Gun-free no more? Student group defends concealed carry on campus campuses

Barrett Dan

A group known as Students for Concealed Carry (SCC) is speaking out about allowing students with concealed carry licenses to be armed on college campuses and said that using gun permits college students a risk.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, such regulations as gun permit, firearm regulations, and state laws on such regulations have been shown to be effective in reducing violence.

Barrett, who is a former student at Liberty University, said that allowing concealed carry on campus could protect students and others on campus in the event of a shooting.

"We need to have a plan to deal with these situations," he said. "We don't want to be caught off guard."
Alumni lecture

Renowned author Leslie Fields speaks Monday, Feb. II

Leslie Fields has written several books and articles.

Author, speaker and columnist Leslie L. Fields will speak at the Liberty University English and Modern Language Departments' Alumni Lecture Series on Feb. 11.

According to a press release, Fields is the author of seven books, including "Passport to Your Highest Calling: "Surprise Child," "The cozy of Food" and "Surviving the Island of Grace." She has also authored numerous articles for "Christian Today," and has a column entitled "Stories to Be Told."

Fields has performed throughout the U.S. for over 20 years. The press release noted, and she has also spoken in Canada and South Korea during concerts and seminars, as well as at churches and conventions.

"Fields is an engaging, witty person who speaks to her audience from a life and a heart that had known hardships," according to the press release.

The event will be held at 7:30 p.m. in DeMoss Hall 109. The lecture is free and open to the public, and other light refreshments will be provided by Zeta Tau Delta, the Liberty University chapter of Sigma Tau Delta, Secretary Emily Myers said. Myers also encouraged Sigma Tau Delta members and others to attend the event.

"We invite our members, English majors and Liberty University students in general to be exposed to the knowledge of those who went before them," Myers said.

CURTIS is the copy editor.

The Center4ME is recognizing African American History Month on campus

"Center4ME is here to celebrate various cultures and to give students the opportunity to learn about those different cultures," Assistant Director of Cultural Programming Johanna Jefferison said.

"It’s important to me to have students think of this month, think about the contributions of African Americans, and to think about the dearth of understanding of African American history."

"Center4ME is here to celebrate various cultures and to give students the opportunity to learn about those different cultures," Assistant Director of Cultural Programming Johanna Jefferison said. "A lot of students think Center4ME is for African Americans or Latino students, but it’s for everyone to build relationships."

The African American History Month kick-off in the Great Hall of DeMoss Hall

February 1, 2013, marked the first of the month where Center4ME will hold events to celebrate African American History Month. This year, Center4ME will hold events every day of the month, starting with the kick-off event at 9 a.m. until 2:30 p.m. in DeMoss Hall 109.

Other events include additional performances by Bridge the Gap Rhythm, Feb. 8 at 11:30 a.m. in Great Hall 109, and a hands-on performance accompanied by food and games in Green Hall 1870, Feb. 8 at 211:30 a.m.

Faces of America, a documentary featuring 11 Americans from various ethnic backgrounds, will be screened in Great Hall 1870, Feb. 26 at 7 p.m. Finally, the festivities will be wrapped up with a presentation on the history of African American music, Saturday, March 2 at 7 p.m. in the Focus Auditorium.

In addition to African American History Month, the Center4ME celebrates various heritages throughout the year.

"We celebrate Indigenous heritage in May and Asian American and Pacific Islander heritage in April," Jefferison said. "We also celebrate Hispanic heritage in September and October as "American Indian Month in November.

For more information on upcoming events for African American History Month as well as future events, visit the Center4ME website at www.center4me.org.

EACHO is the year-end edition.

COMMUNITY Students gather to enjoy refreshments and discussion in the Grand Hall of DeMoss Hall.
Memorialist Maya Angelou perceptions

Randolph College hosted the acclaimed poet for a discussion about her rise from persecution and adversity

Tess Curtis

Celebrated poet and memorialist Maya Angelou spoke about her career during the 2013 Randolph College Liberty University professor Karri Swobold Prieh's annual literature luncheon.

When the curator opened Tuesday, Jan. 29 at 11 a.m., she heard more than scheduled — Angelou stood to take a shaky little bow, settled down in her blush-covered wheelchair, and then opened her mouth to sing.

"When it look like the sun will not shine anymore, God put a rainbow in the clouds," Angelou sang.

"I have always been referred to as a poet, but I am also a woman," Angelou said.

According to her poetry, that is what she was in the clouds — a thin ray of hope in a dark and dismal place.

"Poetry has kept us alive," Angelou said.

According to her poetry, she shared her life through her poetry and also brought her through the struggles she faced growing up in a southern town like Stamps, Ark. Through poetry, she said that she was able to express her confusion and adversity to become the woman she is today.

Angelou also recalled a time when she read all of Shakespeare's books at the modest library of her hometown. Although she did not claim to understand everything she read at the time, Angelou said that Shakespeare's Sonnet 29 was one of her favorites. Reading through his work, she was startled by how much it spoke to her own experiences.

"I didn't care what they said about me," Angelou said. "I was interested in what he was a little black girl." Poetry has the power to unite cultures, generations, and diversity, according to Angelou, and is a fundamental means behind the societal order.

"The poetry was written for you," Angelou said. "It's all for you.

"I also remembered the audience, including English major Mary Bonham, took the speaker's words to heart.

"Many Angelou was just inspirational and precious," Brummel said after the address. "My favorite quote from her was, 'When you know, you can teach. When you get, you can give.' She kept on talking about the rainbow, coming through the clouds. It was poetry that gave her hope.

"However, students also mentioned some difficulties with actually getting into the building, although there were two entrances into the Smith Hall Building where Angelou spoke, members of the community and out-of-town guests launched together to form some semblance of a line hours before the doors opened at 6 p.m.

"The event was free, open to the public, but some groups could not make the reservations," Price said.

"It rained them back in December — otherwise, it wouldn't have worked."

"They did come in a little bit of a crowd, but that was good," Angelou said.

"I felt like I was in a lot of places, looking at everything, every day, I'm going to the beach," Liberty student Stephanie Chamber said of Angelou.

"I'm not really bad, but also really grateful at the same time." According to Angelou, she brought the long lines and opened the north entrance of the building along with Price. However, some students were not so fortunate.

According to one member of the crowd, he had been scaling in line since 6 p.m. in hopes of getting into the building. Price also mentioned that some people had traveled three hours to Randolph College just to hear Angelou speak.

Most students eventually made it into the building. "All the security officers really had it organized well, and they let them come right in," Prieh said.

According to Price, Randolph College had announced that Angelou was going to speak in December. Prieh already knew that she would make a great poem from the poet. "She had a great name and she thought that it would be a good experience for some of her students," Prieh said.

"I searched for the perfect poet, and I really worked on my students to have a chance to do that," Price said.

CURTIS is the copy editor.

HOPE — Port Maya Angelou addressed a vast crowd at Randolph College Tuesday, Jan. 29.

Visit our homepage frequently for weekly menus, calendar of events and news you can use.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 6TH • 5:00 - 7:30
Reber Thomas Dining Hall

EXPLORE CHINA

Join us for

Valentine's Day

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 14TH

Reber-Thomas Dining Hall

Valentine's Day Prom... Still Awkward

Doc's Diner

Romantic four-course dinner for two
The Grammys are being losing their glamour

Gabriella Fuller gfuller@tribunerepublican.com

It is held as “music’s biggest night,” an event where audience, performers and singers all set out to see the latest musical acts on the stage. The Grammy Awards are presented by the National Academy of Recording Arts and Sciences. It is the largest and most prestigious annual music award ceremony in the world.

The Grammys have been around since 1958. Initially, they were not so glamorous. Just not so glamorous. However, over the years, they have become more and more important.

The Grammy Awards are given out to artists in various categories, including Best Pop Vocal Album, Best Rap Album, Best Rock Album, Best Country Album, and so on. The awards are presented by the Recording Academy, which is a nonprofit organization that represents recording artists, songwriters, and music producers. The Grammy Awards are held in Los Angeles, California, and are broadcast live on television.

The Grammy Awards show is a popular event that attracts millions of viewers each year. It is a celebration of the best in contemporary music, and it is also a platform for artists to showcase their talents and creativity. The Grammy Awards provide an opportunity for artists to receive recognition for their hard work and talent, and they also provide an opportunity for fans to celebrate their favorite musicians.

Each year, the Grammy Awards feature a diverse range of performers and acts. From rock legends to pop stars, from hip hop artists to classical musicians, the Grammy Awards showcase the best in contemporary music. The awards are presented in a variety of categories, including Best New Artist, Best Record of the Year, Best Album of the Year, and Best Song of the Year.

The Grammy Awards are also known for their high production values. The show features state-of-the-art sound and lighting, with a star-studded cast of performers and hosts. The Grammy Awards are a celebration of music, and they provide an opportunity for fans to come together and celebrate their favorite artists.
Celebrating Black History Month

Just how much progress have we made in the 50 years since Martin Luther King Jr.’s inspirational speech?

Jacob Tellers
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It is hard to imagine that a little less than 50 years ago, our nation did not consider African Americans to be equal with whites. Their voting rights were discriminated against, public schools were segregated, and even drinking fountains were segregated with signs for “white” and “colored” individuals.

Yet, this was the same era for our country in the mid-twentieth century. Sadly, we committed some of the greatest injustices in the world in the greatest country in the world.

“I have a dream that my four children will one day live in a nation where they will not be judged by the color of their skin but by the content of their character,” Martin Luther King Jr. said in his 1963 speech at the Lincoln Memorial, challenging the racial inequalities of the time.

In the 50 years following King’s iconic speech, America has moved from a nation where racism was embedded in our laws to having an African American as our president. President Barack Obama, Tiger Woods and Oprah Winfrey are all examples of the many African Americans who have reached the peak of their respective careers. If there is a dream that our children will one day live in a nation where they will not be judged by the color of their skin but by the content of their character, it’s that racism is not the problem.

One of the biggest arguments today about equality is the debate between the approaches opposing concepts of equality of opportunity and equality of outcome.

Equality of opportunity is the idea that everyone should have an equal chance to succeed. Equality of outcome is the belief that a racially equal society, different races should have similar levels of success. It is easy to say that everyone should simply have an equal opportunity to succeed, but if the outcomes are not equal, is there truly equal opportunity? The answer is no. There is not equal opportunity, but that is not necessarily due to racism.

“Our child has been bullied, another with sight? Our child has parents deeply concerned about his welfare who also are experts in a culture and understanding. Another has discipline, independent parents,” Milton and Rose Friedman explain in their book Pro Choice. “They clearly do not have identical opportunities at birth, and there is no way that their opportunities can be made identical.”

As my Dad so often told me when I was growing up, “Life isn’t fair.” The reality is that people are born into different situations, and these situations directly affect their chances of being able to succeed in life.

We will never truly achieve equal opportunity. It is not feasible to believe that everyone can be born into the same environment of success, quality of life and encouragement.

As humans beings, we are equal in our rights, yet unique in our talents and abilities.

Instead of striving for an achievable goal, what we should strive for is a society where someone who wants to succeed can be given the tools and instruction necessary for success. Everyone is not going to have the same starting point in life, but we can help them more on from wherever they started.

So while equality of opportunity is never going to be possible, everyone should be given an equal chance of moving forward in their lives.

At the same time, politicians who try to force outcomes of success are off base.

To give someone preferential treatment because of the color of their skin and not because of their qualifications is to define racism. We assume we want people are equal and should be judged by their actions and then turn around and give special benefits to people because of their race.

If a company or college is continually turning away qualified minorities, that is wrong, and we are not performing these actions should suffer the consequences.

On the other side, if the government thinks that forcing an organization to hire a certain quota of minority candidates is going to cure racism and encourage equality, it is mistaken as well.

Hiring under-qualified employees simply to achieve diversity goes against what Martin Luther King Jr. stood for.

The United States will never be a country where everyone is born equal in the sense that they will be given the same exact opportunities and experiences.

Because it is impossible to legislate equality of outcome without infringing on the very equality we are setting out to protect.

If we mean the means to succeed, we can encourage people to succeed, but that is not something that can be enforced by law. We all need to work harder to want to want something better in life, and whereas a desire to do better is a step in the right direction.

Dr. D. Lewis has seen significant progress toward equality in the last 50 years. If we as a nation wish to continue to live up to King’s dream, we need to the cooperated between people by the content of the character, and not the color of their skin.

TELLERS is an opinion writer.
Shervin said, "Her life was an example for all of us.""}

Dr. Fred Richmond, former dean of the College of Education and the College of General Studies, died Thursday, Jan. 30, after a long battle with pancreatic cancer.

"I knew her as a person of great energy, uncommon focus and personal integrity," Rich said. "She was a builder and had big plans continuous to influence the School of Education and Liberty University. Liberal arts in the 21st century need those fearless leaders from her to see the light and ready the culture for the cause of Christ."

Memorial services are scheduled for Sunday, Feb. 2, at 1 p.m. at Lakeland Baptist Church, in Lynchburg.

Preparing for youth work

International student Emmanuella Jokula died Wednesday, Jan. 30. He had been transported to Lynchburg General Hospital following a fall on campus. According to Dean of the International Students Program Bill Woyert, Jokula suffered major head trauma and died at the hospital.

"Emmanuella Jokula was a very passionate, very lively student," Woyert said. "He was such an amazing young man."

According to Ranky, Jokula had only been in the States for about a year, and he had not been home since.

"The first week he was at Liberty, he was really really homesick, and he didn't have a cellphone, so a few other guys and I went out to purchase a phone that he could use to connect with his family," Ranky said. "He had a really big heart, and I'm praying for his family and prayed that he would be at peace in his life."

The last time Ranky received from Jokula was Christmas morning. "Emmanuella texted me at 3 a.m. on Christmas morning and said Merry Christmas and God bless you more than I can express. May God show you more with His blessings. May we find life's true meaning as we further reflect on this blessed season. May your happiness, success and good health. That's just one example of the kind of guy he was," Ranky said.

The International Student Center, along with the Campus Pastors Office, will be holding a memorial service for Jokula, tentatively scheduled for Thursday, Feb. 7, at 6 p.m. in the Part Chapel at Thomas Road Baptist Church.

FSN engineer loved Liberty

Jay Silvia, a Flames Sports Network FSN sideline engineer, died Friday, Feb. 1. He was 30 and was survived by his wife, Tina.

"The previous Saturday, Jan. 26, Silvia suffered a brain attack minutes after the ferris basketball game concluded. He was rushed to the hospital and later died," according to Bruce Carey, the assistant producer for FSN. "Silvia was a vital part of the team."

Jay handled all of our seating and split responsibilities in the last eight years for football, basketball, baseball and baseball, including on-campus games. Carey said. "He told me once that working here at Liberty helped him refine his relationship with God, but he appreciated the prayers that we conduct prior to each broadcast. Liberty University always came first with Jay and he will be surely missed by the entire team."

A memorial service for Silvia has yet to be announced.

O'ELRICH is the news editor.

OBITUARIES

Shervin said, "Her life was an example for all of us."
Lady Flames sweep Rams
Lady Flames stay perched at No. 1 in the nation with win

Team Focus
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The Liberty University Lady Flames Division I hockey team defeated the Colorado State Lady Rams 5-0 Friday, Feb. 2, on the strength of two goals scored by senior Laura Del Monte. On defense, sophomore goalie Sarah Rupp delivered her third shutout performance of the year.

Liberty dictated possession of the puck for the majority of the first period, but futility work by Colorado State goaltender Amanda Vandenbengt stymied the Lady Flames attack. "I think our girls passed really well," Head Coach Paul Blundell said. "As a result, we were able to carry the puck into their end. We just weren't able to get it into their net — their goalie was outstanding." The Lady Flames eventually did find the back of the net when freshman Kerby Reihsinger set up a set-shot goal for Del Monte with 3:12 remaining in the period. "Kerby Reihsinger came around behind the net and had a nice play and just put it right there for me," Del Monte said.

"It was perfect, and I just tipped it in," Del Monte said.

The second period started with a strong attack by the Lady Rams, but Liberty's Rupp made a sensational save to preserve the 1-0 advantage for the Lady Flames.

Although the Lady Rams played a much stronger second period, Liberty still manufactured more opportunities and controlled the puck.

Del Monte added her second goal of the night with 8:10 remaining in the second period, after deflecting a wide shot from the blue line into the back of the net to give Liberty a 2-0 advantage. "Autumn Kucharczyk took a shot, and I just tipped it in," Del Monte said.

It was a nice shot by her." See HOCKEY, B2

RECENTLY — Lady Flames outscored the Lady Rams 17-1 in the first period and swept the series 3-0. The Lady Rams got one shot against Del Monte, but the senior only needed one save to get the shutout. With the win, Liberty is 20-0-1 on the year.

Lady Flames at the ‘flex
Flames claim two team victories in competition at Snowflex Centre

Emily Brown
Ebrown@liberty.edu
Liberty University’s club ski and snowboard team carved its way to a dominant showing in its first competition of the season Saturday night, Feb. 2, at the Liberty Mountain Snowflex Centre.

Liberty placed first in two of the three events, and three members claimed No. 1 spots in individual events.

In the competition, skiers were scored both individually and as a team, based on their performances in the slalom and giant slalom. Each skier’s final score was comprised of the average of two runs. The team score was a sum of the individual scores.

Liberty won both the men’s slalom and snowboarding ‘division’ events. The skiers were led by junior Tim Seifert, who finished third in an individual event.

"Once I tested my first run, I was really happy about it, and I just had fun with my second," Seifert said.

Kevin Hoff and Dave Promize led the way for the snowboarders, taking the top spot in the men’s snowboarding event.

"My first run was just what I wanted, and my second one turned out much better," Hoff said.

See SLOPES, B3

Snowy slopes at the ‘flex
Flames claim two team victories in competition at Snowflex Centre

BATTLE is the assit. sports editor.

Lady Flames stay perched at No. 1 in the nation with win

We’ll see you at the game

M. B-ball vs. Radford
Feb. 5 @ 7 p.m.

Track & Field
Feb. 6 @ 2:30 P.M.

M. Tennis vs. Bridgewater
Feb. 8 @ 6 p.m.

M. Hockey vs. Oakland
Feb. 8 @ 7 p.m.

M. Hockey vs. Bridgewater
Feb. 8 @ 6 p.m.

W. Tennis vs. Charlotte
Feb. 9 @ 12 p.m.
Men's DI hockey picks up three conference wins against East Carolina, Rowan U. and Virginia Tech

HOCKEY continued from B

Despite their deficit, Colorado State continued to show a lot of fight. Regis made a phenomenal save after a Last Ramb break away to make sure that the Lady Flames maintained the lead through half time.

The final period brought much of the same Lady Flames dominance and possession of the puck. With 1:29 remaining in the final period, freshman Garrett Jacobson scored the third and final goal of the game on a beautiful wrister that sneaked right through the legs of the Lobster goalie. While a solid outing, the Lady Flames believe that they still could have lost the game.

"I do think we could have capitalized on a few more opportunities," Del Monte said. "It could have put a few more points on the board for us.

Overall, the performance was a tremendous effort to be proud of in the second period in particular, and the team is looking forward to hard work.

"That's what we have practiced for all year long, and a lot of the girls are really happy," she said. "Just working so hard, working so hard, towards the end of the season, it's really great.

That's what we're working on."

The Lady Flames will return to action when they host Ralphie at the Ladek Centre on Friday, Feb. 8.

FOOTE is a sports reporter.

Weekend highs and lows

Men's and women's basketball teams hit the road

Derek Boudreau

Built the men's and women's basketball teams were on the road Saturday, Feb. 2. The Liberty Lady Flames headed to Big South, Liberty averaged last month's 71-61 home loss, defeating Old Dominion 83-72.

After shooting 21 percent (18-97) from the field in the first half, Liberty found itself halftime trailing 39-27. After the intermission, the Lady Flames opened the second half with a 28-10 run, giving them a 57-point advantage with 11:46 left in the game.

As time dwindled, the Lady Panthers were on a small run of their own taking a one-point lead, but it was quickly extinguished. Liberty unanswered, helping them hold on for an eighth victory of the season. After a poor shooting performance in the first half, Liberty went 15-46, percent in the second.

Senior Taha Omotola led all scorers with a game-high 22 points and 13 rebounds. Overall, those 22 points came in the second half. Guard Devon Broussard finished with 16 points, three assists and three steals, and guard Emily Broussard ended the game with 29 points and 11 assists.

The Lady Flames will go on the road to face Longwood Saturday, Feb. 8 at 2 pm, while the Flames return home for Radford Tuesday, Feb. 5 at 7 pm.

BATTLE is the ass't. sports editor.
From the Flames history book

**Kyle Harvey**
kharevy@liberty.edu

Many who attend or are associated with Liberty University have heard quotes from the founder, Dr. Falwell Sr. about how the way to reach young people is through sports. Carty reports that Falwell's theory was the basis for many of the decisions he made throughout his tenure as chancellor of Liberty. Beyond his influence into American culture, there was an other reason that Falwell wanted Liberty to have a big, successful sports program — just to beat sports.

"We were a sports team," Flames Sports Network Senior Producer Bruce Gary said. "And another thing about Jerry he had to have was..." Gary, whose family began attending Thomas Road Baptist Church in Richmond, went on to spend decades working under Falwell. According to Gary, many of the stories he remembers about Falwell are tied to sports. ‘If you played a game where Jerry (Falwell) was on one of the teams, you wanted to be on that team," Gary said. "Forget about nine innings, forget about an hour-long basketball game. He was going to play until he won."

According to Carty, the outfielder-gardener Falwell played in were known to last upwards of 10 innings. "The other team would just give up because they'd just got tired," Gary said. "It became a marathon if they didn't win it right away."

It's a lore, Carty's earliest memories of Falwell in the pre-Marcellus days were when Falwell would bring Gary and other neighborhood children home from church, eat back in their homes and then go out to play pickup ball games with the neighborhood kids.

"All the neighborhood kids knew he was coming," Gary said. "He'd play ball with those kids, and then, when it was over, he'd come in, take a nap, and then he'd get cleaned up, and we'd all jump back in the car and go to church."

After developing a great friendship with the then he knew as Pastor Falwell, Gary began to see him as a team as well.

In the early 80's, prior to the Flames Sports Network, Liberty athletics events were televised on an outside company called Creative Video, for which Falwell was a announcer. But Falwell thought that the outside company charged too much, so he began to mill about the idea of making the opera tion in house.

"We came to me, knowing that I loved sports, and said, 'Bruce, can you produce these games at Liberty?" Gary said. While Carty admitted that he did not have experience in producing, he said that he thought he knew too, so it was enough for Falwell.

"He just said, 'You're the sports pro ducer. I'm telling you to do it; make it happen," Gary said.

"Gary did make it happen — and still does. Under his leadership, Liberty's sports broaded across the landscape, in its current award-winning status. What began as the Liberty Broadcaster Network, in 1984, became the Flames Sports Network, as it is known today, in 1999. At that time, Gary has produced nearly every game held on or away from campus that the network has covered.

**SNOWY SLOPES** A member of the club can throw a trick.

**SLOPES continued from B1**

good for the first two features," Hall said.

Edward Jones, the only female competitor for Liberty, also earned her way to an individual first-place finish in the women's snowboarding event.

With the success, Liberty's club ski and snowboard team continued their three-year unde feated streak on the East Coast. Liberty defeated teams from across the region, including the University of Virginia, Virginia Tech, East Carolina University and Appalachian State, and competed as a part of the United States Ski Team's Snowboard Association (USSA).

"We also successfully navigated an unpredictable course, due to one entry in the event," Hall said.

Now on Snowdaze — it's time to deal with," Head Coach Will Schriver said. "Sometimes it is the best thing in the world. Trouble is, probably made things a little more difficult. Our girls have been riding on it. They've gotta deal with adverse weather conditions, and they did a good job.

Liberty lacked a big number of experience as its first competition as well, as the team consists almost entirely of newcomers.

"Those guys stepped up at full and put in a lot of work, so I'm proud," Schriver said about his team. Michael Wall, Schriver was pleased with the team's efforts on the event. "Our game plan tonight was to put down a consistent free ride run, and then take off the running steeplechase run, and the guys executed that very well," Schriver said. "I feel great about how they've everybody rode tonight.

The team hopes to continue their streak and ultimately send several athletes to the USCSA nationals in Idaho at the end of the year.

Liberty will continue its season competing in the USCSA throughout the next several weeks before coping off for regular season with several home competitions at Snowdaze. The club skiers are hopeful that the team will bring home another Fruit.
Professor shows passion for psychology

Former police officer Timothy Barclay's law enforcement background sparks his interest in a new career

Former police officer Timothy Barclay's law enforcement background sparks his interest in a new career.
In a competitive Delta Air Lines internship with more than 700 applicants fighting for three openings, Liberty student Zach Floto came out on top, earning the chance to work with one of the world’s largest airlines.

Q: How did you qualify for the internship, and how were you selected?
A: I heard about the internship while at Ohio State University two years ago. After applying online, I was called for a phone interview with the manager of the Chief Pilot Center and the Vice President of Flight Operations at Delta Air Lines.

A couple weeks later, they called me again for a second interview and the opportunity to intern at each airport, along with receiving current procedures that need updating.

My job is to keep track of developing procedures and test them in the simulator. I usually fly with a simulator instructor in each type of aircraft Delta pilots have in their fleet and record performance data in the simulator as the airplane flies each new approach. It is very exciting, and the instructors always give me time at the end to practice approaches and landings.

Q: What are you learning?
A: I can’t even begin to express how much I am learning from this internship. It’s been a few weeks, and I already have so much valuable experience that will help me in my future career.

Currently, I have over 30 hours in the simulator and have been able to practice takeoffs, landings, approaches, low-visibility operations, engine failures and much more.

Additionally, I am learning a great deal about programming the FMS (flight management system) and setting up the computer in each aircraft, along with using the HUD (head-up display) in the 757.

No experience compares to hands-on training with the most current equipment. I am constantly learning and improving with new equipment.

Q: What is your career goal?
A: Ultimately, I want to be a captain for an international airline. Delta is a very strong company with great future in front of them, and I hope to return to this airline in the future.

Until then, I plan to work as a flight instructor until I can fly with a regional airline, most likely ExpressJet, and build my hours in order to get hired by Delta. My dream is to one day fly as an international flight captain on the 767 or 777.

GEN YOUNG is the dean of the Liberty University School of Aeronautics.
Good Hill hunting

Students to scavenge for $1,500 in prizes

Melissa Skinner
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Lycoming will soon become the site of a massive game for the first Student Hill City Scavenger Hunt hosted by Liberty University's Student Activities.

In order to participate in the hunt, students must be in the Student Center by 1 p.m., FEB. 9, according to Student Activities. Students will race across Lycoming College’s campus to locate items from a list of challenges, according to the Student Activities website. Each task on the list will be worth a different point value, but participants will also have to use their minds to solve the riddles that will lead them to the next challenge. “The hunt is phenomenal,” Reinalda Weeks, a junior education major, said. “It was something that no student wants to miss because the completion is great, and the prizes are to die for.”

According to Student Activities, students will select their own teams of four. Only 100 teams can take part in the scavenger hunt, and members must present a valid Flames Pass in order to participate. Student Activities also asked students to provide their own vehicles.

“This event is one of the few that we encourage students to bring their vehicles and participate together,” Stephanie Ward, program manager of Student Activities, said.

According to Student Activities, there will be one big and a half hours to complete as many challenges as possible, and items will be given throughout the competition, according to Student Activities’ Point account and Facebook page.

Students who are not able to attend the event this year could not attend about the experience they had last year. “I could go again this year,” I would have to say my favorite past would be the actual game itself,” Gaut Williams, a junior early childhood education major, said. “It reminds me of my childhood searching for clues and figuring out where to go next. Even though student activities unite the campus as one body.”

Works competed in last year’s hunt, and she said that the purpose of the event created some tension among her teammates. “I’m pretty sure it had a lot of drama in the beginning,” Weeks said. “We were all competing for the top winner within the team, so naturally, there was a few altercations. We eventually worked our differences and came united in the end.”

Student Activities’ website said that they will give more than $500 worth of prizes, and each team is required to check in at each location in order to qualify for the grand prize.

“Bring your thinking caps to this event, because figuring out the riddles can be pretty tough,” said Student Activities. “The riddles are pretty tricky.” Weeks said.

Go to the Student Activities website for more information, to log in to the Facebook page.

SKINNER is a feature reporter.

McPherson encourages giving

Former NFL player and pastor of The Rock Church returned to Liberty for the third consecutive year

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Liberty University Vice President for Executive Functions Jonathen Moore introduces many conception speakers through the course of the year, but none do the day’s guest as the keynote speaker of our spring convocation.

Mike McPherson, senior pastor of The Rock Church in San Diego, California and two-time Spiritual Embolden Week guest, returned to Liberty on Jan. 30 to share a message about the importance of being a "giver" instead of a "taker."

"Almost two months ago, I was telling my church that I had a very important message, one of the most important that I have ever spoken about, and that was it," McPherson said. "Because if we can have a giving attitude, there's nothing we can't do. I just felt like that would be appropriate today."

McPherson talked about God's willingness to give to people and how Christians should reflect that giving attitude toward others. The talk echoes the example of Abraham's obedience, showing how Ishmael should be ready to give back to God and to other people.

Liberty junior and spiritual life director Anthony Parrettas said that he appreciated McPherson's message about the importance of giving back to God.

"When he talks," Parrettas said. "There's something about him where you know he loves God, and you know that God is with him because it just flows out of him. I think that it's so evident.

"It's almost 2,000 miles separate The Rock Church in California and Liberty, but relationships have grown at a similar pace over that distance. Members of the flock are deeply rooted in Liberty's community, with five Sunday church services, either in person or online. "I don't really compare the two, but it is learning the definitely the personality of God to do amazing incredible things," McPherson said. "I'm encouraged by what I see here, and there's nothing I can't surprise because that's what God is. He's about doing big things.

His website, mikesmcpherson.com, McPherson founded the Rock Church in 2003 and has served as senior pastor ever since.

Before starting his career in ministry, McPherson played in the NFL for barely a Los Angeles Rams and the San Diego Chargers over his four-year career according to his website, he was the first football player in the history of the University of New Haven to be named an All-American and drafted to play in the NFL.

According to McPherson, he became a Christian while playing in San Diego and began working as a youth pastor more than a year before his retirement from football with the Chargers in 1996, taking his transition to fulltime ministry by 1997.

Nowadays, McPherson said that he finds joy in doing things like participating in one of The Rock Church's more than 100 outreach ministries that serve people throughout the San Diego community. He also plans to release his second book, "God is the Mirror," March 1.

LEAVENS is the feature editor.

PRSSA preps for Plunge

Liberty students to help raise money for Special Olympics

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Liberty University students and the community of Lynchburg prepare to leave the icy waters of Campbell Hall Lake during the Hill City Polar Plunge that will take place Feb. 16, 2014.

Special Olympics Virginia is teaming up with Liberty University’s chapter of the Public Relations Student Society of America (PRSSA) to raise funds for athletes with intellectual disabilities.

Participants of this fundraiser must raise each $50 before traveling to Camp Hylawyer to enjoy some food, music and prizes as they prepare to plunge in the frigid water.

Matt Cainer, director of development for Special Olympics, said that the funds raised during the Polar Plunge go to such things as uniforms, meals and sporting events for the athletes who participate in Special Olympics.

"All of our athletes compete completely free of charge in Special Olympics, and every­thing paid for through fundraising events," Cainer said.

According to Cainer, the organization raised more than $20,000 last year.

Olivia Whitter, a junior in Liberty as well as the PRSSA director for PRSSA, said that the Polar Plunge is about more than just raising money for another tough, challenged individuals.

"The reason we’re doing this is that Special Olympics athletes can overcome whatever they do in their everyday life— they have to go through a lot just to participate in even the tiniest of things —you can do this," Whitter said. "You can do this as a symbol of standing with them and helping them go through this."

See PLUNGE, B4

TAKING THE PLUNGE — Whitter said that these Barres fell before last year's event.

(Courtesy: Lara Bunker, Student "The Liberty" Photographer)