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A time of healing after tragic train accident

Students look to see God’s plan revealed every step of the way

Melissa Gibby
mgbibby@liberty.edu

Five students took a walk on train tracks high over the James River on Nov. 17 to look at the stars and myself at God’s creation. But the severity of the evening turned into tragedy because of a train’s rapid approach. Freshman Hannah Emmecker explained, “I was in South Carolina, I only saw snow an inch in a time,” he said. “It’s a disappointment because you can’t do anything with it, and it melts immediately.”

Lauren Trust and Logan Jones also enjoyed the white storm. “This is the most snow I’ve seen in my entire life,” Jones, a missionary kid from East Africa and India, said. “The last snow I saw was in Texas seven years ago.”

Logan and Trust participated in a snowball fight Thursday afternoon with Dorm II. Logan said Dorm’s resident assistant approved it as long as nobody started a fight or broke a window.

“People were so excited,” he said. “It’s a great way to start the weekend.”

The freak storm only lasted a day, and the weather forecast is expected to be in the 60s throughout the rest of the week, according to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

ADAMS is the web editor.
Campaigning for cleaner water

Cherie Risic
OPINION EDITOR

Freeman Casey Butter is in a position to care less about the simple plight of clean water. She is a representative of an organization that partners in providing clean water to developing countries. Her goal is to use $15,000 to fund two wells in Ghana and one in our own country in the next 18 months, according to Casey’s statistics, more than one billion people around the world do not have access to safe drinking water. This global water crisis claims the lives of two million people each year, and the majority of them are children. Each child has an estimated lifetime loss of 30 (plus) job decades - a lifetime sacrificed for diabetes, malnutrition and diarrhea, according to Casey’s report.

Butter’s journey to ending the global water crisis began two years ago. She decided to provide clean water stemmed from a trip to Ghana shortly after the January 2010 earthquake.

“When we first entered, he was overwhelmed by the lu- cion. He had a passion in him I lean water crisis here in Iwo years ago. I li’r desire to provide clean water,” she said. “In 2011, she started O’Donnell’s campaign for cleaner water in the United States.

“I wanted to be a part of making that difference,” Butter said. “I wanted to be a part of making that difference.” Butter said. “I wanted to be a part of making that difference.”

Strikingly, she began her campaign by selling custom-designed pins and had her campaign and his campaign publicly at various events. On the flip side of her pins, she set up a booth in the month of February to help raise any money for weeks...” she said. “As many pins, just wanted to quit and give up.”

Butter has never seen before, a passion that was never let down. Butter is confident that her decision to partner with the organization will produce the difference she set out to make.

“The only two Republican presidential candidates that will appear on the ballot are Ron Paul and Mitt Romney. According to Sherayko, there is a lot of interest in candidates of the ballot, who can affect the turnout March 6, students at Liberty are extensively educated and well thought-on candidates on the issues, according to Dean of the Helen School of Government Shanna Alers, Alers that liberty students vote with knowledge. ‘Knowing with voting power is powerful and can affect a policy,” Alers said.

Even though it is a presidential election, voting is just as significant. The primary election gives the opportunity to vote for the one’s values and to choose every candidate that values most people elected, according to Alers. A lot of students who are the best way students can become patriotic and educated on a candidate. ‘Understanding the foundational understanding in one’s political decision is the most important research to begin,” Alers said. Freshman Kristin Baker prepares for the primary by discussing the election with her family and friends. They read the news and radio, keeping bias in mind.

“I think of all the children who have their families and livestock been drilled through CauseLife.” Butter said. "There has been an outpouring of support from various organizations. One is called “mycause”, (lauselile Assistant Professor Grant House) said. “Mycause” is an organization that partners with the organization to help with the McGinn campaign.

Butter, who has never seen before, a passion that was never let down. Butter is confident that her decision to partner with the organization will produce the difference she set out to make.

“Mycause” is a huge fan of Butter’s. ‘Butter is the type of person that is someone on a temporary basis to provide a specialty and move on past that,” Butter senior Matt Martin said. Martin is a campaign manager for Congressman Jeff Blythe, a Democrat in Tennessee, under O’Dunnell. He has worked on 12 campaigns and currently works for Ses, News. University.

According to the political website Poll.” Butter, there is “discombobulation” amongst campaign workers concerning the issue of O’Dunnell’s importance in the campaign.

“Some candidates support him like Butter, who has a lot of experi- ence. Some candidates don’t.” Butter added. “We are the type of candidate who will work with the students here. Manual agreed. Butter worked at Liberty from the fall of 2011 to his election as a candidate to help with the McGinn campaign, according to Butter’s Director of De- bate Michael Hall.

“The type of O’Dunnell not for the debate are the same he is used to teach his students at Liberty... and he taught the students here and what he’s doing now for political candidates.” Hall said.

In addition to being an outside consul- tant, O’Dunnell has worked as an advisor for the McGinn 2008 presidential election and is currently, as an advisor for Buchanan be- cause he committed to the race.

“Every now O’Dunnell is a huge fan of Butter’s. Liberty needs to be in contact with him. We meet in at team- mates in the 2012, he critique and they work with each other,” Butter said. “We are the type of people that they are part of the Liberty family as an alumni, and I think that speaks highly of him.”

According to Hall, the type of de- bate the university teaches has been on the subject of O’Dunnell’s importance in the campaign.

“It is important to students who have a lot of experience, and also a lot of responsibility sometimes. They make an effort to critique something,” Manual added. Butter agreed. O’Dunnell worked at Liberty from the fall of 2011 to his election as a candidate to help with the McGinn campaign, according to Liberty’s Director of De- bate Michael Hall.

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“O’Dunnell said that his group just had a successful campaign. ‘O’Dunnell was a called policy debate. The work that goes into one year of re- search for the kind of brand is similar to that of a doctoral dissertation. Addition- ally, O’Dunnell knows his political process publically.

With the work he has already done and the experience that went to work, I would be surprised if he wasn’t working,” Hall said. Butter did not wish to comment on the incident.
FILM MAKING FOR CHARITY — Participants had 48 hours to create a film for the charity of their choice, according to Dr. Casey Martin, the advisor for the campus NFC. The event, founded by Whitecavage, was the first major event of this type that the university NFC chapter has held, according to Martin.

"This is our debutante ball, this is our first big event we've had for the community," Martin said. "It's a wonderful opportunity to use their future career skills, provide the charity of which the Bible speaks and have fun under the umbrella of Liberty's campus," Martin said.

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

"We want to make this something that happens annually," Willett said.

CONTRAINTION — Lynchburg residents had to resort to drinking bottled water.

Melissa Baseman University Communications

Twice last week the city of Lynchburg's Department of Water Resources issued a boil water notice for 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. It was a main line for the city that runs right through the campus," Directorate of Water Resources Tim Mitchell said. "We had to inspect and isolate the area of the break which was most of the Fort 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 Leigh Hasty, a resident freshman at Liberty, said. "We found out from our prayer leader and had to haul 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 called, found out I'm off campus, I still used bottled water and drank their water," junior Katie said. "It didn't really affect me personally.

"I found out about the water contamination through a friend. I called, found out I'm off campus, I still used bottled water and drank their water," junior Katie said. "It didn't really affect me personally.

Although many areas did not experience any issues, approximately 200 homes in the impacted area lost water service to 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," Mist bell said.

Several of the restaurants were asked to boil water on site, according to Mitchell. Shakers, a restaurant near Liberty's campus, ordered the issue when they saw water discoloration. Shakers, along with many other affected restaurants, had to put the bottled water, bottled ice and canned soda on the menu in order to avoid any strangy.

"We had to take precautions just like anyone else under the advice of either boiling water or serving bottled water," Shakers Restaurant Manager David Sour- men said. "We let our customers know of our situation when they walked through the door, and allowed them to choose if they would dine with us, and most if not all chose the latter.

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

The advisor was lifted on Sunday, Feb. 12. 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 came 2 hours to get the results. We were able to safely use the water on Sunday."

Then, on Tuesday, Feb. 14, pressure on the water mains in the Rivermont and surrounding areas ran at various locations to make sure the water was safe to drink again. We ran two different tests, and each test came 2 hours to get the results. We were able to safely use the water on Sunday."

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The event consisted of two parts, the competition itself and the Black Tie Event on Feb. 24, which will conclude the affair. According to Devin Francis, assistant director for the public relations and awareness for local charities.
Religious freedom vs. the president
Changes to ObamaCare reveal administration's disregard of First Amendment

Dominique McKay
dkmckey@luther.edu

America's latest issue of Newsweek features a photo of white men and women mistreated by police and skeptical citizens, paralleling the tense and charged atmosphere that has characterized recent events.

The image illustrates the tension between individual rights and collective action, highlighting the challenges faced by those advocating for increased police accountability and transparency.

The text in the image suggests that the administration's recent decisions on health care and immigration have eroded the balance between individual freedoms and collective action. It raises questions about the administration's commitment to uphold the principles enshrined in the Constitution.

The article suggests that the administration's actions have not only eroded individual rights but also fueled a sense of unease and frustration among many Americans. It argues that the administration's disregard for the First Amendment's protections for religion and free speech is a departure from the principles that have guided the country for generations.

The image also includes a quote from an expert, highlighting the administration's disregard for the principles of religious freedom and free speech. The expert suggests that the administration's actions have eroded the balance between individual freedoms and collective action, raising questions about the future of American democracy.

Overall, the article raises important questions about the administration's commitment to upholding the principles enshrined in the Constitution and the future of American democracy.
**Super Bowl commercial causes conflict**

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

Troy Dabney

Super Bowl Sunday — practically a holiday in itself — isn’t just a revamped football 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 getting laughter from humor and wit, Chrysler Group LLC decided to take a dramatic tone with “Halftime in America,” leaving many viewers bewildered.

American film critic, producer and — according to The Times — republican Clint Eastwood narrated a powerful piece for Chrysler in reference to its ’’next time’’ since the economy took a dive in 2008. This was the year time Barack Obama took office, which aided in saving Chrysler LLC from going into bankruptcy. As well, Chrysler CJroup (LLC) decided to take this solution, on our dime. The bailout of our manufacturing company in respects to Obama taking office, which aided in saving Chrysler’s losses, and Whitney Houston is no more.

Interestingly so, multitudes of viewers both republicans and democrats — couldn’t help but relate Chrysler’s advertisement with Americanized politics — particularly to President Obama.

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

Interestingly so, multitudes of viewers both republicans and democrats — couldn’t help but relate Chrysler’s advertisement with Americanized politics — particularly to President Obama.

There is something beautiful about the perfection of snow. Maybe it is its ability to cover everything in its path and give everything a new appearance — a new perspective.

This spring semester has brought a gift of perspective in its path and give everything a new appearance — a new perspective.

Yes, choosing the correct presidential candidate is a tough job. The Republican Party needs someone strong, courageous, and is spending its time fighting over all of the wrong things.

We need to find a candidate whose dirty laundry and agenda are not a matter of great statesman must states, whether ripping, tearing, tearing, tearing, tearing, tearing, tearing, tearing, tearing, tearing, tearing, tearing, tearing, tearing, tearing, tearing, tearing, tearing, tearing, tearing, tearing, tearing, tearing, tearing, tearing, tearing, tearing, tearing, tearing, tearing, tearing, tearing, tearing, tearing, tearing, tearing, tearing, tearing, tearing, tearing, tearing, tearing, tearing, tearing, tearing, tearing, tearing, tearing, tearing, tearing, tearing, tearing, tearing, tearing, tearing, tearing, tearing, tearing, tearing, tearing, tearing, tearing, tearing, tearing, tearing, tearing, tearing, tearing, tearing, tearing, tearing, tearing, tearing, tearing, tearing, tearing, tearing, tearing, tearing, tearing, tearing, tearing, tearing, tearing, tearing, tearing, tearing, tearing, tearing, tearing, tearing, tearing, tearing, tearing, tearing, tearing, tearing, tearing, 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tearing, tearing, tearing, tearing, tearing, tearing, tearing, tearing, tearing, tearing, tearing, tearing, tearing, tearing, tears with no other perspectives. Is it possible that our perfect candidate is also worthy in his, or her, imperfection as well?

Who is it to say that having a past should disqualify a person from leading a successful life? Whether the 2012 Republican presidential candidate is Mitt Romney, Rick Santorum, Newt Gingrich or Ron Paul, I am convinced that the airing of their dirty laundry, or the direction of their campaign, is not going to make them a better qualified or acceptable candidate.

While the markets of today are slowly returning to normal, we can only look at the long-term picture. The bailout of our manufacturing company in respect to Obama taking office, which aided in saving Chrysler’s losses, and Whitney Houston is no more.

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Being shot into a trunk, gunpowder and fire are not the fare of our Liberty University students, as they would have possibly been a sex trafficking scheme.

But Klink, a violent abuser, RA, for dorm III, was at risk of being caught up in human trafficking, he said.

Klink said that after applying to become male sitting and nursing jobs in Virginia, he evaded one nurse that seemed too politically correct.

"I got a report from one of the nurses within 24 hours. The pay was $500 a week, and I was basically able to stay in my own bed," he said.

Klink and the woman continued to speak to each other via email and text messaging, but not once did Klink actually hear the woman's voice, she said.

According to Klink, after asking several questions about the job, to focus on an exact work schedule, the response he received was cagey and went unexplored.

According to Klink, after the woman's supposed background check on her, she did not hear anything back for a while. Roughly a week later, another email came this time with information on how to deposit a $1,000 check that was waiting for the RA. Klink noticed the check had arrived from Washington state, but the receive hope it came in was postmarked from Atlanta.

"I was extremely uncomfortable," he said. "I brought it to LUPD the next day. They confirmed that it was a sum and that Craigslist was one of the largest sex trafficking hubs. Klink said.

Klink said that he could not be confirmed because of her family's comment, so the police told her it could be assured due to the fact the woman lived in a private accommodation apartment.

"I feel like a test to figure out. It checked me that reality trafficking could occur even in a place like Lusitania," he said.

According to 

"This experience has made me passionate about educating girls about trafficking, because it is so secretive about the reality of it."

KLINK, who spent her summer helping children in South Africa, pictured, had a scene with a sex trafficking victim on Craigslist.

According to the Associated Press, nearly two weeks ago a similar bill cleared the House but failed to pass through the Virginia Senate. Legislation he said, in 1993 was part of an effort to limit gun trafficking.

"Certain, it affirms the founding Father's words. After they wrote some 200 years ago," Garrett said. "They put the language in the Second Amendment to bear and keep arms for a reason."

Garrett said that he has heard comments of how the new laws will allow some to continue in the argument of giving them more freedom to purchase a handgun they choose, instead of waiting another 30 days.

Multiple sources have reported that the Governor, McDonnell will sign the bill. Garrett believes that if it is Governor's decision to do what he sees as best for the state of Virginia.

To me it's about choices, convincing your own gun owners for their own reasons," Garrett said.

JONES is a news reporter.

Omar Adams
omaradams@liberty.edu

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.

The mission was Mizerani’s first overseas deployment since joining the National Guard two years ago. He began training with the Army National Guard in Virginia when he was 12. Mizerani decided to enlist with his family when he was 18.

“I enjoyed the heat — even though it was 120 Fahrenheit — at least it was dry heat.”

According to a news release by the Virginia Department of Military Affairs, the soldiers of the 1-166th were fully aware of the plans could change depending on conditions in Iraq.

Local townspeople also anticipated the troops’ exit, but not always with good intentions. Mizerani said: “Some of the locals tried to predict the days he and the 1-166th would pull out to plan last attacks.”

“Being one of the last ones to leave was actually pretty interesting,” he said. “The neighboring city-southeast of us was trying to find out the days we’d be leaving. The neighboring city-southeast of us was trying to find out the days we’d be leaving. We were a couple of times they got it wrong, and once they even had it in their local newspaper the dates they thought we’d be leaving.”

On August 19, Mizerani immigrated to the U.S. following in his father’s footsteps. Mizerani decided to enlist in the Army National Guard when he enrolled at Liberty.

“My dad was in the Army before, but then he went back in as a chaplain — through 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 2013 and hopes to go on to fly commercial aircraft.

ADAMS is the web editor.
LONG DISTANCE:— An archer prepares to shoot his arrow from the other side of the field. Another student prepares to take a break as his time to battle has not yet come.

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) takes the court with handmade foam swords, knives, katans, and more. Playing group games and sparring matches, the SFCl meets every weekend to hone their technique and have fun.

According to sophomore and SFCl council member Sean Corban, the first council meeting was held in early 2010. Since then, the club has increased in numbers, with around 20 people showing up to SFCl council meetings.

"I get a lot of exercise out of the club, but it's a special bond. It's a group," said Freshman Ben Beck. "I'm a huge student, and I've been coming to SFCl for the last two years and appreciate 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 on each other, there's the comradery within the club."

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

"I love when people just come out and we love to show them the ropes," Corban said. "The more the merrier."

Each meeting starts out with a devotion from the club chaplain, James Genter and a time for prayer. After this, group games take place such as "Rise of the Dead," "Zombie," and traditional sparring matches.

New group members are required to go through a small safety course that includes a caution of the group rules and the council. No metal or wood weapons are allowed, and a person can never hit above the chest, elbow, or hit others with too much force. After a sparring session with a council member to make sure the member is made to play, they are free to participate in a council meeting.

On average, around 20 people show up to SFCl council meetings. According to Corban and Genter, 20 people showed up for a session during CUAW weekend last year, most of them CUAW fraternity members.

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"I love when people just come out and we love to show them the ropes," McKenzie said. "The more the merrier."

Amoore interested in participating in NFC, regardless of experience level, is encouraged to check out the Facebook page at facebook.com/lusfc to be up-to-date on club meetings.

LIND is a news reporter.

Neo-prohibitive sweeping

FROZEN YOGURT—Two children enjoy Bloop's frozen treats.

Bloop yogurt expands

Jon Mitchell

Candler’s Mountain Road now has a new Bloop Frozen Yogurt location to satisfy students’ desires for frozen treats at the end of the night.

This franchise, started three years ago, now has four Bloop Frozen Yogurt locations in the United States, ending March 24.

The yogurt company also plans to hold a charity event this Sunday, according to their website. Bloop has partnered with Charity: Water for their "Cup for a Cup" program. The yogurt business donates five cents for every cup of yogurt that helps feed and sustain hundreds of children through Charity: Water, according to their website.

"Our goal is that each club member donate five cents for every cup of yogurt that helps feed and sustain hundreds of children," Mitchell said.

JESSICA ROWELL is a news reporter.

Redvolution kicks off

Jessica Rowell

Scrambling fans, electric guitars and spiky-haired rock stars are not typical components of today's college campus environment. But for some prospective Liberty University students, their road to college may begin at the REDvolution! 2012 concert tour.

This new recruitment tactic employed to Liberty University features several Christian rock bands, including the band RED in the main performance and special guests Thousand Foot Krutch, Manafest, Raine and Nine Lashes, according to Assistant Director of Recruitment Kevin Gibbs.

The university hopes a tactic to attract new students, especially those of the male gender.

"A few months ago, we came up with this idea and saw it as a great opportunity to reach out to males," Gibbs said. "It is a great demographic."

The university hopes to draw in prospective students by encouraging them to apply to the concert. As an incentive, Liberty will be giving away a grand prize package that includes a $16,000 scholarship and a guitar from the REDvolution! 2012 signed by each member of the bands.

"We are not just reaching out to high schoolers, but our parents and the youth, past and present," Liberty University National Recruiting Coordinator Hamel explained. "So really, we are reaching anyone and everyone that comes in the REDvolution tour!"

In addition to the boots tour, the school is also connecting to potential students through social media. A Liberty University recruiter will tour with the bands and provide updates via the university’s website, Twitter and Facebook pages.

"We will be using our Twitter account to send updates, to say where we are at...we want to give students a look at what we are doing and get them interested," National Recruitment Coordinator Amanda Craft explained.

The tour has already yielded impressive results, with over 800 tickets sold on the second night and a worldwide contest in St. Petersburg, Fl. scheduled for the end of the month.

"The tour covers all demographics, both students and parents. It promotes music that students enjoy but is still in the Christian market," Craft said. "I believe Liberty was one of the first education sponsors of music festivals. This really gets Liberty out there...this is a really great marketing ground."

The kickoff of the tour began in Rochester, Minn. on Feb. 10 and will continue on to a total of 19 locations throughout the United States, ending March 26 in Fort Wayne, Ind.

ROWELL is a news reporter.

Tour Schedule

Feb. 26: N. Chardon, S.C.
Feb. 27: Jacksonvile, Fl.
Feb. 28: Petaluma, Calif.
March 2: Corpus Christi, Texas
March 9: Dallas, Texas
March 11: Tulsa, Okla.
March 13: Las Vegas, Nev.
March 16: Redlands, Calif.
March 17: Phoenix, Ariz.
March 23: Sanger, Ill.
March 24: Fort Wayne, Ind.
SPORTS

FEBRUARY 21, 2012

4FRNT skis to sponsor freshman

Brent Washburn
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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 skis.

Steltzer fell in love with freestyle skiing in his teens that he started freestyle skiing. "I started freestyle skiing when I was about 15 years old," Steltzer said. "My brother drove him to come to college and learn how to ski and snowboard at the Snowflex Center last fall that the University Flame in the regular season Saturday with a two game sweep of No. 15 Central Oklahoma University. The Flames netted 11 goals over two games, winning 5-4 on Friday and 5-3 on Saturday. "Confidence is huge," head coach Kirk Handy said. "I think we were able to gain that this weekend for sure. We wanted to play two real solid games and we accomplished that."

The set was a rematch of an earlier matchup this year for both teams. The Flames traveled to Edmond, Okla. in November, winning two games 5-3 and 3-0. "We played them twice earlier in the year and played two very close games to them, so it was pretty big to come out here and beat them 8-2 yesterday and ... beat them today pretty easily," senior defender Seth Jensen said. "I think it shows that around this year to such a high extent is all attributable to the team last year and then turning around again. Having our team be a .500 team, the leadership ability — Joe's ability to make some noise at practice. Having our team be a .500 team, the leadership ability — Joe's ability to make some noise at practice."

For seniors, emotions ran high in the spirit of this event, some of the staff and players also donated to underprivileged children in the world, "I'm from Canada and we do the Teddy Bear Toss every year... so my mom brought six bags of teddy bears," head men's hockey coach Kirk Handy said. "We were approached by the Teddy Bear Brigade and they asked if we were interested in this event and we gladly accepted." In the spirit of this event, some of the staff and players also donated to underprivileged children in the world, "I'm from Canada and we do the Teddy Bear Toss every year... so my mom brought six bags of teddy bears," head men’s hockey coach Kirk Handy said. "We were approached by the Teddy Bear Brigade and they asked if we were interested in this event and we gladly accepted.

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**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 squad fought hard against the Virginia Tech Hokies on Feb. 17 but faltered in the final set to lose their third straight close-out matches as the team fell 5-7.

"I feel like we played a lot harder than they did tonight," coach Chris Johnson said.

The Lady Flames fell in all of the doubles matches despite a 2-1 lead in points.

*SPORTS*  JENNA WOOLFOLK

**EFFORT — Liberty fought hard against Virginia Tech. However, the Lady Flames left with the win.**

Andrew Woolfolk

In his profile career, Peyton Manning has thrown over 30,000 yards, completed over 7,000 games, won a Super Bowl, gone to the Pro Bow (11) times and won four MVP awards. Get all of his story:

New life. New identity. No matter how you look at it, it is a new chapter this year for the entire Colts organization.

As he has shown with the team's losing ways, gone is head coach Jim Caldwell, who had also been the Colts' general manager for several years.

Yet despite all he has accomplished and the successful Indianapolis Colts franchise he helped build, it seems as though there can be a complex game of musical chairs in the NFL.

Regardless of whether or not Manning is kept, the fact is that the Colts are going to be left in the draft without a surefire franchise quarterback.

In the free agent market, desperate teams are afoot. Currently, he is the second-best quarterback on the market behind the latest big star to come free agen
tional period, headed in the direction of Manning's future unclear.
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
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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. Run rampant 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 it began, mostly due to the growth and notoriety 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 skiing competition and a snowboarding competition. Riders were given 10 separate "runs" 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 the three judges. A tie was run, and the winner was the rider with the highest cumulative score.

In the skiing group, it was a close race for first place between two brothers, but in the end Tanner Sinclair outdistanced his brother, Cameron Sinclair to take home the title (and second place respectively), and Jon Sohier took home third place. The snowboard session lasted almost into the next morning, keeping the crowd on edge until about 11:45 p.m. In the end, the clear-cut winner was Beau LeVay. Beau finished in second behind Leeds and Luke Fose finished third.

Editorial: Fil-Lin’ in the blanks on Jeremy Lin

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Scoring 136 points in five games is nothing to go unnoticed. As a matter of fact, the U.S., as well as China, has been buzzing about the New York Knicks guard, Jeremy Lin.

But are they more excited because of his skill level or that he is from a different race? Websites such as ESPN, CNN and Yahoo have all talked about his Chinese heritage. Lin has a lot of people buzzing.

"Players playing that well don't usually come out of no- where, but if you go back and take a look, his skill level was probably there from the beginning. It probably just went unnoticed," Bryant said.

This talent was unnoticed by two previous NBA teams. This talent was unnoticed in the 2008 NBA draft where Lin went undrafted. This talent was unnoticed to colleges around the U.S. when he did not receive a single Division I scholarship.

"Everyone seemed to miss out on the Palo Alto, Calif. native. How Lin flew under the radar during his basketball career is still unclear, but one thing is clear. He found his home as the Knicks' starting point guard. During his first eight starts, the Knicks went 7-1, giving new hope to fans that more than just a media favorite and his face will be seen everywhere for quite some time."

BATTLE is the assistant sports editor.
Making an impact through sports

HeARTS AND MINDS - Members of Impact Sports took Ultimate Frisbee to an East African village, as well as the Gospel.

Duke said, "But I never really set out to go beyond the school where I was teaching. God had called me to make a bigger difference. I wanted to go to places others can't go. There may be political issues at the government level, but team to team, player to player, coach to coach, it doesn't matter. We were able to be vessels." 

"There are some places we continue to go time after time. There have been times where people seem to have lost Christ on the second or third trip," Duke said. "But when it takes the sport, it takes the relationship bonding, to break that barrier. We've been to face with people who have no idea who Jesus is or what Jesus is and it's because someone else decided for them what they were going to hear it.

"But the tense of that word in Greek means 'as you are going,'" he said. "And so, it could be pickup ball at the student center, it could be a church league softball game, it could be the restaurant, it could be wherever." 

BROWN is the sports editor.

"God's really blessed this program... I was just trying to take it in and love every second of it." — JETH NIM"
MEW: Reaching the world through missions

Joanna Berry
Berry@liberty.edu

Liberty University's bi-annual mosaic of missions opportunities was held Feb. 15-17. This semester's Missions Emphasis Week (MEW) was themed "Just Reached," offering students a chance to seek with missions across the world and experience different cultures through seminars and other events.

The Founder and International Director of Empart, Joe Chacko was the first guest speaker to address students during Monday's convocation service in the Vines Center after a special presentation of the "Parade of Nations." 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 clothing.

Chacko spoke about his personal convictions in the Christian faith and challenged students to explore God's objective for their lives.

"The only reason for me to exist as a Christian is to fulfill God's Commission," Chacko said. "The only reason for you to exist as a Christian is to fulfill God's Commission." Chacko elaborated on his decision in pursuing missions work and how he observed God using simple, humble people to accomplish big things in the mission field.

"God is keeping and enabling us to train up indigenous national leaders who are planning churches and transforming communities through many social programs. So far, God has enabled us to see 2,900 churches planted!" Chacko said.

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 "Steppin' Out Global Missions," organizations set up displays around the university to promote missions.

Liberty News, the office of Student Leadership welcomed over 150 international students to this year's special series "Framing Their Strengths" to allow students to reach out to the mission field and give personal testimonies. A fundraiser for missions was held Feb. 15-17. The President and Student Leaders welcomed the missionaries into the resident dorms and invited to other events, to allow students to reach out to the mission field and give personal testimonies. A fundraiser for missions was held Feb. 15-17.

"Go and make disciples of all nations," Chacko reiterated.

The "Faith in Action" showcase of student's art that was displayed in the Student Union was an opportunity for students to explore God's objective for their lives.

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

**MEDIA REVOLUTION**

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Valentines for life
Casting Crowns: Come to the Well

Betty Abraham
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This was the tireless line drawing through the Vines Center as Casting Crowns played a sold-out show in an audience of all ages Saturday, Feb. 25.

Students, College for a Work, and CEAW guests, families and youth groups filled the Vines Center for the Come to the Well tour, which featured award-winning Christian band Casting Crowns.

Lead singer Mark Hall explained how the tour name, which is also the name of their latest CD, comes from personal experience and the Biblical passage of the Samaritan woman at the well in John 4.

A small crowd in the Atlanta area, Hall encouraged the audience to always show to an audience when the church gets beat down and we are just drawing from empty holes," Hall said.

Hall shared his experiences in ministry, relating a personal connection with the audience. In between songs, he shared personal stories of what God had been teaching him and the meaning behind songs. Dealing with prayer and Scripture throughout the show, the band played songs of their latest CD, as well as older songs that have become classics in churches and on radio stations nationwide.

Emily Greek was visiting Liberty from California and said she's been listening to Casting Crowns for as long as she can remember.

"I grew up with them and have a couple of CDs, and they're really great in person. I just love how personal they are with the audience and how they put God first and they're really great teachers," Greek said.

Liberty student Jeremy Morgan said that what appealed to him most about Casting Crowns is their lyrics.

"My church sings a lot of their songs in our worship services, and they're one of my favorite Christian rock bands," Morgan said. "They're really honest. They take life issues and talk about them in a family-friendly way so they can still talk about heavy subject matter and is still friendly for everyone. They're all really inspiring."

The band played an almost two-hour set that was broken up by a 20-minute intermission. Audience members sang along to older songs such as "Pray You in This Storm," "Voice of Truth" and "Liberation" and newer songs such as "Spirit Wind," "Countenance" and "Another Birthday."

Despite winning numerous GMA Dove awards, Grammy and selling over 8.2 million albums to date, according to their website, the band members stay loyal to their work in youth groups at their church and use their influence to encourage audi ences and change lives.

The band partnered with World Vision for the tour and played a video for the audience about their visit to Rwanda with World Vision, where several band members met children they have sponsored through the nonprofit organization.

They encouraged audience members to get involved in child sponsorship, saying that it not only affects the child but the whole village. Hall and band lead Melodie DeVoe shared their personal experiences with World Vision and sponsoring children.

"So many people have moved to sponsor, including Lauren Meidows, who was coming Liberty for CEAW. I wanted to sponsor because the names of the children who didn't have anything touched me, so I decided to help other kids," Meidows said.

"The concert ended with Casting Crowns' song, "Until the Whole World Heals," and the band invited all the opening acts back on the stage with them. Also on the tour was Lindsey McCord, an up and coming singer-songwriter from CD's such as "My Name." Lindsey Equalizer the tour press pack hand, took the stage next, encouraging the audience with catchy, energetic songs."

"I really enjoyed their stage performance," CEAW's Jon Kiefert said of World Vision. "They combined the pure pop side to pull in the youth and college students, and they have some really great stories to add to it. I think the whole stage performance really pulls the rest of the crowd into it."

Matthew West set the stage up for Casting Crowns, joking with the audience, and performing well-known songs such as "The Motions," and "My Own Little World."

West also read an excerpt from his book, "The Story of Your Life," a compilation of fan stories about the different life experiences they have had and how they have encountered God in the midst of them.

The Come to the Well tour continues until May. This is dates across the nation, for more information, visit castingcrowns.com/tour.

ABRAHAM is the assistant feature editor.
Ragtime narrates a changing America

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

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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 Bernd 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 Bernd had seen in the Tower Theatre, having seen Liberty’s production of “Phantom of the Opera” last spring.

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

The play, originally produced in 1996, is a production adapted from E.L. Doctorow’s 1975 novel “Ragtime.” Liberty’s adaptation of the story includes a full live orchestra, crew and a 49-person cast.

“Doing Ragtime, which is the story of the turn of the century and the historical figures that were part of the show, everyone was so strong,” Liberty performer Teresa Wens, 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.

“Ragtime relies on the characters and their movement, not so much the set,” Connell said. “It becomes more about character building and the stories.”

With a mix of mime and purposeful use of props, each scene 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 moving set pieces, but they’ve taken it and owned it,” director Glenn 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. Whatever it is that we all offer 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 as the musical phrases of the ragtime melody, the trials faced by immigrants at the turn of the century.

For example, the character building and the themes portrayed, according to ensemble member McKenzie Connell, who played one of the immigrants entering America.

“The show is watching the audience. The remaining show times are Feb. 24, 25, March 2 and 3 at 7:30 p.m., and Feb. 26 and March 4 at 2:30 p.m.”

Tickets are available at the online at liberty.edu/online Box Office.

JENNINGS is the feature editor.

Children of the World bring smiles

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“I like singing. My favorite song is Happy Day,” Angel said.

Angel is one of the 15 children who traveled 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 baby.

Liberty University students and faculty were able to experience the joyful choir sing and dance to a variety of inspirational music at convocation on Friday, Feb. 15, and in a special concert at the Schilling Center on Feb. 16.

Allison Beck, a sophomore at Liberty, who helped host the choir in Danville, Pa., twice a year, said, “I just love seeing them.”

“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, explains 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, Angie explains that each night the children are genuinely excited to perform and worship with their audiences.

“We home-school the kids every Wednesday,” Grace said. “They enjoy doing artwork and coloring.”

According to the World Help website, Children of the World exists to give a face to the more than 1 billion orphaned children all over the world who have been affected by war, famine, poverty, unpreventable 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 US, learn another culture, improve their English skills, help other children around the world and share Christ’s love,” the World Help website said.

BASS is a feature reporter.