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Ice Center offers students free afternoon skating

March 05, 2008

Starting Thursday, Liberty students will be able to enjoy the LaHaye Ice Center for free from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. every day.

Loud cheers erupted when LU Chancellor and President Jerry Falwell Jr. made the announcement at Wednesday's convocation service.

He said he talked on Tuesday with Beverly LaHaye who, along with her husband, Tim LaHaye, donated funds to open the ice rink in January 2006. Falwell said they were discussing the rink and "I told her that we were thinking about making it available to students free of charge during certain times. She said, 'I think that's a good idea.'"

Beverly LaHaye told Falwell that her grandson, a student at Liberty, told her he didn't go to the rink that often because of the cost.

That's when Falwell said he decided, "We better do more than just think about it."

He told the students at convocation that the rink "is yours, so we're going to give it back to you. ... We should have done that a long time ago."

The LaHaye Ice Center is managed by the Rink Management Corporation. It is home to the Liberty University ACHA Division I Hockey team and can hold up to 3,000 fans. It also services the Lynchburg community, offering public skates and skate lessons.

For details on the ice center, go to <http://www.liberty.edu/icecenter>.