Black Hawk Down Ranger: Jeff Struecker

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October 3, 1993 ,
Mogadishu, Somalia

The mission was set, every detail settled
and the troops were sent out.

They were going to capture top ranking
members of a violent warlords clan.

The first 30 minutes of the mission went as
they should. Then PFC. Todd Blackburn fell
70 feet from a Black Hawk helicopter, landing
head first on the ground.

Blackburn had to be evacuated immedi­
ately and three vehicles from the convoy took
Minutes later a Black Hawk helicopter was
shot down by a rocket propelled grenade. A
Combat Search and Rescue squad fast roped
to the crash site and rescued two injured
crewmen.

Ihey were going to capture top ranking
back to the base.

Confusion between the ground and assault
teams caused a 20 minute delay before they'
moved out. The convoy then made a wrong
turn and got lost in the
streets of Mogadishu, while
Somali snipers and militia
caused heavy casualties.

Another Black Hawk heli­
copter was shot down.

全国选举

总统Barack Obama appeared at a campaign rally for Tom Perriello in Charlottesville on Friday.

There were 12,000 people in attendance and a Tea Party rally was held across the street. See more on A6.

November is Here

Time for the mid-term elections

The upcoming election will
decide the fate of 36 senators,
435 representatives, 36 gov­
ernors and numerous positions at the lo­
cal level. The Lynchburg and Campbell
county area Clerk of Court is one such
position . The clerk of court is respon­sible for overseeing administrative duties
of the court as well as managing the flow
of cases the courts see. The clerk of court
is also responsible for maintaining court
records. Four individuals are running for
the position in Lynchburg's district.

* Lynchburg City
  RON IRVINE
  EUGENE WINGFIELD

* Campbell County
  SHELA ROSSER
  PENNY WALLACE
  RICK BOYER
  TONI DAVIS

Professor escaped martyrdom

Ashley Bolinger
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It was Christmas Eve, 1947. The bitter cold
North Korean air hung somberly still as the reality
of what had taken place sunk in.

" I was supposed to be in that group," Dr. Daniel
Kim said, his voice just above a whisper.

Kim, who was recently
awarded Distinguished Pro­
fessor of Church History and
intercultural Studies a Lib­
erty University told his story of
barely escaping martyrdom.

Kim has been a professor at
Liberty University for 32 years.

He is also the director of
the Seminaries Korean language assistance program,
as well as the founder of the Lynchburg Korean
School.

Remembering back on that cold day in Decem­
ber, Kim soberly explained that he had gone to the
church early that day to prepare for the Christmas
service, never suspecting that day would
change his course of life forever.

Dr. kim continued on A2

Do Not Feed the Bears

Trey Smith
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Bear tracks were spotted on the Liberty trail,
system, police said. The tracks were spotted Oct.
18 below the LU monogram near Route 460
East and the Lower Dam trail, according to Col.
Richard Hinkley, chief of police. Hinkley said he
is not aware of any reports of actual bear sightings,
however, according to the announcement, Infor­
mation has been provided that there is a bear and
cub(s) on the trail system."

"There are no definite rules about what to do if
you meet a bear," Hinkley said. "In almost all cases,
the bear will detect you first and leave the area. Un­
provoked bear attacks are very rare and have never
been documented in Virginia."

Black bears are "becoming an increasingly com­
mon sight across the Commonwealth, according
to the Virginia Department of Game and Inland
Fisheries (DGIF).

Although the tracks were found, they have not
altered one student's hiking plans.

"My first thought was, 'Okay I should probably
get some bear mace for when we hike up there
tomorrow,'" sophomore Sarah Warner said. "The
only way it affected our plans was that we decided
to take the precaution of carrying bear mace in­
stead of going without it.

Inside the Champion  News A1  Opinion A4  Sports B1  Feature B6
Influential supporter, close friend dies Friday

AMANDA THOMASON
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A strong supporter of Liberty Univer-
sity, Charles ‘Boe’ Adams, 76, died
Wednesday, Oct. 27, at the Advanced
Care Hospital in White County.
Boe donated $1 million to Liberty in 1990 for the
purpose of constructing the Vines Center in 1990.

Boe Adams was a business partner of
Arthur J. Williams. The Williams family has
contributed millions to Liberty University other
than any other one organization.
Boe was a strong supporter of Liberty
Univer-sity. He took the time to teach us what he
knew and how he could help the university.
Kim said.

"Boe was not only a major donor to Lib-
erty. He took the time to teach us what he
knew and how he could help the university."

"He was a great mechanic and a ball
player. He was a great man. He was a great
spiritual leader and a great pillar to the
Liberty family."

Wendy, one of Boe’s daughters, said.

"He was a great mechanic and a ball
player. He was a great man. He was a great
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Electronic Engineering professor to work with U.S. Navy

Project receives $150,000 in grants.

ALYSSA HINCKLE
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Professor Michael Mauzino will be assisting the U.S. Navy by working on a device to help in frequency-to-shaft analytics.

Mauzino, assistant professor of electrical engineering, was contacted by Bennett Aerospace.

"It is a company that, according to its own website, deals with advanced technology and working with the government," Mauzino said. "It was the process of making a bond and a contract with the Navy. The Navy suggested contacting Mauzino.

The reason for this is Mauzino had two patents already that pertained to the project Bennett Aerospace contacted Mauzino to help them build a device. This device would help the Navy sort and obtain continuous analytics in high frequency regions.

"When I understood what they were going to do, I noticed that three other engineers were going to be off the mark. They wouldn't have this sort of technical proposal," Mauzino said.

He began writing the technical proposal at the beginning of the summer. After six weeks of work, Mauzino had his technical proposal. He then wrote his part of the proposal, which was submitted to Liberty.

"It's (going to be) an annual event, so this is our first year, and it's a good token for our first time," Mauzino said.

He also earned an inventors award from these two patents and pending. He also earned an inventors award from these two patents and pending. He also earned an inventors award from these two patents and pending.

"Our goal is to win this," Mauzino said.

The grant was given in the creative category Senior Rebeckah Smith, an electrical engineering major, said it was nice to have a breakthrough.

"It was nice to see so many things. It was good for everyone to spend time with the students," Mauzino said.

"It's going to be an annual event, so this is our first year," Mauzino said.

"Our goal is to win this," Mauzino said.

"When I say it out loud I can't believe it. Myself and Seniors Elizabeth Byars, the fiance of an electrical engineering major, said it was nice to have a breakthrough.

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"Our goal is to win this," Mauzino said.
Ten years. That’s all it takes to turn an entire subculture from a fringe group of a larger body of extremists to an acknowledged part of the problem in this country. But when I get on the plane, I got to tell you, it isn’t like that. Coldberg and Joy Behar, to storm of View, a popular daytime talk show, have adopted Islam as the minority group to rally around. Less correctness.

Fear lost job for Juan Williams

RYAN MCRITER
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Juan Williams no longer works for the View. Chris O’Reilly commented that their reputation should not promote a concept, more often than not, a certain style, they should not limit it simply to

It is obviously nothing wrong with Abercrombie and Fitch promoting the poppy style for which it stands.

However, Abercrombie and Fitch take this concept of good looks over hard work for men even in their major markets, not just in sales representatives, according to BNC News.

Furthermore, the Walkman’s biggest competitor is Apple’s iPod, a product with different clothing items that are not sold worldwide. “I had been bullied out of my job,” Dean said, according to ABC News.

The Walkman still has our hearts

Satochi, founder of Satochi, a company that makes music players, said that his company made the Walkman in 1978.

Fast-forward to 2010, Juan Williams was a host on the View, a popular daytime talk show, and according to Leslie Horn of PCMag.com, the View was bought by Disney in 2006. According to various news reports, the Walkman was discontinued after 31 years of creating beloved music players. In the years since, the Walkman has been a symbol of hope for many music lovers. When children do not have a father figure who is living for Christ, they can grow up and marry a dysfunction, an unhappy marriage. That’s all it took for two co-hosts to leave their own show in a

Thank you for all the memories you have created for past generations, and I look forward to relaying those memories to my own children.

Thank you for providing us music for portable enjoyment.

From the bottom of our hearts, we thank you, Walkman.

Thank you for being there for music lovers for decades.

You can see why the Walkman played such a large role in our childhood years.

Thank you for all the memories you have created for past generations, and I look forward to relaying those memories to my own children.

Thank you for providing us music for portable enjoyment.

From the bottom of our hearts, we thank you, Walkman.

Thank you for being there for music lovers for decades.

You can see why the Walkman played such a large role in our childhood years.
Erin O'Rock
erin@liberty.edu

Albert Einstein once said, "If the bee disappears from the surface of the earth, man would have no more than four years to live. No more bees, no more pollination...No more men!"

When people see a bee, their initial reaction is to freak out, run away or find something in which to kill the small buzzing insect. However, what they may not realize is that they are not just killing one seemingly useless bee but are endangering themselves as well.

The number of bee colonies has been rapidly declining over the past few decades.

"The blame can be placed squarely on man's shoulders: the industrial exploitation of nature, the excessive addition of chemicals to produce better quality honey (and crops) in greater quantities. The quest for more has backfired," Jacques Taran, writer for France's "Science Actualites" magazine, said.

One might be wondering "Why are bees so important?"

Simply put, bees are vital to the pollination process. Without them, certain plants would cease to grow which would result in animals not having the necessities for survival, and humans not having the necessities for survival.

"Bees, via pollination, are responsible for 15 to 30 percent of the food U.S. consumers eat," Nichelle Van Tassell, daughter of bee expert Luc Van Tassell, said.

Reasons for bees' current decline include the use of pesticides and chemicals to produce better quality honey (and crops) in greater quantities. The quest for more has backfired.

Pesticides create havoc for bees and other technologies. The radiation from cell phones and other devices has been proven to disorient bees and prevent them from finding their way back to the hive.

Colony collapse disorder occurs when beekeepers lose the bees and for various reasons, fail to return and therefore, which leaves the queen and eggs abandoned.

"The West Coast is thought to have lost 60 percent of its commercial bee population, with 70 percent missing in the East Coast. CCD has since spread to Germany, Switzerland, Spain, Portugal, Italy and Greece," Van Tassell said, according to Florida Bee Removal.

The radiation from cell phones and other devices has been proven to disorient bees and prevent them from finding their way back to the hive.

Last week, local Lynchburg beekeepers and experts met to address various ways to care for and protect their bees. With so many factors to bees, it is important that beekeepers know how to properly provide for their bees and to keep them on a good diet. This year, the Mt. Empire Beekeepers Association located in Wythe County received a $12,000 grant to help beekeepers in Southwest Virginia.

So while all of this may sound ridiculous to the average person, people need to be informed of the risks of bee extinction and what they can do to help prevent it, even if this means taking a little sting amidst squeezing one at the first opportunity.

O'ROCK is an opinion writer.
On the Campaign Trail
Rally for Tom Perriello brings president to Charlottesville

LAST MINUTE CAMPAIGNING — (Above) President Obama rallied behind Democratic candidate Tom Perriello in Charlottesville Friday. (Above Right) Tea Partiers protested across the street from Perriello’s rally. (Below) Republican Robert Hurt campaigned for votes at Liberty’s convocation Friday. Perriello declined Liberty’s invite. (Below Right) Former U.S. Representative from Ohio Bob McEwen also attended Friday’s convocation.

Robert Hurt seeks voters during convocation

November amendments
Property Tax Exemptions for the Elderly and Disabled

"Shall Section 6 of Article X of the Constitution of Virginia be amended to authorize legislation that will permit localities to establish their own income or financial worth limitations for purposes of granting property tax relief for homeowners not less than 65 years of age or permanently and totally disabled?"

Property Tax Exemption for Veterans

"Shall the Constitution be amended to require the General Assembly to provide a real property tax exemption for the principal residence of a veteran, or his or her surviving spouse, if the veteran has a 100 percent service-connected, permanent, and total disability?"

Revenue Stabilization Fund

"Shall Section 8 of Article X of the Constitution of Virginia be amended to increase the permissible size of the Revenue Stabilization Fund (also known as the "rainy day fund") from 10 percent to 15 percent of the Commonwealths average annual tax revenues derived from income and retail sales taxes for the preceding three fiscal years?"


Taking a page from History:
Former majority speaker of the House of Representatives Newt Gingrich speaks to students about America’s founding principles

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Former majority Speaker of the House and Republican presidential hopeful Newt Gingrich spoke to Liberty students, staff and faculty Wednesday, Oct 13. Since 1989, Gingrich has visited Liberty’s campus 24 times.

Gingrich covered topics such as the government’s proper role in American life, the 2010 Senate and gubernatorial elections and American citizens growing antipathy with arrogant politicians.

"Poor America went to become a secular, socialist, moneyed country, so do we want to reestablish American exceptionalism, free enterprise, work ethic and the Constitutional values that made us free and great?" Gingrich said. "I think that will be a key issue in the election two years from now."

Gingrich said that the government should be given power by the people, not the other way around, and that the current system was leading to a socialist government structure that was destroying everything the founding fathers stood for.

According to Gingrich, speaking at Liberty University was a privilege.

"I had a deep personal affection for Dr. Jerry Falwell and for what he sought to accomplish," Gingrich said. "I wanted to find a place where I talk about the most fundamental aspects that we have to decide as Americans, which is whether or not we will believe we are endowed by our creator and whether we are exceptional. I can’t imagine a better place in America than with these 12,000 young people to have that kind of conversation."

Gingrich is known for his Judeo-Christian stance on the Constitution and limited government power in America.

"America has had a series of extraordinary elections... where the country rose up and said, "Enough," Gingrich said. "I don’t believe that any judge should be approved who doesn’t believe that our rights come from our creator and that isn’t fully aware that our Constitution is a document founded for historic rights that transcend in and of themselves."

Gingrich’s last engagement at Liberty was as the keynote speaker at Commencement 2007, just days after the death of his longtime friend Dr. Falwell.

EDWARDS is the feature editor.

PRESIDENTIAL HOPEFUL — Newt Gingrich has set his sites on the 2012 presidential elections.
AMANDA THOMASON
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H e grew up in a small town but spent a large portion of his life overseas. He enjoys the outdoors, sports and his favorite TV shows: 24, Friends and House. He is very cultured and social.

Having worked and served the church in North Africa and Europe, professor of intercultural studies at Liberty University, Edward Smither has devoted his life to working among Muslim people groups all over the world. After growing up in the United States and traveling among Muslims during his years in college at North Carolina State University, Smither spent 10 years overseas where France and two North African countries stole his heart.

While in North Africa, Smither worked with a humanitarian organization serving to improve schools. In an attempt to serve and show Christ's love to Muslims, the University of Paris invited Smither to serve as a Protestant chaplain. Smither used these to connect with them.

His greatest love is for Jesus Christ and His family in the Middle East. North Africa and the Middle East are areas of great sentiment in his heart, which he would love to return to and serve once again. As a family, we take it year by year, and we always return to where God would lead his family in the future. Smither said.

While working in Libya, Smither met his future wife, Shawn. At their local church, Smither was in the process of applying with a mission organization and had an increasing desire to go overseas. Five months after they met, they were married and began serving together.

Those early days in Libya to this point has brought him much joy. Shawn has been overseas in North Africa. Their youngest child, Drew, was born overseas in North Africa. Their greatest desire is to see Muslims ultimately as people who do not know Christ. Smither said.

Recently, a local mosque opened in Lynchburg. Smither immediately sent a personal letter welcoming them to the community and asked to get to know them. Nothing holds him back from reaching out to Muslims all over the world, whether in the states or overseas. Smither said.

His family is united in its mission to serve Muslims worldwide. Smither and his wife and kids are strong attributes to any family in the states or overseas, according to Shawn.

A great deal of the ministry efforts that we were invited to include our whole family. Shawn said. This allows us to be together, enjoy each other and be with others at the same time.

After spending a decade overseas serving among Muslim people groups, he and his heart returned to the U.S. where he soon was offered a teaching position at Liberty.

In its beginning, a small class of six devoted Christians, my love and burden for them only increased, Smither said. So I prayed and sought God's heart and it remained as an undergrad course while also teaching it in the masters section and on campus at the graduate/seminary level while students sat before him each week eager to learn more about Muslim culture and the religion of Islam. Smither said.

In 2006, Dr. Donna Pennington requested that Smither would teach an introduction to Islam class as part of the undergraduate intercultural studies degree. In its beginning, a small class of six devoted students sat before him each week eager to learn more about Muslim culture and the religion of Islam. Smither said. In the second year of the class, it retained as a stand-alone course while also adding a graduate/secondary section and online version of the class.

We must see Muslims first as real people — people who want to get married, have a family, get a job and do a good job raising kids. Smither said. "We need to see Muslims ultimately as people who do not know Christ. More than seeing them as Muslims, I see them as people without a Savior."

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SPC Nathan McMurray

Duty fulfilled

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"I was going crazy, the weather where we were is time com­
pared to the battle." He said. Specialist Nathan McMurray said, "I was always indoors. I was seulely hunted walking outside."

For the future park ranger, these were harsh words.

"I love the outdoors," McMurray said. "I would love to spend my life doing that."

Even though McMurray does not miss the weather in Iraq, he does miss the camaraderie overseas but has found some of the same friendships in his new home when he is a prayer leader.

"I have the same thing here on campus in the dorms as I did there," McMurray said. "I have the camaraderie with my buddies. I am still in a social environment, nothing has really changed. The social aspect is the only thing that is different."

This was McMurray’s second deployment during the seven years he has been in the National Guard.

"I volunteered for this last deployment but I am not going to do it again," McMurray said. "I have put off leaving, I have just kicked it back up."

McMurray said he is ready to get the life after the army started.

"I am going to be a three to four year senior almost, so I have got a long ways to go before I can actually start on my life after college and the military has been putting that off," McMurray said. "I am doing a lot of freshmen classes trying to catch up with what I am warmed up.

McMurray started his last deployment as a gunner, but was later transferred to the operations center to be an Operations Specialist for the Alpha Company.

"I was the company orangeman," McMurray said. "I was the liaison between our commander and whoever was out on the missions.

McMurray is leaving the army at the end of this semester, commission in the spring and will be finishing his criminal justice degree.

"I want to work for the national park service, forest service," McMurray hopes that where ever God leads him that he will be serving God as a prayer leader. His seven year commitment to his country ends in the spring.

"I want to) work for the national park service, forest service," McMurray said. "I want to do some sort of ministry as well, helping people about the outdoors about everything God has given to us naturally."

THE REAL BLACK HAWK DOWN — Major Jeff Struecker was part of the Battle of Mogadishu, where the U.S. used black hawk helicopters to fight against the Somali milita. The battle was later depicted in a Hollywood movie in 2001.

STRUECKER (continued from page 1)

The assault team made it to the first crash site and was trapped for the night because of limited room in the convey. Their task has become known as the "Megabush Mile."

In the end, 19 American soldiers were killed. 72 were injured and one was taken prisoner.

Oct. 3, 1993, has defined Major Jeff Struecker's life ever since.

"I am a Christian," Struecker said. "I understand that God has given me a unique platform now as a result of Black Hawk Down. Struecker said. "I got to serve in events that I would not have been invited to otherwise."

As the sergeant in charge of entering BlackHawk into the base, Struecker screened the first American casualty in Somalia and had to enter Mogabush twice. Struecker helped to guide the lost convoy back to base and was part of the 100-vehicle-long relief team that finally rescued the soldiers trapped at the first crash site.

"I love the idea about Black Hawk Down, so far for the last 10 years I have been telling people about my experiences in Black Hawk Down," Struecker said. "I am happy to do that because God, I am convinced, miraculously spared my life."


"What I saw the next morning changed my life forever," Struecker told students in convocation Friday. "I would still be a sergeant Army Ranger if I would do what I saw the morning after."

Struecker described a critical moment during the battle to students during convocation.

"While Struecker cleared his comrades' blood out of the back of his Humvee, he felt sure he was not going to make it through the day. To battle his growing fear, Struecker prayed. Struecker said God gave him a peace and freedom from his fear.

"In either case, (I could) not lose, because of what my senior Jesus Christ has done for me," Struecker said.

The day after the battle, Army Rangers and Delta Force operators with tear-streaked faces knelt up around Struecker wanting to know what had made him different during the battle.

"It was that moment that God started to show me he had something different for me," Struecker said.

Struecker went on to college and ministered to become an Army chaplain, while still being on active duty. Today, Struecker's main responsibility is a chaplain, but he still occasionally goes out on missions.

"I have never had a problem with a soldier being a Christian, going to war and potentially killing someone," Struecker said. "I think it is perfectly morally justified. At least the way the Bible describes it. There are no sins with a soldier going to combat."

Struecker said he believes it is still important to pray for his enemies, even if he is going into combat against them.

"A Christian has a responsibility to love our enemies," Struecker said. "I think you can pray for your enemies while still going to combat and while still fighting them. I have been praying for years that God would throw open the doors for his son Jesus Christ to be declared in Iraq and Afghanistan."

"I don't believe the military is the tool to bring the Gospel to the people of Iraq and Afghanistan, but he hopes the military's actions can give the govern­ment freedom to eventually become religiously diverse.

"I am convinced that when the gospel of Jesus Christ is preached among other nations, that it will allow them to go for years," Struecker said. "So it may not happen in your generation or in your life, but I am praying that millions of people in Iraq and Afghanistan come to faith in Christ, maybe on the shoulders of what our military is doing, but not because of what our military is doing, but it will see the conditions so that they have religious freedom in those countries."

• HEWETT is the news editor.
David Sills: The next Great One in training

ANDREW GULIA
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The locker room was tense and silent at each play, everyone focused on the upcoming game. In the middle of it all stood David Sills, the world's greatest eighth-grade quarterback.

On a college campus, the excitement of a high school football game under Friday night lights is forgotten in the wake of Saturday's collegiate games. For the students of Liberty Christian Academy (LCA) however, Friday football is something they relish almost every weekend. The Lady Flames continued to attack despite missing opportunities to score.

"It was a special night because of senior night," Owen said. "The beginning was a little shaky starting all our seniors in the line up, but we adjusted."

The Lady Flames had good looks in the first half, but we adjusted. "It was a great feeling to score the winning goal. We persevered tonight and had to push through to get that goal," Owen said. "The attack was perfect on the goal."

The No. 6 Lady Flames will begin play in the Big South Tournament on Thursday, Nov. 4 against rival Campbell.

"How we are playing right now is where we have wanted to be all year," Hain said. "We can continue to improve, but I think we still have room for our best game."

In the line up, but we adjusted. "For most of the country, the name 'David Sills' was ambiguous and meaningless. But this year, he appeared on multiple national news stations, talk shows, and even has his own ESPN profile on B4."

The No. 6 Lady Flames will begin play in the Big South Tournament on Thursday Nov. 4 against rival Campbell.

"How we are playing right now is where we have wanted to be at all," Hain said. "We can continue to improve, but I think we still have room for our best game."

The Lady Flames are familiar with their squad. Earlier this year, Sills appeared on multiple national news stations, talk shows, and even has his own ESPN profile.

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Men's Figure Skating
Men's Paintball
Men's Gymnastics
Men's Freestyle Skiing
LU CLUB SPORTS
Men's Soccer
Men's Golf
Men's Football
NCAA Sports

The Big Three in Miami combined for 55 points and 51 rebounds in a 91-63 win over Mississippi State. Dez Kilgore, Tari Eason and Isaiah Wong each scored 20 or more points in the victory.

Tim Lincecum gets the nod for the Giants and tossed a shutout Sunday to lift the Giants to a 4-0 win.

Mike Brown contributed a career high 421 total points for the Flames, including a career high 120 points in a 33-25 win. And finally, the Detroit Pistons defeated the Jazz 120-99 over the Thunder.

The Jazz swept their series with the Spurs and score a 13-23 win.

Webb at 18:27. For the first time at the race were Liberty's Jennifer Klugh with 18:18, Liberty's Hailey Neal at 18:18, and High Point's Emily Neal at 18:37. For the first time at the race were Liberty's Jennifer Klugh with 18:18, Liberty's Hailey Neal at 18:18, and High Point's Emily Neal at 18:37.

The defense was led by Paul Millsap tallied up 30 points and 16 rebounds to keep the hockey team playing. Liberty's men's cross country group dominated the competition.

The fifth Lady Flame to achieve three All-Big South honors in cross country title. Liberty's women's cross country placed

Liberty's win also marks the first time the university covers all the expenses, which is largely a true state function, following Liberty's Evan Falta, to earn the title twice.

Liberty's win also marks the first back-to-back 5,000 meter Big South championship. The Flames also hope to have following the Flames hit the top five as they have done in each of the last five years.

Liberty's men's soccer group competed in an a 33-25 win. And finally, the Detroit Pistons defeated the Jazz 120-99 over the Thunder.

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W. SOCCER

"...before last year going into the tournament ranked #1, we had the target on our backs," Owen said. "Having that target on our backs is not only going to be made for the 6th ranked team and I know we can win.

BRINGING DOWN THE HOUSE — The women’s soccer team celebrates the winning goal scored by senior captain Maria Owen, defeating Presbyterian, 1-0, on senior night.

GREAT (continued from BL)

...But after Clarkson’s training sessions with Sills over the past year, Clarkson found himself calling Kiffin about something special.

"I have got a kid now who is better than all of them and he is in Delaware. You have to take a look at him," Clarkson said in an ESPN interview.

The details of the phone call were private, but it changed the course of Sills’ life.

It was this phone call that would ultimately give his verbal commitment. Sills became USC’s first recruit for the class of 2015.

As a result, Sills has managed to keep a cool head through this recent whirlwind of a year. Still, that Sills had received from Division I schools.

USC was always the best offer that Sills could expect, but it was not the first sign of interest he had imagined for himself.

"USC has always been my dream school. It was the only college I probably wouldn’t have said yes, but all it is really is a verbal commitment so I can get out of it if I wanted to."

The comment was aimed largely at the enormous amount of people who have potential Division I schools looking at middle school-aged kids for recruiting. Many people see it as either parents living vicariously through their teenagers, or as a scheme by the colleges to rope students into shallow commitments.

Yet even through all of the criticism, the family has stuck by Sills. For him, it is a dream come true, and they cannot imagine taking that away from him.

"If any other school had asked him to do this, I would have told him to run out," Sills’ father said in an interview with ESPN. He decided if he was a senior he would pick USC, if he was a sophomore he would pick USF, if he was a freshman he would pick USF. So why not just pick USC now? You think about a recruiting process taking two years and this recruiting process took three hours."

"I’m not really a money-driven person," Sills’ father continued when asked about the price of playing at Sills and the RLCA Lions for the first time in.

Oct. 29, the LCA Bulldogs squared off against the blue team by picking up wins.

"We've improved a lot on hand fighting, I've improved a significant amount and I feel like I'm seeing more opportunities in my opponents' offensive end, especially starts the 2010-11 season on. Saturday, Nov 6 in College Park, Maryland at the Terrapin Du. lib. USC will compete against the University of Maryland, West and Daniel. The Flames will compete for the first time in both schools histories and lost 37-27.

♦ ORNEPER is a sports reporter.
Hittin’ the slopes for team tryouts

SHERIDON THE SNOWFLEX — (above and below) Liberty students hit the slopes at Snowflex on Saturday to try out for the Freestyle Ski and Snowboard club team.

“Under the USCSA we travel to different resorts around the US. We join their events and make our own college series, so we pull out the scores from all the riders and compare them,” Hegeness said.

In 2009, Liberty riders qualified for nationals but were not able to travel to Colorado to compete. “This year we hope to get those riders out to Colorado so they will be able to compete against the best riders in the US,” Hegeness said.

Due to the early success of the club, Liberty will sponsor the riders. “They will be sponsored by Liberty so they will be wearing the Liberty gear, and even if they ride all nationals they will still be under Liberty,” Scheren said.

The coaches main focus and goal is to win the Appalachian series and gradually advance to higher peaks throughout the season. “We’re pretty much set to win the Appalach­ ian series in every discipline. With the teams that are going, it should be feasible to win our main focus is to attract attention to the ski team, expand the series and get more colleges involved,” Hegeness said.

The big picture is for the riders to receive notoriety at the national level. “Being that we are a club sport, we don’t get the grants and scholarships, but we are competitive with college programs,” Scheren said.

In only the club’s second year, the coaches and the team are looking forward to achieving all of their goals this season with the talent and determination of rider and coach alike.

BATTLE is a sports reporter.

Outdoor Report: Hunting

KELLY MARVEL
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It’s 4 a.m. The sun has not risen over the mountains. The forest is quiet. A hunter sets in his tree stand, braving the cold for a possible adrenaline rush. The hunter could sit in his stand for hours and leave empty handed. But the thought of a trophy compels him to wait.

With the beginning of fall comes the much anticipated hunting season. For those interested in hunting, dates and regulations for the state of Virginia are important to keep in mind.

HELP FIGHT HUNGER IN LYNCHBURG

Purchase a hand for $2 at Doc’s Diner, Founders Food Court or Reber Thomas Dining Hall.

Donate non-perishable food items at any dining location on campus.

Join Victoria Jordan, Brandon Sharp and Todd Rukes in concert at the Reber Thomas Dining Hall on November 11, 2010. Purchase a hand or donate food items for admission.

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

Outdoor Report: Hunting

Regulations

• A license must be in the possession of every one in order to hunt or trap in the state of Virginia.

• A license can be obtained online at www.dgif.virginia.gov, in person at several Circuit Court or at hundreds of license agents around the state (including Walmart) or by phone at 1-866-721-8991.

• A license must be issued to most people of hunting or trapping age. A license is not required by the state of Virginia and must be taken before a license is purchased.

• Licenses for first-time hunters are required by the state of Virginia and must be taken before a license is purchased.

• Fees and other hunting regulations can be found online.

It is 4:30 a.m. Before the hunter leaves his house, he gathers his license, muzzleloader and checks the date to ensure his hunting season gets off to the right start.

MARVEL is the sports editor.
Selfless Sacrifices: Ed Peers puts family first

Single father of 11 honored by Liberty's Parent Association

TIFFANY EDWARDS

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Ed Peers sat the table with his third-born Emily Peers at his right, his youngest son Andrew on his left, and six more of his children surrounding them at the table. The Peers family traveled from Pennsylvania to Liberty for the Family Weekend Chancellor's Dinner, where Ed Peers would be awarded the 2010 Outstanding Parent Award.

Emily Peers, whose essay about her father was chosen by judges out of 103 essays submitted by students, read her essay on stage for the guests at the Chancellor's Dinner.

"My dad is a fun, loving single father of 11 children, an excellent spiritual role model, and has made many selfless sacrifices for my siblings and 1. My dad has cared for my 10 siblings and 1 since my mom passed away in 2004 from a rare bile duct/liver cancer," Emily Peers said in her essay.

Ed Peers, a civil engineer, raised his 11 children on his own after his wife Gale passed away six years ago. According to Ed Peers, he has learned many things from raising a large family.

"Make sure you know where the permanent makers are, and don't sweat the little things. If it can be cleaned up, it's not the end of the world, and if it can't, it can be replaced," Ed Peers said.

"Ultimately it's the memories you make and the interactions you have," Ed Peers tries to teach his children the characteristics his wife lived throughout her life.

"Their mom was a giving person. I try to teach them to always think of others first," Emily Peers said.

According to Ed Peers, family life before his wife's death was chaotic, but loving.

"We would spend a lot of time together, and enjoying every minute," Ed Peers said. "Gale was probably the best person I have ever met, and also my best friend." Emily Peers said that her father does his best to be there for his family both spiritually and physically, and works to teach his children many life lessons.

"Some of the most memorable lessons I have learned from my dad would be about being respectful and treating others the way you would like to be treated. Growing up my dad and mom would not tolerate disrespect or arguing," Emily Peers said.

Ed Peers was honored by the Parent Association as the Outstanding Parent of 2010, and Emily Peers was awarded a $1,000 scholarship.
Twins give back to Operation Christmas Child

SHELANNE JENNINGS

SHERIKA MOSS

while they were in elementary school. Students from Velawney Jamaica received

SHELANNE JENNINGS

Samaritan’s Purse. Samaritan’s Purse helps

year over eight million children received gifts.

Sherika Moss said. "I wrote ‘Jesus loves you’ the last
time that it was the same calculator she received in

RETURNING THE FAVOR — Sisters Sherika Moss (left) and Shanika Moss (right)

Sherika and Shanika Moss, two freshman

"That toy was something to keep — to cherish.

she explained. "Children were living under the

"In some areas there is a lot of poverty," Shanika

"If a person is living in poverty but they are still-
Internships open doors for students to begin careers

MARY SELKOP
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SeaWorld and Johns Hopkins have at least one thing in common — they both selected Liberty students for their highly competitive internship programs.

Jared Murdoch, a senior majoring in biology with a specialization in molecular biology, conducted research at the Asthma and Allergy Center at Johns Hopkins. Breanna Rock, a junior majoring as general biology with minors in psychology and chemistry, spent her summer as a lifeguard at SeaWorld.

The interactions that our students have in the lab classes and on research projects side-by-side with faculty really give them an edge," Dr. David DeWitt, chair of biology and chemistry at Liberty, said. "Our students don't just compete, but also perform well."

DeWitt said that the two students are the first from Liberty to secure internships with these prestigious institutions.

"It reinforces the quality of our program," DeWitt said. "I hope that more of our students will reach for those very competitive positions because I think they are capable."

Murdoch and Rock explained how they found their internships, why they were chosen and what they learned from their experiences.

How did you find your internship?

Murdoch: I found it by a Google search. I used key phrases and looked at the various institutions that offered programs and positions because I think they are capable.

Rock: Since I was very young, I have wanted to work at SeaWorld as a killer whale trainer at Shamu Stadium. I periodically check SeaWorld's website for job openings and I found the one for this internship on SeaWorld's Career web page. I applied for the internship because I hoped to get my foot in the door with SeaWorld Parks and Entertainment.

Were you nervous about it being competitive?

Murdoch: I was terrified. All of the programs are extremely competitive and having an attitude that understood this, as well as having faith that God has placed me on this path for his purpose, made it a little easier to handle.

Rock: I honestly did not realize the scope of the competition to win this internship when I applied. After beginning the internship I was informed that I was one of 140 chosen from more than 1,400 applicants.

What did your internship consist of?

Murdoch: My research focused on skeletal muscle atrophy in the context of acute lung injury or ALI (when muscle weakens due to a serious lung injury). We studied the molecular mechanism behind this occurrence and were able to attribute it to a particular protein (in other words, a protein signals muscle deterioration when dealing with ALI).

Rock: During my internship, I worked from June to August at a facility at Aquatica, Seaworld's water park, between 36 and 44 hours a week running rides and keeping guests safe. Interns were required to attend SeaWorld's website for job openings. These classes taught us how to act on the job. We were also required to attend three behind-the-scenes tours of various SeaWorld programs.

What are you hoping to do in the future (career-wise) and how will your internship play into achieving your goals?

Murdoch: I plan to attend medical school in the fall of 2012, but the greatest part the program played was the opportunity to work at Johns Hopkins University for the next 18 months. I've established some connections there that will hopefully aid me when it comes time to apply to medical school. John Hopkins is arguably the best medical institute in the world. Knowing that I can actually apply the research towards patients and know that what I did may have a lasting impact is really cool.

Rock: I learned how to market myself. We were encouraged to put ourselves into the working community and make connections that would help us later in our careers. God is currently changing my heart to include other avenues than just SeaWorld, but I do hope someday I will get the opportunity to work with killer whales. I hope by participating in this internship that I will have a better possibility of being chosen for a job at SeaWorld.
a NIGHT FULL OF BALLYHOO

The Tower Theater tackles smaller production with plenty of power
Tiffany Edwards
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German Jews, high society, Christmas trees and plenty of Ballyhoo abounds in the Liberty Theatre Department's latest production, "The Last Night of Ballyhoo." The story follows college student Sunny Freitag and her family during her Christmas break as her aunt and cousin obsess over the details of German-Jewish society's biggest event of the year, The Last Night of Ballyhoo, in 1939 Atlanta, Ga.

Sunny has no desire to attend the country club event, and her cousin Lala is simultaneously trying to land an escort to the dance and go see "Gone With the Wind," which just debuted, as many times as possible. Meanwhile, her uncle Adolph brings home a handsome young Russian Jew from New York, Joe Farkas, who has recently started working at the family's mattress-selling business. Lala tries to get Joe to take her to Ballyhoo as her escort, but he ignores her advances and instead asks Sunny to attend the dance. Sunny accepts, and the date eventually leads to Sunny confronting her own bias against her Jewish heritage.

The play's light-hearted tone addresses the issues of intra-ethnic bias, which was prevalent during World War II. The Freitag family boldly displays a Christmas tree in their living room, and Sunny’s mother and aunt refer to Eastern European Jews as "the other kind."

"The Last Night of Ballyhoo" was one of three plays written by playwright Alfred Uhry that focus on Jewish life in the South. The play was first performed during the summer Olympics of 1996 in Atlanta, and was later moved to Broadway where it won a Tony award, according to director Professor Neal Brasher.

"I have enjoyed working on the other Uhry plays and this one as well. He writes vivid colorful characters that are fun to direct and play," Brasher said. "With this production features a cast of seven actors, five of which have never performed on the Liberty stage, it’s always exciting to work with these new players and see what they will bring to our campus."

The Last Night of Ballyhoo opened on Oct. 29 and will only run until Nov. 6. Ticket information is available on the Liberty Theater Arts website, which can be found through the Liberty Splash page.

- Edwards is the feature editor.