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BREAKAWAY CONCESSIONS

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Women's hockey

B1

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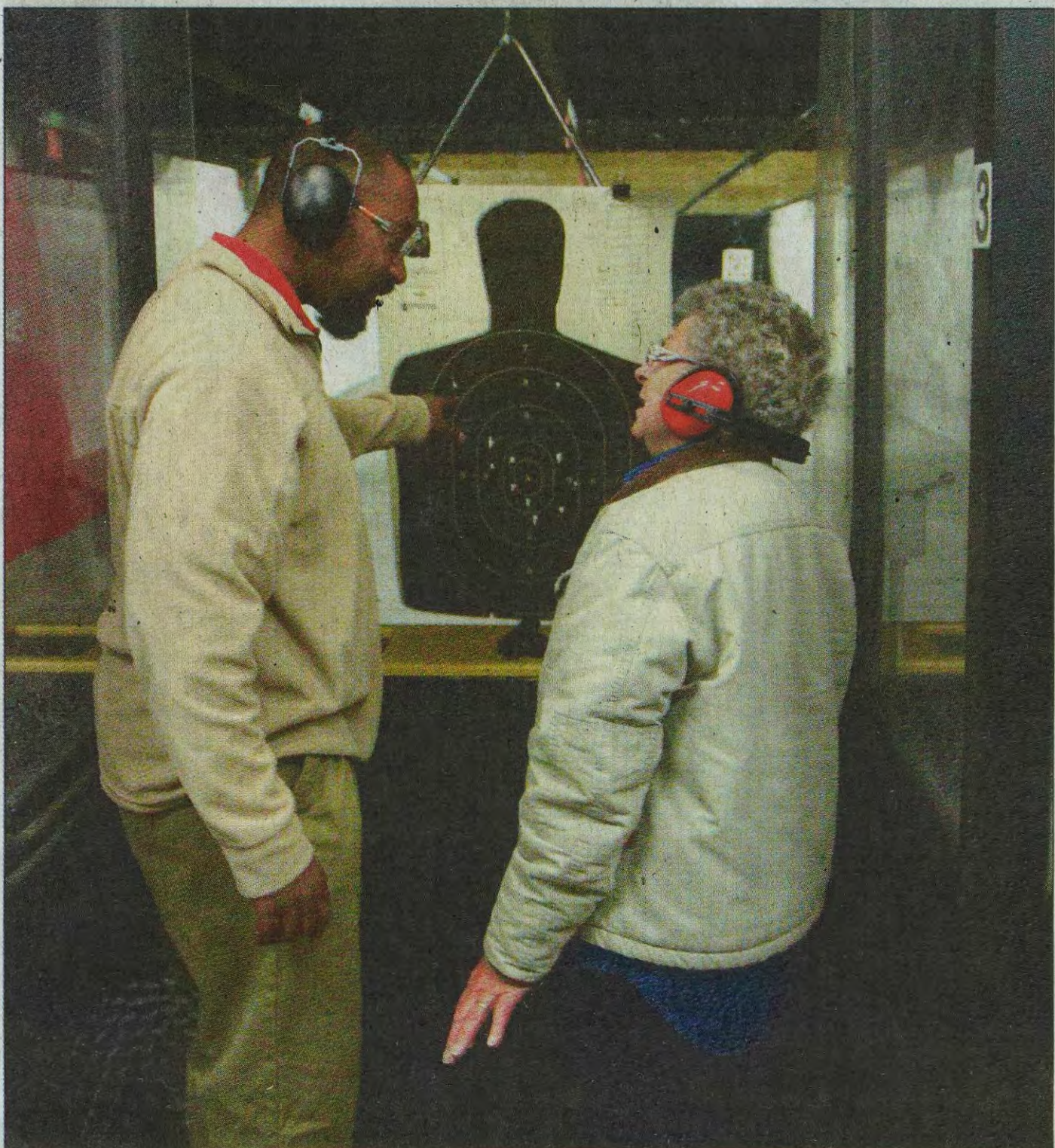
B6

LIBERTY CHAMPION

Today: P. Cloudy 51/31 Tomorrow: Sunny 51/29
Tuesday, February 5, 2013
libertychampion.com

Volume 30 • Issue 14

gun control



RUTH BIBBY | LIBERTY CHAMPION

CONTROL — Chuck Thomas instructs a friend at Lynchburg Arms and Indoor Shooting Range.

Gun-free no more?

Student group defends concealed carry on college campuses

Daniel Bartlett
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A group known as Students for Concealed Carry (SCC) is speaking out about allowing students with concealed carry licenses to be armed on college campus and said that not doing so puts college students at risk.

Founded following the Virginia Tech shooting in 2007, SCC's aspirations are to reform firearm regulations. They have already done so in six states and are helping others to consider the switch to allow concealed carry on campus.

"For years, colleges have cultivated a deadly illusion that a gun-free policy makes us safer," Director of Public Relations for SCC David Burnett said. "The current rules guarantee criminals a free shot. Allowing licensed concealed carry would give potential attackers pause and ultimately give innocent victims a fighting chance."

Liberty University recently permitted concealed carry to those with licenses as long as they do not carry in school facilities, according to liberty.edu.

"The campus weapons policy was amended in November 2011 by a vote of the Board of Trustees," Liberty University Police Department (LUPD) Chief of Police Col. Richard Hinkley said.

This change removed the total ban on firearms, allowing

exceptions for university visitors and members of Liberty over the age of 21 to get permission from LUPD to conceal carry, according to university policy.

The policy was designed so that people with concealed weapons could keep them locked in their vehicles while on campus, or store them with LUPD without going against Liberty policy.

According to the SCC website, public colleges in Colorado have to allow concealed carry on campus after the Colorado Supreme Court recently ruled in favor of the SCC. This ruling will add to the 220 campuses in six states that already allow concealed carry.

According to Burnett, SCC's goals are often misunderstood in spite of increasing responses from college campuses around the nation.

"We're not out to arm everyone. We're just saying, 'If you have the legal permit and can legally carry virtually everywhere else, why is your right to self-defense suspended on campus?'" Burnett said. "Guns in the hands of the right people can save lives, and universities are stopping the right people from protecting themselves."

"I agree with SCC's goal of allowing responsible permit holders to carry guns on campus to counter the criminals who might have guns," Chancellor Jeffy Falwell, Jr. said.

"When Liberty allowed guns on campus in 2011, it was one of only a handful of universities to take that step. Liberty plans to revise its policy again soon in conformity with the 200 colleges that have allowed concealed carry as a result of SCC's efforts. We are now studying what the policy change should be."

SCC currently comprises more than 40,000 supporters who endorse the idea for legal concealed carry on college campuses.

"Gun-free zones are defense-free zones," Burnett said. "Since our colleges can't guarantee our safety, it's time for them to allow us a fighting chance and decriminalize self-defense."

For more information on the SCC, visit concealedcampus.org, or for information on Liberty University's weapons policy, visit the LUPD page at liberty.edu.

BARTLETT is a news reporter.

FYI
There are 220 campuses in six states that allow concealed carry.

Liberty Counsel set to challenge ObamaCare

Samantha Boontjer
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The Fourth U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals announced a hearing date for Liberty Counsel's challenge of the new health care law put into effect by the Obama administration. The hearing is scheduled for May 15 in Richmond, Va.

Liberty University School of Law Dean and professor Maf Staver, the founder and chairman of the Liberty Counsel, will be filing the legal briefing this month and will present the oral argument in May. Staver said that the case does have the potential to change the law.

"Our case of Liberty University v. Geithner presents the most comprehensive challenge to ObamaCare in the nation," Staver said.

According to Staver, the Liberty Counsel filed the lawsuit March 23, 2010, the day that the Affordable Care Act was signed into law.

Liberty is arguing against the law's requirement for employers to provide and for individuals to buy government-mandated health insurance or to pay a penalty.

"Our case challenges the entire employer mandate along with the forced funding of abortion in both the employer and individual mandates," Staver said in a press release.

Staver claimed that this new act is "a gross snub to constitutional liberties." The original Constitution created a limited federal government, according to Staver.

"When the federal government seeks to expand its authority, as it has in ObamaCare, that act alone violates the Constitution."

"ObamaCare forces employers and individuals to fund abortion, and this act of forced abortion collides with the Free Exercise of Religion recognized

See OBAMACARE, A2



EMILY BECKER | LIBERTY CHAMPION

JOB — Two students browse brochures outside the career center.

Capitol internship

Cecilia Hines
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In order to "train champions for Christ," Liberty University offers many outlets for students to succeed in their desired field. The Washington Fellowship is an internship program offered as a means of placing them in a city filled with future job prospects while also earning credit toward graduation.

According to Program Recruiter Frank DiGregorio, this is not something that students have to do, but something that they get the opportunity to do.

"Nowadays, you need every edge on the competition, and employers are looking to

hire within," DiGregorio said. "They're looking to hire people that they know, friends that they have who know people. They are networking to find employees."

The Washington Fellowship has placed students from all different majors into internship positions, and some have been promoted to full-time positions. Interns have been positioned at Fox News, National Geographic, The Heritage Foundation, Concerned Women for America, The American Psychological Association, the National Archives and other high-profile companies and organizations.

See CAPITOL, A6

INSIDE THE CHAMPION

News

The Center4ME kicked off African American History Month, Friday, Feb. 1. **A2**

Sports

Kyle Harvey looks at the late Dr. Jerry Falwell's passion for Liberty sports. **B3**

Feature

Students prepare for the fourth annual Hill City Scavenger Hunt. **B6**

News	A1
Opinion	A4
Sports	B1
Feature	B6



PHOTO PROVIDED
AUTHOR — Fields has written several books and articles.

Alumni lecture

Renowned author
Leslie Fields to speak
Monday, Feb. 11

Tess Curtis
tcurtis@liberty.edu

Author, speaker and columnist Leslie Leyland Fields will speak at the Liberty University English and Modern Languages Department's Alumni Lecture Series Monday, Feb. 11.

According to a press release, Fields is the author of seven books, including "Parenting is Your Highest Calling," "Surprise Child," "The Spirit of Food" and "Surviving the Island of Grace." She has also written numerous articles for Christianity Today and has a column entitled "Stones to Bread."

Fields has lectured throughout the U.S. in the past 20 years, the press release noted, and she has also spoken in Canada and Guatemala during retreats and seminars, as well as at churches and universities.

"Fields is an engaging, lively presenter who speaks to her audiences from a life and a heart that had known hardships," according to the press release.

The event will be held at 4:30 p.m. in DeMoss Hall 1090. The lecture is free and open to the public, and coffee and light refreshments will also be provided by Zeta Tau, the Liberty University chapter of Sigma Tau Delta, Secretary Carley Myers said.

Myers also encouraged Sigma Tau Delta members and inductees to attend the lecture.

"We want Sigma Tau members, English majors and (Liberty University) students in general to be exposed to the knowledge of those who went before them," Myers said.

CURTIS is the copy editor.



RUTH BIBBY | LIBERTY CHAMPION

COMMUNITY — Students gather to enjoy refreshments and discussion in the Grand Lobby of DeMoss Hall.

A celebration of heritage kicks off

The Center4ME is recognizing African American History Month on campus

Tyler Eacho
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In the United States, the month of February has been dedicated to celebrating the heritage of the African American people in our country.

The Center for Multicultural Enrichment (Center4ME), a department of Liberty University's Student Affairs, gives students the opportunity to celebrate African American heritage by providing academic lectures, documentaries and entertainment — all of which take place throughout the month.

According to the Center4ME webpage, the office exists to promote an understanding of the Western tradition and the diverse elements of American cultural history while contributing to the knowledge and understanding of other cultures and of international events.

"Center4ME is here to celebrate various cultures and to give students the opportunity to learn about those different cultures," Associate Director for Cultural Competency Joy Jefferson said. "A lot of students think Center4ME is for African American or Latino students, but it's for everyone to build relationships."

The African American History Month kickoff in the Grand Lobby of DeMoss Hall

"Center4ME is here to celebrate various cultures and to give students the opportunity to learn about those different cultures."

— JOY JEFFERSON

Friday, Feb. 1 celebrated one of those cultures.

At the event, students were served food and refreshments as they were given the opportunity to examine several pictures of prominent people of African American heritage.

Bridging the Gap, an urban ministry step team, also performed at the kickoff as students picked up calendars promoting the upcoming events for the month.

To continue celebrating African American History Month, a number of events are scheduled to take place on campus.

A deliberative dialogue with Ron Miller, a Liberty professor and the author of "Sell-out," will take place Tuesday, Feb. 5 at 7 p.m. in DeMoss Hall 1090.

Other events include another performance by Bridging the Gap Friday, Feb. 8 at 11:30 a.m. in Green Hall 1878, and a jazz band performance accompanied by food and games in Green Hall 1878 Friday, Feb. 22 at 11:30 a.m.

Faces of America, a documentary covering 11 Americans from various ethnic backgrounds, will be screened in Green Hall 1878 Tuesday, Feb. 26 at 7 p.m. Finally, the festivities will be wrapped up with a presentation on the history of African American music Saturday, March 2 at 7 p.m. in the Towns Alumni Auditorium.

In addition to African American History Month, the Center4ME celebrates various heritages throughout the year.

"We celebrate Irish American heritage in March and Asian American and Pacific Islander heritage in April," Jefferson said. "We also celebrate Hispanic heritage in September and October and American Indian Month in November."

For more information on upcoming events for African American History Month as well as future events, visit the Center4ME webpage at liberty.edu/center4me.

EACHO is the asst. news editor.

OBAMACARE continued from A1

in the First Amendment of the U. S. Constitution," Staver said.

He also believes that this law violates Article I, Section 8, generally known for containing the Commerce Clause, and a federal law known as the Religious

Freedom Restoration Act.

According to the 103rd Congressional Record, the Religious Freedom Restoration Act was established in 1993. Congress found that "laws 'neutral' toward religion may substantially burden religious exercise as surely as laws intended to interfere with religious exercise." One of the purposes of the law was "to provide a claim or defense to persons whose religious exercise is substantially burdened by government."

"I'm very pleased that we now have a briefing and argument schedule," Staver said. "Time is of the essence to block this mandate from colliding with the free exercise of religion."

Staver also explained that July 1 is the day for many annual insurance plan renewals, and that is when the forced abortion funding mandate will hit most employers.

Liberty Counsel filed an appeal with the Supreme Court after the Court of Appeals dismissed the original suit in September. According to Staver, the court had ruled against their original appeal because "the Anti-Injunction Act prohibits the court from deciding the merits until the tax in ObamaCare is paid. ... We asked the Supreme Court to review and reverse the decision, and the High Court did."

In November, the Supreme Court ordered the Court of Appeals to consider the claim.

Access to the nearly 3,000-page Affordable Care Act can be found on the Liberty Counsel website, www.lc.org.

BOONTJER is a news reporter.

LIBERTY CHAMPION

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LETTER TO THE EDITOR

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Send letters to:

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Memoirist Maya Angelou speaks

Randolph College hosted the acclaimed poet for a discussion about her rise from persecution and adversity

Tess Curtis
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Celebrated poet and memoirist Maya Angelou spoke about the power of poetry to a crowded auditorium at Randolph College. Liberty University professor Karen Swallow Prior's women's literature class attended the lecture.

When the curtains opened Tuesday, Jan. 29 at 8 p.m. — one hour later than scheduled — Angelou stood to take a shaky little bow, settled down in her blanket-covered wheelchair, and then opened her mouth to sing.

"When it look like the sun will not shine anymore, God put a rainbow in the clouds," Angelou said.

According to her, poetry is that rainbow in the clouds — a thin ray of hope in a dark and dismal place.

"Poetry has kept us alive," Angelou said.

According to her, poetry brought the slaves through their bondage and also brought her through the struggles she faced growing up in a southern town like Stamps, Ark. Through poetry, she said that she was able to rise out of persecution and adversity to become the woman she is today.

Angelou also recalled a time when she read all of the books shelved in the modest library of her hometown. Although she did not claim to understand everything she read at the time, Angelou said



HOPE — Poet Maya Angelou addressed a vast crowd at Randolph College Tuesday, Jan. 29.

that Shakespeare's Sonnet 29 was one of her favorites. Reading through his work, she was startled by how much it spoke to her own experience.

"I didn't care what they told me," Angelou said. "I was convinced that he was a little black girl."

Poetry has the power to unite cultures, generations and diversities, according

to Angelou, and is a fundamental reason behind the survival of the human race.

"The poetry was written for you," Angelou said. "It's all for you."

Liberty students in attendance, including English major Mary Broughton, took the speaker's words to heart.

"Mary Angelou was just inspirational and precious,"

Broughton said after the address. "My favorite quote from her was, 'When you know, you can teach. When you get, you can give.' She kept on talking about the rainbow coming through the clouds. It was poetry that gave her hope."

However, students also mentioned some difficulties with actually getting into the building. Although

there were two entrances into the Smith Hall Building where Angelou spoke, members of the community and out-of-town guests bunched together to form some semblance of a line hours before the doors opened at 6 p.m.

"(The event) was free, open to the public, but some groups could make reservations," Prior said.

"I contacted them back in December — otherwise, it wouldn't have worked."

"I feel like my seat meant a lot, looking at how everybody was trying to get in," Liberty student Stephanie Young said. "I actually felt really bad, but also really grateful at the same time."

According to Young, she bypassed the long lines and entered the north entrance of the building along with Prior. However, some students were not so fortunate.

According to one member of the crowd, he had been waiting in line since 4 p.m. in hopes of getting into the building. Prior also mentioned that some people had traveled three hours to Randolph College just to hear Angelou speak.

Most students eventually made it into the building.

"All the security officers ... really had it organized well, and they let them come right in," Prior said.

According to Prior, Randolph College had announced that Angelou was going to speak in December. Prior already knew that her students would be reading Angelou at some point during her course, and she thought that it would be a good experience for them to hear her speak.

"Hearing Maya Angelou is historical, even, and I really wanted my students to have a chance to do that," Prior said.

CURTIS is the copy editor.



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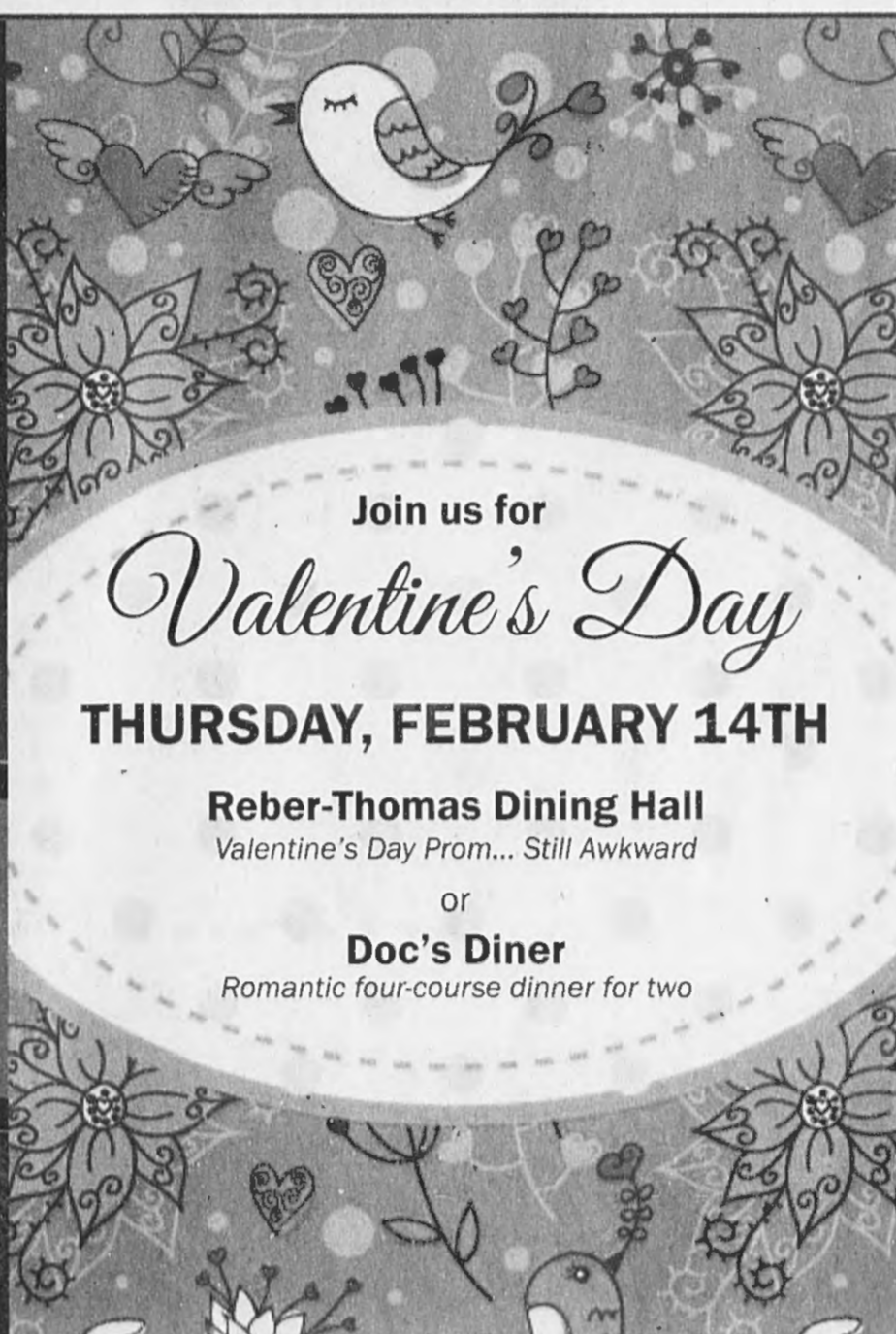
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Join us for

Valentine's Day

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 14TH

Reber-Thomas Dining Hall

Valentine's Day Prom... Still Awkward

or

Doc's Diner

Romantic four-course dinner for two

Time for us to step up and jump in

Andrew Woolfolk
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You may have never heard of 21-year-old Molly Hincka, but she is an exceptional person and an amazing athlete. She has won medals participating in 10 different athletic events. She volunteers at an Alzheimer's facility in her hometown of Livingston County, Mich. She runs six miles a day to stay in shape.

Add in the fact that she was born with an intellectual disability, wore braces on her legs as a child and had doctors telling her parents she would never walk normally, and you have quite the accomplished young woman.

Hincka has overcome all the odds to become one of the greatest athletes the Special Olympics has ever seen. Consumer goods company Procter & Gamble even aired a commercial featuring Molly Hincka and her mother Kerry Hincka, who narrated the inspirational piece.

All of this was possible because someone gave Molly Hincka that chance to play, her chance to shine, her chance to be normal.

The Special Olympics is held in a fashion very similar to the Olympic Games, allowing athletes to compete in a wide variety of sporting events. Unlike the Olympic games, though, the Special Olympics holds competitions year-round, with 53,000 events



RUTH BIBBY | LIBERTY CHAMPION

CHILLIN' — Polar Plunge 2012 raised more than \$24,000 for Special Olympics Virginia.

being run in over 170 countries with more than 4 million participating athletes, according to the Special Olympics website.

With programs in every state, Special Olympics Virginia manages 2,000 events yearly, and it is all made possible by the donations of time and money of more than 20,000 partners.

Now, it is time for students to take part.

The Hill City Polar Plunge is held every year during February to raise money for the Special Olympics. Participants jump \$50 per person, and then jump into

the icy waters of Camp Hydaway Lake as a means of distorted, yet fun, celebration. On Feb. 16, the yearly tradition continues.

How many times are we instructed to help others? How many times do we beg for an opportunity to make a difference? How often do we wonder, "How can I get involved?"

Consider this article yet another call to action. The Special Olympics Virginia needs donations, and we need to be involved.

Liberty junior Olivia Witherite is the firm director for Liberty's Public Relations Student Society

of America (PRSSA) and an account executive for the Special Olympics. She now helps run an event that she has participated in.

"I know it's cold, and people are really afraid of cold water, and they don't want to do it, but I will definitely say it's fun, because everyone is psyching each other out," Witherite said. "Holding hands, wither arms, jumping in. I mean, it sounds cliché, but you're all in it together."

Karin Thompson, a senior at Liberty, has also participated in the event previously and plans to do so again this year. She sees

Polar Plunge as one way to show love to those with intellectual challenges.

"It is difficult and awkward to care for those who you can not understand, and for that reason, they need love and community more than anyone," Thompson said.

Witherite used a comparison that Matt Camire, the director of development for the Special Olympics Virginia, made about participating in what some see as an uncomfortable event.

"He told me that Special Olympics athletes have to overcome a lot in their everyday lives, whether it's going to school or finding different programs that they can participate in," Witherite said. "I think us jumping in is symbolic — it's sucking it up, being brave. It's something we can do to bring awareness to the athletes. It's a nice way to give back."

Witherite also pointed out that while registration this year has been good, the numbers are slightly down from last year. The challenge has been set, and it would be negligent to back away.

"I never saw the things my child couldn't do. I only imagined what she could," Kerry Hincka said about her daughter in the Procter & Gamble commercial.

Imagine what we can do as well.

WOOLFOLK is the opinion editor.

The Grammys are losing their glamour

Gabriella Fuller
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It is hailed as "music's biggest night," an event where audiences tune in to see latest musical acts perform their hit songs — drowned in auto tune and pyrotechnics — and wait to see if another Kanye West moment will happen again.

The 55th annual Grammy Award Show, scheduled to air Feb. 10, will honor artists in 81 different categories, including the top four fields of album of the year, record of the year, song of the year and best new artist.

The Grammys are prestigiously awarded by the National Academy of Recording Arts and Sciences and are based on neither sales nor chart position. According to the official Grammy website, the award "is truly a peer honor, awarded by and to artists and technical professionals for artistic or technical achievement."

I am not so convinced. Well-known as they may be, the Grammys have become nothing more than a promotional machine for the music industry. Rather



CYRIAL ATTILAS | CREATIVE COMMONS

LOSING THEIR LUSTER — Have the Grammys lost their credibility?

than truly honoring the arts or the artists, the music business has become more interested in celebrating itself.

There seems to be an inconsistency surrounding the recipients of nominations and statues. Though the Recording Academy

claims to remain unbiased, nominations and awards have historically tended toward the more commercially successful albums rather than the critically successful ones.

More recent years have revealed an obvious chasm

between the goals of the academy and the listening habits of the general population. As critic Randall Roberts wrote concerning the 2011 Grammys, "Falling behind the times is nothing new for the Grammys, but once they've lost

sight of the artistry that makes music soar, they'll not just be irrelevant, they'll be out of business."

The Grammys are becoming nothing more than an exercise in self-congratulations. And while, yes, many of the nominated artists do indeed have careers to be proud of, receiving a gramophone trophy should not determine either past or future success. I may be wrong, but it would seem to me that a band's musical prowess be about more than the number of trophies given by an award's show determined by anonymous voters.

One thing is certain: the Grammys go with familiarity over risk. I am confident that a majority of the talent within the United States will not be sitting in the Staples Center in Los Angeles come Oct. 10.

"As an institution that celebrates artistic works of musicians, singers, songwriters, producers and technical specialists, we have come to expect that the Grammys uphold all of the values that reflect the very best in music that is born from our culture,"

music executive Steve Stoute said in an article in *The Huffington Post*. "Unfortunately, the awards show has become a series of hypocrisies and contradictions, leaving me to question why any contemporary popular artist would even participate."

Yet participate they will — and they will not be alone. They will be joined by thousands of overly-zealous, eager Americans anticipating a night of entertainment.

Sure, music is important. I understand that it can often times be both inspirational and motivational. In no way do I discount music as a form of expressive art or as a significant aspect of culture. Still, I have not been counting down the days until the Grammys, and I will not be drastically affected by the wins or losses of any one artist.

Sorry Grammys, but believe it or not, there are more important issues in the world.

FULLER is an opinion writer.



by Tabitha Cassidy

A dark day for various individuals, Valentine's Day does not always venture to be providential for those single members of society trying to make their way through the romantic gestures that happen all around them — just not to them.

While most single people will not take the streets and go all Al Capone on the couples, the urge to hurl tiny colored hearts marked with "Be Mine" all over their chalky surface might be too strong to pass up. Spending the cash on vindic-

tive edible hearts, though, probably will not happen.

A look into Valentine's Day past reveals both the romance and violence that the day is covered with, satisfying the urges of couples and single ladies alike. While many couples travel to Love Valley, N.C. and contribute to the \$12.6 billion that the U.S. Census Bureau reports is spent on chocolate each year, the rest of us grin like bitter Cheshire Cats at what is really being celebrated.

According to history.com, Valentine's Day is clouded in uncertainty as to the true saint after whom it is named.

One legend recounts the tale of a Saint Val-

entine who continued to marry couples after Emperor Claudius II forbade it for reasons of war, and was beheaded in the process. Despite the loss of a man's head, this scenario is still romantic when you look at the details — a man gave up his life in order to celebrate love.

Another saga tells of a Valentine that was martyred for helping Christians escape Roman prisons. While not necessarily filled with over-the-top romantic gestures, the love celebrated here is of a different kind — the love for brothers and sisters in Christ.

A final account reveals the story of one Saint Val-

entine who fell in love with his prison guard's daughter and wrote a note to her just before his death, signed "From your Valentine." Probably the most romantic of the three, this is the story that most people unknowingly follow every year. The cheap paper Valentine's Day cards every child gives out to their classmates is just a reminiscence of one man who died for love.

While each tale has a bit of romance entwined with its history, death encapsulated all three legends. It seems only fitting that a holiday shrouded in so many gimmicky gifts and boasts of love has a deeper meaning and an

even deeper semblance to the only one to ever die for everyone.

As many of us deal with the dreaded call from home resulting in a "Yes, Mom, I'm still single" answer, take comfort in knowing that one man already died for you some 2,000 years ago.

Instead of staring bitterly at the couples holding hands and sneaking kisses with one another, just sit back and take in the gifts that you already have. I know that I will be celebrating my holiday with thanks to the Lord for His enduring love.

CASSIDY is the editor in chief.

Celebrating Black History Month

Just how much progress have we made in the 50 years since Martin Luther King Jr.'s inspirational speech?

Jacob Tellers
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It is hard to imagine that a little less than 50 years ago, our nation did not consider African Americans to be equal with whites. Their voting rights were discriminated against, public schools were segregated, and even drinking fountains were separated with signs for "white" and "colored" individuals.

Yet, this was the status quo for our country in the mid-twentieth century. Sadly, we committed some of the greatest injustices in the world in the greatest country in the world.

"I have a dream that my four children will one day live in a nation where they will not be judged by the color of their skin but by the content of their character," Martin Luther King Jr. said in his epic 1963 speech at the Lincoln Memorial, challenging the racial inequalities of the time.

In the 50 years following King's iconic speech, America has moved from a nation where racism was embedded in our laws to having an African American as president.

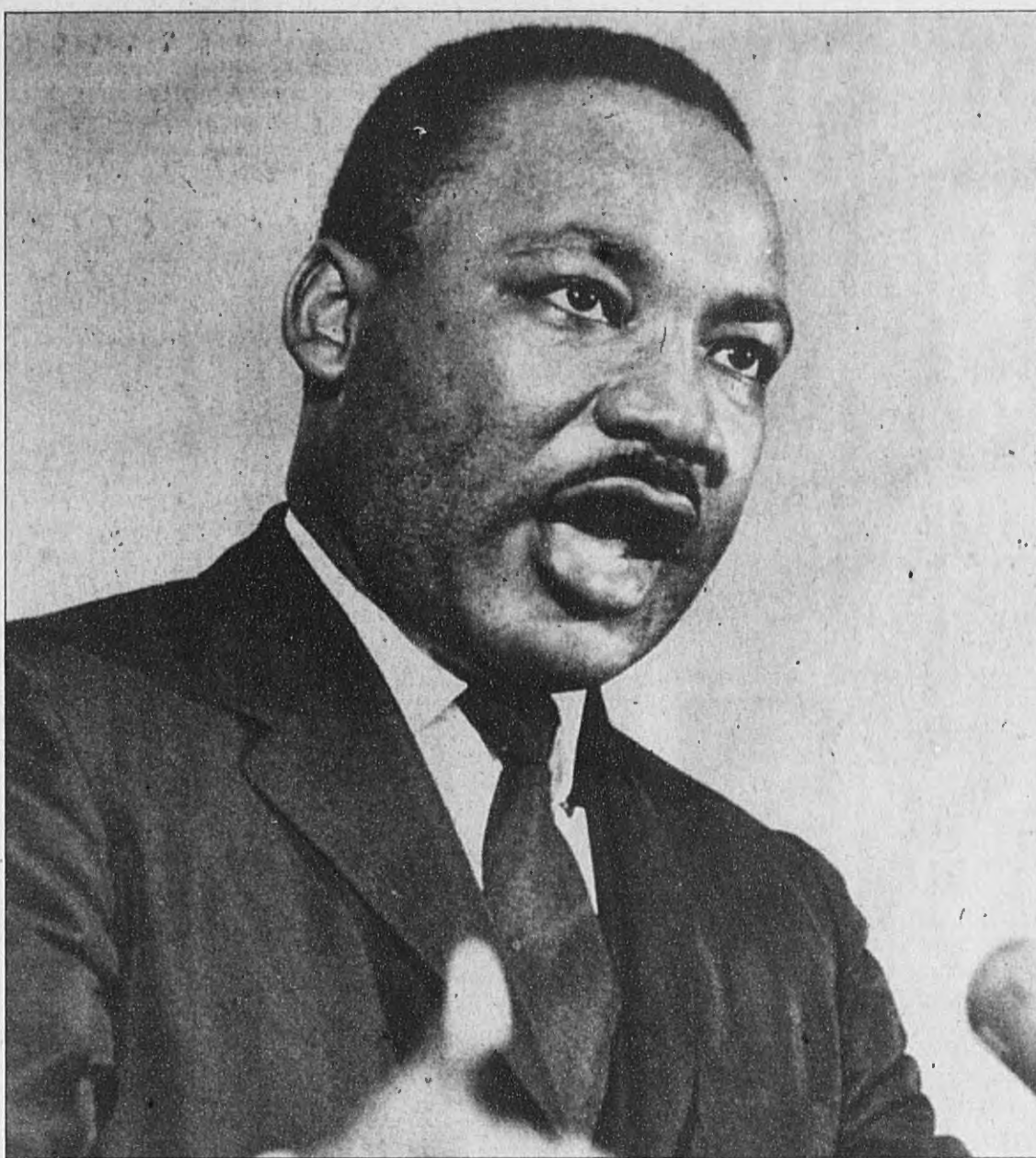
President Barack Obama, Tiger Woods and Oprah Winfrey are all examples of the many African Americans who have reached the peak of their respective careers.

"If there is anyone out there who still doubts that America is a place where all things are possible, who still wonders if the dream of our founders is alive in our time, who still questions the power of our democracy — tonight is your answer," President Obama said after winning the 2008 presidential election.

Times most certainly have changed, but can we truly say that equality has been reached?

According to census.gov, as of 2010, 25.8 percent African Americans lived in poverty compared to only 12.3 percent of Caucasians.

According to a criminal justice facts sheet released by the NAACP, "African Americans now constitute nearly 1 million of the total 2.3 million incarcerated population. African Americans are incarcerated



LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

PERSPECTIVE — What would Martin Luther King Jr. think of today's world?

at nearly six times the rate of whites."

It is clear that while it is possible for minorities to succeed, they do not do so at the same rate as Caucasians. Why is that?

One of the biggest arguments today about equality is the debate between the apparently opposing concepts of equality of opportunity and equality of outcome.

Equality of opportunity is the idea that everyone should have an equal chance to succeed. Equality of outcome is the belief that in a racially equal society, different races should have similar levels of success.

It is easy to say that everyone should simply have an equal opportunity to succeed, but if

the outcomes are not equal, is there truly equal opportunity?

The answer to that is no. There is not equal opportunity, but that is not necessarily due to racism.

"One child is born blind, another with sight. One child has parents deeply concerned about his welfare who provide a background of culture and understanding. Another has disolute, improvident parents," Milton and Rose Friedman explain in their book *Free to Choose*. "They clearly do not have identical opportunities at birth, and there is no way that their opportunities can be made identical."

As my Dad so often told me when I was growing up, "life

isn't fair." The reality is that people are born into different situations, and those situations directly affect their chances of being able to succeed in life.

We will never truly achieve equal opportunity. It is not feasible to believe that everyone can be born into the same amount of success, quality of living and encouragement.

As human beings, we are equal in our rights, yet unique in our talents and abilities.

Instead of striving for an unachievable goal, what we should strive for is a society where someone who wants to succeed can be given the tools and instruction necessary for success. Everyone is not going to have the same starting point in

life, but we can help them move on from wherever they started.

So while equality of opportunity is never going to be possible, everyone should be given an equal chance of moving forward in their lives.

At the same time, politicians who try to force outcomes of success are off base.

To give someone preferential treatment because of the color of their skin and not because of their qualifications is by definition, racism. We cannot say that people are equal and should be judged by their actions and then turn around and give special benefits to people because of their race.

If a company or college is continually turning away qualified minorities, that is wrong, and the entity performing these actions should suffer the consequences. On the other side, if the government thinks that forcing an organization to hire a certain quota of minority candidates is going to curtail racism and encourage equality, it is mistaken as well.

Hiring under-qualified employees simply to achieve diversity goes against what Martin Luther King Jr. stood for.

The United States will never be a country where everyone is born equal in the sense that they will be given the same exact opportunities and experiences. Likewise, it is impossible to legislate equality of outcome without infringing on the very equality we are setting out to protect.

We can provide the means to succeed, we can encourage people to succeed, but that is not something that can be enforced by law. We all need to share a desire to want something better in life, and likewise a desire to do what it takes to reach that goal.

The U.S. has seen significant progression toward equality in the last 50 years. If we as a nation wish to continue to live up to King's dream, we need to do as he suggested: judge people by the content of the character, and not the color of their skin.

TELLERS is an opinion writer



1. CHECK OUT THE ONLINE SPORTS SECTION TO SEE HOW BIG OF A SPORTS FAN JERRY FALWELL SR. WAS.

2. SEE HOW CSER KEEPS STUDENTS INVOLVED IN THE COMMUNITY.

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obituaries

Melanie Oelrich
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Donaldson first dual dean

Dr. Pauline Marie Donaldson, the former dean of both the School of Education and the College of General Studies, died Thursday, Jan. 31 after a long battle with Progressive Nuclear Palsy. She is survived by her husband, John; sisters, Ireta and Janice; and brother, Dale; her daughter, Dawn; and son, John II; and five grandchildren.



DONALDSON

Donaldson received her master's in elementary school counseling from the University of Michigan, and her doctorate from the University of Virginia. When she became a professor at Liberty University in 1979, she assisted at-risk students, while also initiating the honors program to see students get accepted into graduate schools.

According to Barbara Sherman, associate professor of education and the director for individual programs of study, Donaldson was the only dual dean at Liberty, serving as both dean of the School of Education and dean of the College of General Studies.

"Dr. Pauline Donaldson was a driving force as Liberty moved to university status," Sherman said. "Her energy and creative work with our SACS (Southern Association of Colleges and Schools) accreditation efforts, the honors program for (students receiving scholarships), the creation of the Alpha Lambda Delta chapter in 1986 and the institution of the M. Ed. and Ed.D. graduate programs were hallmarks of her work, which evidenced a lifelong devotion to academics and to Liberty."

"(Donaldson is a) standard bearer and a dedicated Christian servant who expected the best of herself and those about her, and she motivated us to rise to her expectations,"

Sherman said. "Her life was an example of one 'well-lived.'"

Boyd Rist, provost emeritus and senior academic consultant to the provost, considered Donaldson one of the "founding faithful" at Liberty.

"I knew her as a person of great energy, uncommon focus and personal integrity," Rist said. "She was a builder, and her legacy continues to influence the School of Education and Liberty University. Liberty faculty in the 21st century can draw life lessons from her as they seek to influence the culture for the cause of Christ."

A memorial service is scheduled for Sunday, Feb. 10 at 7 p.m. at Lakewood Baptist Church in Lynchburg.

Preparing for youth work

International student Emmanuel Ijadola died Wednesday, Jan. 30. He had been transported to Lynchburg General Hospital following a fall on campus. According to Dean of the International Student Programs Bill Wegert, Ijadola suffered major blood clots and died at the hospital.

"Emmanuel (Ijadola) was a very passionate man," former roommate Derrick Battle said. "He gave up everything he had at home in Africa to come here and pursue youth ministries."

According to Battle, Ijadola had only been in the States for about a year, and had not been home since.

"The first week he was at Liberty, he was feeling really homesick and didn't have a cellphone, so a few other guys and I went out to purchase a phone that he could use to connect with his family," Battle said. "He had a really big heart, and I'm praying for his family and girlfriend back in Africa."

The last text Battle received from Ijadola was Christmas morning.

"Emmanuel texted me at 3 a.m.

on Christmas morning and said 'Merry Christmas — may God shower us more with His blessings. May we find life's true meaning as we further reflect on this blessed season. More love, happiness, success and good health.' That's just one example of the kind of guy he was," Battle said.

The International Student Center, along with the Campus Pastors Office, will be holding a memorial service for Ijadola, tentatively scheduled for Thursday, Feb. 7 at 6 p.m. in the Pate Chapel at Thomas Road Baptist Church.

FSN engineer loved Liberty

Jay Silvio, a Flames Sports Network (FSN) satellite engineer, died Friday, Feb. 1. He was 56 and was survived by his son, Tony.

The previous Saturday, Jan. 26, Silvio suffered a heart attack minutes after the men's basketball game concluded. He was rushed to the hospital until he died.

According to Bruce Carey, the senior producer for FSN, Silvio was a "vital part of the team."

"Jay handled all of our satellite and uplink requests for the last eight years for football, basketball and baseball, including out-of-town games," Carey said. "He told me once that working here at Liberty helped him renew his relationship with God, and that he appreciated the prayers that we conduct prior to each broadcast. Liberty University always came first with Jay, and he will be sorely missed by the entire team."

A memorial service for Silvio has yet to be announced.

OELRICH is the news editor.



EMILY BECKER | LIBERTY CHAMPION

GUIDANCE — Students can visit the Career Center for professional advice.

CAPITOL continued from A1

"The advantage you have with us is that we have a placement coordinator who is constantly talking to people in D.C., organizations that we are reaching out to in order to find these opportunities," DiGregorio said.

In the last four or five semesters, between 35 and 50 percent of the students interning in D.C. have been offered jobs after graduation, according to DiGregorio.

Vanessa Romas, a senior politics and policy major, interned in the spring of 2012 with Congressman Robert Hurt (Va.). As an intern, she answered phones, addressed constituent's questions about bills and gave Capitol tours.

"It was a lot of fun giving tours, because you get to meet people from the district your congressman represents," Romas said. "Lynchburg was a part of Congressman Hurt's district during my time in his office, so I met a lot of people affiliated with Liberty."

According to Romas, the internship was not only a great networking tool, but also a great way for her to share her faith with others.

After her stint in D.C., Ro-

mas said that she loved the program so much that she became a student recruiter for the Washington Fellowship, going to classrooms and sharing her experiences with other students.

"One of the best aspects of the Washington Fellowship program is knowing that while you are completing your internship, there are 20 other people there from your school who know exactly what you are going through," Romas said.

Student Body Vice President Joshua Warner also interned in Washington, D.C. this past summer for Congresswoman Cathy McMorris Rodgers.

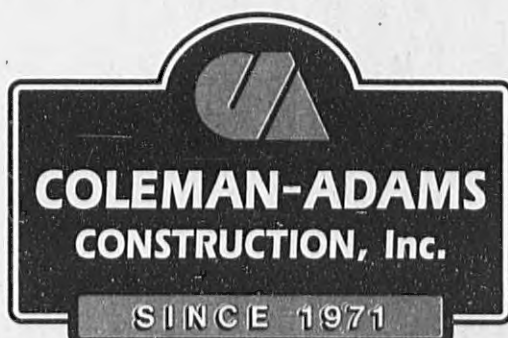
"Having a hands-on experience (in) the area I want to go into, and having a better understanding of the legislation process, helped me to narrow down what I want to do after college," Warner said.

For information regarding the application process and acceptance into the program, visit the Washington Fellowship Program page on the Liberty website, or stop by the Career Center to set up an appointment with a career counselor.

HINES is a news reporter.

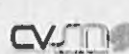


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Swimming

Liberty 5-0 at
Davidson Duals

M. Basketball

Winthrop 66
Liberty 56

W. Basketball

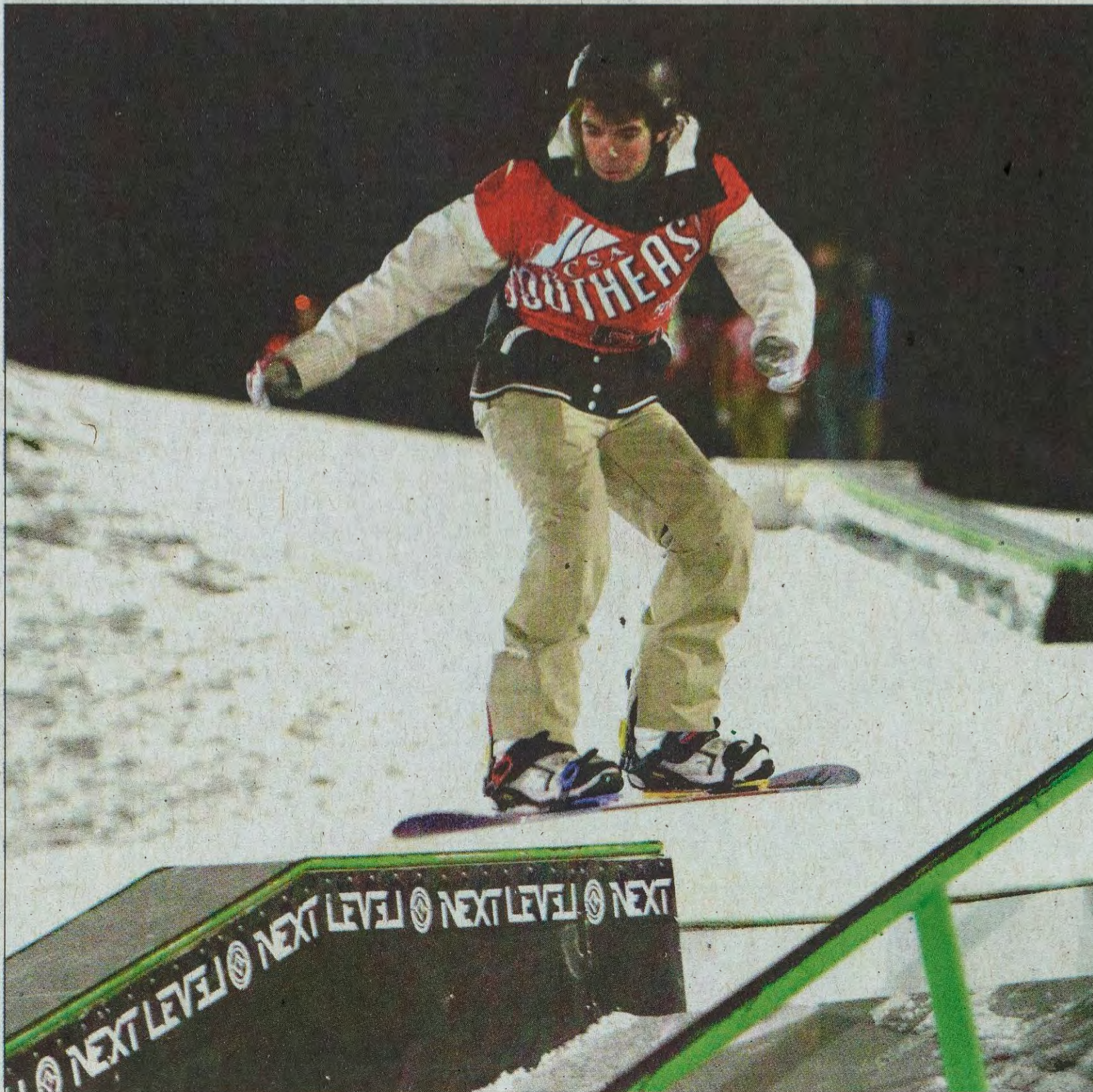
Liberty 67
High Point 59

W. DI Hockey

Liberty 8
Colorado St. 1

M. DI Hockey

Delaware 8
Liberty 1



RUTH BIBBY | LIBERTY CHAMPION

SKILLS — The Liberty snowboard and skiing team opened its season with a home event.

Snowy slopes at the 'flex

Flames claim two team victories in competition at Snowflex Centre

Emily Brown
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Liberty University's club ski and snowboard team carved its way to a dominant showing in its first competition of the season Saturday night, Feb. 2 at the Liberty Mountain Snowflex Centre.

Liberty placed first as a

team in two of the three events, and three members claimed No. 1 spots in individual events.

In the competition, athletes were scored both individually and as a team, based on their performances on the rails and jumps on the course. Each athlete's final score was composed of the average

of two runs. The team score was a sum of the individual scores.

Liberty won both the men's skiing and snowboarding divisions. The skiers were led by junior Tim Steltzer, who finished first in an individual event.

"Once I landed my first run, I was really happy about it, and I just had fun

with my second," Steltzer said.

Kevin Hoff and Dave Promnitz led the way for the snowboarders, taking the top spots in the men's snowboarding event.

"My first run was just what I wanted, and my second one turned out

See SLOPES, B3

From The BOX

Derrick Battle
dbattle2@liberty.edu

It seemed as though the ghost of Katrina was determined to make a winner out of San Francisco, but Baltimore overcame a never-before-seen obstacle to hold off a late charge from the Colin Kaepernick-led 49ers, 34-31.

This was the second meeting between head coaches and brothers John and Jim Harbaugh. In their first matchup, older brother John Harbaugh won 16-6, Nov. 24, 2011. The San Francisco 49ers Kaepernick had the fewest starts ever (nine games) to start a Super Bowl. This was also Ravens linebacker Ray Lewis' last ride as an NFL player.

Fast forward, to the game. John Harbaugh and his Ravens could not have beaten up his little brother and the 49ers more than they did. Ravens quarterback and Super Bowl MVP Joe Flacco continued his flawless streak, throwing three touchdown passes in the first half and no interceptions.

I, for one, have been critical of Flacco, especially since he wants to be called an elite quarterback. He did, however, make a case Sunday night.

For the entire postseason, Flacco had 11 touchdowns and no interceptions. I guess now he may consider himself an elite quarterback.

After Beyoncé and Destiny's Child's electrifying performance and reunion, receiver Jacoby Jones made a Super Bowl record 109-yard kick return. Then everything went dark. I presume it was from the halftime show, but whatever caused it, mercy was given to the 49ers.

After a 30-minute delay, the 49ers mounted a comeback that mirrored what they did against the Atlanta Falcons in the NFC Championship game. Down 28-6 with 13 minutes left in the third quarter, the 49ers started to erase a 22-point deficit. An overwhelmed Kaepernick regained his poise and led his team to outscore the Ravens 17-0 in the quarter.

But the Ravens defense, anchored by Lewis, stood tall.

Super Bowl XLVII was a classic. It was not all about the 30-second commercials that were not up to par this year. It was about the game, the storyline of sibling rivalry with a trophy on the line. It was about Lewis, a man who had turned his life around 13 years ago to become a model citizen and leader of men. At the age of 37, he decided to give up something that he loved, and what a way for Lewis to go out as a world champion.

BATTLE is the asst. sports editor.

Lady Flames sweep Rams

Lady Flames stays perched at No. 1 in the nation with win

Tom Foote
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The Liberty University Lady Flames Division I hockey team defeated the Colorado State Lady Rams 3-0 Friday, Feb. 2, on the strength of two goals scored by senior Laura Del Monte. On defense, sophomore goaltender Sam Rupp delivered her third shutout performance of the year.

Liberty dictated possession of the puck for the majority of the first period, but brilliant work by Colorado State goaltender Amanda Vandenberg stifled the

Lady Flames attack.

"I think our girls passed really well," Head Coach Paul Bloomfield said. "As a result, we were able to carry the puck into their end. We just were not able to get it into their net — their goalie was outstanding."

The Lady Flames eventually did find the back of the net when freshman Keeley Beisinger set up a one-time goal for Del Monte with 1:12 remaining in the period.

"Keeley (Beisinger) came around behind the net and had a nice play and just set it right there for me," Del Monte said.

"It was perfect, and I just tipped it in."

The second period started with a strong attack by the Lady Rams, but Liberty's Rupp made a sensational save to preserve the 1-0 advantage for the Lady Flames.

Although the Lady Rams played a much stronger second period, Liberty still manufactured more opportunities and controlled the puck.

Del Monte added her second goal of the night with 8:40 remaining in the second period, after deflecting a wrist shot from the blue line into the back of



KYLE MILLIGAN | LIBERTY CHAMPION

RELENTLESS — Lady Flames out-scored the Lady Rams 17-1.

the net to give Liberty a 2-0 advantage.

"Autumn Kucharczyk took a shot, and I just tipped it in," Del

Monte said. "It was a nice shot by her."

See HOCKEY, B2

We'll see you at the game

M. B-ball vs.
Radford
Feb. 5 @ 7 p.m.

Track & Field
Feb. 7 @ 2:30

M. Tennis vs.
Bridgewater
Feb. 8 @ 6 p.m.

M. Hockey vs.
Oakland
Feb. 8 @ 7 p.m.

W. Tennis vs.
Charlotte
Feb. 9 @ 12 p.m.

Flames sweep weekend triple-header

Men's DII hockey picks up three conference wins against East Carolina, Rowan U. and Virginia Tech

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Mike Williams
mwilliams5@liberty.edu

Game One

The Liberty University Division II men's hockey team thrashed the East Carolina Pirates 13-2 after trailing 1-0 in the first period. The game was the first in a weekend showcase featured at the LaHaye Ice Center.

Senior Brad Dockstader led the way for Liberty University with three goals and two assists. Dockstader continues to lead the team with 39 goals overall. Freshman DJ Dinnison also chipped in with one goal and two assists.

"I have to thank my line mates. This year, we have been playing together the entire year," Dinnison said. "(We) haven't switched anything up with that. I give them all the thanks with my performance."

Liberty dictated the play. Great rotation and keeping the puck in deep led to Liberty's dominating display.

Goaltender Justin Gortman had a strong outing against East Carolina University, only giving up two goals.

"Today's game was a must win," senior Caleb Allison said. "If we had lost, we could have potentially dropped out of the top 10, and we wouldn't have had a chance at home ice regionals."



JILL SPRINGER | LIBERTY CHAMPION

GAUNTLET — The Flames start conference play facing three different opponents.

A key statistic during this game was the power play. The Pirates were 1-6 on the penalty, and the Flames were able to control East Carolina's offense shorthanded, taking away their shooting lanes. In addition, the Flames added two short-handed goals against East Carolina.

Dinnison has contributed to Liberty's high scoring. In his freshman year, Dinnison is second on the team with 40 points. He has also scored 17 goals and 23 assists this season.

"It's my role on the team right now — to be a person who creates offense," Dinnison said. "So, that's

what I have been focused on — trying to make good decisions. Get the puck on net, and if it goes in, it's awesome. It's been working out for me this year."

Game Two

A solid outing for freshman goaltender Nick Devine and a two-goal effort from Dockstader lifted Liberty to an 8-1 victory over Rowan University Saturday, Feb. 2.

The scoring began five minutes into the game, when Junior Bobby Cervone cleaned up a mess in front of the net to make it 1-0. Less than two minutes after the Flames doubled their

lead, Allison tucked in another loose puck, making it 2-0.

The offensive surge continued as Dockstader added another goal less than five minutes later, making it 3-0 heading into the first intermission. The Flames led the shot total 10-9 after the opening period, but Rowan came out on the attack in the second.

Help was on the way for Devine as fellow freshman Peter Kazmierack found the back of the net, moving the lead to 4-0. Another freshman added his name to the score sheet as Dinnison tucked in the puck that sealed the fate of Rowan goaltender Brien Benet, who surrendered five goals on just 15 shots.

Heading into the third period, Devine seemed to be heading for a shutout, but in a minute's time, Eric Schenk squeaked one between Devine's pads, making it 5-1. Devine would not be shaken, however, and support continued his way.

"Our defense did a great job forcing shots wide so the shots (Rowan) had weren't difficult to handle," said Devine.

The victory marked their second win of the weekend and their fifth in six games.

SULLIVAN and WILLIAMS are sports reporters.



RUTH BIBBY | LIBERTY CHAMPION

LAYIN' IT IN — Tolu Omotola has 22 points, 12 rebounds against High Point.

Weekend highs and lows

Men's and women's basketball teams hit the road

Derrick Battle
dbattle2@liberty.edu

Both the men's and women's basketball teams went on the road Saturday, Feb. 2. The Liberty Lady Flames (17-6, 9-2 Big South) were poised to extend their three-game winning streak, while the men (7-16, 3-6 Big South) looked to build off their 89-72 victory against Campbell.

Women's side

Against the High Point Lady Panthers (12-9, 6-4 Big South), Liberty avenged last month's (71-63) home loss, defeating them 69-57.

After shooting 21 percent (8-37) from the field in the first half, Liberty headed into halftime trailing 38-23. After the intermission, the Lady Flames opened the second half with a 23-4 run, giving them a six-point advantage with 11:46 left in the game.

As time dwindled, the Lady Panthers went on a small run of their own taking a one-point lead, but it was quickly extinguished as Liberty answered, helping them hold on for an eight-point victory. After a poor shooting performance in the first half, Liberty went 15-32 (46 percent) in the second.

Forward Tolu Omotola lead all scorers with a game-high 22 points and 12 rebounds. Seventeen of those 22 points came in the second half. Guard Devon Brown finished with 16 points, three assists and three steals, and guard Emily

Frazier ended the night with seven points and 10 assists.

The win keeps the Lady Flames atop the Big South, sharing No. 1 with Winthrop.

Men's side

The Winthrop Eagles (10-11, 4-5 Big South) won the only meeting with the Flames this season 66-56. After posting 89 points against Campbell, the Flames shot poorly from the field, only making 19-56 (34 percent) shots.

Despite poor shooting, the Flames found themselves in a close game. Liberty went into halftime trailing 26-23, but the Eagles began to heat up. The Flames were able to hang around due to defense, ball control and free-throw shooting. However, Winthrop was able to open a 64-51 lead with 2:03 left in regulation.

Guard Tavares Speaks finished the game with 15 points, while guard Devon Marshall had 11. Forward Tomasz Gielo chipped in with 10 points.

Eagles forward Joab Jerome had a game-high 18 points and six rebounds.

The Lady Flames will go on the road to face Longwood Saturday, Feb. 9 at 2 p.m., while the Flames will return home to face Radford Tuesday, Feb. 5 at 7 p.m.

BATTLE is the asst. sports editor.

HOCKEY continued from B1

Despite their deficit, Colorado State continued to show a lot of fight. Rupp made a phenomenal save after a Lady Rams breakaway to make sure that the Lady Flames maintained the shutout through two periods.

The third period brought much of the same — Liberty dominating possession of the puck.

With 12:28 remaining in the final period, freshman Carrie Jickling scored the third and final goal of the game on a beautiful wrist shot that sneaked right through the legs of the Lady Rams goaltender.

Although a solid outing, the Lady Flames believe

that they still could have done better.

"I do think we could have capitalized on a lot more opportunities," Del Monte said. "We definitely could have put a few more in."

Overall, the performance was enough to provide an important win for the Lady Flames, and Bloomfield attributed it to hard work.

"That's what we have practiced for all year long, and a lot of that is chemistry," she said. "Just working and working, and finally, toward the end of the season, it's starting to gel. That's what we've been practicing, and that's what we want to do."

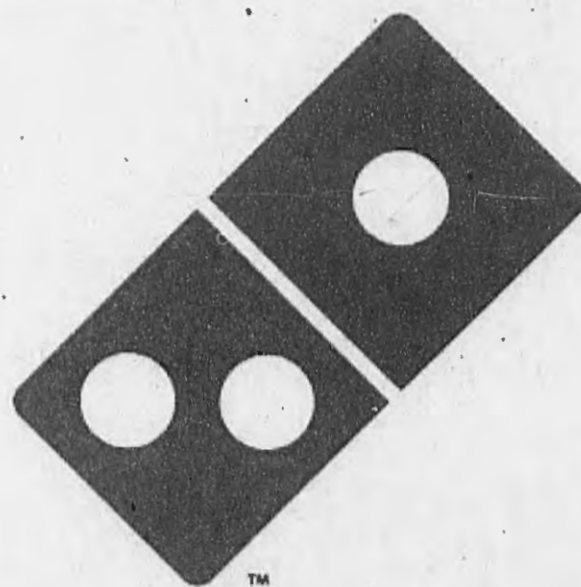
The Lady Flames will return to action when

they host Raleigh at the LaHaye Ice Center Friday, Feb. 8.

FOOTE is a sports reporter.

FYI

The Lady Flames won 12 of their last 13 games and look to build on their three-game winning streak against Raleigh University.



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From the Flames history book

Kyle Harvey
kharvey@liberty.edu

Many who attend or are associated with Liberty University have heard quotes from the founder, Dr. Falwell Sr. about how the way to reach young people is through sports and music. Falwell's theory was the basis for many of the decisions he made throughout his tenure as the chancellor of Liberty.



CAREY

Beyond his insight into American culture, there was another reason that Falwell wanted Liberty to have a big, successful sports program — he just loved sports.

"He was a sports nut," Flames Sports Network Senior Producer Bruce Carey said. "And another thing about Jerry — he hated to lose."

Carey, whose family began attending Thomas Road Baptist Church in its infancy, spent decades working under Falwell. According to Carey, many of the countless memories he has of Falwell are tied to sports.

"If you played a game where Jerry (Falwell) was on one of the teams, you wanted

to be on that team," Carey said. "Forget about nine innings, forget about an hour-long basketball game. He was going to play until he won."

According to Carey, the softball games Falwell played in were known to last upwards of 16 innings.

"The other team would just give up because they'd just get tired," Carey said. "It became a marathon if he didn't win it early."

As a boy, Carey's earliest memories of Falwell in the pre-Macel days were when Falwell would bring Carey and other neighborhood children home from church, eat lunch in their home and then go out to play pickup ball games with the neighborhood kids.

"All the neighborhood kids knew he was coming," Carey said. "He'd play ball with these kids, and then, when it was over, he'd come in, take a nap, and then he'd get cleaned up, and we'd all jump back in the car and go to church."

After developing a great friendship with the man he knew as Pastor Falwell, Carey grew to know him as a boss as well.

In the early '90s, prior to the Flames Sports Network, Liberty athletic events were televised by an outside company called Creative Sports — for which Carey worked as a cameraman.

But Falwell thought that the outside

company charged too much, so he began to mull over the idea of moving the operation in house.

"He came to me, knowing that I loved sports, and said, 'Bruce, can you produce the sports here at Liberty?'" Carey said.

While Carey admitted that he did not have experience in producing, he said that he thought he knew how to do it — that was enough for Falwell.

"He just said, 'You're the sports producer. I'm turning it over to you — make it happen,'" Carey said.

Carey did make it happen — and still does. Under his leadership, Liberty's sports broadcasting slowly rose to its current award-winning status. What began as the Liberty Broadcast Network (LBN) Sports channel became the Flames TV Network, which became the Flames Sports Network, as it is known today. In that time, Carey has produced nearly every game held on or away from campus that the network has carried.

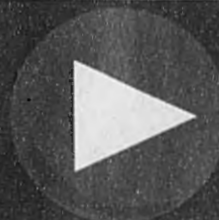
One of Carey's favorite parts about his job has been producing promotional videos for the football team. Carey would often ask Falwell if he would like to make appearances in the videos — Falwell never missed an opportunity.

Falwell was meeting presidents and members of Congress. He was head of the Moral Majority at the time, yet he would take time out of his lunch hour to come and shoot these little spots with them, Carey said.

Sometimes, Falwell would not even have the slightest clue about the plot of the video. He would not know what exactly it was until the video aired.

Thanks to Carey and his staff, a few of those old videos — some of which include Falwell — are available at the Liberty Champion's website, as well as on our Facebook page.

HARVEY is the sports editor.



Watch the Video
libertychampion.com



RUTH BIBBY | LIBERTY CHAMPION

SNOWY SLOPES — A member of the club team throws a trick.

SLOPES continued from B1

good for the first two features," Hoff said.

Eden Jones, the only female competitor for Liberty, also carved her way to an individual first place finish in the women's snowboarding event.

With the success, Liberty's club ski and snowboard team continued its three-year undefeated streak on the East Coast.

Liberty defeated teams from across the region, including the University of Virginia, Virginia Tech, East Carolina University and Appalachian State, and competed as a part of the United States Collegiate Ski and Snowboard Association (USCSA).

Liberty also successfully navi-

gated an unpredictable course, due to snow earlier in the afternoon.

"Snow on Snowflex — it's hard to deal with," Head Coach Will Scheren said. "Sometimes it's the best thing in the world. Tonight, it probably made things a little more difficult. Our guys have been riding on it. They've gotten to deal with adverse weather conditions, and they did a good job."

Liberty battled a lack of experience in its first competition as well, as the team consists almost entirely of newcomers.

"These guys stepped up all fall and put in a lot of work, so I'm stoked," Scheren said about his team.

Overall, Scheren was pleased with the team's efforts on the night.

"Our game plan tonight was

to put down a conservative first run, and then take off the training wheels for the second run, and the guys executed that very well," Scheren said. "I feel great about how everybody rode tonight."

The team hopes to continue their undefeated streak and ultimately send several athletes to the USCSA nationals in Idaho at the end of the year.

Liberty will continue its season competing in the USCSA throughout the next several weeks before capping off the regular season with several home competitions at Snowflex. The club skiers and snowboarders will begin their homestand in a ski and snowboard rail jam March 30.

BROWN is a sports reporter.

Club V-ball defeats N.C. State Wolfpack

Courtney Tyree
cntyree@liberty.edu

The Liberty men's volleyball team may be overlooked on campus, but they were far from overlooked at their tournament at North Carolina State University Saturday, Feb. 2.

"Because it was our first tournament back from break, we wanted to get back into the swing of things and begin to build momentum for the rest of the season," Liberty senior Addison Eshleman said.

The Flames started the tournament's pool play facing last year's national tournament runner up, N.C. State. Their momentum in the first game led them to win the first set, 25-21. N.C. State came fighting back to take the second set, 25-18.

Liberty then took on University of North Carolina Wilmington, sweeping them in two straight sets, both ending 25-17. Sophomore Derek Abildness had seven kills on the match, with senior Ethan Chase following with four.

Liberty finished qualifying in pool play facing the Eastern Intercollegiate Volleyball Association's alumni team. Digging Diversity took the first set from Liberty, 25-15, but the Flames fought back and took the second set, 25-22. Chase had eight kills in the match, with middle-hitter Tim Pandorf following with four.

The pool play landed Liberty

in the sixth seed for the tournament. Liberty took on the Duke Blue Devils in the first round. Duke took the first set from the Flames, 25-22. Liberty came back in the second set after being down six, but they could not clinch the win and lost, 25-23. Outside hitter Jamie Stedjan had four kills on the match, along with middle hitter Sam Eisbrenner.

"Since we were going point for point with Duke, all I could think was that we need to get on a run quick so we can create some space between us and them," Stedjan said.

"We would have liked to win the whole tournament, but we really wanted to play point-for-point with the best teams in our conference and prove to ourselves and the conference that we are a threat," defensive specialist Steven Abbott said.

As a whole, the Flames were proud of the way they played as a team as they continue to get ready for the season.

"We made a lot of changes in the rotation throughout the tournament, and we need to get back in the gym to work out some of the kinks before next weekend," Abbott said.

The Flames travel to Harrisonburg, Va. Saturday, Feb. 9 to compete in a tournament at James Madison University.

TYREE is a sports reporter



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Professor shows passion for psychology

Former police officer Timothy Barclay's law enforcement background sparks his interest in a new career

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Lights flashed as another speeding car slowed to a stop, a look of defeat crossing the frustrated driver's face as a police officer strode to the window. It used to be all in a day's work for Timothy Barclay, who served 10 years on patrol with the New Castle, Pa. police department before choosing to become a Liberty University assistant professor of psychology.

"It was through my job as a cop when I really started getting interested in psychology," Barclay said.

According to Barclay, his experience with law enforcement was very useful for his position in the field of psychology.

"As a police officer, I learned how to look through people's denial, lying and inconsistencies," Barclay said.

Realizing his newfound interest in psychology, Barclay began his search for colleges in order to pursue a degree in that field. After being led to Liberty, Barclay quickly enrolled in a correspondence course. According to him, Liberty had not yet begun offering online classes, but the course allowed him to remain dedicated to his career in law enforcement.

"I was looking out over the Vines Center and DeMoss, and God spoke to my heart and said, 'You can be a psychologist one day, and you can come back here to teach,'" Barclay said. "That is when my passion really started."

As a police officer, husband and father of three children, Barclay graduated Liberty with a master's degree in counseling before pursuing his doctorate at Walden University. Then, when he was dropping his daughter off at Liberty for her freshman year, he was offered a job on the school's community service board.

"He has talked about how his experience with the force made him want to be on the preventative side of things,"



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FROM POLICE TO PROFESSOR — Barclay began working as a professor 15 years after first visiting Liberty.

Kristen Sharrett, a coworker of Barclay's, said. "I think, if anything, it's made him more passionate because he's seen how it can end up."

Fifteen years after his initial visit to Liberty, equipped with the proper college training, Barclay moved to Lynchburg to be closer to his new job. Barclay gained valuable training during his time at college that later allowed him to transition into his career as an assistant psychology professor at Liberty.

"Giving people the skills they need to live a better quality of life or helping them

work through their symptoms, whether it is depression, anxiety, or just being lost in general, is very fulfilling and meaningful to me," Barclay said.

After 20 years of dedicated service in law enforcement, Barclay transferred his passion to a future career with Liberty. According to Barclay, working in law enforcement, and later the counseling profession, brought him into contact with individuals whom he had previously arrested.

"It really worked out well because I had forged such a relationship with people,"

Barclay said. "They knew that I was a cop, but they knew that I really wanted to help them."

Barclay traded traffic stops for teaching, but according to him, he is content with the direction that he chose.

WARRENDER is an assistant section editor.

HAHN is a feature reporter.

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PLUNGE continued from B6

Camire said that he believes that taking part in this fundraiser reflects the courage of Special Olympics participants.

"You have to be brave to jump in freezing cold water, just like our athletes have to be brave every single day of their lives to go out in the public with their disability and be themselves," Camire said. Junior Karen Jeffers

also has a strong connection to Special Olympics. Plunging for the second year in a row, Jeffers has a 17-year-old sister with Down Syndrome.

"My sister is on a Special Olympics cheerleading team, and the faces of the girls when they get their uniforms are priceless," Jeffers said. "The money is used for things that make them feel really special."

Camire said that he has been completely humbled by the attitudes of those

participating in Special Olympics and wants to be able to serve them in any way he can.

"Sports are just our vehicle ... to show the world and to show society that our athletes are really no different than you and I, without disabilities," Camire said.

For more information on this event, visit polarplunge.com/hillcity-plunge.

WEBSTER is a feature reporter.

Do you love music?

Interim music position open

Beulah Baptist Church, a growing local SBCV Church in Lynchburg, Va., is seeking an interim choir director and worship leader for Sunday morning, Sunday evening song service and choir practice on Wednesday evening. The candidate's responsibilities will include: working with the pastor in selecting music and scheduling special singers. Must be a born again believer in Jesus Christ. Experience in leading music preferred. Pay to be determined. Send a cover letter, resume and reference list to office @ beulahsbc.org.

Tools of the trade: Q and A session with Zach Floto

Gen. David Young
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In a competitive Delta Air Lines internship with more than 700 applicants fighting for three openings, Liberty student Zach Floto came out on top, earning the chance to work with one of the world's largest airlines.

Q: How did you qualify for the internship, and how were you selected?

A: I heard about the internship while at the national flight team competition in Ohio State University two years ago. After applying online, I was called for a phone interview with the manager of the Chief Pilot Center and the Vice President of Flight Operations at Delta Air Lines.

A couple weeks later, they called me again for a web-based video interview. Two hours after the interview was finished, I got the call with the exciting news that I was selected to be one of the next interns for Delta. Three of us qualified, and after meeting my new boss, she informed us that they received over 700 applications for this position. So I definitely feel blessed to have received this opportunity and know that God had his hand in my selection.

Q: What you are doing at Delta?

A: I work for the Next Generation GPS Working Group. Their primary purpose is to

assist the Federal Aviation Administration in developing RNAV (random navigation) procedures for new airports that Delta flies into, along with revising current procedures that need updating.

My job is to keep track of developing procedures and test them in the simulators. I usually fly with a simulator instructor in each type of aircraft (that) Delta has in their fleet and record performance data in the simulator as the airplane flies each new approach. It is very exciting, and the instructors always give me time at the end to practice approaches and landings.

Q: What are you learning?

A: I can't even begin to express how much I am learning from this internship. It's only been a few weeks, and I already have so much invaluable experience that will help me in my future career.

Currently, I have over 50 hours in the simulator and have been able to practice takeoffs, landings, approaches, low visibility operations, engine failures and much more. Additionally, I'm learning a great deal about

programming the FMS (flight management system) and setting up the autopilot in each aircraft, along with using the HUD (head-up display) in the 737.

No experience compares to hand-flying the aircraft to the runway in 0/0 conditions, and still being able to make a perfect landing. The technology is amazing.

In the next couple weeks, one of the other interns and I will have to opportunity to be "test students" for a new instructor going through training. We've been given all the operating manuals and materials for the 757 and the 767 and will have the chance to learn how to fly aircraft from the perspective of a newly-hired pilot.

Besides the flying aspect of the job, I've learned many other valuable skills working in the office and talking to the other pilots. By interacting with my fellow employees, I have learned much about how an airline operates and the amount of work required to make such a large operation successful.

Q: What are some of the benefits of serving as an intern?

A: The benefits of serving as an intern here at Delta are unbelievable. We have been instructed (about) how to use the aircraft simulators



PHOTO PROVIDED

INTERN — Floto said that he gained invaluable experience.

here in the training center, and we get free use of them whenever they are open. We have been given approval to fly on the jumpseat on any Delta flight, which has given me a firsthand look at what it is like to be an airline pilot.

Gaining access to the flight deck is a privilege that I am very grateful to have, and one that has given us interns the opportunity to travel around the world.

Besides the immediate benefits we are given as interns, we are meeting many great contacts and learning many skills that will help us in our future careers. Many of the things that we learn or have the chance to do are things most pilots will never even get to do in their careers.

Q: What are your career goals?

A: Ultimately, I want to be captain for an international airline. Delta is a very strong company with great future in front of them, and I hope to return to this airline in the future.

Until then, I plan to work as a flight instructor until I can fly with a regional airline, most likely ExpressJet, and build my hours in order to get hired by Delta. My dream is to one day fly airline flights on the 747 or 777.

GEN. YOUNG is the dean of the Liberty University School of Aeronautics.

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LIBERTY
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Student Activities

McPherson encourages giving

Former NFL player and pastor of The Rock Church returned to Liberty for the third consecutive year

Greg Leasure
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Liberty University Vice President for Executive Projects Johnnie Moore introduces many convocation speakers throughout the course of a semester, but not often does he describe the day's guest as a "member of our spiritual family."

Miles McPherson, senior pastor of The Rock Church in San Diego, Calif. and two-time Spiritual Emphasis Week speaker, returned to Liberty Wednesday, Jan. 30 to share a message about the importance of being a "giver" instead of a "taker."

"About two months ago, I was telling my church that I had a very important message, one of the most important that I have ever spoken about, and that was it," McPherson said. "Because, if we can have a giving attitude, there's nothing we can't do. I just felt like that would be appropriate today."

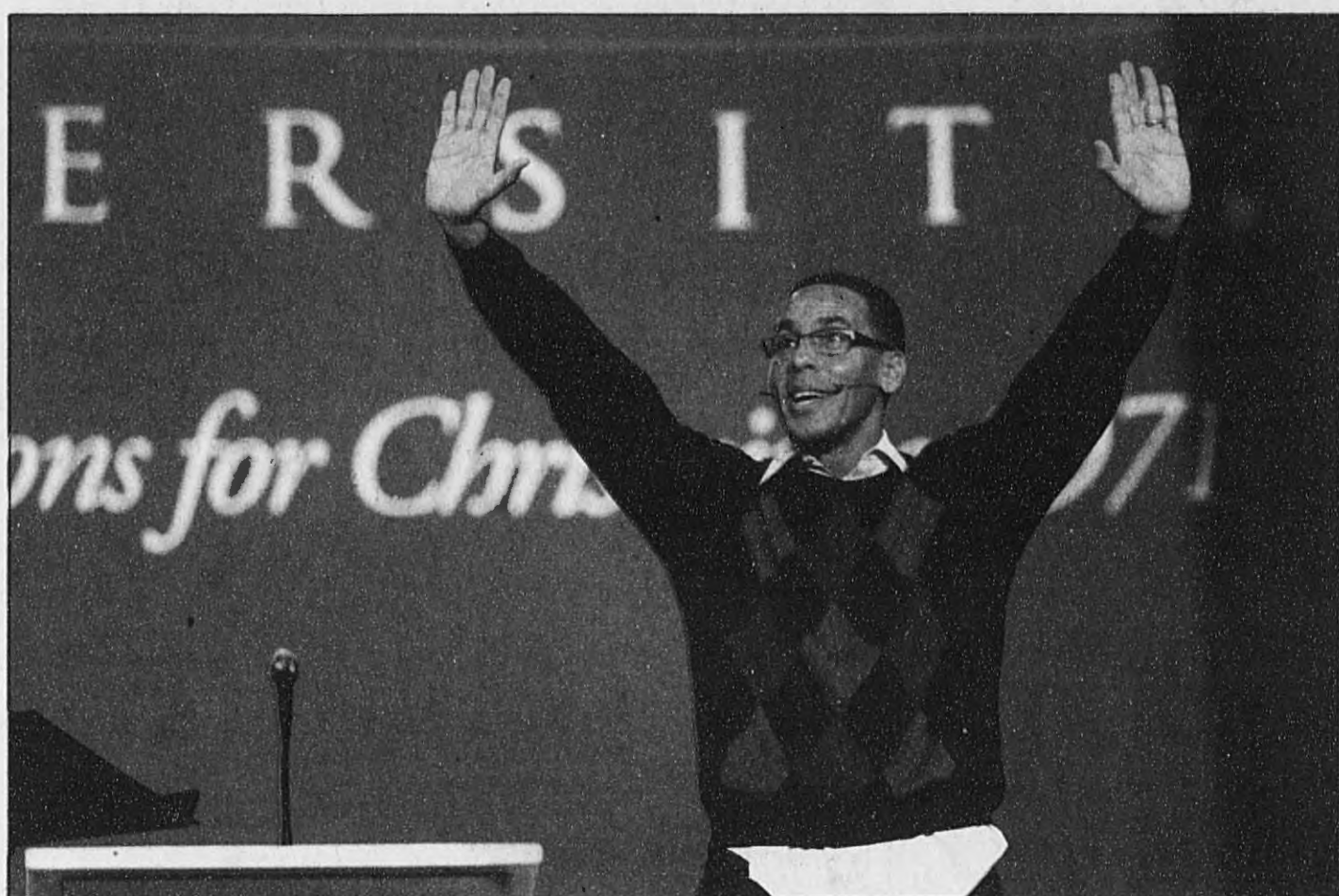
McPherson talked about God's willingness to give to people and how Christians should reflect that giving attitude toward others. The tall, energetic speaker pointed to the example of Abraham's obedience, showing how believers should be ready to give back to God and other people.

Liberty junior and spiritual life director Anthony Piacentino said that he appreciated McPherson's message about the importance of giving back to God.

"I love when he talks," Piacentino said. "There's something about him where you know that he loves Christ, and you know that Christ is with him because it just flows out of him. I think that it's so evident that I can't help but be moved."

Almost 2,500 miles separate The Rock Church from Liberty, but both institutions have grown at a similar pace over their relatively short histories. According to The Rock Church's website, more than 15,000 people take part in one of its five Sunday church services, either in person or online.

"I don't really compare the two, but it



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LEARNING TO GIVE — McPherson discussed God's giving nature during the Jan. 30 convocation.

is definitely the personality of God to do amazing, incredible things," McPherson said. "I'm encouraged by what I see here, but it doesn't surprise me because that's what God does. He's about doing big things."

According to his website, milesmcpherson.com, McPherson founded The Rock Church in 2000 and has served as senior pastor ever since.

Before starting his career in ministry, McPherson played in the NFL for both the Los Angeles Rams and the San Diego Chargers over his four-year career. According to his website, he was the first football player in the history of the Uni-

versity of New Haven to be named an All-American and drafted to play in the NFL.

According to McPherson, he became a Christian while playing in San Diego and began working as a youth pastor more than a year before his retirement from football in 1986, making his transition to full-time ministry an easy choice.

Nowadays, McPherson said that he finds joy in doing things like participating in one of The Rock Church's more than 100 outreach ministries that serve people throughout the San Diego community. He also plans to release his second book, "God in the Mirror," March 1.

"God made us in His image, so when He looked at us, it would be like He was looking in the mirror," McPherson said. "He would see Himself in how we exercise His authority, how we love, how we treat other people — everything we do, and everything we are."

McPherson finished his day by speaking at Campus Church. By the end of the night, the students' eagerness to meet McPherson after his talk showed how much they appreciated him and his place in Liberty's "spiritual family."

LEASURE is the feature editor.

Good Hill hunting

Students to scavenge for \$1,500 in prizes

Melissa Skipner
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Lynchburg will soon become the site of a massive game for the fourth annual Hill City Scavenger Hunt hosted by Liberty University's Student Activities.

In order to participate in the hunt, students must be in the Tilley Student Center by 1 p.m., Feb. 9th, according to Student Activities.

Students will race across Lynchburg to accomplish items from a list of challenges, according to the Student Activities website. Each task on the list will be worth a different point value, but participants will also have to use their minds to solve the riddles that will lead them to the checkpoints.

"The hunt is phenomenal," Rebekah Weeks, a junior education major, said. "It is something that no student wants to miss because the completion is great, and the prizes are to die for."

According to Student Activities, students will select their own teams of four. Only 100 teams can take part in the scavenger hunt, and each member must present a valid Flames Pass in order to participate. Student Activities also asked students to provide their own vehicles.

"This event is one of the few that we encourage students to become familiar with the city surrounding them," Stephanie Ward, promotions manager for Student Activities, said.

According to Student Activities, teams will be given one and a half hours to complete as many challenges as possible, and hints will

be given throughout the competition via Student Activities' Twitter account and Facebook page.

Students who are not able to attend the event this year could not say enough about the experience they had last year.

"If I could go again this year, I would have to say my favorite part would be the actual game itself," Casi Williams, a junior early childhood education major, said. "It reminds me of my childhood, searching for clues and figuring out riddles. Events like these hosted by Student Activities unite the campus as one body."

Weeks competed in last year's hunt, and she said that the pressure of the event created some tension among her teammates.

"Our group had a lot of drama in the beginning," Weeks said. "We were all competing for the top hunter within the team, so naturally, there were a few altercations. We eventually worked through our differences and came out united in the end."

Student Activities' website said that they will give more than \$1,500 worth of prizes, and each group is required to check in at each location in order to qualify for them.

"Bring your thinking caps to this event, because figuring out the riddles can be pretty tough. Those Student Activities workers are pretty tricky," Weeks said.

For further information, go to liberty.edu/sa.

SKINNER is a feature reporter.



RUTH BIBBY | LIBERTY CHAMPION

TAKING THE PLUNGE — Witherite said that snow flurries fell before last year's event.

PRSSA preps for Plunge

Liberty students to help raise money for Special Olympics

Emily Webster
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Liberty University students and the community of Lynchburg prepare to brave the icy waters of Camp Hydaway Lake during the Hill City Polar Plunge that will take place Feb. 16, 2013.

Special Olympics Virginia is teaming up with Liberty's chapter of the Public Relations Student Society of America (PRSSA) to raise money for athletes with intellectual disabilities. Participants of this fundraiser must each raise \$50 before traveling to Camp Hydaway to enjoy music, food and prizes as they muster the courage to jump into the frigid water.

Matt Camire, director of development for Special Olympics, said that the funds raised during the Polar Plunge go to things such as uniforms, travel expenses and sporting events for the

athletes who participate in Special Olympics.

"All of our athletes compete completely free of charge in Special Olympics, and everything's paid for through fundraising events," Camire said.

According to Camire, the organization raised more than \$20,000 last year.

Olivia Witherite, a junior at Liberty as well as the firm director for PRSSA, said that the Polar Plunge is about more than just raising money for intellectually challenged individuals.

"The reason that we're doing this is that if Special Olympics athletes can overcome what they do in their everyday life — they have to go through a lot just to participate in events like this — you can do this," Witherite said. "You can do this as a symbol of standing with them and helping them go through this."

See PLUNGE, B4