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Lessons learned in wake of tragedy

By Joanne Tang

I woke up Tuesday morning tired but satisfied with the previous night's work at the newspaper. As I walked around the newsroom searching for a seating area, I saw Hilary, the Opinion Editor, and she asked if I was going to Blacksburg that day. I said yes, I had been up to Virginia Tech the previous night to cover the shooting. I was now part of a collective of people who are some­ times liked but often hated. I didn't enjoy that look in their eyes. It only meant that leaving your emotions at the door all the time is a heavy price for any journalist. Sometimes, bringing your emotions in with you is better. It keeps you human.

Maria met me and a few other Northern Virginia Tech students at the airport before heading to Blacksburg. It was quiet about Monday's events, oblivious to my presence. The young man recounted his side of the story to me. They had been offended by one recently. I had never the previous night's work at the newspaper. As I walked around the newsroom searching for a seating area, I saw Hilary, the Opinion Editor, and she asked if I was going to Blacksburg that day. I said yes, I had been up to Virginia Tech the previous night to cover the shooting. I was now part of a collective of people who are sometimes liked but often hated. I didn't enjoy that look in their eyes. It only meant that leaving your emotions at the door all the time is a heavy price for any journalist. Sometimes, bringing your emotions in with you is better. It keeps you human.

The broadcast was coming from inside the colise­ um for the memorial service, where the governor and president were speaking. Unfortunately, it was packed, and Secret Service agents, with serious looks of worry and disbelief. A professor shaking her hand and started looking at it more as a Christian, I think. I had never been to a memorial service before. It hadn't occurred to me until then that I would be a part of one. It was now part of a collective of people who are sometimes liked but often hated. I didn't enjoy that look in their eyes. It only meant that leaving your emotions at the door all the time is a heavy price for any journalist. Sometimes, bringing your emotions in with you is better. It keeps you human.

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There was a terrible tragedy last week. Every time we heard about it, it was like a punch to the gut. We were upset, and we were angry. We were hurt, and we were sad. But, let's face it — I'm no expert. I'm just a student, and I'm just talking.

We've lost the thousands, New Yorkers, and you can feel it. You can feel it. Everyone knows it. And it's not just about the Monday that I laughed. It's about the Tuesday that I laughed.

I understand this situation is very different. Last week's tragedy — and I keep calling it a tragedy to refrain from the anger the more I think about it. I'm not sure how to talk about it. I'm not sure how to feel about it. I'm not sure how to process it.

But past the chaos, as the perpetrator of the atrocity, it's easy to see the sadness in the eyes. The sadness in the eyes of the family, the sadness in the eyes of the friends, the sadness in the eyes of the community. The sadness in the eyes of the world.

The tragedy at Virginia Tech was a tragedy to me. But it was also a tragedy to others. It was a tragedy to the families of those who were killed. It was a tragedy to the families of those who were injured. It was a tragedy to the families of those who were traumatized.

But, let's face it — I'm no expert. I'm just a student. I'm just talking.

I could not bring myself to find the universal, or at least university-wide, topic to bring humor into your hands. I could not bring myself to discuss the tragedy to my college community. I could not bring myself to discuss the tragedy to my university. I could not bring myself to discuss the tragedy to my family. I could not bring myself to discuss the tragedy to my friends. I could not bring myself to discuss the tragedy to myself. I could not bring myself to discuss the tragedy to the world.

And then, the question is: How do we move forward? How do we continue? How do we heal?

In this edition of A Tad Askew, I could not bring myself to find the universal, or at least university-wide, topic to bring humor into your hands. I could not bring myself to discuss the tragedy to my college community. I could not bring myself to discuss the tragedy to my university. I could not bring myself to discuss the tragedy to my family. I could not bring myself to discuss the tragedy to my friends. I could not bring myself to discuss the tragedy to myself. I could not bring myself to discuss the tragedy to the world.

But in reality, a laugh may mean more than just laugh at a certain time to a certain person. Despite the failure of my efforts to bring humor into your hands, I hope this discussion will help you to find the universal, or at least university-wide, topic to bring humor into your hands.

Much criticism has been thrust on the university's security, and Falwell openly expressed his disappointment with the administration. He spoke of his love and admiration for President Bush and his support for his security policies. He spoke of his appreciation for the university's security policies and his support for them. He spoke of his appreciation for the university's security policies and his support for them.

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Getting the story
Covering heartbreaking tragedy, but at what cost?

To those who just someone at Virginia Tech, I would like to express my sincerest sympathy. Know that you have been in my prayers. As a writer, I believe in the power of words, but as a person I understand that in these times, nothing anyone can say will heal the pain.

I was hesitant to write this article for several reasons. First because I was so frustrated with the media coverage of the tragedy that occurred on April 16. Second because it then became popular for every journalist to get up on their soapboxes and cry out that the media was being insensitive, all the while continuing to still chase down weeping parents asking for an interview.

And then also. I felt uncomfortable with the thought of baring my soul to the entire campus. It was hard to explain why I was going. I absolutely dreaded the idea of baring my soul to the entire campus.

As we arrived I saw journalists from all over the world and a few other members of the Champion staff. I was unsure as to why I was going. I absolutely dreaded the idea of having to interview anyone. The only reason I could come up with is that I wanted to be there among that crowd.

When we entered the War Memorial Chapel, I felt relieved. A few people were there, sitting and crying by themselves. I stood in the back and prayed for a moment. I was wished talking photos inside the chapel.

I had been trying to keep my little cousin out of the way, and was playing with her in the grass when I heard some commotion in the front of the house and walked around to see what was going on. A journalist walked up to me. "They just found the body. Who are you? Do you have a comment?" she asked.

I didn't ask anyone any questions, I didn't want to. The press pass around my neck did not validate anything. I had no right to ask anything of these people.

I'd been praying that all the pain from several years ago would not flood back in these moments, but how could it not? Suddenly I was 16 again, holding my two-year-old cousin on my lap, waiting with her in hope that someone was going to find her dad soon. My uncle, just 80 years old than myself, had been missing in the woods of Vermont for the past few days. Search and rescue groups, as well as all our friends and family had been out looking for him. The media had been hanging around in our driveway, waiting for a story.

I just started sobbing and was holding my little cousin as close to me as I could, trying to keep both our heads down away from the camera that followed us around as I looked for her mother. I didn't watch any news or pick up a newspaper for a long time after that.

I was 16 again, holding my two-year-old cousin. I understood how they felt. I understood this kind of mourning. I wanted to step in front of the camera to somehow act as a protective barrier to the grief-stricken students around me.

I spent the rest of the day standing back from the crowds. I watched as members of the Virginia Tech community walked past me with their heads down, trying to keep their faces to the camera to somehow cover their pain. It was difficult to contain my anger. I felt righteously indignant. I wanted to take these photographers and journalists by the shoulders and tell them that they understood nothing unless they personally had experienced this kind of mourning. I wanted to step in front of the camera to somehow act as a protective barrier to the grief-stricken students around me.

I recall all of the devil's attacks of doubt and anger that came against my family when we lost my uncle. It was through those circumstances that I realized what I was there for those days, I was there to honor the spirit and to pray for those around me. I hope that's how I will always function as a journalist. To be one of the first to put the notebook down and left my Heart in prayer.

Contact Hilary Dyer at hdyer@liberty.edu.
Journalism: getting the story while maintaining ethics

I sat in my office Monday morning listening to the news about a shooting that had occurred at Virginia Tech. I was too busy writing an article to pull up MTV on my computer. I just listened to it in the background on another Champion staff member's computer.

I felt I was watching the event unfold as two different people.

As a journalist, I wanted to know every detail of what was going on. The Champion staff in the office was glued to 9WSLS, while occasionally checking news Web sites for more confirmed information about what was happening on campus very close to ours. I felt like I should have been more upset about those who lost their lives and the others on campus who were experiencing. I was too busy worrying about how it would effect the production of the paper. I was stressed most of the evening. I didn't have time to be upset. I didn't even have time to feel.

Why was I worrying about that? People lost their lives on Monday. That realization did not hit me until I saw this picture of the students Tuesday morning. These were people – brothers, sisters, sons, daughters and friends. If I went to Tech, it could have been me, or someone I knew. The thought gave me chills.

I was too busy worrying about how it would effect the production of the paper. I was stressed most of the evening. I didn't have time to be upset. I didn't even have time to feel.

The media are asking legitimate questions that people want answers to. Journalism is a profession and it's the job of a journalist to get the story. They must maintain integrity and ethics. A journalist's main goal is to tell a story accurately and objectively. There are good journalists and there are bad journalists.

What are the questions journalists and the media are asking? The questions about the Virginia Tech shooting. They asked for answers on a shooting that had occurred at Virginia Tech. The questions are about the story and how to show rather than tell, the essence of the story and how to show rather than tell, the significance of what was occurring.

The constant media attention only prolongs the horrific nightmare that has become a reality for the family and friends of the victims. The emotional connection is established through respectful and dignified coverage of the current event and reaction. More than one or two public attempts at promoting an interview, the nonstop hammering of the media has become inappropriate in situations as such.

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As a journalist, I have been taught for three years now how important it is to be the eyes and ears of the viewers. Along with instruction in how to capture the essence of the story and how to show rather than tell, the discussion of ethical and compassionate journalism has come up more than once.

I question my use of the term "source," and debate whether God glory, I am held to a higher standard in how I go about getting those answers. A successful journalist finds a way, without dehumanizing the source or the situation.

Contact Claire Melsi at clairemelsi@liberty.edu.

Exploitation of mourning

Like a dark and devastating nightmare, the mass-murder occurred at Virginia Tech on April 16. Students and friends of Blacksburg citizens, residents of America and the global community watched in horror as the number of verified fatalities steadily grew throughout the day. People were overcome by the tear-jerking photographs of policemen crouched behind trees, shots being fired from an upper level window and the beautiful faces of those who lost their lives on that fateful day.

An international community was formed as people everywhere got their 손-heads to the shooting as soon as it was brought to their attention. The number was raised throughout the day, hoping and praying that the number would somehow magically decrease, that somehow, somewhere along the line, we had gotten the numbers wrong. Shock struck everywhere as observers struggled to wrap their minds around the significance of what was occurring.

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Contact Claire Melsi at clairemelsi@liberty.edu.
A Christian response to evil

It's the question that's been asked by mankind throughout the ages, regardless of age, ethnicity and what it means to be human. But when those questions come in the wake of horrific tragedies like Columbine and September 11, it's a fare and honest question to ask—and an even tougher one to answer.

Why do bad things happen to good people?

The church is no stranger to this question either. Even now and women of God have had to ask this question and evaluate its implications on their lives and beliefs. Throughout the Bible, those who claimed to believe in God—the One who, by definition, is the essence of goodness—are often found in the midst of tragedy.

Consider Jeremiah, God's faithful prophet to the people of Judah. Despite warning of God's coming judgment and urging the people to repent, he could only weep as he watched the nation reject his message and as tragedy surrounded them. But notice their responses.

In Lamentations 3:21-23, we stand beside Jeremiah as he watched the walls of his once beautiful city: "Yet this I call to mind and there is hope: Because of the Lord's great love we are not consumed, for His compassions never fail. They are new every morning; great is Your faithfulness." Jeremiah took comfort in knowing that God would remain true to His character.

Consider Job, a "blameless and upright [man] who feared God and shunned evil" (Job 1:1). A man who, by God's allowance, was made destitute when, in a matter of moments, everything dear to him in this life—save his wife—was stripped from him.

In the midst of such great loss, Job's first reaction was worship. Job 1:20-21 says that "Job got up and took his robe and shaved his head. Then he fell to the ground in worship and said: 'Naked I came from my mother's womb, and naked I will depart. The Lord gave and the Lord has taken away; may the name of the Lord be praised.'" Worship prepared Job's heart for the lesson God wanted to demonstrate in his life.

In Romans 5:3-11, we read about the Christian, isn't so much "Why do bad things happen to good people?" as much as it is "How will I respond when bad things occur?"

No, that doesn't make a tragedy any less difficult to endure. But it helps us look beyond our grief to remind us that we trust a God who is in control and has a purpose for good despite the evil intentions of wicked men.

But notice that tragedy never ends in tears. Instead it bears a much greater victory than we could have ever at first perceived. Jobs was blessed two-fold his original prosperity. And what about Paul? The man who experienced so much suffering and ridicule for the sake of sharing the Gospel with the world. Hebrews 11:26 says that "He considered everything a loss compared to the surpassing greatness of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whose sake I have suffered the loss of all things, to know Christ Jesus my Lord, for whose sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and clung to the promise that he would one day see his children born to salvation." Paul labored mountain men and women to salvation in Jesus Christ, and when he finally went home to stand before his King, he rejoiced the crown of life for which he had faithfully served the Lord during his earthly ministry.

It is all right to mourn, and we as people have a need to do so. But in the midst of our mourning, we must remember that those tragedies aren't a surprise to God. In spite of what we may think or feel, God is in control and has a purpose for good despite the evil intentions of wicked men.

In the midst of our mourning we must remember that those tragedies aren't a surprise to God. In spite of man's capacity to make choices. No, that doesn't make a tragedy any less difficult to endure. But it helps us look beyond our grief to remind us that we trust a God who is in control and has a purpose for good despite the evil intentions of wicked men.

It's a difficult question, yet one that as Christians, isn't so much "Why do bad things happen to good people?" as much as it is "How will I respond when bad things occur?"

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Journalists need to embrace civility

davidthompson

Journalists need to embrace civility. As Virginia Tech students and faculty continue to grieve the tragic events that unfolded on their campus, it is evident that the media must also find a way to respect the healing process of those affected. The Virginia Tech community has asked the media to leave them alone. Thanks to the insatiable, sensationalist media, that's exactly what happened. We all know it, whether we admit it or not.

But the Hokies are not tolerating the ignorant claims of the mainstream media, acting recklessly with the decision to air the killer's video. Video cameras zooming in on contorted faces of the victims of this tragedy committed a crime in being killed. And none of their friends or relatives committed a crime by being there. Digging deep into their wounded souls is a job for friends or counselors, not bullies.

The Virginia Tech community has asked the media to leave them alone. They have extended an invitation to the media to be part of their healing process. We all know it, whether we admit it or not. The decision to air the video brought heated criticism.

Meanwhile, the intrusiveness of the media is a hot topic circulating across the social networking sites and blogs. Journalist and blogger Adam Tinworth from LiveJournal.com extended. Chances are, it will turn out better. And it's happening with Virginia Tech. Why was there a two-hour gap? Why did the email come so late? Why was there an email at all, and not some kind of alarm system? What should have to come. The questions aren't the problem. But the problem of the media. The Virginia Tech community has asked the media to leave them alone. Thanks to the insatiable, sensationalist media, that's exactly what happened. We all know it, whether we admit it or not.

Moments like these remind me how the media can unapologetically exploit the suffering of victims in tragedies and, like vultures, swoop down on a dying person in some desperate pernicious pursuit of ratings and revenue.

Students at Virginia Tech have shown immense courage and admirable strength during these difficult days in the aftermath of Choo Young-doo's inescapable massacre. They maintain their support for their beloved President, faculty and administration.

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The scene catches the attention of the onlookers and the media. FBI agents,毕竟是, and members of the New Life Christian Fellowship ministry at Virginia Tech. "Now is not a time to point fingers—that's the last thing we need," said Defre Hunter, an engineering graduate student and member of the New Life Christian Fellowship ministry at Virginia Tech.

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**Outreach: Liberty students find impact at Virginia Tech**

By Amy Ford

Liberty's response to the tragedy at Virginia Tech have taken many different forms. The Liberty students who were held at the Spotsick Inn in addition to the memorial service for Virginia Tech that was hosted by Thomas Road Baptist Church.

However, a number of Liberty students left the comfort of Lansdowne and made their way to Blacksburg to show their support for the community. Blacksburg was a place they found familiar. The young people who lived there were the ones who were there to see the aftermath of the tragedy but had to work in the funeral home.

Journistess Devon Ertel went with two of her friends and visited Virginia Tech the day after the shootings to offer help and support to those who needed it.

"I get the sense that a lot of people are still wondering how to respond to a tragedy like this," Olson said. "And of course, everyone should offer up their prayers, but they have no idea what kind of an impact they can make, how they can help others, how their arms around everyone who needs it is needed. Can I pray with you?" While there, he and his friends met families and friends of victims, saying they were there to remember the loved ones.

People kept telling us, "Thank you as much for being here. We really needed a face out there," Olson said. "Dedicated volunteers around the world have said they were receiving experiences for us when we decided to do the temporary grief counseling center set up in Blacksburg.

"People kept telling us, "Thank you so much for being there. We really needed a face out there," Olson said.

"As we walked through town, people kept telling us, "Thank you for being here. We really needed a face out there," Olson said. "People kept telling us, "Thank you for being here. We really needed a face out there," Olson said.

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As a nation of Hokies heals...

ABOVE — President George W. Bush and First Lady Laura Bush visited one of the temporary memorials on the Drill Field, where they also signed the memorial. Bush wrote "God Bless" before signing his name.

LEFT — A group of students gathered to pray and sing "Amazing Grace" at the flagpole in front of Burruss Hall. Flags all over the country were at half-mast to respect for the victims of the tragedy.

RIGHT — More than 15,000 individuals attended a candlelight vigil on the Drill Field the night of April 17. The crowd included members of the Corps of Cadets dressed in their traditional blue and white uniforms, families and other members of the Virginia Tech community. Candles were passed out to attendees and were lit as evening came.

BELOW — After the convocation began at 2 p.m. Tuesday, Cassell Coliseum filled to capacity and many supporters filled surrounding areas such as Lane Stadium, where the service was being simulcast.

LEFT — A student signs the VT memorial on the Drill Field. Candles, roses, cards, and Virginia Tech memorabilia adorned the grass surrounding the memorial. A message written on a bouquet of roses was hung on the left side of the "V" painted on the roof.

RIGHT — A Virginia Tech student stands among her peers on the field, holding candles to support.

Many Tech students chose to stay on campus as classes resumed April 17. The administration gave students the option of taking their current grade and ending the year or continuing with their classes.
Joe Saunders stood in front of thousands of waiting fans, he calmly scratched the letters was the only Hokie in the back of a helmet, athletes and mound with his cleats. "VT" on the back of the universe followed suit. Whether it is a simple world followed suit. When tragedy strikes, the sports world honors VT how — by playing through the first career no-hitter, Virginia Tech during its spring football game. "Amazing. He needs to throw his to Virginia Tech Head Foot- ball, Coach Frank Beamer, who has been at the school since 1980 and was milestone during which the chant "VT" in the stands. "I can't believe I gave up a "VT" in the spring football game on Saturday. said Rocco. "It was not happy with his performance. The offense, as Rocco acknowledged, was the best scoring offensive vediamo ingrassare i centri. "It was well done, beginning to end," said Rocco, "I didn't want to let him go. "The players wore maroon and orange shirts to honor the victims of Virginia Tech. Two different recorded hits in the game, both from back Brock Smith, who will be a junior during the coming season. He was the recipient of Liberty's offensivestart from the team in the first three innings during Friday's game. The Lady Flames went on to score four runs in the fourth, and allowed only three hits. The offense, as Rocco admitted, exceeded the defense, which was one of the best scoring offenses in the spring football game. "It was very relaxed compared to previous seasons.

The Lady Flames scored five runs off four hits in the second, including a two-run home run from junior Jessica WKIIKK.

"I honestly didn't think it was going to go over," said Williams, whose homer was her only hit of the contest. Lynchburg College responded with two runs of its own in the third. Lynchburg's junior pitcher for a hitter to time. Aside from the one out, the game went to six innings. Ten different players got all of that in the first two games of a weekend series against the Radford Highlanders. The offense, as Rocco acknowledged, exceeded the defense, which was one of the best scoring offenses in the spring football game. "It was very relaxed compared to previous seasons.

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The defense was very relaxed compared to previous seasons.
Stokes went seven innings and allowed one run on nine hits. For the second straight day, the third inning with a groundout to open the inning when he stepped up and delivered a go-ahead two-run home run, setting the tone for the Flames’ offensive outburst, pounding out 14 hits in a 13-5 win.

Radford countered in the top of the fourth, highlighted by Negron’s three-run home run to left field to make it a 3-1 ball game. In the bottom of the inning, Johnson hit another solo home run to keep the Flames in the lead going into the bottom of the seventh, but the rally came too late for the Flames, as Moore and Williams scored later in the inning, Liberty in the contest.

In game three on Saturday, the Radford Highlanders took the series 2-1 against the Flames. The game was called in the bottom half of the seventh due to a fielding error, which led to a two-run homer by Moore and gave the Lady Flames the win. In the top of the third, the Highlanders’ Alli Rodriques hit a three-run shot to left field. In the fifth, Moore and Williams each hit back-to-back three-run shots to add six more runs to the lead.

The Flames scored four more runs in the bottom of the fourth, highlighted by Keller’s sacrifice fly and center fielder Garrett Young’s two-run single of the year. Down 6-1 heading into the fifth inning, Radford was able to string together two more runs, cutting the Flames lead to 8-4.

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Track sweeps Big South Championship

By Will Luper

The Liberty Flames men’s track team took off running this weekend and didn’t look back and cruised to an easy finish in the Big South Championship with 245 points. The Flames were expected to take third or maybe even second place, but instead fought a hard battle to emerge victorious as the number one team.

The last time Liberty captured both men and women’s team titles was 2002.

The Liberty men finished the tournament with a total of 245 points. Coastal Carolina placed a distant second with 200 points. The Flames’ hard work paid off as they cruised to an easy finish in the Big South Championship with top honors.

The Flames’ hard work paid off as they finished with 245 points, only 13.5 points ahead of second place Coastal Carolina. “We were definitely the underdogs... They are getting it done in form,” said Head Coach Tom Tolson.

Sophomore Rebekah Ricksecker attributed it to the momentum gained after the women’s 4 x 100 meter relay team was unexpectedly dominated by the Lady Flames. “It’s a real answer to prayer, really,” said Ricksecker.

Junior Josh McDougal had another stellar weekend, winning the 10,000-meter run and the 5,000-meter run and the 1,500-meter run with ease.

“The last time Liberty captured both men and women’s team titles was 2002,” said McDougal, commenting on the strong performance by the Flames men. “Our guys are coming together as a team, and we’re going to go out there and get some points.”

McDougal was one of the many Flames athletes that set new records this weekend as he finished his 5,000-meter run with a meet record time of 14:06.88.

“Said McDougal, commenting on the strong performance by the Flames men. “Our guys are coming together as a team, and we’re going to go out there and get some points.”

When the sun went down on Friday, the Lady Flames were only up by seven points on the defending champion Chanticleers. However, the first women’s track event on Saturday gave them the confidence they needed to pull away from the pack.

Flames athletes that set new records this weekend. “This will be a confidence booster for us,” said McDougal, commenting on the strong performance by the Flames men. “Our guys are coming together as a team, and we’re going to go out there and get some points.”

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HERRING THE BIG SOUTH — Sophomore Matt Parker leaps over the hurdles during Friday’s portion of the Big South Championship. Parker finished second in the men’s high jump with a height of 2.16 meters.

“Maybe it was just a matter of keeping things in perspective,” said Henderson. “It’s always flattering to get a record.”

Sophomore Rebekah Ricksecker attributed it to the momentum gained after the women’s 4 x 100 meter relay team was unexpectedly dominated by the Lady Flames. “It’s a real answer to prayer, really,” said Ricksecker.

While this was a big win for the Flames, the focus is on the future. “It’s a pretty big deal,” said Hart. “As good as we’ve been in the past, we can take a step back and realize that this is the best team we’ve ever had. We’ve got bigger things in mind.”

Although Ricksecker picked up top honors in the 5,000-meter run with a final time of 14:31.41, her teammate — junior Clendon Henderson — also set a new meet record in the discus throw, agreeing. “It’s definitely nice to set records,” said Henderson.

“It was encouraging,” said Hart. “It’s always flattering to get a record.”

His teammate — junior Clendon Henderson — also set a new meet record in the discus throw, agreeing. “It’s definitely nice to set records,” said Henderson.

“God’s really blessed me to get me this far,” said Henderson. “The last time Liberty captured both men and women’s team titles was 2002.”

Hernandez was the only Flame named to the men’s Big South All-Academic team.

The Flames’ hard work paid off as they cruised to an easy finish in the Big South Championship with top honors.

Junior Piper Newby crossed the finish line in first place in the 3,000-meter steeplechase.

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However, the first women’s track event on Saturday gave them the confidence they needed to pull away from the pack.

The women’s 4 x 100 relay team was actually running together for only the second time, but it was one for the record books.

Sophomore Andrea Beekman, junior Charleston Hibbert, sophomore Tris Brown and Zelinskas not only set a facility and meet record but a Big South Conference record as they finished in 45.90 seconds.

While this was a big win for the Flames, the focus is on the future. “It’s a pretty big deal,” said Hart. “As good as we’ve been in the past, you can take a step back and realize that this is the best team we’ve ever had. We’ve got bigger things in mind.”

Ricksecker agreed. “Momentum from this meet is really great,” she said.

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FOOTBALL: Spy vs. Spy

Continued From page B1.

After a shaky start with a few turnovers and deep passes, and suffering from being out of sync with his receivers, Smith settled down and converted his one field goal attempt and did miss a PAT.

Sophomore Wesley Cheek rounds the corner during Saturday's blue/white spring scrimmage.

Steve Ashley. According to Royce, Lewis is "not as talkative" as last year's defensive captain, linebacker Manny Rojas.

"We're not as explosive. I'mospaceless.

The relaxed pace of the game, he said, contributed to his early struggles."We were fair," he said, giving himself a "C+" for performance.

Senior Stevie Ray Lloyd was named defensive capture along with fellow senior

Steve Ackley. According to Steve Ackley, Lloyd himself a "C+" for performance.

Overall, Rocco has been impressed with what he has seen since spring training. "We're very far in advance of last year where a lot of people fall," he said. "It's been a good year so far, certainly so far for singles. Randolph won over 50 matches during her four years and went 14-1 this season. She also served as the team captain. Randolph, along with her singles won over 50 matches during her four years and went 14-1 this season. She also served as the team captain. Randolph, along with

According to Johnson, she is "a leader both spiritually and training brand new players, adjusting to a brand new coaching staff this season. Randolph was also named to the All-Conference team for singles and to the All-Academic team as well as being the regular season conference champion at the number one singles. The men's tennis team also won by four matches against A.C. Tech.

The women's team ended the season with a 5-2 season record and a 4-9 South round of 6-5, tying for fifth in the conference. The men's team didn't fare any better as they lost 4-0 to University of Charleston in the first round. The men's season ended with a 5-2 season record and an 8-0-7 conference tally.

Tennis' Randolph named Player of the Year as men, women fall in first round

The Lady Flames played their last games the following day in the first round of the Big South Conference Tournament. The Lady Flames played their last games the following day in the first round of the Big South Conference Tournament.}

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"She brought the girls together," said Hand Coach Rocke. "She's a leader both spiritually and athletically, leading Bible studies and prayer sessions. She came in her senior year where a lot of people fall aside, but this year was her best year, physically and spiritually," said Johnson. "She improved every year (she's been here)."

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Kinesiology professor Dr. David Horton encourages students to feel the burn

By Kent Mitchell

Walking into the office of Dr. David Horton was like walking into a room dedicated to a lifetime of fitness. The bookshelf was a library of running literature. Some of the titles sitting on the shelf that caught my attention were "Fusion," "Hiking the Appalachian Trail" and "More Than Just Running." When Horton went off to college, he earned encouragement to feel the burn and feel the pain. Some of the titles sitting on the shelf that interested me were "Hiking the Appalachian Trail" and "More Than Just Running." Horton also wants them to feel the pain he's felt on the toughest of runs. "I wish I could plug into a machine and run the JFK Marathon. I wish I could plug into a machine and run the JFK Marathon." Horton also wants them to feel the pain he's felt on the toughest of runs. "I wish I could plug into a machine and run the JFK Marathon." Horton also wants them to feel the pain he's felt on the toughest of runs. "I wish I could plug into a machine and run the JFK Marathon." 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Virginia Tech convocation helps grieving process

By Erin Fitch

Thousands of Hokies descended on campus Saturday, April 21, for the Virginia Tech football stadium's first official sporting event since the tragic shootings at the University in Blacksburg, Va., on April 16. In attendance were students, faculty, alumni, and members of the community, all gathered to pay homage to. The crowd numbered in the thousands perched in the stands to pay their respects, while the field was filled with the Virginia Tech Marching Band, under the direction of Dr. Charles Steger. Steger addressed the crowd, and the rest of the ceremony continued.

The ceremony began with a sense of healing. The Virginia Tech Marching Band played "The Star Spangled Banner." The heat of the afternoon melted away as the band played, and the crowd stood in awed silence.

Peace and根据 the text, it seems like the Virginia Tech football stadium's first official sporting event since the tragic shootings at the University in Blacksburg, Va., on April 16. In attendance were students, faculty, alumni, and members of the community, all gathered to pay homage to.

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Peace and
The American Red Cross requests help in Virginia Tech aftermath

By Mariana Karamzin

The American Red Cross visited Virginia Tech last week. In addition to the nationwide short-age of blood, the Virginia Tech campus is the largest supplier of blood nationwide, so physically different from any other campus — usually alive and busy, a great place for the campus to go. I remember listening to the radio reports verified that "a million volunteers are needed right now," and that the Red Cross needs help. It is interesting that, in such a divided society, those who differ on many issues except general sympathy. Nevertheless, Campbell County Home supporters will meet this coming Saturday for a day of food, fun and fellowship celebrating 25 years of life-saving ministry to at-risk young women to become, morally sound, physically independent and spiritually connected. Hosting a Walk for Life event will give the community a better idea of what the Godparent Home is all about and open their eyes to the struggles these young women go through. The walk will be a casual one-mile event, and there will be a barbeque to mechanically figuring the lunch of the support. Bryant also stressed prayer for sponsors to be partners in financing the event. "Liberate people from the sin of abortion," he declared. Bryant's goal, along with everyone else at the Godparent Home, is to minister to the expectant mothers by showing them the treasured life of their own. "Liberate people from the sin of abortion," he declared. Bryant also stressed prayer for sponsors to be partners in financing the event. "Liberate people from the sin of abortion," he declared. Bryant's goal, along with everyone else at the Godparent Home, is to minister to the expectant mothers by showing them the treasured life of their own. On April 22, 2007, in the Godparent Home, we can house 12 if need be. The walk will be a casual one-mile event, and there will be a barbeque to mechanically figuring the lunch of the support. Bryant also stressed prayer for sponsors to be partners in financing the event. According to Bryant, educating the campus and community about the Godparent Home is one of the primary concerns for all these events and will continue to add support and effect for the LGH's upcoming events. Contact Rachel Neiswanger at rneiswanger@liberty.edu.
"We're all Hokies"

By Marcelo Queruntotto

Walking on the Virginia Tech campus on April 17, I became captured by the har­rowing images that hung in the air. People looked at one another with sympa­thy and compassion.

We were all Hokies.

The name for the Virginia Tech mascot, the "Hokie," does not have any connection to tobacco. The word comes from a report of a school that was written by alumnus O. M. Stall for a "Cigarettes in This" column. The story came full circle with words like "hoo ray" or "yeah.

The wind whipped through fast enough to catch the mourners and change their focus from the event to the present day. The mood was already overwhelming with sympathy and support for those that were still在那里．

By the time we arrived at Lane, George H. Bush was being introduced. Walking up the bleachers directly in front of the broadcast screen — normally used to show plays from the football games — I could see a silent sea of mourning and orange, rocking back and forth while embracing each other, smiling or sitting stone stiff with glossy-eyed eyes directed towards the governor, who praised the members of the Virginia Tech community for their strength and togetherness.

As the time neared 8 p.m., Hillery gave Alex a call to inform them of their relocation to the field. We walked through theCassell Coliseum and toward the press sprinted alongside the lot that myself and the rest of my press team — members of the Secret Service, President George Bush and his wife, Laura.

"God bless you," to everyone that lied near the hospital and how friends wereB CARRYING THEIR CANDLES -- Thousands of supporters gathered at the Drill Field on the campus of Virginia Tech at 8 p.m. on Tuesday, April 17 to commemorate the lives that were lost in the horrific occurrences of the preceding day.

After talking to the students with a suiting suit and tie ensemble to address the grieving masses with a speech that was as well received as if it were delivered to a crowd mem­bered entirely of his supporters.

Alex and Joanne split from Hillery and one to take shots from within the higher floors of Burriss Hall of the gathering mourners and (eventually) a field of candles in opposite to the darkening sky. As we waited for these images to form, the field of candles lit within the higher floors of Burriss Hall of the gathering mourners and (eventually) a field of candles in opposite to the darkening sky. As we waited for these images to form, the field of candles lit within the higher floors of Burriss Hall of the gathering mourners and (eventually) a field of candles in opposite to the darkening sky. As we waited for these images to form, the field of candles lit within the higher floors of Burriss Hall of the gathering mourners and (eventually) a field of candles in opposite to the darkening sky. As we waited for these images to form, the field of candles lit within the higher floors of Burriss Hall of the gathering mourners and (eventually) a field of candles in opposite to the darkening sky. As we waited for these images to form, the field of candles lit within the higher floors of Burriss Hall of the gathering mourners and (eventually) a field of candles in opposite to the darkening sky. As we waited for these images to form, the field of candles lit within the higher floors of Burriss Hall of the gathering mourners and (eventually) a field of candles in opposite to the darkening sky. As we waited for these images to form, the field of candles lit within the higher floors of Burriss Hall of the gathering mourners and (eventually) a field of candles in opposite to the darkening sky. As we waited for these images to form, the field of candles lit within the higher floors of Burriss Hall of the gathering mourners and (eventually) a field of candles in opposite to the darkening sky. As we waited for these images to form, the field of candles lit within the higher floors of Burriss Hall of the gathering mourners and (eventually) a field of candles in opposite to the darkening sky. As we waited for these images to form, the field of candles lit within the higher floors of Burriss Hall of the gathering mourners and (eventually) a field of candles in opposite to the darkening sky. As we waited for these images to form, the field of candles lit within the higher floors of Burriss Hall of the gathering mourners and (eventually) a field of candles in opposite to the darkening sky. As we waited for these images to form, the field of candles lit within the higher floors of Burriss Hall of the gathering mourners and (eventually) a field of candles in opposite to the darkening sky. As we waited for these images to form, the field of candles lit within the higher floors of Burriss Hall of the gathering mourners and (eventually) a field of candles in opposite to the darkening sky. As we waited for these images to form, the field of candles lit within the higher floors of Burriss Hall of the gathering mourners and (eventually) a field of candles in opposite to the darkening sky. As we waited for these images to form, the field of candles lit within the higher floors of Burriss Hall of the gathering mourners and (eventually) a field of candles in opposite to the darkening sky. As we waited for these images to form, the field of candles lit within the higher floors of Burriss Hall of the gathering mourners and (eventually) a field of candles in opposite to the darkening sky.