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2009 – 2010

Liberty University School Newspaper

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Spring 5-4-2010

**05-04-2010 (The Liberty Champion Volume 27, Issue 22)**

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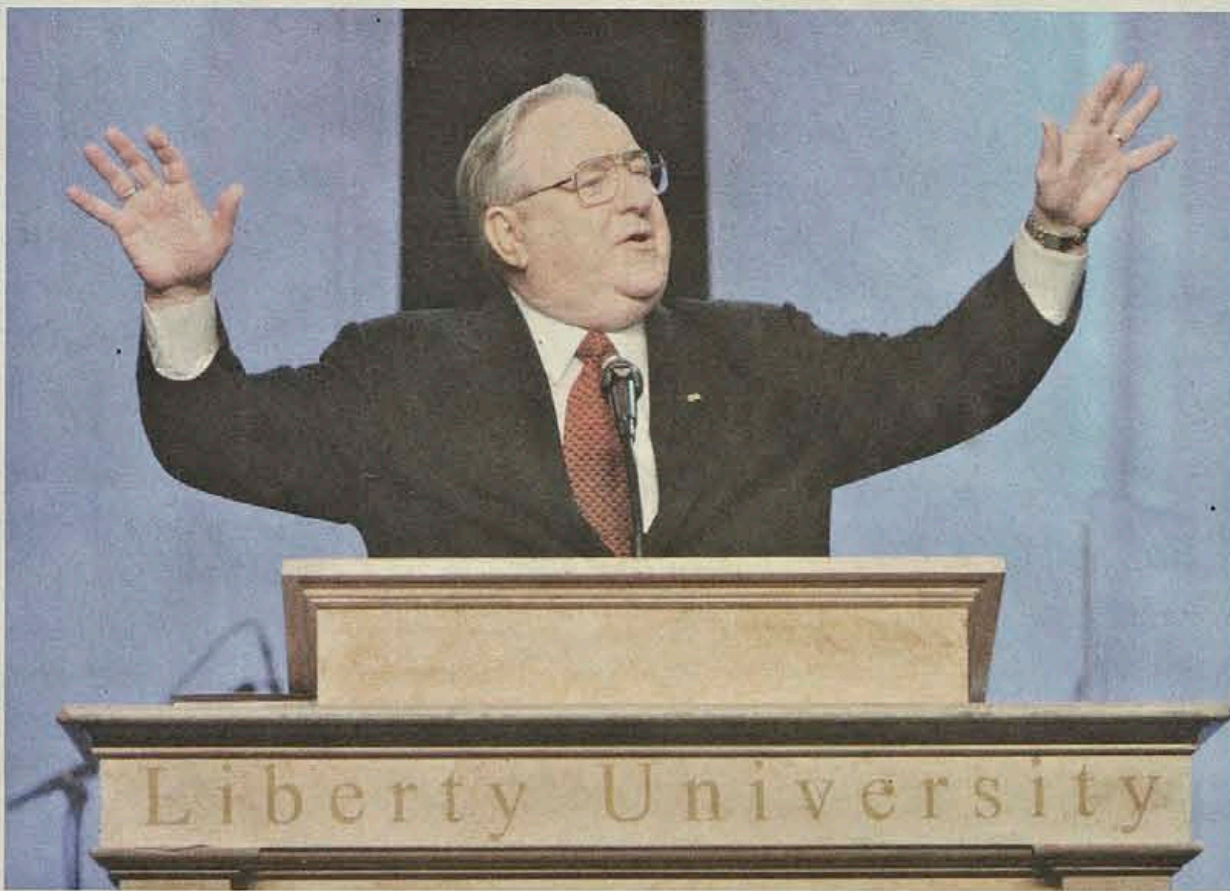
"05-04-2010 (The Liberty Champion Volume 27, Issue 22)" (2010). *2009 – 2010*. 21.  
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# LIBERTY CHAMPION

LIBERTY.EDU/CHAMPION • TUESDAY, MAY 4, 2010 • VOL. 27 ISSUE 22



LES SCHOFFER

**DR. JERRY FALWELL SR.** — Founder of Liberty University addressed students in convocation every Wednesday. He died May 15, 2007. This year's graduating class will be the last to have been at Liberty while he was alive.

## Leong wins SGA president

Christopher Scott  
NEWS REPORTER

Tim Leong was elected Student Government Association (SGA) President with Bethany Davis and Cody May as vice-presidents Friday by a grazing 25-vote margin.

"The vote was so close," SGA Spiritual Life Director and Vice-Chairman of Rules and Judiciary Committee Thomas Turner said. "It showed that the student body truly cared about who was representing them."

According to Turner, who was in charge of supervising the election, the online polls opened at 8 a.m. and closed at 5 p.m. Students accessed the poll by logging into their Liberty account and clicking a link on the Splash page.

"Tim Leong is a great kid," R.O.S.E. President Sean Maguire said. "He is extremely well-organized and has basically been (behind) the paperwork of the SGA this semester and last semester. I am really excited to see what he will do."

"I think Tim will do an excellent job," sophomore Craig Storrs said. "He is an excellent leader and he has proven himself over this past year with his position as executive secretary and as the Vice-President for Government Affairs. He has proven himself to be a great leader and a go-getter."

See **SGA** on A2

## 'FINISH STRONG'

*"Great is thy faithfulness, oh God my father. There is no shadow of turning with thee. Thou changest not, thy compassions they fail not. As thou hast been thou forever wilt be."*

Amanda Sullivan | Emily Defosse  
EDITOR IN CHIEF | FEATURE EDITOR

"Finish strong."

If Liberty University Founder Dr. Jerry Falwell Sr. were alive today that is the message he would be preaching to the students during Wednesday convocation.

This year's graduation marks three years to the day since Dr. Falwell died. It was only days before the 2007 graduation, causing a mix of mourning and celebration to descend

on Liberty's campus.

The graduating class of 2010 were freshmen that year, and in a few short days they will be moving on from Liberty University — the last of the Founder's Generation.

Dr. Falwell's legacy will continue to live on, but future generations of students will not have the unique opportunity students who attended Liberty during the first 37 years its history had.

Current law school student Matthew Hegarty graduated in 2007 and was managing editor for the Champion. He had the opportunity to meet Dr. Falwell on three occasions. His first encounter with Dr. Falwell was similar to that of many students.

"We were crossing by Vines and almost got run over by his Denali," Hegarty said with a smile.

See **FALWELL** on A10

Life  
**LIBERTY**  
Lynchburg

## Report says students add to local economy

Melinda Zosh  
EDITOR IN CHIEF

COMMUNITY CONTRIBUTION  
**\$217**  
MILLION

The facts and figures are in: The results: Liberty University contributes to Lynchburg and Region 2000 in six ways — through growth, contributions to the local economy, employment, local fiscal contributions, state fiscal contributions and its recreations, impacting Lynchburg's quality of life.

Region 2000 consists of the 2,000 square miles surrounding Lynchburg, including Bedford, Campbell, Appomattox and Amherst counties. Magnum Economic Consulting, LLC, a Richmond-based organization that specializes in economic and quantitative research, produced its findings in a lengthy report last week.

"What impressed and surprised me most about the study was the number of volunteer hours the Liberty community contributes to the city, over 600,000 hours each year," Chancellor Jerry Falwell Jr. said. "This is far more than required or even expected!"

It found that Liberty's residential and online enrollment is growing at rapid rates, faster than all other four-year private and public universities in Virginia.

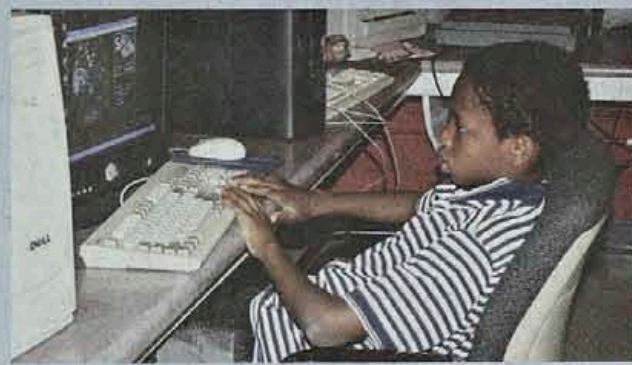
From 1992 to 2009, fall enrollment increased 452 percent, from 8,500 to 46,949 students, according to the Magnum report.

Enrollment is not the only area of growth. Liberty University is the second largest employer in region 2000 with Centra Health coming in first, according to President and CEO of Lynchburg Chamber of Commerce Rex Hammond.

Liberty is also one of the fastest growing employers, with employment increasing 351 percent or 3,023 jobs between 2001 and 2010, according to the Magnum report.

The report showed that Liberty University also impacted the local economy. In 2009, Liberty students contributed \$217 million in direct spending to Region 2000, according to the Magnum report. As a result, this amount led to \$133 million net spending that stayed in the regional economy.

See **REPORT** on A2



MATTISON BROOKS

**GIVING BACK** — Students at the Jubilee Center receive help from Liberty student volunteers.

## CSER contributes to community

Amanda Thomason  
NEWS REPORTER

Instead of jumping at the opportunity for an outrageous 12 hours of sweet slumber, some Liberty students rise early each Saturday morning to serve the city of Lynchburg.

"Liberty students and employees account for 586,262 and 88,617 hours respectively per year in local community service," according to Mangum Economic Consulting.

Liberty offers diverse opportunities, such as CampusSERVE, to give students the chance to make a difference in the lives of community members.

See **CSER** on A3

## Inside the Champion

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A7

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AROUND LIBERTY



**A thank you and update from Jenna Salisbury**

Dear Liberty Friends,

There are really no adequate words to express my thanks to you all here at Liberty for praying for me during these past 4 months.

Because of everyone's prayers God has allowed me to survive the difficult brain surgery, and is continuing to heal me. I now face serious leg and knee surgeries due to complications, so this continues to be a very hard road. I would ask that you would PLEASE continue to pray for a miracle of total healing of my BRAIN and BONES as I keep fighting this serious health battle.

Thank You from the bottom of my heart!!

Love, Jenna

(To stay updated--[www.caringbridge.org/page/jennaswebsite](http://www.caringbridge.org/page/jennaswebsite))

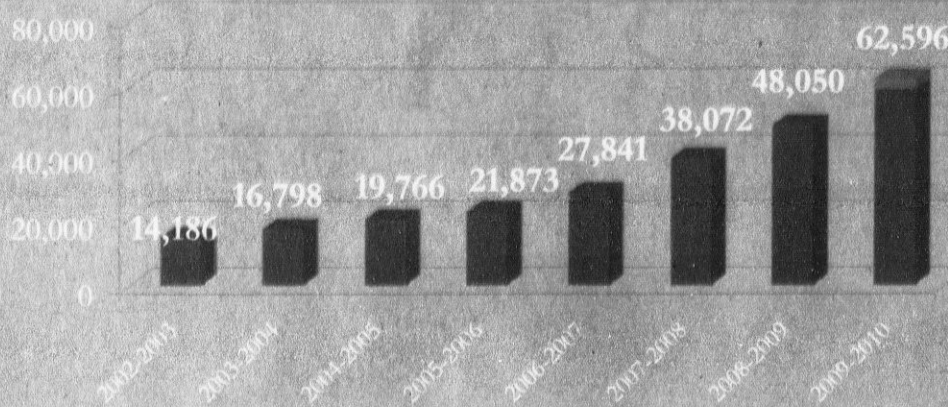
**Picnic anyone?**

Seniors will be given a chance to fellowship with one another for one last time. The annual Senior picnic will be held at Falwell Farm on May 8, beginning at 5 p.m. The theme for this year's festivities is a Luau, "Saying 'Aloha' to Your College Career." The first 500 seniors will receive free t-shirts. For more information, e-mail [studentactivitiesinfo@liberty.edu](mailto:studentactivitiesinfo@liberty.edu).

**Get your new Flames pass**

Faculty, students and staff can pick up their very own new Flames Pass May 4-6, at the Tolsma Indoor Track between 8 a.m. and 6 p.m. Visit [liberty.edu/cardservices](http://liberty.edu/cardservices) for more information.

**"Total Enrollment Resident and LU Online"**



GRAPH PROVIDED BY RICJARD MARTIN

**REPORT continued from A1**

"Liberty University is an economic asset to this community," Delegate Scott Garrett said. "There are stylistic elements people disagree with, but I've yet to hear anyone argue that Liberty University is not a significant and major economic player in our community."

With unemployment rates skyrocketing across the country, Liberty employed 5,179 individuals with Region 2000, with most of those jobs located in the city of Lynchburg, according to the report.

Lynchburg's total employment is a little less than 53,000 individuals. One out of 10 jobs were "either directly or indirectly attributable to Liberty University," the Magnum report revealed.

Liberty also prepared students to enter the workforce in the Lynchburg area, according to Hammond.

"The plight of any college community is, you can't create enough jobs to retain all the college graduates," Hammond said. "We have an economy that's sufficiently vibrant that you see lots of Liberty students and local college graduates entering the workforce here."

Employees and students contributed to the local economy via taxes, according to the report. Approximately 9 percent of the restaurant and food tax revenue, 8 percent of the city's total real prop-

erty tax revenue and 2 percent of the sales tax revenue came from Liberty University staff and students, according to the report.

"Focusing exclusively on the city of Lynchburg, where Liberty's campus is physically located, the university generated approximately \$5.4 million in tax revenue for the city," according to the Magnum report.

The report revealed that Liberty also contributed 268 million dollars directly to the state of Virginia. For every \$1 of Liberty's net spending, \$1.57 in overall economic activity was generated across the state, according to the Magnum report. This federal, state and local tax revenue."

Through these contributions, Liberty impacted the region in positive ways, the Magnum report found.

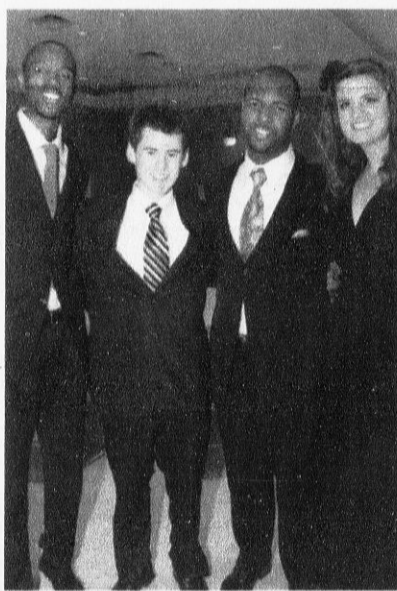
"In sum, Liberty University is a rapidly growing institution, that has a significant economic and fiscal impact on Region 2000 and the state of Virginia as a whole, and plays a very active and positive leadership role within its community," according to the Magnum report

Contact Melinda Zosh at [mzosh@liberty.edu](mailto:mzosh@liberty.edu).

**Tourists visit the 'Burg due to Liberty**

• Liberty contributed 17 percent of Lynchburg's hotel and motel tax, according to the Magnum report.

• Locally, recreations such as Snowflex and LaHaye Ice Center drew visitors from as far away as Sweden. The Magnum report revealed that 100,000 visitors use LaHaye Ice Center every year.



MR. PRESIDENT — President Tim Leong, second from left, and Vice President of Government Affairs Bethany Davis, right, celebrate their victory.

**SGA continued from A1**

Leong said that one of his primary goals as the president of the student body would be to get student input.

"Immediately when school starts I want to make sure that we have a large presence at the block party, the chancellor's cookout, during move-in and essentially all the functions to show that the SGA is serious about representing the student body," Leong said.

As part of his platform, Leong wants to push for a 30-minute curfew extension on weekends. "We see it as a feasible goal," Leong said.

Leong also said that it had been a pleasure working with Matt Mihelic, the outgoing president.

"I know that a lot of the improvement to SGA has been a result of his leadership," Leong said.

The SGA held a banquet Friday at the Thomas Road Fellowship Hall to award sponsored clubs and honor Matt Mihelic.

"Mihelic did everything in a Christ-like attitude, even when things got hard and frustrat-

ing and people attacked him on the floor of the senate," Maguire said. "He still stood up for what was right and he did it without lashing back."

During the banquet, Mihelic gave a charge to the SGA to "keep Christ as the center of all things." He said that the future success of the SGA will be determined by their commitment to Christ on an individual level and on a corporate level.

"Without that, we will lose focus," Mihelic said. "We will become a very complicated organization which goes off on rabbit trails and get's caught up in little things. We will have squabbles with ourselves that we can't get past. But with Christ as center, I think we will be able to see what we are here to celebrate tonight (and) that is what God can do with a group of students who abandon themselves and say that they want Him to be the center of it all."

Contact Christopher Scott at [cmscott@liberty.edu](mailto:cmscott@liberty.edu).

**LIBERTY CHAMPION**

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The Champion encourages community members to submit letters to the editor on any subject. Letters should not exceed 400 words and must be typed and signed. The deadline is 5 p.m. Friday. Letters and columns that appear are the opinion of the author solely, not the Champion editorial board or Liberty University.

All material submitted becomes property of the Champion. The Champion reserves the right to accept, reject or edit any letter received — according to the Champion stylebook, taste and the Liberty University mission statement.

Send letters to:  
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MATTISON BROOKES

**AIMING TO SERVE** — Liberty students serve as mentors and tutors to children like those at the Jubilee Center.

**CSER** continued from A1

In 1973, Liberty's Christian/Community Service Department (CSER) was established through Thomas Road Baptist Church (TRBC). The purpose of the program is to provide ways for students to develop the ability and desire to serve those around them through various means such as civic, athletic, scholastic and religious organizations, according to the CSER Web site.

Each fall semester, Liberty holds a CSER fair where churches and other organizations come to offer students the opportunity to serve with them. The goal is for students to get involved and find a place where they are interested in serving.

"The number one goal in this is for students who are members of churches to be actively involved and begin to serve as active members," Director of Christian/Community Service Lew Weider said. The Office of Student Leadership (OSL) is one of the top community service choices by students, mainly

because of the number of students necessary to meet the need. Another popular service area is through CampusSERVE.

In keeping with Dr. Jerry Falwell Sr's vision to create a unique Christian university, CSER helps Liberty reach that goal. More than volunteer service, Liberty made CSER a part of the students' graduation requirements. Each student is required to fulfill a minimum of 20 hours of service per semester. Students have freedom to choose which avenue they would like to complete their hours.

"It is a wonderful process to see all the things our students do above and beyond and how they are affecting people in positive ways and making a difference in their lives," Weider said.

The requirements were not just put into place as extra work for students, but to help them prepare for their futures and affect the lives of people in their community.

"We don't see CSER as being thrust onto academic studies to help make it a Christian

university," Weider said. "We see it as an academic learning experience which will provide them knowledge and skills for their future ministries and careers."

The University of Virginia (UVA) has a similar program for its students. Although these community service hours are not required, volunteer service is available through Madison House, a student-led, non-profit volunteer center.

More than 3,000 students volunteer through 19 different programs offered weekly. About half of the students attending UVA will volunteer in some way through Madison House during their academic experience there, according to Director of Communications for Madison House Ben Eppard. Among the most popular programs are Medical Services, where students receive hands-on experience, and Animals and Environment opportunities.

One difference between Madison House and Liberty's CSER is that their students do not receive academic credit for their service hours.

"Thomas Jefferson's concept of student self-governance is still upheld as an example at the university today. This means that students play a key role in their own academic development," Eppard said. "At Madison House, student leaders recruit, train and motivate volunteers for their service programs."

One of the most controversial aspects of Liberty's CSER program is found in the hour requirements. Some students believe that service should be voluntary and not mandatory. However, student assessments have shown that an overwhelming majority appreciate these hour requirements and the credit they receive for their service.

"This is probably tied to their faith in that it is a natural part of the Christian lifestyle anyway," Weider said.

Some students look forward to their CSER and jump at the opportunity to serve Lynchburg residents.

"The whole idea of CSER is great and encouraging because as Christians, we should be able to show Christ's love everywhere we are and not just inside our 'Liberty bubble,'" freshman Christina Grauch said.

In order to encourage students to see CSER as a way to reach out to the community, a CSER award was created in 2001. The award is given to students exceeding the minimum requirements wjg gp above and beyond their required service, according to Weider.

The first CSER award was given to Lori Snider for her outstanding service at a Lynchburg community nursing home. Exceeding her hour requirements, Snider loved those she worked with regularly.

"This was a case where [Snider's] CSER not only made an impact on her and the people she served, but it affected her major," Weider said. "She developed relationships at the Runk and Pratt nursing home. [Snider] understood her love for elderly people, and she changed her major to gerontology (the study of aging)."

The purpose of CSER is to further equip students for their futures and provide the unique opportunity to touch lives. With Snider as an example, many students have pursued their CSER opportunities with the same heart.

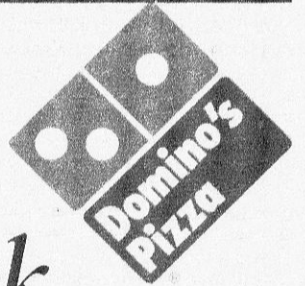
"The 674,000 hours of community service that the Liberty community provides to the Lynchburg area annually is a clear indicator that our students are becoming the champions for Christ that my father hopes they would become," Chancellor Jerry Falwell said.

Contact Amanda Thomason at  
athomason@liberty.edu.

For more articles on student CSER contributions, see B8.



# Domino's Pizza



## LU Student Appreciation Week

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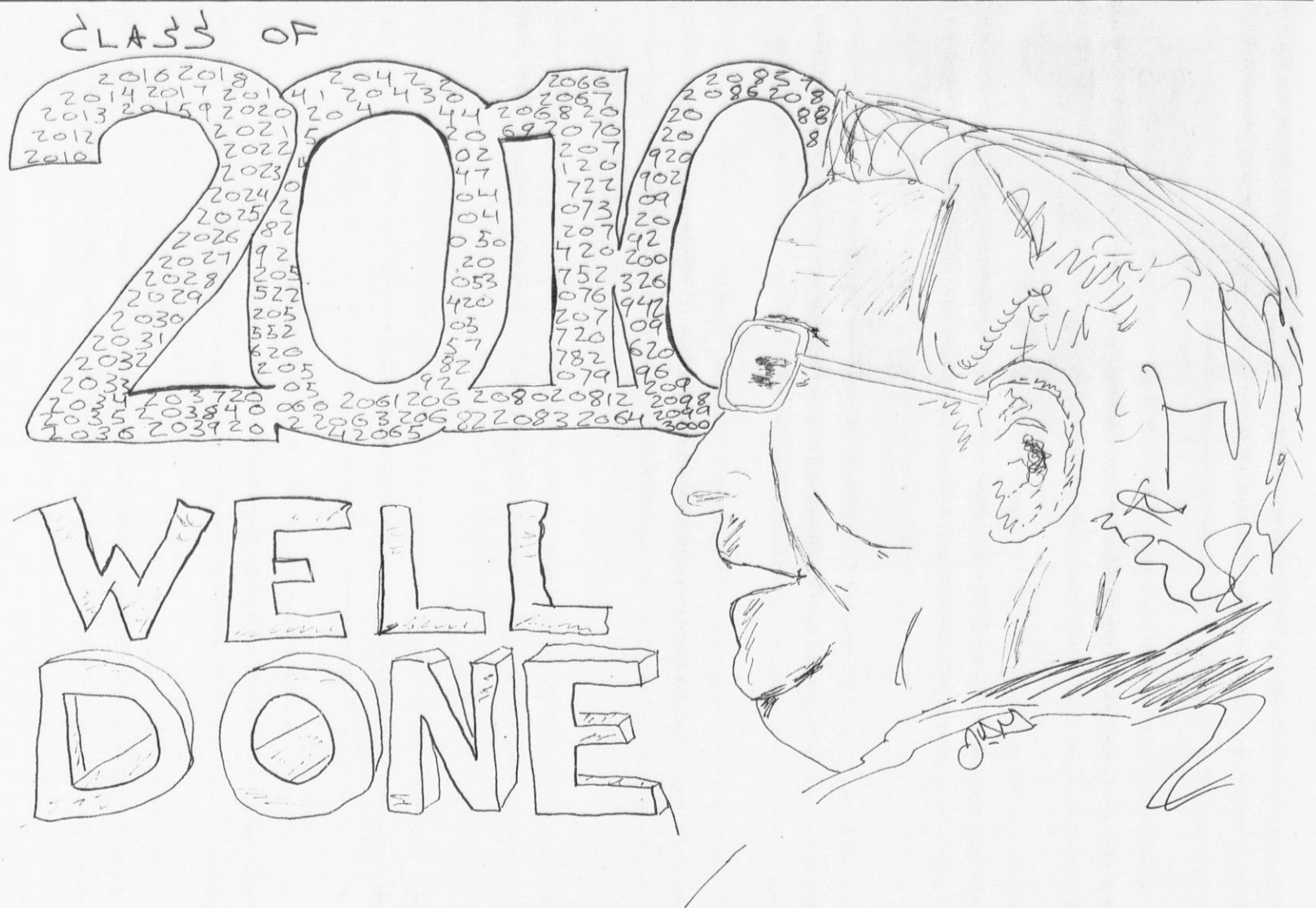
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Contact John Gosslee at [jgosslee@liberty.edu](mailto:jgosslee@liberty.edu).

# Reflections:

## Writing through the years

Emily DeFosse  
FEATURE EDITOR

Since the day my first-grade teacher introduced me to the world of books, I have been reading and writing. I can still remember the day Miss Finnerty looked at me and told me I would be an author when I grew up.

That was at least 16 years ago and a lot has changed, but my love for written language never has.

The two full bookshelves that I furnished my small apartment around and the box of used notebooks, journals and scrap paper under my bed attest to this fact. I rarely open the box under my bed, but in the search for some old notes I opened the box last night. I did not find what I was looking for, but I did find what I really needed — a reminder that everything and nothing has changed.

The box was full of old journals. I read random entries from my college years and couldn't believe how idiotic some of my decisions and beliefs were only a year ago. While many people doodled flowers and stick figures during classes I wrote ramblings about life or stories about nothing. I can remember exactly where I was sitting and what was occurring in my life when I read every scribble, even some that I wrote back in high school. That box of randomly written nonsense is the story of my life, told in a way that only I can understand.

As I read through years of writing I remembered old friends, felt pain as if it were fresh and laughed at every childish belief I innocently held about the world.

The crazy thing is that while I have overcome so many challenges, especially during the past four years of school, I still struggle with many of the same issues and deal with everything, good and bad, through writing.

In high school, I thought college would just be academically challenging. I didn't realize that college would challenge and stretch me in ways I could not have imagined. I have learned more about friendship, life and myself than I knew there was to learn.

In just a few short days, I will be done with college and officially begin my journey into the mystical concept commonly called the "real world." I have plans, I have goals, and I have dreams, but I have no idea what will actually happen when I leave this university. If my past writings have any reflection on the present and future, I can only imagine that I will continue to write as I have always done, and that even though I feel like the past four years have stretched me to my limits, there will continue to be stretching and new limits to be discovered.

I am sad to see an end to my undergraduate college career. I am also sad to see an end to my time on staff at the Champion. The past year has been an amazing opportunity, and I will miss the craziness, the late nights, and random conversations about words and grammar that only journalists high on coffee can appreciate. Most of all, I will miss the family I became a part of, and that has become a part of me. When I open that same box five years from now, I don't know where I will be, or even who I will be, but as I sit there and read about the times I shared with friends and staff members, and look through all the articles I wrote, I know that nothing but good memories and valuable lessons about life and journalism will resurface.

So now, I take my leave and will begin writing the first words of the rest of my life.

Contact Emily DeFosse at [emdefosse@liberty.edu](mailto:emdefosse@liberty.edu).

## Farewell, Champion

Tim Mattingly  
OPINION EDITOR

If squirrels were bards, they would sing of the great adventures I encountered during my four-semester stay aboard the Liberty Champion.

There were some weeks where I felt like Aladdin on his magic carpet ride. While it had its amazing ups and downs, I always managed to keep my head in the clouds. Of course, I could not do that without being constantly surrounded by such a wacky, dysfunctional staff.

I will miss Mrs. Huff the most — she is like a mom-away-from-home. And of course, I will never forget her horrified cries of "TIM!" whenever she stumbled upon the shocking, and sometimes unprintable, passages in my articles. Sometimes I would put a "surprise" in my articles for that purpose alone.

Of course, like Aladdin, I felt the incessant chattering of that crazy monkey, often referred to as a deadline, clinging to my back as the semesters whipped by like the wind in my ears. I did not dare close my eyes or blink at times because if I did, I would miss something new.

There were times where I felt frustrated and Jafar-ed, as if an evil, curly-bearded villain was trying to stomp on my day in the Champion. But for every Jafar there were twice as many Jasmynes — those beautiful moments of excitement, laughter and even intrigue that are a part of the Liberty Champion experience.

If I had a genie, I would not wish it any different.

Contact Tim Mattingly at [tmattingly@liberty.edu](mailto:tmattingly@liberty.edu).

# FROM THE DESK

Amanda Sullivan

So this is it — my last installment of From the Desk, meaning that this is my last edition as Editor in Chief of the Champion. This, in some respects, is my final farewell, of which I have put off writing for as long as humanly possible.

Part of me wants the next 12 days to hurry up and pass while the louder, more obnoxious part of my being over-analyzes every part of my day. I tend to spend the day thinking that this will be the last time I perform such and such task at such and such time. I even feel nostalgic at convocation services, which causes me to think of Dr. Jerry Falwell Sr. and how the 2010

graduating class — my class — is the last "Jerry Generation."

I've found myself hoping to hear Dr. Falwell's "Never quit" sermon every time I walk into convo. There are just some days that I need the extra encouragement — mainly because I have caught a severe case of senioritis and have zero motivation to complete any task, regardless of how menial or profound the job. I'm ready to be done with school.

My apathy towards schoolwork and the never-ending self-convincing to finish strong makes the ping-pong ball in my head bounce to another Dr. Falwell memory. I was a freshman, sitting in section 121, and it was a Wednesday, which for those of you who are not familiar with older Liberty customs, Dr. Falwell always spoke on Wednesday — it was like clockwork. And since I made it to my seat, I didn't get hit by a big, black Denali while crossing from Campus East to the Vines Center — if you don't know what I mean, ask a senior.

Dr. Falwell used this particular convocation hour to ask students five direct questions.

1. What is it that you really want to accomplish in your life?
2. What would you try to do if you thought you might succeed?
3. What goals would you set if you knew you could not fail?
4. What price are you willing to pay?
5. What sacrifice are you willing to make?

I scribbled those four questions on a hot-pink sticky note and stuck it in my Bible. I am a dreamer, and I always have been. I have a knack for forming grandiose plans in my mind and even putting my thoughts on paper, which is actually just another sticky note that I've stuck to my desk. For the most part, I get what I want in this respect. I am a firm believer that "if it's Christian, it should be better," which is probably why I related so much to this particular sermon.

Dr. Falwell's challenge shaped my life. I asked myself these questions and realized that my biggest dreams could become a reality. After all, Dr. Falwell got his mountain that he "walked every inch of and prayed for."

Dr. Falwell's ambition for excellence is a driving force in Liberty's existence and mission, and it is that same call that has driven me to pursue my dreams. So my challenge — Dr. Falwell's challenge — is to answer those questions for yourself and never be afraid to pursue your dreams. If God can turn a mountain into a college, think of the possibilities your dreams can hold. Dream big and pray hard.

Contact Amanda Sullivan at [amsullivan3@liberty.edu](mailto:amsullivan3@liberty.edu).



# IMMIGRATION: the assault on Arizona

PHOTO PROVIDED PER CREATIVE COMMONS

Jenna Shoffner  
OPINION REPORTER

Few topics are as conflict-riddled as illegal immigration, but virtually no other state has as much division about illegal immigration as Arizona.

The state of Arizona passed Senate Bill 1070 April 23, considered "the toughest law of its kind anywhere in the country," according to ABC News. Under this new regulation, police are required to investigate any individual on whom there is "reasonable doubt" of American citizenship. Legal immigration papers must be produced in order to comply with the law and violators may be arrested and jailed for up to six months or incur a fine of up to \$2,500, according to Fox News.

The new law is met with strong opposition from within and outside of the state. Immigration rights groups are "horrified" and claim Arizona will become a "police state," according to the LA Times.

Juan Carlos Ruiz, director of the Latino Foundation of Greater Washington, voiced his concern of the implications of SB 1070. He fears that decades of efforts defending civil rights will be in vain due to the law.

"We cannot go back to this slave patrol era ... This type of legislation is against the Constitution of the United States," Ruiz said, according to Fox News.

However, Arizona Sen. Ron Gould ensures that the law is not opposed to the Constitution.

"The law is clearly within the Fourth Amendment of the Constitution. It doesn't allow officers to contact people on the basis of race," Gould said, according to Fox News.

Ruiz represents the opinion of many protesters of the law. Yes, civil rights are necessary for a country to ensure that all are free. However, this does not mean that all are free to be in the nation illegally.

Racial profiling is a major concern for many who oppose SB 1070. Arizona Gov. Jan Brewer, however, recants such accusations.

"Police officers are going to be respectful. They know what the laws are. Racial profiling is illegal," Brewer said, according to a Tucson, Ariz., Fox News affiliate.

The law does have the potential to create allegations of racism. However, it clearly states that police may only question an individual's citizenship if there is sure and reasonable doubt, according to Fox News. If Arizona's police enforce in a respectful manner with no angle toward racism as SB 1070 intends, there should be little cause for the "Nazi-ism" of which many are prematurely complaining.

"The national media has distorted SB 1070 to the point that its reputation no longer bears any resemblance to what the bill actually does. Those who claim it is racist, or will foster a Nazi-state are themselves fostering unwarranted and irrational hysteria. The fact is that SB 1070 merely makes it a state crime to be in the United States illegally. It also explicitly prohibits law enforcement officials from solely considering race, color or national origin in determining immigration status," Arizona Sen. Sylvia Allen said.

Immigration rights groups may be appalled, but logically, illegal immigrants should not have the same rights as citizens of this country. This, by no means, insinuates that illegal immigrants are any less human than citizens. However, it cannot be denied that by being in the nation illegally, they are breaking the law and there must be consequences.

The consequences for Arizona's new law are also being disputed because they seem particularly harsh. At first glance, that may be a reasonable assumption, however one must consider Arizona's situation in order to give the topic a proper assessment.

Border violence and drug cartels stemming from illegal im-

migrants has been an extreme problem for Arizona, according to CNN.

"There is no higher priority than protecting the citizens of Arizona. We cannot sacrifice our safety to the murderous greed of the drug cartels. We cannot stand idly by as drop houses, kidnappings and violence compromise our quality of life," Arizona Gov. Jan Brewer said, according to CNN.

Furthermore, there are about 460,000 illegal immigrants living in Arizona, according to ABC News. All of these individuals are in this country, not paying taxes, yet receiving many benefits of being American citizens. This is injustice on a grand scale. Arizona, therefore, is justified to take such a stance against illegal immigration, especially after Washington has done little to protect the nation's borders.

"The federal government has failed to do anything substantive to help border states like Arizona. We have been overrun by immigrants and, once they are here, the state has the burden of funding services that they use," Sen. Allen said.

One point is necessary – in no way should legal immigration be hindered. America is essentially made from immigrants. It would be irrational to deny legal entry into America from any other country.

If an individual wants to come to the United States to have the opportunity for gainful employment and a better life, and intends to be a contributing, legal member of society, then by all means, welcome to America.

However, the problems stemming from illegal immigrants have left Arizona no other choice but to act. The state, therefore, in its action of imparting the strict regulations of SB 1070, should not be faulted in its pursuit of safety and justice for its citizens.

Contact Jenna Shoffner at [jlshoffner@liberty.edu](mailto:jlshoffner@liberty.edu).



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# Westboro Baptist Church protests graduation

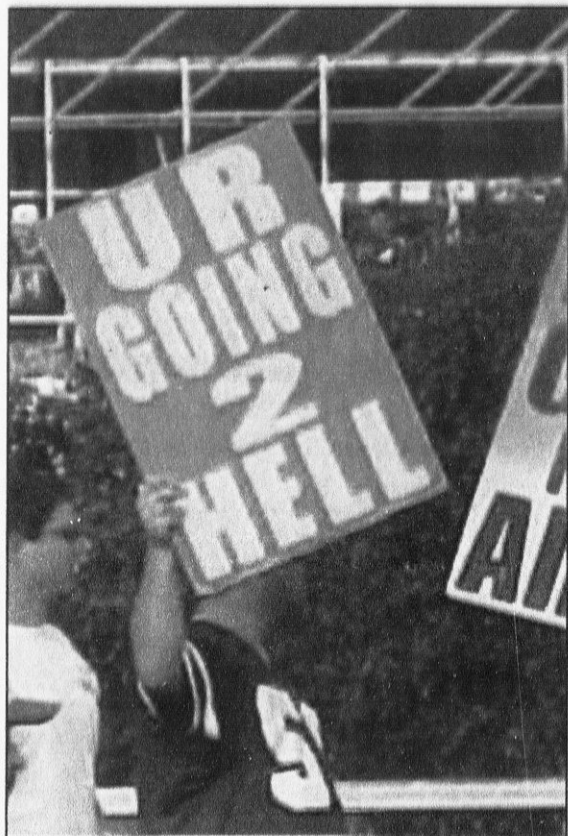


PHOTO PROVIDED PER CREATIVE COMMONS

Sasha Braithwaite  
OPINION REPORTER

Many of Liberty University's student body and staff remember the death of Dr. Jerry Falwell. Only some may remember when the radical Westboro Baptist Church (WBC) picketed the funeral because, according to the church's posting on God-hates-america.com, Dr. Falwell "spent his entire life prophesying lies and false doctrines like 'God loves everyone.'"

WBC plans to picket the graduation of 18-year-old Constance McMillen from Fulton, Miss., this year. On March 24, the New York Times featured an article on McMillen when her school district tried to ban her from going to her senior prom because she is a homosexual and wanted to bring her girlfriend to prom. The case went

to court, McMillen won and was able to attend a private prom.

"[We] will picket the graduation of Itawamba Agricultural High School to remind the parents, teachers and students of this nation that God said 'Thou shall not lie with mankind, as with womankind, it is abomination,'" WBC said.

In more recent news, WBC plans to protest at Fort Jackson, South Carolina to "speak words of peace to these brutish, demon-possessed brute military mutts," according to the church's web site. The church also plans to protest in Charleston, Myrtle Beach and Mount Pleasant, S.C.

Not only do they protest the military and homosexuals, but they also have plans to protest Bible Way Church of Atlas Road, Shandon Baptist Church and Riverland Hills

Baptist Church in South Carolina, according to a South Carolina news site. This seems to be counterproductive for a church, especially since the others are of the same denomination as WBC.

The 70 members of WBC in Topeka, Kan., and their leader, Rev. Fred Phelps, are known for their hatred towards soldiers and homosexuals. WBC first entered the scene in 1998 when it protested the funeral of Matthew Shephard who was murdered for being a homosexual. Church members often protest at soldiers' funerals because they believe that their deaths are a result of God's punishment to America for its tolerance of homosexuals.

The lack of discretion and biblical truth that this hate group displays continues to befuddle many, and the

fact that WBC hides behind Christianity only pushes them to a further assurance that they should be angry. They have labeled themselves "Baptist" but they could not be further from it. While God does condemn sin, there is no verse that says he hates those who sin. WBC truly believes that God hates America and all people in general. They stand on the grounds of God's punishment and cast aside love, grace and mercy, the foundations upon which a Christian church should be built.

"Watch out for false prophets. They come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ferocious wolves," Matthew 4:17.

Contact Sasha Braithwaite at [smbraithwaite@liberty.edu](mailto:smbraithwaite@liberty.edu).

## Middle-Eastern Makeover

Tim Mattingly  
OPINION EDITOR

Blood-flecked sands bedazzle the beards of Israel's enemies in the Middle East. Bulging hate-filled eyes, be-crowned by tightly-wound turbans and quite often unibrows, are fixed upon the holy land like hungry lions.

And while we shouldn't judge a book by its cover, a cover is a good indicator of what is inside. So, maybe it is time for a Middle Eastern makeover. It's going to be fabulous.

First off, let us deal with that disgusting gore-matted beard look (so last year, yuck). In an attempt to wipe the crusted blood from the frothing maw of hate, new Israeli peace talks are being discussed, according to the Associated Press (AP).

Searching for solutions to their beard crisis, Middle Eastern nations are calling on the historically fashion-forward United States of America to kick off these indirect peace talks, according to the AP.

But it is going to take more than foreign-affairs fashionista and Secretary of State Hillary Clinton to calm the raging squirrels in the Middle East. A big snag on the catwalk toward peace is Israeli housing and settlements.

"Israel needs to choose between peace and settlements," Palestinian negotiator Saeb Erekat said, according to the AP.

But don't get your turban twisted so fast, girlfriend, and get

your hand out of that cookie jar, because we both know Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu is going to smack it (he's such a diva). What Erekat and the Palestinian people need to do is just let their turbans down, to reveal those truly luxurious curls we know they are hiding and just shake the hate out.

Besides, Netanyahu is not completely without reason. While he agreed to slow down West Bank construction, he said Israel will not budge on construction in Jerusalem, according to Fox News. But an Israeli insider said that Netanyahu is just playing up the "bad boy" image and despite his words is, in fact, temporarily slowing down construction in Jerusalem, according to Fox News.

Over the years, robes have been rustled the wrong way on both sides of the conflict, causing tension and tingling. But now is the time to just relax, so loosen up those robes and accessorize the Middle East with peace.

Which brings us to our next fashion emergency — the "brow of terror."

Depending on genetics, especially in the Middle East, unibrows have the potential to look a lot like a bomb. How can we expect peace if every morning Middle Eastern people wake up and the first thing they see in the mirror is an explosion — did somebody say tweezer party?

America knows how to tweeze, as made exceedingly evident by Michelle Obama's eyebrows. So it is time we take the knowl-

edge imparted upon us by the First Lady, using it to pluck the hate and violence out of the Middle East.

But some "bomb-brows" are thicker than others, such as those belonging to Iranian President and total drama-queen Mahmoud Ahmadinejad.

Seen as a special case, the Iranian president came to the United States on Sunday to talk about "eyebrow" proliferation. Historically reluctant to tweeze, Ahmadinejad originally tried deflecting the America's fashion advice, stating that the United States "is the only country to have used the atomic bomb in a military conflict," according to CNN.

While Ahmadinejad's statement is true, Americans also used to wear parachute pants. The point is that we all make mistakes and President Barack Obama already announced our non-nuclear retaliation stance (he's so fierce).

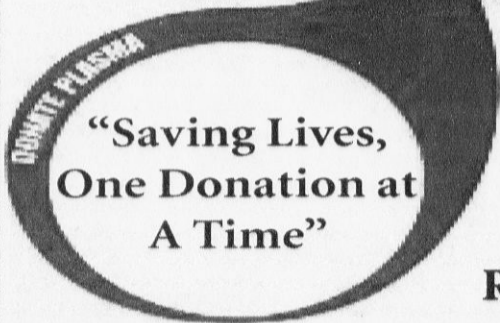
Besides, if a nation cannot control something as small as its eyebrows, how can it be expected to control its nukes? By eyebrow law, the United States can handle the responsibility and Iran cannot. Furthermore, America is not a threat for nuclear warfare. It just is not in style anymore — it is too 1945 for our taste.

In the wise words of Tim Gunn, we have to make it work in the Middle East because if we cannot find a solution, we can say "auf wiedersehen" to peace. But this is not Project Runway and when we depart from the fashionable realm of global harmony, we will not receive a kiss from Heidi Klum but the embrace of death.

Contact Tim Mattingly at [tmattingly@liberty.edu](mailto:tmattingly@liberty.edu).

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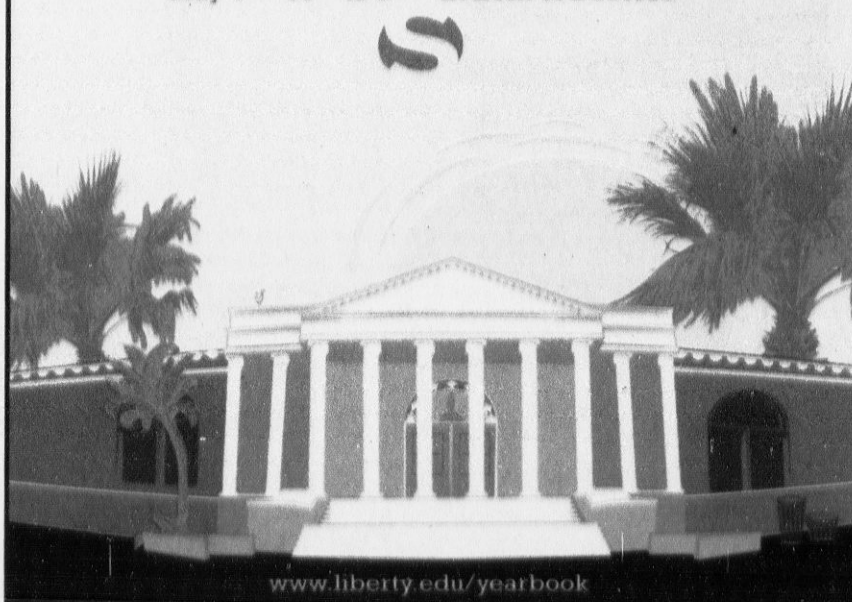
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**The 2009-2010 academic year has been a time of great growth for the Champion. The Champion staff would like to thank those individuals without whom we could not have succeeded. Thank you for your help and support.**

- Jerry Falwell Jr. for always listening to our ideas, supporting us and throwing us exclusives.
- Sharon Hartless for proofreading our pages and loving us.
- Dr. Ron Godwin for letting us sit in your office every Monday and responding to interview questions.
- Dr. Elmer Towns for letting us interview you numerous times.
- Lee Beaumont for always giving us the scoop on upcoming projects.
- Larry Provost for always working with us on our political coverage.
- Dr. William Mullen for letting us continue our work and for your support.
- Dr. William Gribbin for challenging us when you come into the office to see the other side of the story.
- Dr. Cecil Kramer for your continued support of the paper.
- Wendell Walker for helping us track down names and phone numbers.
- Johnnie Moore for helping us snag interviews and reading our work and encouraging students to read the paper.
- Charles Spence for letting us call and e-mail several times.
- Dwayne Carson for putting us in contact with students and letting us quote you.
- Robert Rencher for always lending your ear or e-mail for any economic issue that may arise.
- Diana Drane for keeping us on par.
- Vicki Firtion for making sure we turn in our hours.
- Amanda Stanley for answering our numerous phone calls so quickly.
- Kelli Tripp for always being willing to help us sort out a problem.
- Amy Bonebright for supplying us with a Rolodex.
- Mrs. Huff for always supporting us no matter what happens.
- And you, the reader, for continually picking up the paper and supplying us with feedback. Keep it coming!

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PHOTOS BY AMANDA KRUPPENBACHER

**MINISTERING TO AFRICA** — Amanda Kruppenbacher spends time with children while on a missions trip to Ethiopia. Kruppenbacher will be spending two years in Uganda with a local orphanage once she has raised enough financial support.

## Summer takes students around the globe

Allison Cundiff  
NEWS REPORTER

College students across the country are counting down the days until homework and classes are finally finished and they are free to enjoy summer break. After exams are over, most students will go back home to work and spend time with family and friends. Amanda Kruppenbacher, 23, will be making a village in Uganda, more than 8,500 miles away, her new home for the next two years.

Kruppenbacher is planning to work at the Good Shepherd's Fold orphanage in Buundo, Uganda for at least two years. Kruppenbacher graduated from Liberty in 2009 with a degree in elementary and special education. After graduating and substitute teaching in elementary schools, she heard about the opportunity and decided to act on a calling she had felt for several years — to minister to the people of Africa.

"I am so excited to see how the Lord uses me and the vision he's given me. I can't wait to

get there," Kruppenbacher said.

Uganda has an estimated 1.7 million orphans, making it the country with the highest number of orphans in the world, almost two million Ugandan children have lost a parent to AIDS and 18 out of 24 people who die of starvation in Uganda are children, according to the Good Shepherd's Fold Web site.

Approximately 104 children live on a compound at the orphanage. The children are divided into 10 families, each with a foster mother, according to the Web site. Children who are not orphans but live in the village surrounding the compound also come to the orphanage to receive food and free education.

Kruppenbacher became involved in missions when she was 20 years old. Since then she has visited Ethiopia and also traveled a slave-trade route through Zambia, Tanzania, Botswana and South Africa.

Lately, she has been traveling around the United States trying to raise financial support before

leaving for Uganda June 15. She will be living with three other missionary families, but will need about \$2,100 per month. Right now, she has about 60 percent of the necessary support.

Although they will not be gone for quite as long, many other Liberty students will be giving up their first few weeks of summer break to help others in faraway places. Light Ministries will be sending six teams of students to places like India, the Middle East, France, North Africa, Brazil and Mexico for short-term mission trips this summer, according to Light Ministries office manager Angi Whitworth.

Whitworth said students who go on the Middle East, France and North Africa trips will be entering closed countries, where Christian ministry is illegal or not considered a valid reason for entering the country. Because the teams will be in closed countries, Light Ministries is not allowed to give out the names of the specific places the students will be visiting. This will be the first time Light Ministries has

sent a team to this particular country in the Middle East, according to Whitworth.

All six trips will last about two weeks each. The teams will leave May 16 or 17 and will return at the end of May or beginning of June. The average team will contain about 15 members, and every trip will be led by either a Liberty staff member or a Light Ministries staff member. The medical mission trip to Brazil will be lead by campus pastor Chris Deitsch.

"Brazil is a medical trip, they actually go down the Amazon river and stop in villages and do medical clinics," Whitworth said.

In India, the team will minister to children in orphanages and put together a vacation bible school-type program. The team will also be ministering to the Hindu population in India.

The Mexico team will also be ministering to children and teaching English.

Contact Allison Cundiff at [acundiff@liberty.edu](mailto:acundiff@liberty.edu).

## Debate Team wins three major tournaments

Kelly Marvel  
SPORTS EDITOR

The Liberty University Debate Team won the National Debate Tournament (NDT), Cross-Examination Debate Association (CEDA), and American Debate Association (ADA) championships for the third year in row. The team defeated schools from all over the country like University of California-Berkeley, James Madison University and Vanderbilt University.

"We hope that by meeting students at other elite schools in an intellectual competition we can help raise Liberty's profile and the idea that other people have of our academics, so in that way we hope to make everyone's degree more valuable to them," senior captain Ross Garrett said.

The debate team has won the championships four out of the last five years. Liberty is also the only university to sweep all three competitions in one year.

"Every championship is exciting because every team is different," Coach Michael Hall said. "Even though many of our debaters had already experienced winning a championship, this season was the only chance this group of debaters had to win a championship. Next year a new team will pursue a new championship. That's what makes each season so exciting."

Being successful at competitions also motivates the debaters to prepare even harder for the next round of debates.

"It's always a good feeling to win," senior captain Joshua Turnage said. "It makes all the hard work feel worthwhile and gives you the energy and focus to keep pushing through to the next tournaments."

Liberty's team broke its own record in the CEDA competition, scoring 197 points compared to last year's score of 196. It also broke another of its own records for the NDT competition set in

2004 at 604 points with a score of 626 points for this year. The 600-point barrier in the NDT competition has only been broken twice, both times by Liberty's debate team.

"Winning debates is very exciting because you can see that the hours of hard work you put into debates ahead of time is paying off," junior Austin Woodruff said.

The debate team is losing three senior members this season, Garrett, Turnage and Stephanie Dillard Garrett. The team is prepared, however, to return next year ready to take another championship.

"We start preparing and researching in the summer and don't stop until our season ends in April," Hall said. "In a word, (we work) hard."

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## Seniors honor the late Dr. Falwell

Trey Smith  
NEWS REPORTER

In 1971, one man had a vision. Today, that vision continues to shine as Liberty continues training champions for Christ. To commemorate Falwell's vision, the senior class has been working hard on a special gift to the university.

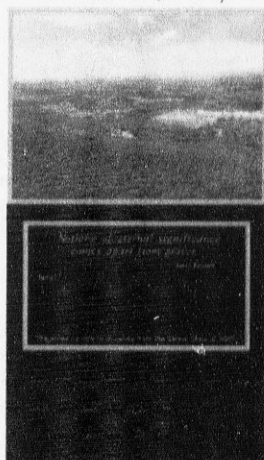
"We are the last class that ever had Dr. Falwell Sr. and we wanted a gift that would not only remind people of his vision and his charge to students but also would really encourage students," Student Government Association President Matt Mihelic said.

The gift will feature a picture of the campus in 1971 and will be placed on the mountain looking down over Liberty's current campus.

"We believe this will serve

as a testimony not of what Dr. Falwell did, but what God was able to do through him," senior class President Neal Tuley said. "We also hope that it will serve as encouragement and a spiritual challenge to those that see it."

Contact Trey Smith at [tsmith21@liberty.edu](mailto:tsmith21@liberty.edu).



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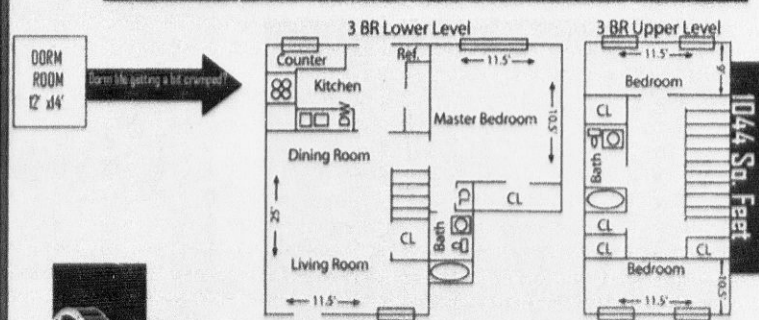
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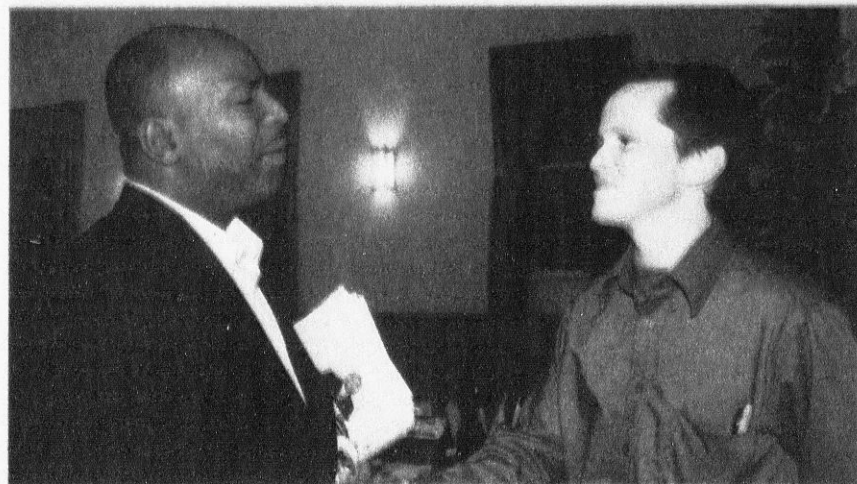
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# Candidates debate one last time



MELINDA ZOSH

**ONE LAST ROUND** — City Council Candidate James E. Coleman talks to Liberty freshman Sean Maguire at the last debate before election day.

Melinda Zosh  
EDITOR IN CHIEF

The debate was not over yet. With five days until the city council election, all eight candidates had one final chance to change voters' minds at the last official debate before today's election.

The debate was held at Faith Alliance Church on Timberlake Road April 29. Many questions focused on Liberty University and its role in the community.

During the first section, candidates questioned other candidates of their choice. ABC-13 anchor Noreen Turyn moderated the two-hour debate.

Mayor Joan Foster, an Independent candidate, questioned Republican candidate Hun-

sdon "H" Cary about meals taxes, referencing his response in the April 27 edition of the Liberty Champion.

Cary was quick to answer, saying that the 11.5 percent meals tax in Lynchburg is the highest in Virginia. The city of Fairfax has a 9 percent sales tax, according to state records.

"There are several ways to make up that revenue," Cary said. "We need to increase hotel tax and lower meals tax or property tax."

Turyn gave Foster 30 seconds to reply to Cary's claim.

"I have heard that there are other places in Virginia with higher taxes," Foster said. "I will check on that."

Republican candidate Don Good heated up the debate when he asked Foster why she

has paid less property taxes than other Lynchburg residents.

"I'm not sure that's correct," Foster said. "I'm willing to pay whatever it takes to preserve the quality of life in Lynchburg, though."

In the next round, Turyn asked candidates questions posed by audience members. Independent candidate Randy Nelson was asked whether the city should publicly fund a civic center.

"At this point, we need to look at the needs of the community, family and neighborhoods," Nelson said. "I don't think the city government should fund a civic center."

The conversation switched to the candidates' ties to Liberty University. Independent candidate J.P. Vaughan was asked "What affiliations do you have with Liberty University, Liberty Christian Academy (LCA) and Thomas Road Baptist Church (TRBC)?"

Three of Vaughan's children attended LCA at one time, he said.

"I recommitted my life to Christ at TRBC in 1968," Vaughan said. "Liberty has done great things for the city, and the city has done great things for Liberty."

A few questions later, the conversation turned back to Liberty. Foster was asked "Why would you meet with Liberty officials outside of city council chambers?"

"After students coming to the city council meeting (Feb. 23), there was some miscommunication," Foster said. "My goal meeting with the Chancellor was to clear that up."

She met with Chancellor Falwell a second time to address the Wards Road Pedestrian plan, she said. She will meet at city council chambers instead of Liberty next time, she told the crowd of about 75 Lynchburg residents, six of whom were Liberty students.

Republican candidate Brent Robertson was asked why he switched his party from Independent to Republican and to discuss issues on which he disagrees with Liberty University and the Republican party.

"I am a fiscal conservative," Robertson said. "I want to eliminate pre-dispositions that I am running for Liberty University."

In the last segment, Turyn posed questions to three candidates at a time. All eight candidates then gave their closing remarks. Vaughan promised the crowd that he had "no political aspirations past this one," and Independent candidate James Coleman vowed that he represented the entire city, not just one part. Robertson left one final thought with the crowd.

"I am the youngest candidate, and I hope people don't see it as a hindrance," Robertson said. "I want people to realize that there is a fourth (conservative) option."

Polls will be open from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m., and registered voters can choose three out of the eight candidates. Check [liberty.edu/champion](http://liberty.edu/champion) for election coverage and results.

Contact Melinda Zosh at [mzosh@liberty.edu](mailto:mzosh@liberty.edu).

# Advertising team captures second place

Crystal Heavner  
NEWS REPORTER

She stood before four judges as the crowd filed in, ready to reveal the presentation she and her 10 group members had spent the last two semesters researching and planning. Senior advertising major Abigail Fleming leaned over and whispered, "In our weakness he is strong" to the teammate beside her, then dazzled the crowd with a top-notch presentation performance.

Fleming was a member of Liberty University's team of students who competed at this year's National Student Advertising Competition (NSAC). The NSAC is an annual competition which mimics a real-life advertising situation by providing students with an assigned corporate sponsor and offering them their advertising history and strategy. Students must then research the product and devise and present a fully integrated advertising approach.

The team captured second place, falling behind the University of Virginia by less than one on hundredth of a point and brought home the top presentation award. The competition was held at The Crowne Plaza Hotel in Charlotte, N.C., April 23 and 24. Liberty competed in the NSAC's District 3, which included schools from Virginia, North Carolina and South Carolina.

Liberty communications professor Dr. Angela Widgeon

coached the team this year. In past years, Liberty has never received higher than fourth place at the event, but this year they raised the bar.

"They received so much praise from other coaches, teams, judges and the district coordinator," Widgeon said. "(They were) pleasantly surprised by the campaign."

The Ad Team Practicum is COMS 399, a one-credit practicum offered both during the fall and spring semesters. The fall semester involved tedious research, where students interviewed people about their neighbors and questioned State Farm employees to learn about the company. Students then took their research and molded it into a campaign and a plans book during the second semester.

"It's a lot of work, but it's so worth it," senior advertising major Nicole Carlson said.

"Even if we didn't win first place, we developed such deep relationships that we will remember for much longer than we will remember the competition," Fleming said.

"Dr. Widgeon is the best professor I've ever had in my entire life," Fleming said.

Widgeon said she wanted her students to understand what it means to be part of an ad campaign and what it means to believe they can win. She tried to take protective action against negativity, by not allowing the team members to discuss com-



PHOTO PROVIDED BY KATE MCCAY

**MORE THAN JUST A TEAM** — The Ad team cultivated deep relationships while preparing for the competition.

peting teams and how their presentations looked or telling the students who won in past years.

"They needed to just focus on what they needed to do and what God needed to do through them," Widgeon said.

Contact Crystal Heavner at [cheavner@liberty.edu](mailto:cheavner@liberty.edu).

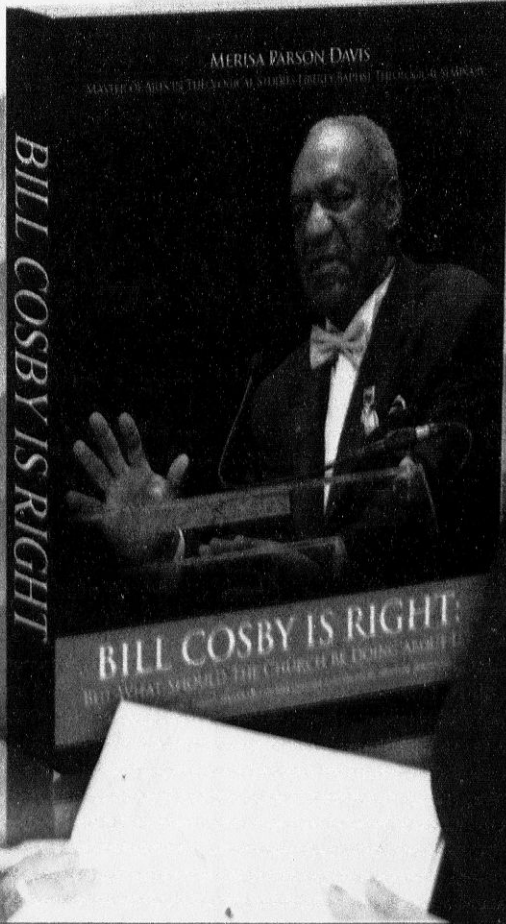
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# Commencement approaching soon

Emily DeFosse  
FEATURE EDITOR

Four years ago a group of freshmen walked onto Liberty's campus. They came from all around the world, excited and ready to begin the next chapter of their lives.

Fast forward to the present day. Those bright-eyed freshmen, now seniors, are tired, immune to caffeine and counting down to the day they thought would never arrive — May 15, 2010 — graduation.

According to Vice President for Administrative Information Management/Registrar Larry Shackleton approximately 4,300 students will be attending the graduation ceremony. Of those students 61 percent are online students who will be on Liberty's campus for the first time.

"The online students love the fact that we include them in our big main ceremony," Shackleton said. "We don't treat them separate. We embrace them. There is not one (ceremony) for them and one for the residential students."

According to Shackleton and the graduation project manager Lori Baker the average student brings six family members with them, so 28,000 people are expected to attend commencement.

Liberty does not hand out tickets for graduation so students can bring as many family members and friends with them to the ceremony as they would like.

"Everybody that helped you get through all this and wants to share this with you, come on down," Shackleton said. "It is a family event and you would be surprised how many people helped every student a little bit here and there."

The main commencement ceremony will take place in Williams Stadium, which is undergoing construction and will not

be completed by graduation. According to Shackleton, guests will not be able to get anywhere near the construction, however the construction has created interesting obstacles for seating and restroom facilities.

"Nine thousand five hundred chairs will be placed on the field, last year there were 8,000," Shackleton said.

Temporary bleachers are also being constructed from the edge of the visitors' locker room to around the third yard line. According to Shackleton those bleachers will probably be the best seats in the house.

Bleachers are also being built above the seating already in place and along the sidelines. Most of the existing seating in the stadium will be available. Approximately 400 seats will be unavailable due to construction, but three out of the four new sections of seating that extend from the original seats should be completed by graduation, according to Shackleton.

In order to help alleviate traffic and congestion that can occur with 28,000 people on campus at the same time, the gates will open at 7 a.m., three hours before commencement ceremonies begin.

Shackleton said parking should not be a problem because most students will have left campus, leaving student parking areas open for public use.

"There will be a Campus North (bus) route and a main campus (bus) route," Baker said.

Baker recommends attendees park in a lot near their degree ceremony so they will not have to walk far when they leave.

"For people who are not capable of walking we will have about 15 golf carts to meet people at their cars and take them to where they need to be," Shackleton said.

Due to the construction, the restrooms that were underneath the press box will not be available. Nine portable toilet trailers will

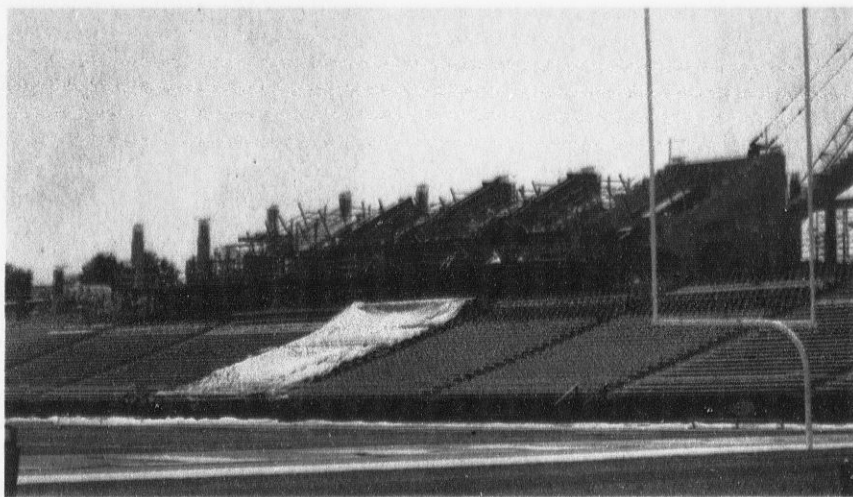


PHOTO BY LES SCHOFFER

**UNDER CONSTRUCTION** — The Williams Stadium construction continues as students, parents and friends prepare for the May 15 graduation.

be brought in to ensure there are enough restrooms for everyone at the event.

"They are not portolets. They have hot water and flushing toilets," Shackleton said.

Another change this year that students need to be aware of is that there will not be a rehearsal the Friday before graduation.

"(Students) still have to come and pick up their name tags and honors cords, and that kind of stuff," Shackleton said.

Students can pick up these items between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. at the Tolsma Indoor Track.

Students with multiple family members graduating should also be aware that they can attend any degree ceremony so family members do not have to pick which ceremony to go to.

Students will need to be at the soccer field by 7:30 a.m. and the processional is scheduled to begin at 9 a.m., according to Shackleton.

Shackleton does not worry about student pranks, though he said many other schools

threaten students not to attempt any pranks.

"We have good students and they are going to have a little bit of fun," Shackleton said. "Silly string is part of that, and faculty have just as much fun with it ... There will be a beach ball. But when it comes time to stop, they do. We have never had any problems. Our students are good people. They respect the moment."

As a final note to graduating students, Shackleton recommends students get their silly string now.

"Within a week of commencement you can't find silly string anywhere," Shackleton said.

More information about commencement is available at [liberty.edu/commencement](http://liberty.edu/commencement).

Contact Emily DeFosse at [ebdefosse@liberty.edu](mailto:ebdefosse@liberty.edu).

## Graduates part with more than an education

Taylor Overhultz  
NEW REPORTER

As the 4,300 graduates of the class of 2010 embark on a new chapter of their lives, a college diploma will not be the only thing they take from their journey at Liberty.

"My favorite professor has taught me not only about literature and writing but about friendship, family, marriage and just life," graduate Kristi Taylor said. "Though, living on a hall with 75 girls also gave me a good sense of how to deal with girls I don't really understand or get along with."

Taylor, along with her fellow graduates have already begun the daunting process of making their future plans and setting in motion their careers of choice.

"I wasn't very stressed about it," Taylor said. "Actually that's a lie."

Taylor's post-graduation plans include moving back home until she is able to afford graduate school in 2011. In the mean time, Taylor hopes to focus on her passion for writing and photography.

"Writing is something that I loved doing for myself in high school, and I have taken two classes in creative writing in the last year that have helped me rein in my skills a lot and become a better writer,"

Taylor said. "I also hope to hone in on my photography. These are definitely two things I'll use in the future as a writer, and eventually a professor."

Graduate Eric Mitchell set his future in motion on Aug. 2, 2009, when he proposed to his fiancée.

"Spring break (of freshman year) when I went home, we spent a lot of time together and began to talk more," Mitchell said. "It quickly became obvious that we were both interested in dating each other. Our relationship officially started the fall of our sophomore year after she transferred to Liberty and her dad approved."

Mitchell and Hill will be returning to their hometown of Knoxville, Tenn., for their June 4 wedding.

"I am getting married 20 days after graduation, then moving to Chicago, Ill., this summer," Mitchell said. "I'm planning on taking one full year off of school to work full time and invest in my relationship with my wife before I begin seminary at Trinity Evangelical Divinity School in the fall of 2011."

As many graduates will also be exchanging vows soon after graduation, Mitchell advises current students to be patient when it comes to marriage.

"Don't be over-eager to just get married," Mitchell said. "Be in love with the person, not the idea of marriage."

With the current state of the economy and the unstable job market, many graduates will be settling for other than what they originally expected after earning their diplomas.

"Naturally what I thought I would find would be a job, because after all that is why we go to college so we can find the best job," graduate Lindsey Ramirez said.

Ramirez will be returning to Liberty in the fall to continue with her education, seeking a master's in human services, specializing in marriage and family. She will also continue her third year of being a Resident Assistant.

"I had not planned on immediately starting graduate school but right now with the economy and jobs, continuing my education is the best option," Ramirez said. "It's so easy to tell someone else to not worry about their future because it is in God's hands and it is another thing to have someone say that to you."

Contact Taylor Overhultz at [toverhultz@liberty.edu](mailto:toverhultz@liberty.edu).

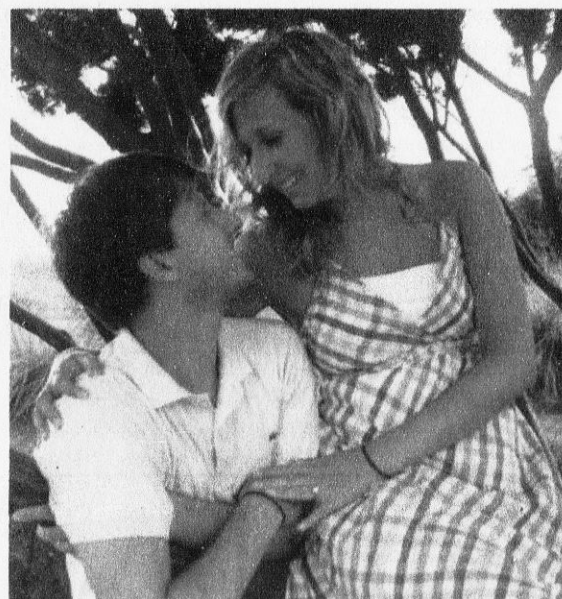


PHOTO BY ERIC MITCHELL

**FUTURE IN MOTION** — Eric Mitchell and fiancée Carrie Hill will exchange their vows June 4, in their hometown of Knoxville, Tenn.

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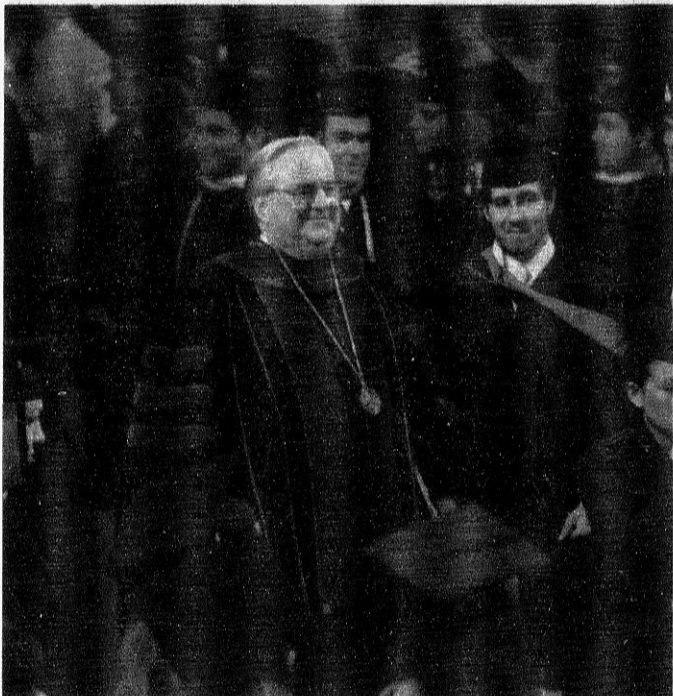
**When he found one of great value,  
he went away and sold everything he  
had and bought it.**

~ Matthew 13:46

LES SCHOFER

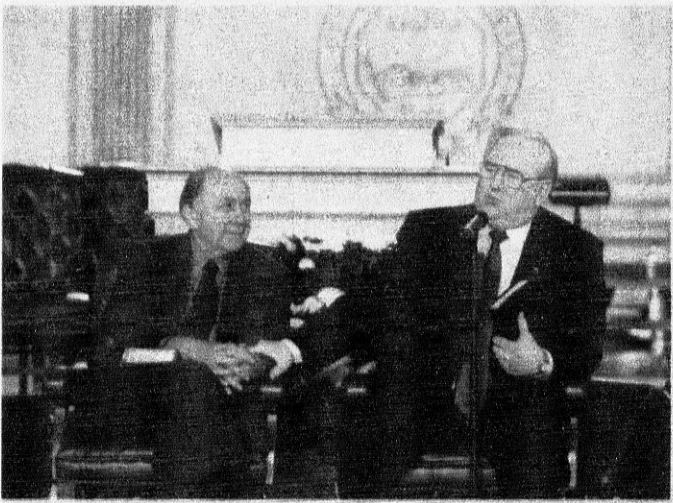


# always faithful



LES SCHOFER

**Baccalaureate** — Falwell smiles as he stands with students at the 2004 Baccalaureate service in the old Thomas Road sanctuary.



LES SCHOFER

**CO-FOUNDERS** — Dr. Jerry Falwell with Liberty University Co-founder Dr. Elmer Towns on the platform of the old Thomas Road sanctuary on Sept. 28, 2004.



UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES

**FLAMES FAN** — Dr. Falwell poses with enthusiastic students at a 2004 basketball game.

*Falwell continued from A1*

The second occasion Hegarty met Dr. Falwell in Washington D.C., while Hegarty was doing his internship and Dr. Falwell was in town for a Christians United for Israel event. Dr. Falwell was in a Senate conference room with John Hagee and other pastors.

"I was struck by (Dr. Falwell's) commanding presence and the ability he had to take any question that possibly had a negative impact and spin it off into a joke or to deal with it in such a way that there was no doubt where he stood," Hegarty said.

While Hegarty was talking to someone else in the room he felt a crushing arm around him.

"I looked down at my chest and there were two huge arms encircling me and Dr. Falwell actually picked me up, put me down and turned me around. I said 'Hey Dr. Falwell.' Then he said, 'Hey son, nice to meet you. I heard you are thinking about going to law school, well let me introduce you (to Dean Mat Staver),' " Hegarty said.

The final occasion Hegarty met Dr. Falwell was when Dr. Falwell gave a lecture to communications students just months before he died.

According to Hegarty, current students miss out on getting to know the charisma the founder brought to the university.

"I think students miss out on the opportunity to see tangible evidences of a man of faith — that's what (Dr. Falwell) was."

Hegarty described the week of Falwell's death as the weirdest week of his life.

"I had just finished up my investigative reporting final for Professor Huff's class, (and) we got the news that (Dr. Falwell) was sick. I was very struck by that (and) I went out into the computer lab and basically yelled for everything to a stop and said 'Hey people, our chancellor is sick, and about an hour later we got the news that he was dead,' Hegarty said.

Hegarty and former Photo Editor Alex Towers went to the Thomas Road sanctuary along with a majority of the student body.

"I heard Ron Godwin's voice — it was broken and said, 'A giant has fallen,' " Hegarty said.

Hegarty described the following week as "intense emotion after intense emotion."

Hegarty remembers being outside DeMoss during the viewing.

"To see the mass of people from all walks of life — white, black, Asian, rich or poor, liberal and conservative — there were so many people whose names I will probably never remember but (you could) see the impact that he had on all those lives."

Hegarty said graduation that year was "super emotional."

"Graduation was an experience I will never forget. They showed a video of his life ... probably a good half the students were standing up with tears streaming down their faces. I know because I was one of them."

After Dr. Falwell's death Hegarty led the Champion to produce a special issue as a tribute to Dr. Falwell and his life.

"It was a decision we made on the spur of the moment and we never looked back," Hegarty said. "It was something that we knew ... in our heart of hearts that we had to do as our last act of gratefulness to all he had done."

Towers recalled one of the most touching reactions that students had during that week was painting the spirit rock with a black suit, white shirt and red tie — Falwell's usual attire.

*"Great is thy faithfulness, great is thy faithfulness, morning by morning new mercies I see. All I have needed thy hand hath provided. Great is thy faithfulness Lord unto me."*

Resident Director Chris Cortes also graduated in 2007. Cortes said Student Leadership does a prayer walk at the beginning of every year and Dwayne Carson always mentions that the students are walking on answered prayers.

"That always hits me real hard," Cortes said. "Jerry came here, saw ... a farm and had a vision that it was going to be this big evangelical Christian school that all these people from all over the world would come to."

Cortes said the week of graduation in 2007 was crazy. He saw Dr. Falwell at a baseball game two days before he died.

"There was a buzz on campus," Cortes, who was an RA at the time said. "My RA partner and I had people in our room watching the local news ... There were all these different people from all walks of life giving their stories about how they knew Jerry and the impact he had on their lives. A lot of secular businesses in town had signs up to remember him."

Cortes said the spirit of graduation celebration was not dampened, but Dr. Falwell's death was not overlooked either.

"The mission of Liberty has not changed," Cortes said. "There are a lot of small things that we used to do that we don't do anymore. Simple things like when I was an undergrad every Wednesday you knew Jerry was speaking in convocation."

*"Summer and winter and springtime and harvest. Sun, moon and stars in their courses above. Join with all nature in manifold witness to thy great faithfulness, mercy and love."*

Co-founder of Liberty University Dr. Elmer Towns recalled being at a meeting in California when he heard the news about Dr. Falwell's death. He said he headed home as soon as he could and arrived back in Lynchburg late that evening.

UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES



# family friendly

**FALWELL** continued from A10

"As I began to drive back to Lynchburg (from the Roanoke airport) I called my wife and told her that I just had to go to Thomas Road Baptist Church. The church was locked and security was standing at the door, but they let me in," Towns said. "When I finally arrived at the pulpit and stood behind the pulpit, I realized the most tragic thing of all — the voice of Dr. Jerry Falwell will never be heard again in person. It is then that I began to weep uncontrollably."

While Towns was weeping in the sanctuary, organist Gary Lowe walked in. The new church organ had arrived earlier that day and Lowe was to give Dr. Falwell a private concert that evening.

"The platform at Thomas Road was completely empty, I went and found a chair, sat in the middle of the platform facing the organ and said, 'The first song you play on that organ has to be the first song we sang in chapel on Sept. 10, 1971 which was 'Great is Thy Faithfulness,' Towns said. "As he played I wept without embarrassment, both tears of joy and tears of sorrow for all that God had done at Thomas Road Baptist Church and Liberty University because of Dr. Jerry Falwell."

"Often I am asked about missing Dr. Jerry Falwell," Towns said. "I think I miss him for the great vision and direction he had for Liberty University. However, Jerry Falwell Jr. has repeatedly said that he is committed to the vision of his father. So that has been a great comfort to know that what Jerry Falwell Sr. had begun is being carried out by his son, Jerry Falwell Jr."

*"Great is thy faithfulness, great is thy faithfulness, morning by morning new mercies I see. All I have needed thy hand hath provided. Great is thy faithfulness Lord unto me."*

Despite Dr. Falwell's death, the Liberty University community has continued to thrive and grow. Current Liberty Chancellor and son of Dr. Falwell, Jerry Falwell Jr., stepped in to fill the shoes of his father just days after his death on May 15. The transition was emotionally difficult, but Falwell Jr. gathered his courage and took his father's advice to "never quit." He has also taken on the responsibility of making sure Dr. Falwell's visions for Liberty becoming a distinctly Christian school that is able to compete well both academically and athletically with other colleges.

"I believe that no university is ever quite the same after the passing of its founder," Falwell Jr. said. "The primary goal of Liberty's second generation of faculty, staff and students should

be to keep the university true to its mission, its doctrinal beliefs and its core values, while, at the same time, always enhancing all of the university's programs."

It is inevitable that the university would change with the absence of Dr. Falwell. Some traditions like Dr. Falwell encouraging students to "get their ring by spring" and students hopping in Doc's Denali at a stop sign are no longer present, but Liberty has evolved to create new traditions.

"Nobody will ever replace Dad. He was one of a kind. We all miss his weekly sermons in convocation, encouraging us to never quit and to persevere no matter how great our problems become," Falwell Jr. said. "We all need to remember those messages of faith and hope and encourage each other daily."

"The one thing that has been constant at Liberty since it was founded in 1971 has been how much it has changed every year," Falwell Jr. said. "Change is a good thing if it is the right kind of change."

Despite the ever-changing Liberty community, its Christian foundation and principals concerning education and athletics will not waver — instead the programs will only increase in potential.

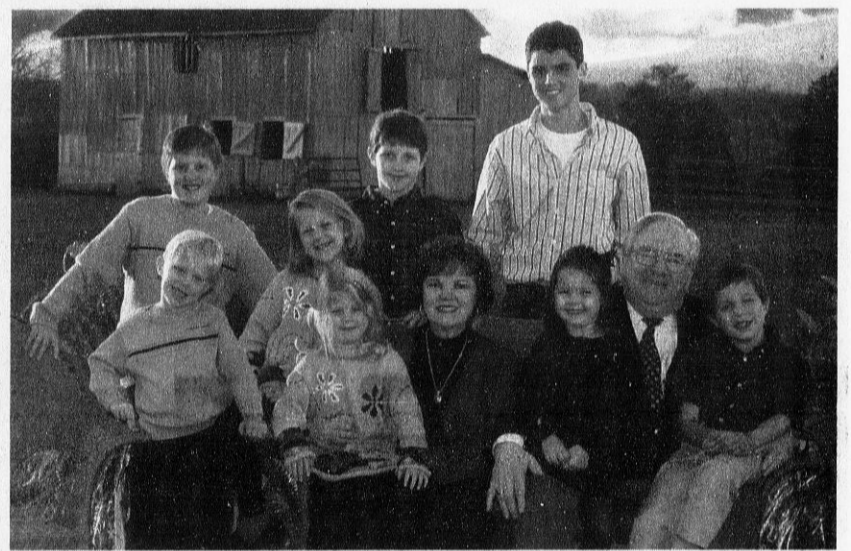
"Dad always said, 'If it's Christian it should be better,'" Falwell Jr. said. "Many believed that it was not possible for a university to remain committed to biblical truth and morality while also providing the same quality of academics, NCAA Division I athletics, facilities and programs as major secular universities. Liberty has proven that it is possible, and I want to see that continue for generations."

Even more change is coming to Liberty's campus as the class of 2010 will graduate on May 15 — the third anniversary of Dr. Falwell's death.

"I don't think the students will change," Falwell Jr. said. "I think they will continue the tradition and will have the same testimony for Christ that we see in our students now."

*"Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth. Thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide. Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow. Blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside."*

Throughout all the changes Liberty has seen in both the recent years and beginning year, Dr. Ron Godwin was also present. Godwin was around to witness the struggles that Liberty experienced in the early 1990s, and he was a friend of Dr. Falwell's for more than three decades.



UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES

**FAMILY FIRST** — Dr. Falwell with his wife, Macel and their eight grandchildren.



LES SCHOFER

**49 YEARS** — Dr. Falwell with his wife of 49 years, Macel Pate Falwell.

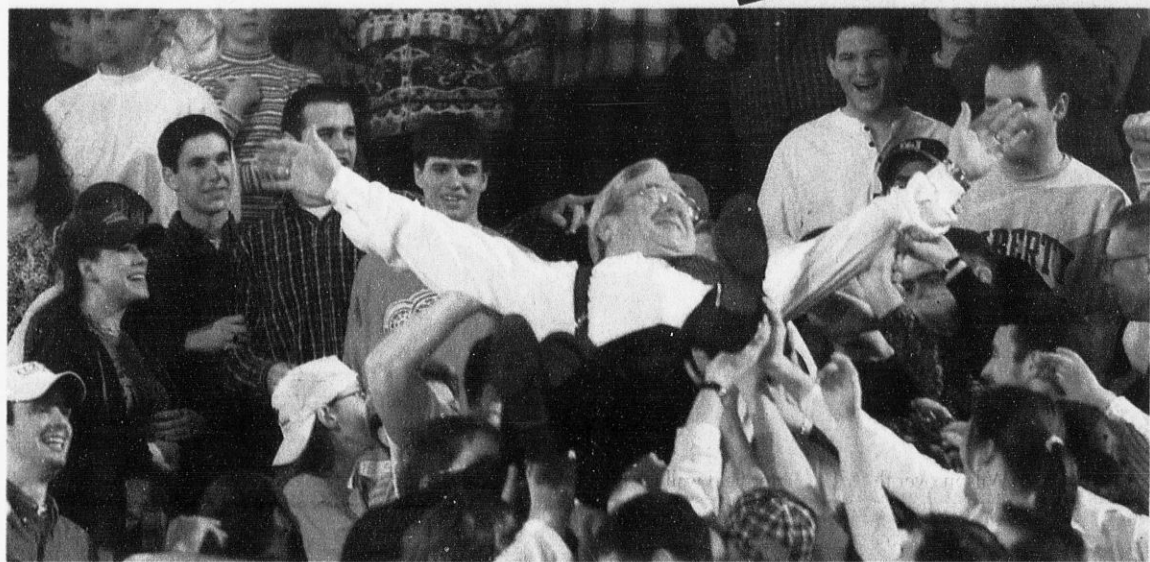


UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES

**SWEET MOMENTS** — Dr. Falwell takes a nap with his grandson Paul Savas.

See **FALWELL** on A12

UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES



LES SCHOFER

**CROWD SURFING** — Students show their love of Dr. Falwell by sending him crowd surfing during a basketball game.



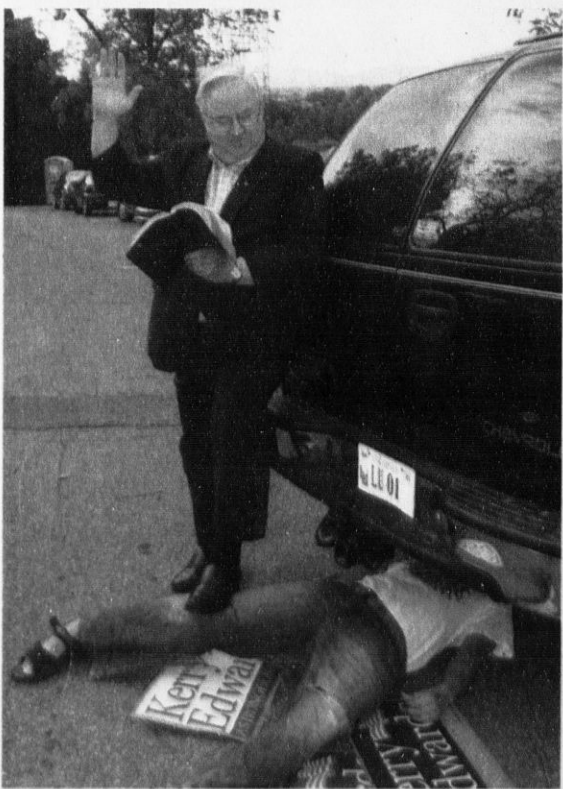
LES SCHOFER

**CONSTRUCTION** — Dr. Falwell drives through East Campus construction in 2004.



ALEX TOWERS

**Retired Jersey** — The number 71 was retired in honor of Dr. Falwell during a 2006 football game.



LES SCHOFER

**ELECTION YEAR** — Dr. Falwell had a great sense of humor and strong conservative political beliefs.



UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES

**UNLIKELY FRIENDS** — Jerry Falwell had the ability to befriend those with whom he disagreed. He was good friends with Larry Flynt, publisher of Hustler magazine.

**FALWELL** continued from A11

"His pranks, practical jokes and boyishly outrageous behaviors are the stuff of legend. Almost everyone who knew him has a Dr. Falwell story to tell that combines some amazing act of generosity on Doc's part with an equal dose of laughter and fun," Godwin said. "But what is almost always unmentioned ... is the sober truth, to which only a tiny few of us were privy, that those stories originated during periods of testing and trial in Dr. Falwell's life that would have brought most other men to their knees."

Godwin has also played witness to the school's unprecedented growth in the past three years.

"In recent years, Liberty has without question enjoyed its greatest period of student growth, has dramatically expanded its square footage under roof, has added to and strengthened its infrastructure, greatly enlarged its academic offerings, obtained level six accreditation with SACS, raised the number of terminally degreed faculty to approximately 70 percent and improved its record of NCAA athletic accomplishment several fold."

Godwin also worked with both Dr. Falwell and Falwell Jr, during which time he has actively supported both founder and current chancellor.

"Today, I sometimes pause during a hectic workday and marvel at what a rare privilege it is to yet be allowed to have a role in helping our Founder's son to bring to reality the vision that he holds for Liberty's future."

As the last of the Jerry Generation steps out into the world as "salt and light soldiers" they must also ensure the legacy that Falwell left to them is passed on to future generations of Liberty students who can develop their own BHAG — Big Hairy Audacious Goal.

"Working with the students was new for me but has been the most rewarding part of my new role," Falwell Jr. said. "I am excited about Liberty University's future. I believe the best is yet to come and that this university will have a lasting impact for Christ for generations to come."

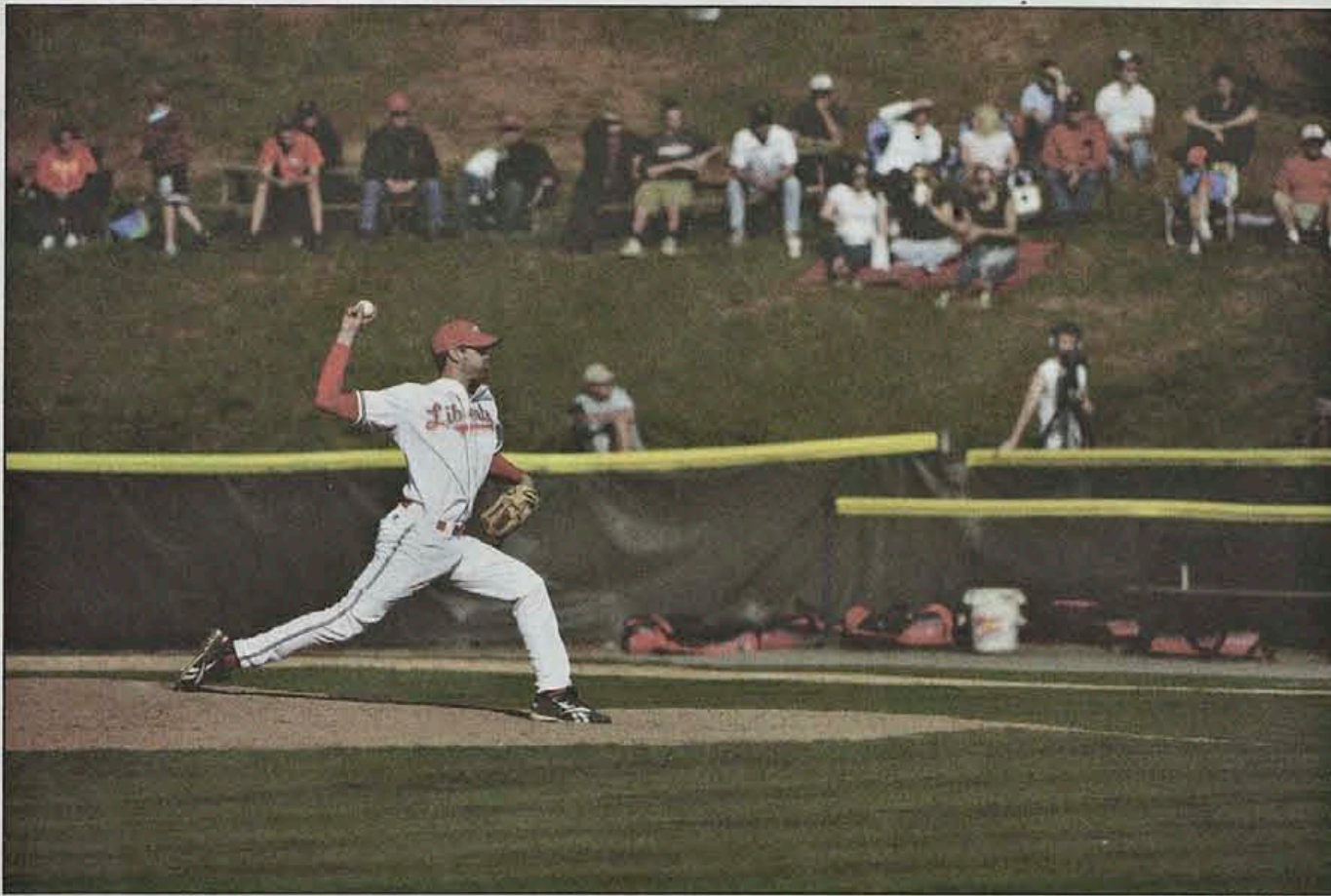
*"Great is thy faithfulness, great is thy faithfulness, morning by morning new mercies I see. All I have needed thy hand hath provided. Great is thy faithfulness Lord unto me."*

Contact Amanda Sullivan at [amsullivan3@liberty.edu](mailto:amsullivan3@liberty.edu).

Contact Emily DeFosse at [ebdefosse@liberty.edu](mailto:ebdefosse@liberty.edu).

# LIBERTY SPORTS

MAY 4, 2010 • liberty.edu/champion



LES SCHOFER

**FLAME THROWER**— Pitcher Dustin Umberger and the Liberty Flames baseball team cruised to a three-game sweep against the Gardner-Webb Runnin' Bulldogs this weekend.

## Trio of weekend starters hurl Flames to Bulldog sweep

Daniel Martinez  
SPORTS REPORTER

An eight-run, second-inning explosion by the Liberty University men's baseball team keyed a 10-7 victory over the Gardner-Webb Runnin' Bulldogs Sunday afternoon, completing a three-game sweep in which the Flames threw effective pitching, solid defense and relentless offense at a lowly conference rival.

With just under a month left in the regular season, the Flames, currently second in the Big South Conference to Coastal Carolina with a 32-12 overall record (15-3 in conference play), were not about to take it easy on the Bulldogs (now 20-23, 7-11 BSC).

Ace left-hander Shawn Teufel pitched all nine innings Friday night for the Flames, giving up just two runs on five hits and a walk, striking out eight and improving his record to 9-1 on the season with an 11-2 victory. His teammates, meanwhile, teed off against Teufel's counterpart, Conner Scarborough, blasting him for 10 runs and 14 hits in five innings.

"We've had a pretty good approach to the plate," Head Coach Jim Toman said long after the dust had settled on an 11-run, 19-hit outburst. "We're feeling good, (we've been having) good weather. The guys are swinging it pretty good."

Every starter had at least one hit, with centerfielder Curran Redal leading the way with four hits (including his third home run of the year) and three RBIs. Shortstop Matt Williams contributed three hits and three RBIs, and four others with at least two hits.

"We're not taking any pitch for granted," right fielder Michael Robertson said of the team's offensive strategy.

Robertson made good on that claim the next day, when he slammed a two-on, no-out pitch from Gardner-Webb hurler Brock Wilson over the right-center field wall for his third home run of the year. The score ballooned from 1-0 to 4-0, and it was just the beginning of the second inning.

They scored again in the next frame on an RBI single by catcher Nathan Thompson to make it 5-0, and would add four more runs in the game in support of starting pitcher Steven Evans, who fought his way through six innings, giving up four runs on nine hits.

"We were hoping (Evans) could give us six or seven innings, and he did the job," Toman said of his starter's effort. "And the big key for him was he didn't walk anyone."

The Flames captured the victory on S

On winning the first two games of the series (in which the Flames amassed 20 runs on 31 hits), Robertson said, "If we don't win the last one, the first two don't mean anything, because we have to stay high in the ratings."

The start of the final game of the series saw considerable winds and near-constant cloud cover, and early on, it appeared that a cloud was particularly hovering over Liberty starter Dustin Umberger.

The first three hitters he faced reached base (two singles and one double), and the next two after that both hit into outs, but both of those outs scored runs. It was 3-0 while fans were still filing into their seats.

## Jeff Taylor: A legacy continued

Nate Brown  
SPORTS REPORTER

Family and friends of the late Liberty University professor Jeffery Owen Taylor were treated to front-row accommodations for Friday night's game against visiting Gardner-Webb University.

Taylor was killed this time last year while throwing some extra batting practice to his son, Jeff Jr., after a Lynchburg College baseball practice. Taylor and his son often stayed after practice for a few drills of their own. While Taylor was pitching to his son, he was hit in the neck by a line drive. After being struck, Taylor said on the field he was okay, but later died at the hospital.

Liberty baseball coach Jim Toman said Taylor was a "fan of all sports," but was remembered for his enthusiasm for baseball in particular. Taylor's love for students and sports met in his real passion — teaching and equipping young men and women to be athletic trainers. Vance Pickard, a co-worker of Taylor, told the WDBJ7 news team shortly after Taylor's death that he "was a gentleman who loved the kids (he taught). He wanted to see them successful as athletic trainers."

In memory of his dedication to Liberty, his love for baseball and commitment to the athletic training program at Liberty, a scholarship fund was created in his name so that one student enrolled in the athletic training program each year could benefit from Taylor's work.

TJ. Knoche was the first recipient of the scholarship. In honor of her late husband, Mary Clare Taylor, accompanied by her son Jeff Jr., threw the ceremonial first pitch of the game and also participated in the scholarship rewarding ceremony.

Jeff Taylor will be endeared in the hearts of Liberty students and faculty, and as his scholarship is rewarded in the coming years, he will continue to enable students to pursue their education in athletic training.

Allow us, the students at Liberty University, to extend our deepest condolences to Mary Clare and Jeff Jr., and our sincerest thanks to Jeff Taylor Sr. for his commitment and love for students.

Contact Nate Brown at  
nbrown4@liberty.edu.

## Liberty Twilight Qualifier nets Flames pair of records

Ryan Walter  
SPORTS REPORTER

The Liberty University track and field team not only broke school records, but also qualified three more athletes to the IC4A championships as the Flames hosted its annual Liberty Twilight Qualifier Thursday.

Both Liberty records came from the women's squad. Sophomore Olivia Charnuski broke the Liberty woman's 100-meter hurdles record with a time of 13.65 seconds — a record previously held for 21 years. Junior Melinda Bendik shattered the previous hammer school record with a winning toss of 181 feet, 6 inches.

"We had some huge bests today," Coach Tolsma said. "Olivia Charnuski had a huge (per-

sonal record) in the hurdles."

Junior Krystle Matthews also achieved a personal best time of 14.58 seconds and finished second in the 100-meter hurdles. Senior Chenoa Freeman capped off the last home event of her career with a win in the 400-meter dash.

The men's team dominated many of the events and had three of its athletes qualify for the upcoming IC4A championship on May 14th. Sophomore Chris Johnson recorded a personal record of 48-1 1/4 in the men's triple jump that also was good enough for an IC4A qualify. Junior Geren Woodbridge followed suit with personal best in javelin, throwing a 194-5.

Clarence Powell won the long jump event with a 24-7

1/4 on his final attempt. Other first place finishers included junior Kolby Shepherd in the pole vault and junior Elliot Galeone in the javelin.

"Elliot Galeone threw just over 200 feet which was a huge accomplishment against the competition," Rebekah Ricksecker said. "It's good to see (that we are) showing dominance over the bigger schools."

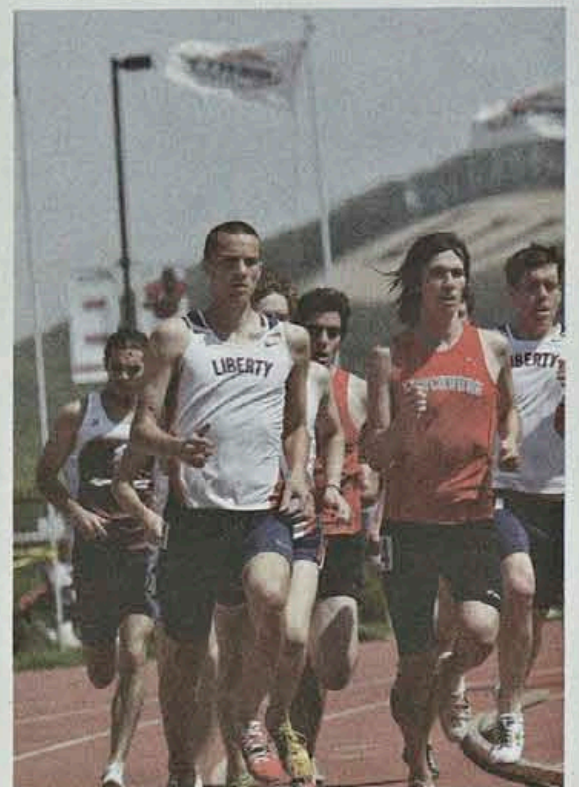
However, though many of the other events were competitive, the headline contest was the men's 800-meter run. The stacked event featured the NCAA Division I indoor national champion Robby Andrews of UVA as well as other competitors from big schools. Andrews won the event but the story for Liberty was sophomore Isaac Wend-

land who set a personal best and qualified for the IC4A championship with a time of 1:50.22. The new time is second only to Chuck Lyngaas' 1:49.60 at the 1997 Liberty Twilight Qualifier.

It feels really good," Wendland said. "I knew if I didn't get a (personal record) here, the season would have been over for me. I had to race like this was going to be my last race."

Sophomore Aaron Johnson and freshman Kevin Reddington both recorded personal bests in the long jump competition while Ryan Smith achieved personal bests in both shot-put and hammer throw.

Contact Ryan Walter at  
rmwalter@liberty.edu.



LES SCHOFER

**FINISHING STRONG**—Three Liberty athletes qualified for the IC4A championships at Liberty Twilight Qualifier.

# Lady Flames snap losing streak with shutout

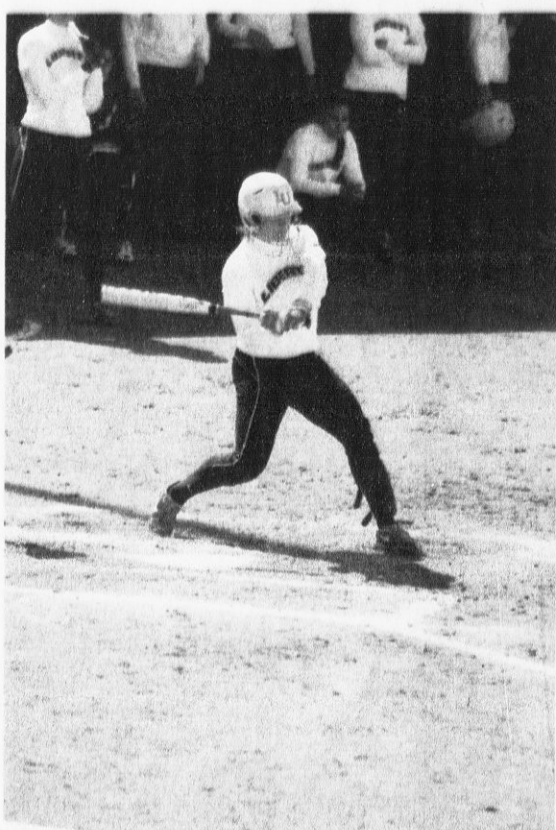


PHOTO PROVIDED

**BATTER UP**—The Lady Flames finished a tough road trip with a win against Presbyterian Sunday 6-0.

Ryan Carr  
SPORTS REPORTER

After dropping four straight games on the road last week, the Lady Flames softball team picked up a decisive 6-0 victory over the Presbyterian Blue Hose on Sunday.

Liberty was defeated in both games of a doubleheader on Saturday against the Blue Hose before regaining their winning form. Sophomore Kaylee West broke the game open in the fifth inning with a three-run single and led the Lady Flames offensively.

"I wanted to have a good at-bat and put the ball in play on the ground as hard as I can and hope for the best," West said.

Up until that point, the Lady Flames were holding onto a slim 1-0 lead consequence of a throwing error that scored sophomore Jenny Law in the third inning.

The Lady Flames added two more insurance runs in the top of the seventh courtesy of run-scoring singles from sophomores Bridgett Woods and Meredith Baisden. The win gave freshman pitcher Katrina Johnson her eighth win of the season.

"If you can score two out runs and you can score in the seventh inning it means you're still on your game so I was very impressed with that," Head Coach Paul Wetmore said.

Despite outhitting the Blue Hose in both games on Saturday, the Lady Flames were defeated twice by two runs.

"We didn't come out with a lot of intensity that we usually come out with and we didn't jump on Presbyterian. We laid back and expected to win on a couple of runs," West said.

Presbyterian captured

the first game of the doubleheader with a 4-2 upset of the Lady Flames. In the top of the fifth inning, Liberty took a 2-0 lead off a single by Law that scored senior J'nae Jefferson from third.

The slim lead was not enough to keep the underdog Blue Hose out of the game. Presbyterian mounted an impressive comeback in the sixth inning by putting four runs on the board. The Blue Hose scored four runs on three hits to steal the game from the Lady Flames by a final of 4-2.

The Lady Flames looked for revenge in game two of the doubleheader but came up empty-handed. Liberty forced Presbyterian pitcher Leslie Hensley to surrender eight hits but was unable to capitalize on them.

Junior Amber DePasquale scored the only run in the fourth inning after a wild pitch allowed her to cross home plate. The Blue Hose responded in the bottom half of the inning with two runs to take the 2-1 lead. Taylor Staten singled to score the tying run for Presbyterian. Staten then stole third base and later scored the go-ahead run on a throwing error.

Presbyterian padded its lead in the fifth inning with a Morgan Durham single to cap off the 3-1 victory. Johnson picked up her fourth loss of the season with four strikeouts and six hits.

"We hit the ball a lot of times right at people and didn't get runs. So we just didn't get timely hits. It wasn't that we played badly we just didn't get those timely hits," said Wetmore.

The Lady Flames traveled to Blacksburg, Va., to face non-conference opponent Virginia Tech on Wednesday. In the first game of the doubleheader the Hokies' offense was overwhelming as Virginia Tech took an 11-4 victory over the Lady Flames.

Liberty took the early lead with two runs in the first inning with a single by sophomore Kelly Strickland that scored Jefferson from second. Jeffersong to drive in junior Cassie Hendrix from third to give the Lady Flames a 2-0 lead.

The Hokies were held scoreless until the third inning when their offense came alive with a five run inning to take control at 5-2. The Lady Flames refused

to sit back, and responded in the fourth with a double from Law that scored two runs to bring the Lady Flames within one, 5-4. Virginia Tech added four more runs in the bottom of the fourth to take a commanding 9-4 lead over Liberty.

The Hokies added two more runs late in the sixth inning to finish off the Lady Flames 11-4.

Despite the opening loss, the Lady Flames did not back down in the second game. Liberty lost a tight game, 1-0, to the host Virginia Tech. Neither team was able to produce very many hits as both teams finished with four. The Hokies took the victory over the Lady Flames thanks to a lody homer by catcher Courtney Liddle.

The Lady Flames finish off the regular season with a home series against Coastal Carolina. The series starts with a doubleheader on Friday at 2:00 PM.

Contact Ryan Carr at [rmcarr2@liberty.edu](mailto:rmcarr2@liberty.edu).

**BASEBALL** continued from B1

In the bottom of the inning, the Flames tried to answer, but Williams struck out swinging with two on and two out.

Although they held Gardner-Webb scoreless in the top of the second inning, the Flames headed into the bottom of the inning looking for a shot in the arm. Little did they know what was coming.

First, second baseman P.J. Jimenez reached on an infield single. Then Thompson flied out harmlessly to center field. Gardner-Webb starting pitcher Adam Izokovic plunked two batters in a row to load the bases for Redal. The Flames lead-off man slammed a line drive down the right field line, scoring two runners. First baseman Doug Bream smacked a line drive single down the left field line a few pitches later, scoring two more and making it 4-3 Liberty.

After another out, Bream home on a single by Richardson. Two hitters later, Jimenez got his second hit of the inning with a booming double to left, scoring two more and making it 7-3. Another hit tacked on an additional run, and it was 8-3.

"It's always good to see a team get eight runs (in one inning)," Jimenez said. "Some guys got to bat twice, and it helps you to see the pitcher a lot more."

The Bulldogs attempted to come back later in the game, but, ultimately, that big inning was their undoing in a 10-7 Liberty win.

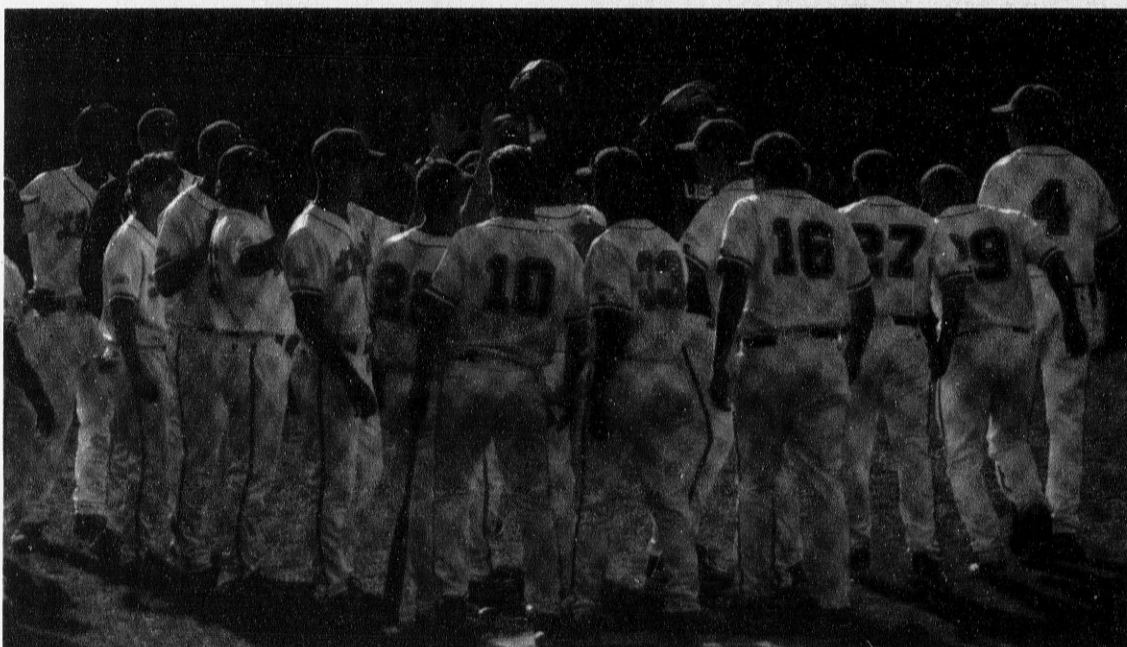
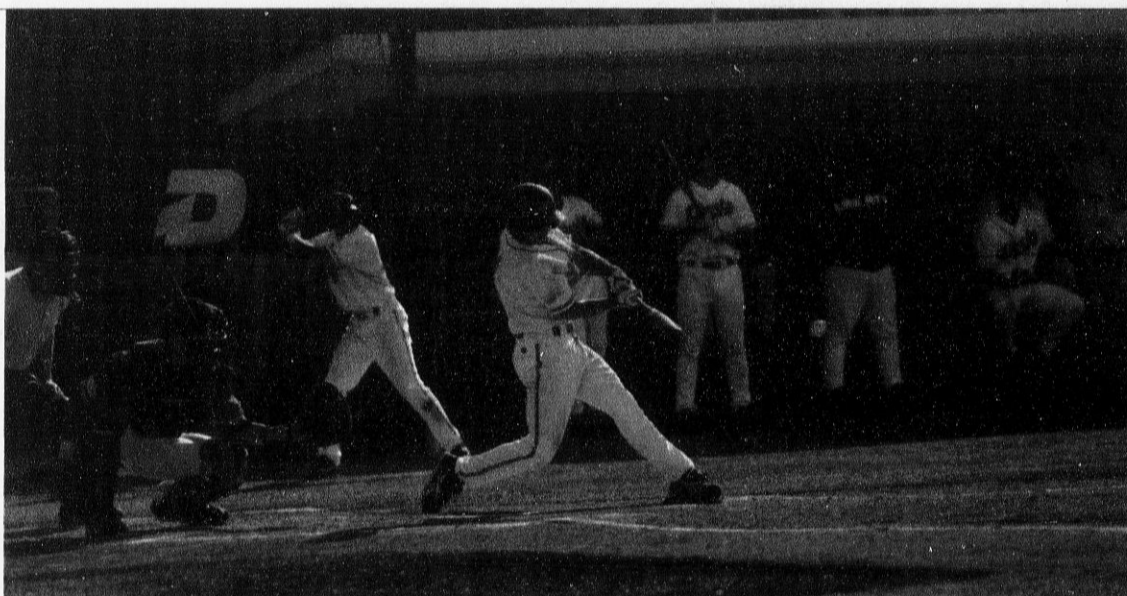
"That big inning today was the difference," Toman said.

Sunday's win not only nailed down the three-game sweep, but it was also Toman's 100th win as head coach at Liberty. However, despite reaching the that mark in just his third season, the coach was not throwing any parties.

"The 100 is great," he said. "But what we're concerned about right now is trying to get 40, 41, 42 wins so we have a good enough resume for the (NCAA tournament selection committee) to pick us as an at-large team."

The Flames currently sit seven games behind Coastal, but are currently looking to Wednesday, when they play at George Mason University.

Contact Daniel Martinez at [dpmartinez@liberty.edu](mailto:dpmartinez@liberty.edu)



LES SCHOFFER

**40 OR BUST**—With a sweep this weekend of Gardner-Webb, the Flames pull within eight games of their 40 win goal with a 32-12 record.

## Playoff Update: NBA and NHL

**Lakers 104-Jazz 99 (Lakers 1-0 in series)**

Kobe played in convincingly "Kobe" fashion in the closing minutes of Game 1 of the Western Conference semifinals to give the Lakers the narrow edge. Bryant scored 11 of his 31 points in the final four minutes of the game, saving the second-stringers from blowing a fourth quarter lead. Game 2 is May 4 at 10:30 p.m.

**Cavaliers 101-Celtics 93 (Cavs 1-0 in series)**

The Cleveland Cavaliers under the leadership of recently named MVP LeBron James fought from behind to overtake the Boston Series in the East Conference semifinals to secure the first game of the series. Mo Williams had an electrifying dunk over 6'7" Paul Pierce to swing the momentum in favor of the Cavs. Game 2 is May 3 at 8 p.m.

**Hawks 95-Bucks 74 (Hawks advance to East semifinals vs. ORL)**

Atlanta is celebrating their advance to the East semifinals thanks to stat-busting play by Jamal Crawford and Al Horford. Crawford netted 22 points and Horford recorded a double-double. The Hawks move on to face Dwight Howard and the Magic in Orlando. Game 1 of the series is May 4 at 8 p.m.

**Canadiens 3-Penguins 1 (series tied 1-1)**

Mike Cammalleri scored two goals and goaltender Jaroslav Halak had 38 saves to top Sidney Crosby and the Pens and even the series at one game a piece. Although the reigning Stanley Cup champion Penguins are heavily favored to win the series, Montreal has proven that it will not come without a fight. Game 3 is May 4 at 7 p.m.

**Sharks 4-Red Wings 3 (Sharks 2-0 in series)**

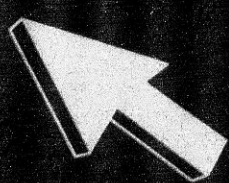
Joe Pavelski scored two power-play goals and fellow Joe, Joe Thornton, shot in the game winner to put San Jose up two games to none in the series. Thornton scored off a rebound puck after Nicklas Lidstrom broke his stick. The ensuing loose puck was ultimately the game winner. Game 3 is May 4 at 7:30 p.m.

**Bruins 5-Flyers 4 in OT (Bruins 1-0 in series)**

Marc Savard scored the game-winning goal in overtime during his first game back after suffering a concussion on March 7. Boston had the 4-2 lead with less than eight minutes left in Game 1, when Mike Richards and Danny Briere each put in a goal to send the game into overtime. Game 2 is May 4 at 7 p.m.

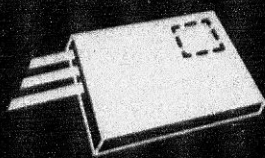


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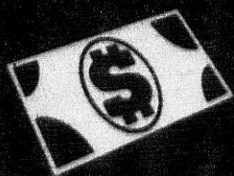
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Editorial

# Moments turn heroes into legends

Jordan LoSasso  
ASST. SPORTS EDITOR

Sports have been, and always will be, defined by moments. These moments often come as quickly as a flick of a wrist or a tumble into the end zone. As a child, I fell in love with sports because of these acts of grace, skill and, sometimes, luck that come together to culminate into a lasting memory that transcends age and interests.

Growing up these moments included my parents' story about hockey phenom Eric Lindros' first home game as a Philadelphia Flyer, watching Donovan McNabb complete a 26-yard pass to Freddie Mitchell on 4th and 26 in the waning minutes of a Philadelphia Eagles playoff game against the Green Bay

Packers and Allen Iverson stepping over Tyronn Lue after his crossover and three-pointer in the 2001 NBA finals against the Lakers.

As a graduating senior writing my final column for the Liberty Champion, it's time to recap the greatest sports moments during my college career, from 2006 to 2010, from my point of view.

## Philadelphia Phillies World Series

After 20 years

Heroes get remembered but legends never die.  
-The Sandlot

of being broken by Philadelphia sports' failures, chokes and missed opportunities, I finally got to celebrate my beloved Phillies World Series championship.

I skipped two days of classes to attend the World Series parade. I don't remember the work I missed or the trouble it caused by falling behind, but I will never forget the experience I had standing right outside Citizens Bank Park watching the parade with friends and family. It was the greatest sporting moment of my life.

### Tim Tebow's Promise

Time might prove Tebow as the greatest college football player ever. Combining his athleticism, leadership and desire to win, the Florida Gators could claim this once-in-a-lifetime sporting specimen as their own.

His defining moment

wasn't one of his two championships, Heisman Trophy or a tremendous game performance. It came after a 31-30 loss to Mississippi, and will be remembered as The Promise,

which is now inscribed on a plaque and posted on Florida's on-campus football building.

"I promise you one thing. A lot of good will come out of this. You will never see

any player in the entire country play as hard as I will play the rest of the season. You will never see someone push the rest of the team as hard as I will push everybody the rest of the season. You will never see a team play harder than we will the rest of the season," Tebow promised after the loss to Mississippi.

### Michael Phelps, 2008 Olympics

Phelps' dominance at the 2008 summer Olympics was nothing short of greatness. His Olympic record of eight gold medals and subsequent legendary status came after his two memorable moments.

His first moment came with the help of a teammate. Jason Lezak's come-from-behind win in the last leg of the 4x100 relay to defeat France kept Phelps on pace for the his gold medal record. The second was Phelps fingertip finish to defeat Milorad Cavic in the 100m butterfly by .01 seconds.

Both finishes had me on the edge of my seat, holding my breathe for minutes at a time. If I get to witness another Olympic event with this much drama and excitement, I'll be a content sports fan.

### Super Bowl XLII

The New York Giants defeating the New England Patriots in the Super Bowl was one

of the biggest upsets in football history, and its moment came with a helmet catch.

With the Patriots leading 14-10 and only 1:15 remaining in the game, Eli Manning spun out of the grasp of Jarvis Green, threw the ball downfield to David Tyree, who completed the 35-yard catch by pinning the ball on his helmet with one hand. The catch helped the Giants end the Patriots run at a perfect season with a 17-14 victory.

### Team USA vs Team Canada, gold medal game

As disappointing as the end result was for America, the journey was worth it. If Team USA won the gold medal, it would have rivaled the 1980 Miracle on Ice in Olympic hockey lore.

Sidney Crosby cemented his legacy in Canada, though, by beating Ryan Miller with an overtime goal, giving the Canadians the 3-2 gold medal victory. Hockey hasn't been this exciting in years, and this one game transcended nations in viewership and interest.

### Honorable mentions

Tiger Woods winning the US Open Championship with a torn ACL and double stress fracture in a playoff against Rocco Mediate.

Boise State defeating Oklahoma with two trick plays in the Fiesta Bowl. The Broncos used a hook-and-ladder in the final minute of regulation to tie the game, and a Statue of Liberty to beat the Sooners in overtime.

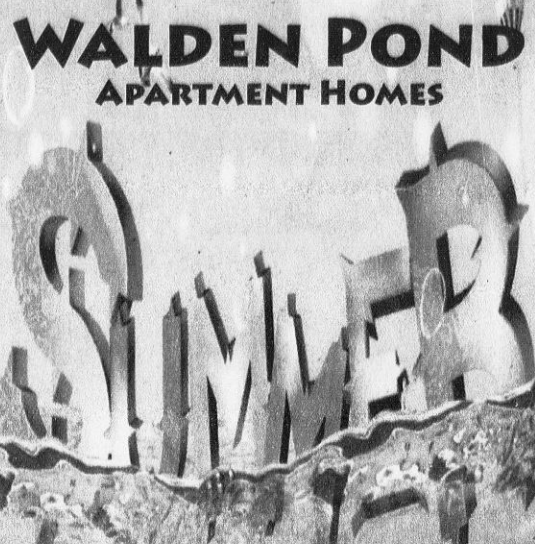
Sports are identified by the moments that encompass it. These moments turn good players into heroes, and heroes into legends.

The Sandlot, a movie I grew up idolizing, said it best.

"Remember kid, there's heroes and there's legends. Heroes get remembered but legends never die."

Contact Jordan LoSasso at [jlosasso@liberty.edu](mailto:jlosasso@liberty.edu).

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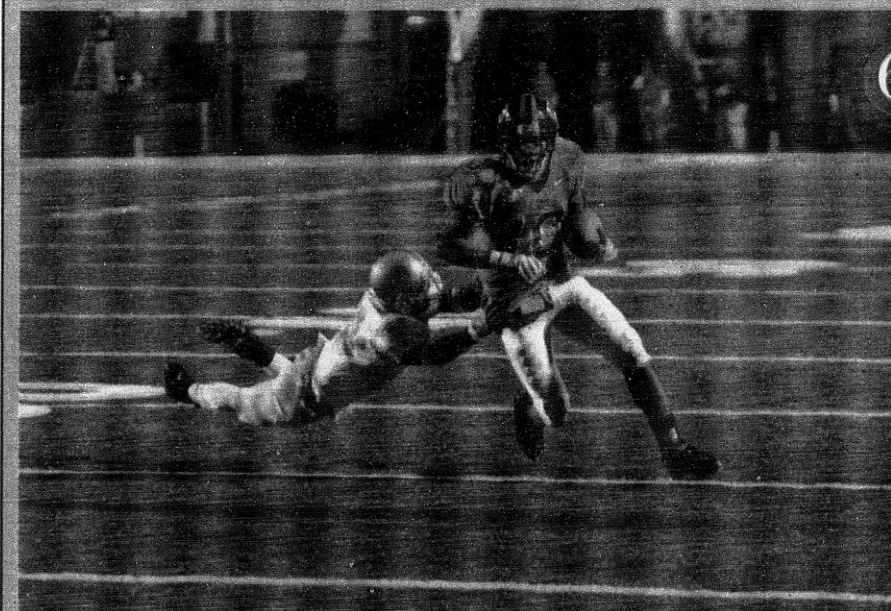
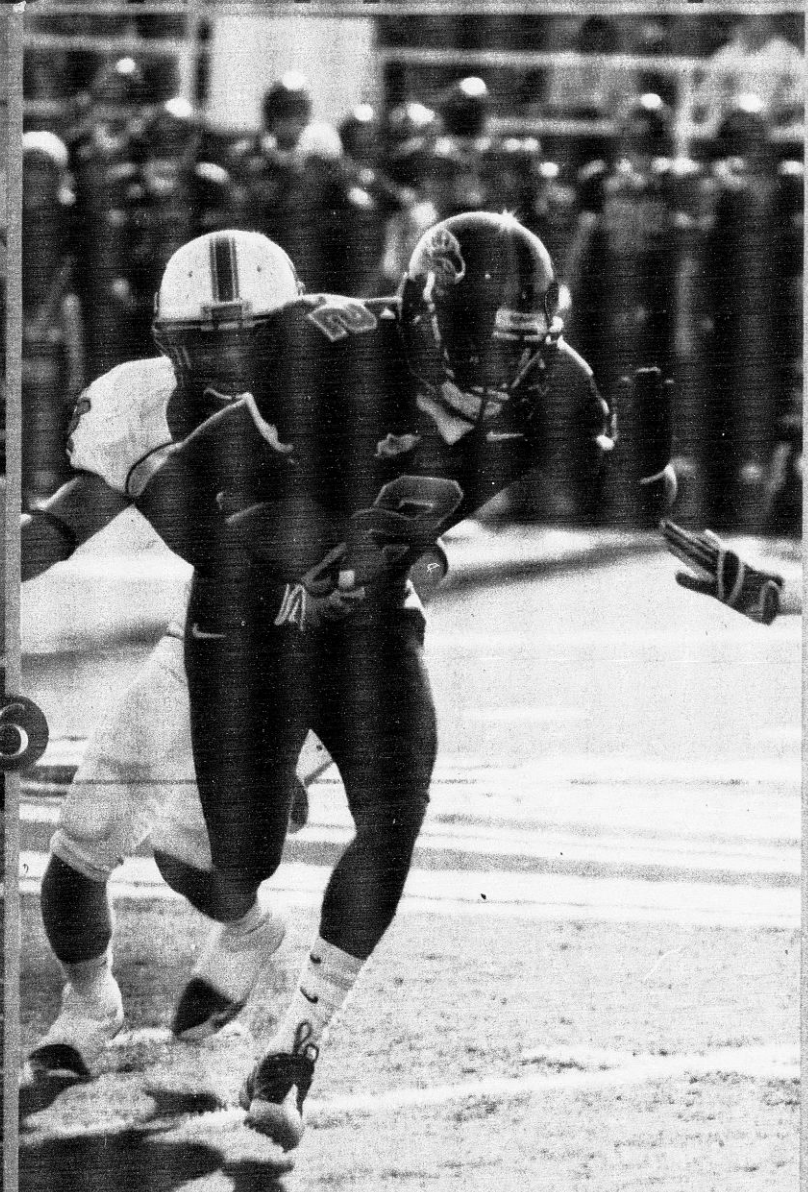
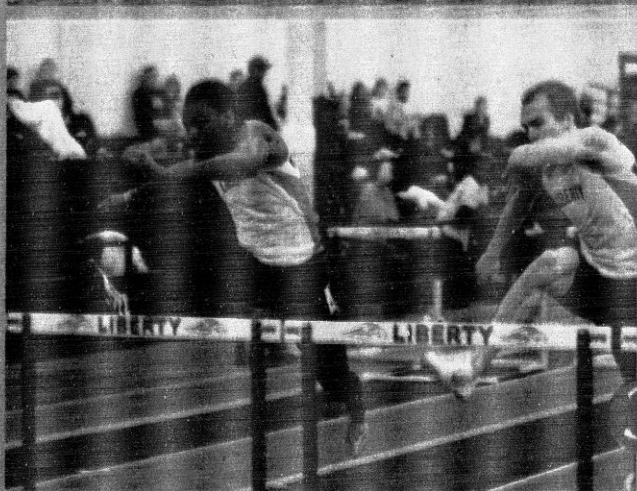
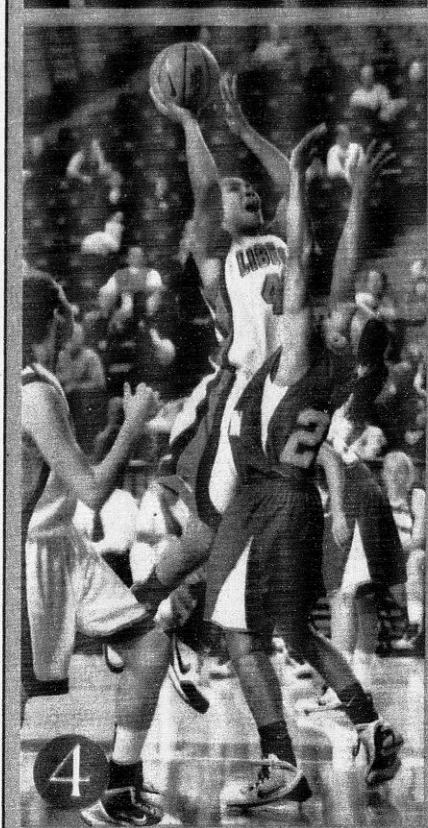
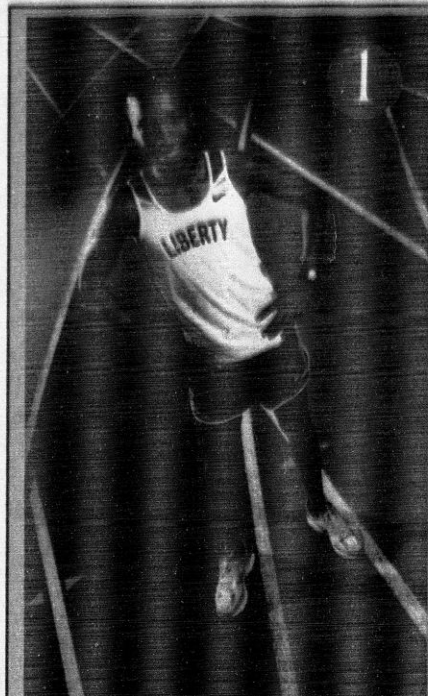
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## Flames Yearbook

1. Sam Chelanga won the NCAA Division I Men's Cross Country Championship race, smashing the LaVern Gibson 10k course record by 22 seconds.
2. The Liberty University Paintball team finished third in the National Collegiate Paintball Association competition April 8-11.
3. The men's and women's track and field and cross country teams won the Big South Conference titles in all three seasons.
4. The women's basketball team won the Big South Conference title and lost a close first round playoff game to Kentucky 83-77. Devon Brown was named VaSID Rookie of the Year.
5. Liberty's new gymnastics team competed in the NAIGC National Gymnastics meet in San Marcos, Texas. Rachel Steel took home the National Championship on the balance beam. Mackenzie Clary ranked 20th in floor at the event.
6. The football team finished the season with a share of the Big South Conference title and ranked No. 22 in the FCS poll.
7. The women's lacrosse team staged a comeback against Howard University on March 6 to win their first game 17-16 in overtime. Lauren See and Kristin Crowley each scored five goals for the Lady Flames, and Crowley ended the season with 27 goals.
8. Flames fans pack Al Worthington Stadium to see their baseball team play under the lights.

# Chelanga breaks own NCAA record

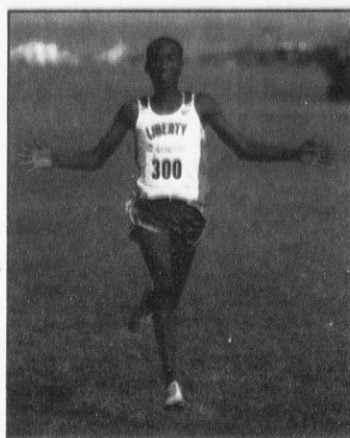


PHOTO PROVIDED

Mitchell Malcheff  
GRADUATE ASSISTANT

California may be 10,000 miles and 10 time zones away from Sam Chelanga's native Kenya, but he certainly feels at home in the Golden State. The redshirt junior shattered his own NCAA 10K record at the Payton Jordan Cardinal Invitational at Stanford University, trimming 20 seconds off last year's record set at the Brutus Invitational in Berkeley, Calif.

Chelanga's 27:08.39 time was

the third fastest in the world this year. The record-breaking run was even more unlikely considering Chelanga's effort was his first of the outdoor track season. Chelanga was rehabbing a foot injury and had not raced since March 12 before his electrifying debut.

"I'm really excited, I didn't come here for that. I had a problem with my foot so I was just coming here to get a good opening," Chelanga told Flotrack.org.

The seven-time All-American

highlighted a field of the nation's best, including Olympian and former Oregon star Galen Rupp. Rupp, who managed to get the best of Chelanga more than once a year ago, cruised past the American record but still finished fourth. The field was paced by Chris Solinsky, a five-time NCAA champion at Wisconsin who ran a blistering 26:59.60, a new American record.

The star-studded field was designed to give Solinsky a chance to make a run at the record. For Chel-

anga, the race gave him another crack at Rupp. Despite almost no training over the past few weeks, he chased Rupp down on the final lap, posting a 60 second split to earn his first head-to-head victory against Rupp.

"My foot wasn't doing anything, so I was like, you know what, I think I have a chance," Chelanga told Flotrack.org.

Contact Mitchell Malcheff at [mjmalcheff@liberty.edu](mailto:mjmalcheff@liberty.edu)

# Athlete profile: CLARENCE POWELL

Chris McNair  
SPORTS REPORTER

When you think of the high jump, long jump and triple jump, not many things come to mind, other than maybe a pole that is set very high, a mat, maybe some sand and a skinny kid in spandex. But outside of that, there is really nothing that identifies it. But at Liberty University that is not the case. Only one name comes to mind when it comes to track and field jumping prowess.

Born Aug. 15, 1988, Clarence "Bruskee" Powell had the dream of becoming a track star at a young age.

With several Liberty records already under his belt, including the indoor triple jump record, which he broke on Jan. 22 at the Hokie Invitational with a jump of 50-6, the junior from Marianna, Fla., has solidified himself.

Powell is affectionately

known as "Bruskee" on campus, a nickname given to him as a child when he used to wear a perm.

"In middle school I had a perm, and people said that I looked like Bruce Lee. And eventually my cousin started calling me 'Bruskee'... and it just kind of stuck with me. It's funny because professors call me by my nickname," he chuckled.

Believe it or not, breaking records is not what Powell sets out to do, so sometimes it catches him by surprise. Powell did not know that he broke the previously mentioned record until coach Brant Tolsma told him on the bus.

"I really didn't know that I broke it," he said. "It felt great. But at the same time, I knew I had more in me."

It is that non-complacent, never satisfied attitude that pushes Powell over the top,

giving him the edge to outperform and dominate in his events.

A product of Cottondale High School, which Powell attended his senior year after attending Marianna High School prior, he came into the spotlight after breaking a record his senior year. A record that no one, not even himself, thought he was capable of breaking—a record set by professional triple jumper Brandon Roulhac. After accomplishing that, it was clear that Powell's talent was special.

With such an exciting talent coming out of high school, a number of programs were interested in Powell. He received offers from schools including Florida, Florida State, Clemson and Georgia Tech. Powell's desire to become a better person, as well as a warm reception from Liberty re-

cruits, led to his decision to attend Liberty.

"I came and visited and liked how the people were in athletics. I wanted to be a better person," Powell said.

"Without God none of this would be possible. I couldn't imagine competing without doing it for him. When we get to track meets, often as a team or with our competitors, we will pray before the event," he said.

His family also motivates him to be a better athlete as well.

"What motivates me to do what I do and work as hard as I work is the fact that no one makes it out of where I'm from. Especially the fact that I'm pretty much the only one in my family that is going to a four-year university and actually graduated from high school other than my mom and aunts. So I just really want to represent them well," he said.

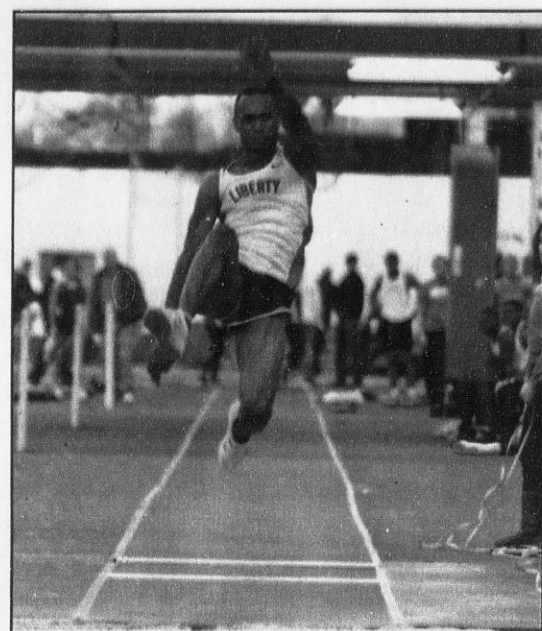


PHOTO PROVIDED

**LEAP OF FAITH**—Jumper Clarence Powell credits God with his athletic success

With one year left in his career, Powell is dedicated to becoming the best athlete he can be, and reaching his ultimate goal of becom-

ing a professional.

Contact Chris McNair at [cjmcnair@liberty.edu](mailto:cjmcnair@liberty.edu).

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# Not your average jazz concert

Betsy Abraham  
FEATURE REPORTER

The only thing better than eating good food is eating good food while listening to good music. The music and humanities department gave that opportunity to a room full of family, friends and students who attended the Jazz Ensemble's Spring Recital April 26 as the 17-member band played in the Reber-Thomas Executive Dining Hall.

This is the first time the music department held a concert in the Executive Dining Hall. Originally scheduled for the Towns Auditorium, the venue and time were changed last minute when the Fray concert was scheduled for the same night.

"We came to find out that the Fray was invited and that's a really big campus concert. We didn't want to play for an empty room so we decided we were going to do something a little different," Concert Director Stephen Kerr said.

Ryan Babbitt, a Virginia Polytechnic Institute (Virginia Tech) junior, came to the concert to watch his girlfriend, Kaitlyn Burroughs, play saxophone with the jazz ensemble. He said that the Executive Dining Hall was a great place to have the show.

"I felt like I was in a coffee shop with a live band. The setting was nice and dark with the ambient lighting. It was well put together," Babbitt said.

The concert's setting allowed students eating dinner in the main dining room a chance to hear the band and watch them play. Students ate at tables, bobbing their heads and tapping their feet as they listened to the lively band fill the room with the sounds of jazz music from throughout the 20th century.

Kerr said that he choose different types of jazz music to make the program more interesting and diverse.

"I look at a program that allows people to choose their own favorite. If everything was the same it would get boring after a while," Kerr said. "There's always got to be changes that go on, otherwise one tune sounds like



PHOTO PROVIDED

**IN TUNE** — The Liberty Jazz Ensemble relocated its concert to the Reber-Thomas Executive Dining Hall at the last minute because the Fray concert was scheduled for the same night.

the next."

The director added that having a mix of music helps appeal to the different tastes of each audience member.

"Different styles make it interesting so when you're working your way through a concert, you capture the interest of everyone who's there," Kerr said. "So when you leave the concert at least one song stood out to you."

Kerr added that because the band spends so much time playing together during biweekly practices and basketball games, they have become aware and confident in each other's playing ability.

Senior Thomas Usewicz plays trombone in the jazz ensemble and said that the group has definitely learned to play well and have fun.

"It's definitely a lot of focus. At the same time jazz in itself is laid back so if you can't have fun with it, you're more than likely not going to be able to get into the music as much, and that's part of the music," Usewicz said.

Listeners also got to know the players more as students introduced each song and each soloist. Kerr hoped that audience members would see the personality of the performers and show listeners the importance of music.

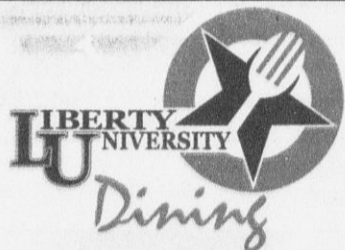
"I really think it's important for the audience to have the background so that they have a connection rather than just hearing music play. If they know a little bit about the music or composer, it tends to make the performance more meaningful and makes for a more enjoyable connection between the jazz ensemble

and the audience," Kerr said.

Though the jazz ensemble will not be playing any more concerts this semester, Kerr notes the importance of shows like these and says that they can be a big part of a student's education, not only for the player but for the listener.

"Music is such an important part of our culture, so having some knowledge about music is really an important part of who we are. If the only thing we listen to is pop on the radio, I think we're limiting ourselves," Kerr said.

Contact Betsy Abraham at [babraham3@liberty.edu](mailto:babraham3@liberty.edu).



## UPDATE

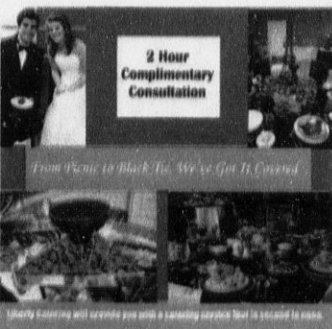
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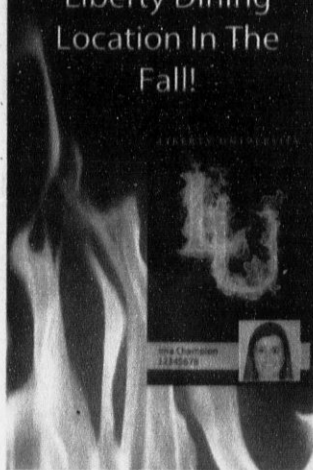
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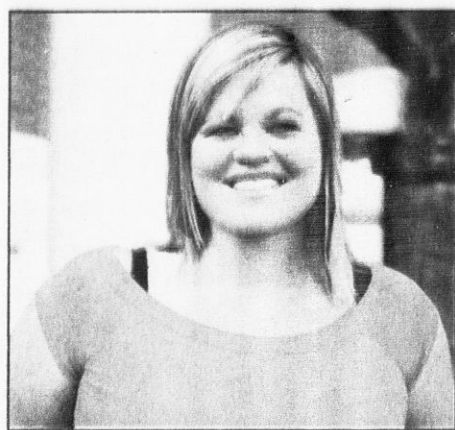
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# Students serve Lynchburg

Liberty students aim to serve others through CSER within the university and the local communities. Liberty students are responsible for more than 500,000 hours of community service, according to a recent report. The next few articles tell some of their stories.

## CSER changes a family's life



Emily DeFosse  
FEATURE EDITOR

Some names in this article have been changed to protect privacy.

There are two kinds of students — those who never venture beyond Wards Road, and those who pursue Dr. Jerry Falwell's vision to become salt and light soldiers in the Lynchburg community.

Senior education major Aly Sievers, and

the students who serve with her, are reaching people in Lynchburg and changing lives through her bible study. Sievers had no intention of initially serving for Community Service (CSER) credit, but her time spent downtown earned her this year's Volunteer of the Year Christian Service Award.

"(The bible study) got (the project) approved for (CSER credit) because we had been spending so many hours downtown that it just made sense," Sievers said.

The group built, decks, cut grass and did a variety of other service projects in a rundown area of Lynchburg where few students ventured to go, according to Sievers.

The lives of one family in this area have changed forever, not because their lawn is well manicured, but because they have turned their lives over to Christ thanks to the care and love Sievers relentlessly showed them and the relationship she has poured her heart into building.

"We kept knocking on the door, and

knocking on the door, and knocking on the door and kept pursuing a relationship (with this family)," Sievers said. "They would always tell us what they needed, but would never accept the Lord."

Almost three months ago the lives of the family members in this house, a mother, Faith, her daughter Hope, and 2-year-old grandson David began to change when Faith accepted Jesus Christ as her savior and Hope followed suit a week later.

Sievers' shift focused from simply meeting physical needs to disciplining the mother and daughter.

"Aly has been a big blessing ever since I started to see the type of person she was deep inside," Hope said. "That is what made a difference in my life. Some people are nosy and talk behind our backs. Aly is caring."

Aly spent one Wednesday evening sitting with Hope in the living room of her home creating invitations for her upcoming baby shower. They made plans to meet the next day to register for gifts at Wal-Mart. Hope

was shocked to find out that she could register in more than one store and that people would care enough to throw a shower for her.

Sievers later asked Faith how her life had changed and Faith began to cry.

"You love me so much," Faith said.

Sievers hugged Faith.

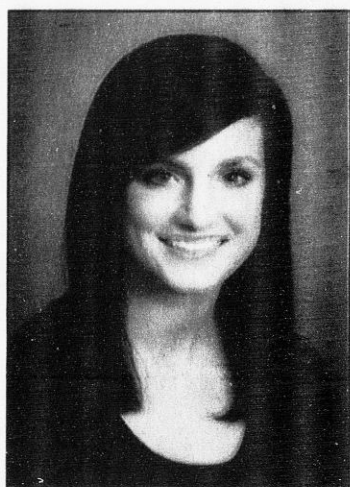
"You're going to make me cry now," Sievers said.

Sievers and those who serve with her usually visit Faith and Hope every Wednesday and Saturday.

"(Wednesday) is the day I look forward to most in the week," Sievers said. "We read a Psalm a day and I challenge (Faith and Hope) to read on their own. I challenge them to pray on their own. It is cool to see what the Lord is doing in their lives because if you had met them three months ago you would not have recognized them."

Contact Emily DeFosse at  
ebdefosse@liberty.edu.

## From the heart: beyond the call of duty



Megan House  
CONTRIBUTING REPORTER

Filing and inventory are seemingly insignificant tasks, yet someone has to do it. Kaitlin Royer spent 40 hours of her semester at LAUREL Regional School accomplishing behind-the-scenes work to benefit students with disabilities.

LAUREL Regional School provides education for students with severe disabilities. Royer, a psychology major, has a passion for students in such circumstances.

"They have to learn so much

more than we do," Royer said.

While fulfilling her Community Service (CSER) hours at Liberty, Royer had the opportunity to not only work, but learn as well. "The vision department has some stuff for making Braille for people, and so I learned how to use a Braille," Royer said. "I learned a couple letters in Braille and it was really awesome."

She said that most people do not always realize everything students have to learn when they cannot see.

"It just shows that they are on an entirely different level," Royer said.

Royer's mother is an occupational therapist for LAUREL Regional School, and after completing her CSER, Royer said she understands why her mother's job is so rewarding.

"Now I know why she enjoys her job so much, you know, because it was great," Royer said. "You don't feel like you're going to work at all."

The people Royer worked with were very appreciative and welcomed her help. Royer was

nominated for CSER volunteer of the year, and on the evaluation form, Anne Wagner, secretary for the vision and occupational therapy offices, expressed gratitude to Royer.

"I feel we are lucky and blessed to have had her, and I am sorry to see her go," Wagner said. "I think she has risen to the occasion of 'beyond the call of duty.'"

Royer said she did anything she was asked. Her responsibilities and tasks were not always the same, but there was always plenty of work to be done.

"I felt like I wasn't doing enough almost because there was so much

to be done," Royer said. "But every day they were like, 'Thank you so much,' and 'Can we keep you?'"

Royer met the expectations of her superiors with great competence.

"I expected efficiency, professionalism, dependability and flexibility, and with Kaitlin, I found all of that," Wagner said.

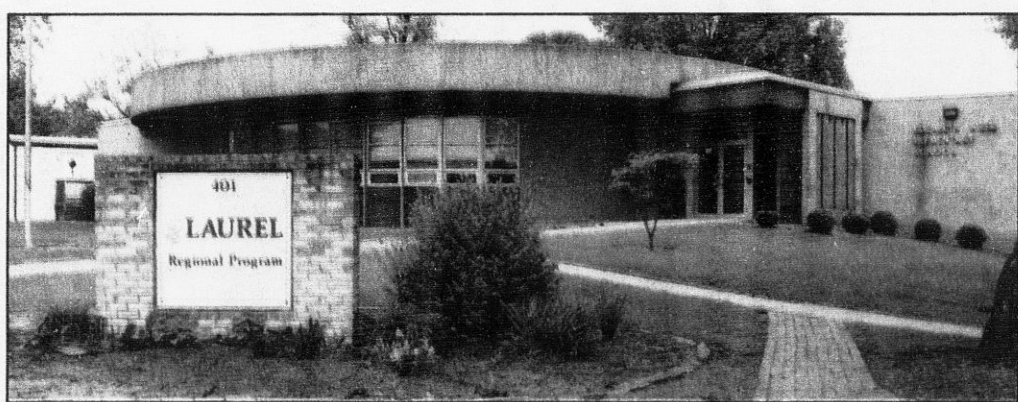
Aside from the motivation of serving the community simply for the required CSER credit, Royer understands that there is a value to Community Service.

"CSER teaches people how to have a real work experience while representing the school as well as themselves," Royer said.

Her time and energy helped people, and made an impact on the people she served, as well as her own life.

"Serving at LAUREL impacted my life in the sense that I have made friends that I was able to make a difference in their lives for a few weeks helping through a stressful time," Royer said. "I will probably help them again if I get the opportunity because they are such a loving group."

Contact Megan House at  
mhouse2@liberty.edu.



PHOTOS PROVIDED

## Computer tutor impacts lives

Tiffany Edwards  
FEATURE EDITOR

The Internet is a primary form of communication for most people today. However some people, mainly senior citizens, have yet to learn how to use this technological medium, despite the growing dependency on Internet-based tasks, such as e-mail or online banking. This is where Whitney Coleman does her CSER.

Coleman, a sophomore business and human resources management major, has volunteered at Timbrook Library on Timberlake Road for the past two semesters. Coleman found out about the library at the fall 2009 Community Service (CSER) fair.

"I met Coralee Tuck (the Timbrook volunteer coordinator) at the fair. I was just trying to find a CSER that would fit within my schedule and that I would enjoy," Coleman said. "She asked me if I knew how to use a computer and a cell phone and I said 'Yeah,' and then she asked if would like to work with old people and I said 'Sure.' So that's how I got started."

Coleman works as a computer tutor at

the library. She works primarily with senior citizens, teaching them how to set up and operate e-mail, navigate Web sites and show them how to generally operate a computer. She has gotten to know a lot of people through her work at Timbrook, according to Coleman.

"It's not like your average library. It's very tiny, so it's like a home for people. There are regulars that come in day by day, so you get to know people in the community, their families, their interests. I guess you could say I like the experience of meeting people outside of campus," Coleman said.

Coleman says that she has had the chance to open up more to people when working with the elderly at Timbrook.

"Outside of Timbrook Library, I'm a pretty shy person. Being that they are elderly, they come out straight with their problem or issue," Coleman said. "They're very talkative anyway, they want to carry on a conversation outside of what they want to learn. It's pretty simple, just a 'How is your day going,' or 'What would you like to learn today?' and we'll just go from there. I can be

a pretty open person."

Branch manager Judy Gerlinger works directly with Coleman and has been blown away by the library patrons' response to her work ethic and positive attitude.

"We have had people tip her with money and ask for her specifically when they come in," Gerlinger said. "She has always come in with just a lovely attitude. She's very patient and polite, and she is just a real example of what Liberty University stands for, I believe."

Coleman once helped a woman set up an e-mail account so she could keep up with her family that she had limited contact with because she could not afford long-distance phone rates. By teaching the woman how to use e-mail, Coleman "gave her the world," according to Gerlinger.

"What we do here at Timbrook Library is almost like a ministry, and this volunteer position seemed to be tailor-made for Whitney," Gerlinger said. "We have a lot of senior citizens who come here, and she has

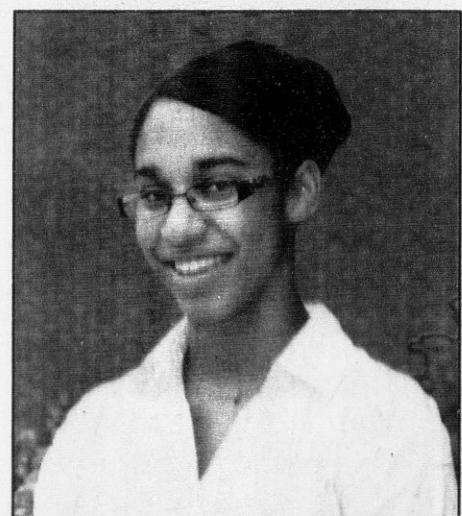


PHOTO PROVIDED

been so patient and loving with them as a tutor. Whitney exemplifies what Liberty stands for — 'Changing lives ... one degree at a time.' Whitney changes lives one person at a time."

Contact Tiffany Edwards at  
tredwards2@liberty.edu.

# Making a difference 10 years later

## Jubilee Family Development Center

Mattison Brooks  
CONTRIBUTING REPORTER

When it opened in 1998, the Jubilee Family Development Center was designed to provide low-income youth and their families a constructive recreational and educational environment to enrich their lives.

"We designed (it) to serve people in this area," Jubilee executive director Sterling Wilder said. "We had to address the fact that a lot of working families had parents that had kids coming back after school with nothing to do."

Prior to Jubilee there were very few, if any, recreational

programs for children in this area. With so much time after class and during the summer while parents worked, there was an enormous risk of children falling into bad crowds, drugs, mischief and crime, according to Wilder.

"What we wanted for the people here, was something to keep them focused," Wilder said. "That's what makes Jubilee so great. It provides for people's needs. Be it education, recreation or health needs, we can provide that."

A decade after Jubilee opened, it is still making a difference. Jubilee's current facilities include

gymnasiums, computer labs, classrooms, education centers for trades such as carpentry and sponsored health care centers. Nearly 4,000 children come through the center's doors a year, nearly 60 to 70 a day.

Despite the fact that Jubilee is only staffed by three full time employees including Wilder and three part-time employees, the center does well with its work force to provide the structured environment that Jubilee prides itself on.

"Our staff is augmented by Liberty on a regular basis," Wilder said. "The kids volunteer here pretty frequently and they love to come down and help out... It does make things easier for us, but we manage just fine with our staff."

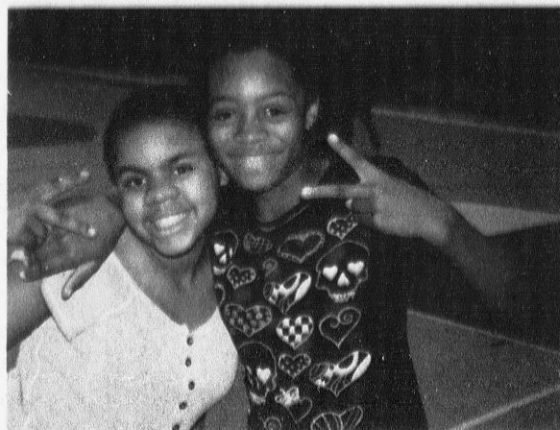
During the peak summer months when the center is

busy for long stretches during the day, the staff increases by two, despite the fact that Liberty students may also not be in such high supply because of summer break. This helps keep costs low at the center and lets them provide a more personal touch to those that they are serving, according to Wilder.

However, like most organizations right now, Jubilee has taken a hit with the economic crisis.

"We're a non-profit organization, so we rely heavily on personal donations, corporate donations and federal grants," Wilder said. "The economy is struggling right now. Donations are down naturally, so that affects what we can do."

Contact Mattison Brooks at embrooks@liberty.edu.



PHOTOS BY MATTISON BROOKS

# A 'sisterly bond': Lauren and Addison



**DEVOTED SISTERS** — Liberty student Lauren Joy and her "little sister" Addison.

Mallory Barks  
CONTRIBUTING REPORTER

On Friday mornings at 9:45, at a time when most commuter students are taking a break, senior Lauren Joy heads to William M. Bass Elementary School. After she rings the bell to open the door and signs in as a visitor, Joy set off to find Addison. Sometimes Addison is in Ms. Robinson's second grade class. Sometimes she is in the library. Today she is in the computer lab.

Almost every week for the past two years, Joy has made the trip to

Bass Elementary to spend an hour with Addison, her Little Sister, as part of the Big Brothers Big Sisters of Central Virginia volunteer program.

According to the BBBS Web site, the program seeks to make an impact in children's lives by leading them to be confident, competent and caring individuals through the help of adult mentors.

"To me the purpose of being a Big Sister is to help make a difference in a child's life and build a trusting relationship with them where they feel safe and cared for," Joy said.

Sometimes the Big Sister and Little Sister will do homework together, and sometimes they will just talk. Today Joy will do "whatever Addi wants to do."

"Let's play outside," Addison said. As the two walk to the playground, Joy gives Addison the pack of Life Saver gummies she brought for her, and they discuss King's spring break next week and her class's upcoming field trip to Newport News.

After a few minutes on the slide, Joy and Addison switch to the swings, where Addison tries to set a record for swinging the highest. They talk about Addison's brother in kindergarten, her Easter dress, the party this afternoon with an Easter egg hunt and a movie, and her plans for the weekend.

The conversation never gets too deep, but Addison's openness with Joy reveals her trust in their relationship.

"Addison's trust toward me has become more visible over the past two years," Joy said. "It is so rewarding to watch her gradually open up to me and get excited

when I show up to visit with her."

When Addison gets tired of the swings, the two head inside to play a board game. Sometimes they play Guess Who, but today Addison opts for Sorry.

Addison leads the whole game, but toward the end Joy catches up. Just when Joy is about to win, Addison draws the perfect card, sending Joy's piece back home and allowing her own piece to round the corner into the safe zone.

"Addi always wins," Joy said, commenting on Addison's never-ending good luck.

For the last few minutes, Addison wants to play a math computer racing game. Joy helps Addison answer the multiplication problems to move her car toward the finish line. Although Addison doesn't win, her math skills are steadily improving.

"Lauren is realistic about her experience and impact," said Keena Wood, Lauren's supervisor at BBBS. "(She) understands and appreciates that growth may be small, but still significant."

When it's almost time for

Addison to go back to class, she is reluctant to leave.

"One more game?" Addison asked.

"Lauren is someone that Addison feels comfortable sharing things with and talking to about things she can't with other adults," Wood said. "She helps with her homework and social skills, and most importantly, they have fun."

Eventually it's time for Joy to leave, but the two make plans for the week after Addison's spring break. Because of the field trip, Joy will come on Monday instead of Friday.

"Knowing that I can make a difference in someone's life by just giving up an hour a week is something that should not be taken for granted," Joy said. "I believe that our relationship is as good as it is today because of the fact that it has been stable for the past two years, which is something that is important to her."

Joy and Addison say goodbye for another week, and Addison heads off to lunch to catch up with her class.

Contact Mallory Barks at mjbars@liberty.edu.

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<input type="checkbox"/> Vaughan	*** Endorsed by: Lynchburg First

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Liberty University does not endorse candidates for public office.



PHOTOS BY JAKE FORD

**NO SANJAYAS HERE** — The 10 Liberty Idol finalists including Jacqueline Mshamma (left), Taylor Jones (top right) and Nia Anderson (bottom right) wowed the audience with performances in Motown, country, Christians and disco music.

# This is Liberty Idol

Camille Smith  
FEATURE REPORTER

Amid the chaos of the band practicing on stage while students chatted and scuffed their metal folding chairs on the gym floor in the Schilling Center Friday night, something holy was taking place. Behind the double doors to the hallway that doubled as a green room, the 10 Liberty Idol contestants stood arm in arm, circling their vocal coaches who led them in prayer before the group broke into "I Love You Lord," acapella. This may not be how they do things on American Idol, but this is how they are done at Liberty.

The Liberty Idol event was the

idea of Program Director of Black Student Initiative (BSI) Princess Patterson and was led by John Swann, who emceed the event. BSI is a department of the Center4Me, located in Dorm 20 on the Hill.

Jacqueline Mshamma, Amanda Haas, Ashton Kamphuis, Taylor Jones, Nia Anderson, Randall Scott Carroll, Joel Kaiser, Ray Jones, Freddie Collins and Joshua Cole are all Liberty students who performed for the title of the first Liberty Idol. Though judges Daniela Swann, Phillip Sutton and guest judges David McKinney and Dr. Ergun Caner said that deciding the winner was nearly impossible, freshman Taylor Jones came out

with the title and a \$100 gift card to Wal-Mart.

"Every one of these kids come in, they have the ability to sing, they evolve through everything, and they came down to the final 10," Caner said. "The only thing that could go wrong is that they miss a note."

While notes were missed, many contestants were in perfect pitch. Each performer brought the audience to their feet almost every time as they made their way through different genres of music including Motown, Christian, country and finally disco.

Throughout the evening, behind the double doors, both contestants

who had been cut and those that remained waited patiently, encouraging each other on their performances.

"We have become family, and it will be sad to see us whittled down to one," Ray Jones said. "You get so overwhelmed and so worked up with adrenaline. Some of that is excitement for each other. Sometimes we forget it's a competition."

Ray, who received second place, was the stand-out performer of the night, according to Caner. "If you are not on television one day there is no justice in this world," Caner said to Ray during his critique.

However, McKinney stood by Taylor and said that while Ray was the performer of the night, she had

the better voice.

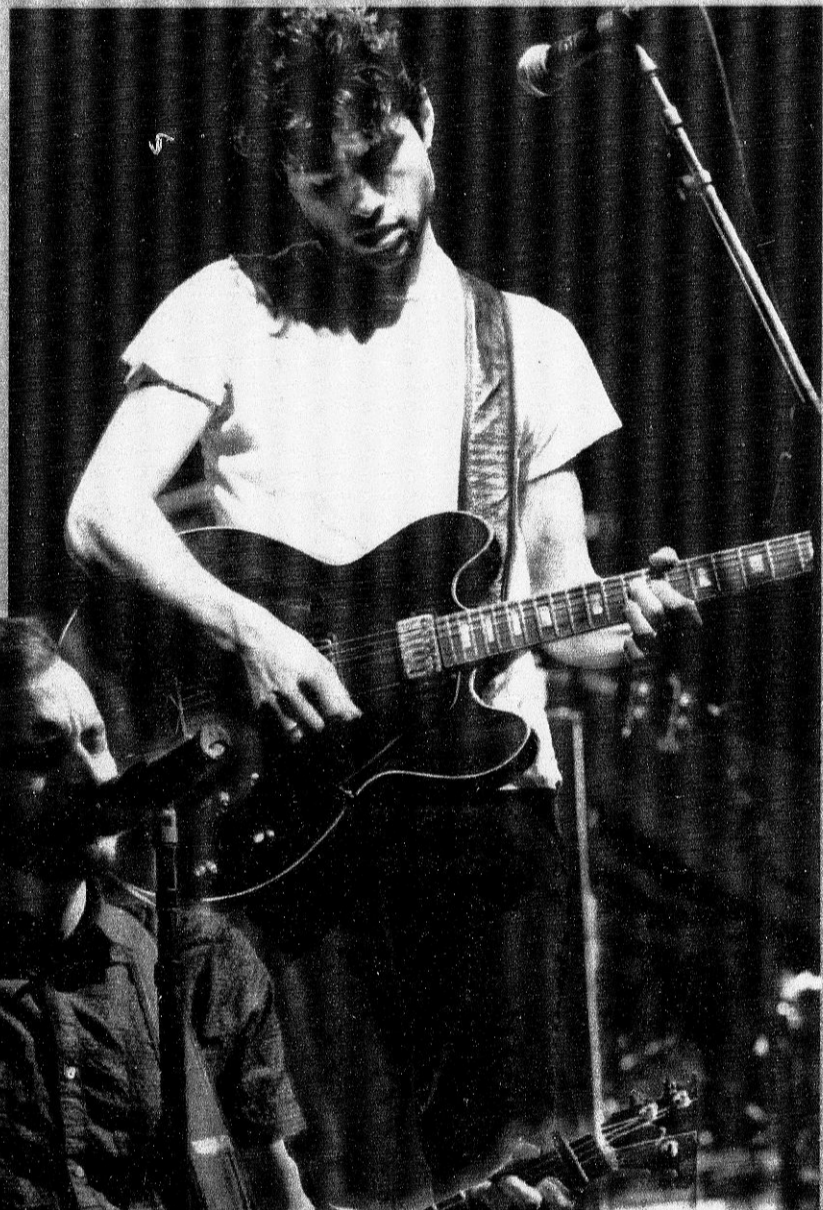
Taylor graciously received her award at the end of the competition and received news of a surprise opportunity to sing at convocation Tuesday, May 4. Having narrowly missed auditions for ministry teams, which was her dream upon coming to Liberty, this opportunity was the real win, according to Taylor.

"I was shocked, are you kidding. It feels amazing," Taylor said. "Getting to sing at convocation is probably the best part of this whole thing, I am thrilled about that opportunity. I am so excited."

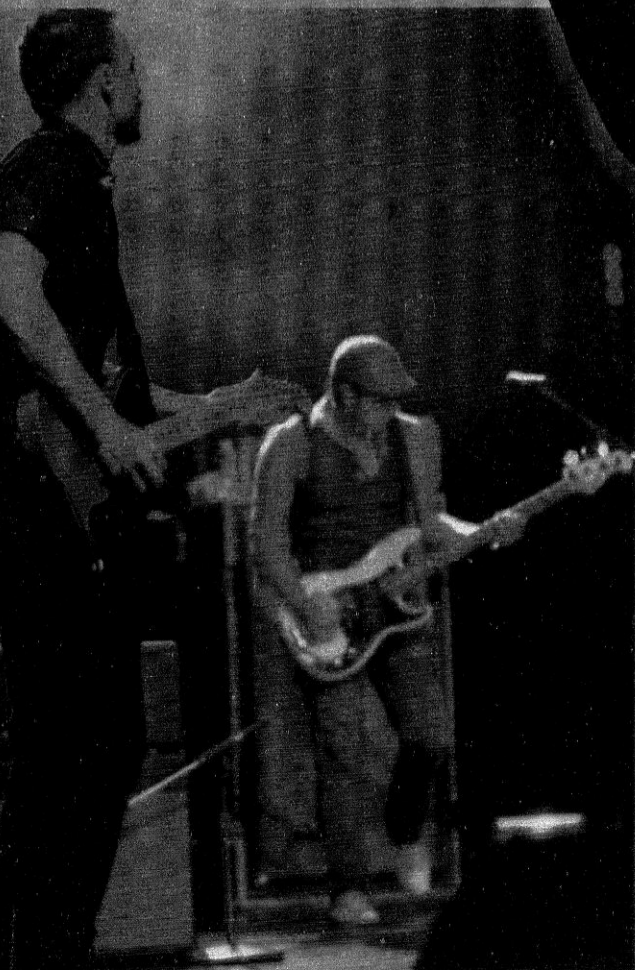
Contact Camille Smith at [csmith3@liberty.edu](mailto:csmith3@liberty.edu).

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**FRAY FANATICS** — More than 4,000 fans attended the Fray concert in the Vines Center Monday, April 26. The concert opened with the band Steel Train, and the Fray performed songs from both their albums, including their classic "Over My Head (Cable Car)" to their most recent hit "You Found Me."





R E P U B L I C A N



**Ted Hannon**

**Don Good**

**H Cary**

# Meet Your Candidates

**Hunsdon "H" Cary III**

- Retired CEO of a \$23 Million organization
- Served as a Captain in the United States Air Force Medical Service Corps
- Board member of Southwest Virginia Health Systems Planning Agency
- Enjoys sailing and refereeing high school football and basketball games
- "H" resides in Lynchburg with his wife, Sue, of 41 years. Together they have three grown children and two grandchildren.

**Ted Hannon**

- Over 23 years as President of family owned business overseeing 20 employees.
- Has managed multimillion dollar real estate projects
- Member of the Lynchburg Planning Commission
- Resides in Lynchburg's Historic District with his high school sweet heart, Jean, of 34 years. Together they have two daughters.

**Don Good**

- Graduate of Liberty University
- Over 20 years of sales, retail, construction, and business experience in the Lynchburg area.
- Worked his way through college as a retail associate in the construction industry.
- Resides in Lynchburg with his wife, Sylvia. Together they have three children.

**On The Issues:**

- Stop burdensome regulation and start encouraging local businesses and organizations to grow.
- Pedestrian improvements should be made to Wards Rd to ensure the safety of students and patrons.
- Stop raising taxes and start eliminating Wasteful Spending. Meal tax is 11.5%. Real Property Tax increased by 31% over the past 4 years and the city still does not have enough money.
- Stop the tax and spend policies of the current City Council.

**CARY  
HANNON  
GOOD**  
for CITY COUNCIL

**Three Votes. Three Candidates.  
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AUTHORIZED AND PAID FOR BY FRIENDS OF DON GOOD, FRIENDS OF H CARY, FRIENDS OF TED HANNON, AND LYNCHBURG REPUBLICAN COMMITTEE

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- Improve Education
- Eliminate Wasteful Spending

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