Mass. campus not for Liberty
Administration has declined the offer to expand into New England

Brittany Laird
b Laird@liberty.edu

After parking a visit to the campus, Liberty officials have reached a decision regarding their interest in the Northfield, Mass. property being offered by the Greens family.

"The campus was considered for house to house in the Liberty University's Equestrian Center will continue with construction throughout the summer," Caroline Martin, the official barn manager, has become the "go-to" person for relations between the barn and the management of the university.

"We have accomplished so much so far with the center. There is still much work to be done. This summer, the center continues to plan to work on pasture fencing for the area to be able to hold more horses. We have 11 new horses and hope in the near future to house up to 48. The main entrance to the barn will hopefully be completed this summer, along with parking and a cross country ring and the dressage arena," Martin said.

The barn is focused on making all horse disciplines feel welcome and at home.

"We aren't just particularly great at just one area of riding. We are very good at a bunch of different things," Martin said.

The barn recently held a CFAW open house where potential students could look around and learn more about horses. This past CFAW, over 65 visitors attended and showed great interest in being a part of the facility.

Students who do not know much about horses or would like a chance to experience them more than just appreciate being included.

Godwin describes the campus as not only a beautiful location, but a historic one as well. He and the other officials are aware of the Greens family's response to their decision.

"We're very grateful and appreciation to the Greens for offering this opportunity to Liberty along with, we understand, several other institutions," Godwin said. "At just appreciate being included in that number of schools that the Greens ever considered taking possession in whole or in part of that institution."

LAIRD is a news reporter.

Proposed tax hikes, fuel debate
Omar Adams
omaradams@liberty.edu

The proposed city budget for Lynchburg, Va. has raised some controversy within special groups working inside the city limits.

While the City Council seeks to preserve a balanced budget by raising various taxes to help offset some service fees, restaurant owners worry about the loss of patronage from the proposed tax increases, and local property owners fear they will be forced to pass the costs on to tenants.

According to the proposed operating budget for the Fiscal Year 2013, tax increases amount to a one percent increase in city meals tax. A $.10 increase in real property tax and service changes, such as a storm water management fee, are expected to increase.

According to City Manager Kimball Parrie, these tax and service increases are put in place in order to balance the city budget and to help avoid cutting back on public services. Specifically, the meal tax increase will go toward helping rebuild Heritage High School.

The article on A3 will be part of a series ran on taxes in the following weeks with the Liberty Champion.

See T A X E S, A3

Upcoming Voting Dates
April 9, 2012 — last day of voter registration for City Council election
April 24, 2012 — last day to apply for absentee ballots by mail
May 21, 2012 — U.S. Senate Primary-absentee voting begins
June 12, 2012 — U.S. Senate Primary
Liberty University student groups, and some are taking advantage of the courses offered in the summer to try and knock out some course requirements. I\'ve had a Liberty University student group that will go in place. The core, Professor Alexander S. The Visual Communications Arts department is one of many that moved to the fourth floor.

**Summer class preview**

Melissa Gibby

Registration is now open for most Liberty University student groups, and some are taking advantage of the courses offered in the summer to try and knock out some course requirements. According to Liberty University's Summer Programmes, the majority of students now reside in Liberty Hall, according to Rowlette. The price of classes is $325 per credit hour, which they\'re spending on courses, and getting the extra training time.

"Many classes are that it allows the student to explore their degree program. Lizzy Falwell Library and a lawn will go in place. The core, Jerry Falwell Library and a lawn will go in place. The core, Melissa Gibby

According to Charles Spencer, director of planning and construction, Liberty Hall is currently in the process of being demolished entirely, signaling a new era of expanded development. In the next few years, Jerry Falwell Library and a lawn will go in place. The core, Jerry Falwell Library and a lawn will go in place. The core, Assistant Professor of Biology Jarrett has said. "It's in a very convenient location, and the move is really crucial," Jarrett said. "It's really important to have the professors who are interested in doing this, they were really excited for me." Garrett said.

But the symposium meeting has more to offer students than just to showcase work and practice professionalism. "If you want to go into research, this is really crucial," Garrett said. "It's really important to have the professors who are interested in doing this, they were really excited for me." Garrett said.

Furthermore, Isaacs and the other students from all departments of the college of arts and sciences. The goal of the symposium is to allow students to showcase their work and to provide a platform for them. Students will be observing their dissertation topics that have data and models that are relevant to their research. For their research, or other demonstrations in a professional atmosphere. Students will be observing their dissertation topics that have data and models that are relevant to their research. For their research, or other demonstrations in a professional atmosphere. Students will be observing their dissertation topics that have data and models that are relevant to their research. For their research, or other demonstrations in a professional atmosphere. Students will be observing their dissertation topics that have data and models that are relevant to their research. For their research, or other demonstrations in a professional atmosphere. Students will be observing their dissertation topics that have data and models that are relevant to their research. For their research, or other demonstrations in a professional atmosphere.

Preparation — Student Rebecca Garrett prepares for her presentation.

"We\'re making sure the school facilities and everyone on campus take care of those in need, and in the end, it will be seamless to hang out with other international students," Chemistry professor Nancy Richardson is just one of the many professors who had to pack up their classrooms to the Fourth floor. Richardson says she\'s excited to work around campus, Spice remains that a bit more distance from construction crews. It\'s a stressful time for the future.

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March 6, 2012

The proposal is suggesting a one percent increase to raise current local taxes from 9.3 percent to 9.5 percent for all meals bought in the City of Lynchburg. Payne said, "Without cutting services to produce a balanced budget for all meals bought in the Fiscal Year budget report the proposed city budget is more expensive if the current rent fees to make up the difference will have to be eliminated, some of those to produce a balanced budget," Payne said.

While restaurant owners, he said, are already one of the highest in Virginia -- Lynchburg currently has an 11.5 percent meals tax -- many restaurant owners, Payne said, if the proposal is accepted, Lynchburg would tie for Conover with the second highest meals tax in Virginia and would fall slightly behind the Town of Orange, which charges eight percent before state tax is added.

"Eleven percent for Orange is already a little bit embarrassing to explain," Plunkett said. "My customers look for the answer, because it's on the bill."

A report by the Tax Foundation looking at 30 of the United States' largest cities and their meals tax rates. Compared, according to the proposed tax to have some local US cities, he said, "We have the highest meals tax in the country and we're at the bottom of the market area which has many major in-laws, but that fact public services we have here and there have lower meals tax than us."

"You might come from a major metropolitan area that has more major infrastructure and public services than we have here and there have lower meals tax than us."

According to Martin, if the budget is accepted, Liberty University's Flames cash would not be worth so much. "If the meals tax goes 100 percent we saw costs since personal make the same percentage of the taxpayer's burden, Payne said. "Sure, we get a lot of people that school is, they're the ones spending money, they're spending money on more important things."

"Sure, we get a lot of people that school is, they're the ones spending money, they're spending money on more important things."

Lynchburg native said safety and parking are more pressing concerns than dedicated revenue increases. Jones does not like to take his wife to dinner downtown because the limited parking available is now metered, and he thinks it is a danger. Apartment tenants, including local college students, will end up paying the property tax increase themselves. Jones already pays $97.00 in real estate taxes on his apartments, according to the City's Assessor's Office, and the increase will cost him an extra $1.7 million, and he will have to pay the costs until current leases expire, but then Jones and other landlord owners will be able to increase fees to make up the difference.

"What people don't realize is that the university doesn't have to pay per se -- they pay along to the consumer," Jones said. "Everybody's going to have to pay it." And Jones feels the most significant danger affecting local residents and their decisions on where to spend their dollar is a higher meals tax. He said residents daily commute to work will have to pay the costs on their wallets.

The city attempts to balance its budget with the highest meals tax in Virginia. The Lynchburg native said parking and more pressing concerns than dedicated revenue increases. Jones does not like to take his wife to dinner downtown because the limited parking available is now metered, and he thinks it is a danger. Apartment tenants, including local college students, will end up paying the property tax increase themselves. Jones already pays $97.00 in real estate taxes on his apartments, according to the City’s Assessor’s Office, and the increase will cost him an extra $1.7 million, and he will have to pay the costs until current leases expire, but then Jones and other landlord owners will be able to increase fees to make up the difference.

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The city attempts to balance its budget with the highest meals tax in Virginia.
America needs better Easter mascot

Troy DeYoung

Officially, Easter—commonly known as the holiest day of the Christian liturgical year—is the recognition of Jesus' resurrection. But, in America, Easter is also celebrated through the use of a speckled, sugar-decorated bunny that helps fatten our slightly illusioned view of baby bunnies and gardeners.

And the use of a candy-giving bunny to drum up the greatest in human history is a bit 'much'. It's a boost to grassy knolls throughout lawn and gardeners.

Just because you think there is nothing profound about the Easter Bunny doesn't mean you should tell a bunny a secret. We, at the Champion, are all entitled to our opinions.

And opinion there are going to be some disagreements. Opinion writing is about getting people to stop and think, to consider themselves and their own arguments.

Voting is, in my opinion, the longevity of a nation. It is a person deciding, through the election process, if he is politically aligned with the constitution or political party. You say about what else it means to participate in the democratic process, but I'm not sure. I do not agree.

As a student, I would rather have any of the "not-so-great" Republican candidates sitting in the Commander in Chief chair than the current President. I will always sign my name to their ticket.

It is not about finding a perfect candidate—that is a fairy tale longing that simply will never come true.

The only perfect leader is Jesus Christ, and until the day comes that he reigns favor to utilize our right to vote in a way that allows to run for President. And until the day comes that he reigns and followers under an imperfect leader favorable to wave their flags to combat human trafficking.

That's a great start by our Commander in Chief. I admire the president's perspective on this topic. It is encouraging to know that he doesn't ignore dilemmas like this that threaten the innocence and safety of women and children.

This period of the barrier exercise could be used to hold a little more gravity.

Unfortunately, despite new laws, Americans are still not aware of Easter's true purpose. According to a recent poll, 35% of Americans have no idea what Easter is. An even larger percentage, 72%, believe that Easter is a celebration of spring. In reality, Easter is a celebration of new life. It is a solemn observance of the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.

But, as with the sleeping, Jesus' resurrection is not just a one-time event. The significance of Easter lies in its continued message to the world. It is a reminder that even in the darkest of times, there is hope for redemption and forgiveness.

In this way, Easter is a powerful reminder of the power of faith and the importance of believing in something greater than ourselves. It is a celebration of the enduring nature of the human spirit and the resilience of the human heart.

Therefore, we should continue to support and celebrate the true meaning of Easter, as it is a cherished tradition that provides comfort and hope to millions of people around the world.
Eighty years dedicated to God

Bible guide author and Liberty professor prepares to celebrate birthday

By Brittany Laird
kh.com

Dr. Harold Willmington has spent half of his life at Liberty University. Turning 80 this week, Willmington has been with Liberty since the second year after its inception and his impact on the university is immeasurable. His students over the years.

Willmington is a man of many accomplishments, including pastor, author, teacher, dean and visiting professor, according to his biographical information.

He works as an author began many years prior to the release of his first book—before he had considered writing a book.

“I decided when I entered the ministry that I really needed to be able to think my way through the Bible,” Willmington said. “I leamed more about the Word of God, he gathered 60 sheets of paper and dedicated one to each book of the Bible. On each page he wrote everything that he thought that he as a pastor needed to know about each specific book. After finishing the Bible, he recorded 12 sheets of paper dedicated to the great doctrines, according to Willmington.

“When I finished, I had 18 pages of world famous information,” Willmington continued.

What became the basis for Willmington’s Guide to the Bible,” was taken from those sheets. He has written 20 books beginning in 1974 with “The King and Coming” and continuing through the year. His most recent book is “What the Bible Says About the Teams.”

The back of this book describes it as being WILMINGTON – Harold Willmington left poses with Jonathan Falwell right for a photo.

Library Home Bible Institute, now known as the Willmington School of the Bible. Since 1976, over 120,000 students have signed up to be a part of this institute. These students have come from all 50 states and 40 different countries over the years, according to Willmington.

“I have been able to accomplish, Willmington does not take credit for how far he has come. He believes that the true hero is his wife, Sue Willmington.

Sue Willmington took on the deaf ministries at TRBC in 1972

when his family moved to Lynchburg.”

“The years I was known as the husband of the deaf interpreter,” Harold Willmington said.

The Willmington’s will have been married for 53 years in the beginning of April. Together, they have three grandchildren, Nathan, Carter and Abigail, all of whom are involved with Liberty University or Liberty Christian Academy in one way or another, according to Harold Willmington.

“Harold is always looking for ways to invest in the students of Liberty University. He loves interacting with students and learning more about each one as an individual.”

His advice to students is that they seek the Lord by not only reading but also searching the structures in the Bible. In doing this, students have no reason to worry about their futures.

“We don’t know what the future holds, but we know who holds the future,” Harold Willmington said.

He believes that he has had on the Liberty community reaches not only students, but faculty as well. Eva Middlelon, his administrative assistant, describes him as a humble, kind and generous man with a great sense of humor.

“It’s been my privilege to work for him, and I can say that sincerely.

“He walks the talk. I’ve learned so much from him.”

Laird is a news reporter.

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Students that rely on the GLTC to get them back and forth from campus will not need to worry about transportation next fall, according to Martin.

"Regardless of what happens with GLTC, it's our intention that the students can continue to ride the city's GLTC routes and to Liberty for free next year," Martin said.

Liberty is planning to expand service to commuters in several areas, according to Martin. Route 86 — service to Old Mill, Freedom, Walden Park and Park Place apartments — will be cut out of the service. However, buses running Old Forest Road, Walden Park and pool rides will be converted into a commuter/apartment park-and-ride lot that will operate hourly from 6 a.m. to 9 p.m. Liberty is also designing "innovative" and "smart" park-and-ride solutions to Walters Road and Bear Scenic. That will be available for students and faculty to get back and forth from their jobs without needing to use a vehicle, Martin said.

"We're going to do our best to continue these services," Godrick said. "We're also working on innovative parking and planning solutions that will help the students to continue their transportation."
JAPAN EARTHQUAKE — Williams (left) was stationed in Yokosuka, Japan when the 2011 earthquake and tsunami hit. Navy FTS officer 2nd Class Todd Williams spent one year in college before enlisting in the U.S. Navy — in part to help pay for the year’s $15,000 in student loans.

After enlisting in November 2005, he worked as a Full Time Support (FTS) officer stationed in Virginia Beach. “More or less, FTS is active duty reserve,” Williams said. “I worked at the different commands where the reservists would come in and do their two days a week and two weeks a year, and I was in support of the reservists.”

Following his three-year station in Virginia Beach, Williams shipped out to Yokosuka, Japan — a city at the mouth of Tokyo Bay and 200 miles south of the now-infamous Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power plant.

Williams continued his FTS work at Yokosuka Naval Base as one of only two FTS sailors at his command. “We had two carriers, every month that the reservists would come out to, and I did logistics for all that,” he said.

“I made sure all their orders got paid for, made sure they got their orders in on time before they got there, made sure they had a hotel and made sure they had all the proper paperwork handed back to them when they were leaving.”

Just as Williams was preparing to leave Japan after his two-year station, the magnitude 9.0 earthquake and tsunami shattered the country March 11, 2011. Even though he was hundreds of miles south of the quake, he felt its effects immediately.

“Oh, I felt it,” Williams said. “I was about 400 miles south of the epicenter still.” Williams was in the process of turning his apartment back over to the landlord to move out when everything started shaking.

“My apartment was on the fourth floor, and there was another building maybe within 50 feet from our building, and you could feel and see it shaking,” he said. “Japanese ingenuity saved the surrounding areas from any major damage, according to Williams. Newer buildings were built specifically to survive large earthquakes. The way it works is that, in the newer buildings, the buildings don’t break; the buildings don’t break,” he said. “The main area that got hit, though, was an old part of Japan, so that’s why the earthquake just decimated everything — everything was torn down.

Every ship is port left immediately to help with the recovery effort, including aircraft carrier USS George Washington, and fleet staff were flown in to coordinate everything. The fleet detected minor traces of radiation Williams said, but it was nothing to be concerned about.

“Within a few days, there were very minor detections of radiation in Yokosuka, which is about 200 miles south of Fukushima, but the amount of radiation was so minor that it didn’t mean anything,” he said. “It’s only within those 12 miles around the Fukushima Daiichi power plant that it’s really nasty.”

After leaving his FTS role and officially joining the Navy Reserves, Williams returned to his old command at Yokosuka in July and August 2011. Some of the other sailors told him they had been on 12-hour-on, 12-hour-off shifts for two months straight assisting the Japanese people.

The U.S. government has a Status of Forces Agreement (SOFA) with Japan. According to Williams, it is honestly a contract saying that the U.S. agrees to station forces in the country to help in times of crisis.

“Japan has asked us to be there, and it’s more or less what we do here — in the U.S. — on guard,” he said. “Having duty stations and ships all over the world is just a quicker way to respond to different catastrophes.”

While the Navy may call upon him to help with crises in the future, for now, Williams will be studying mathematics for three more years at Liberty. He goes to Greensboro, N.C. once a month and to Norfolk, Va. two weeks a year for his Navy commitment.

Following graduation, he intends to enroll in a master’s program and renew his commission. "I’m very passionate about being a math teacher,” he said.

ADAMS is the web editor.
**The platform speaks!**

The platform speaks! It's written by us. The interpretations of speeches are all written by seniors. Junior coach Dowd said,

> "We've been working on our duet from October when they first put it into our hands. I'd say we probably put in 12 hours into it."

Dowd continued, "Once you get into that actual speech, you have to work to keep it constant."(Coach and Graduate Student Assistant Morgan Roper said.

> "It's almost like an experience. You grow so much as a competitor. It's different as a professional. You gain from this experience is absolutely incredible." Dowd said.

The forensics team will compete in the American Forensics Association (AFA) National Individual Events Tournament April 6-9 at Texas A&M University in San Marcos, Texas. The following week they will participate in the American Forensics Association (AFA) competition at Ohio University有一点, Ohio from April 19 to 23.

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**Liberty's Forensics Team Wins in its Division at the National Christian College Forensics Invitational in March and takes home a victory in their division. Following this success, the team held a showcase in addition to the National Christian College Forensics Invitational in March and won several awards.**

**Liberty University's Forensic Speech Team won in its division at the National Christian College Forensics Invitational in March and took home a victory in their division. Following this success, the team held a showcase in addition to the National Christian College Forensics Invitational in March and won several awards.**

> "We're the top Christian school for how many students we see," Dowd said. Coach and Graduate Student Assistant Morgan Roper said.

> "I've been working with the forensics team since his freshman year.

**The top platform speeches are all written by seniors.** Junior coach Dowd said.

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Jay Sir
ysir@liberty.edu

Students molded bare-foot on white sand, casually dressed in shorts and T-shirts, while referees watched from the side, standing on the red tipo markers that marked the volleyball court outlines. Others sat in the grass nearby, ading the sand between their toes while they chatted in the sun.

The intramural office held an open-play preview day for the new beach volleyball league on Wednesday to commemorate the return of beach volleyball to Liberty University. Beach Volleyball was originally a part of intramurals sports but due to poor conditions of the playing field in its previous location at David's Place, it didn't blossom into a regular sport. Now, students can enjoy beach volleyball anytime they want and even get a feeling of being near the ocean, as sprinklers in the inflatable fields will occasionally bring some "ocean spray" over to the volleyball courts.

"We're excited about the new beach volleyball courts," intramural volleyball supervisor Bethany Sgandurra said. "There will be 16 teams that will be participating in the league and it will be a lot of fun." The regular season beach volleyball games will run for three weeks, with each game being played on Sunday nights at Campus East. After the season, there will be a week of playoff games to decide the season champion. The teams will consist of four members — two male and two female. Although registering for the teams has already passed, all students are invited to come and enjoy the volleyball courts.

"It's a great place to hang out," league participant Joseph Collins said. "We can just relax here, play volleyball and get some sun while we do it. We're excited to play in the season. We're not very good at volleyball, but hopefully we'll grow." The Liberty Intramural Sports program organizes and hosts sports for a variety of sports including basketball, soccer, flag football and now, beach volleyball.

SBR is a sports reporter.


top of their game

Liberty nixes Knights

McQuillan's Flames were able to flex their muscles against Southern Virginia

Paul Freasier
pfreasier@liberty.edu

The Flames hit the back of the net less than two minutes into Friday night's lacrosse matchup and never looked back as they went on to crush in-state opponent, Southern Virginia, 21-6. Flames improved to 2-1 in the season and clinched a spot in the playoffs.

"I think we played well," junior captain Michael Zumpano said. "Obviously, the score dictates a well-played game. We still made a few mistakes but we're a young team, and I think we're making a lot of improvement and we're only going to get better." The Flames imposed their will early, scoring five unanswered goals to start the game. The closest the game ever got was when the Knights scored two unanswered goals, one late in the first quarter and the other early in the second, to make it 7-3. The Knights had momentum on their side.

See LAX, B4

IN STRIDE — Men's lacrosse clinched a playoff berth after Friday night's win over Southern Virginia.

Andy DiMartino pitched two solid games for the Lady Flames.

Lady Flames take one of three from Winthrop

In Big South play, the Lady Flames drop the doubleheader against Winthrop, but win Game Three

Greg Leauness
gleauness@liberty.edu

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WOUND UP — Alysa DiMartino pitched two solid games for the Lady Flames.

and with we could have won for her because she pitched so well." Lady Flames right fielder Jenny Law led the team with a double and a single, and Nicho, reached base twice against Winthrop's Natalie Beiler, who threw some scoreless innings for the win.

The Lady Flames had no trouble getting runners into scoring position, but they could not scratch out a run, striking a runner on second base in free of any further scoring. DiMartino thought a lack of aggressiveness at the plate might have caused some problems.

"I guess today we got caught watching third strike," DiMartino said. "Other than that, we've been doing better than we have been over spring break. We've slowly been improving even though the results don't show it."

Game Two

In the second game of the day, the Lady Flames lost 8-2 and their troubles seemed to stem from the plate. Lady Flames pitcher Alysa DiMartino was
Lady Flames keep win through over the weekend, 2-3 in conference

Jessica Grigg
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It was a close matchup as Winthrop defeated Liberty's men's tennis team in four of six matches. After losing the No. 1, 4-0 to Winthrop, Sophomore Chase Akers. The Flames benefited from Winthrop's default in doubles matches as they won 3-0.

With the doubles default in the No. 2 match, Liberty junior Sam Jian and senior Giancarlo Lemmi defeated Winthrop's twins grey Kurt and Nathan Cuppin with ease in the No. 1 match-up.

Freshman Daniel Comforter and sophomore Yuta Hirokawa were defeated in match. No. 2 to Liberty sophomore Shira Thomas and senior Tristan Sturt.

The Flames closed the door on doubles matches with an 8-5 win. Both of Liberty's doubles did not yield their fifth win of the season with the victories, according to liberyflames.com.

Winthrop detailed yet again in the No. 6 match, but Liberty was only able to add one point from them. The Eagles put two more team points on board in the overall match, 3-3.

The deciding match was forced into a third set. Thomas took the first set from Yuta, 6-2, but the Eagles took the match with a 6-3 second set. Freshman watched with high anticipation in Yuta as the final, 6-4. Rebounding quickly, Thomas took the next three games, only to lose the final two to Yuta. The Eagles claimed victory in the final seconds, 6-3.

The Flames are scheduled to face off against Longwood on Tuesday at 2:30 am.

GREGG is a sports reporter.

Road Recap

Gymnastics finished first at UNC

Liberty University's gymnastic teams traveled to the University of North Carolina and captured multiple first-place finishes.

Both men's and women's teams topped overall scores that featured Clemson University, the University of Maryland, James Madison University, Virginia Tech and UNC, among others.

Strong floor performances by senior captain David Taylor and senior Stephen Lucas were critical in securing the men's crown.

Senior captain Rachel Strec's first-place finish in the women's bars and freshman Alyson Frost's second-place finish completed Liberty's women's team to a first-place overall finish.

The squad's next event is not until this third week of April, when the men and women travel to Utah for the national competition.

The men's and women's track and field teams' road trip to the Texas Relays in Austin, Texas and the Raleigh Relay in Raleigh, N.C. was a successful campaign in both cities.

In Austin, redshirt senior vocalist Kyle Shepherd turned in a season-best 4x100.53 mark. Shepherd's vault was good for 4th place in the finals, beating out competitors from the University of Texas and Texas Tech.

In Raleigh, Liberty's men's relay team placed fifth in 15.9 in their first event with a time of 10.10.

In Raleigh, Liberty's men's relay team trains under the guidance of Maxwell Asay, Chad Ellis, Carson Smith and Kyle Gill earned a trip to an final place for (4X100) (4X400) out of 24 teams. Asay, Ellis, Carson Smith and Kyle Gill turned in a third-place finish in the (4X100) (4X400) out of 24 teams. Asay, Ellis, Carson Smith and Kyle Gill turned in a third-place finish in the (4X100) (4X400) out of 24 teams. Asay, Ellis, Carson Smith and Kyle Gill turned in a third-place finish in the (4X100) (4X400) out of 24 teams. Asay, Ellis, Carson Smith and Kyle Gill turned in a third-place finish in the (4X100) (4X400) out of 24 teams. Asay, Ellis, Carson Smith and Kyle Gill.
The story of Trayvon Martin is on America's mind. What we know from the ongoing investigation is that a 17-year old African American youth was walking in his father’s house from a convenience store when an unknown man approached him. A scuffle ensued, resulting in the death of Martin within a gated Sanford, Fla. community.

Martin was a star football player but made the decision to hang up his football career in order to pursue a career in art.

George Zimmerman is the 28-year old neighborhood watch volunteer who is accused of the shooting.

According to reports, it was a rainy evening when Zimmerman spotted Martin and called police complaining about seeing a suspicious character in the neighborhood. He told police that he was wearing a dark hoodie with sweatpants. Acting alone, Zimmerman pursued Martin and confronted him.

From then on it is unclear what happened between the two. Reports say Martin died with his hands up. Zimmerman claims he was acting in self-defense, that Martin looked suspicious and up to no good, but many people believe otherwise.

The shooting occurred Feb. 26, 2012, in the 23rd inning of the 2012 NBA All-Star game. After Martin was slain, the community and civil rights activists were livid that an arrest had not been made.

The Miami Heat, led by Dwayne Wade, James, Bosh and the rest of the Miami Heat voice their opinion on a high profile case involving the death of Trayvon Martin.

The Heat didn’t take the death of Trayvon Martin lightly, posing for this photo in support of the Martin family.

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ANDREW WOOLFOLK

WOOLFOLK

April 3, 2012

Editorial: A Trip to the Track

Andrew Woolfolk

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This past weekend, I partici-
pated in an opportunity to see Martins-
ville Speed-
way in Ridgeway, Va. for the Goody’s
300 Sprint Cup race. Our ar-
rangement was to be the head
man and all but over.

Bigger Picture

The success in this game, as well as the success this season, has not clouded the vision of the Flames, who still have their
immediate challenges. It’s hard
to beat a weekend that includes
walking along the pavement,
shaking hands with Jeff Gor-
den, and snapping a photo or
two with the king of NASCAR himself, Richard Petty.

Head coach Kyle McQuillan
chose those words.

I think we still have a lot of
work to do to be competitive
in playoffs and on the National
level, but we’re happy with the
win,” McQuillan said. “I’m happy with the way the guys
played.” McQuillan was not
when asked about his team and
if he felt they could compete on
the national stage. He thinks he
has one of the more talented
teams on the East Coast, and their
biggest “enemy” could be
themselves.

“As soon as we see our oppo-
nents as better than a team as we are individually, the sky is the
limit, but these guys are getting it
and we are starting to see the
polymer hydrocarbon rather than
selfish lack of a motor or fan,”
McQuillan said. The Flames are
standing down the season with
only three games remaining and
have already clinched their spot
in the playoffs. Whether it is at a
No. 1 seed or a No. 2 seed is yet
to be determined. The Flames
have a lot of favors before they
will be back in action against the
Richmond Spiders at home, April 19, at 7 p.m.

FRAZER is a sports
reporter.

WOOLFOLK is a sports
reporter.
Global buffet teases taste buds

Students enjoy exotic cuisine served with big smiles at "Taste of Nations".

Daniel Garcia

The aroma of a multi-continental smorgasbord and the chatter of students filled the air of the Toloma Indoor Track Center on the evening of Wednesday, March 28, as the International Student Center hosted its annual "Taste of Nations" event.

"Our students look forward to sharing their culture and sharing some of the foods from their country," International Student Center Office Manager Tanya Pang said.

National flags, covered tables and international students clad in their respective traditional garb helped mask the facility's athletic appearance, transforming it into a cross-cultural dining center. Students paid the requested $2 donation and sampled a wide variety of food, including dishes from Myanmar, Ethiopia and Ghana. Pang said that approximately 30 nations were represented, in addition to local businesses La Cueva and Shanghai Express.

"I really like it because people get to try food from different countries without having to go around the world," sophomore Sara Smith-Meihedin said.

"It's really cool because the international students get to share their culture and food with people, and I think it's really exciting for people to get to try my food!" Smith-Meihedin said.

"I used to call my mom and be like, 'How did you do this?' or 'How did you make this?'" he said, laughing as he spoke. "It was a success every time, and tonight gave them a chance to shine and share their culture." Junior Psychology and Nursing student Amanda Iodro said.

"It feels good to recognize people from home, especially when you're in a different country, and to have food from back home, because you don't get that here," Iodro said.

"I ab.solutely loved it to the taste bud," Venable said.

"Our job at the International Office is to take care of these students by helping them to overcome culture shock. Part of overcoming culture shock is to get involved," Venable said.

"This week they are able to remember where they are from and show it to other students," Venable said.

Students from around the globe showcased their unique talents in an interscultural talent show for all students on March 16. The Cultural Talent Show transformed the Tiloma Student Center atmosphere into an entertaining blend of dancing, singing, poetry and music. Ten students from Jordan, Nepal, Bangladesh, Argentina, Tanzania and the Bahamas took the stage in hopes of seeing people of all talents.

Alex Takalewa Mangi said that the event, "hosting the show was amazing and a lot of fun. I got to meet some of the most talented international students," Mangi said. "I got to work with great organizers who made the event a success, and they teach my job every day."

Junior Public Relations major Gabriela Dominquez was one of the performers in the evening's event.

"(This) was an awesome experience. I love the fact that we can express more about our culture and also interact with our other international students," Dominquez said.

"I absolutely bred it tonight. There are so many international students here and tonight gave them a chance to shine and share a part of their lives with us," junior psychology and youth ministry major Dina Nelson said.

"Our job at the International Office is to take care of these students by helping them to overcome culture shock. Part of overcoming culture shock is to get involved," Venable said. "This week they are able to remember where they are from and show it to other students."
Students showcase international teas

Kendra Alleyne
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Students and faculty were given the opportunity to taste different cultures and teas from around the world, March 27, and learn about the cultures from which they come.

"Coffee and Tea from Around the World," an event in collaboration with the International Student Center's International Week, allowed students to talk about their homes and demonstrate a beverage from their culture.

"Chung Mao Le, a Chinese native, spoke openly about Jasmine Pearl Green Tea and Organic Blueberry Tea. "In China, different teas are used for spiritual events," Le said.

He also went on to explain the significance of coffee and where it originated from.

"Soldiers are given tea when they are about to enter battle to calm their nerves," Le said.

Some teas in Chinese are used as medication for common ailments such as a headache or a common cold.

"Teas are always used for many different aches and pains in China. They are home remedies," Le said.

Several other countries displayed their teas for guests to try. Rayanne Holey, a worker for the international student office, served Masala Chai Black Tea from India and Apple Pe Chai Rooibos Herbal Tea from South Africa.

"Although I don't know much about teas, I think this event is a good way for people to learn about other countries," Holey said.

Paula Tan, a volunteer at the event, stressed that most teas in other countries are made with natural products.

"Here we use tea bags that we buy from the store, but in places like Sri Lanka, they use natural tea leaves and flowers and put them directly into the tea," Tan said.

Several other countries displayed their teas, such as Sri Lanka with Papaya tea and Safari Pure Tea from South Africa.

Over six different countries were represented at the tasting. Katrina Alleyne attended the event and came away with some new information.

"I learned how teas from different cultures vary and how important tea is, especially in China," Alleyne said.

This event was free of charge and open to all Liberty University students. It was sponsored by the Office of International Student Services, located on the second floor of DeMoss Hall.

ALLEYNE is a feature reporter.
April 3, 2012

FEATURE

Liberty Champion/87

TALENT DISPLAYED — Five Liberty seniors unveiled their artwork, March 29, in the new DeMoss Art Gallery, including Lindsey Boley pictured here.

Seniors’ art reflects creation

Kayla Gurley
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The Liberty University Art Gallery premiered “Genesi,” an exhibit displaying the works of senior studio art majors Sierra Clearwater, Emily Davis, Lindsey Boley, Ashley Wensinger and Bob Wilson on March 29 in DeMoss 609.

The senior art show is an annual event at Liberty that showcases graduating seniors talent and passion for art. According to Clearwater, this show is unique because its theme, “Genesis,” means more than the obvious.

“When the five of us were trying to think of a theme for the gallery, we came up with Genesis because of God’s creation being reflected in art,” Clearwater said. “Then we also wanted to represent our own growth in our artwork from freshmen to now.”

Clearwater said that all of her pieces are drip paintings and that all of creation is an expression of who God is.

“I think what makes this exhibit so unique is that all of the students are Christians,” Smith said. “I really believe that what you see in their paintings is a reflection of the students themselves.”

The Genesis Senior Art Expo was the first exhibit to premiere in Liberty’s new art gallery.

The gallery moved from its previous location in SLAB Hall to room 4049 in DeMoss Hall along with the rest of the Visual Communication Arts classes. According to Smith, the new gallery is approximately 1500 square feet, much more spacious than the old gallery which was only 1100 square feet. The new gallery also has more lighting and an up to date security system.

“The gallery acts as an education venue for students in that it provides the opportunity to see artwork in person, as well as interact with the artists who create the work. It also acts as one of the cultural centers of the university, as the gallery regularly hosts exhibits by nationally known artists each fall,” Smith said.

GURLEY is a feature reporter.

MONDAY, APRIL 23
VINES CENTER - 8:00p

NEEDTOBREATHE - FEATURING BEN RECTOR

Supporting their latest release “The Reckoning”
Liberty Students: $10 adv
General Public: $20 adv
Floor Seats: $25 adv

For more information email studentactivities@liberty.edu or call 434-582-3861

Short take

SUNRISE WORSHIP — Natural Bridge hosts one of many sunrise Easter services each year.

3 ways to celebrate Easter

Shelton Jennings
sajennings@liberty.edu

Spring blooms, an empty campus and nothing to do, right? Wrong. Central Virginia has plenty to offer over the Easter weekend. Here are three ways to celebrate:

1. Worship God in Nature’s Cathedral
   Celebrate Easter at Natural Bridge. Worship the risen King surrounded by the glory of his creation. For more than 30 years, Natural Bridge’s Easter Sunrise Service has been an annual Easter tradition for families across Virginia. Admission is free and gates open at 6:30 a.m. The service will begin at 7 a.m. For location details visit NaturalBridge.com

2. Hunt for Eggs at a National Memorial
   The Patrick Henry Memorial invites children ages 3-12 years old to join the hunt for eggs and goodies scattered around the historical grounds. Bring a camera and watch as children from the community discover and remember what Easter is about. Members of local churches will tell the Easter story every 30 minutes. The event is free of charge. For more information, call 434-376-2044.

3. Enjoy Sunday Brunch with family
   Visit one of the many businesses across Virginia for a family outing and delicious meal.
   - Faster Bullet at Natural Bridge in Natural Bridge near Bedford. Call 540-843-3750 for details.
   - Faster Buffet at Natural Bridge in Natural Bridge near Bedford. Call 540-843-3750 for details.
   - Faster Brunch at Skyland Resort in Luray. Call 540-955-2100 for details.
   - Faster Sunday Brunch at Delfosse in Nelson. Call 434-263-6100 for more information.

JENNINGS is the feature editor.
Students donned side ponytails, plastic sunglasses and plenty of neon for 'Boboos Coffeehouse.' The majority of students, the majority of which consisted of the past Friday, March 30, running with the 'Agua Pura' race organized by local teen raises money to build wells into a fundraising effort for villages in Guatemala.

The Agua Pura 5k race is the first race in Lynchburg to benefit Clean Life & Liberty's efforts. Smith, a Liberty student, said, "It's amazing to see them bring out so many people for the cause of clean water.'

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