federation reports that nearly 40 percent of buyers planned to begin their holiday shopping before Halloween and a Consumer Reports poll showed that a quarter of Americans had already started.

QUESTIONS? E-mail luchampion @liberty.edu with your questions. Check next week's edition to

see if your question is featured.

This premature and prolonged Christmas campaign has caused what Michigan State University business professor Bonnie Knutson calls the "blurring of the holidays," according to the Lansing State Journal.

Many analysts cite the nation's economic troubles as the reason for the intense marketing initiatives. Last year, Black Friday experienced an 8.6 percent decrease in average spending from 2008, according to the Boston College Observer. The American Research group reports that spending for families also declined since 2008, from \$431 to \$417.

Despite this slight decrease, the financial situation for buyers looks to be slightly better this year. Nearly 62 percent of consumers are planning to spend the same or more on the holidays, an 11 percent increase since 2009, according to the Deloitte 25th Annual Holiday Survey. Additionally, the The best tool shoppers have against this barrage of advertising is personal accountability — refraining from buying holiday items before Thanksgiving will convince businesses to revert to the old holiday sale standard.

"You don't have to spend just because you are prompted to," Sally Palaian, author of "Spent: Break the Buying Obsession and Discover Your True Worth," said according to Treehugger. com. "You really need to get grounded about the holidays and what is really meaningful to you so you do not get pulled into the stream of media merchandising."

In the end, all that is required to curb the over-saturation of holiday marketing is for consumers to exercise a little selfcontrol.

+ FLYNN is an opinion writer.



Last year, the Associated Press released an article titled "America: One nation, without God? More Americans say they have no religion." This article revealed that "(f) ifteen percent of respondents said they had no religion, according to the American Religious Identification Survey." Furthermore, the article said that 12 percent of Americans believe in a higher power, showing that this higher power is something other than God.

This poll shows that Judeo-Christian roots, the foundation of American covenants, constitutions and the political order and system, is no longer the single guiding factor in politics and policy. The biggest social issue facing America is secularization — "the process by which a society severs its ties to a religious worldview."

Christianity, which once formed the foundation for American jurisprudence and government, has been replaced with postmodern ideas.

A world without God is a world where man is the measure of all things.

However, who does the government answer to in a world where the higher power is "something other than God?" In a world with no absolutes, that something could be nothing at all. A higher authority, in the post-modern age, is deconstructed to have a different meaning for each person. As a result, the Constitution of the United States is interpreted according to many worldviews instead of one absolute worldview. Common law — pre-existing law based on Christianity — formed the basis of the American legal and constitutional systems.

Without a Creator, men rely on institutions. The government has expanded its jurisdiction, and Americans allow the government to make their decisions for them. They reported that they trust the government to make most of their decisions, according to an article published in August 2008 by USA Today.

However, nearly 30 years ago, Ronald Reagan said that

government is the problem not the solution. When Americans lack self-government, and when they don't believe in a sovereign entity which rules over the government, then accountability has been lost entirely. They can interpret the Constitution according to the post-modern worldview, instead of the worldview in which it was written — the Judeo Christian worldview.

The solution is simple. We need to educate Americans about the Judeo-Christian worldview and work together for the "common good." Elected officials should read the works of the authors that inspired the founding fathers: Hugo Grotius, Edwin Coke, Montesque and others.

Instead of being one nation without God, America should return to its roots — one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

The original article was published on Facebook in April 2009, and submitted as a writing sample to the Fund for American Studies Institute of Political Journalism program.



#### OPINION

## Ruling appealed for violence in games

#### NATE TREESE ndtreese@liberty.edu

The Supreme Court on Nov. 2 debated the state of California's controversial 2005 video game law. The law, which bans the sale of violent video games to minors, has never gone into effect. The video game industry sued, citing violation of the First Amendment, and the 9th circuit appellate court overturned the law in 2009.

Now, California is appealing the ruling and the case has made it to the U.S. Supreme Court. The justices voted Nov. 2 to hear the case, and is expected to hear the case in June 2011. The Court's ruling on

this subject could have major effects on violent content in all forms of media. Previous rulings have maintained that sexual content and obscenity should be regulated, but the current regulation does not extend to violent content.

The video game industry has been using a ratings system similar to that employed

by the MPAA for years. Since 1994, the Entertainment Software Ratings Board (ESRB) assigns ratings to video games sold in North for America. "E" for "everyone" games are the rough equivalent of a G-rated motion picture, "T" for "teen" corresponds with a PG-13 rating, and "M" for "mature" with R-rated films

Games given an "M" rating by the ESRB contain intense violence, blood and gore, sexual themes and content, use of alcohol and drugs or frequent use of strong language. Gaming consoles refuse to license video games that have not been rated by the ESRB, and all video game retailers have a policy against selling M-rated games to children under

the age of 17.

Ultimately, parents should be

responsible for what their children

see, and I have a serious problem with

the government taking over parents'

responsibilities.

This is not a perfect system, but then again, no system is. The intent is, combined with parental supervision, should effectively prevents children from being exposed to violence, language or sexual content beyond their capacity. Ultimately, parents should be responsible for what their children see, and I have a serious problem with the government taking over parents' responsibilities.

Of further concern, however, is what this ruling could mean for the entertainment industry. If the law is not struck down, Americans can expect the close regulation and restriction of violent content to extend to comic books and many other forms of media. Rich Taylor,

vice president of communications for Entertainment Software Association, the group representing the industry in the case, has similar concerns: "It begins with the fact (that) computer video games are deserving of same protected constitutional rights as any other medium ... One reason a book publisher, the movie and music industry and broadcasters all put in

briefs supporting our cause is they see the danger."

California might have children's best interests in mind with this law, but the consequences of its passage are ones this country will regret. Losing liberty is seldom a one-step process these days. It is a slow, almost unnoticeable chain of events that begins with the best of intentions and ends in a very dark place. Perhaps it has already begun. Some would certainly argue that it has. Regardless, it would be best not to speed it along.

TREESE is an opinion writer.



'M' FOR MATURE -Children are no longer able to buy games, such as "Grand Theft Auto," due to mature themes and violence.

### Killing Time: Hidden costs of changing time

#### ETHAN MASSEY ehmassey@liberty.edu

Every year, Americans lose and then subsequently regain an hour of their lives in the nationwide farce known as daylight saving time (DST)

Originally implemented in 1918 as an effort to conserve resources during World War I, DST was repealed the next year and then taken up again during World War II, according to the California Energy Commission. It was not until 1966 that Congress passed the Uniform Time Act, dooming America to a state-regulated existence plagued by disrupted sleep schedules and trying to figure out how to change the time on all household appliances.

Rebels standing as a beacon of sanity in this nightmarish time confusion are Hawaii, Arizona - except for the Navajo Nation — and the majority of U.S. territories who do not observe DST.

This year, Apple has reported a glitch in the iPhone and iTouch operating system that may cause recurring alarms to go off an hour late, according to MSNBC. Preset alarms for any devices running on the iOS 4.1 mobile operating system should be safe to use again in the days following the change, as long as they are reset.

In his zealous quest to save money on candles, Benjamin Franklin never realized the dire straits in which he would place the electronic conveniences of future generations.

More serious problems stemming from DST include

libertyCHAMP

Health care plan not healthy

a 5 percent increase in heart attacks the first week of daylight saving time, according to Scientific American. The study, conducted by the Karolinska Institute in Stockholm, suggested that this may be due to changes in sleep patterns and biological rhythms.



STOCK EXCHANGE

percent, according to Discovery News. Later studies showed this figure to have been made up for by increased use of air conditioners in warmer areas.

Researchers had another opportunity to examine the usefulness of daylight saving time in 2006 when Indiana first imposed DST statewide. It was found that the implementation lent to a 1 percent increase in electricity use, amounting to an extra cost of \$9 million for the state, according to Scientific American.

Daylight saving time has become a useless and counterproductive tradition that tricks the unaware masses into believing that they can eventually catch up on lost sleep from over half-a-year ago. America should follow Hawaii, Arizona and most of the U.S. territories into the bright future, which is year-round standard time.

As the old American Indian saying goes, "Only the government would believe that you could cut a foot off the top of a blanket, sew it to the bottom and have a longer blanket."

Among the studies on the effectiveness of daylight saving time, a 1970s investigation by the U.S. Department of Transportation revealed that electricity usage dropped by 1

MASSEY is the assistant opinion editor.

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PHOTO PROVIDED

MILITARY HONORS - Liberty student Ariel Ruffin is competing for the Air Force Airman of the Year award for the 192nd Fighter Wing. If she wins, she will advance to the state and then possibly national levels.

## **Ariel Ruffin competes** for Airman of the Year

**CINDI FAHLE** cfahle@liberty.edu

Every year members of the Air Force compete for a prestigious award known as the Airman of the Year award. Liberty student Airman First Class (A1C) Ariel Ruffin recently received this honor for the 192nd Mission Support Group, a subdivision of Virginia's 192nd Security Forces Squadron.

"I was at work one weekend and they were having a ceremony," Ruffin said. "I was called up front and they announced that I won the award. I wasn't expecting it at all."

Ruffin will now compete against other airmen in the 192nd Fighter Wing for the award of Airman of the Year for the 192nd Fighter Wing. The winner of that award will move on to a state level and then national level.

"AIC Ruffin is an outstanding young troop in the Virginia Air National Guard," Staff Sergeant Jeffrey Hosfeld said. "She not only brings great credit to the 192nd Security

Forces Squadron, but also to the 192nd Fighter Wing and to Liberty University A1C Ruffin is an outstanding example of Liberty University students that are being trained to be 'Champions for Christ."

The criteria for this award are very rigorous, according to Hosfeld. When Ruffin competes for the 192nd Fighter Wing, she will stand before a review board, consisting of commanders, sergeants and noncommissioned officers. The review board examines everything about the candidate, from the placement and wearing of the uniform to the candidate's attendance, performance, duties, records and other accomplishments. The board will ask Ruffin a series of questions, ranging in scope from her job details to general military questions and military history. Her answers will then be compared to the other candidates and a recipient will be chosen. Ruffin said she is preparing herself mentally for this interview process.

This is the first award that Ruffin has received in the Air Force. Ruffin

enlisted in 2008, upon graduating from high school.

"I wanted to do my part and serve my country," Ruffin said. "I've enjoyed it and have met a lot of great people."

Ruffin is a junior at Liberty University, majoring in psychology. She has a concentration in human services. Upon receiving her bachelor's degree, Ruffin hopes to go to grad school and get a degree in marriage counseling. She also plans to continue her career in the Air Force and become an officer.

According to Hosfel, Ruffin will make senior airman within the next month. From there she will work to become a non-commissioned officer. Currently Ruffin is enlisted in the United States Air Force and the Virginia National Guard. Hosfel said that from their squadron they have had airmen deployed to Afghanistan and Iraq. Ruffin has not been deployed, but it is a possibility for her.

FAHLE is a news reporter.

### **CWA formal honors American servicemen and women**

#### TREY SMITH tsmith21@liberty.edu

At the kick-off event for Military Emphasis Week, current and former servicemen and women were honored for the sacrifices they have made. On Friday, November 5, the Liberty chapter of Concerned Women for America (CWA) hosted a Military Appreciation Formal Dessert Banquet. The event was held in the club level located in the new Williams Stadium.

CWA is the nation's largest public policy organization according to Amanda Haas, the chapter's president.

"Its purpose is to instill God's principles into society and public policy," Haas said.

raphy and national sovereignty."

According to Haas, the goal of Liberty's chapter of CWA is to help further this purpose by bringing conservative, young collegeeducated women together not only to pray for America to return to its founding principles but to take action.

In brainstorming ideas of what type of event to put on, the first idea that came about was to have a Masquerade ball. It was not until one CWA leadership meeting that the idea of a formal banquet was brought up.

'We were brainstorming for the ball and then it hit us that we could do a Military Ball and honor our troops," Haas said. "What a great opportunity. And, we would make it a formal — which is something that every girl

desserts and listened to testimonies from Dr. Stephen Parke, associate dean of the Helms School of Government, Larry Provost, director of commuter affairs, veterans, "army brats," current servicemen and the Virginia Director of CWA Janet Robey. The Liberty Hip-Hop team also performed.

A common topic of each speech was the people behind the soldiers, specifically the. women. This topic was included in Serviceman Luke Flowers' speech.

Flowers talked about his walk with God and his military experience. To him however those two are not much different.

"I was asked to come speak here tonight about my military experience," Flowers said, "I must emphatically note that my military exhis wife Brandy. He also ended on a comical note, announcing the current effort to find Cadet Jeremy Snyder a wife.

At the conclusion of the banquet, all of the veterans and current servicemen and women were asked to stand and received a public thank you. Students were also asked to sign a special plaque that will be placed in the ROTC department or the Military Affairs Office.

"We put together a tribute from Liberty students," Haas said. "We wrote it, basically saying that Liberty students are going to continue to support and honor the military"

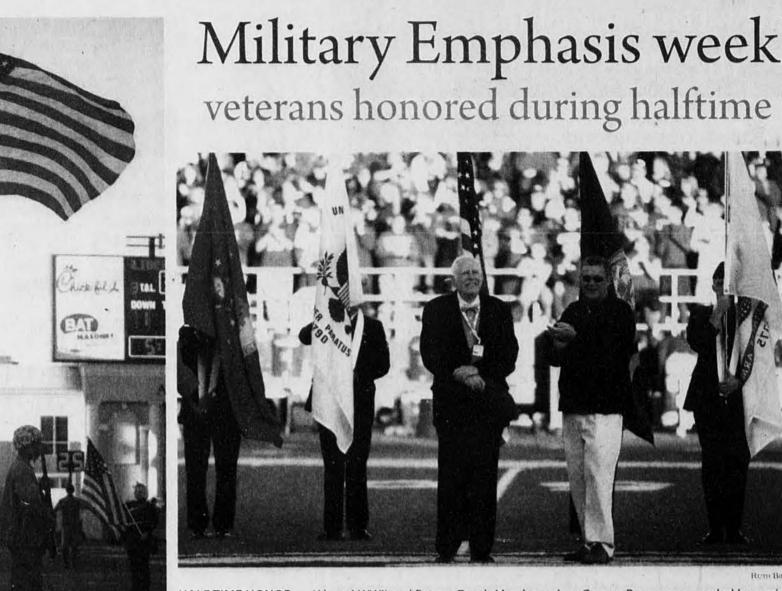
Proceeds from the event went to benefit Students Behind Our Soldiers - specifically to help make care packages to send to troops.

"There are six core issues that we focus on which include the family, the sanctity of human life, religious liberty, education, pornogat Liberty loves.

Attendees of the event listened to a jazz band, socialized, were served various types of perience is my Christian experience.

Flowers concluded his speech by thanking the woman that he said has stood beside him,

Smith is a news reporter.



RUTH Binar

HALF TIME HONOR — (Above) WWII and Bataan Death March survivor George Rogers surrounded by a mixed guard during the special Military Emphasis Week half time show where members of the Spirit of the Mountain Marching Band, theater department and other university groups participated. (Left) Members of the Liberty Theater department reenact the infamous flag raising scene at lwo Jima.

NEWS

## life, liberty & the pursuit

### SPC Gabriel Homer: Taking care of family

#### CAT HEWETT cahewett@liberty.edu

issionary kid Specialist (SPC) Gabriel Homer has lived in Hong Kong and Taiwan, but he missed the mountains from his college home the most while he was in Iraq with the 1-116th Infantry Battalion.

"I love the Virginia mountains," Homer said. "I think that was one of the biggest things that I missed while I was over there. I have been all over the world and just Virginia's mountains are so beautiful."

The senior western legal traditions major was also excited to come back to his adoptive "family."

"I have really close friends," Homer said. "My family is spread all out throughout the world, so my friends are my family."

Homer did say that he missed one thing from his first tour of duty, where he was an operator, driving the scout truck.

"I felt there was a greater sense of purpose," Homer said. "You were actually doing something that makes a serious difference and it is hard to see that while you are sitting in a classroom."

Homer plans on eventually attending law school, but he is going to fulfill his army obligations before he continues his education. "I really feel like I have struck something with the army that only the army can really provide," Homer said. "I feel really comfortable doing what I do with the army. It is a perfect fit."

Homer said the transition from soldier to civilian was not an easy one to make. Homer said the simple things were what brought the most culture shock.

"When we went to Kroger to get groceries, me and my roommates, and I just didn't like being around all those people I didn't know," Homer said. "That was my first bit of culture shock after coming back."

The push that got Homer to join the army was his little sister.

"I found out my little sister wanted to come to Liberty," Homer said. "My parents said that if you go to a Christian school, they would help us pay for it, but they couldn't pay for both of us to go to Liberty."

Homer told his parents not to worry about his tuition, he would take care of it.

"I have always wanted to do something in the military and it worked out too well," Homer said.

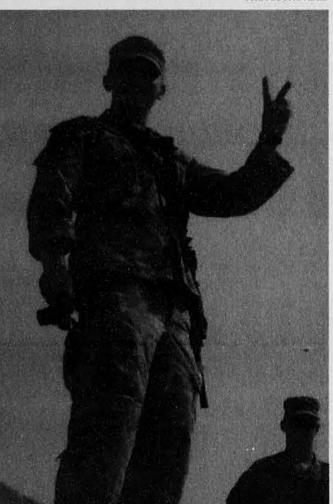
Now Homer is getting to enjoy a little more time as a big brother while at Liberty.

HEWETT is the news editor.



#### SCOUTING THE POSSIBILITIES -

SPC Gabriel Homer fulfilled a lifelong dream and joined the Army so that his sister could attend Liberty University. The senior Western Legal Traditions major was with the National Guard 1-116th Infantry Battalion in Iraq this year. Homer drove a scouting truck for the Bravo company. Homer plans to continue with the Army before going to law school.



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#### NEWS

#### NOVEMBER 9, 2010

## Team ministers in prison

#### 13-year-old charged with murder among new believers

#### MEAGAN ROPER mroper@liberty.edu

A team of women led nine young delinquents to Christ, including the 13-year-old charged with the murder of 81-year-old George Baker III. Jodie Walton with the Center for Multicultural Enrichment said a Bridging the Gap urban ministry team visited the Lynchburg Regional Juvenile Detention Center on Monday, Oct. 25 with members of Thomas Road Baptist Church (TRBC) witnessing team to evangelize to young inmates.

While the 13-year-old accused of beating Baker to death on Sept. 5 is held at the juvenile detention center, the two 16-year-olds also charged with the murder have been transferred to an adult prison. Kenneth Davis and Vernon Jackson – who have each appeared in juvenile court for 10 previous charges – have been indicted and will be charged as adults'in the Baker case. If convicted, the boys could face a life sentence, the News and Advance reported.

"(The 13-year-old) is very remorseful and is very afraid of going to court and what's going to happen," Pamela King, who was at the center with the step team Oct. 25, said. "He listened to us, and he was very attentive and I think he is very regretful that he was in that situation."

Tracy and Pamela King lead the TRBC witnessing team and visit the detention center once a month, Pamela King said. When



PRISON MINISTRIES — Members of the TRBC witnessing team visit the Lynchburg Regional Juvenile detention center once a month and witness in the community every Tuesday.

the witnessing team and a Bridging the Gap drama team visited the center on Sept. 27, Jackson received Christ as a result of the team's message, Pamela King said. The next day Jackson and Davis were transferred to the adult prison.

"After we give them a chance to receive Christ, we go and talk to them individually to ask if they did," Pamela King said. "(Then) we give them Bibles and talk to them and pray for them and encourage them."

About 30 Liberty students and TRBC members were at the detention center for each visit, Pamela King said, including members of Bridging the Gap urban ministry.

"Liberty has been a big part in reaching out to the inmates," Pamela King said. "They really love to see Liberty students because they're close in age and can relate to them. They see that God has changed the lives of these Liberty students, and it makes a big impression on these inmates."

In addition to the women's step team, Bridging the Gap has a men's step team, a miming group, a hip-hop dance team and a group that raps, Walton said.

Sophomore Pamela Parker has been a part of the women's step team since October 2009.

"It was my first time (at the juvenile detention center)," Parker said. "I told them not to worry about what the people around them think, because they need to worry about their own salvation and faith."

Parker said the team's step routine on Oct.

25 focused on prayer and relationship with God.

"We just show the love of Christ, because that's what wins people over as far as their lives and character are concerned," Walton said. "We just love and want to serve people. We're just doing the Great Commission."

The witnessing team meets at 6:15 p.m. each Tuesday in the TRBC lobby. Liberty students can earn Christian Service for their work with the team. For more information about the witnessing team, contact Tracy King by e-mail at tmking3@liberty.edu. Contact the Center4ME for information about Bridging the Gap urban ministry.

ROPER is the copy editor.



FLIGHT continued from A1

"We've got the team to do it," Traxler said. "We've got a top-notch program here, and we'd like to represent it well."

The School of Aeronautics has grown exponentially every year and is in a unique position to excel. Liberty is one of only three schools in the country to offer both airplane and helicopter licenses. With the acquisition of Falwell Aviation Inc. in February of this year, the school also has acquired a full "fixed base operator" which supplies fuel, services, aircraft maintenance repair and charter flights. Rogers is proud of the program's growth and looks forward to the future. "Funny thing I notice the most is that, walking around three or four years ago, I never saw anyone from aviation," Rogers said. "Now, everywhere I go, they're working there, going there or walking down the street - all the time - I love it."

ADAMS is a news reporter.



NIFA — (Above) A Cessna 172 takes flight at Falwell Aviation Inc. which Liberty acquired in February. (Below) The National Intercollegiate Flying Association team at Liberty won the Region X competition for the sixth consecutive year.

### Sports B7 Eabout All the happenings of L-Burg November 9, 2010

### And the crowd goes wild

## INSIDE ISSUE

The Lady Flames swimming team held its second meet of the year on Saturday, beating VMI and falling to Gardner-Webb. The story is on B2.

Devon Brown was named the Big South Women's Basketball Preseason Player of the Year. Brown and the Lady Flames begin their season at Creighton on Friday. Check out the Devon Brown profile on B4.

The NFL season has been a crazy one so far. Who has been disappointing? What surprises have popped up? Check out the wrap-up on B3.

The Liberty Men's Basketball team begins play Friday at home against Virginia Intermont. Check out the season preview o n B4.



**IN THE TRENCHES** — From the Halls of Montezuma, to the shores of Tripoli, off we go into the wide blue yonder with anchors away and caisons rolling along. On a day that honored the men and women of our Armed Forces, Mike Brown and company went to war with the Gardner-Webb Running Bulldogs.

### **Football honors Armed Forces** On Military appreciation Day, the Flames win big

#### NATE BROWN

nbrown4@liberty.edu

Mericans have been blessed with more freedom than any other nation in the world thanks to the selfless sacrifices of those charged with the defense of this nation. The 16/441 fans at Saturday's Military Appreciation football game honored those men and women who have served in the United States Armed Forces. In like fashion, the Flames 40-14 victory was played in much of the same manner as our boys on the frontlines. **Shock and awe** 

In 2003, when the United States declared

war on terrorism, they employed a military concept of throwing haymakers early and with such force and display of power that the psychological effects were often more devastating than the actual physical damage.

General Danny Rocco told his men he wanted to start this game with a bang. Senior defensive back Danny Broggin received the opening kickoff at Liberty's 15-yard line and marched it back 85 yards for the touchdown. Liberty, 7, Gardner-Webb, 0, in 13 seconds.

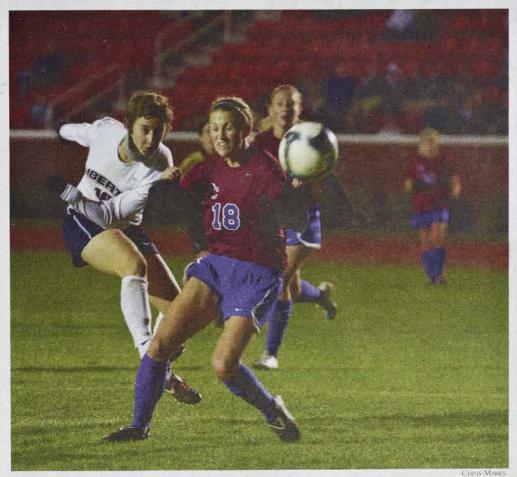
"Broggin gave us the energy. We needed to start fast, and you can't start any faster than that," Rocco said.

#### Blitzkrieg

Blitzkrieg was a tactic used largely by the third Reich in WWII. A massive onslaught of heavy armor, surrounding and overwhelming the enemy.

The early lead gave Liberty's defense the shot in the arm it needed for the game. Gardner Webb's first drive resulted in a touchdown, evening the game at 7-apiece, but the Flame's defense dug in and came out victorious, holding Gardner-Webb to only 14 points.

### Women's soccer falls in second round of tournament



O-"WIN" — Senior Maria Owen scored Liberty's second goal in a close edging of Coastal Carolina. The Flames finished the weekend falling to Gardner-Webb in tournament play.

#### BRAD HORNEFFER bjhorneffer@liberty.edu

The Lady Flames soccer team's season ended Saturday as they were making a push to win the Big South Tournament. Play started against Coastal Carolina on Friday.

"Coastal is a physical team," coach Jessica Hain said. "We want to take the referees out of the game and play well so one call doesn't make or break the game."

The Lady Flames produced accordingly and came away with the victory 3-2 in a heated game. Sophomore Lauren Stell scored first for the Lady Flames off of a Laura Nyholt corner kick assist. Senior Maria Owen scored her fifth of the season and 18th career goal to take the Lady Flames to a 2-0 lead into halftime.

After a Coastal Carolina goal early in the second half, sophomore midfielder Ariana Espinoza scored the Flames' third and final goal, putting the Flames up by two and proving to be just enough to edge out the Chanticleers.

The Flames entered as the 6th seed of the tournament. After coming in as the number one seed last year it is a better fit psychologically for the team.

"Overall, seeding does not matter in this tournament I feel like," coach Hain said. "Last year the top four team were knocked out the first game by the bottom four teams."

After the big win over rival Coastal Carolina, the Flames had a tough test in front of them on the road to the title game.

"Being able to play a full game is what we need to do," coach Hain said. "Scoring and team work are the key factors."

Gardner-Webb stood between the Lady Flames and the championship. The game ended regulation length in a draw 0-0, forcing the season to come down to penalty kicks for each team.

"No matter what the circumstances of the game we are faced with we have to play the full game and outlast the other team." Coach Hain said.

Lady Flames season ended as Gardner-Webb outshot them 4-2.

Lady Flames finished the year with a record 8-10-3.

 HORNEFFER is a sports reporter.

#### A WEB EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEW WITH RASHAD JENNINGS www.LibertyChampion.com

### Swimming Flames beat VMI, fall to Gardner-Webb

#### JESSICA YOUNG

jyoung12@liberty.edu

The overwhelming excitement of the final home swim meet this weekend was a special treat for CFAWers. Fans were on the edge of their seats cheering for the Lady Flames as they competed against Gardner-Webb and VMI.

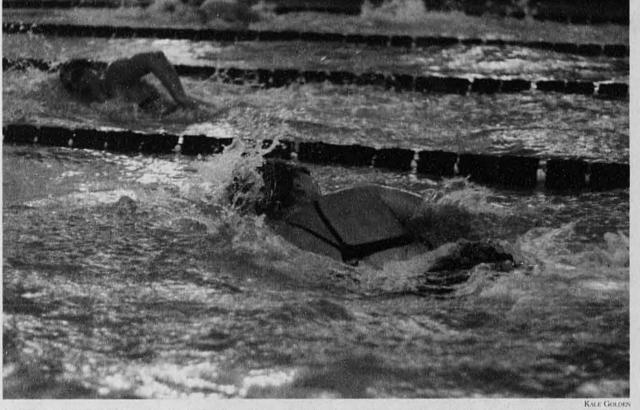
There were some close calls, but Liberty prevailed over VMI, but were unable to secure a win against Gardner-Webb.

"We've definitely improved not only with our times, but with our disciplines," coach Jake Shellenberger said.

The team was prepared and trained hard.

"We didn't win, but we were expecting (that)," freshman Sarah McCorkle said. "(Gardner-Webb is) third in our conference, but we think we can get top stakes at least or better than that."

Many of the swimmers found this meet to be physically difficult because of their demanding schedule.



DIFFERENT STROKES — Sarah McCorkle and company beat out Gardner-Webb for first place is the 200-yard free relay Saturday.

"It was a struggle to come in here and be up because we've been training so hard," freshman Bryeanna Ravettine said.

The team performed well as a whole, but there were particular athletes that performed extremely well. "I surprised myself in my first race I wanted to go that fast, but didn't know how well I would do," Ravettine said. "I prepared myself for it and it was a good surprise."

As one of the newest additions to numerous Division 1 sports Liberty offers, the Lady Flames are still training hard to make their weaknesses stronger and build on their strengths.

"They're a great group of girls personally, professionally, academically and spiritually, they're just good everywhere," Shellenberger said. One of the most intense and memorable races of the afternoon was the 200yard freestyle relay. Mc-Corkle swam last and was a key aspect in making the win happen for the Lady Flames. "(Sarah) McCorkle anchored our 200-yard free relay and had to out touch the Gardner-Webb who was coming on pretty strong at the end," Shellenberger said.

Although the Lady Flames were unable to claim an overall victory judging from their attitudes one may have assumed otherwise. The Flames continued to display a winning attitude before and after the meet.

"We came away from the meet 1-1," Shellenberger said. "We kind of figured it was going to go that way."

Swimming may seem like more of an individual sport, but the Lady Flames depend on one another for encouragement and support.

"We've got a great team dynamic," Shellenberger said. "Everyone here is pretty excited to be apart of this program in its first year. They're a part of history, and I think they know that, and they're excited for it."

The women's swim team will compete in the Radford Invitational Nov. 18.

 YOUNG is a sports reporter.

### Hockey drops close matches in weekend set

#### CALLIE CAGWIN

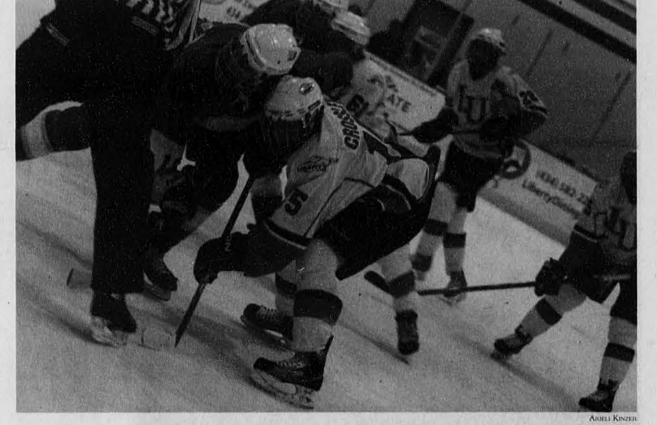
clcagwin@liberty.edu Fast skating and aggressive play were showcased in the LaHaye Ice Center this weekend as Liberty University lost two hard-fought, unlucky competitions against the University of Delaware.

Liberty faced an imposing challenge to try to outscore the notoriously speedy Delaware team that is undefeated in regulation time.

Friday night's game started out well for Liberty, featuring two power plays for the squad in the first six minutes of the first period. into the bottom right corner of the net past a sprawling Delaware goaltender Nick Casella.

Liberty coach Kirk Handy said that he thought Liberty took that momentum into the last part of the second period. The team planned to bring the same intensity into the third.

Forwards Adam Docksteader and Stephen Moller had a 2-on-1 scoring opportunity early in the third period, but Delaware's Mc-Donald was first to change



The period was scoreless until Delaware's Brandon Weiner put the puck past Liberty goaltender Blair Bennett with just 2 minutes 19 seconds remaining.

The second period began well for Delaware. Just over a minute into the period, Delaware's Ryan McDonald gave his team a two-goal lead.

Liberty's Rick Turner put his team back in the game with a goal at 3:08 remaining in the period, sliding the puck the score. He netted his second goal of the night at 10:23, making the score 3-1 for Delaware.

Docksteader narrowed the margin to 3-2 with a goal at 4:41 remaining.

Liberty continued to fight, trying to force overtime. With just over a minute left in the period, Liberty pulled its goaltender in favor of an extra skater. With the seconds ticking away, Liberty peppered Delaware's goalie with shots, but was unable to tie the game.

FACEOFF — Colton Crossley tries to out-muscle a Delaware defenseman to win a faceoff for the Flames.

Liberty outshot its opponent 39-33 despite the loss.

"I felt like we worked hard throughout pretty much the whole game. (Delaware) got some lucky bounces and that's what cost us (the win)," sophomore forward Matt Sylvester said.

Saturday's game had a promising start for Liberty. After staving off Delaware scoring chances and killing a penalty during which Bennett had to play without a stick, Liberty took the lead with Turner's quick goal off of the faceoff. Bennett was solid in goal, keeping the score at 1-0 in Liberty's favor at the end of the first period.

The second period was a physical battle filled with penalties and a few scuffles. The offense for both teams also played aggressively. Liberty had multiple chances from the faceoffs and forward Andrew McCombe had a near breakaway, but Delaware's Chris Galgano came up with the goal at 3:46 after Bennett had kept the Delaware team off the scoreboard for nearly 40 minutes.

Liberty started the third period strong on the power play. The team showed good control, but was unable to capitalize on the opportunity. At 17:57, Delaware's Nicholas LePore was credited for a controversial goal. The ice center erupted with sounds of disapproval, most fans thinking that the net had been moved before the puck crossed the goal line, but the goal was allowed.

Liberty put pressure on Delaware's goaltender, trying to even out the scoreboard once more. McDonald tipped the scales further with a goal at 14:53, beating Bennett on the short side.

Liberty once again found itself down 3-1 in the third period. At 11:28, the deficit was made worse when the puck rolled past Liberty players and between Bennett's pads off the stick of Delaware's Andre Menard.

With 7:12 remaining, Liberty was given a 29-second 5-on-3 power play opportunity. Forward Joe Smith took advantage of the chance, netting the puck before the first penalty ran out so that Liberty would stay on the power play for another 1:41 of play.

Jonathan Chung brought the score to 4-3 with just 2:05 remaining in the game, giving Liberty fans hope.

The remainder of the game was a battle for Liberty to take possession of the puck long enough to create a scoring chance. Unfortunately, time was not on Liberty's side and the final buzzer blared with the score still at 4-3.

Both teams put forth good effort in the matches.

"We knew they were a good team," McCombe said. "[Our] game plan was to outwork them, which I think we did. [The score] just didn't turn out."

Liberty's record is 7-7 after the weekend. The team looks to improve on Nov. 12 and 13 against Stony Brook University at the LaHaye Ice Center.

 CAGWIN is a sports reporter.

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SEVENTH CALVARY— Speedy running back-turned-slot receiver B.J. Hayes finished the day with 66 all-purpose yards in the Flames win over Big South opponent Gardner-Webb.

**FOOTBALL** continued from B1

"I thought we came out here and played pretty good defense most of the game. Defensively we may have played championship football," Rocco said.

Senior linebacker Kyle O'Donnell led the team with 10 tackles (6 solo 1 TFL), making him the leading tackler in five of the last seven contests.

Broggin picked off Gardner-Webb quarterback Chandler Browning, and defensive linemen Asa Chapman, Terry Adams and Patrick Bannon relentlessly rushed the quarterback, forcing bad throws and allowing the linebackers to pick apart the Bulldogs' offense.

#### Attrition

A war of attrition comes down to sheer numbers and determination. It's the archetypal blow-for-blow, toe-to-toe warfare.

While the Flames' defense stymied Gardner-Webb's injury-riddled roster and neutralized threats in wide receiver James Perry III and running back Patrick Hall, Liberty's offense found themselves in a war of attrition with Gardner-Webb's defense.

After the initial Broggins shock and awe, Liberty's offense was met by a Bulldog defense that was bending but not breaking.

"We were not working in rhythm, we were not in sync, and we did not execute the way we are capable of executing," Rocco said.

Liberty's drives stalled in the redzone. Incomplete passes, fruitless runs and nagging penalties forced Rocco to call upon kicker Matt Bevins for a Big South record-tying four field goals.

"It hasn't necessarily been our MO," Rocco said. "You've got to be able to control and possess the football and finish drives in the redzone."

Bevins holds the Big South record for field goals in his career (49). His contribution Saturday gave Liberty the edge they needed to separate

november 13

in wide receiver James Perry III and them from Gardner-Webb. Attrition running back Patrick Hall, Liberty's won.

#### Fire for effect

Firing for affect is a principle just as American as Chevrolet, Marilyn Monroe and Texas. The battle has been all but won and the enemy is in retreat and the artillery still has ammo. Fire for effect.

The icing on the cake, the gravy on the potatoes, the cherry on the sundae came in the first drive of the fourth quarter.

Liberty was up 33-14 with 12 minutes to go in the fourth. A comeback was possible, but very improbable. The war needed to be ended.

Mike Brown launched a 56-yard bomb to Chris Summers on a seam down the sideline for the sealing touchdown. Liberty walked away from the engagement, 40-14, the 'W' safe and guns smoking.

#### BROWN is the asst sports editor.

### NFL Coverage: Highs and lows

#### KELLY MARVEL

krmavrel@liberty.edu

With nine weeks behind football fans in NFL play, things have changed quite a bit from the preseason predictions. There have been plenty of disappointments, several surprises and lots upset fantasy team owners.

#### Disappointments

- Dallas Cowboys: The Cowboys were one of the several teams that experts said would head to the Super Bowl. The Cowboys will be watching the Super Bowl in their stadium, but chances are they won't be watching it from the sidelines. With a 1-7 record, the Cowboys have a very small chance of seeing the playoffs, especially with an injured Tony Romo. They are making costly mistakes and not meshing as a team, even though they boast some of the most talented players in the NFL.
- Minnesota Vikings: The Vikings were also a team that was projected to go far into the playoffs, but has produced only a 3-5 season. Quarterback Brett Favre, who has several ailments, has been lack-luster this season, only completing 62 percent of his passes. The Vikings have been stricken by injuries this season, especially with the recent problems with wide receiver Percy Harvin.

#### Surprises

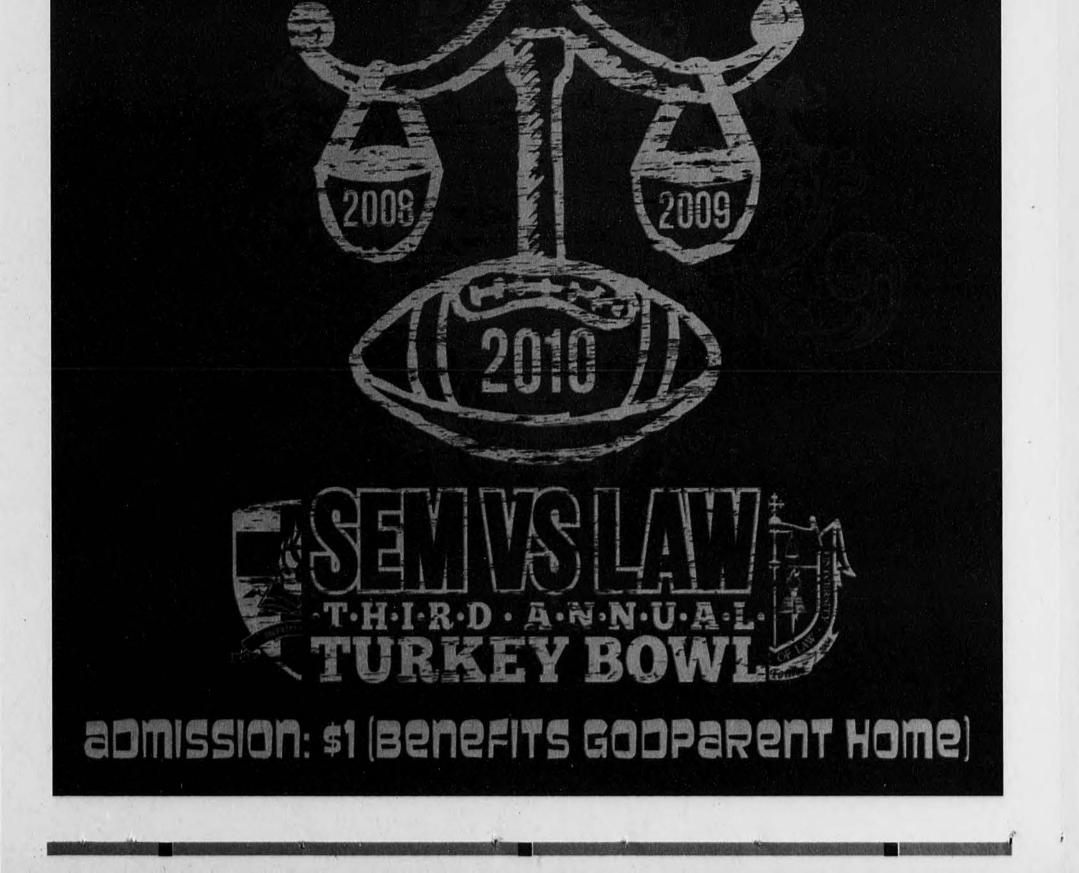
- AFC South: The entire AFC South has been a surprise to many NFL fans so far this season. No one team is in control of the division as of yet. The last team in the division, the Jacksonville Jaguars, has a record of 4-4 and is in no way out of the race. The Indianapolis Colts and Peyton Manning, who are first in the division, have performed well again this season with a 5-3 record. The Tennessee Titans and Houston Texans have also surprised fans and experts alike with their winning records.
- Michael Vick: If anyone had said at the beginning of the season that quarterback Michael Vick would be the starting quarterback of the Philadelphia Eagles, they would have been laughed at. Vick got his chance to start for week two when Kevin Kolb sustained a concussion during the season opener. Vick started week three and four, but suffered a rib and chest injury during the week four game. Vick was named the starting quarterback this week after recovering from his injury.

#### **Fantasy Disappointments**

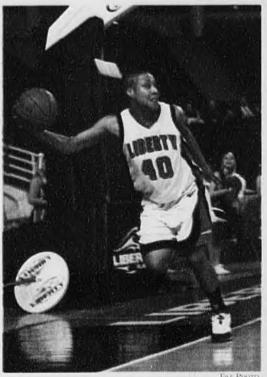
- Drew Brees: The Super Bowl MVP Drew Brees is still a good quarterback and no one can say otherwise. But Brees has not delivered like most fantasy owners expected.
- Matt Schaub: With the surprise of Arian Foster, Matt Schaub has a lot of pressure taken off of him and he has not produced the yardage that fantasy owners were expecting. He has also been extremely prone to picks this season.

11 am KICKOFF

MARVEL is the sports editor.



### **Big South Preseason Player of the Year: Devon Brown**



RELOADED — Reigning Big South Champion-

ship MVP Devon Brown returns to the Vines

Center Nov. 16 to begin her sophomore year.

#### JESSICA YOUNG

jyoung12@liberty.edu

'No excuses, rise above," is not simply the motto of the women's basketball team, but also motivation to redshirt sophomore Devon Brown.

'It motivates us to have no excuses, and if we do have excuses to rise above them," Brown said.

The 'no excuses' attitude has helped Brown balance schoolwork and basketball.

"It's hard when you first come to college to juggle schoolwork and being an athlete, but school comes first," Brown said.

Raised in Waynesboro, Va., Brown is the daughter of Steve and Jennifer Brown. She has been playing basketball since she was seven and feels her family is the support system that helps her thrive.

"My parents are the greatest support system ever," Brown said. "They come to every home game and try to make it to some away games that are close.

Brown is the eldest of three children. Her

younger sister is currently playing basketball as a college freshman and her younger brother plays college baseball and football. Brown is anxious for the excitement of the season, but anticipates particular events.

"I'm looking forward to playing Baylor," Brown said. "They made it to the final four. They're competition for us. It will be a battle, but it will be fun."

The sports management major believes that the understanding and determination her coaches possess contribute to the success of the team.

"They're always there to help us when we do good things and bad things," Brown said. "Their main purpose is to help us get better."

Versatility is a large attribute of Brown's success. Previously at Waynesboro High School Devon Brown played every position and became the second leading girl's high school basketball scorer in the history of Virginia. Brown's dexterity and obvious passion for the sport makes her a prominent

player on the Liberty University women's basketball team.

Having received prestigious honors for her performance as a basketball player in high school, Brown proceeded to amaze at Liberty. In the Navy Classic and the Big South Championship Brown won MVP honors and was awarded the title of First Team All Conference last season. Most recently. Brown was awarded the 2010-2011 Big South Conference women's basketball preseason Player of the Year.

College is a learning experience and Brown is appreciative that she's able to learn while doing something she loves.

"I've learned a lot since I've been here. A lot from the basketball aspect as well as in the classroom," Brown said.

Brown is hoping to start this season and aid her team in winning the conference title.

"I feel really strong about us this year," Brown said.

YOUNG is a sports reporter.

## Basketball Preview: Newcomers add depth to Flames

#### RYAN CARR

rmcarr2@liberty.edu

Fans heading out to the Vines Center this season can expect to see plenty of new faces on the men's basketball team.

The Flames welcome six new players to the team this season with the addition of five freshmen and one redshirt junior. Liberty will still have plenty of experience to help the newcomers adjust to the college environment. Junior guard Jesse Sanders and sophomore Evan Gordon will provide leadership on and off the court this season for the Flames.

"I've been impressed with the group as a whole," Sanders said. "I think they have done a good job of dropping the identity they had in high school and accepting the role that everyone is going to have here."

John Brown, a redshirt junior transfer from Roane State, is expected to contribute to the Flames immediately. Chene Phillips, Asaad Woods, Stephen Baird, John Caleb Sanders and Sommy Ogukwe make up this year's freshman class. Baird suffered an injury at the start of the

preseason and will redshirt some young players this seathis season.

"John Brown will bring experience, toughness and leadership to our team and he's been a big help to us already," head coach Dale Layer said.

John Caleb Sanders is the younger brother of Jesse Sanders and is expected to produce as his brother has.

"We've played together on teams since we were 7 and 5 years old and playing college has been a dream since we were little guys," Jesse Sanders said.

Though the Flames have

son, a solid core group remains from last year's team. Jesse Sanders returns after leading the team in assists, steals and rebounds and looks again to be dependable in those categories. Gordon also returns after averaging 12 points per game last season. Other returners that will give Liberty depth will be redshirt junior Jeremy Anderson, sophomore Antwan Burrus and redshirt sophomore Carter McMasters.

Gordon was the second leading scorer last season and looks to step up into more of

a scoring role this year.

"He's more mature more confident his skills have improved, and I think anybody who watched him saw him grow and develop as the season progressed, and he's built upon that," Layer said. "The day after the season ended he started working towards this year and he's significantly better.'

Liberty opens the season Nov. 12 at home against Virginia Intermont before heading to South Bend, Ind. to take on the Notre Dame Fighting Irish. This is the second year in a row that

the Flames have faced off against the Fighting Irish and is a game several players are looking forward to. Another key matchup is against Texas Tech as a part of the South Padre Island Invitational.

"Last year everything was new --- the plays and coaching staff - but this year half the team is back. We all know the plays and the new players are learning the plays quicker than we did last year," Gordon said. "They have the older guys to help them out so we have been improving."

CARR is a sports reporter.





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All proceeds will go to the Daily Bread in Lynchburg. Promotion ends November 11, 2010.

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HIGH KICK — The men's soccer team finished its regular season this weekend with a 2-0 victory over UNC-Asheville. The Flames finished the season with a 10-6-1 mark and enter the Big South Championship tournament as the fourth seed.



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#### NOVEMBER 9, 2010

## **Downtown Lynchburg's First Fridays**

#### KATE POWLEY knpowley@liberty.edu

Lynchburg's First Friday event takes a stop at the Lynchburg Museum for a free featured topic on silversmiths presented by the museum curator Nov. 5.

First Friday takes place the first Friday of each month, where an art trolley transports participants between various museums, art galleries, studios and places of interest in historic Lynchburg.

The Lynchburg Museum, located in the old courthouse, gives free admission for First Friday and features a different topic for each event.

Lynchburg Museum curator Gregory R. Kreuger exhibited silversmith art on the second floor of the museum for November's First Friday.

"It's part of Lynchburg's history ... Lynchburg used to be one of the wealthiest cities per capita," Kreuger said.

According to Kreuger, merchants and silversmiths were a sign of economic growth. That history that continues today, though to a lesser extent.

"Lynchburg was the second wealthiest city per capita in the nation just before the Civil War, second only to New Bedford, Massachusetts with its whaling industry," the Lynchburg Museum's website said. "The Lynchburg Museum shares stories about the people and fascinating events that have



**FREE FRIDAY ACTIVITIES** — First Fridays in downtown Lynchburg features free trolley rides to various museums and art galleries that offer free admission to their exhibits.

shaped Central Virginia and exhibits treasures of all kinds."

Kreuger's favorite piece of silver work is the museum's Silver Tureen, made by Samuel Kirk & Son of Baltimore, which is displayed in the main lobby of the museum.

The museum saw a number of visitors such as First Friday participants, people in the community specifically interested in the art of silversmithing, as well as Liberty students.

Junior Emily Davis was at the museum Friday evening to look around.

"I didn't know about the silversmiths in Lynchburg and I thought that was cool," Davis said. "I thought the surgical kit the museum has was interesting as well as the coconut ladle."

The Lynchburg Museum is located at 901 Court Street. Free admission for First Friday is from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m.

The museum will also be free on Veteran's Day. The next First Friday exhibit will be Lynchburg People in Photographs and Portraits with Rachel Deddens, according to the Lynchburg Museum website. More information on events at the museum can be found at either the Lynchburg Museum website at lynchburgmuseum.org.

POWLEY is a feature reporter.

### Gleaning for the world and the community

ASHLEY BOLLINGER akbollinger@liberty.edu

Gleaning For The World (GFTW) is a group whose effort is not in recruiting and sending people, but in meeting the tangible needs of those who supply the manpower in times of great devastation.

Organizations need supplies, GFTW Communication Director Ismael LaBiosa explained, they have people and they can send some help, but what they really need is tangible support.

With national food and medical suppliers ending each day with hundreds of pounds of leftover supplies, LaBiosa said GFTW sees it is their responsibility as Christians to use the principle of gleaning — collecting what is leftover — to redistribute that to places it is desperately needed.

"In Port-au-Prince, Haiti, I visited an orphanage of mentally-disabled children," president and founder of GFTW Rev. Ron Davidson said. "The orphanage was doing all it could to help, but they needed food, supplies, and toys that could be used for physical therapy. My heart was touched and the future course of Gleaning For The World was set."

Beginning in a basement apartment in 1998 with not more than a burdened heart and a strong will, Davidson began the journey which would unfold to become an impactful

is their responsibility as Christians to use the supportive organization rated among the top principle of gleaning — collecting what is charities by Forbes in 2007.

The focus of GFTW is not only on international devastation and poverty, but also reaching out to those in need of tangible support in the Central Virginia area. Their latest project, "Feeding our Neighbors,," helps feed those who are unemployed in the area, which according to Virginia Employment Commission is nearly 7 percent of the population.

GFTW is offering students and local community members the opportunity to become involved with the "Feeding our Neighbors" drive as well. During the Nov. 20 Liberty football game, any person who brings five cans or boxes of non-perishable food will be granted free entrance to the game.

"Our goal is to fill as many trucks as we can. We know that the students care about their community, and this is just one way we are giving them the opportunity to help out;" La-Biosa said.

GFTW anticipates being able to reach the community by donating over 1 million pounds of non-perishable goods to food banks all over the Central Virginia area.

"GFTW is a ministry. Sending the right supplies is just as important as sending the right people," LaBiosa said.

BOLLINGER is a news reporter.







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### **Talent from God: Music Honors recital**

ABIGAIL KOPPENHAVER akoppenhaver@liberty.edu

The Music Student Honors Recital Monday, Nov. 1 featured 12 performances by student vocalists Kathryn Lewellyn, Michelle Franklin, Andrew Potter, Margaret Duncan, Lisa Manno and John East, flautist Shelby Habrick, pianists Kristen Wargo, Ruth Foley, Micah Pick, Hayan Song and Andrew Ellis, and guitarist Peter Gil in front of a packed audience in the Performing Arts Building.

Students who participated

in the recital were first nominated by the faculty and then auditioned in front of three judges. For this year's performance there were about 30 students to audition. Students perform only classical repertoire, which is the department's academic focus. The audition process guarantees that the best of each department are represented.

"It doesn't matter what they've done before, it's what happens right there," Music and Humanities Department Chairman Dr. John Hugo said. Hugo compared the



MUSICAL OLYMPIADS — The honors recital performers went through an extensive audition and preparation process.

recital and audition process to the Olympics, in that it is something that the students continuously prepare for.

The auditions are not only hard on students. The judges are also faced with the tough task of selecting the students

of performance.

They are up there and we say 'these are the best of the best' and they have to prove it," Hugo said.

Leah Melfi is a senior in the music department and attends most of the student performances. She believes it was a learning experience because students get to see each other's techniques and that it was a good opportunity to help support fellow classmates.

"We are able to hear different styles of music and appreciate all the hard work

that show the highest quality that people put into their craft," Melfi said. "(It was) an accurate representation of our department and the talent we have."

> After the intense audition process and high pressure environment, students have the opportunity to showcase their talents, according to Hugo.

> "You work really hard, you get talent from God, you develop that talent and then we get to see it," Hugo said.

> KOPPENHAVER is a feature reporter.

### **Brett O'Donnell brings insight to PR majors**

#### ALYSSA HINKLE

ahinkle@liberty.edu

Students crowded into DeMoss 1101 Thursday night to hear Brett O'Donnell, who has worked on presidential campaigns, address his alma

mater.

The event was put on by Liberty's chapter of Public Relations Student Society of America and the American Advertising Federation.



Cindi Fahle, a public relations major who helped coordinate the event, was excited to hear O'Donnell speak.

"He left such a legacy here (at Liberty). And he's made such an impact with his career," Fahle said.

O'Donnell entitled his presentation "The take the job, but the road was not easy. Curved Path."

"When I arrived here at Liberty, I actually thought that I was going into the ministry, to be a pastor," O'Donnell said.

But O'Donnell was given a piece of advice that changed his path. He was advised that it would be better to hone a skill that could be used in many places, he said. He decided to major in speech and minor in Greek. He was the director of Liberty University's award winning debate team for 18 years, he said.

O'Donnell became involved with former president George W. Bush after meeting Karl Rove. O'Donnell offered to go work for the president, never thinking it would actually happen.

"I saw a chance and I took it. That was truly God's work," O'Donnell said.

Through working with Bush's office, O'Donnell was given another job opportunity. In 2006 Senator John McCain offered O'Donnell a job. O'Donnell was happy to

"I was one of 16 who survived from the beginning to the end of the presidential campaign," O'Donnell said.

Before the end, O'Donnell had gone two months without a paycheck and the campaign was literally being run out of the employee's pockets. O'Donnell said he stayed with McCain because he believed in him.

So much goes on far beyond writing the speech and covering the main points. Who would be in the shot and even what the candidate would wear has to be considered. O'Donnell said.

"Cindy McCain called me Mr. Valentino because I would actually pick out (John McCain's) ties, his shirt and his suit," O'Donnell said.

The war room and the spin room are also integral to a political debate, O'Donnell added. The aptly named war room is where staff listens to the debate in real time. They would employ rapid response by sending out press releases throughout the speech. Sometimes

they would expound on a point. Other times they would correct an error. The spin room is where the media spin was put on the debate.

O'Donnell also addressed journalism majors in the crowd. He warned them against sensationalizing events when they were not even there to witness them.

"Please, please, please tell the truth. Fifty percent, probably more than fifty percent of what you read about campaigns is not true," O'Donnell said.

O'Donnell urged students to be well-read and up on the current news. He also suggested students get involved in activities and broaden their horizons. As for being a Liberty alumnus, O'Donnell said it has not hurt him in the political arena.

Dr. Gina Barker, the faculty advisor for PRSSA, said the event has been in the works for about a month. "We jumped at the chance to have him speak," Barker said.

HINKLE is a news reporter.









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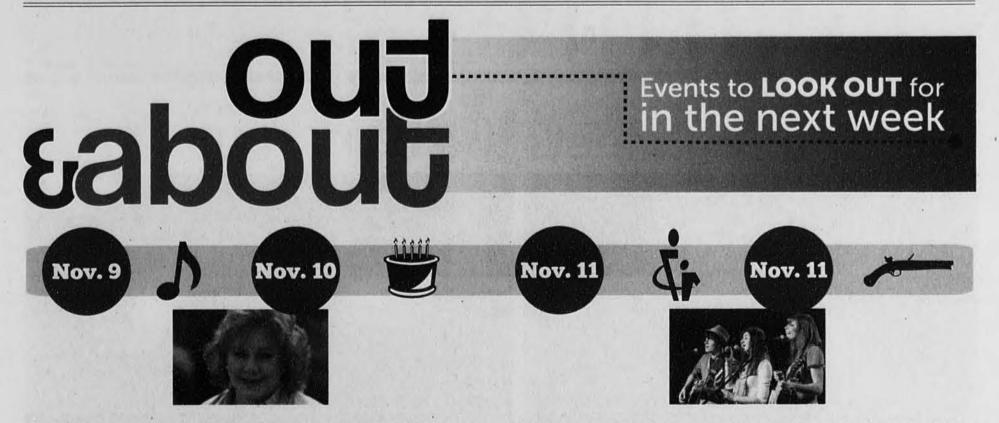
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#### NOVEMBER 9, 2010



**TUESDAY, NOV. 9** — **BETH PORTER IN CONCERT**, 7 p.m. Center for Worship, room 106. Part of Liberty's annual Christian Concert Series, Beth Porter is a member of the vocal faculty at Cedarville University since 1997.

**TUESDAY, NOV. 9** – **COMMUTER ORIENTATION SESSIONS BEGIN.** Register for a session online at liberty.edu/commuters.

WEDNESDAY, NOV. 10 – 235TH MARINE CORPS BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION. 2:15 p.m., School of Law Mountain View Room.

**THURSDAY, NOV. 11** — **COUNCIL FOR EXCEPTIONAL CHIL-DREN CHAPTER MEETING**. 6 p.m., DeMoss 1113, featuring student speakers Ben Shipps, Maureen Lovetro and Barrett Cumby.

THURSDAY, NOV. 11 – FAR FROM FIELDS OF FIRE AND GLO-RY: LETTERS AND MUSIC OF THE CIVIL WAR, sponsored by the National Civil War Chaplains Museum. 7 p.m., Tower Theater. Tickets are \$5 for general admission, \$3 for students.

THURSDAY, NOV. 11 — CAMPUS ARTIST SERIES FEATURING CHARLES WRIGHT AND AUSTIN LEWIS. 8 p.m., Tilley Student Center, Free event.

**NOV. 11 AND 12 – DR. CAROLINE CROCKER**, president of American Institute for Technology and Science Education is speaking on integrity in science and medicine and the loss of her job at George Mason University after raising questions about evolution. Thursday, 7 p.m., Campus North 1500, Friday, 11:25 a.m. Campus North 1500.

**SATURDAY, NOV. 13 – VALLEY VIEW FIVE MILER TRAIL RACE**. 9 A.M., Snowflex. Register at the Student Activities website, through the Liberty Splash page.

SATURDAY, NOV. 13 — STUDENT ACTIVITIES "INCEPTION" MOVIE NIGHT. 9 p.m., Vines Center. Free to watch. Free popcorn.



#### by **sodexo**

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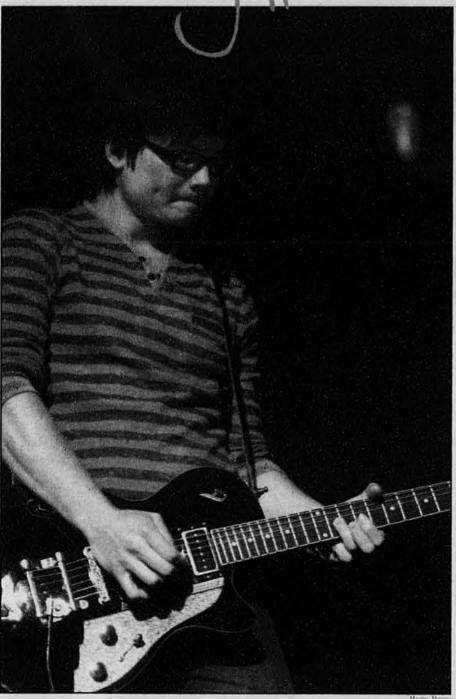








# Feature Light meets the Dark tour





**SPREADING COMPASSION** — Tenth Avenue North spoke to students and CFAWers about what they can do to help children in poverty all over the world through Compassion International.

#### TIFFANY EDWARDS tredwards2@liberty.edu

The line wrapped around the block in the chilly November air, waiting for the Schilling Center doors to open for the Tenth Avenue North Concert Saturday night.

The concert opened with Matt Maher and worship band Addison Road. Maher played hit worship songs such as "Alive Again" and "Hold Us Together." During an intermission, Tenth Avenue North band members spoke to the crowd about raising awareness for global sex slavery as well as sponsoring children in poverty all over the world.

"We have been working on an idea about how to address this issue that has been laying on our hearts for the last year and a half," drummer Jason Jamison said. "There are 27 million slaves in the world today, that (amount) is more than ever in world history. It's happening all over the world, and it's happening in our backyard in America."

The band has partnered with Compassion International to raise awareness about global poverty and what students could do to help. Folders with international children's profiles were passed out through the crowd for students to decide if they wanted to sponsor a child for the price of two lattes a week, according to lead singer Mike Doheney.

The band performed their hit songs including "Light Meets The Dark" and "Love is Here."

This was Tenth Avenue North's first headlining concert at Liberty.

EDWARDS is the feature editor.

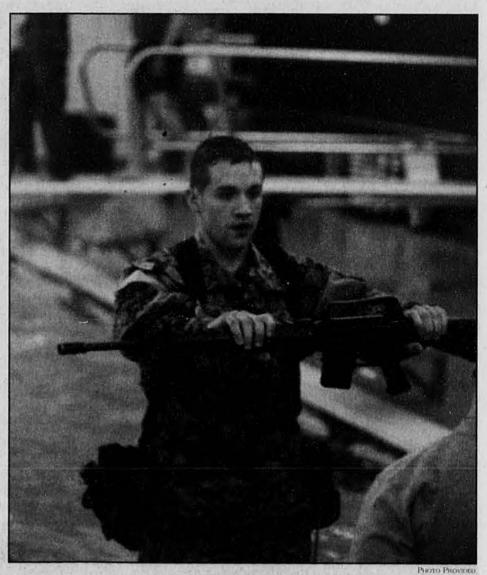
## Students' perspective on soldier life

LAUREN EDWARDS ledwards2@liberty.edu

"Duty, honor, country," cadet Melissa Knox said. "For Liberty, though, we add a fourth focus — our faith."

Without hesitation this was Knox's response to the question, "What is the basic principle of the Army ROTC program?" According to Knox, the most common misconception about soldiers is that they are just trained and paid killers. With the media reporting less-than-flattering stories about soldiers, small non-military-based towns such as Lynchburg tend to get the wrong impression, Knox said. "A lot people think we just want to kill, kill, kill," Knox said. "But I think if people really got to know why joined or what we are training to do in Army ROTC, they would see we are not out to slaughter. We really are trying to protect our country and our people."

"Since enlisting in the Army National Guard, I make decisions and try to be a leader everywhere I go," Hepburn said. "It's a tough military for Christians to be in, but just think about how tough it must have been to be a Christian and in Rome back in biblical times. In order to combat the misunderstood reputation of soldiers, Liberty's Eagle Battalion plans to become more involved community activities, according to Knox. Being present in uniform, ready to graciously answer any questions a person may have is the easiest way to ease nerves, Knox said. "Our program at Liberty strongly emphasizes the importance of having faith in Christ," Knox said. "We need to show our community that. They need to see the hard work and energy our cadets are putting forth to not only protect our country, but to also be witnesses to their peers." According to Knox, eight of the estimated 120 cadets at Liberty participated in the Lynchburg community fundraiser Run For Their Lives last Saturday, Oct. 16. Cadets in full uniform marched the 5k route to help Freedom 4/24 raise awareness for the need to end human trafficking. This was one of the many events the program has participated in this year already and there will be much more, according to Knox.



Liberty's Reserve Officer's Training Corps's main webpage states that ROTC's main focus is to develop confident, competent and adaptive leaders.

"Everyone out there (in the program) has a heart to serve," Knox said. "We don't expect that everyone who joins is a natural born leader. That's the great thing about ROTC, you are always learning throughout your time with the program."

Private Caleb Conner, a sophomore, said he' joined for the physical training but stayed for the camaraderie. Conner was also influenced by his mentor, who participated in Army ROTC at the University of Florida during the Vietnam War.

"I enjoy the fact that there is a sense of close friendship and loyalty to each other," Conner said of his fellow cadets. "We know that we have each other's backs."

For cadet Timothy Hepburn, being surrounded by like-minded peers while still maintaining a Christian lifestyle was vital. Hepburn finished his basic training this summer at Fort Benning, Ga. According to Hepburn, he was simply heartbroken over his peers' choices each day while in basic. The daily life of a cadet student is not easy, Conner mentioned when describing his daily routine.

According to Knox, all cadets have mandatory physical training that starts at exactly 5:50 a.m. every Monday, Wednesday and Friday. Tuesdays and Thursdays are twohour field training labs. Even a few weekends are dedicated to specialized field training and competitions against other ROTC programs.

All cadets are required to attend specified military leadership training classes led by cadres and higher ranked officers along with their other classes, according to Liberty's ROTC webpage.

"As senior, I am so proud of all the hard work and energy these young college students are putting forth," Knox said. "I mean think about it, (many of) these are freshman, fresh **TRAINING DAY** — Cadets are required to complete a Water Survival Training test. Every cadet in the program must take and pass this test to be in Army ROTC.

from high school. All they want to do is to be trained to be the best soldier they can be."

Living up to Dr. Falwell's challenge, "If it's Christian, it ought to be better," Liberty's Army ROTC program has been topping the charts. As reported on Liberty's home page, the country's current top ranked Army ROTC nursing cadet is Petra Gerber, a Liberty senior.

According to Liberty's ROTC homepage, the program aims to not only train leaders, but more specifically future military leaders. According to Conner, that great sense of tradition has been weighing on him recently. As a result, Conner enlisted in the Virginia Army National Guard this past month.

Conner plans to pursue a career in the armed services after graduation. He plans to get his commission in military police or military intelligence. Hepburn is already enlisted in the US Army National Guard and is pursuing a career as an Infantry Officer in the U.S. Army National Guard Infantry.

For more information on Liberty's ROTC program visit www.liberty.edu/rotc, or visit the facebook page "Liberty University Army ROTC (Eagle Battalion)."

EDWARDS is a feature reporter.