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A strong season's start
The Flames' baseball team won its opener, 6-2. B1

Will you be mine?
Life! has the last-minute gifts for that special someone. B8

Monogram progresses

Moot court teams vie for prizes
By David Thompson

Liberty competes in a number of national tournaments, including the American Bar Association's national moot court competition. The school's undergraduate moot court team, and it is Rost's first year coaching.

"They just really did a heck of a job at the national tournament," said Rost. Not only is Rost a newcomer to Liberty's program but the team itself is a newcomer to the national scene.

"They have been second for two years - this is only the second year of competi­tion," Rost said.

There is a lot of excitement building, making waves in intercolle­giate competition.

Please see MOOT, page A3

Windows Vista hits shelves and PCs
By Danielle Talbert

The final week of January brought with it the much anticipated release of Microsoft's new operating system, Windows Vista.

Vista is a step in the coun­terpart to Apple's Mac OS X Leopard, which will be available in late spring.

Because Vista is ordinarily similar to Windows XP, which was released in October of 2001, PC users everywhere are asking, "Is it worth the switch?" Students have varying views about Vista. Freshman Ryan Strathevon said, "(The) biggest difference I noticed was how easy it is to find files or programs." Freshman Justin Sandling gave a somewhat different opinion.

"Getting on it is amazing with integrated Direct X 10 but it can still be a little shaky when it comes to speed," he said.

In reference to the rivalry between Microsoft and Apple, Scott Scottman said, "Mac OR XP Leopard (is) going to blow it out of the water. Apple's great, that is all."

Vista is described by Microsoft as being its most secure operating system ever, as it includes Windows Defender and Windows Firewall.

Also included in the new features is a search bar that is intended to allow users more flexibility and more capabilities in the operating system. The search results can then be saved for easy access later.

An updated media center allows photos, music and movies to be enjoyed from either a PC or a TV with Media Center Extenders.

Through "CFAW is an awesome opportunity to showcase Liberty, the true Liberty, high school students get to know ministries in the (Dorms) and activities on campus. It is a big chance for us to minister to these students," said Chris Delisch, Associate Director of Stewardship. "We’ve had reports from students getting saved on previous CFAWs."

First CFAW of the semester arrives
By Fernando Rosado

Another College for a Weekend is in the works. On Feb. 15-18, Liberty stu­dents and staff will have a unique opportu­nity to be hospitable and show the amazing spiritual and academic environment offered on campus.

High schoolers will get a little taste of college life and will investigate for high schoolers will also have the opportunity to be hospitable and show the amazing spiritual and academic environment offered on campus.

"As a weekend, said Liberty is expecting around 1,600 high school students to participate in a scavenger hunt to get to know Liberty and all it offers. High school students get a chance to enjoy a wide range of options, including being at a camp­us and playing football at Master’s Inn.

CFAW 188 AND ALL — This CFAW, students have the chance to enjoy a wide range of activities, including being at Master's Inn and playing football at Master's Inn.

SACS gives Liberty academic approval for 10 more years

Current and future Liberty students, faculty and administra­tives have been given the honor of institutional recogni­tion for their efforts to achieve academic excellence.

The Commission on Colleges for the Northern Association of Colleges and Schools granted Liberty the reaffirma­tion of its accredi­tation for another 10 years.

"It reaffirmation carries with it the authority to award fully recognized associate, bachelors, masters and doc­toral degrees.

"Liberty University, as an institution accredited by (SACS) meets or exceeds the same standards for faculty, facilities, Library resources, financial health, and so on, as other accredited public and private institutions in the region," said Dr. Boyd Rist, Liberty’s provost and vice-president for academic affairs.

"In a distinctively Christian environment in which a number of students are graduated from other colleges accredited by SACS, such as Virginia Tech or the University of Georgia," he said.

A ROUNDUP OF THE WORLD’S EVENTS

Weather dominated the United States news land­scape as citizens across several states broke out the snowshoes and shovels. A presidential hopeful official­ly enters the running and a real Senate race emerges as the fake Boston bomb scare develops further.

Feb. 5, 2007 — Microsoft’s Windows Vista has launched worldwide, promi­sing users more flexibility and more capabilities as they use the operating system.

Feb. 6, 2007 — A letter bomb detonates outside business office near London. Two people are injured, and authorities report that the bomb was meant to target a office that is responsible for processing speed fines. It is the sec­ond mail bomb of the week.

Feb. 6, 2007 — Peter Beardsley, who helped Wolves win with a last­minute lashing of both teams as part of the "Aga Tuna Hunger Facts" campaign, his police and bomb squad as they search the area.

Please see NEWS, page A2

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By: Will Mayer

When the Emancipation Proclamation of 1863 announced the freedom of slaves, many of them were surprised to learn about the Union Army. Despite the war's end, many African-Americans assumed that their efforts were in vain.

"The war was a war not just for the Union," said Rowlette. "But it was also a war for the African American."

Rowlette, associate professor of English and Co-Director of The Liberty University Civil War Institute, will discuss the African-American involvement in the Civil War during his seminar. He will discuss the African-American troops that were composed of both black and white soldiers. Rowlette will also discuss the African-American soldiers' role in the war and their contribution to the Union Army.

The seminar will be held on Wednesday, February 7, at 10:30 a.m. in the Liberty University Student Union. The seminar is free and open to the public. For more information, please contact Will Mayer at swmayer@liberty.edu.
The grant was awarded by the York Children's Foundation, which has given more than $18 million to non-profit organizations whose mission is to care for children.

The Miller Home receives grant

By Karl Mitchell

The Miller Home for Girls, located in Lynchburg, has recently received a $20,000 grant, which will be used to purchase equipment for the facility's new recreation room. The grant was awarded by the York Children's Foundation, which has given more than $18 million to non-profit organizations whose mission is to care for children.

"I appreciate all foundations that support non-profit organizations, especially ones that are willing to help children of need. We do not accept state or government funding, so grants are appreciated when it comes to running the home," said Stacy Garrett, Miller Home director.

The Miller Home is designed to provide care and guidance to non-delinquent girls between the ages of 4 and 18 who cannot live at home.

"People seem to think that these are bad children, only a few steps away from jail. That couldn't be further from the truth," said Melissa Handley, a Liberty student who volunteers at the Miller Home.

"These girls have had the hardest lives of anyone I know. A lot of these children have come from abused and torn homes, never having heard the words 'I love you' from anyone they know."

The purpose of the Miller Home is to help these girls become caring, productive adults. The Miller Home accepted only four orphans, originally, but it is now open to any girl who cannot live with her family. Since its founding in 1875, more than 900 girls have stayed at the Miller Home for periods ranging from a month to 12 years.

"We provide these girls with love, discipline, structure, clothing, food, and support. Our main goal is to get the girl back to her home environment once that situation has improved," said Garrett.

"We provide support not only for the girls but for the families, too. It is a blessing to have homes available for children in need, especially in the Lynchburg area."

"I was in a girl's home for over three years—Patrick Henry Boys and Girls Home. The director of the Miller Home used to work for Patrick Henry, so I decided to volunteer there for two reasons. One, I knew her and wanted to see the difference between the Miller Home and Patrick Henry. And two, I know the need and desire for love, anywhere you can get it," said Handley.

"Love is the greatest gift that you could possibly give these girls." Liberty students have the opportunity to show their love to the girls at the Miller Home. The volunteers help out a lot with discipling the girls and teaching them what's right. They take them to church on Wednesday nights and are helping to get these girls involved with youth groups.

"One girl got saved before Christmas, and the girls are there to talk with them. They are a big part of those girls' lives," said Liberty volunteer Cullen Bailey. According to Kimberly Reaves, a Liberty volunteer, it's a rewarding experience for the girls and volunteers alike. They are provided with people who genuinely care about them, their well-being, and their spiritual growth. "Truth be told, however, I feel as all the girls have impacted my life as much or more than I have impacted theirs," Handley said, with a smile.

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SACS: Accreditation is vital to colleges

Continued from page 1

According to the SACS Web site, www.sacs.org, accreditation hinges on three criteria.

1. The school remains consistent with its mission, in terms of its educational objectives. The mission should be the focal point of the educational purposes the institution completes a compliance certificate which details its compliance on reaffirmation. &

2. The institution has a Quality Enhancement Plan that details its plans for improvement, notably in the area of student learning outcomes based on "institutional assessment."

3. The school has a Built-in diagnostic report that will also provide diagnostics for such as a clock, calculator, word processor and other software. This is because Vista can run the program at its full capacity, but for some it makes or breaks the decision as to whether to attend a particular school.

"Basically it looks nice and is noble to use," said sophomore Beth Happ. "But I'm not sure if I want to purchase one yet."

"I think, especially, for a Christian school (accreditation) is the defining factor in choosing a university with (the secular world) they ridicule our accreditation," said Happ.

Even though accreditation has traditionally been an issue for some Christian universities, Liberty has been accredited for nearly 30 years.

"If (Liberty) hadn't been accredited, I wouldn't have come here," said junior Patti Drake, a writer at Liberty. "I think, especially, for a Christian school (accreditation) is the defining factor in choosing a university."

"This is a critical part of the process," said junior Jennifer Jones. "If a school isn't accredited, it's not going to be worked out as Microsoft continues to work on Vista and all of it is implemented properly." 

Robert Vamosi wrote in his evaluation of Vista that "there's simply too much and not enough of it is implemented properly." 

The Aero graphics eat up laptop battery life, he reiterated that Vista is going to be worked out as Microsoft continues to work on Vista and all of it is implemented properly.

"You also need to take on the hard task of loving that spouse for who he or she is. You have to ask the question not try to change your spouse. "

"When asked whether the school's current religious emphasis posed any particular sticking points for the accreditation committee, Rist replied that Liberty University has never been accredited by SACS."

"SACS is interested in determining that institutions assess all of its operations in the context of its mission."

The reaffirmation process will begin approximately two years before that date.

Contact David Thompson at dthompson@liberty.edu.

Love4Life Seminar helps reach out

By Beth Mitchell and Amy Field

Love4Life Seminar 25th anniversary and 10th conference

In celebration of National Marriage Day, Thomas Road Baptist Church held its first annual Love4Life seminar on Feb. 10. The conference was organized around married couples, was also designed to equip singles and match the relationships of families. Several speakers were invited to share their knowledge in the matter of marriage.

The day before the conference was a day of marriage mentor training. Les and Leslie Parrott, a clinical psychologist and a marriage and family therapist, respectively, along with Tim Clinton, president of the American Association of Christian Counselors, led the training.

The resource was designed to equip married couples or help other couples grow stronger and build successful marriages.

Pre-conference seminars were offered Saturday morning on various topics. Attenders could choose two from the list, by Josh Straub and Julie Moravek on meeting others who tackle healthy eating. The first speakers of the afternoon were the Pardos, who talked about marriage and the importance of spending time with one's spouse. The husband and wife team also strongly encouraged couples to do this.

"You also need to take on the hard task of loving that spouse for who he or she is. You have to ask the question "Use your emotions."

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"The conference got its start in 1980 and has never lost the distinction. According to Rist, the loss of accreditation would produce negative publicity for the university, with possible consequences."

"These consequences would include much greater difficulty in student recruitment and the loss of much of the federal financial aid for which students are eligible."

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Contact David Thompson at dthompson@liberty.edu.
Liberty hosts Cole Brothers Circus on Campus North

By Erin Fitch

Liberty University's director of event management, Ernest Carter, reported the leasing contract between the two entities was signed Thursday, and said the event will be a good way for the campus to be exposed to the community.

"Having the circus at Liberty would provide the community a clean and wholesome environment that families could come to and have great fun and fellowship," said Carter.

Carter also stressed the importance of bringing families who would not normally attend at least once, said Falwell. "They will be a good way for the campus to be exposed to the community.

‘It’s something a year ago we wouldn’t have considered, because they were so水泥-impacted. You want to bring outside people in, and make them comfortable coming,'" he said. "This isn’t a religious event, this is a family-oriented event, but it will bring more that kind of entertainment for the community.

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Erin Fitch at eefitch@liberty.edu.
Gov. Perry issues executive order on HPV vaccine

In the beginning, God created male and female, and on rare occasions for question of an individual's sex is not that simple. God loves transsexual and intersexual individuals—question still remains—how should Christians respond to the transgender community?

Transsexuals are chromosomally and anatomically correct individuals who feel they are incapable of relating to their assigned sex. According to an article on the Reality Resources Web site by Neil E. Whitehead, a sex consultant who has worked with homosexuals, there is scientific evidence to support that transsexualism is an effect of hormonal or genetic disorders.

"Like homosexuality, transsexuality appears to be the result of a complex interaction between biology, social environment and personal choice," said Whitehead.

Genetic variations are chromosomally, such as Klinefelter and Androgen Insensitivity Syndrome, refer to intersex and do not directly correlate with transsexual issues.

Despite the fact that transsexuality is not a result of genetic disorders, many transsexual individuals feel that Sex Reassignment Surgery is necessary in order to match their sex with their perceived gender.

However, Dr. Paul McHugh, a Johns Hopkins University Distinguished Service Professor of Psychiatry at Johns Hopkins University, chronicles the overwhelming negative response from transsexuals who undergo SRS in his article "Surgeon's Gut" published on the Godly Web site.

McHugh discovered that although most post-op transsexuals expressed contentment with their surgery, they still experienced the same difficulties at work and in relationships.

"With these facts in hand I concluded that Hopkins and I had been guilty of doing violence to those who are not practicing abstinence or those who choose whether or not to have an abortion. To those of Dr. Jordan's persuasion, I ask for consistency and a genuine concern for the transgender community. The HPV vaccine is something that ought to be considered by those who are not practicing abstinence or those who have married a partner who may be an HPV carrier. Yet getting the HPV vaccination ought to remain a personal decision by each individual. Gov. Perry's executive order to administer the vaccine to all girls 11-15-year-old girls clearly oversteps the boundaries of government rule." Contact Hilary Dyar at hdyar@ferty.edu.

The transgender community should be willing to entertain the idea that the solution to feelings of confusion is not to stifle is a false opinion; and if we were sure, then our action will be justified; and if we are not sure, then our action will be unjustified.

a. Copyright 6-20-11 to the NIV version reads, "Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God? You are not your own; you were bought at a price. Therefore honor God with your body.

b. Transsexuals and intersexuals were made in the image of God and ought to be wholeheartedly accepted and loved by the Christian community.

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Thrifted, Susan's, Esthetic, Discouraged. Head over heels, heart brakes. There is one single, solitary day a year that stirs up the inner workings of the heart and drives the most extreme emotions to the surface. The holiday causes some to fall into fear and drive into dejection.

Perhaps the pair will not be the same, the lonely will be in love and the social butterflies will be in a slump. Nothing, not even this one, dream-like day, can guarantee eternal affections. So, whatever feelings of appeal or disdain emerge on Feb. 14, base on the one, sensational assurance that is sure to live up to your every expectation.

Back in the day, we wondered whether or not little Johnny or Susie would slip a "Do you like me? Circle one: Yes No" letter in with our Valentine. Nowadays we won't present, the ideal words and sentiment, the right gifts, the heart-shaped greeting cards and crafted pink and red bouquets, silky, rich chocolate.

Now, we not only have to worry about finding the perfect person to spend the occasion with, but the perfect dress, the perfect tie, the perfect restaurant and golden boxes overflowing with harried pink and red bouquets, and over with visions of delicately crafted pink and red bouquets, and over with visions of delicately crafted pink and red bouquets. Is the 200th anniversary of the abolition of the transatlantic slave trade. STOP THE TRAFFIK will use this anniversary as a catalyst to call for freedom for people caught in trafficking around the world.

Are you looking for the perfect diamond?

Sign the STOP THE TRAFFIK Declaration. Visit the website: www.stopthetraffik.org
Break out the flip-flops!: Our spring break approaches

With the winter weather slamming campus for the third week in a row, this photo serves as a reminder of approaching warmer days. March 21 is the first day of spring and is just five weeks away. Get ready to take out the T-shirts and shorts and chase the winter blues away.

E-mail us about your favorite springtime getaways or activities!
Send them to liberty_champion@yahoo.com.

U.S. Cellular® gets me... even when it's not about me.

U.S. Cellular® and Motorola are proud partners of (PRODUCT)™. U.S. Cellular® is a contributing party to (PRODUCT)™.

A portion of the proceeds from this product goes directly to the Global Fund to help women and children affected by HIV and AIDS in Africa.

U.S. Cellular and Motorola will collectively make a $1 donation on the sale of each red MOTORAZR phone to the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria.
Men's hockey sweeps weekend, wins Navy Tournament

Riding a four-game winning streak, the Liberty Flames men's basketball team hopes to hand conference opponents Winthrop its first Big South loss when the two squared off Tuesday at the Vines Center.

The Flames got off to a hot start, opening up a 3-0 advantage on pinpoint shooting by senior Larry Blair, sophomore Anthony Smith and junior Russell Moore.

Winthrop, answered, by going on a 11-0 run over the next 4:21, storming ahead 11-6.

That was the only lead the Golden Eagles held in the first half as the Flames shot, passed and slammed their way to a 43-25 lead.

Liberty was on fire during the opening half, shooting a mind-blowing 7-10 (67 percent) from the field and 9-of-10 from beyond the arc.

Blair led the way for the Flames, tallying 14 points as he was adequately backed up by Smith and junior Dwight Littleton, who combined for 17 points on the game.

The game proved to be a tale of two halves.

Winthrop came out of the locker room running, opening up a 1-0 run and cutting the Liberty lead to 47-45.

Smith drained a three-pointer and Blair sank two free throws to put the Flames back up 50-45 with 11:15 left in regulation.

The Golden Eagles then showed everyone they were undefeated in league play by moving over to secure a 76-70 lead. The Flames answered with a 13-2 run to get within a basket at 78-76 with 3:15 seconds left.

Blair tapped all scorers with 23 points on 7-of-10 shooting, while Smith added 19 and Browning 16.

The Flames shot just 39 percent from the floor in the second half and were up all of 18 points overall from the charity stripe.

"We were never really worried about the game," said Head Coach Randy Duren.

"We just knew we had to come out and play with our goal on our shoulders," said Head Coach Kirk Handy.

"It's always nice when those guys on the bench are talking and saying how good you guys are," said Student Assistant Coachujah Petersen.

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BASKETBALL: After split week, men hit road to close out season

Continued from page B1

In a surpise move, Dunston gave the starting nod to Moore. "Both got the start and I wanted him to represent us," said Dunston.

"The biggest problem has been staying on balance and aggressive at the same time, but he came up with some big plays in the first half."

In the first few moments of the game, it was the Moore and Raffi Porter show.

On the first possession of the game, Moore dribbled into Porter, who followed up with an inside shot and piled deep but could not convert the free throw attempt. Porter redeemed himself on the second possession, scoring off Moore's second assist.

Moore then caught fire, scoring the half from the Bear Shaw Oval and finishing with a lay-up. He also called a jumper his biggest problem this season.

Liberty had a 19-1 advantage to open the game, but the Flames cut the gap to 21-22 after 1:56. The Flames finished with 16 points and six assists. Moore finished five of eight from the field for 15 points, and Walbridge added 13 points, hitting all five of his attempts.

Dunton and Greer led the way for CSU, finishing with 14 points, respective by.

Dunston addressed the student body during the February 13 press conference on Friday in an attempt to increase school spirit — was pleased with the response and with his team's performance.

"It was a solid but certainly could have been better. I know there are a thousand or more students out there. We were flat on the defensive and in the first half, but the second half was the most defensive-minded we've been this season," he said.

Dunston cited Greer as a team effort coming off the bench.

"We all played well. Greer really stepped up, playing 35 minutes... I didn't want to — don't want to have three out there. But our defense really kept us in the game."

The Flames picked up another run in the sixth inning thanks to seven runs, three of which were scored on a passed ball after advancing to third on a wild throw.

Continued from page B1

The MBL season ended closer to home as teams have begun spring training and games could be called by the end of this time comes to a close. Several big boys manifest themselves in the off-season through trades, free agency, and market moves.

Here are a few.


Baseball: Flames hope to shurg off opening series disappointment

Continued from page B1

Sophomore Cody Brown lined a single to left field to place runners on second and third with two outs in the top of the eighth inning to set the stage for a probable game-winning run.

The teams now reeled into the second inning on both sides of the plate in the top of the third.

Kelier followed it up with a double to center field to score junior Aaron Phillips. The Pirates now led 2-1, but it was too late to the卫生间 Liberty defense. Fifth-batter Jamie Kay led off the inning with a single and later scored on a passed ball after advancing to third on a wild pitch. After an RHI single from Ryan Decker, the Flames scored the go-ahead run in the ninth, making the final score 3-2.

The Pirates opened up a big lead in the top of the fourth, thanks in large part to the strong Liberty defense. Right fielder Jamie Kay led off the inning with a single and later scored on a passed ball after advancing to third on a wild pitch. After an RHI single from Ryan Decker, the Flames scored the go-ahead run in the ninth, making the final score 3-2.

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Despite having been around since January of last year and having club team status throughout that entire time, the Liberty University women's hockey team has escaped the attention of the student body. Nevertheless, Head Coach Paul Bloomfield already has high expectations for the future of the team.

"I believe we'll be in the top 10 next year," said Bloomfield. Women's hockey ready for spotlight student body.

"I'm excited that there is an opportunity for women's hockey players to be in the mission field or pastoring a church. God has called me to be here at Liberty University coaching women's hockey. There is a new noise coming, and it's the sound of women's hockey," he said.

Bloomfield already has high expectations for the future of the team.

"The goals that we let up this year were on a few mental mistakes. We were pretty confident going into the next period that we would come out on top," he explained. The Midshipmen were refusing to go down without a fight, the Flames decided to take control of the game. Upon realizing that the game was over, Navy would return to the locker room. The Flames followed up with two more goals in the remaining minutes of the game, making the final score 11-7.

"There is a new noise coming, and it's the sound of women's hockey," he said.

The team recently launched its own Web site, which can be accessed through a link listed under club sports on libertyflames.com.

The team will play two or three exhibition games during the second week of September. Anyone interested in trying out for the team should contact Paul Bloomfield at libhladieshockey@hot­mail.com.

Continued from page B1

"We know we could play with them," said junior goalie Mike Binnie. "The goals that we let up were on a few mental mistakes. We were pretty confident going into the next period that we would come out on top."

The Midshipmen responded with a goal of their own, tying the game once again. However, Liberty turned the tables with a goal from Stewart and began to take control of the game.

"That was a really big one for us," said Associate Coach Jeff Bortoletti. "It took a definite mental effort right in front of the net to battle for the puck and get that goal!"

The Midshipmen struggled with more goals in the second period as they scored first to take a 4-3 lead.

The Flames tried to gain momentum early in the second period as they scored first to take a 4-3 lead. However, Liberty turned the tables with a goal from Stewart and began to take control of the game.

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The Flames followed up with two more goals in the remaining minutes of the game, making the final score 11-7.

Nine Flames scored in the contest, including sophomore Josh Alther, who contributed two goals, and junior Rob Nienaber and freshman Brian Shulze each scored one goal.

The 25-6 Flames "now in the picture," said Bloomfield at ul ladieshockey@hot­mail.com. The Flames followed up with two more goals in the remaining minutes of the game, making the final score 11-7.

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COFFEEHOUSE: Ready for Kennesaw State

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HOCKEY: Ready for Kennesaw State

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Track and Field perfoms well at Liberty Quad despite its injuries and absences

By Jennifer Schmidt

Liberty's track and field program hosted the Liberty Quad this Friday and also had three athletes competing on the West Coast.

The Flames have been marred by injury up to this point, as almost a third of the team is not able to fully compete due to injury.

"This was a meet where we were just trying to stay healthy and get a little more competition experience before conference weekend," said Toloma.

"We didn't put too many people into too many events, but we did see some good results."

In Lynchburg, junior Jon Hart nailed another school record with a time of 10:25.15, and sophomore Matt Parker achieved the third Liberty cross-country team by placing 11th out of the 68 finishers and was the final qualifier out of the 68 finishers.

In Boulder, Colo., freshman Josh Edmonds became the third Liberty cross-country competitor to earn a place on the USA World Cross Country Championship team by placing sixth in the South Region.

In the high stakes game of college recruiting, it is necessary for smaller schools to attract top prospects, especially at a religious school with strict rules.

In that respect, Flames Head Coach Danny Rooz can be commended on his 2007 recruiting class. He managed to sign 11 new players, four of them on defense and seven on offense.

The Flames picked up two quarterbacks and large-bodied players at key positions on the offensive line and on defense. Rooz and his staff have destined prospects away from such schools as Virginia Tech, Big 12's Kansas, and others.

Tight end Ricky Jenkins, who hails from Fort Washington, Md., is perhaps the Flames' most prized recruit. He stands at 6'3" and weighs a respectable 250 pounds.

ESPN.com ranks Jenkins as one of the top 50 tight ends in the country. He filled Liberty's top after an ACL tear made large targets at the position, and 6'6" lineman Patrick Bannon, who recruited by Virginia Tech, who managed to sign up 130 rushing yards per game last season on a strong run blocker on the outside.

He is 6'3" and chose Liberty after being highly recruited by Virginia Tech, the University of Minnesota, and Kansas.

Other notable players include 6'7" tight end and offensive lineman widely recruited by Virginia Tech, who could provide the Flames with a second large target at the position, and 6'4" lineman Patrick Bannon, who recruited by Virginia Tech, who managed to sign up 130 rushing yards per game last season on a strong run blocker on the outside.

He is 6'3" and chose Liberty after being highly recruited by Virginia Tech, the University of Minnesota, and Kansas.

Overall, Liberty looks to have one of the more solid recruiting classes in the Big South, ranking with three of the top programs in Virginia by the Rokonke Times.

Contact Jared Pierce at jpierce2@liberty.edu.

Football announces 11 new recruits

By Jared Pierce

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Contact Jared Pierce at jpierce2@liberty.edu.
Ladies lose out on chance at outright Big South lead

By Will Luper

There is now a definite first- place team in the Big South Conference. Unfortunately for Liberty, it is not the Lady Flames. After beating Birmingham- Southern 72-44 on Monday night, Liberty lost to High Point University 74-65 Saturday.

With the loss, Liberty missed out on a chance to gain sole pos-
session of first place in the stand-
ing.

The Lady Flames have encoun-
tered few problems when facing Birmingham-Southern — they have currently never lost to the Panthers. However, the Panthers did not go quietly. Though ultimately losing the game, they did come as close as they ever have against the Lady Flames.

Senior forward Karolyn Piotrkiewicz scored the 40th point of her career as the first half wound down, yet her team went into the locker room with only a four-point lead.

The situation did not improve over the second half, as the Lady Flames scored only four points in the first seven minutes. Liberty continued to look to the inside, taking advantage of its size in the paint as sophomore Megan Frazee led the team with 18 points.

Despite the victory, the Lady Flames felt they had not played up to par.

“Every single game you come into, you need to realize it will be a fight,” said Pepper. “We could not be more physical. We need to come in and play. It won’t be handed to us.”

The Lady Flames turned the ball over three times during the sec-
ded half, giving them up for the game.

Nevertheless, leaving Monday with a win gave Liberty extra confidence as it faced the High Point Panthers. The game plan before facing in-con-
ference rival High Point Uni-
versity Saturday.

The Panthers from High Point entered the Vines Center at a five-game win-
ing streak, while the Lady Flames came in with eight wins in their last nine.

The only blemish on that win came in a 64-62 over-
Round 100 against this very team.

Standout sophomore Moriah Frazee came in looking to record a five games of sub-par play.

She did just that in the first half, leaving the court as the only player for Liberty with double figures after settling in points.

She was only eclipsed by Candice Sellers of High Point, who finished the first half with 15 points.

Sellers — a 5’10” senior from Burlington, N.C. — shot no per-
son from 3-point range through-
out the game, as long-range jump shots accounted for 18 of her 26 points.

Visiting Head Coach Toney Loy had a game plan to stay on the outside perimeter and keep out of the reach of Liberty’s inside defense.

“You’re not going to get those points in the paint against Liberty because they’re so big,” said Loy. “(Sellers) is easy to get open because she’s so fast.”

The loss on Saturday marks the first time in a decade that a team has swept the regular season series against Liberty.

Loy said she attributed to having “more wrinkles than we’ve ever had.”

The situation did not improve for Liberty until Friday night against Winthrop University on Feb. 13, when coming home on Feb. 17 to take on Coastal Carolina.

America Manual and Katie Kelso both finished with nine points apiece for High Point.

For the Lady Flames, Moriah and Moriah turned in big numbers. Moriah had 29 points, and Moriah turned in a season-high of 18 points.

Sophomore Rebecca Lightfoot was the only other player for Liberty to hit double digits, registering 10 points and going 3-of-6 from the floor.

“Lately I haven’t been playing that well. I just showed it down and didn’t rush the shot, the shot,” said Morris.

“I do think we have a better team than they do, we just have things to work on.”

Green isn’t throwing in the towel, though.

“The reality is that we are in second place,” he said.

“Our goal is still to win the regular season championship. We are not sending up the white flag.”

The Lady Flames (6-4, 5-3 Big South) next travel to Winthrop University on Feb. 17 before coming home on Feb. 17 to take on Coastal Carolina.

Contact Will Luper at wlu-
p@liberty.edu.
Starlight Cafe: One of the many steps towards the revitalization of downtown Lynchburg

By Natasha Komarnik

F rom students desiring to experience Lynchburg in the true local fashion, he may not find the Starlight Cafe, a new entry in historic downtown Lynchburg. The cafe, which is owned by Oliver Kate, opened in October 2006 as part of an effort to revitalize the city's downtown area.

According to www.YouRagToKnowThis.com, a Web site owned and operated by Kate, the Starlight Cafe is a “light force in the downtown area.” Kate owns the cafe and plans to eventually make a franchise in the future. Starlight seems to be an ideal place to enjoy “a positive business model” and a “malice in the community.” Manager Toni Wolfe, who has worked at the Starlight Cafe since it opened, said, “Oliver is a pretty prominent business guy in the area. He owns, I think, about 400 properties between here and Charlo­tston­ville.... He’s kind of expanded his business ventures to Lynchburg. This is the first of a lot of stuff he’s trying to work with. Now working with the entirety of Fifth Street, he’s trying to get an urban renaissance here. But he’s not allowing any ‘fast-food places’ at all.”

The Starlight Cafe is located at 512 Fifth Street between Clay and Madison, and it is lined with the surrounding buildings. According to Wolfe, the shop is part of what is called an urban station. Interestingly enough, the local city council does not have a direct influence on the front city, allowing local artists to enjoy a fresh coffee and homemade meals in the small town.

From the outside, one would not necessarily notice the cafe if it were not for the exception of its green and yellow color sign displayed on the street. Remaining true to its historical roots, the energy features an aesthetically authentic mix of wooden chairs, leather seating and various paintings. Gazing around the room while looking at the storefront that neatly places the background, one will notice the green walls and matching the accompanying various dark furniture pieces and decorative hangings, giving the place a warm vibe uniquely on its own.

Kate however, is known to say that the cafe provides “a different atmosphere. The feel of it is more of a local type. It’s pretty fun trying different local coffee shops or restaurants that you can’t find anywhere else.”

“we’re planning to do some live entertainment in the future, included acoustic music,” said Wolfe. “We’re also hoping to have some special events.”

The cafe has a Tobias menu for those who are too busy in their day to sit down for a hot cup of coffee and a good conversation. Some special features include BBQ pork and chicken dishes, eggs and a variety of selection for those non-meat eaters.

During the week, the Starlight Cafe is open from 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m., allowing local artists to enjoy a fresh coffee and enjoy a nice chat. On weekends, the hours are from 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. The cafe is one of a few shops able to keep its doors open during all-day brunch, complete with some homemade specials such as French toast and the biscuit with egg. Also featured on the menu are salads, soups and sides such as French fries and onion rings. Lattes, expressos, hot chocolate, organic teas and chai tea lattes are also available in addition to the regular cup of Joe.

Not only to feed your body, but skirts and handbags featuring the cafe’s logo are also available for purchase. Additionally, those looking for a place to have a good time are offered the opportunity to hire the cafe for private parties or events in the evenings.

Within just a few weeks, this location will be gaining Wi-Fi access across, allowing students with laptops across the Internet while relaxing at the cafe, making an ideal place to eat and study. Wolfe hopes that new customers will be brought in with the opening of Mathis’ Ficks, a new Peruvian restaurant that will start serving food in about three weeks. The restaurant, owned by a local Peruvian family and offering Peruvian cuisine, will be starting the same building as the cafe. Wolfe included that the potential for growth in the summer months optimistic with the hope of eventually offering poetry readings and even live music on the outside patio. The idea of a future drive-in has even been mentioned, adding to the summer’s bright possibilities. For more information, please contact the Starlight Cafe at 434-845-3196.

Contact Natasha Komarnik at nkornarnik@liberty.edu.

FEBRUARY 13, 2007

Stephanie Rafacz

QUOTE OF THE WEEK:

"Nothing is easier than to denounce the evildoer; nothing is more difficult than to understand him." -Fyodor Dostoevsky

ENVIRONMENT — One of the best features of the Starlight Cafe is the atmosphere it provides.

In addition to coffee drinks, the Starlight Cafe also offers breakfast food, sandwiches, vegetarian food, T-shirts and handbags.

Dr. David Croteau enters his second semester at Liberty

By Riley Latte

A t Liberty University, Dr. David Croteau is also now the kid on the block. With a newly earned Ph.D. in New Testament from Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary and teaching for two years, he pooled up his wife Ann, daughter Danielle, 6, and son DJ, 4, last fall and moved to Lynchburg from Wake Forest, N.C.

Croteau is currently teaching New Testament survey, several Greek courses, the Gospel of John, Romans and New Testament Backgrounds. He will also be introducing a new New Testament class in the fall of 2007 that he has developed and proposed himself.

According to Croteau, the one course you will probably learn the rules for biblical interpretation. It will be an elective for the Biblical Studies and Pastoral Leadership degrees and may eventually become a required part of the majors. Although he grew up living in various places like Maryland, Vermont, New Hampshire and New Jersey, Croteau calls California home.

“My dad was in the computer industry in the 1970s. We ended up in Silicon Valley,” he said.

“My parents weren’t Christians, but in my mom got saved at Saddleback Church four years ago. Elle took her to church because she’s disabled, it’s a huge barrier, so she admits that he enjoys going — but I know he does it.”

When he met his wife, Ann, they were both students at California State University. She was Catholic but did not have a relationship with Christ. The two met through internship Christian Fellow­ship, where Croteau had the privilege of leading her to the Lord.

“One day, she came to my room and asked me to teach her the Lord’s prayer. She shared an hour of prayer with me, so I spent three hours a day praying, because she didn’t catch on to the ‘Christian way’ of praying — I pray half and then pray for you too.”

“Through that, she developed a spark on me. I wasn’t interested, so we stopped doing the praying thing. For a while, I ignored her, but I realized from my relationship with God and the Bible, I left the scene of my life. It was Nov. 6, 1994.”

The couple was married three years later.

Croteau completed an undergraduate degree in counseling at CSU. He went to go to seminary to further his education and began a master’s program at Golden Gate Seminary, where he took his first Greek class. He described the experience as “immedi­ately falling out of love with Greek and the New Testament.”

He received his M.Div. at Golden Gate but knew he wanted to tackle the Ph.D. program in the New Testament at Southeastern.

Originally, he wasn’t granted accep­tance into the program. However, in 2000, Croteau and his family moved to North Carolina in hopes that he would eventually get admitted into the program and could work on a master’s degree at Southeastern. The couple was married.

During that time, Ann was pregnant.

“Marriage is unbelievable — very understand­able,” Croteau said.

Croteau did eventually get accepted into the Ph.D. program, but receiving degrees was far from easy for him. Throughout his completion of his Th.M. and Ph.D., Croteau did not have a teaching opportunity would come. He got addresses for 60 students to have a passion for the New Testament, he would begin sending out resumes and cover letters. Croteau, interviewed him and offered him the job.

When asked how he is adjusting to life at Liberty, Croteau beamed, “I like Lynchburg and the student body really enjoy talking with students” with students, Croteau said.

“I got an email from a student yesterday asking me to encourage me. The day before, I was praying, ask­ ing the Lord for encour­agement. A half-hour later, I got another email from a student asking me if I could come to his church, and told me to send the resume to, so I sent a pack­ age to Brindle at Liberty Towns and Gabriel Frit.”

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Shakespearean comedy
"Love's Labour's Lost"
premiers this weekend

By Kristi Kirkland
LIFE! REPORTER

The eager actors gather in a circle at the center of the stage. They proceed through a series of warm-up exercises — prepping their voices for the verbose dialogue of William Shakespeare's "Love's Labour's Lost." After several minutes, the director calls the cast to order and they scatter to their positions. Thus begins another rehearsal of the Liberty University Theater Arts Department.

Assistant Professor Neal Brasher, who is the director of the play, explained that this is the first Shakespearean play that the department has put on in four years. "Love's Labour's Lost" is one of Shakespeare's earlier comedies and it is "not as well known," according to Brasher. This play is an "early Elizabethan comedy," and it includes "many, chaotic characters." According to SparkNotes, "Love's Labour's Lost" is the story of a king and three lords who collectively "swear an oath to scholarship, which includes fasting and avoiding contact with women for three years."

Casting for the play began in December. This gave the actors the chance to practice their lines during Christmas break. "It is very wordy, even for Shakespeare," said Brasher. Because of the play's wordiness, Brasher said he made some revisions to the script. In spite of the changes he made, "Love's Labour's Lost" is still full of fast-paced and witty dialogue.

Assistant Stage Manager Heather Allen said this play is a very simple one — the entire cast remains on stage for the duration of the performance. According to Brasher, the play does not contain many props, but the characters make up for this with an endless battle of wit.

Jessica Weber
THEATRE — Performances for "Love's Labours Lost" will begin Feb. 16 and 17 at 7:30 p.m. There will be a matinee showing at 2 p.m. on Feb. 17.

Brasher has been an assistant professor of the theatre arts department for the last two-and-a-half years, and he directs about two plays each year. He chose this particular play "to challenge these actors," he said. The characters not only make up the plot of the story, but they make up the entire set, and Brasher sees this as a challenge to the actors. "Everything depends on the color of the characters," he said. Okagu admits that it has been difficult to learn the lines. He said it has been "tough" to combine the comedy and acting with the language of Shakespeare. This is Okagu's sixth production at Liberty, and he has been working with Brasher for a while. He said he has been waiting for Brasher to direct a Shakespearean play for quite some time.

This play has a touch of dramatic flair within the humor, and the vibrant personalities of the characters bring the story to life. "What I am hoping the audience will get out of it is a lot of fun," said Brasher. He hopes the audience will walk away realizing that Shakespeare is "more crazy and fun than they think it is."

After several hours, the night of rehearsal comes to a close and the now tired actors gather their things to leave. Brasher reminds the cast that at the next practice they will not receive prompts — they must have all their lines memorized.

"Love's Labour's Lost" will premier Friday, Feb. 16 at 7:30 p.m. in the Lloyd Auditorium. The show will run for three weeks, and tickets can be purchased at the box office in the Fine Arts Hall.

Contact Kristi Kirkland at kmkirkland@liberty.edu.
Valentine’s Day:  
A how-to guide for making your day special without breaking your piggy bank

By Carrie Caldwell  
LIFE! REPORTER

With Valentine’s Day only one day away, I am sure you have spent months dreaming, planning and perfecting the perfect gift to give to your sweetie. Or you could be like the other 99 percent of us who have procrastinated, and now that Valentine’s holiday is quickly approaching, you are in desperate need of some help. Here are some ideas that will make your date think you have been planning this for months and will not empty your pocket.

Make a Mixed CD.  
It is a cliche gift, but it works. Make a playlist and burn a CD to epitomize your relationship. Fill it with songs that remind you of her/him or put “your songs” on it. This is a gift that will show you put time and thought into picking out the perfect songs.

Go Out to Dinner.  
No, I am not talking about dinner for two at the oh-so-romantic dining hall. Lynchburg is full of places to eat with your significant other without maxing-out your credit card. Find out what his or her favorite food is and pick a restaurant based on that. Do you not have enough cash for a full meal? Go out for dessert — it is cheaper and just as romantic.

On Campus.  
Not able to leave campus? No problem. Liberty has many activities that you and your valentine can enjoy. The two of you can choose from hanging out and watching a movie at the Campus East clubhouse, ice skating at the LaHaye Ice Center or slowing down on some ice cream at the new Mountain Frost Creamery on Campus North.

Make it Personal.  
Sure, you hear this all the time. This is your opportunity to let your significant other know that you care. You can make a photo collage with pictures that capture your relationship or frame your favorite photo of the two of you. You could give him or her a gift like a favorite movie or a CD of a favorite band.

Go with the Classics.  
Of course there are always chocolates, flowers and even the cute teddy bear with the heart-shaped “I Love You” sign. These may seem trite, but there is a reason why they are called “the classics.” I hope you can take these ideas to help you overcome the last-minute panicking. In the end, your date will appreciate your thought and effort to make Valentine’s Day a special one, and you will realize that all the last-minute head-scratching was worth it.

Contact Carrie Caldwell at cacaldwell@liberty.edu.