Today: Sunny 53/28  Tomorrow: Sunny 59/35

Tornadoes

kill 39 Friday

Tabitha Cassidy   t Cassidy@Liberty.edu

A series of twisters throughout the Midwest and South claimed the lives of 39 people.

More than 100 tornado warnings plagued the Midwest on March 5, according to the National Weather Service. The twisters spanned a total of 400 square miles and touched down in 18 states.

The twisters spread from the Gulf Coast to the Great Lakes and endangered millions of people, the National Weather Service said.

SEE TORNADO, A3

Ground breaking set for Jerry Falwell Library

Tabitha Cassidy   t Cassidy@Liberty.edu

The Jerry Falwell Library groundbreaking event for Liberty University, which was originally set to happen March 5, has been moved to Wednesday, March 7, because of inclement weather.

Jerry Falwell Jr., members of the administration and Board of Trustees will be among those breaking the ground of this new project this Wednesday.

According to a news release, the library is part of a $120-million construction transformation project that will take place over the next five years. The library accounts for $50 million of the $120 million.

Dean Carl Merat of Liberty's Integrated Learning Resource Center (ILRC) said that these individuals involved in this project are excited to see it finally take place.

"We are elated. It is the culmination of almost 15 months of work, and the groundbreaking represents the beginning of the literal building stage. We are definitely ready to move off of the page and into the true construction of this building," Merat said.

The library will be a four-story structure that encompasses 170,000 square feet of the college's campus, where the School of Business resides. It will overlook a new, man-made lake located behind the Vines Center.

According to Merat, there is currently no final decision about what will happen to the old library.

We anticipate the majority of the first floor will move to the new building, but the computer classrooms will remain in DeMoss, Merat said. The current plan calls for the Curriculum Library to remain in place on the first floor of DeMoss for now, and later join the School of Education in their new location when that is decided.

The ILRC and Liberty administrators are currently working with a nationally recognized library consultant to develop customer personas, journey maps and service blueprints for the new building.

"We hope to keep the impact on the current facilities to a minimum, but expect there will be several weeks we need to undergo before the building is open," Merat said. "We will do everything we can to keep everyone informed well in advance and all along the way."

CASSIDY is the news editor.

Tuesday, March 6, 2012

LibertyChampion.com
Abortion bill on Gov. McDonnell's desk

Former Massachusetts Gov. Mitt Romney

Justin Jones

Romney has promised a historic day if sworn into the presidency Jan. 20, 2013. Here is a list of actions that the new president plans to execute an executive order that grants seven to all 50 states to allow 50 states to start exercising their right to "Get Our Care." Under Romney's plans, the states will have the deciding power on healthcare for their citizens.

After his political candidates, Romney, like all political candidates, made the federal deficit an emphasis in his campaigns. Romney has pushed the agenda of his "sensible and immediate" goals to cut spending at 20 percent of the GDP. Every Democrat, however, has honored only 24 to 25 percent.

Romney has also claimed in Congress a bill that cuts spending of non-security matters by 7 percent throughout all departments. Another report indicated that it is either eliminating or reducing several laws, exceptions or aids. In addition to "Get Our Care," Republicans will work to inform abortion doctors to inform science gestational age of procedure and routinely by their-Del. McDonell-law that was championed to become law.

The current law requires a list of agencies that describe her unborn child "aborted to vile, cruel, disrespectful and frequently degree messages from those who disagrees with our position," the said. ""The individuals who are voices of extremism," Byron said. "They fill their phone messages with misinformation and joke of the woman's medical file at the clinic for seven years. Romney has also claimed in Congress a bill that cuts spending of non-security matters by 7 percent throughout all departments. Another report indicated that it is either eliminating or reducing several laws, exceptions or aids.

ACHIEVED — Del. Kathy Hyron poses.

Protesters arrested in Richmond

Virginia Capitol Police arrested 53 protesters who gathered at the Capitol on March 6,2012. The arrest was the result of an estimated 750 who gathered at the Capitol on March 6,2012.

The group was opposed by the Virginia's abortion regulation bill. The Associated Press said they had planned to march in the Executive Mansion because Gov. McDonnell is expected to sign the bill into law.

At liberty Capitol Square that morning
Born July 27, 1992, Joe enjoyed drawing, shooting, was awarded State honors in disc golf, fishing, paintball sports, speaking in many activities in support of the Philadelphia Ronald McDonald House, and continued to bring the faith into the classroom and develop the math and science, technology, engineering and mathematics education into the students within the STEM area of study. Joe had too much fun to realize his dream on March 5, 2012. Joe leaves a legacy of love, family, teammates and coaches. He has been a joy to all of us and our hearts and arms are aching as we wait to be reunited in heaven someday.

March 6, 2012

family and friends gathered to honor Libby's life and legacy on March 3 at Glasgow Church of Christ. Votant took place from 4:30 - 7:30 p.m., followed by a memorial. In lieu of flowers, donations are suggested to the Joe E. Feeley Scholarship Fund or the Joe Feeley family. February 27, 2012.

KATE POWLEY

Kate Powley is a news reporter.

March 8, 2012

So far, 46 registered teams are vying for a spot in the competition, and more teams are expected to sign up before the competition begins on March 24.

According to the VEX Robotics website, the competition is a two-day event held at Liberty University's Student Recreation Center, where teams will have to design and build their own robots to compete against other teams. The competition is open to students of all ages, and teams can have as many as 15 students.

The competition has a theme of "The Future of Flight," and teams will be tasked with designing a robot that can fly and perform certain tasks.

Teams will be judged on their robot's design, their ability to program the robot, and their ability to work as a team.

The competition is open to students from all over the world, and teams can register online at the VEX Robotics website. The competition is scheduled to take place on March 24 and 25 at Liberty University's Student Recreation Center.

This program is specifically tailored to bring the magic of robotics competitions to the campuses or at the Annex, wherever they live on campus or at the Annex, building amazing robots, competing in the competition, and learning life skills.

2012 in addition to just being an extraordinary year for sports, through their participation in the VEX Robotics Competition and their commitment to the students within their program who volunteered in support of their Christian community service. The students from the school of engineering at Liberty are also responsible for mentoring students within their competition.

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However, escalating pain prompted further investigation of Lwing's Sarcoma in January 2010. Joe endured the ravages of chemotherapy and surgery, which included the removal of eight ribs, a lumbar fusion and a pelvic osteotomy, to continue being a witness for Christ in spite of his suffering.

His baseball career culminated in 2006 when he graduated with honors in Liberal Arts. Feeley resumed his collegiate career in 2007 and 2008, speaking at events all over the nation and network of treasured friends, teammates and caregivers. his mother said.

Joe's legacy of love, family, teammates and coaches has been a joy to all of us, and our hearts and arms are aching as we wait to be reunited in heaven someday. Until then, we keep the knowledge of Joe's Legacy in our hearts and minds, and remember his life and legacy.

For those who attend Liberty University, the Philadelphia Ronald McDonald House, and the network of treasured friends, teammates and caregivers.

March 6, 2012

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For those who attend Liberty University, the Philadelphia Ronald McDonald House, and the network of treasured friends, teammates and caregivers.
MARCH 6, 2012

OPINION

By ANONYMOUS

Holden's behind the mask is over-zealous faculty, infested by bosses of the people who hold to the slogan, "The corrupt for us, the honest support us."

Cheri Honora

Cheri Honora

What began as a group of pranksters trolling the Web for leaks of political material has turned into one of the most powerful entities in the world. Anonymous, the freedom hacking collective is growing exponentially, both in capability and in numbers, but can't deny that they are just as powerful now as they were in 2006.

The image material printed about the group is no longer enough to properly analyze the amount of data with virtual limitless power. WikiLeaks has an eponymous website was overloaded with 2,000 attacks against the Church of Scientology, which is well known. Anonymous jocks, who hooded their offices, were enterprised by hacking their servers. On the other side of the coin, Anonymous has employed unorthodox tactics in some of its operations. Their denial of service attacks on the U.S. Department of Justice in January, incurred unexpected, but not uncountered, by throwing data onto their computers through an infected user, the website's http://wikileaks.org. The attacks were retaliation for the DOJ's lawsuit for plain text of well known site, wikiLeaks.

Assuming that most major celebrities only know a celebrity in their work and not personality in their lives, they are not taught by "liberal" professors, we can not expect them to have an equal opportunity at receiving an education. We are not in school, receiving an education, we are the students, they are the teachers. With that said, we can not have an equal opportunity at receiving an education. What a snob.

With that said, we can not have an equal opportunity at receiving an education. What a snob. A Facebook fired up about Houston's death

Facebook fired up about Houston's death

Troy Densley

Troy Densley

The same responses happened with every Michael Jackson post. However, a Michael Jackson death was first reported on Twitter, 15 percent of all Twitter posts mentioned "Whitney." On both social networks, messages were both good and bad. Mostly, fans retweeted about Whitney Houston's life and music while others referred to her death. She was famous for her singing ability as well as for dying up - fans knew she had talent. Sadly, many heroines die each day, but we don't care about their upbringings. A Simple Google search revealed that the number of Facebook-related references to Whitney Houston's death averaged seven million, less than five percent of those for Michael Jackson.

People argued on social media that the death of a celebrity "sends a strong message," but I don't think so. Of course, we didn't personally know all of the fallen soldiers who fought for our country, but there is no. We didn't personally know Lance Whitney Houston. However, because she was a prominent person, many felt as though they did know her. Another point of contention between the Facebook and Twitter communities is who ought to post on the site in the first place. According to the article, the majority of them focused on lowering the flag in honor of the fallen soldiers or police officers — for a "cuff link." However, people really missed the point about Houston's death by comparing it to troops and the lack of support and mourning. The comments were blown out of proportion, and in turn fueled confirmation bias between social media users.

As a Facebook friend of mine said, "I don't really care what, if anything will come of this. The death of Whitney Houston has to do with society, not Facebook or wikiLeaks, but one thing is clear: Whitney wins the whisperbot war with traffic and dozens of black faces and prank phone calls flooded their office, being interpreted and justified, according to颁布了 Medals of Honor for the fallen soldiers. On the other side, the coin, Anonymous has employed unorthodox tactics in some of its operations. Their denial of service attacks on the U.S. Department of Justice in January, incurred unexpected, but not uncountered, by throwing data onto their computers through an infected user, the website's http://wikileaks.org. The attacks were retaliation for the DOJ's lawsuit for plain text of well known site, wikiLeaks.

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DAURYS is an opinion writer.

Hackers team up with WikiLeaks

By Vicari Scott

Troy Densley

Troy Densley

As a rolled out of bed, only to have my alarm actually initially went off, I thought about how much this past week had gone by far and still had not seen. Seems like just yesterday that I was working away the day to reach my high school diploma. In case your math skills are like mine, that means graduation is less than 10 weeks away.

Facebook fired up about Houston's death

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March 6, 2012

OPINION

Liberty Champion/A5

Exposing the corruption of the Obama Administration

YOUNG AMERICA’S FOUNDATION’S
FREEDOM CONFERENCE: RALEIGH
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- Be inspired by the hope that lies in American values, free enterprise, and the Constitution.
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110 Eden Street · Herndon, Virginia 20170

For more information, please visit YAF.ORG.

YAF.ORG

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Student wins national competition

Public relations senior Keri Cook wins first place at PRWeek Student of the Year competition in New York City

Keri Cook

A native of New York City, Keri Cook was the only student from a University that had not won the Student of the Year competition. When she went to New York to receive her award, she was surprised to learn that her campaign was selected as the winner.

According to Widgeon, Cook was selected because of her campaign's focus on the community. She was praised for her ability to engage with the public and for her dedication to her work. The campaign was also noted for its creativity and for its ability to effectively communicate with the target audience.

Along with her campaign, Cook also received recognition for her academic achievements. She was named a finalist in the national competition for her work on a project that aimed to address a social issue in her community. Cook was praised for her ability to think critically and for her dedication to her work.

According to Widgeon, Cook's success can be attributed to her hard work and dedication. She was noted for her ability to stay focused and for her commitment to her goals. She was also praised for her ability to work effectively with others and for her ability to lead a team.

Cook is currently a senior at Liberty University, where she is studying public relations. She is also a member of the PRSSA chapter and serves on the executive board. She is looking forward to future opportunities in the public relations field and hopes to use her skills to make a positive impact in her community.

Keri Cook's campaign was selected as the winner of the PRWeek Student of the Year competition. She was praised for her ability to engage with the public and for her dedication to her work. She was also noted for her academic achievements and for her commitment to her goals. Cook is currently a senior at Liberty University, where she is studying public relations and serving on the PRSSA chapter's executive board.

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General Requirements for Donating Plasma:
- Be 18-64 Years of Age
- Valid Picture ID
- Be in Good Health
- Proof of Social Security Number
- Proof of Current Residence Postmarked

*Programs and fees vary by location.

Bring this ad and receive a $5 bonus when you complete your first donation!
Spc. Aaron Sterling, an advertising/public relations major at Liberty University, recently returned from his first deployment with the Army National Guard.

"It's like standing in front of a blast of 100-degree air. I swear, temperature at midnight, the troops were hit with a blast of air," Sterling said. "I didn't think there was anything else we could do out there," he said. "The people still need a lot of help, though. It sucks the life out of you," Sterling said. "And by a lot of stuff, I mean a lot of taxpayers' dollars." Sterling said Iranian munitions were a daily threat. They threw away a lot of stuff," Sterling said. "And by a lot of stuff, I mean a lot of taxpayers' dollars."

As for the end of the war, Sterling felt it was time for the U.S. to withdraw. "I think we had a couple million killed in action," he said. "I think we had a couple million casualties, but that was about it."

Another aspect of the war that Sterling thought went underreported was the large amount of munitions coming into the country both to blow us up and to be able to fly over that area and look at that hill that we could see every day," he said. "It's interesting watching the current political situation in Iran because I'm thinking, 'But I know they were killing us or at least trying to kill us,'" he said. "Another aspect of the war that Sterling thought was not lost on Sterling. "That was really cool, too, to look and see the historical impact of being among the last soldiers to fight in the war in Iraq and not lose. Sterling History remembered him on base, and he got the chance to visit historical sites that were once more than 4,000 years old. His base was near the ancient city of Ur, where Abraham came from, and he got the chance to walk where Abraham probably walked. "I guess I was probably three or four hours during the first Gulf War, so for me to be able to fly over that area and look at that hill that we could see every day — it was really cool," he said. "We had two first Gulf War veterans in our choppers with us, so that was kind of neat to have guys that were there with us."
National Cancer Institute released a study on March 6, 2012, that suggested MCAT predicted to become harder.

Lindsey Belk

Aspiring medical school students will take an updated and more difficult medical school entrance exam, the MCAT beginning in 2015. The Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC) recently approved significant changes to the MCAT, according to a press release by the Washington Post Company. The exam will add biological and social sciences sections, and remove the writing section.

The goal is to bring the MCAT in line with the current state of medical education.

News Briefs:

Miracle continued from A1

"Instead of making her normal, God is making Jennifer... and the whole belief system... family, minority, wedding," the Earnests said.

Currents Jennifer is a woman’s minion course at Liberty University. Because of her brain injuries, though, she is only able to make a few courses a time. Jennifer was recently showcased on NBC’s ‘Weekly’ exactly March 5th, and was then interviewed on the ‘Today & Friends’ show March 15th.

Stress changes to the MCAF, according to chair, Dr. David DeWitt. Liberty is in the midst of converting the test to MCAT 2015, DeWitt said. Currently, the test takes 5.5 hours, according to Koetje, Kaplan may provide enrichment programs for students not able to apply what they learned.

According to King and Campbell, MCAT may provide enrichment programs for students not able to apply what they learned. King expects students to take courses in psychology, sociology, philosophy, ethics and cross-cultural studies, according to the release. Currently, the 5-hour test is to be made up of two sections, and the changes will make the test more difficult.

"It will not be enough to just memorize everything...

— Dr. David DeWitt

"In 2015, the last update to the MCAT was in 1991 and there have been many changes in healthcare practice in the last 21 years, according to Koetje. In a Kaplan Test Survey of medical school admission offices, 73 percent of respondents agreed that the right changes are being made to the MCAT, Koetje said. According to Koetje, the new MCAT will prepare students in a neweward-minded way, but there is concern over the short timeline before the updated test comes out. Some universities are still making changes to their curriculum, so this will add more coursework for students.

The updated MCAT will be able to apply what you know, DeWitt said. Bowman encourages students to take the MCAT in the future to take a good prep course and practice tests often. According to Koetje, Kaplan may provide enrichment programs to better prepare students. They may take courses, or students should stay updated on new information to come about the new MCAT. More information about the MCAT can be found at the AAMC and the Kaplan and Twitter pages.

Birchfield is a news reporter.

MCAT predicted to become harder.

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"Instead of making her normal, God is making Jennifer... and the whole belief system... family, minority, wedding," the Earnests said.

Currents Jennifer is a woman’s minion course at Liberty University. Because of her brain injuries, though, she is only able to make a few courses a time. Jennifer was recently showcased on NBC’s ‘Weekly’ exactly March 5th, and was then interviewed on the ‘Today & Friends’ show March 15th.
Did you know the U.S. Army will give you an uninterrupted path to a college degree?

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Women's hockey cruise against Reston 8-2

Jay Sir
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Liberty University women's hockey team played the Reston Raiders and defeated them 8-2. Just minutes into the first period, Liberty's Stasy Christians had already put the first score on the board and it up the board moments later with an assist from Autumn Kucharczk. In the midst of her team's scoring streak, goalie Chantal Lischynski played a strong and consistent defensive game, blocking shot after shot. Graninger scored in a power play leading to Caity Pichols' penalty shot, which brought the period to a close.

In the second period began, Liberty's Dani Clevenger put yet another point on the board, bringing the score to 5-0 until the Raiders Lizzy Weingast got the first score for her team.

With sixteen minutes left on the clock, Lischynski suffered a minor injury that removed her from the game. Libby's Samatha Rupp was brought into the game.

Nearly after, there was a penalty shot made by Pichols. With seven minutes left on the clock, the Raiders Lizzie Wenzel got the first score for her team.

With eleven minutes left on the clock, Loewendyke suffered a minor injury that removed her from the game. Libby's Samatha Rupp was brought into the game.

The game finished with less than two minutes left on the clock. Coming through over span was Pichols. The final score was 8-2.

"The girls are pretty focused right now because we are heading into nationals," coach Paul Bloomfield said. "We may be a stronger team than this team, which means the tendency is to get a few goals ahead and lie off, but I stress to the girls that you have to stay focused on your game."

The team maintains its focus and competitive nature despite several injuries throughout the season. The Lady Flames have finished the season ranked in the top five of the ACHA polls. They will soon be heading to Wooster, Ohio. The team has been able to win 8-2 Overtime four nights.

The National Championship game is March 11.

GRIGG is a news reporter.

OVERWHELMED — Liberty in the past four games has only allowed one run. The Flames look forward to facing Old Dominion on March 6.

Eagles torched by Flames

Liberty outscores Coppin State 29-1 in their three-game series

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Libby scored off all phases of its game in a weekend sweep of Coppin State. Strong pitching and defense in game one and finding bats in games two and three resulted in an overall 29-1 margin.

Libby scored off all phases of its game in a weekend sweep of Coppin State. Strong pitching and defense in game one and finding bats in games two and three resulted in an overall 29-1 margin.

Game 1

Hot off of a big win against the University of Virginia, 34th ranked Cavaliers, the Liberty baseball team delivered an electrifying shutout of the Coppin State University Eagles in game one of the Flames second home series.

Even though the bats were quiet for most of the game, Libby's pitching was key in the 2-0 victory over the Eagles.

Pittcher John Niggli was the star of the ballpark after his nine inning effort to even his first start for the Flames.

Niggli maintained his consistency and composure and finished the game with only two allowed hits, two walks and a base on balls. The win brought his first win in four starts.

"I knew I couldn't give up any runs in the close game," Niggli said. "Overall, it was a good day."

The Flames obtained the lead early in the first inning when designated hitter Tyler Cox sacrificed on a fly ball, scoring Ian Parmley after the first batter had a bunt.

The Flames scored a 14-0 win in the second series.

Game 2

The Flames baseball team earned a decisive 14-0 win in the second game of Saturday's doubleheader at Worthington Stadium against the Coppin State University Eagles.

All nine players in the lineup crossed the plate in a 10-run feeding frenzy. "I don't think I've ever been a part of anything like that, at least not since early in high school," said Liberty Baseball Coach Paul Bloomfield.

"I thought that I did pretty good," Niggli said. "I just got the ball in play and I was fortunate to get two hits in the second game. I am not really known for my bats, but I'll take a single when I can get it."

Game 3

The Flames baseball team earned a decisive 14-0 win in the second game of Saturday's doubleheader against Coppin State University Eagles.

"It was nice to see everybody get hot," said TreY Wimmer.

Closer hit a one-hopper shut off the corner and hit a triple and then made his way home for the last run of the game off of a sacrifice fly by third baseman Dathan Snyder.

"I thought that I did pretty good," Snyder said. "I just got the ball in play and I was fortunate to get two hits in the second game. I am not really known for my bats, but I'll take a single when I can get it."

Both teams had nine hits and four runs in the game.

"I don't think I've ever been a part of anything like that, at least not since early in high school," said Liberty Baseball Coach Paul Bloomfield.

Wimmer led the team with three hits and three RBIs. The Flames walked off to a 14-0 win in the first game of the day.

"I didn't think we'd ever been a part of anything like that, at least not since early in high school," said Liberty Baseball Coach Paul Bloomfield.
Track sweeps Big South
Third consecutive double-crowning for indoor teams

Andrew Woolfolk
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Another year meant another title for the Liberty Flames track and field squad. The Flames recently claimed the top spot on both the men's and women's side at the 2012 Big South Indoor Track and Field Championships, marking the seventh consecutive year that both teams were crowned team champions at the conference title meet.


"We have a good thing going on at Liberty Athletics," coach Tom Tolma said. "We are a unique school with a unique track program and we have been able to do pretty well with the most going for us of any Big South school that I know of."

On the men's side, Liberty dominated as they have traditionally done, having won 15 of the indoor conference championships that have been held here in the Big South. The Flames ended with 114.5 points, 39 points higher than their nearest competitors, Charlotte, South Carolina, and Radford.

With their 15 straight titles, the team was a school record for most consecutive championships won by any sports team in the history of the Big South.

The commanding win can be attributed to the unexpected successes by the team. Freshman sprinter Leon Rabin has been the biggest of late this year, winning the 60-meter dash, winning the event by 0.01 seconds, and Liberty claimed the top spot in the high jump and the pole vault.

Liberty's improvements over the season were due to the men's team putting in a lot of work by themselves, said Tolma.

"I'm really pleased with our men's program this year. The track team worked so hard and had a lot of improvement. Obviously, the day was by the team's shot put squad, which had four of the top six scores in the men's division, and they did a lot of work this season."

When the Flames were in the lead at the league championships, the coach said, their ability to build and bring back the advantage was key for their success.

"If you can build your lead then allow the other team to get back, so that's something our team is really good at," Tolma said.

Sophomore Daniel Burke also chipped in for the Flames with four goals, while fellow sophomores Miguel Lobato and Kurt Tobias each had two goals, respectively.

"For us - being a big guy to show ourselves that we can beat guys and not let up," said Burke. "Last year, we would have big leads then allow the other team to get back before we'd score another goal."

The Flames are set to play in four consecutive days over spring break before returning home March 16 to square off against the Savannah College of Art and Design.

MEYERS is a sports reporter.
Ending the season on a good note

Omotola career high 22 points and key free throws late, help the Lady Flames put away the Highlanders

Kyle Harvey
libertyflames.com

Perhaps it was due to the 15 minute delay to the start of the game, or perhaps it was because Liberty already owned the top seed for the upcoming Big South tournament going into Friday's contest, but Liberty did not play to its best basketball of the year against Radford. They did, however, play well enough to finish the season with a 72-60 victory.

Senior side sophomore forward Jas-tola and Devon Brown scored in the double digits from the free-throw line and in aggressive play at the boards. As a team, Liberty was 31-39 shooting free throws for a 79.5 percent average.

TOURNAMENT PUSH 'The Lady Flames end the season with a 72-60 victory

LaKendra Washington: 'I clipped in with eight points and Gardner in the wake of se-nior Avery Ward's playing time in the last 56 seconds sealed the victory.

Redshirt juniors Tolu Omoto-la and Devon Brown scored in double figures from the free-throw line, with Omotola earning a career high 19 points off of 14 attempts, and Brown draining 11 of her 13 attempts. As a result, Liberty was 31-39 shooting free throws for a 79.5 percent aver-age.

Omotola and Brown, alongside sophomore forward Jas-minnie Carter, led the Flames with nine rebounds each. Senior Donika Date added seven for a total of 18 rebounds tonight. I would like to compliment Jasmine Gardner. She did an exceptional job. I think Devon Brown had nine re-bounds and Danika Dake wasn't too far behind with seven, they were really active on the boards tonight and we needed that," head coach Carey Green said.

The emergence of Omota-la was asst. sports editor

Derrick Battle
huntingtoncollege.edu

As a 6-foot-2 guard, Omotola is a do-everything player. She scored 22 points in the second half to help push the Lady Flames to victory.

"I don't think that we're good enough to win in Big South, but we won 15 games in a row," Green said.

The players echoed their coach's remarks in regards to reaching for the tournament.

"It's a good preparation for us in the future because in play-offs you just don't know what to ex-pect. People are going to come out and scrath, pull hair and do everything. We're not so sure of what we're doing," Omotola said. "We're going to win it (Big South) for our seniors and we're just com-ing back, to take what we last year."

The Flames will begin the Big South Tournament on March 9 as the top seed in the eight-team tournament. The event will be hosted by High Point University in High Point, N.C.

Editorial: All Braun No Brains: Is system flawed?

Harvey is a sports reporter.

March 6, 2012

Liberty Champion/B3
Disc Golf team qualifies for nationals

By Paul Frasier

It hasn’t taken long for coach Steve Bowman and the Liberty University disc golf team to make their mark on the sport. In their first year as an organized club team, the Flames men’s and women’s teams have already qualified for the National Tournament and Saturday, March 3, hosted a National Qualifying Tournament. The winner put an automatic bid in the forty-team field of the April 13 National Tournament in North Augusta, SC. The forty-team field is made up of teams from all over the country, most of whom have been doing this much longer than the Flames.

In fact, they had already qualified last semester at a different tournament in Morgantown, WV, for the Flames saw this as a great opportunity to promote their program.

“This was just a great avenue for us to have this brand new course and build new team and host an event of this caliber,” coach Steve Bowman said. “This has been a tremendous blessing having all the crew from club sports helping us get everything set up and running. We’ve had the grounds crew out working this whole week and month.”

The tournament consisted of six-team fields. West Virginia, Appalachian State, East Tennessee State, Eastern Carolina, UNCG-Chapel Hill, and of course, Liberty Flames. Coach Bowman saw the tournament as a great opportunity to get his team experience in a big event, compared to when the team qualified for nationals this past October when only four players were able to participate.

Even though his team had already qualified, and some would say the team was taking it easy, coach Bowman likes where his team is right now.

“It felt like we’re in a good place. We are coming together really well as a team and playing really well,” Bowman said. Team captain Jose Merat echoes his confidence in where the team is at heading into Nationals.

“I definitely feel we’re headed in the right direction,” Merat said. “It’s going to be tough, there are some stacked teams that have professional coaches and players that travel year round, but I would definitely say we are determined to reach our goal as a team and go from there.”

That goal being the automatic bid into next year’s tournament awarded to the top sixteen finishers in the tournament.

“I would love to see us make a run for that top sixteen, and that would be great for ‘in for being one of our first year as a team,’ Merat said.

With all this success in the team’s first year in existence, it is safe to say that coach Bowman and the Flames are going to be making their presence known on the National stage for quite some time.

FRAZIER is a sports reporter.
**Project leads to opportunity**

Public relations majors Ashley Kelly and Chelsea Dawson make final round in GM ad competition

Stendra Allesey
kelly@virginia.edu

A class project has led two public relations students to have a chance at winning over $1,000 and an internship at Albie Media + Marketing. Ashley Kelly and Chelsea Dawson are in the running to win the John Caples Student Campaign of the Year Award, based on an assignment that required them to create a campaign for GM.

"Our professor, Dr. Angela Wigodke required us to enter the competition as part of our class," Kelly said. "Kelly, who graduated in May, along.

She entered their project "College Discount," with her partner, senior Chelsea Dawson, for the John Caples Student Campaign of the Year Award, based on an assignment that students have a chance at winning.

"I was planning a wedding, working on another campaign, and working part time," Kelly said. "Chelsea was busy with school, work and extracurricular activities so while we gave the campaign our all, of course, felt we could always do better."

"We did not hear back from the agency until over two months later and we were so thankful that our hard work paid off," Dawson said.

"I was greatly encouraged to discover that our hard work, endless study nights and time were opening the door to an amazing opportunity," Kelly said.

Both students attribute their success to Dr. Welkyn, their professor. "If it weren’t for her, then I wouldn’t be a finalist," Kelly said that she had posted to submit our ideas outside the class. "While we came up with the ideas and campaign, she provided us with the tools and knowledge to implement those ideas," Kelly said.

The girls encourage other students to enter the competition this year. "I hope that the girls will enter the competition this year and maybe we can do it," Kelly said. "I hope that the girls will enter the competition this year and maybe we can do it," Kelly said.

"Kelly is a feature reporter.

**Euphoric Euphonium**

Acclaimed musician performs for small crowd

Melissa Gibbey
maggie@redcross.org

During his visit to Liberty University, Dr. David Stern performed a euphonium and trombone duet in the Olds Echoes Auditorium on Monday, Feb. 27.

Dr. Kevin Chiarizzi, an associate professor of bass and music education at Liberty, introduced Stern as a personal longtime friend and fellow musician.

Stern is the current director of Instrumental Activities at Anderson University in South Carolina.

He earned his doctorate in Fine Arts and Music Performance from Texas Tech University and his Bachelor of Music Education from the University of Colorado.

Stern teaches tuba, trumpet, euphonium and trombone.

He began his music career in the fifth grade and attributes it to a chance conversation with a Brans woman.

"Marie Brown, who is one of my teachers," Stern said. "We did not hear back from the agency until over two months later and we were so thankful that our hard work paid off.

"I was greatly encouraged to discover that our hard work, endless study nights and time were opening the door to an amazing opportunity," Kelly said.

Both students attribute their success to Dr. Welkyn, their professor. "If it weren’t for her, then I wouldn’t be a finalist," Kelly said that she had posted to submit our ideas outside the class. "While we came up with the ideas and campaign, she provided us with the tools and knowledge to implement those ideas," Kelly said.

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"Kelly is a feature reporter.

**SWEET MUSIC — Musician David Stern visited Liberty, Feb. 27 for a "Meet the Artist" concert."
Dog-friendly park to come to the 'burg

Melissa Gibbys
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A PLACE FOR POOCH — A new dog-friendly park is coming to the Lynchburg area, offering a fenced in area for man’s best friend to run free.

Lynchburg canine owners and their human friends are being asked to share their thoughts about the upcoming construction of Backstreet Creek Athletic Area.

The park, which will be built when funding efforts have been completed, will provide a fenced area where dogs can main healthy.

The park’s mission is to establish and maintain a dog-friendly park open to the general public where dog owners may exercise their dogs and become involved in educational programs promoting healthy lifestyles.

“We have had a really great response from the community,” saidスタイロームの主任 dna Thom Starcher.

“We even have Liberty students helping out. It will be a great place to socialize with both dogs and other people.”

As an owner of a German Shepherd, Starcher is one of many dog owners in the area with the desire to see such a project completed.

Starcher serves on the board for the Friends of Lynchburg Dog Park, Inc., which is a non-profit corporation that was founded in order to honor the building of the much-anticipated park and to partner with the City of Lynchburg.

He explained that the park would need an initial $30,000 to open. However, he clearly stated that any money would be used on the park.

“The main concern was money, and people would be able to see if the city would support such an endeavor,” Starcher said.

In addition, the human era also facilitated events such as the “All I Want for Christmas is a Dog Park” Camp and the upcoming St. Patrick’s Day Irish Festival with the Lynchburg Rotary Club and a $5,000 grant from the Greater Lynchburg Community Trust.

The committee researched the feasibility of such a park and subsequently submitted the Dog Park Feasibility Study to the Lynchburg City Council on February 2010. The study thoroughly explained all elements needed to build and maintain a feasible dog park, including everything from fundraising ideas, rules and regulations concerning the park, and necessary facility elements like restrooms and separate areas for small dogs.

Results from a survey given to potential patrons of the park found that 10 percent would support a dog park in the area and 41 percent surveyed said they would contribute monthly stimuli. Some survey participants wrote recommendations for the future park such as the inclusion of professional staff to monitor dogs and handle conflicts.

Starcher has high hopes for the future of the park as volunteers and dog owners continue to pour into the project.

“I am very excited. The community has been a great help,” said one dog park visitor.

To learn more, visit http://lynchburgpark.org.

GIBBYS is a news reporter.
Charles Billingsley releases new CD

A new studio album with original music, Charles Billingsley releases new CD ‘Never Forsaken’ on March 6. A live-streaming concert will be aired on March 6. The CD’s titles include: “Ain’t Nothing Road” with The City Harmonic, Abandon, & Anthem Lights and “I Am 300.”

NEW DESIRE – TRBC’s worship leader calls the church to wake up in his new CD released March 6

“Whether it’s someone right beside us in our neighborhood, or half-way around the world, it’s our responsibility to meet the needs of these people, physically and spiritually.”

– ADAM LANCASTER

So, whether it’s someone right beside us in our neighborhood, or half-way around the world, it’s our responsibility to meet the needs of these people, physically and spiritually.”

– ADAM LANCASTER

So whether it’s someone right beside us in our neighborhood, or half-way around the world, it’s our responsibility to meet the needs of these people, physically and spiritually.”

– ADAM LANCASTER

Most of the inspiration for Billingsley’s wide track “Never Forsaken” stemmed from his experiences in Guatemala. For him, the song is a call to action for listeners. “The song ‘Never Forsaken’ is for those people in the world who are hungry, lost, afraid, misunderstood, alone, who cry out everywhere for something called hope.”

Bilingsley said in a news release, “They aren’t going to see this album. This record is for the people who will hear it in order to do something about it. The project has been ‘very fun, fulfilling and rewarding,’” according to Lancaster.

“The challenge is to make sure those things don’t sound like a message and that the heart of the artist is still heard in the end,” Lancaster said. “I believe we achieved that with this CD. Album projects are always a lot of fun to do, especially when you’re in the middle writing and creating the thing, and this one was no different. In something, we’re all afraid of.”

Billingsley’s recent shift in focus was the result of a personal struggle. In 2009, an aggravated blood vessel burst, leaving a polyp on his vocal chords. Voice surgery was a procedure that forced him to allow the singer to continue in his vocal career, according to the news release.

“I said that polyp on my voice to remove it,” Billingsley said in a news release. “Before this, I used my voice for music. Now I want to use it for significance.”

SULLIVAN is a graduate assistant.
Seeking to solve the water crisis
Local teen partners with Causelife to bring clean water to Guatemala

Desiree Wheeler, thecafe@odu.edu

After seeing the physical needs of the Guatemalan people on a church mission trip, Smith said Lynchburg resident Hunter Smith has decided to pursue funds and awareness for their cause.

"While I was there in Guatemala, I fell in love with the country and its people," Smith said. "When I came back, I really wanted to do something to help the Guatemalans. A couple weeks after the trip, I wanted to pursue the idea of raising money for a well.

Now planning the Agua Pura 5K, which will take place March 10 on Liberty University's campus, Smith hopes to use the money from the event to provide clean water and dig wells for the people of Guatemala after a previous mission trip where he witnessed an urgent need for clean water sources over the mountains he saw.

"Last summer I went on a trip with Causelife to Guatemala and my youth group at Thomas Road Baptist Church. That was my first time outside the country and my eyes were really opened to the poverty and sickness that was there," Smith said. "It's one thing to hear about or look at pictures of the poverty here at home, but another to see it firsthand. It changes how you feel about things. It made me appreciate the things we take for granted, like clean water.

Smith is partnering again with the Causelife organization for this event. Causelife's focus is providing water to people around the world who are not able to access clean water.

TAKING ACTION — Hunter Smith was charged by a trip to Guatemala and now hopes to bring clean water to the country by raising money for wells with the Agua Pura 3K.

"Through events, such as the Children of the World concerts, many are becoming Mission minded and realize and appreciate the things we take for granted, like clean water. It comes out of our showrooms and our faucets. We have water fountains to drink from that are accessible to us just about everywhere," Smith said.

After visiting Guatemala with his church, Smith said he realized that water is a necessity, not a right.

"Main Guatemalans get their water from contaminated sources, which can cause diseases and potentially kill them. Personally, I have a heart for that country, and I want to help them physically and spiritually with the truth of the Gospel," Smith said.

It's been amazing to see how God has guided me in every detail."

The Agua Pura 5K run will take place at Liberty's outdoor track in Green Hall. The cost is $30 to participate. Refreshments will be provided to registered runners. Additionally, all participants who register prior to March 10 will receive a complimentary T-shirt.

"A well costs $1000 and will provide clean water for up to 500 people a day around 10 years," Smith said. "Right before Christmas, I sold both a pair of shoes and a jacket and made a little over $100. Since, I've been able to see God provide over $8000 toward a well through me and my friend, Hunter Nash. We are now hoping to drill a third well with the proceeds from the Agua Pura 3K.

Liberty University and TRBC have assisted in Smith's planning efforts, providing both the facilities to host the 3K run and promotional support for the event.

"I believe that God has called us to help the needy and broken in a way of showing God our love and showing the world the love of Christ," Smith said.

For more information on registration or volunteering for the run, contact Hunter Smith at live4jesus.h@gmail.com. To register for the Agua Pura 3K run, visit www.eco-xsports.com or go to the Aid Station in Barnes, Va.

WHEELER is a feature reporter.

SA to host ‘God’s Not Dead’ tour

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The Christian rock group, Newsboys, will bring their signature sound to the Vine Center at 8 p.m. Saturday, March 24, as part of Compassion International’s “God’s Not Dead” tour.

“We’re very excited to be hosting the Newsboys again,” Student Activities SA Promotions Manager Megan Smiley said. "It’s been a while since we’ve had the Newsboys and I’m definitely excited for the enthusiasm this tour will bring.

The concert, featuring Australia’s erstwhile pop-papers, now led by Liberty University Alumnus Michael Tait, will include supporting acts The City Harmonic, Anberlin and Anjelah Johnson. Tickets are $20 in advance for Liberty students and $22 for the general public, according to SA’s website.

“We look for bands that fit within our mission and that we know that students will enjoy," Ward said. "This concert takes place during CFAM, so it’s important that we bring in a tour that caters to the overall purpose of the weekend, and this tour does exactly that.

The ‘God’s Not Dead’ tour, bearing the same name as the most recent Newsboys album, runs from Jan. 12 to May 6 and will stop in multiple states across the nation.

SA ties in to do a giveaway a day that promotes our upcoming remix, and Newsboys is at the top of our promotion right now," Ward said. "We want to get the word out about this show, and it’s only $8 for Liberty students, so it’s a price they can afford.

There are four awesome bands coming out with such a diverse student body, I think there will be at least one band that everyone can hope about. We Student Activities have been preparing for this show since late fall 2011, so I’m ready for it to be here.

For more information on the “God’s Not Dead” Tour, including video content and additional tour dates, visit www.newsboys.com.

GARCIA is a feature reporter.