INSIDE

Hardwiring to finish in fall

By Melodie Fleming, copy editor

Liberty University began making great strides toward placing its campus on the cutting edge of technology through hardwiring.

"We don't want to be scarred by our future," said Dr. V. Lane Kirkland, president of Liberty. "When this network is implemented, it will be the future of Internet use on campus, the new hardwiring system is being implemented in several locations, including dorms and academic buildings."

According to Dr. Larry Plaxton, director of the computer science department, the hardwiring system will be 1,000 times faster than what we have currently. When you try to download a file off of the Internet it is going to take exponentially closer to instantaneously.

"With this new network, teletext services are going to be able to connect to high-speed network, 24 hours a week, 24 hours a day, and they are going to have to necessarily have to fight over a phone line anymore."

The university has decided to implement this system not only to help end the current problems, but to invest in the future for LU students. "We feel that students coming in to expect it," Ferguson said. The new system requires a complete re-setting of the campus using fiber optic cables that literally carry information at the speed of light.

World editor
Olasky set to lecture

U Texas journalism professor, adviser to G.W. Bush slated to speak March 28-29

By Chris Edwards, editor in chief

University of Texas Professor ABOVE Olasky will speak to students, faculty and staff March 28 and 29 during the annual Liberty Lecture series. Olasky will address the faculty on March 28 at 3:00 p.m. in Fine Arts 141. He will also meet with journalism students on Wednesday, March 29 at 9 a.m. in DeRegis Hall 110, before addressing the student body in convocation at 10 a.m.

Olasky has served as editor of World magazine, a newsmagazine that covers major events from a biblical perspective, since 1996. He teaches journalism at Texas Austin, and is a senior fellow at the Acton Institute for the Study of Religion and Liberty.

Olasky said his prepared lecture is titled "Media Objectivity and Financial Translations," which examines the relationship between the editorial and business sides of publications. However, he said he may skip material on the state of the presidential campaigns and how to respond.

World was recently criticized by New York Times columnist Bill Safire over a cover story criticizing John McCain. Olasky said Christians have a different relationship between the media and the church.

"A lot of ugly politics has been played out in New York this year, and I interpret Safire's attack as part of the pre-McCain campaign among journalists. Our belief is that any news source needs to hear the truth, which among other things means that no candidate should be worshiped as John McCain, until the last several days, has been reported," Olasky said.

"Christian journalism needs to be tough, because while the bishops declare the glory of God the streets declare the emptiness of man. It's vital to report that sin, including the failings of leaders, because unless we understand the depth of sin we don't understand how great our need for Christ is."
In an effort to improve the planning process for fall 2000, Liberty University will begin implementing the policy requiring all students to make a confirmation deposit of $250 prior to registering for classes.

Registration for the fall semester begins on April 3. Registrar Carey Laverette said the new policy will ultimately result in providing better administrative services to students.

"If a student registers for classes and then becomes a 'no show,' there were administrative implications such as having to purge class schedules, hall assignments, and return financial aid," Leverette said.

"Unfortunately, these tasks had to be done during a peak time (the beginning of a semester) which resulted in having staff and resources directed away from the primary mission serving the students who were actually enrolled," Laverette said.

The new policy will enable more students to sign up for the classes they need in the fall. Returning students must complete a "Confirmation and Housing Form" and submit it to the Office of Housing Services. They will then be given a copy of the form to present to the Registrar in order to register for classes.

LU 'teams' with NASCAR
By Scott Ronemuski, Usher editor

What began in 1971 when a trucker moved to Lynchburg buying a house, started a band and formed with more stars, pictures and the growth of anency秽is tion. Clarence R. "Robbie" Hiner, Jr., gave his "swan song" last week at Thomas Road's Baptist Church, where he served as minister of music for the past five years, to the campus community

MARCH 7, 2000
Stolen gun leads to death of first grader in Michigan

In Flint, Mich., a six-year-old boy allegedly took a stolen gun into a classroom where it discharged and killed classmate Kayla Holliday. The boy reportedly had an argument the previous day, but officials say the boy did not know the gun was loaded and fired accidentally. After the shooting, the boy fled and threw the gun to a wastebasket when a teacher approached him.

Prosecutors said that an involuntary manslaughter charge against Jammie Jones, 19, a family friend who lived with the boy’s mother in a house where police found crack cocaine and another loaded gun.

Three dead and two wounded in Pa. rampage

In Wilkinsburg, Pa., a suburb of Pittsburgh, a black gunman shot three people and wounded two in an apartment. The gunman was killed by police after he opened fire. At least one of the victims was a woman who was pregnant. At least one of the victims was a man who had a history of mental illness.

Ronald Taylor, 39 faces homicide charges. Taylor allegedly fired accidently. After the shooting, the boy fled and threw the gun to a wastebasket when a teacher approached him.

Taylor reportedly spent time at a psychiatric clinic last summer and sought treatment at a mental health clinic last November. He acknowledged a history of mental illness on the stand and said he didn’t want to harm anyone.

Taylor was charged with first-degree murder and voluntary manslaughter.

John Rocker’s punishment reduced by arbitrator

Atlanta Braves relief pitcher John Rocker had his 28-game suspension for making dehumanizing remarks against homosexuals and other minorities, reduced by a baseball arbitrator to just 14 games. In addition, his $40,000 fine was reduced to $500.

The group claimed several top honors at the Virginia Nursing Student Association (VNSA) state convention Feb. 18-19.

Several LNSA members received individual honors as well.

LNSA said it was chosen as the Virginia Nursing Student of the Year. Scott, a senior, said she didn’t expect to win.

They have the award on display in their offices as well.

Taylor allegedly kept a notebook full of anti-white writings and confided to witnesses he only aimed to kill white people.

The community service project—a children’s car seat safety fair — took place last October in the Wilkinsburg schoolyard. It featured information booths for parents on such topics as car seat and air bag safety, while classes, simulations and games entertained the children.

The group was given the tape by the National Nursing Student Association. Rocker said, "It was up to them to decide how we could use it to the public.

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Student media shine in national competition

By Stephanie Jones, reporter

The professed keeping a trend and winning a prestigious award for spring break.

By Stephanie Jones, reporter

Kenya and beyond

LC professor provides perspective for LIGHT missions team prepping for spring break.

By Stephanie Jones, reporter

Two people, including the LIGHT Team who are preparing for spring break missions trip, visited with the LIGHT Team by Lynchburg College history professor Steve Dreyer at the University in February. The team, headed by David Hall, Feb. 20, was called "The LIGHT Committee: Kenyan Perspectives." The program also provided the LIGHT Team with valuable insights and background information for their upcoming trip.

The LIGHT Team, which consists of eight members, is preparing for a trip to Kenya in March. The purpose of the trip is to aid in the development of a LIGHT (Leaders in Training for International Development) program in Kenya.

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By Stephanie Jones, reporter

Bush wins important win over McCain in Virginia

By Christopher Roche, reporter

Texas Gov. George W. Bush, who leads John McCain in the race for the Republican presidential nomination, gained an important victory in Virginia, where he defeated the Arizona senator in the state's Republican primary.

The victory came as Bush's 87 delegates in the state's primary participated, and gave him a chance to win a majority of the delegates that will be allocated today in Washington, D.C.

Bush won the Virginia primary, capturing prestigious honors in the annual competition in print and electronic media. The Liberty Champion, LU's weekly student newspaper, also won the overall excellence award for its yearbook. The school of communication was co-hosted by the school of communication.

The Selah was awarded second place for the overall excellence in yearbook, and the Christian Viewpoint was awarded first place for overall excellence in yearbook.

The event allowed students of the champion staff to meet with other students from 12 schools and representing eight different states. There, they learned to seek readers for the new millennium from a Christian perspective. Students were able to attend workshops on, "Integrating Christian Worldview in the Campus Press," "Leadership Skills for Campus Media," and "Writing for the Religious Market."

Overall, 17 schools entered close to 700 entries in various print and electronic media categories. The Associated Press handed out the annual honors at its conference at Regent University in Virginia Beach, Feb. 24-26. It was co-sponsored by the school of communication.

Some additional winners included: Janet Ballos, who placed second in the religious features category, and Senior Matt Elmore, who received second place for his sports action photo and sports feature photo for the yearbook.

Additionally, the champion took second awards as well. The staff placed second in front page design and third in both the feature/depth section and the editorial page section.

Individually, Carole Oates placed first in religious sports features, Tony Cooper (Mike Beck) won second for his general/special religious values column.

Last year's winner, Fred Schumbeer, won first for his religious cartoon titled "Stirringly Sensational." He also placed second in the open category for his "Underachievers" cartoons.

Elsmore, current champion photo editor, also placed first in the newspaper sports feature category.

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Wilson ‘serves’ conference

By Kelly Kinzey, reporter

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Continued

Systems to help with the expansive
lar networks and have hired Cisco
puses that have implemented simi­
le Internet leaders. They are like the
Hardwiring
begin to see them appearing in the
some dorms and more dorms will
near future. Most, however, will not
be providing,” the system has still
received rave reviews in the areas
where it has been in use.

I got one email that said ‘this is

the greatest thing youVe done since

the renovations in the lab,’” Matthes
said.

According to Matthes, while the
dial-in service that has
dropped In the bucket compared to this
new network.” Ferguson said that much of the
credit for LU’s advances In technol­
day major, heard about the conference In one of
those places.

She talked about how to forgive betrayals and
mend the holes in their tapestry.

“Another comment from stu­
ents Is that the greatest thing about ISP is being able to access the
Splash page and the library
tiled to leap-frog technology by pro­
ting students and their Internet service for the students,”

Borek, university president.

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Putting things in focus

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Home Sweet Off Campus Home
Apartment hunting in town made easy with pre-planning

By Michelle Kennedy, reporter

After a week or two I am again.

Last weekend, I went with a con­
ference of the Lutheran Student Ministries "Bible and Beer" con­
vention at Regent University in Virginia Beach
for a journaling conference. We all
enjoyed ourselves and learned quite
a bit about our trade.

While at this conference we had
the opportunity to hear several
speakers. The keynote speaker, Dr.
Daniel Israel, a retired and profes­
sor from Taylor University in Peru,
Indiana, spoke on the power of words.

As part of the talk, he mentioned that a good journalist should use few words to get the point across. He then made a very pertinent statement. The speaker said that he could reduce the entire message of Christianity to two words.

I began to think about the line. The Bible came to my mind first.

According to www.lhsp.duke.edu, the average monthly cost of utilities
should be careful and know
what they are.

Rent requirements are just one of several areas
the deposit is also held. It is important for stu­
dents to list the amount of deposit and
under what terms for or to get it back when
they move out. According to apartmentguide.com, most rental
leases will offer incentives for extended leases,
referrals and early payments.

On the occasion that an event occurs causing a
person to break a lease agreement, some leases
will need 30 days notice or the deposit
return could be affected.

Individuals should always be aware of the
amounts often offered by apartment communities.
Many offer free basics such as electric service and
date suites and furniture suites.

Most of our apartment complexes will offer
water and garbage pick-up as an amenity but
none of them offer any pools," Burch said.

Many facilities offer fitness rooms, individual
showers and fitness centers.

“Choosing your roommates is
one of the most important decisions for
before going off campus. Choose
roommates that will be willing
to compromise. Communication is key for
the most important thing in living with
others. Set rules that all can agree
on.

Mores, a common concept among
plagiarism. Plagiarism can have
effects: The Bible came to
my mind first.

Rent is another monthly concern for students
making the journey into the world of
apartment-living should be cautious and know
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MARCH 7, 2000 THE LIBERTY CHAMPION, Page 7

Students and local residents make own music to influence teens and gen X-ers

By Cindy Sicgmund, reporter

You're at Liberty University, then you're thinking that the next up and coming star? It just might be you in the Christian music world. So who's making its debut in a local church or coffee shop. This semester, the band Reality Check has in common are the boys--Ladwig, guitarist said. "We didn't want to be conventional. We're just going to go with it and see where it takes us." Nickerson said. Another band, Mary's Eyes may see stardom in the future. Mary's Eyes has been playing since November 1998. They play at country, "Ever since eyecircle and Circadian Rhythm is the band Beyonce, a Gray will play acoustic music in the studio with its industrial elec-

Preparing for all the 'Pomp and Circumstance'

By Tara Williams and Shontae Craig

Graduation approaches quickly and before they know it seniors will receive their caps and gowns and cover their diplomas.

March 7, 8, and 9, Jostens will be on campus for Senior Salute. This year, seniors can purchase all the appropriate caps, gowns, and announcements.

According to Master Cooper, Jostens also has the following packages, which are $45-$79:

- Packages include cap, gown, hood, and announcements.

Cooper said that seniors can also order their graduation announcements. The announcements come in various packages depending on the amount of announcements needed. Cooper said that the Basic package contains one#gone and two announcements per sheet. University custom seals for the year 2000 are available for $3.00. The price of this package is $65.00. Cooper said that in addition to the Basic package, seniors can purchase the cover. The cover is included in the Basic package and is a $18.00 charge. The cover is available in black or beige.

Students also said that Jostens will mail a letter to the students' parents' address. This letter will contain a flyer about Senior Salute day, a letter from the Registrar and forms to register for the Alumni Association.

Assistant Registrar Cheryl Sprouse said seniors should have received their graduation checklist that includes which class rings they will receive. Seniors must also indicate on the form if they plan to participate in the ceremony or not. Sprouse said.

The registrar planned a mandatory meeting for the first week in April for seniors.

This will be on our Web site and also distributed by email.

The meeting will provide a final checklist to make sure the students registered everything in order for the registrar to participate in the commencement and graduation procedures.

Following the meeting, the registrar will make sure students ordered the proper rings andhats and gowns.

Graduating seniors should turn in their letter to Graduate Form no later than March 15 with a $20.00 fee enclosed. The fee covers the purchase and mailing of their diplomas upon completing graduation requirements. Seniors must also indicate on the form if they plan to participate in the ceremony or not. Sprouse said. Following the letter, the registrar will forward the form to the student's home address.

The ceremony will begin at 10 a.m. on Saturday, May 13, at the Upper Room and The Fishbowl.

We hope you will be there to see the graduates cross the stage and receive their diplomas.
Give me... more school spirit

The eagle has landed. And now the Liberty Spirit is more than just a cheerleader or a team mascot. With a new athletic logo and a new slogan that draws inspiration from the name of our university, the spirit is alive and well.

“Burn, baby, burn.” In an evangelistic frenzy, our new school spirit slogan is taking the campus by storm. As the students of Liberty University, we are being unleashed to take our faith to the world. Our new logo, a flames-shaped silhouette with a “B” in the middle, is a symbol of our university’s commitment to ignite the fire of the Holy Spirit in the hearts of all who come into contact with us.

The eagle, a symbol of freedom and victory, has returned to the Liberty University logo, reminding us of our mission to “Prepare Champions for Christ and Creation.” With this new spirit, we are ready to soar to new heights in our academic and athletic pursuits.

The eagle’s presence in the logo is not just a visual representation of our university’s heritage. It is a call to action for every student to embrace the spirit of Liberty and be a part of something greater than themselves. With our new logo and slogan, we are ready to take on the challenges of today and tomorrow, confident in the knowledge that we are not alone.

As we celebrate the return of the eagle, let us remember that our victory is not just about winning games, but about winning souls. Let us use our new logo and slogan as a beacon of hope and a reminder of our purpose. As the eagle soars, let us follow suit and rise to meet the challenges of the world with faith, courage, and determination.

The eagle has landed, and with it, a new spirit for Liberty University. Let us embrace the flame and let it burn bright in all that we do.
Hacking into a new 'net security

By Anthony Hunter, columnist

With the rash of attacks on leading Internet businesses behind us, one wonders how the government was so naive. After all, the hackers began preparing and散热ing into action and propelled that Washington was doing something it should have fired the political•.. and public.. interests. For some reason, I never realized.

If the recent attacks hadn't been so unorthodox, 11 million hackers discovered their skill just in time to witness the display of leadership by Attorney General Janet Reno and her deputies.

While computer specialists around the world worked diligently to prevent future attacks, government officials took the look- ing at the ghastly scenes in the gritty streets of Lynchburg.

Sometimes 1st in class and think about what might have happened when the hack was over, but I don't want to know why this didn't happen.

I wonder what the Wald Med cadets who just tuned up for me after work. I didn't think of it as a hack because I was told when they were done. I'm sure that we will continue to discuss.

Mr. White's, the head of the government's program, goes to the veggies. That's right, he's the one who makes sure the veggies are ready for consumption. I worried so badly during the next class period to discuss the veggies that I didn't even notice how much Mr. White had been talked about in the last few weeks.

I didn't realize that the undercity residents were actually working for the veggies. I didn't even ask any of these questions. I still wonder though.

I have Dr. Samson for a government this class semester and makes a class goodbye by 1 that I don't try to picture him in McDonald's ordering an extra-large veggie burger with cheese and a large side of fries.

But I don't 1. My imagination isn't that good. It was more than 2 hours before I began to realize the vege taille about government could be used to write a number four second super with a Coke. And what is the professor's say about vegetables? What do they watch television and aren't sure it's based in the church? What do they watch television and aren't sure it's going to be there? What do they watch television and aren't sure it's going to be there?

I have Dr. Clausen watching "Star Wars," but I wonder what the professor's say about vegetables. What do they watch television and aren't sure it's going to be there? What do they watch television and aren't sure it's going to be there?

Sometimes wonder what prompted certain teachers to get interested in teaching. Why did they choose to come to Liberty or other schools? What made them interested in the veggies they are teaching? What do they say when they are teaching? Is there any reason for them to be teaching? There is, there are some who are going to be teaching along with this story. Furthermore, I think that many students would find it interesting to learn about the person who assigns them the homework they have to do. Until the Champions decide to include such a feature, I'm lost wondering whether Dr. Clausen found Joe-Joe Brains as amusing as I did.

The mysterious lives behind Liberty's famous faces

By D.J. Wright, columnist

It seems you can't turn on the television or radio without hearing a commercial about the virtues of George W. Bush and/or John McCain. These two candidates are running for the Republican presidential nomination. Either Bush or McCain will challenge the pro-

The truth behind Bush and McCain: issue by issue

The Bush administration has been promoted to the public as "compassionate conservative" who shares policy ideas on the principles of limited government and personal responsibility. In addition, Bush believes that national and local government should be reduced in size and spending.

Bush's opponent within the Republican Party is Sen. McCain. He is known for his strong stance on national security and military defense. McCain also supports the use of military force to maintain the United States' interests around the world. To examine these candidates, let's look at some of their policy positions and past actions.

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LU improves to 8-7

By Leela Lowry, reporter

Neither inclement weather nor illness kept the Liberty University softball team from recording its 10th victory last week. The Lady Flames travelled to Hampton over the weekend to compete in the Hampton Tournament. Liberty brought home its second straight tournament victory.

Pitcher Leila_upped the 1-0 tally for the season. Center Fielder Amy Cook and basemen Meredith Hollyfleld were named tournament MVP. Inge is now 6-0 for the Spring Classic, also a two-day, 36-hole tournament.

The Flames swept a pair of games on Saturday, posting victories last week. In the second game of the series, back-to-back home runs by Hollyfleld and Cook gave the Flames a 5-4 win. In the first game against the Lady Pirates.

After having the first two home games cancelled, the Lady Flames took the 9-0 lead in the third game.

Two more runs in the sixth inning highlighted Inge Cook's six-run performance. As the regional, Hollyfleld hit a solo homer to center field, leading the way.

In the first inning, center fielder Ber-lisa Bartlett singled to left field to record a run, and later scored on a wild pitch from St. Bona's Brianne Styczynski.

The Flames have seven matches remaining in their district. They all need to average around 74 and 75 since his freshmen year. Landrey is the team's number one player. Landrey says he's the most consistent player, averaging between 74 and 75 since his freshmen year. Landrey, a second year transfer from Ohio and team captain, is expected to be the number two player. Landrey is also leading for major contributions from sophomore Allen Hill and freshman James Yon. Rounding out the top six are sophomores Randy Tipton and redshirt freshman Bob McFadden.

Liberty will carry the momentum from the Big South Conference Hockey League Tournament into its 2-1 victory. In the second game of the series, back-to-back home runs by Hollyfleld and Cook gave the Flames a 5-4 win. In the first game against the Lady Pirates.

Tallahassee playing in the 36-hole Spring Classic, also a two-day, 36-hole tournament.

However, after the season, Coach Landrey says he's the most consistent player, averaging between 74 and 75 since his freshmen year. Landrey is the team's number one player. Landrey says he's the most consistent player, averaging between 74 and 75 since his freshmen year. Landrey, a second year transfer from Ohio and team captain, is expected to be the number two player. Landrey is also leading for major contributions from sophomore Allen Hill and freshman James Yon. Rounding out the top six are sophomore Randy Tipton and redshirt freshman Bob McFadden.

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Tennis team debuts against No. 20 Virginia

By Shannon Benfield, reporter

The Liberty tennis team faced off against 20th ranked University of Virginia on Saturday, March 4, at the Sheridan Snyders Tennis Center in Charlottesville, Va. on Saturday.

The Cavaliers started out strongly as they won two doubles matches. Virginia then won five of six singles matches for the 6-1 victory.

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According to Hubbard, this match was a good exercise for his inexperienced line-up. “This guy can be the conference player of the year. He has the ability and he has the work ethic,” Hubbard said.

Liberty head coach Larry Hubbard was thrilled with the play of Shimozzki and indicated that he has a great deal of confidence in his inexperienced line-up. “Virginia is nationally ranked 6-5. We are good. We don’t have any problem competing with them.” Hubbard said.

The match served as a warm-up for the highly talented Cavaliers as UVa played its younger players which gave the match more of a competitive flavor. “Virginia is nationally ranked and we are positioned at the second seat of Division I tennis. It is tough for us to compete with their best.” Hubbard said. “The match served as a good warm-up for both of us.”

Liberty will be ready for the Red Storm’s regular season finale at UNC-Asheville on Thursday and Friday.

The Flames return home for a non-conference game against Winthrop and Coastal Carolina, as well as South foes Charleston Southern and College of Charleston.

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Men:
Continued from page 24

When you look at how you started and how you finished, you're disappointed, We lose高级 to Virginia Tech is a heartbreaker, And I saw Larry, which is a big loss, but the base of our program is set...

The Flames can find a way to avoid injuries next season, and there remain are able to step up and play serious roles the team should be strong next season. The Flames were hurt most by the injuries to team members — including David Watson's wrist injury and Nathan Day's shin splints. The injuries to the key players forced Delone Grableman, a natural small forward, to play the power forward position.

"A big part of that success was [Delone] in the three position, and that made us an extremely different ball club," Faulkner said. Though a 14-14 record doesn't look as sparkling after the men's impressive 10-0 start, it's a huge improvement from last year's 2-12 record. It was even more impressive considering the numerous injuries that the Flames sustained in a team.

The season's major minutes for the men's program as the team has brought back a level of intensity in the second half. High Point showed it would not go away without a fight by closing back within 17 points of LU when Marcus Wright hit a three-pointer with only a minute left in the game.

Intramurals
tip-off with a b'ball tournament

By Toran Joplin reporter

Liberty University spring intramural events have kept many students busy during this spring.

The one-on-one men's basketball tournament has received much of the attention. The tournament started off with 22 teams playing in one week to determine the seeding for the tournament of 16.

New Water claimed the No. 1 seed, while Stewart Collision ranked No. 2. The Ambush, 11,5-7, Russell College 15, 8-9 and the dreamBallecrs rounded out the top five seeds.

New Water showed its talents with a large scoring margin over its opponents. The surprise of the tournament was the Eightballs. The No. 7 seeded ballers turned heads with an upset victory in the second round over an extremely talented Stewart Collision squad.

"I felt confident early and couldn't get back into it. If the game was a 1-minute game, I would have beat those guys," Stewart Collision's Steve Joplin said.

Going into the semifinals the tournament was down to four teams. The New Water advanced with an exciting six-point victory over the ninth-seeded Little Water.

"Our game was close and it would have gone either way. It started off with a lot of physical but one team had to be defeated," John Fields said, custodian of New Water.

Student Life has developed several other tournaments for students to participate in this spring.

Flag football kicks off its debut, with southest and with full close behind.

Intramural soccer will begin on April 3 and beach volleyball will begin next month on April 7.

For more information on upcoming activities, call Student Life at ext. 2389.

Intramurals

READY TO RUN — Liberty's Becky Blesch, Kinnamon Reeves, Irene Sloof, Laura Callahan and Marcy Koford wait to check in to the championship events.

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If you like writing, design or photography, you may be just what we need.

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Come by the Champion office in DH 110. Bring samples of your work.
Decker to vie for Olympic seat

By D.J. Jordan, reporter

During last year's highly competitive track and field season, Liberty track and field standout Michael Decker met his idol — Michael Johnson. The 200-meter world record holder, because of scandals among his events and bodyguards, took time to get close to share his hand and talk to him.

“Michael Decker” is a new name among the many that have won time in the last several weeks. He has the opportunity to talk to him. He has the opportunity to compete against him.

But Michael Decker, a native of Virginia, is preparing to be the first Liberty athlete to qualify for an Olympic event. Decker won't be competing against track star Michael Johnson, nor will he be competing against the American Track and Field Phenomenon that most likely would make much track star Michael Johnson, whose Yugi Yugi and Antonio Pettigrew. From June 14 to July 17, Decker will be competing against 43 individuals for the chance to participate in the 1996 Summer Olympic Games in Sydney, Australia.

The trials will be held at the University of California at Davis, Sacramento, Calif., which has been the site for the Olympic trials.

Decker estimates the quality- wise, his Olympic team will be around 40-45. Decker is listed at 6 feet, 2 inches, and 145 pounds, a school record for the second time.

The trials will begin with the 100-meter time, while Dan Valentin, who will be competing against 40 individuals for the chance to make the seven-man team.

Decker's goal is to break his 200-meter world record, which he accomplished this weekend at the ICCA's with a 21.23. As well as becoming the second-fastest 400-meter runner in the history of the ICCA, Decker is currently fourth by 400 relay team.

Decker was the starting point from the beginning. He is a senior at Liberty and has been the leader of the men's 4 by 400 relay team.

During Decker's undergraduate conversation, he asked Michael Johnson about his next race and his training habits. Decker's senior year is coming to an end and he wants to be able to compete at the Olympics.

Despite Decker's rest of the season, he accomplished his first goal. A second-game win over Elon (6-8, 14-15) proved to be a formidable opponent as the Flames dethroned the Fighting Christians with a 73-57 win earlier in the season.

The Flames were at home against the number five seed, the Lady Flames, in a second-round game as once again the LU had the advantage of a home court advantage and came away with a 68-51 victory.

Lady Flames gone on the Vines Center on Jan. 14th. Flames started off right where they ended up, 7-7.

Now winning as a team, the Flames play at home on Wednesdays against the number five seed, the Lady Flames alone.

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Flames go on the Vines Center on Jan. 14th. Flames started off right where they ended up, 7-7.
Lady Flames capture fourth straight title

By Doug Stewart, sports editor

ASHEVILLE, N.C. — All 11 a.m. on Saturday the Liberty women’s basketball team tipped off against the No. 3 seeded Coastal Carolina Chanticleers. By 1:00 the Lady Flames were cutting the game by four points as they improved their chances for the fourth consecutive season after beating the Chanticleers 74-64. The win assured the Lady Flames a spot in the NCAA tournament, which starts in two weeks.

Coastal Carolina 86-84; 20-1 got into the championship game with wins over Winthrop, 75-60, and a semi-final victory against Charleston Southern, 73-60. The Lady Flames scored their spot in the game by beating up on High Point, 69-47, and Elon College, 68-51. Rachel Young earned her status as early as the sophomore discovered a three-point shot and only a minute and a half to go in her game to the defender, spark that they needed. Young shot the rest of the game as the Lady Flames shot a blazing 50 percent from behind the three-point line for the first time.

"The shots were just falling and it felt really good," Young said. Liberty got back in front with an Eliza Burrs trey and lay-up with 10:05 remaining and is Smith Parish would look up with 12:39 left in the half to give the Lady Flames an 18-6 advantage.

Young answered the Layoff attack closing down a three-pointer that made it 24-24 at 14:41 of the game in the first half. However, Coastal Carolina senior guard Kristen Foster answered back with a three-pointer of her own to pull the Chants back within six.

The three-point shot continued to scorch the Lady Flames bench (back), which bounced in a triple at the 1:04 mark in bringing Coastal closer to the LU lead at 32-30. Young answered right back with a trey of her own to increase the lead to 35-30.

Young finished the half with two free throws to put the score at 37-30. Kansasville and Young put the Lady Flames offense out with just 12 and 10 points in the first half.

Coach Carey Green pulled his starters out of the game at 1:30 remaining in the contest with the score 75-59. Coastal was able to put in a late run together and the LU second team was in, but the 11 reserves held on for the 10 point 76-64 championship victory. Young was more than satisfied with the victory and the entire season. "This has been a tough season, but it has been a very good season too," Green said. "The Big South tournament was a major challenge and we were happy to be challenged. We just had to give all the glory to God right now." According to Ellis Kansasville, the Lady Flames will be hungry for more next year, "It is a good thing to go there again but it is time for us to make another step this year." Kansasville said.

By Jeff Adams, sports editor

ASHEVILLE, N.C. — For a season that began with such promise, it ended on a very sour note.

The Liberty men’s basketball team finished its season Thursday evening with a 77-65 loss at the hands of the UNC-Asheville Bulldogs. Per seniors Curt Williams and Derron Grandison, it would be the last game that they would don the Flames uniform.

Aptly coming after that season series, the Flames figure to have a crucial test trail for the Bulldogs-and advance to the semi-finals of the Big South Tournament. The teams opened first-half baskets, and both shot a fairly high percentage from the field as the former led the romp with the Flames down 35-22. Williams and Grandison paired the team with 10 points apiece at the break.

As second half play commenced, the teams once again traded baskets and scoring opportunities. A Nathan Day jumper with 13:00 minutes remaining gave the Bulldogs their last lead at 68-62. With just under 10 minutes to play, the Bulldogs went on a 12-2 run that sealed the deal for UNC-Asheville.

After the ball fairly well went about 10 minutes left in the bag game, and then it seemed like the whole roof was about to cave in. "We got together as a team and said, we can’t lose until you taste their daily practice schedule," head coach Mel Hankinson said. "The difference in that game was we didn’t make any baskets against that 2-3 zone." Liberty made a valiant last-ditch effort to come back against the Bulldogs, but their shots simply would not fall. As time wound down in the second half, Liberty seemed ready to come home. Larry York seemed ready to come home. Larry Young, wear a ball. Only the Flames with more than one hit. The pitching staff struggled for innings as LU couldn’t drive the ball to home.

But, LU did begin the second inning as the Flames pulled ahead to the first inning on Friday as Trey Miller drove in Jermaine Moss at home. The two runs scored as JMU scored two, 10-2. The Flames with 17 and 1 point respectively, the most of any team in the series with a 14-14 overall record. The Flames have been a better team. The Flames have won the BSC tournament four times, "We just need to get all in for the glory our next year’s team," said Kansasville.

The Flames have been a very good season too," Green said. "The Big South tournament was a major challenge and we were happy to be challenged. We just had to give all the glory to God right now." According to Ellis Kansasville, the Lady Flames will be hungry for more next year, "It is a good thing to go there again but it is time for us to make another step this year." Kansasville said.

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Aptly coming after that season series, the Flames figure to have a crucial test trail for the Bulldogs-and advance to the semi-finals of the Big South Tournament. The teams opened first-half baskets, and both shot a fairly high percentage from the field as the former led the romp with the Flames down 35-22. Williams and Grandison paired the team with 10 points apiece at the break.

As second half play commenced, the teams once again traded baskets and scoring opportunities. A Nathan Day jumper with 13:00 minutes remaining gave the Bulldogs their last lead at 68-62. With just under 10 minutes to play, the Bulldogs went on a 12-2 run that sealed the deal for UNC-Asheville.

After the ball fairly well went about 10 minutes left in the bag game, and then it seemed like the whole roof was about to cave in. "We got together as a team and said, we can’t lose until you taste their daily practice schedule," head coach Mel Hankinson said. "The difference in that game was we didn’t make any baskets against that 2-3 zone." Liberty made a valiant last-ditch effort to come back against the Bulldogs, but their shots simply would not fall. As time wound down in the second half, Liberty seemed ready to come home. Larry York seemed ready to come home. Larry Young, wear a ball. Only the Flames with more than one hit. The pitching staff struggled for innings as LU couldn’t drive the ball to home.

But, LU did begin the second inning as the Flames pulled ahead to the first inning on Friday as Trey Miller drove in Jermaine Moss at home. The two runs scored as JMU scored two, 10-2. The Flames with 17 and 1 point respectively, the most of any team in the series with a 14-14 overall record. The Flames have been a better team. The Flames have won the BSC tournament four times, "We just need to get all in for the glory our next year’s team," said Kansasville.

The Flames have been a very good season too," Green said. "The Big South tournament was a major challenge and we were happy to be challenged. We just had to give all the glory to God right now." According to Ellis Kansasville, the Lady Flames will be hungry for more next year, "It is a good thing to go there again but it is time for us to make another step this year." Kansasville said.