Land of Liberty: School gains Plaza shopping center

By Lyle Schuetz

An Arizona-based real estate company will donate The Plaza shopping center to Liberty. Chancellor Jerry Falwell Jr. announced in convocation Friday.

The deal will enable Liberty to move various offices to The Plaza, freeing up much-needed space on Campus North.

Falwell’s announcement was met with unenthusiastic clapping from the students until one said, “That means more parking available on this campus.” Then the applause became thunderous.

The land will be donated by Sandor Development Co. of Scottsdale, Ariz., and includes 467,000 square feet of buildings on the 45-acre site off Memorial Avenue and U.S. 301.

“It’s a fantastic announcement, it’s wonderful news and it’s further evidence that God is continuing to bless this university in major ways, and we just are very grateful to Sandor Development Co.,” Falwell Jr. said in convocation.

Liberty hopes to close the deal with Sandor on Sept. 30. The transaction will then acquire all the properties in The Plaza, which includes McDonald’s and the Carmike movie theater. Liberty will honor all the leases with the businesses, which will now pay rent to the university, said Falwell Jr. in an e-mail correspondence.

The donation values the third largest gift to Liberty in less than five years. Last month Shaneel Cook donated over $2 million worth of residential real estate and in 2004, Oklahoma-based Hobby Lobby contributed the Kincaid plant, which has since become Campus North.

Liberty speaks at third SEW in a row

By Alydon Bruner

Clayton King was personally invited by Dr. Falwell to speak at the Student Evangelism Workshop at Liberty. Since he was a student at Thomas Road Baptist Church, this will be his first year of SEW, and this will be his third year of SEW. Each of his visits has ended with wild applause from an audience over the past two years.

Each visit to SEW has been a great success. He is most widely known for developing Evangelism Explosion International, a program used around the world to spark church growth. He also developed The Next Avenue, as well as the Student Evangelism Workshop, and Westminster Academy, a fully accredited school with pre-K through 12th grade.

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COURTESY — New CD/DVD captures the spirit of worship from Campfire Church.

Liberty students have the opportunity to worship with the Campfire Band every day of the week with the release of their new CD/DVD, "Uncover." The CD/DVD is the latest album from the Campfire Band members: Lauren Boyd, Alex Hill, Hannah Gillingham, Benjamin Dietz, Kyle Middlebrook, Matt McDonald and Jordan Harrison.

McKinney, a Campfire Band producer, processed and mixed the album himself. He switched from a given theme to a new angle and began working on it shortly after. "I'm so happy that we got to see what the CD/DVD is crafted into," said McKinney.

The CD/DVD is copyrighted after a song by the same name on the album, which happens to be McKinney's favorite song. "The way the band put it together was so magical. They kept trying to think of simplistic, creative ideas."

She and her band mates from Glittering were stamped after brainstorming an album title. "You know, if we spent as much time writing a song as we have trying to come up with the title, we could have a great song." With that, the guys made the decision to call the album "Uncover" and then tried to write a song about it for the album. "We had a few songs with beautiful words, catchy melodies. It's just phenomenal," said McKinney.

The CD/DVD is described as an introspective CD that focuses on "uncovering" the impure motives behind the worship experience. "We're not trying to write a catchy pop song. McKinney said, "We're trying to write a song that will make you think and speak to your heart." The CD/DVD is our job to make customers happy," Stueck said.

Another method students can use to buy textbooks is simple word of mouth. If a student knows someone who is going to take a class has not come yet. Another method students can use to buy textbooks is simple word of mouth. If a student knows someone who is going to take a class with the textbook purchasing process at their college bookstore, a student can buy a textbook for a reduced price. Facebook is a new option for students. Under the "Marketplace" application, students can browse through book listings of fellow Liberty students who are often at lower prices than the bookstores.

The bookstore is the most convenient place for students to purchase books. The books are available for immediate purchase and can be hand-picked. However, the bookstore's prices are often more expensive than online prices though not always. A screenpop-up for the bookstore is key to buy used books whenever possible because students are not present on every used textbook they buy. According to Allen Boyd, general manager of the bookstore, 2,000 used books are sold at the bookstore this semester. Students who ordered their books through this method consistently picked up the books from the bookstore. "We guarantee our books," Boyd said. "If there is an issue to make exchanges and/or return the book, we have a no-hassle service with your student ID." Many students prefer buying used books because they are cheaper, and they may have the same ISBN number as new books.

Policing

The Champion encourages community members to send letters to the editor on any subject. Letters should not exceed 400 words and must be typed and double spaced. The deadline is 6 p.m. Letters and columns are subject to the opinions of the author, staff, and the Champion editorial board or Liberty University. 

All material submitted becomes property of the student. The Champion reserves the right to accept, reject, edit or otherwise manipulate any submitted work. The Champion does not take responsibility for content written by students. Letters must be signed with the student's name and affiliation with Liberty University. The Champion does not accept electronic mail.

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Reggie Allgood Editor-in-Chief

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Liberty University is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools.

WHERE DOES THE MONEY GO WHEN YOU BUY A TEXTBOOK IN THE BOOKSTORE?

Author: 9%

Freight Company: 2.5%

Back to school | 9%

Bookstore: 10.5%

Student: 88.5%

Back to school | 9%

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Back to school | 9%

Student: 88.5%
PLAZA: New property will free up space on campus

During his lifetime, Dr. Jerry Falwell left his mark on many different places, but in the months since his death last May a surprisingly easy way to find details of his legacy is the popular online auction site, eBay. In fact, as of August 30, eBay bore more than 600 items with some relation to the late Christian icon, with prices ranging from 5 cents to $80 and everything in between.

There were already a number of items on sale by May 12, but after his death that meeting, the sale prices and the number of actual sales skyrocketed dramatically. This trend is not just happening on eBay, however. Sales of Dr. Falwell’s numerous books in the Liberty Library have been on the rise since his death as well.

“A lot of dust has been having items from the Web site,” said bookstore manager Ellen Meyers, “but it doesn’t surprise me at all. He was a well-known, well-liked, well-expected man.”

San Holladay, a sophomore, said, “It’s not a surprise; three kinds of things don’t really start coming popular until after the person is gone.”

When asked if she would be willing to buy anything off eBay, sophomore Lauren Hill said, “I depends on what it is and the price.”

“Ebay is mainly the only auction site’s items and prices do not always seem to be on hand-to-hand,” a limited edition copy of Dr. Falwell Jr. said, “strength for the Journey,” is featured on the Web site for $60, many other copies are available at cheaper prices.

A large hand-signed photograph bearing Falwell’s signature is being sold for over $800.

“It’s just nostalgia,” said Jerry Falwell Jr. “When things become more valuable, people are always likely to raise the prices. Books, pictures, records, signed billboards and countless other objects have been finding their way onto the eBay exchange in recent years. A May 2007 issue of the News & Advance featured an article on an autographed baseball figurine selling for more than $80, as well as a “right, never stolen package that’s for a shirt for a hard job, Jerry Falwell and the Apostles,” which sold for over $80 over a shirt for a starting price of $20.

Junior Joan Barylski said, “I wouldn’t buy anything, but I’d did it probably be a photograph.”

“Liberate won’t be buying anything,” said Jerry Falwell Jr., editing this sentiment.

“However, I do remember a license plate from the station that had Old Time Gospel Hour with Jerry Falwell on it. If you are any of those on there [items], let me know.”

License plates may be rare but eBay contains scores of books, photographs and records from the last few decades, all bearing some relation to a man who built a church and a university with a world-wide outreach.

Contact Daniel Martinez at dmartine@liberty.edu.

Falwell Jr. items selling on eBay

LIBERTY students featured in Geico commercial

Liberty students featured in featured in Geico commercial

By Jeanna Gilmore

Imagine if a homemade video featuring two Liberty students running into each other with mattresses was posted on YouTube and wound up being incorporated into an insurance commercial. This unlikely scenario is exactly what happened to a certain resident of Circle Dorm 4 when a YouTube video... all in Spanish!

Come and join us as we worship the Lord, sing and on the price...

During hall meeting. "My RA partner Wally Cronrath, Resident Assistant on Dorm 4 last spring of 2007, featured one representative from each poor group. I do see contestants participating in the mattress joust with an ad for the show. I'm not a big fan of wrestling and judging the tournament, so I told them if they fell to the floor. By the final round of the tournament, Prussia, said, "This is not something we would want to miss!" A May 2007 issue of the News & Advance featured an article on an autographed baseball figurine selling for more than $80, as well as a “right, never stolen package that’s for a shirt for a hard job, Jerry Falwell and the Apostles,” which sold for over $80 over a shirt for a starting price of $20.

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Discipleship: The goal for every student on and off campus

By Joe Shively

Liberty University is known as a Christian university in the United States academically, socially and especially spiritually. As Dr. Jerry Falwell always says, "If it's Christian, it ought to be better" and Liberty has shown that it is willing to push toward that vision. While there are sports, a renovated dining hall, a goal of $50,000 on-campus students, Liberty's excellent branch offices and two types of ministry: the resident student and the commuter.

While both types of students can easily access many of Liberty's many benefits, such as sports, campus church, academic or recreational resources, a great difference lies between the on-campus and commuter student when it comes to discipleship. The commuter experiences a different accountability than the resident student does, and the need to move off campus causes one that "many have identified as the greatest student need at Liberty," according to Dr. Charles Hughes of Commuter Care.

For the commuter student, the Campus Pastor's Office has tried to realize this by providing commuter care groups to provide accountability and encouragement. Recent- ly, commuter care groups formed and received more attention, but commuter students often choose to serve in local churches and regularly involved in the body of Christ off-campus as well.

As commuter care groups serve, it is not necessary to use Liberty's systems to have spiritual growth. "The day has come and gone when the more spiritual attention as on campus students?" Dr. Hughes said. "The first part of a commuter student en joys the same spiritual benefits of Liberty involves the Office of Student Care; more specifically, the Office of Student Leadership (OSL), which has set up a system to minister to students. If a student has ever heard the Student Leadership structure on campus, be sure you'll be familiar with these words. "The Office of Student Leadership wants to see every student is ministered to by another student." Following that is a four-part plan where every student is loved, prayed for daily, prayed with weekly and given the chance to love another.

According to the OSL, a student leadership ratio exists for on-campus students. Every resident student has a leader; two spiritual life directors and two resident assistants watching over him or her throughout the year. Beyond this level of accountability, small groups are already accessed through Tuesday night prayer groups.

For the off-campus student, the Campus Pastor's Office has tried to realize this by providing commuter care groups to provide accountability and encouragement. Recently, commuter care groups formed and received more attention, but commuter students often choose to serve in local churches and be regularly involved in the body of Christ off-campus as well.

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One of the great things about Liberty is that the campus culture is very high energy from the homecoming to the Lord's Supper. While many Christian schools provide a plethora of ministry services, Liberty offers more focused ministry services. Lead­ership can control every aspect of student life, but instead Liberty has chosen to set up an effective transition system where students can learn and grow with a little bit of freedom before heading out into the world and having to handle everything on their own.

Resident students have friend circles, know the accountability provided on campus, even when such measures were not apparent. Though the accountability choices have where their time, they should not neglect the resources readily made from the school they chose to attend.

An obvious difference exists between the spiritual ministry enjoyed by the on-campus and off-campus student. If Liberty wants to minister to every student, it needs to offer the same level of excellence across the board in spiritual matters as other areas by appearing to the commuter student just as much as the resident student. The commuter student, however, needs to in turn take advantage of everything Liberty is offering to gain their full education—academically, socially...and spiritually.

Contact Are Shively at jshively@liberty.edu.

Do off-campus students get the same spiritual attention as on-campus students?

"I think there are more opportunities for students on campus versus students living off-campus, but I don't think the campus has to do more initiatives." -Stephen Ackles, Waldorf, Md.

"I think it's an inconvenience for off-campus students to participate in events on campus. Also, they are not surrounded by a body of believers, the ministry is lacking." -Andrew Harrison, Williamstown, N.J.

"I think off-campus students have opportunities to participate in events on campus, but it's their choice to get involved." -Andrew Harrison, Williamstown, N.J.

"The more you're on campus the more every time I'm here!" -Andrew Harrison, Williamstown, N.J.

SEW: Find contentment in Christ*

Contemporary Life*

One dominant factor about King is that he keeps the Lord with all of his heart and soul and mind. King, who is currently president of Mandarin Christian Academy in Jacksonville, Fla., talked about his faith in an interview with Pastor Johnnie Moore, "Clayton is one of our students, but he is a part of our family. We are glad to see him. We talk about him often. He is a phenomenal communicator, and he has been a great influence to our students. We always talk about what it means to be a Christian and how we can reach people for Christ. "If every time that he's here speaking, he is trying to get more involved and more connected with the people who are around him, that's what we want. He is a phenomenal communicator, and he has been a long-term relationship with Liberty and a feeling of a family reunion. Clayton has done a great job communicating with the students. King, a native of Fountain, S.C., can interact with the campus body of Liberty his way because he's a southern boy. He knows how to fit into our generation and what we are going through." -Tomas DePaulis, Ph.D. "For most people, coffee's great taste. Believe it or not, coffee may lower your risk of acquiring cavities? Both proclamations are true. As several commuters have not reached out. [Commuters] need to endure a pursuit, but they should not have to sacrifice the spiritual advantages.

While Liberty has reached out to the commu­nity, many have not responded to the spiritual resources the school offers. Of the 40,000 commuter students attending Liberty, approximately 150,000 commuter students. These students did choose to attend Liberty, and with all of Liberty's strengths comes the detruction of a Christian univer­sity. Just as Liberty wants to provide stu­dents with a safe environment, it wants to provide students with top-notch resources, but it's up to students on or off campus to take full advantage of those ben­efits. While students may be finding their spiritual comfort underachers, they should be reaping the benefits of the resources Liberty has offered them as part of their education.

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SEW: Find contentment in Christ*

Contemporary Life*
REMEMBERING SEPTEMBER 11TH

By Claire Molé

I imagine every one of us remembers what we were doing when we found out that America was under attack. That our fellow Americans had been murdered in cold blood as they went about their daily lives.

The morning I was changing the oil in a piece of logging equipment. I heard the news, and spent the rest of the day watching the TV footage – and crying.

In the ensuing weeks, our counterattack was launched, and we began a process that continues to this day.

In those first horrible days after September 11, American citizens were immediately united by tragedy. Prayer vigils, blood drives, and volunteer networks were everywhere as citizens were unshakably united by tragedy. Prayer vigils, blood drives, and volunteer networks were everywhere as Americans worked together to heal our wounded nation – and form a process that continues to this day.

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“...that our fellow innocent citizens had been murdered in cold blood as they went about their daily lives. That morning I was changing the oil in a piece of logging equipment. I heard the news,...”

What has happened? How did we forget so quickly and relapse to our old bickering and indecision?

Wars are not simple affairs, and the defeat of an ideology or a nation is not accomplished in a few days – or even years.

“...our war will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world” John 16:33 (NIV).

I imagine every one of us remembers what we were doing when we found out that America was under attack. That our fellow Americans had been murdered in cold blood as they went about their daily lives.

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Wars are not simple affairs, and the defeat of an ideology or a nation is not accomplished in a few days – or even years.

For weeks, I would fall asleep trembling with fear about what could happen overnight. Morning news displayed faces of weary and burdened survivors, which haunted my every thought and left me with an emptiness in the pit of my stomach. What was going to become of life as we knew it?

For the first time, the reassurance of my parents did not comfort me and I found no security even in the safety of my own home. It was not until the night when I opened my Bible to this verse that I finally found relief: “I have told these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world” John 16:33 (NIV).

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CampusChurch
Come worship
Him
Sundays
10:30 in the Vines Center
Wednesdays
7:30 at TRBC
Continuing their undefeated streak and conquering of the state of North Carolina, the Liberty University men's soccer team defeated the Gardner Webb Runnin' Bulldogs 2-1 on Saturday night.

“We were tired, but in the second half we found our legs and excelled the goal,” Alder said. “You're going to get an opportunity to do that at some point, and we made the most of it.”

Alder said the Flames are selfless, which allows them to move the ball effectively and not try to go above and beyond.

“We still have room to improve,” Smith said. “We're just taking it one play at a time, doing our job and not trying to go above and beyond,” Smith said.

“We need some of these last three games to build back to last season,” Alder said.

Jackson has another great special teams week

“The biggest thing for me this week was to watch our special teams,” Jackson said. “I'm happy with where we are at our special teams, and I think we can get better.”

The Flames will travel away from Williams Stadium for their first road game of the season, heading to William & Mary on Saturday Sept. 15. The Tribe are 1-1 this season, losing to Villanova, Penn. for the Villanova Invitational and getting a win over Charleston Southern.

Contact Thomas Lamb at thomasl5@liberty.edu
The Flames hockey team has a valuable asset in Jeff Boettger, thanks to his many years of doing something that he loves. When he was a boy, Boettger said that one of his friends in Moose Jaw, Alberta, asked him, "Are you playing hockey in the fall?" Boettger, who had hardly even heard of hockey, replied, "Sure, why not?"

That attitude developed at the time he decided to pursue a passion for the game of hockey. "I loved it as soon as I started playing," said Boettger.

As a young boy, Boettger served as alternate captain. In his senior season as Josh McDougal, the defensive defenseman, "I was never too worried about putting up points but I really wanted to contribute," Boettger said. "That type of attitude is something that Boettger wants to instill in the players on the Flames hockey team. We're very successful, and that's a huge accomplishment for our players and our coaching staff, but I think the next step will be to have a hard working, role-playing, highly-conditioned, unified team."

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Lady Flames Soccer suffers losses to Northern Arizona and UC-Irvine

By Jessica Carniol

Despite an intense effort, the Liberty University Lady Flames soccer team suffered two losses at the Third Annual La Quinta Inn & Suites High Altitude Tournament over the weekend in Flagstaff, Ariz.

In the first game, played on Friday night, the Lady Flames took on host Northern Arizona. Both teams fired shots at each other throughout the first half, with Liberty senior Rachel Hetrick leading all players with three shots on goal. Hetrick nearly got the Lady Flames on board just two minutes into the game. However, Winkelbach was able to find Brenna Boies with a pass off the foot of freshman Laura Nyholt, and Boies scored on a 1-0 lead with just over 16 minutes to play in the contest.

The Lady Flames attempted comeback came up short when, in the 87th minute, junior Mallory Powers corralled the loose ball and powersmocked toward Nyholt to give the Lumberjacks a 2-0 lead. Despite the loss, Head Coach James Price was pleased with his team’s effort in the first game of the tournament. "We played well in that game. It was a very physical type game. We were getting in as much as we were getting down. I was happy with the performance in that game. They were just able to get that goal. We knew it was a one-goal type game. We were disappointed with the result but happy with our play."

On Sunday afternoon, the Lady Flames lost 2-0 to the University of California-Irvine Lady Anteaters. UC-Irvine got on the board at the 33:08 mark in the first period when Kelcy Cross scored a goal to put the Lady Anteaters up 1-0. UC-Irvine improved to 3-1.

The second half began much the same as the first, with multiple shots taken, a continuation of aggressive play and not much offense. Lady Flames sophomore Heather Bowling’s header off a corner kick by Hetrick would have put the Lady Flames up 1-0, but the shot sailed high. Just two minutes later, Northern Arizona got on the board. Kelly Currier was able to find Brenna Boies for a shot that initially was blocked out by a Lady Flame defender. Two Powers corralled the loose ball and passed Nyholt to give the Lumberjacks a 2-0 lead with just over 10 minutes to play in the contest.

Northern Arizona improved to 1-0-1, the best beginning record in the school’s history, while Liberty fell to 0-3 on the season, while UC-Irvine improved to 2-0-1, the best beginning record in the school’s history, while Liberty fell to 0-3 on the season. The Lady Flames were giving as much as we were getting, but a shot off the foot of freshman Laura Nyholt was blocked. Junior Amy Oberlin’s following shot was stopped by Lady Anteater goalie Danielle de Fettre. The game remained 2-0 until the 74th minute mark when Cape crossed a pass that was headed in by Kelly for her second goal of the afternoon. The goal brought UC Irvine’s lead to 3-0, which they would not relinquish.

"The Anteaters are that we can’t outscore goals from corners while the game is even," Price said after the game. "We fell asleep and lost our focus on a couple of corners. From a mental standpoint we learned that we’ve got to pay attention the whole 90 minutes."

The loss brings the Lady Flames record to 0-3-0 on the season, while UC-Irvine improves to 2-0-0.

The Lady Flames will play their first home game in Sept. 15th at 6 p.m. as they face against the Old Dominion University Lady Monarchs at Liberty Soccer Pkdl.

Contact Jessica Carniol at jmcariol@liberty.edu.
Last week hundreds of Liberty students volunteered to donate blood at the first campus blood drive of the school year. The drive was the most successful that the American Red Cross has had at Liberty and ran from September 4-7.

In the past, the bloodmobile would come to Liberty for three days, and the sign ups would be 75 to 85 per day. This time, however, the sites were completely full, and there was an extra day added.

There was more than one reason for the increase. Liberty currently has more resident students than ever before in its history, and this was the first time the American Red Cross had decided to offer another day. Every donor received a free T-shirt and was automatically entered into a daily drawing for an iPod Shuffle and a single drawing for a Nintendo Wii.

Several volunteers said they were donating for extra credit in classes. Such was the case of freshman Dana Tidwell, a business major, who said she would not have donated otherwise because she does not like needles.

Some of the volunteers, unfortunately, were not able to donate. Mike Zeigler, a senior Biology major, said he realized that he was not eligible due to living overseas for three years. Zeigler said his main motivation was to help. After mentioning that he wanted to be a doctor, he said that volunteering his time for the blood mobile was a way of supporting medicine and science.

Even though this is the largest amount of Liberty students donating blood, it is not the first time that they have set a great example for the community.

Vlad V. Campbell, American Red Cross account manager, referred to Liberty as "amazing." She said they served as a "role model of liberty at Virginia Tech, which has nearly three times as many students.

According to the American Red Cross Web site, www.giveblood.org, "Every two seconds, someone in the USA population donates blood in any given year. Healthy donors are the only source of blood. Currently, there is no substitute."

Unless they do not comply with specific guidelines, any one eligible to donate blood can donate. The first requirement is that the person be 17 years old, weigh more than 110 pounds, and be in good health.

_indx_ With coupon only. One coupon other offers. Expires 11-15-07.

Church will be sponsoring a blood drive at the Tolsma Indoor Track from October 21-22.

Contact Othon Zermeno at mozermeno@liberty.edu.

Keeping roommates quarel to a minimum

By Cathy Haas

Imagine the beginning of a new semester — a fresh start, new classes, new professors, new dorms, and a new roommate. You think you have prepared, but to your disappointment, you see that your roommate has had problems moving in and making himself or herself at home. Believing what you assume is all of their belongings and taking half of the room. The next thing you know, you are building grudges.

So what do you do to keep calm? Alumni and GNED Professor William Honeycutt stated that the most important thing to do is "sit down and discuss expectations — see if compromises can be made." He also commented that communication is imperative.

The Illinois State University (ISU) Web site provides a comprehensive list of topics to consider when requesting a roommate or dealing with a less than ideal roommate. Some of the issues such as communicating are made easy priority. "If you have a problem, speak up about it. Communication does not refer to post-it notes or other notes listing complaints," advised the site.

Liberty University offers a convenient survey online for filling out preferences and matching compatible students for assigned roommates. Although many students have filed out the survey, some students feel that they are really not matched when matching roommates. In addition, many times one tries to room with their best friend because that has always been one of those ideal scenarios. However, according to ISU, "Just because along with being along with your best friend is the way to be with the right person."

Finding common ground and compromise is good in order to prevent external brokering, but what are wise choices to remember when faced with compromise? Spiritual Life Director Charlea Davis commented that she and her roommate strive to sit down and work out any problems. "If something is wrong, then one or both of you should be able to talk it about it," said Davis. One method that has helped her and her roommates is to ask a third party, such as a student in this little southern town in Central Virginia, to help with the roommates.

"Our relationship is important to everyone here. It’s not about what you say, but how you say it. It is also wise to never jump to conclusions or assume anything — always ask. If all else fails and attempting to come to some conclusion is not working, remember that you can always request a room change, but there are no guarantees regarding it being a better situation.

At last, many students may refer to a book, how to manage roommates with someone they have never met, knowing that those who have never spent much time much away from home. However, those who have not roommates may have to go through the process. Unfortunately, that many other students are in the same situation, to manage the ideal roommate, willing to compromise and be open to compromise. Most importantly, have some fun and try to enjoy dorm life.

Contact Cathy Haas at chaas@ liberty.edu.
Trend toward off-campus living increases

By Miranda Canady
NEWS REPORTER

As on-campus housing increases, more and more students find themselves moving off-campus. Reasons for moving off vary from the freedom and responsibility that comes with having their own home to the financial benefits received.

"This is my first year to live off-campus and I can definitely see some advantages and disadvantages," said senior Christie Messer. "I love having my own room and comfortable couches." Messer’s father, Thomas Messer, just recently bought a house for Christie and her two brothers to share. They share a five-bedroom home off of Old Forest Road, only a 10-minute drive from campus.

For the Messer family, moving three siblings into the same house helped with the family’s expenses. Three college tuitions along with room and board for three would only create a financial burden. "Because we had three children on campus, we liked the idea of them living as a family, and it helped with expenses," said Thomas. Families with more than one child at the same university are more inclined to buy a home for their children off-campus. For some families, moving off is a good alternative for financial reasons.

Living off-campus for Liberty students is a task that involves several requirements. To begin with, the student must turn 21 before Dec. 31 to be eligible to live off the full semester or May 1 for the spring semester. A student wishing to live off-campus must also have fewer than 30 reprimands during the last year or past two semesters. Exceptions are made only if a student is living with a sibling who is 21 or older or a parent. Students may also get permission to live off-campus if they can present a legitimate medical reason.

However, not all resident students at public universities have as much freedom in choosing whether they should live on or off-campus. Many universities nationwide are participating in a housing lottery because the growth of residential students exceeds the room and board availability. The housing lottery allows resident students to apply for on-campus housing. Their applications are then randomly selected and put in order, leaving room-eligibility open to students after convocation. Many students asked him to sign one or more books from his best-selling “Left Behind” series. Lahaye donated the money to build the Lahaye Student Center, which includes an Olympic-sized swimming pool and a state of the art fitness center, as well as the Lahaye Ice Center. They have also served as the Liberty University Board of Trustees.

Drs. Tim and Bev Lahaye were honored during convocation on Monday for their contributions to Liberty.

As the number of resident students on college campuses nationwide grows, it is expected that the number of resident students moving off-campus will also increase. The question is whether or not those students will choose to invest in their own home-ownership or simply rent a home until graduation.

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