Longtime trustee dies at 85

Tablek Cassidy tca0sdnt@liberty.edu

Liberty University lost its second Board of Trustees member this year. Complications from diabetes claimed the life of Rev. Richard Henry Fitzpatrick, Saturday, Feb. 11, according to an obituary on Oakey's Funeral home website.

Fitzpatrick, 85, was put on the board of directors in 1975 for the Liberty Baptist Theological Seminary (LBTS), according to Dr. Elmer Towns. When the theology school's board of directors was combined with Liberty's regular board, Fitzpatrick made the transition, Towns said.

Fitzpatrick had been a friend to Towns since before the founding of Liberty. He was a very quiet man, Towns said, and never tried to take over a room.

"I would lead from the subordinate role. He never played himself up in a big dominant preacher," Towns said.

According to Towns, he featured Fitzpatrick in his book, America's Fastest Growing Churches, after the Georgia church had grown to over one thousand members.

"Fitzpatrick was described by Towns as being a man of sterling character, having a reserved nature and being able to connect with people.

"They say he was the very best hospital visitor. He would go through the hospital and go talking to people, praying with people, encouraging people," Towns said.

According to Towns, Fitzpatrick first gained his attention while he was preaching at Cabot Baptist Church in Covina, Calif. Fitzpatrick caught his eye.

"He's wonderful one-on-one and he loves everyone," Towns said.

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Romney cuts coach

Mitt's campaign severs ties with former Liberal debate coach

Kate Pavley

Informer editor-in-chief

Former Liberal debate coach David O'Donnell, who was responsible for his recent split as a temporary debate coach for Mitt Romney's presidential campaign.

The incident came about after the Republican convention earlier this month.

"It's not uncommon for someone to take a long look at what is really what Biden's team is saying," O'Donnell said. "Sometimes you're on a temporary basis to provide a specialty and move on past that." Lord senior associate. "The type of skill sets O'Donnell's uses for the debate are the same he used to teach students at Liberty. And the skills he taught our students here and what he's doing now for political candidates," Hall said.

In addition to being an outside consultant with an affinity for debate, O'Donnell has worked as an advisor for the McGaun 2008 presidential campaign and, more recently, as an advisor for Bachmann before her withdrawal from the race.

"Even now O'Donnell is a huge fan of Liberty's debate and he still enjoys contact with us. He will meet in on-tour events if it fits in the DMV area and the team is the best of the best. He's doing great work," Hall said. "And I think that the near-term past is to see someone who good and what he does what he works and with people around him. He's been to a lot of people and he's given a lot of people a chance," Hall said.

"According to Hall, the type of debate the university teaches and that O'Donnell uses is called policy debate. The work that goes into one of the benefits of doing debate is the same that O'Donnell did. According to Hall, the type of debate the university teaches and that O'Donnell uses is called policy debate. The work that goes into one of the benefits of doing debate is the same that O'Donnell did.

"With the work he has already done and the experience that set of work I would be surprised if he won't work with someone else after he leaves Liberty," Hall said.

"We all wish him the best of luck," O'Donnell said. "We all wish him the best of luck."
CONCERNATION — Lynchburg residents had to resort to drinking bottled water

Breaking water mains

Melissa Bowman
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Twee last week the city of Lynchburg's Department of Water Resources issued a boil water alert for the Liberty University and the surrounding area on Friday, Feb. 10. During construction, a water line was hit on Liberty's campus.

"What happened was a contractor working for Liberty hit a water line on campus," said Liberty's Department of Water Resources Tim Mitchell said. "We had to try and isolate the area of the break which was most of the front Avenue area around the main and surrounding neighborhoods."

Liberty's campus was affected by the water contamination, as the first break occurred on campus. Students received warnings through email, text messages and via campus loudspeakers.

"Our water was out for two days," Mary Leipz Higgins, a resident freshman at Liberty, said. "We found out from our prayer leader and had to talk about our water that night. The next day we stocked up on bottled water because we were unsure when the water would be safe to drink again."

Other students living off campus, and away from the impacted areas, were less affected.

"I found out about the water contamination through a friend. I live off campus, I still used bottled water and threw away my ice," said Kaita said. "It didn't really affect me personally.

Many areas did not experience any issues, approximately 200 homes in the area were affected by the breaks at various community residential restaurants and businesses, according to the Department of Water Resources. The affected areas experienced water discoloration, low water pressure, and water service disruptions.

"Restaurants were affected more than anyone else because they couldn't use their fountain machines. They had to boil any water that they used in cooking and they also used bottled ice," Mitchell said. Several of the restaurants were asked to boil water for sanitation. According to Mitchell, Shakers, a restaurant near Liberty's campus, recovered the issue when they saw water discoloration. Shakers, along with many other affected restaurants, had to purchase bottled water, bottled ice and canned soda in order to avoid any danger.

"We had to take precautions just like anyone else under the advice of either boiling water or serving bottled water," Shakers Restaurant Manager David Sonner said. "We kept our customers informed of our suspension when they walked through the door, and allowed them to choose if they would like to use ours, and most of them still drank the water.

"We also weren't able to serve fountain drinks. Apparently, it affected only our water, but also the drinking machines. We served tea that we made using bottled wa-
ter," he said.

The Department of Water Resources was very cautious in lifting the notice. The contractor who first hit the line fixed the issue," Mitchell said. "Tests were run at various locations to make sure the water was safe to drink again. We ran two different tests, and each test took 2 hours to get the results. We were able to safely serve the water on Sunday."

Then, on Thursday, Feb. 14, pressure on the water mains in the Rivermont and Boomsom Road areas built up and broke the lines. According to a release from the City of Lynchburg, the Department of Water Resources had to issue a "boil water alert" for homes affected by the breaks. These breaks could cost $50,000 to repair according to the Department of Water Resources.

"The department of water resources was able to isolate each break individually and limit the damage. The lines will be flushed to prevent the spread of any possible contamination," Mitchell said. Students will be required to upload their videos online where viewers can vote for their favorites. The video with the most votes will get one of the awards, according to Martin.

There will also be an award presented by a panel of judges. The panel will include judges such as Scottie Center, the producer and director of the Christian feature film "The Potential Inside," according to Martin.

The judging committee will also include Ash Gresen and Steve Mason, according to Willett.

The winners will be announced at the Tie black Tie, which will take place on Feb. 3 at 6 p.m. This event will include chances for the attendees to get to know the charities that were involved in the competition. There will be opportunities for individuals to sign up for volunteers or donate to specific charities, should they feel called to do so.

The NBS is looking forward to seeing the work that the students put into the competition and the positive results that the charities will get through this event.

"I think this is a wonderful opportunity on all levels for both our community," Martin said. "I think it serves the Lynchburg community because students are reaching out to do somethings for local charities."

"We want to make this something that happens annually," Willett said.
Religious freedom vs. the president
Changes to ObamaCare reveal administration's disregard of First Amendment

Dominique McKay
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The current administration has been accused of disregarding religious freedom rights, particularly those of religious organizations. The changes to the Affordable Care Act (ObamaCare) have sparked controversy among religious groups, who argue that the new directives violate their constitutional rights.

Don't tread on me: New directive is more offensive than progressive
Andrew Sullivan

"Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances."

That is the First Amendment of the Bill of Rights. It is an understood benefit of being an American citizen, something that our founding fathers looked upon with pride. It would allow future generations to exercise their rights, not rely on an article of a pocket it will just funnel through the government for a redress of grievances.

In his announcement, Obama didn't mention all of this salacious sex talk going on in the midst of the debate has waged on in the media with regards to the changes to ObamaCare. As the conservative right argues against the birth control mandate and contraception for men, a supporter of birth control or not, a supporter of birth control is immoral, his involvement in their employee health insurance plans, as the conservative right argues against the birth control mandate and contraception for men, a supporter of birth control is immoral, his involvement in their employee health insurance plans.

For the Catholic Church, the stance is immoral, not the Church's controversial stance stating, "The Catholic Church will not cover contraceptive services and no religious organization will have to provide these services directly," thus allowing religiously affiliated companies to cover contraceptives and not the hospital, not the insurance company, not the hospital, not the church, will be required to reach out and offer the contraceptive coverage for free, without copays and without premiums.

"The result will be that religious organizations won't have to pay for these services and no religious organization will have to provide these services directly," Obama said in this second announcement.

The key word, of course, is "directly." As a college student, I admit that I don't have a complex understanding of insurance policies and medical plans. However, I'm a medical service that is covered by provided insurance plans. Which means that the employee does not pay nearly as much as a co-pay, it is a monthly sum of money that the money will come out of the employee's pocket, and it will just funnel through the insurance companies.

Matthew Staver, Dean and Professor of Law at Liberty University, as well as founder and Chairman of the Liberty Counsel, immediately rose to take a stand for American religious liberties.

"Launching a Catholic or Christian organization's enemy that insurance company to pay for abortions does not suddenly correct the moral sin inflicted by Obama. ObamaCare is a direct attack on the moral and religious beliefs of our nation. ObamaCare is an assault on our freedom," Staver said in a Liberty Counsel announcement.

"ObamaCare is a direct attack on the moral and religious beliefs of our nation. One year will not change religious trends that have been in place for thousands of years," Staver said.

While Staver is more than correct in this view, it does not provide an alternate. Fortunately, Staver isn't the only person to rise to the challenge presented by Obama's directive. Currently, a bill by Sen. Marco Rubio has been introduced to Congress. According to an article in the New York Post, Rubio "introduced the Religious Freedom Restoration Act of 2012... to establish a firm religious exemption to this insurance requirement under ObamaCare. [This bill] is a narrowly focused, commonsense measure that simply say the government can't force religious organizations to abandon the fundamental tenets of their faiths. Americans are fortunate that politicians like Rubio are in office. Without men like Rubio, or Dean Staver — who will participate in the Liberty Counsel's arguments against ObamaCare in the Supreme Court next month — the battle for our continuing religious freedoms might already have been lost."

The only task left to us, it seems, is to rally behind the Religious Freedom Restoration Act and fight for it through Congress. It is obvious that we need to make sure that the bill endures in a presidential administration that is seeking to undermine the very infrastructure of our Constitution."

GUA is the opinion editor.
Super Bowl commercial causes conflict

Subliminal messages in Chrysler’s ‘Halftime in America’ ad leave audiences in an uproar

Troy Dauksys
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Super Bowl Sunday — practically a holiday in itself — isn’t just aamped up game of the National Football League. It is also a time when the world of advertising fights for its chance to be recognized for creating the best, most entertaining commercial spot.

While many commercial spots this year aimed for generating laughter from humor and wit, Chrysler Group LLC decided to take a dramatic tone with “Halftime in America,” leaving many viewers bewildered.

American film actor, producer and — according to the LA Times — republican Clint Eastwood narrated a powerful piece for Chrysler in reference to its “re-birth” since the economy took a dive in 2008. This was the year when Barack Obama took office, which aided in saving Chrysler in reference to its “re-birth” from the imminent danger of going bankrupt.

Interestingly so, a multitude of viewers both republicans and democrats couldn’t help but at least Chrysler’s advertisement with American politics particularly in respect to President Obama.

Whether or not the intention was to make politics by supporting the Obama administration, the simple fact of the matter evidently fuelled controversy across the nation.

If we pay proper merit to make this spot, on our dime. The bailout of Chrysler is arible company in respects to its manufacturing Company in respects to the bailout.

President is important. The Republican Party needs someone strong, courageous, must an economically minded. However, instead of searching for all of those things the Republican Party is spending its time fighting over all of the wrong things. 

We paid our each candidate’s dirty laundry and argue over who great states trump most states, whether ripped tears are worse than fried back.

We, somehow, are convinced we are missing the point. It is not the perfect candidate we should be looking for, but the worthy one.

Perfection is something that cannot be found in this lifetime. As the snow falls and covers the land, its imperfection comes to play. It’s not the beauty that could be despite the imperfection.

In legislatures, I did a project with snow. My class went outside and we each picked a cup with the white snow. Then we set our cups inside our classroom before leaving for the rest of the day.

The next morning when the class came into the classroom, we were all surprised at what our perfect white snow had become. It was nothing more than dirty, fuggy water. Our teacher then explained to the appearance of white. She said that the snow were actually completely clean and without other foreign bodies, it would not appear as white to the naked eye — but would appear to be brown and more darker.

The beauty of snow is not actually in its perfection but in its imperfection. It is possible that our perfect candidate is also worthy in his or her imperfection as well. Who is to say that having a part should disqualify a person from being a presidential candidate?

Whether the 2012 Republican presidential candidate is Mitt Romney, Newt Gingrich or Ron Paul, I am convinced that the airing of their dirty laundry, or the dissection of their past mistakes, is not going to make it,” Schwartz said.

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Removing limitations on handgun laws

Virginia legislation changes to allow citizens to purchase firearms sooner

Justin Jones

Virginia’s state court ruled to pass a handgun law that had stood for nearly 30 years, removing the limitations that allowed for only one handgun per person to be owned. The measure, which passed in 1990, is set to be overturned after receiving a 21-0 vote in the Senate. The reason for lifting the one-month rule was to allow for more effective marketing opportunities. A gun owner who is responsible, reasonable and trained is able to protect his family and his community,” former Filer Deschauts said. “This type of gun owner is restricted unnecessarily when gun laws do not specifically target criminals.”

Detailed Scott Klink, who represents the Republican precinct, said the Virginia Supreme Court’s decision to remove the one-gun possession rule that he views as a matter of personal choice.

“Fundamentally, citizens choose to speak to our government, to work with what they want to consume,” Garrett Jones is a news reporter.

TRAIN continued from A1

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Spc. Bruno Mizerani: End of the war

Omar Adams
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Liberty University student Spec. Bruno Mizerani left Iraq in mid-December when his unit, Charlie Company, 1-166th Infantry, Battalion, returned to the States with the last U.S. forces.

Mizerani’s unit was America’s official withdrawal years ago. He began training States with the last U.S. forces.

Originally from the little town of Baixa Guente in the state of Minas Gerais, Brazil about 12 hours east of the capital, Mizerani immigrated to the U.S. with his family when he was 12.

Following in his father’s footsteps, Mizerani decided to enlist in the Army National Guard when he enrolled at Liberty in 2011 and hopes to go to flight training.

“My dad was in the Army before, but then he went back in as a chaplain — though that I saw what the Army was like,” he said. “Later I wanted to join to serve my country and also because the Army would help me pay for school.”

With the Army’s help, Mizerani enrolled as an aviation student. He expects to graduate from Liberty in 2014 and hopes to go on to fly commercial aircraft.

ADAMS is the web editor.
Dueling with duct tape weapons

Liberty’s Sword Fighting Club battles with handmade weapons every weekend, rain or shine

Victoria Lind

Each weekend on the grass field next to dorm 25, the Liberty Sword Fighting Club (SFCl) makes war with handmade foam swords, daggers, katanas, cudgels and more using group games and sparring matches. The SFCl holds every weekend to hone their technique and have fun.

According to sophomore and SFCl council member Sean Condonaz, NFC was started about six years ago by two Liberty students and since then, has increased in membership and eventually added a council. In rain or shine, extreme cold or humidity, the club still meets. “We fought in the snow, we fought in the rain,” Junior Sahah Hardy said. “We rarely cancel meetings.”

Each meeting starts out with a devotion from the club chaplain, James Genser, and a time for prayer requests. After this, group game takes place such as “Row of the Dead,” “Zombie,” and最多的 is sparring matches. New group members are required to go through a mini safety course that includes a checklist of the group rules with the council. No metal or wood weapons are allowed, and a person can never hit above the waist or hit others with too much force. At the end of every session with a council member to confirm the member is ready to play, they face off to participate in the actual sparring.

On average, around 20 people show up in NFC every weekend. During College for a Weekend (CFW), that number increases. According to Corduna, and 30 people showed up for a session during CRAB weekend last year, many of them CFW attendees.

“We lose when people just come out and we lose to show them the ropes,” Corduna said. “The more the merrier.”

Senior Katherine McKenzie has been coming to NFC for the past two years and appreciates the camaraderie within the club the most.

“Just having a common bond with all the members and being able to see them on campus and talk about anything is great,” McKenzie said. “Even though we beat each other, there’s a special bond. It’s a group, a family of men.”

BATTLE — “When students get stabbed, sliced or hit, they ‘lose’ that limb and must continue to fight.”

Fredrick Benneck Beck found out about the club through Hardy and McKenzie and has been coming to NFC since Fall 2011. “I get a lot of exercise out of the club, so we try to beat the heck out of each other,” Beck said. “The club is just a lot of fun. It’s put amongst to be out there in the cold sheltering with your friends and beating them up with foam swords.”

“We vanish people in the name of Jesus,” Hardy said. “That’s basically the club motto.”

According to Jordani and McKenzie and has been coming to SFC for the past two years and appreciates the camaraderie within the club the most.

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To an action sports athlete, sponsorship is huge. It's a necessary component in establishing a future in the industry. This is especially true for Liberty freshman Jonathan Steltzer, who recently signed a sponsorship contract with 4FRNT skiis.

Steltzer fell in love with 4FRNT's products after having to use the Snowflex Center's rental 4FRNT skis the entire fall semester.

"It wasn't until a demo day at the Snowflex Center last fall that the 4FRNT guys lost their eyes on Steltzer's skiing," said Kyle Harvey, a sports reporter. "They allowed me a discount and told them about a previous offer that was a better discount," Steltzer said. "I asked if they could beat the original deal because I liked (4FRNT's) product better. They were like, 'Send us your resume and the companies you're in doing,' and then I got sponsored by them."

The amount of new tricks that Steltzer was able to learn in the short amount of time spent riding Snowflex while visiting his brother drove him to come to college at Liberty.

As for other sponsors, Steltzer is currently working with getting signed to a few more companies and partners with Nightrain, a freeriding clothing company.

Steltzer has been competing in this season in a few events—the Collegiate Freestyle Association, the United States Collegiate Ski and Snowboard Association and the Appalachian Ski Mountains Series.

Steltzer grew up near Sunday River in Maine and learning how to ski was a formative part of his life. "I got really into it and about a year later, I was able to learn in the short amount of time I spent riding Snowflex while visiting my brother because he could do a 360. So after that, I got back into it and about a year later, I was better than him. It surprised me."

Actionsports is a huge part of the action sports culture and for Steltzer, his skiing inspiration is drawn from Phil Casabon and Henrik Harlaut.

"I started freestyle skiing when I was about 15 years old," Steltzer said. "My sweat group leader was really into freestyle skiing, and I thought he was like a pro because he could do a 360. So after that, I got back into it and about a year later, I was better than him. It surprised me."

Steltzer has a lot of season left. He'll be competing in a few more collegiate competitions this season and will end at his home mountain of Sunday River in Maine for the USCSA Nationals.

WASHBURN is a sports reporter.
**Women's tennis drop matches against Tech**

Mark Meyerson

Taking care of business is a vital part of all sports, Liberty University's women's tennis team

**Effort - Liberty fought hard against Virginia Tech. However, the Lady Hokies left the win**

"Johnson said. "And that's how we ask for more players."

The biggest win for the Flames came from Wayne's singles. We lost the first set but won the second and third, 6-4 and 5-4. "Losing the second set was tough mentally for me," Wayne said. "But we just tied it up and moved on to the third set."

In the No. 2 doubles match, sophomore Cameron Richard and freshmen Nicole Westfall found themselves in a 6-4 deficit right off the bat.

They headed back to make the score 6-6 before losing steam and falling off the court.

"Virginia Tech has some re-

duly, she said. "They hard and goneCalcutta a chance"

MANNING'S main reason to stay with the team is to continue being the team's offensive leader, but he also has to consider the future of the team. If Manning were to become a free agent, there would be an invisible crack chocking down Manning's days as the team's leader.

Manning's career seems to stay with Indianapolis, the prolific, high-flying off-

treat whether he is retired or not. With much playing time and time, the constant change of coaches, Wayne a believer in a backup Clark Dak and a produce offensive line that allowed 33 sacks, the Colts are not what they once were.

Also, gone is the father-son team of Bill and Chris Rutan, who had man-

aged the 1986 and 1987 seasons. They had a players-only run in the 1980s before joining the Colts as coaches. Michael Robertson and Troy Winem, expressed the team's positive and excit-

tropical period, headed in the direction of identity. It's time for Manning to do the same.

WOOLFOLK is a sports reporter.

**LET'S GET THE GAMES BEGIN**

First home pitch flies Feb. 21 against Radford

John Pearson

As the crack of bat begins to echo throughout the banks of Hendley, announcing the beginning of a new base-

**WOOLFOLK**

In his profile career, Porter Manning has an overall record of 7-0, 10-0 in 11-12

In the free agent market, desperate teams may be willing to pay a lot of money for his services. The uncertainty plays a fac-

Manning seems unsure. "I'd consider leaving Indianapolis, but there's no telling what will happen," Wayne said. "I'd go with the highest bidder."

If Manning were to become a free agent, the Colts would have to make a decision whether he returns or not. With much playing time and time, the constant change of coaches, the Colts are not what they once were.

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It’s more than just bragging rights

This year’s Rail Jam provided a new twist as two brothers battle for the top spot

Paul Fraizer

The Rail Jam has come a long way from a “bragging rights” event held in front of a small crowd on the front steps of DeMoss. Funded to now, where a large crowd sits eagerly on a brick, February Friday night at the Liberty Mountain Snowflex Center watching a field of pros and amateur riders compete for not only “bragging rights,” but also a $750 cash prize.

According to Casey Reed, the shop manager at Snowflex and one of the judges for the competition, Rail Jam has grown quite a bit since its beginning, mostly due to the growth and maturity of the Snowflex Center. “The unique surface of Snowflex, being able to ride all the time and weather this year has a lot of guys coming here to stay on top of their game,” Reed said. “Events at Snowflex definitely shows that we are here to be a part of the game. A lot of people, when we first opened, were saying it’s not really snowboarding, but it is. You use the same skills.”

The event consisted of two separate legs — a slalom competition and a snowboarding competition. Riders were given 10 separate “hands” down their choice of three different styles of rails. Each rider had his or her choice of which rail to use at anytime and judged on style and technically. The riders were given a score by each of the three judges after the run, and the winner was the rider with the highest cumulative score.

In the slalom group, it was a close race for first place between two brothers, but in the end Tanner Senclair outlasted his brother Cameron Senclair to take home the title (and first place between two brothers, but in the end). Franzer finished in second behind Leeds and Luke Fosse finished third.

The snowboard session lasted almost into the next morning, keeping the crowd on edge until 11:30 p.m. In the end, the clear-cut winner was Ben Sullo. His rail finale was second behind Leeds and Luke Fosser finished third.

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Making an impact through sports

HEART IN MINDS  Members of Impact Sports took Ultimate Frisbee to an East African village, as well as the Gospel.

"It's a good thing it happened when my family was here. It doesn't really hit me that it's my last one because we're going to carry momentum into nationals and we're going to be emotional. I made the decision that it was time to go to the tournament and make a statement."
— JON HANDY

Duke said: "But I never really set it go beyond the school, where I was teaching God had a bigger perspective and a bigger future for me and I just couldn't sit out at the time."

Duke called in the public school system and coached basketball for eight years before he was introduced to the idea of using sports to reach the lost.

"I was introduced to the concept of sports ministry by a guy who came to our church and had why didn't you go to East Asia with me and play basketball and tell people about Jesus? And my response was 'you can do that.'"

During the summers in between teaching, Duke traveled to the region five times on mission trips that formed a half of the main form of communication, and ultimately, a vehicle to share the Gospel.

"I've been trying to prepare for this for a long time because I know I was going to be emotional. I made the decision that I wasn't going to dwell on the fact that it was my last game, I just wanted to play forward," Luke Smith said. "We wanted to carry momentum into nationals and we decided that this year's game was going to be for it.

"It was a real situation of nerve-wracking coming into it for some reason. I think it's just because it's the last one you want to 'go well,'" senior forward Luke Aiden said. Aiden did not expect to hope to play in his last game before a crowd of four thousand fans and family.

"Fortunately, our line was doing well. I got the puck and got a goal, which was a good thing when that's the first time you're going to lose in your career."

Jake Hannon is another player that played his final game on Saturday. The defender provided a presence on the blue line that will be missed dearly by teammates and coaches, as well as a goodbye to a lifelong friend. He has such a blessing to be here.

This has been a fun time ever in my hockey career. We just have unbelievable guys and coaches on the team, the school, how many fans we are, we've just basically been able to share it all. It's been so special," Hannon said.

"Jude has been able to show great leadership on our bench and he's a key component for both Cornell's success as well. But from a spiritual standpoint, Jude really was able to elevate certain aspects of our team and that's a legacy that all of these guys are going to learn," mentally coach Bob Shepard added.

Looking forward, Handy hopes his team can hold the same level of intensity, while also playing smart hockey. "We get a physical edge, but we need to out think our opponents. It's a bit in your face. When you're 50-50, you're not talking, you're just a team, and you have to play the game to win," Handy said.

Jarrett Scearce of Sports Illustrated said: "It's God's really blessed this program, I was just trying to take it in and love every second of it."
Art majors display portfolio collections

Desiree Wheeler
desiree@liberty.edu

Art can take many shapes and forms. It can be sketched, sketched but no matter the form, the Senior Portfolio Exhibit at Liberty University offered a gallery of student work that was designed to be admired from Feb. 18-18. The Senior Portfolio Exhibit was a culminating collection of student’s art that was displayed in the Liberty University Art Gallery. Each Studio and Digital Arts major was required to exhibit their work in the gallery while completing the ARTS 492 course, offering them a platform to display the work they created during their time at Liberty University. More than 1,000 people were in attendance for the opening ceremony on Feb. 18.

The Senior Portfolio Exhibit is meant to showcase the work of graphic design, studio art and art education students in the Studio and Digital Arts Department. It includes a wide variety of media including photography, graphic design, painting, drawing, sculpture, Associate Professor of Communications Studies and Chair of the Department of Studio and Digital Arts Dr. Darren Coogan said.

The Gallery assistant, Katelyn Coogan, participated in the 492 projects during her undergraduate studies at Liberty. “The goal of this exhibit is to not only showcase the ways that God has gifted each one of the students featured, but also display the development of the artists coming through the program and prepare them for their professional futures,” Coogan said.

The exhibit featured a wall for each artist’s collection. During the course of the spring semester, other artists in the ARTS 492 class will also have the opportunity to showcase their work for a viewing audience. Over 300 people walked the gallery over the opening weekend.

“This particular exhibit is limited to seniors. We have other shows, such as the photography show, the jewelry student show and various other shows that allow all undergraduate students to enter work,” Smith said.

In order for students work to be displayed, it must go through a board of professors who advise and critique the collection prior to its exhibition. “As part of their capstone course, students have to present their collection in front of a panel along with their portfolio,” Coogan said. The board consisted of professors Phillips, Paul Reynolds and Sachihta Nations.

“This show really helps the artist internalize themselves as well as strengthen their skills. This is the last class the students take in order to refine their abilities,” Coogan said.

“I think this show is important because it exemplifies the students we want to send into the field of studio art, digital design and education, who will act as a self andplete to those around us and bring glory to God and reflect his creativity,” Smith said.

WHEELER is a feature reporter.

MEW: Reaching the world through missions

Justin Berry

Missions organizations set up displays and presentations for students to learn about different cultures and ways to help in the mission field. The Schilling Center held a special “Experience Ethno” series that took place Monday evenings in the Schilling Center.

The “Parade of Nations” helped to kick off MEW and provided an opportunity for Liberty’s international students to take pride in their respective countries by giving them a chance to carry their nation’s flag in front of the student body while dressed in their traditional cultural clothes.

Chacko spoke about his personal convictions in the Christian faith and walked students through the process of coming to believe in Jesus as a Christian. “It is to fulfill the Great Commission,” Chacko said. “The only reason for me to exist as a Christian is to fulfill the Great Commission.” That’s why we are here, that’s why God left us this planet Earth.”

Chacko spoke from the heart while sharing his experiences of working in North India. He elaborated on his decision in pursuing missions work and how he observed God using simple and humble people to accomplish big things in the mission field.

“God is keeping and enabling us to train up indigenous national leaders who are planting churches and transforming communities through many social programs. So far God has enabled us to see 400 churches planted.”

Throughout the week, different missions groups set up their stations in DeMoss Hall and made themselves available to answer any questions students might have.

According to the article “Studying Liberal arts classwork at Liberty University; the Office of Student Leadership welcomed over 150 representatives from 60 missions organizations to come by as a part of this semester’s special events at Liberty University. Making this the largest MEW to date.”

This event gives students an opportunity to connect with three missionaries, building relationships while learning about missions.

During Tuesday’s hall meeting, missionaries were welcomed into the resident dorms and invited to speak about their experiences in the mission field and how their personal stories of calling for missions work in Africa also took place amongst the students.

In Wednesday’s convocation, Matthew Lush spoke about being on the mission field in Papua, New Guinea, translating Bibles as part of her work in engineering in the unreached.

Friday, Reverend and Vice President for Executive Projects Johnnie Moore took the stage to share his passion for missions and working with Liberty University. A special “Experience Ethno” series took place Monday evenings in the Schilling Center. To all events, allow students to come and ask questions and how they can get plugged into missions.

The Schilling Center held a concert Thursday night featuring the Children of the World International Children’s Choir. An international coffee and tea tasting was also one of the highlights of the evening.

More information about MEW and other special events and campus activities can be found online.

Berry is a feature reporter.
FEATURE
February 21, 2012

MORE CHANGES FOR 90 SECONDS

Scott Randel travels with videographers to help capture footage for Liberty's weekly news segment.

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PLASMA REVOLUTION

Around Liberty in 90-Second chunks

Valentines for life

Pro-life club, Lifeline, held a charity gala to support education and prevention.

Gregory Kargbo
Liberty University Communications

Liberty University's pro-life club, Lifeline, held their Valentine Gala on February 10 with the theme of "The Do-It-Yourself Gala." From 7 p.m. to 11:30 p.m.

Close to 50 students showed up for the event and for $10 a ticket, were able to enjoy refreshments and the performance of students who earned a local Liber-

Valentine Gala

ty's weekly news segment, "Loyalty and Charity." Libery's pro-life club, Lifeline, brought home the banner through their gala charity.

"It contributed, just to name a few," Kargbo said. "I am here to support Lifeline and everything it stands for," he said.

Andrew Hodges, who came out to the gala, stated, "I think this event is a good way to bring awareness to this issue.

According to O'Brien, Lifeline has five main goals: to minister to men and women pre and post-abortion, to educate students to make an impact in the pro-life movement and to equip and enable stude-

Lifeline members also made the point that this type of event will be able to allow them to get ready for the next round of events.

Lifeline meets every Monday night in Doss Hall from 7:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m., and students are welcome to join.

Donations are accepted online at www.octapharmaplasma.com.
Casting Crowns: Come to the Well

Betsy Abraham	libertychamp@liberty.edu

Liberty Champion/B7

February 21, 2012

FEATURE

Full House: Royal Tailor (left) and Casting Crowns right performed for a sold-out Vines Center, pointing the audience to God in an evening of high-energy worship.

Newsboys’ ‘God’s Not Dead’ Tour
featuring The City Harmonic, Abandon, & Anthem Lights

FOR TICKETING INFORMATION CALL 888.SEE OR PURCHASE ONLINE AT WWW.LIBERTY.EDU/SA

Saturday, March 24
Vines Center 8:00 p.m.

General | Liberty Students: $8 advance
Admission | General Public: $12 advance
Ragtime narrates a changing America

The latest Tower Theater musical explores race relations at the turn of the century

Shelane Jennings  

Hailed as a modern classic, the musical "Ragtime" opened in the Liberty Tower Theatre Feb. 17 and captivated a sold-out crowd.

"I thought it was fantastic," senior Melinda Hendik said. "I really liked how it highlighted modern-day life and how we've become more tolerant of other races and cultures."

Rhythmically narrating the clash between black Americans, the white American society and the incoming immigrants, "Ragtime" used both fictional and historical characters to show America's evolution at the start of the 1900s.

"Ragtime" was the second show Bendik had seen in the Tower Theatre, having seen Liberty's production of "Phantom of the Opera" last quarter.

"Phantom was amazing, but I enjoyed this so much, maybe even a little bit more, because of the diversity in it," Bendik said.

The play, originally produced in 1998, is a production adapted from E.L. Doctorow's 1975 novel, "Ragtime," which is the story of the turn of the century and the historical figures that were part of the show, "everyone was so free," Liberty performer Terran Werns, who played the part of Coalhouse Walker, said. "Mr. Nelson has done a great job. The cast and crew, especially the orchestra, came together to do a really fine job on this."

Contrary to the large cast performing on stage, the set pieces were minimal, drawing attention to the characters and the themes portrayed, according to ensemble member McKenzie Connell, who played one of the immigrants entering America.

"In some ways, it [the set] relies on the characters and their movement, not so much the set," Connell said. "It becomes more about character building and the themes.

With a mix of mime and purposeful use of props, each actor displayed the tension between classes and race, leaving much up to the imagination of the audience.

"I think that it was a lot to ask for the actors to work with minimal set pieces. Actors aren't used to using set pieces, but they've taken it and owned it," director Chris Nelson said. "I think that's the essence of the show. It's owned by the group and owned by the people — no matter what class or ethnicity. What gives it that neat effect is that, at times, all of them will be moving something together and yet they are still apart. It still continues to be in that idea of brotherhood.

As broken in the musical phrases of the ragtime melody, each set showed the humanity of characters caught at the crossroads of past and present.

"You see the uptightness of people, which is why you want to notice," performer Gigi Prouser, who played the part of Sarah, said. "It's important to realize that people are ugly and unlikable and change only after things get to them."

According to Prouser, the way that ragtime music influenced America became a metaphor for the other changes displayed in the show.

"Music played a huge role," Prouser said. "Tanza and I did a lot of research on ragtime music and Scott Joplin music and how large of a part it played in African American culture and how it influenced the rest of society. Ragtime music, and music itself, played a large role in the turn of the century."

Liberty's cast and crew continue to prepare for upcoming shows and are encouraging students and Lynchburg residents to join the Tower Theatre. Performs for upcoming shows are Feb. 24, March 2 and 3, 7:40 p.m., and Feb. 26 and March 4 at 7:30 p.m.

Tickets are available at the Vines Center Box Office or online at liberty.edu/theatre.

JENNINGS is the feature editor.

Children of the World bring smiles

Emily Bass  

"I like singing. My favorite song is 'Happy Day,'" Angel said. Angel is one of the 15 children who travel with Children of the World, a choir composed of orphaned and disadvantaged children from all over the world.

She is from Uganda and smiled as she explained she has known Jesus since she was a little girl.

Liberty University students and faculty were able to experience the joyful choir singing and dancing to a variety of international praise music at convocation on Wednesday, Feb. 15, and in a special concert at the Schilling Center on Feb. 16.

Alison Beck, a sophomore at Liberty, said that the Children of the World visited her church in Duncombe, Pa., twice a year.

"I just love singing," Beck said. "Watching them worship the Lord gives me a better perspective on my own life."

Angel and the other Children of the World travel 10 months out of the year and have 250 events annually. Grace, Angel's chaperone, explained that her favorite thing about working with Children of the World is watching the attitude of the children who participate.

"At first, we were having a hard time dealing with them, but then they started to obey us. Sometimes they are tired, but they are doing their best to sing and dance in front of the people," Grace said.

Even with more than 200 events each year packed into their schedule, Angel explains that each night the children are genuinely excited to perform and worship with their audiences.

"We homeschool the kids every Wednesday," Grace said. "They enjoy doing artwork and coloring."

According to the World Help website, children that are part of World Help's Children of the World project exist to give a face to the more than 1 billion orphaned children all over the world who have been affected by war, famine, poverty, sudden onset and preventable diseases. The children who are selected to be part of the choir are from World Help's Child Sponsorship Program.

"It is a great opportunity for the children to come to the U.S., learn another culture, improve their English skills, help other children around the world and share Christ's love," the World Help website said.

BAAS is a feature reporter.