Campus experiences improvements
The flurry of construction projects enhances academic and athletic facilities

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As the campus of construction noises on campus, viable progress has been made on the various buildings Liberty University is erecting. The addition of multiple facilities, including an incoming Osteopathic Medical and Health Sciences School, the Jerry Falwell Library, a baseball stadium and a multi-level dorm that will eventually replace South Campus have already begun making their presence known across Liberty’s campus. According to Chancellor Jerry Falwell Jr., progress on the new South Campus dorms began this week, starting with the relocation of students previously living in Dorm 1-4. These students have since been moved to the "Library Annex," formerly known as the Quality Inn on Old Felinos Road. According to Executive Vice President Neal Adams, the university has remodeled the hall to mirror the dorms on campus so that it consists of three students per room, one bunk and one loft, and three desks. "They like it so well. They're so blown away by how nice it is, the world is spreading, and there are students asking if they can move from their dorms in over there," Adams said. "We have everything set up for them — the bus transportation is set in place, and the students will be dining over at the original Annex."

See PROJECTS, A3

The new Jerry Falwell Library is still under construction.

"Finding Faith" opens
The new faith-based film premiered Jan. 19

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The worship center at Thomas Road Baptist Church (TRBC), filled to capacity Saturday, Jan. 19, as the world premiere of the new faith-based movie "Finding Faith" was introduced to a crowd of cast members, family, friends, local police and community members.

In association with TRBC and Liberty University, "Finding Faith" is a film that focuses on bringing awareness to the dangers of Internet child predators. The film stars Erik Estrada, formerly known as "Ponch" from the "70s show" "CHiPs." Estrada portrays Sherrif Mike Brown, the Bedford County sheriff who has been at it since 1997.

See FAITH, A6

New food options
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Liberty University students with dietary restrictions may find some comfort to the allergen-free station at the Rehe-Thomas Dining Hall referred to as "Simple Settings.

This relatively new development with Liberty dining, still in the pilot stage of plating by Sodexo dining services, caters to the needs of students with seven of the eight most common allergens, including gluten, soy, sesame, shellfish, tree nuts, eggs and dairy.

See ALLERGY, A8
Low cost of living in Lynchburg

Current living expenses in the Hill City are well below the national average

"Lynchburg is significantly cheaper to live in as a college student than my previous college town was." — Will Quirion

Will Quirion, a resident of the Hill City, shared his thoughts on the cost of living in Lynchburg. He mentioned that the city's lower cost of living, combined with its vibrant community, makes it an attractive place to live for college students.

Quirion, a recent graduate of a neighboring university, said that the average cost of living in Lynchburg is significantly lower than in his previous college town. He cited factors such as the city's lower property taxes, lower utility costs, and lower transportation expenses as reasons for the lower cost of living.

Quirion also noted that the Hill City's vibrant community, with its many local businesses and cultural events, makes it a great place to live for college students.

"I love living in Lynchburg," Quirion said. "The low cost of living, along with the city's vibrant community, makes it an attractive place to live for college students."
PROJECTS continued from A1

According to Fahsold, the new dorms, while still being equipped by gender, will include a coed social area on every floor for students to have more places to get together. Construction on these dorms will be completed in phases on an accelerated basis, according to Vice-President of Auxiliary Services Larry Beaman. The administration is carefully discussing the possibility of having floor options in one of the new, eight-story dorms.

Fahsold also said that student growth over the next two years is not expected to exceed the number of dorm rooms available, as the new buildings will go up as the student population grows.

The residence management department has informed us that each year, a few hundred students will be accepted to the university, and by 2020, we should be close to about 20,000 students,” Fahsold said. “Once we build the second dorm, building on South Campuses, that will still more than allow for that growth.

In the past, universities and other institutions needed to fill out and get a conditional use permit (CUP) signed and approved in order to construct more buildings on any land. However, the new institutional planning process currently being approved by the City of Lynchburg, Fahsold said, is expected to eliminate this requirement.

The new baseball stadium that is "facing down on the old Davie Place, it’s still planned to replace work on Monday, Feb. 22, according to Director of Parks and Recreation Charles Spence. Final sod will not be completed until June 2013, but the stadium will be open to accommodate games and fans as soon as the season begins.

All of the facilities and upgrades are part of our effort to make our athletic facilities mirror what you would see at FBW Football and Superior Schools," Fahsold said. "We want to join an FBS conference, and for the most part, we’re there. The baseball stadium is one of the last pieces.

The Jerry Fahsold Library, which currently sits behind Dowell as a temporary home, is expected to finish on time, according to Spence. Having heard top-notch architects and an interior designer who has been hand-picking for six months to ensure that the minute detail is met, both Fahsold and Spence guaranteed that the Jerry Fahsold Library will house the best of the best—every detail, from the technology that will be used to retrieve and return books down to the price of material used in the library. The library will also feature a Pizza Hut, a soda bar, and snack bar.

"We’re going to have a lot more space, and a lot more equipment, so that we’re still able to offer additional services and more workout options," Beaman said. As a result, administration continues to contemplate ways of improvements, students should expect nothing but the best. After all, as Jerry Fahsold so often said, "If it’s worth it, it ought to be better."

CASSIDY is the editor in chief.

OLBRECHT is the news editor.
Guns are not the problem; we are.

In a nation of waning ethics and lack of morals, stricter laws will not eliminate unjust deaths.
**OPINION**

**Plunging off fiscal cliff**

Congress must agree on a solution to financial crisis before America collapses

Jacob Tullers
jtullers@liberty.edu

**LAME DUCK** — The cliff has turned Congress into a circus.

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Mike Will McHargue is known as a fierce critic of the federal government. The Mississippi�ber Liberty University student and commentator set out to attack the politicians in control of Congress. His book, "The Freedom Box," is a scathing critique of the political system.

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**Consumer set to impress**

Liberty University students are preparing for a big event. The school is hosting a fashion show to raise money for scholarships. The event is expected to draw hundreds of attendees, and the atmosphere is one of excitement and glamour.

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**Greatness in freedom**

David Alan Byrnes

What greatness defines a nation? According to HBO, "The Newsroom," starring Aaron Eckhart, greatness is defined by statistics, figures, and measurements of society at large. However, I argue that the greatness of a nation lies in its values, not in its numbers.

---

The setting of the discussed episode is a press conference, and the context is a somber one. Mr. Alan Byrnes, whose show has been praised, is doing a great job defending and clarifying the concept of greatness. The show features a voiceover that seems to be addressing the audience directly, creating a sense of intimacy and engagement. The descriptive text provides a detailed description of the show's setting and characters, allowing the reader to visualize the scene and imagine the characters' actions and emotions. The focus on greatness ties directly into the show's theme of informing and educating the public on important issues.
The program has added three new pieces of equipment to assist students in hands-on techniques.

**Aeronautics receives donation**

The program has added three new pieces of equipment to assist students in hands-on techniques.
Liberty's WinGate purchase a 'quality' investment

The university now has the ability to offer discounts for Liberty-related visitors who need a place to stay.

Karen Smoll
kasmoll@Liberty.edu

Liberty University recently purchased the Wingate by Wyndham Hotel on Cana-
dies Mountain Road the past summer at an auction where they outbid several other

bidders. The hotel was built in 1994 and includ-
ed for S9.2 million due to foreclosure, according to the Liberty University News

Service.

During the auction, Liberty was rep-

resented by Executive Vice President

Neal Adams who currently serves on the

school Board of Trustees.

"When Liberty University learned that the Wingate Hotel was available for

purchase last summer, we immediately began to view it as a strategic location and

where the financial impact could be," Adams said. "We knew we were interested in

obtaining the property based on the lo-
cation and revalidation of a site that the

hotel is hardly in the middle of the all

of the property that Liberty owns, it was a

perfect fit.

According to Adams, ideas of conver-

ting the hotel to student housing were

drawn around, but after some thought

and research it was determined that the

hotel should remain as is.

"We knew we would make every at-

tempt to improve and upgrade the fac-

ility to become a quality hotel property," Adams said. "The top of the campus

alone makes the property a huge asset for Liberty as an investment and moving

facility for all who come to visit Liberty

University. We also believe it can become a vital part of an academic hospitality

program in the near future.

According to Vice President for Finan-
cial Records and Analysis Richard Man-

gin, the hotel has discounts available for

Liberty affiliates such as students, alumni,

and staff who visit the campus.

The university now has the ability to offer discounts for Liberty-related visitors who need a place to stay.

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Walking carefully through halls, students pressed behind closed doors as they breathed in their breath ragged through the filters they had to wear as they witnessed the chaos left in Hurricane Sandy’s wake.

Asked the clergy, Liberty University students came June 6 as part of a filtering effort to send homespun to a neighborhood in New Jersey. The trip was completely funded by Liberty’s Center for Ministry Training (CMT), which took applications and interviewed more than 100 hopeful Liberty students who showed an interest in volunteering.

The idea got the people involved in some aspect of ministry. This particular case was a student evangelistic initiative, said the associate director of CMT.

During the trip, Liberty’s ministry team partnered with the Christian Reformed Reformed Church of Virginia (CRCV), a group known for their work offering relief to areas affected by disaster. Throughout the history of CRCV, Liberty has been the only college contacted by the group to closely partner with them in MacLeod.

While visiting the area, the team stayed in tents as they served at a local church. Students served as cleaners, and outdoor soup meals were served basic meals. Being in the center of the devastation provided the team with the opportunity to connect to a homespun as a second personal basis. A local CMT staff member, one Budd has personally cleaned their damaged house 42nd rehabilitation could begin.

It was a mutual feeling to invite someone’s house, said Liberty sophomore Marisa Marquez. "You’re helping them, but at the same time, you’re helping part their house.

Timothée Moeze, the administrative assistant for the development office of homes some homeowners as broken and angry. Moeze said the area allowed the Liberty team to choose to provide comfort as an acting body of God.

It was one of those situations where people are coming to us for a spiritual presence on the Holy Spirit to come into the situation and prepare their hearts and your heart for how you were going to be called to serve them," Marquez said.

While visiting the area, the team stayed in tents as they served at a local church. Students served as cleaners, and outdoor soup meals were served basic meals. Being in the center of the devastation provided the team with the opportunity to connect to a homespun as a second personal basis. A local CMT staff member, one Budd has personally cleaned their damaged house carefully before the team’s arrival and brought the team back for their work.

By letting him serve us, it seems to bridge a gap to his heart," Ghedalia said. "I think the first thing he was a part of the trip, if you could see in his face the changeable from this is a historical sto—" It’s something that, if you look at the trip, students and faculty are encouraged to continue the relationships at the end of the trip.

There’s definitely a place for a group like us, and you will grow a lot. Absolutely. I assure you," Marquez said.

Many areas in New York have yet to be repaired, and CMT has been invited back this week to help the city’s recovery efforts. Students and faculty are encouraged to join in the team’s efforts.

"There’s definitely a place for a group like us, and you will grow a lot. Absolutely. I assure you," Marquez said.

Liberty offers Sandy relief
The Center for Ministry Training funds trip to New York
Sara Warrander
awarrander@liberty.edu

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Lady Flames down Campbell

Omotola's fifth double-double of the season helps lift Liberty to 65-58 victory

Derrick Battle

Despite shooting 54 percent from the field, the Liberty Lady Flames (14-6, 6-2 Big South) barely outrebounded the Campbell Lady Fighting Camels (7-6, 4-3 Big South), leading a 65-58 victory Saturday, Jan. 19. Forward Tolul Omotola tallied her fifth double-double with 15 points and 11 rebounds.

"Crashing the boards was the most important thing," Omotola said to the Flames Sports Network, "Everyone was involved, and it was the most important thing for us, everybody cranking the board and being aggressive." With 11:08 remaining in the first half, guard Reagan Miller hit a three-pointer, sparking a 7-2 spurt. By the end of the first half the Lady Flames were able to citing to a 36-26 lead.

As the beginning of the second half, the Campbell awaited 8-2 run of their own, reducing the lead to 4. But the Lady Flames answered with seven straight points.

See REBOUND, B3

Stadium due date draws near

Barber: Field will be ready for season opener, Feb. 22

Courtney Tyree

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Students received for the spring semester to a change of scenery across from Green Hall. Construction workers have dedicated hours to finishing the new baseball stadium as soon as possible.

"Well, right now there is a lot of dirt being moved," Athletic Director Jeff Barber said in an interview for Flames Sports Network. "I think we are making a mountain over here and putting a stadium on top of it."

Barber estimated that the new $5 million stadium should be finished and ready to be placed in on Feb. 22, when Liberty hosts Penn State Mountain over here and putting a stadium on top of it and featuring major league style turf and feature major league style field itself will be equipped with the latest turf and feature major league style field itself will be equipped with the latest turf and feature major league style turf and feature major league style field itself will be equipped with the latest turf and feature major league style turf and feature major league style turf and feature major league style turf.

The baseball offices and team rooms will also be in the facility overlooking the baseball field.

According to Barber, design ideas were pulled from existing stadiums at the University of South Carolina, University of Virginia and Virginia Tech.

Barber explained that one of the main traumas for the new stadium would be to allow Liberty to host regionals and super regionals, which sparked a 7-2 spurt. By the end of the first half the Lady Flames were able to citing to a 36-26 lead.

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See REBOUND, B3

NEW STADIUM — Construction is near completion in time for Liberty's home opener.

"When you have a 19-year-old young man or lady coming into your campus to look at a sport, they want to know that you care about their sport and want to know that you are invested in it and committed to it," Barber said. "So, when folks come in and see this stadium, they are going to know we are very serious about our baseball.

"I think we are with our other 19 sports," Barber said.

Tyree is a sports reporter.
Men's DII Hockey picks up two victories
Mike Williams
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Thomas Foot
foott2@liberty.edu

The Kennebec State DII men's hockey team earned Biddeford's first win in a game with a score of 6-3 over the University of Maine. Biddeford won its first game in the season with a 3-0 shutout over the University of Maine. Biddeford's win came after a 2-0 shutout over the University of Maine. Biddeford's win came after a 2-0 shutout over the University of Maine. Biddeford's win came after a 2-0 shutout over the University of Maine. Biddeford's win came after a 2-0 shutout over the University of Maine. Biddeford's win came after a 2-0 shutout over the University of Maine. Biddeford's win came after a 2-0 shutout over the University of Maine. Biddeford's win came after a 2-0 shutout over the University of Maine. Biddeford's win came after a 2-0 shutout over the University of Maine. Biddeford's win came after a 2-0 shutout over the University of Maine. Biddeford's win came after a 2-0 shutout over the University of Maine. 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Flames downed twice in Big South play

Panthers, Blue Hose overpower Liberty

Derrick Battle
dab36@liberty.edu

Midway through the season, the Liberty men’s basketball Real Coach File Layer and his revamped Flames team continue to struggle. With several additions from the offseason and the return of center Joel Vander Plo from a back surgery, the team is working to build momentum.

Over the past week, the Flames peppered Big South Conference play. Liberty (3-14, 1-4 Big South) lost a nail-biter to the High Point Panthers (8-9, 3-2 Big South) in double-overtime, 77-72, and were then defeated by the Presbyterian Blue Hose (4-15, 1-4 Big South) 68-66.

Game One
As the second dwindled in the second half, High Point guard Alex Woods made a leap to tie the game at 58-58, forcing the first overtime. With 30 seconds left, Liberty guard Deron Marshall drove to the hoop for two, but missed the free throw, and Liberty was defeated by the Presbyterian Blue Hose (4-15, 1-4 Big South) 68-66.

The Flames outrebounded the Flames 30-35, primarily due to forward Allen Green’s 12 points and 12 rebounds as well as forward John Brown’s 10 points and 11 rebounds.

Game Two
Liberty managed to have three players score double figures, but it was still unable to pick up its second victory in the Big South against the Blue Hose Saturday, Jan. 30.

Presbyterian broke a four-game losing streak on the shoulders of its guard Kaden Makkahib’s 26 points. Makkahib scored 19 of his 26 points in the first half and helped the Blue Hose take a 31-25 lead heading into the halftime.

The Blue Hose led by as much as 11 in the second half. However, with 2:44 left in the game, Marshall hit a three-pointer, which sparked an 8-2 Liberty run that restored Presbyterian’s lead to 36-34.

After both teams took consecutive full timeouts, the Blue Hose widened the margin again and made free throws down the stretch, clinching a win.

Marshall led the Flames with 11 points. Guard Casey Roberts added 13 points, including three three-pointers and two free throws. Sparks also tallied 11 points in the loss.

Makkahib and guard Jordan Browning combined to hit eight three-pointers in the Presbyterian triumph.

Liberty looks to end its two-game losing streak when it hosts the Longwood University Flames (4-16, 0-5 Big South) Tuesday, Jan. 26 at 7 p.m.

BATTLE is the assistant sports editor.

REBOUND continued from 81
and pushed their lead back to 10.
Liberty continued to pressure the Lady Fighting Camels, scoring and holding their largest lead of 14 points with 6:35 remaining in the game.
Cameron reduced the lead to single digits, but was unable to pull any closer.
The Lady Fighting Camels came into the game fourth in the country in three-point field goal percentage, but the Lady Flames held them to 22 percent (2-17) from behind the arc.
While both teams struggled from the field, the Lady Flames made up for it from the free-throw line and had heavy production from the bench, out-rebounding Campbell 30-14. The Lady Flames also posted a plus-27 margin in rebounding, 38-11.
“Third quarter to 10, we were able to get second chance because we were able to go to the offensive boards so well. If it was not for that, then I do not think we could have pulled this one out,” Liberty won 75-73 (75 percent) from the free-throw line. Center Ashley Ringer went 9-11 from the charity stripe and scored 11 points and five rebounds off the bench.
Guard Devon Brown struggled from the field, shooting 2-16. She also grabbed 11 rebounds and three steals.
Lady Fighting Camels guard Tonteka Butler finished with a game-high 21 points and four assists. Forward Keiva Gaines added 12 points four rebounds and three steals in the defeat.
With the win, the Lady Flames remained second in the Big South Conference, behind the Longwood University Flames (0-8, 0-4 Big South). Liberty travels to face the Flames Saturday, Jan. 31 at 3 p.m.

BATTLE is the assistant sports editor.

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UPCOMING BIG SOUTH GAMES
Jan. 26 vs. Charleston Southern
Jan. 29 vs. Campbell
Feb. 2 at Winthrop
Feb. 5 vs. Radford
Feb. 9 at Gardner-Webb
Feb. 13 at Campbell
Feb. 16 vs. High Point
Feb. 19 vs. Longwood
Feb. 26 vs. vs. Military Institute
Mar. 2 vs. Radford
Eyes on the prize

Track and field to focus on adding to its trophy collection

Emily Bonen
elbonen@liberty.edu

After losing all of its national men’s and women’s track and field championships last season, Liberty University’s track and field program has entered 2013 to improve, according to Head Coach Brent Tomea. With returning athletes and a solid recruiting class of talented newcomers, Tomea hopes to once again turn Liberty into a top competitor among Division I programs.

The team’s primary goal for this season is to continue to build a legacy of success, which consists of 33 combined men’s and women’s Big South Titles. With several depth, both teams have the tools to accomplish its goals, according to Tomea, and will be a threat in the Big South. While Tomea said that neither the men or women have a guaranteed national spots, both teams boast several athletes with the potential to be national qualifiers.

Ryan Smith, a senior distance runner and Kale Wheeler, a sophomore jumper and just year’s Big South Men’s Freshman of the Year, can qualify for NCAA indoor and outdoor championships. They can also earn spots in the regional meet of分区 at the Division I championships, which will take place in March.

In addition to its success, Liberty’s track and field team exemplifies its ability to transition to outdoor competition. Liberty will begin conference competition in its newly refurbished outdoor facility, the Matthew-Hopkins Track Complex. The new facility provides another

FAST AFOOT — The men’s and women’s track teams continue to build a legacy with which Liberty can become a “good team.” and means that there is no longer any excuse for the Flames not to do well, according to Tomea. This season, the team is in position to achieve its main goal of winning the Big South.

At the Wake Forest Institutional, the men’s track team finished first, handily

JESI, ITALY

CLMP — Former Flames’ standout Jesse Sanders has taken his talents to Italy, where he will play for the Aurora Basket Jesi.

Eric Griffin — a member of Jake

Who played against the Flames as a member of the Campbell University Fighting Camels. A long time, you say? Absolutely. According to Sanders, most teammates speak a little English, and he is picking up a little Italian. Besides, basketball is crushed full of” hand signals which allow court communication to be largely non-verbal. To keep up with Stan-

Jesse Sanders goes pro in Italy

Kyle Harvey
kharvey@liberty.edu

Time and again, spectators who watch Booster Jesse Sanders play basketball in the Vieira Center comment, “Wow, that young man is going places.” They were right. Jesse Sanders is going places. He and his wife Courtney, whom he married over the summer, want to head to Jesi, Italy to be exact.

Sanders, who made a name for himself at liberty as the only NCAA basketball player to record a triple-double in all four of his seasons, packed up and moved to the small town on the eastern coast of Italy to play professional basketball in the Lega Due for the Aurora Basket Jesi.

Leaguer “easy,” he said. “I’m the second highest back of professional basketball I’ve played in Italy. So I’ve been very successful, through corporate and private sponsors. The two short sponsors are

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Liberty professor brings in 2013 with Baby New Year

Melissa Skinner
alumnae@liberty.edu

During the early hours of the morning, the cries of the first baby born in the new year echoed the halls of Virginia Baptist Hospital.

Kari Singun Wu was born Jan. 1 to Darren and Tracy Wu at 4:02 a.m. "It was quite a shock," Darren Wu said, "and we deliver fairly quickly and naturally." Darren and Tracy Wu experienced infertility problems until the birth of their son Caleb in 2010, thanks to a treatment administered by the Reproductive Medicine and Surgery Center in Chapel Hill, N.C. The couple said the same treatment in order to have their daughter "Karis". "It's a 1 in 1000 chance, because she is God's grace, because she is my wife, and because mine," Darren Wu said. "We are Chinese by ethnicity, her middle name is Singun, which is comprised of the two Mandarin Chinese characters for 'grace' and 'joy', and together it means 'joy'."

"My hope for my family for this new year is that both Caleb and Karis will continue to experience healthy growth and to learn to love each other as they are nourished by our wonderful wife, Tracy," Darren Wu said. "We are thankful to God for our two little miracles."

SKINNER is a feature reporter.

MIRACLE — The name "Karis" means grace, and the name "Singun" means rejoicing, in Mandarin Chinese.

Serving God overseas

Liberty students sacrifice their break for mission trips

Sophia Italia
Scholar@Liberty.edu

At a time when other students are typically at home or traveling with family members, a few groups of Liberty University students traveled to the comfort of their own homes and Christmas traditions in order to travel to different countries and spread the Gospel.

Junior Kaleey Long, a music education and performance double major from Virginia, said that she had the privilege of going to Nagpur, India from Dec. 16 through Jan. 3. Thanks to Crossroads Worldwide, an organization started by Clayton King, Long and 10 others were able to have this once-in-a-lifetime experience.

During her time in India, Long ministered by Christmas carding, playing with children at an orphanage, spending time with local Bible college students, preaching and praying.

According to Long, praying over a staff member of the Bible college opened her eyes to the power of God. "What a big God we are praying to," she said. "He listens to my prayer in English, and her prayer in Hindi," Long said. "Not only do they listen, but He cares and He moves." Long expressed how grateful the awesome privilege was to have the opportunity to talk to the God of the universe.

Student Riddleen Deon, a freshman journalism major from Virginia, went on her first mission trip over the winter break to East Asia. Through Light Ministries, she and 13 other students bought the new year starting the Bible. "I broke my heart to see the darkness and hopelessness of those living without knowing the truth, but we could see God's light shining even in the darkness," Deon said.

According to Deon, ministering in East Asia was a new experience that helped her fully rely on God. She said that seeing how the people lived there was a shock, giving her a new appreciation for all the luxuries that are available to Christians in America. "In America, it is easy to forget that many people don't have the freedom to go to church, evangelize or even own a Bible," Deon said.

Both Long and Deon said that they look forward to future mission trip opportunities. These two students, along with countless others, willingly gave up their holiday time for the most important mission, the spreading of God's love.

HAJIN is a feature reporter.

INDIA — Kaleey Long prays with a woman during the two-week long trip.

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HAJIN is a feature reporter.
"Dirty God" released

Johnnie Moore highlights the human side of Jesus

Greg Leauser
Liberty Champion

Ask anyone on the campus of Liberty University in dialogue with God. There is no doubt that some have food for thought, but the worst "dirty" word would probably not be found among many people’s lists. Call it unconventional, but Liberty Vice President Johnny Moore has set out to continue his tradition that God is dirtier than most people think.

In 2008, Moore released his first book, "Dirty God," Jan. 1, and since then, he has released several books meant to expose the title of his second book. "So I guess you could say I’m discovering it because they think that it’s controversial."

According to him, the chance to have the unusual name became a Christian sometimes become confounded with the divine name of God and lose sight of the fact that Jesus was also fully human.

"I think if we look at the human side of Jesus, the way he lived in his time when we have, we can get a glimpse into how to connect and make sense of grace through the lens of the human side of Jesus.

In the book, Moore points out that Jesus did not feel1rivate with phépis and chose to be born in a small, relatively unimportant town. Ultimately, Moore’s reference to God "dirtying" is a metaphor for Jesus’ willingness to live among imperfect people, give grace to people that did not necessarily deserve it for them to get spiritually clean salvation.

"Jesus is the polar opposite of every other idea of God in history," Moore said. "You’re beating about the bush to get to God, the ultimate man to the ultimate God who dropped the ladder down from heaven to meet with us."

In addition to providing a picture of what Jesus was really like, Moore also shared what kind of effect that grace had on him.

"The Bible calls it a book that one of the most profound and special books, the one that you can’t stop reading," Moore said. "God-gener­ouslyändeared about me. He’s concerned about me. He’s patient with me. His kind. He’s like kindness that draws to us re­pentance.

Moore has also been given a chance to explain what the book is all about on a national stage. He has written online artic­les about "Dirty God" for CNN, which appeared on the front page of the news nation’s website for multiple years, and the Washington Post. He also appeared on Fox News.

MELT AND GREEET — Moore’s new book shares how to get and give God’s grace.

Moore celebrated the launch of his latest book, "Dirty God," with a book signing at the Liberty Bookstore, complete with fire music and band. The crowd watched as the doors opened and line waited in line to get a signed copy of the book, and Moore spent a total of an hour spending multiple minutes with each person and personally signing each copy.

Those particular events, the release party, are the most fun because they get an even more relaxed environment," Brian Dietz, trade manager at the Lib­erty Bookstore said. "It’s a great way to get a book and promote the book, and it’s a lot of fun."

The Liberty Bookstore has hosted multiple book release parties in the past.

Excerpt "Dirty God," Chapter 4

Jesus is the God who comes into our daily lives. He is not the God we imagine when we think of him: the powerful, throne-wearing, caped, and garbed king of the end times. Jesus is not what we expect him to be when we think of him: the resurrected one, the Lord of the universe, the one who incarnation.

"When you think about it, the idea of the identity really is very powerful," said Jesus with his lightening bold. They don’t want them med­dling in the lives of humans. They too busy living beings.

And Jesus is the God of the people. Jesus can heal the universe, or he can be healed by God. Jesus cares for the lost, or he is lost from the hands of God.

As we see Jesus comes in small, difficult, and a lot from another God. He en­tered history as a God who looked more like a man.

Jesus didn’t care about im­pressing the human and the politician. Jesus didn’t have time for the subtle with their long prayers and outward adorn­ments.

Jesus went to everyone, and especially for those who didn’t deserve God’s attention.

He came for the regular men and women who didn’t expect their way through life, trying to make this world a little better place. He came fully aware of the people’s inadequacy and didn’t intend to rule them in.

He came not to judge the sit of the world but rather to take unto his own shoulders the burden of giving a second chance to people who didn’t deserve one.

Jesus didn’t send a mes­sage to mass through yet an­other prophet. Instead, he dropped a staircase from heav­en so that he could walk with us, touching in to see that we felt, hurt but we also hurt, struggle, and eventually help us so we sought in the presence of God again.

He handles us with care. He relieves the opportunity to make something beautiful out of one's mess.

He arrived on the scene with a certain expectation. When you imagine him from the revolving doors of Bethlehem, you could almost miss that this was a moment of such com­mon importance — a time when God grabbed history in his two hands and ripped it apart.

Jesus arrived, in fact, the most significant moment in all of history, and it was his grace that brought that here, and his grace that defined the revolutionary way he taught and preached and how we are to live from that day forward.

You would think that the wonderful news of God’s grace would be received with open arms. But grace, like a gem­mng diamond, shines and it can be ignored. When it is placed squarely on something dark as night, Jesus arrives, in a great gift — a gift that almost no one wanted.

Trading textbooks for technology?

Increases in e-book availability allow students to save money, but some are not ready for the change just yet

Daniel Bartelson
Liberty Champion

According to the 2012 College Board Report, students spend on average $1,440.78 per year on college textbooks, an increase with increasing costs. To combat the further increase, college bookstores have worked to integrate e-textbooks into the strategy in order to provide text­books that can be accessed online.

Over the past several years, the use of technology in the Liberty Bookstore, as well as other college bookstores, has greatly increased. New devices such as Kindle, Nook and Barnes & Noble’s Nook allow for the access to books that are more on a light and ease-of-­access strategy.

"Evolution, not revolution, is strategy to move to paperless textbooks that can be accessed online," said Lib­erty’s textbook strategy, Tom Traylor. When asked about the future of textbooks, Traylor said that Liberty’s textbook strategy, Lib­erty’s textbook strategy and Nook actually has a lot of potential. It’s an interesting way of doing business. It’s one thing that you can say about the future of textbooks is that it is a trend to evolve with the times and the technology."
FACS Dept. plans to explore Italy

Students will depart on the 11-day tour in May

Emily Webster
webster@liberty.edu

The travel bug is going around the Family and Consumer Sciences (FACS) Department as faculty and students prepare to set out on an 11-day trip to Italy May 16-26.

Ruth Gomes, an assistant professor in this FACS Department and the organizer of this trip, said that she is looking forward to her students being able to experience a different culture as they learn first-hand what Italian fashion, architecture, and interiors look like.

The trip will take them to popular Italian sites such as the Sistine Chapel, the Colosseum, the ruins of Pompeii, and more.

Gomes believes that it is very important to be knowledgeable about the ideas of other cultures before going over to see these designs displayed. She said that she plans to have each of her students study a different Italian designer and give a presentation in help students become more knowledgeable about the subjects of Italian fashion, architecture, and interiors.

"I want to give them opportunities that they've never had before, as far as seeing what's out there in the world," Gomes said.

One such student, Rebecca Plosa, has been studying the growth of Italian fashion as she prepares for the trip. Plosa, a double major in fashion merchandising and communication, said she is looking forward to seeing the city of Venice and all the art that it has to offer through its installations and people as they demonstrate their crafts, such as glass-blowing and leather making. "We'll definitely gain knowledge on how to make our own merchandise, as well as just how to display it and market it, from Mrs. Gomes," Plosa said. "We'll be learning about the psychology behind the fashion, how these people are selling their clothing, why they're making it and how they're making it."

Gomes wants others to have the same opportunity that her students will have as they walk the streets of Italy and take in not only the fashion, but also the beautiful architecture, interior design and history that Italy has to offer. For this reason, the trip is open to anyone interested in learning more about the Italian culture.

A private fashion tour will give the students the opportunity to see first-hand some of the products that the Italian designers are creating. The designers will share their perspectives on fashion, which, according to Gomes, is completely different than the perspectives that American designers have on fashion.

"It's a once-in-a-lifetime FACS major, that said she is excited for the museum to see the culture, fashion and people of Italy, "I've never been overseas before," Joyce said. "It sounds like such a great experience going over to see all the culture, the people and just the beauty of Italy. I want to get an idea of their idea of fashion, clothing, design, and architecture, and just bring what I learn over there back to America."

The deadline to sign up for the trip is Feb. 6, but Gomes said that students should also be on the lookout for next year's trip. According to her, if it is approved, the FACS Department hopes to take another trip to Paris or London.

WEBSTER is a feature reporter.

For more information on the Italy trip, visit the Liberty FACS Department homepage at liberty.edu.
FEATURE

EYES ON THE PRIZE — Liberty students competed in a wide variety of games Saturday night at the Student Activities event.

Back to school with a bang

Student Activities gives students a chance to start the semester with a bash

Shelby Beyer

Student Activities scored a home-run with the Back-to-School Bash Jan. 19. The Schilling Center was filled with students Saturday night as they played their way through a Wake miniature golf course and practiced their athletic skills with a football game. Games such as Twister and pingpong gave students the opportunity to play interactive games together.

"The lines may be a bit long for games, but it is well worth the wait," Liberty student Eileen Ritts said. "I love that Liberty gives us the opportunity to have fun activities right on campus."

Despite the lines, students turned out in big numbers, as they had in the fall.

"This is our first year ever doing a Back-To-School Bash," Kristen Clayton, a volunteer for Student Activities, who helped organize the event, said. "We're going to continue it each semester.

According to Clayton, they were hoping to bring in at least 800 students for the event.

"This event is very popular with the students," Clayton said. "It's a great way for the students to immerse themselves in what Liberty has to offer, and it's just fun to meet new people, socialize and play some awe-some games."

Clayton said that Student Activities awarded prizes to students, including a $100 gift card to Bass Pro Shops, Bose headphones and iTunes gift cards. Popcorn, baked goods and candy were also offered to students as they made their way around the Schilling Center to participate in the various events.

"It was wonderful to see how close the student community is," Cameren Williams, a pre-professional theater student, said. "Our students are always looking for a school is the support and disciplining of its students. With events like this right on campus, the student body has a fun environment to connect with fellow students and really grow together. I am excited to be a part of this student body in the fall.

Student Activities was able to build this event thanks to Your Event Source, a feature that helps Liberty students to plan and execute events.

FYI also holds an annual Back to School Bash for the first day of each semester.

SAFER is a feature reporter.

Bass Fishing Club grows

The year-old Liberty group hopes to expand despite funding challenges

Josh Brandenstein

On the waters of Ivy Lake, the Liberty Bass Fishing Club is at home. However, according to Vice President George Amor, they are planning on relocating to Smith Mountain Lake in the future.

"The Eastern Student Government Association (ESGA) approved the club's hopes to grow and expand over the upcoming spring," Amor said.

According to President Chris Parratt, the Liberty Bass Fishing Club began in January 2013 and competes throughout the U.S. According to the group's official Facebook page, the club allows students to learn and improve their skills and provides a venue to meet students whose interests align with their own.

James L. Viola TDUS, a tournament fishing organization known for the founder of Ranger Boats, is one of the organizers Liberty University is partnered with, providing them with boats and travel allowances for college students to compete in events. The FLW dindes the USA into five regions, and the Liberty Bass Fishing Club competes in the northern division.

"We have placed pretty well for being a new team," Parratt said. The team placed seventh out of 40 teams on Lake Champlain, and they are looking to make a top-five finish this year, according to Amor.

Parratt said that they are currently running into some trouble raising funds to provide boats for their new club while still providing events and opportunities for students already in the club. According to Parratt, they are in a tough place getting off the ground and are always open to sponsors.

According to Parratt, the club is hoping to be able to buy some smaller boats and leave them at Ivy Lake for members of the club to use whenever they desire.

The club's goal over the coming year is to spread the word and build up their group so that they are capable of becoming the club they want to be.

"With a lot of hard work this semester, I can see the club doing very well, and in the future, becoming as great as all the major universities' clubs," Parratt said.

For more information about the Liberty Bass Fishing Club, visit their Facebook page or contact Chris Parratt at cpparratt@ liberty.edu.

BRANDSTEIN is a feature reporter.

BASS — Daniel Plunkett displays his fish.