04-17-2012 (The Liberty Champion, volume 29 issue 20)
Justice Anthony Kennedy, who is considering the process of fine of the greater of Virginia—challenged the Supreme Court after 26 states—holding ObamaCare will do serious damage to the nation's budget deficit.

"To uphold ObamaCare, you would have to rewrite the Constitution. A decision upholding the law makes the Constitution unconstitutional and will actually add billions of dollars to the nation's budget deficit."

During the three days of oral arguments, Justice Anthony Kennedy, who is considered by many people to be the swing-vote, appeared to be leaning away from support of the individual mandate. When the government is saying that the Federal Government has a duty to tell the individual citizen that it must act, and that is different from what we have in previous cases and that changes the relationship of the Federal Government to the individual in a very fundamental way," Justice Kennedy during day two of the Supreme Court arguments.

If the court enacts the law's individual mandate, there is much speculation as to whether the PPACA health law can survive without it. But during the arguments, Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg indicated that even without the individual mandate some of the law might be salvageable.

"Why should we say it's a choice between a wrecking operation, which is what you are requesting, or a salvage job? And the more conservative approach would be salvage work and cleaning out everything," Justice Ginsburg said in response to a comment made by Justice Paul Clement during the hearings. Despite the mixed feelings expressed by the Justices during the Supreme Court hearings, there are some people in government who strongly support the law and are not ready to give up on it.

See OBAMACARE, A6

HEALTHCARE BILL ON PRECIPICE

Dominique McKay
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The ultimate fate of President Barack Obama's 2010 Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (PPACA) now lies in the hands of the nine U.S. Supreme Court Justices. In late March, the case was brought before the Supreme Court after 26 states—including Virginia—challenged the constitutionality of the law and its individual health care mandate, requiring every American to purchase health care or pay a yearly fine of the greater of $695 or 2.5 percent of income—when fully phased in, according to CNN. Supporters of PPACA argue that the law makes the nation's health care system more efficient by simplifying the process of health care, which in turn saves the nation billions of dollars. Opponents of the law argue that the mandate is unconstitutional and will actually add billions of dollars to the nation's budget deficit.

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FLYING — The musical climax in Peter Pan (Caleb Hughes) and Captain Hook (Professor Chris Nelson), Wendy in Peter Pan, said. "It's a great experience, and we have professional responsibilities that we didn't have before." According to Liberty alumni and professor Chris Nelson, Peter Pan has set the tone for what audience members can expect from Alluvion shows.

"Alluvion is all about family entertainment, and I feel this is one of the most family-friendly stories you can tell," Nelson said. "It is a great resume-booster," Liberty graduating senior Jamie Cloutier, who plays the role of the Peter Pan. The show, the first to feature upperclassmen a chance to act alongside alumni and other non-students and gain one professional credit. According to Liberty alumni and professor Chris Nelson, Peter Pan has set the tone for what audience members can expect from Alluvion shows.

Peter Pan took Liberty University's theatre program to new heights, April 13, as the curtain opened on Alluvion Stage Company's premiere production. The show, the first to feature alumni and students together on one stage, sold out in its first week-end, offering promise to future Alluvion productions.

"It was a sold out opening," Alluvion Stage Company's Artistic Director and Peter Pan director Leda Cooper said. "I wasn't expecting it to be sold out, but it was." Alluvion Stage Company, which stemmed from and is in conjunction with Liberty University, is a professional branch that will offer apprentices a chance to act alongside alumni and other non-students and gain one professional credit.

"It's a great resume-booster," Liberty graduating senior Jamie Cloutier, who plays the role of Wendy in Peter Pan, said. "It's a great experience, and we have professional responsibilities that we didn't have before."

College Republicans, Democrats, Libertarians debate Student associations discuss various hot topics at Political Policy Forum

Melanie Oelrich
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The College Republicans, College Democrats and Libertarians debated President Barack Obama's healthcare plan Thursday, April 12. As one of the most controversial issues in American politics today, the topic of Individual Mandate within the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act has been in the news in the past month. The topic has been in debate for two years, but its constitutionality has recently been discussed in the Supreme Court. The Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (PPACA), otherwise known as Obamacare, is a 2,000-page bill signed into law by Obama in 2010. PPACA requires citizens not covered by employer—or government-sponsored insurance plans to maintain minimal essential health care, which is in turn saves the nation billions of dollars. Opponents of the law argue that the mandate is unconstitutional and will actually add billions of dollars to the nation's budget deficit.

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See OBAMACARE, A6
Congressman Robert Hurt urged Liberty students to take action with economic crisis, 2012 presidential election

Hurt to come to speak about fiscal responsibility. Congressman Hurt refers to as “putting the economy in order. “We always like to hear from our constituents and we love to hear what’s going on out there,” Sapperstein said. “To the general election time will have none of these political offers left to speak.”

Sapperstein said that the College Republicans are aiming to get involved with upcoming elections. “City council elections are the important thing this semester. When it comes down to it, we have a chance to make a difference come May,” Sapperstein said.

During the months leading up to the presidential election, both the College Republicans and Hurt will be doing all they can to campaign and get people out to vote. “I’m on this with pride — that’s what our elections are all about,” Hurt said.

The city and town elections will be May 1, state primaries will be held on June 12 and the general election will be November 6.

PoweLy was a news reporter.
City health report released with tips for healthy living

FOOD GROUPS

The County Health Rankings & Roadmaps report includes healthy foods.

MORE FOOD — New restaurants are coming to Ward Road in Lynchburg, Aropolis and possibly Chipotle Mexican Grill.

Chipotle coming?

BOLLINGER is the editor in chief.
Increasingly, as time passes, the issues seem to blend together, weighing heavily on the conscience of a nation. The world is a complex place, and the challenges we face are equally so. It is easy to feel overwhelmed by the magnitude of the problems we must address, but it is crucial that we remain vigilant and committed to finding solutions.

In conclusion, the need for a sense of purpose and direction remains as strong as ever. As we look ahead to the future, let us remember the importance of perseverance and the power of collective action. Together, we can make a difference and create a better world for all.

Sincerely,
[Your Name]
World Malaria Day

Special day planned to spread awareness and bring end to this world-wide crisis

Chalise Riss
special@octapharmaplasma.com

The sixth annual World Malaria Day, a day initiated by the World Health Organization (WHO), is planned to spread awareness of the disease’s global and deadly impact, will be held on April 25, 2012. The WHO reports that there are more than 216 million malaria cases in over 100 countries annually and estimates that 550,000 people die each year as a result; proving how dire a threat malaria is to third-world countries. Although causes vary, the world is affected by this mosquito-borne disease, approximately 150 to 200 malaria cases occur in sub-Saharan Africa. More than anything the disease impacts children and adult individuals, particularly pregnant women.

The malaria problem is as large-scale in some countries as the need for clean water sources in sub-Saharan Africa, according to Cyrus Mad-Bondo, Director of Africa Projects for humanitarian organization World Help, showing how important of an issue this is for the world.

Mad-Bondo was born and raised in the Central African Republic and has seen the wide-scale impact of the infectious disease with his own eyes. When there’s a malaria outbreak, you just prepare for the worst. It overrules the system, he said.

“Malaria and poverty are directly intertwined,” Mad-Bondo said. Impoverished and underserved communities are breeding grounds for mosquitoes, which increases malaria cases, resulting in pernicious sickness and for commercial and economic development, he said.

According to WHO reports, “Malaria can be found in every continent, with more than 1.3 billion people at risk for disease.” Yet malaria awareness is growing as the WHO seeks to shed light on the often deadly, but preventable, disease. Through World Malaria Day, the organization works to not only provide education about the disease, but to encourage medical, scientific and academic professionals to propagate their research and findings.

The organization also aims to foster relations between affected countries in order to learn from each other and garner mutual support, according to the WHO campaign. Xone all, the goal of World Malaria Day is to make progress toward ending this terrible global crisis.

“The best way to deal with [the malaria crisis] is to take preventive measures,” Mad-Bondo said. Because individuals are valuable to mosquito bites when they sleep, insecticide-treated mosquito nets are the most effective and common form of malaria prevention in developing countries. Less than five percent of children in sub-Saharan Africa sleep under them according to the WHO. A 2010 report states that only 19 percent of pregnant women used insecticide-treated bed nets.

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Cinematic arts program takes flight

Melissa Gibby

The late Dr. Jerry Falwell Sr. also would have had his daughter, Sharon, agree to the end-of-term schedule. If she didn't agree, she wouldn't have been welcome back for the spring semester.

Sharon Chinune-Dan has been attending the school since the fall semester. “I am in the three classes now, and I really enjoy attending them. There is something interesting about being among the first group to take them. I find them to be pretty good introductions to their respective disciplines with just enough practical work to get the appetites for more,” Chinune-Dan said.

This fall, Cinematic Arts students will be able to take concentration classes for the first time.

The program is a two years full immersion, according to Schultze. “It is an invigorating program. It is really designed to give a real understanding about not only filmmaking but the life of a filmmaker and the intensity and the amount of work required to be a successful film maker,” Schultze said.

The concentration classes being offered this fall are Business Law, Video Production, Advanced Audio Production, Film as Art and Directing.

The Cinematic Arts program has hosted several free screening sessions and directing workshops this semester for all Liberty students interested in this.

The workshop speakers, Steven Norman Andrews, Shawn Nelson and Dan Gordon, are all professionals in the film industry.

“When learning filmmaking, you can learn so much from the learning process. A lot of what we’ll learn in filmmaking is by doing, and a lot of what you’ll learn in filmmaking is by being aware of the issues and problems that the professionals come and talk to students,” Schultze said.

The film program is striving to provide the best quality technology possible to students.

“We are actively recruiting students who plan on graduating this year. Your job would be to personally call on local businesses to secure advertising space in a home town calendar that we design and print.”

Melissa Jowers, Loyalty Coordinator

Summer Sales Position in Your Home Town!

We are actively recruiting students who plan on graduating this year. Your job would be to personally call on local businesses to secure advertising space in a home town calendar that we design and print.

Gain valuable marketing experience

Create something new for your home town

Create something new for your home town

MCKAY is a graduate assistant.

How many of us sit through a film and wonder what you'll learn in filmmaking?

The Cinematic Arts program

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Alpha Lambda Delta initiates new students

ALD honor society holds spring initiation April 13 to induct 345 new members, including 80 online students

Melanie Oelrich
moelrich@liberty.edu

The Towns Auditorium was nearly filled to capacity Friday night as the Alpha Lambda Delta (ALD) Honor Society held its spring initiation and reception event April 13. A total of 345 students were initiated during the ceremony. Eighty of those students are enrolled online.

The Western interdisciplinary honor society that provides Christian, intellectual and social enrichment, along with leadership experience, is available at the local chapter level. Members are eligible for the honor societies of their majors. The purpose of the initiation ceremony is to reward students for their first year of academic achievements, which includes a 3.5 GPA, no failing grades, and at least 12 recorded credits per semester.

During the ceremony, students had the opportunity to hear from a variety of speakers. Sarah Boderck, a freshman special education major, is grateful for the opportunity to be a part of ALD and is excited for the experiences to come.

"My drive for academic excellence will not only increase but will also remain a key part through my college years with my goals and self-expectations growing," Boderck said.

Boderck spoke of the importance of gaining everything possible from the professors and dean at Liberty.

"No matter what you do, it is always necessary to strive to do your best in all that you do. I plan on learning from my academic excellence and applying those dedicated skills to further myself," Boderck said.

Jennifer Tari, a freshman nursing major, is also excited for the opportunity to be a part of such a prestigious society.

"It’s quite an honor to be in Alpha Lambda Delta. I plan on getting involved with the service opportunities presented as a member of this honor society. I hope this group can truly make a difference in the lives of those around us for the Lord’s glory," Tari said.

Dean of the Center for Academic Support and Advising Services Dr. Brian Yates was the keynote speaker for the evening. He encouraged students to put their trust in God, to chase opportunities that have been given to them and to honor Christ first.

"I learned that no matter what I think that I can or cannot do, God is the sole controller of my life and has blessed me with gifts that I plan to use for His purpose," Boderck said.

"Dr. Yates urged us to ‘never say never’ and to follow our dreams in hopes of changing the world around us for the glory of the Lord. His inspiring life story of never giving up served as a symbol of perseverance and an example for us to follow as new Alpha Lambda Delta members," Tari said.

Once students are initiated into the society, they will remain members for life. For those who were not able to attend the ceremony Friday night, there will be a makeup initiation ceremony for them to attend. All honor society members must be officially initiated.

ALD emphasizes that educated persons have a responsibility to practice tolerance in dealing with all people, generosity in giving to those in need and insight into the feelings of others. Members are challenged to make a meaningful contribution to society and, through their chapters, engage in community service projects as well as campus service activities.

Today, ALD has more than 235 chapters throughout the nation and offers almost $100,000 in scholarships to its members.

OELRICH is a news reporter.
AWARENESS — "Strike a Pose, Africa!" fashion show included traditional clothing from various African countries and attempted to raise awareness for HIV/AIDS victims.

**POLITICS continued from AI**

Biden replied with concern.

"With this healthcare law, it will increase the debt more, forcing me to cut the debt," Biden said.

"This is a view political. I will be forced to correct the errors that the current government is making by both the Republican and Democrat," Storrs mentioned.

"Any plan that would fail to provide for premium assistance after the law turns 26 and let go of the parents' insurance plan," Storrs said.

"The law is a happy that this topic was debated, as it currently plays a role in my life. To particularly because I'm married and providing for my family, this plan will make for a living budget. It would raise my healthcare rates, decrease healthcare quality, has a negative impact on the industry," Tillet said.

"All groups agreed that no matter what, Justice Kennedy would have the swing vote on the case. After hearing the oral arguments within the Supreme Court this fall, Justice Thomas will have a 5-4 split," Tillet said. "It's a split decision, that's what's going on the next time."

"The tax rate received the most commentaries about anything during the tax bill," Lynchburg falls within the drainage area and will have to come up with a plan of action to help meet the regulations.

The stormwater management fee was proposed by the city to help offset some of the costs that the city will be experiencing from this.

According to Liberty University corporate registrar for planning and construction Maggie Cosman, the stormwater management fee is being suggested at $4 per single family unit (SFU), or the average amount of impervious area on a single family property within the city. With Liberty's approximate 270 acres of impervious areas, or artificial structures that water cannot penetrate, the estimated stormwater fee could total $121,609 per year for the university, which represents 4.6 percent of the base cost around $2.5 million city budget.

According to Lee Beaumont, the Director of Auxiliary Services at Liberty, two shopping centers, Chandler's Station and the Plaza, both owned by the university, will also be impacted by the proposed fee.

If the proposal is approved by the city council, Beaumont said, then the stormwater management fee could be raised in the future to pay for additional upgrades needed in the City of Lynchburg. "If it's approved by Lynchburg, it will be subject to an annual rate study, the results of which could be increased in the fee. Once the total daily maximum load pollutant requirement has been established for the city, the fee could be raised to pay for the required pollutant reduction measures," Cosman said.

The city will propose the stormwater management fee to City Council Tuesday, April 24.

CASHDIE is the news editor.

**Fashion show raises HIV awareness**

**Tax increase rejected**

**City Council looks at new stormwater management fee**

**POLITICS continued from AI**

health insurance coverage or a tax, unless they are exempted for religious belief or financial hardship, which is referred to as the "Constitutional mandate."

Republican debaters Zach Martin and Josh Flecker plan the line (unconstitutional and immoral, and should be repealed entirely in whole or in part). They also blamed the enforcement of this act will not work. People who have insurance will make sure that they continue to see doctors than visit doctors than people without coverage, causing a decrease in the quality or rationing of care, to the economy.

Libertarian debaters debate that the Constitution is a valid law, according to Cooper, the mandate, government would lose $3 billion a year."

Sean Boden, a senior Politics and History major, was in the debate. Asked how this issue would affect him, around him. It also exposed the students to various African clothing and cultures. According to Jones, who have insurance will not work. People who have insurance will make sure that they continue to seek doctors than visit doctors than people without coverage, causing a decrease in the quality or rationing of care, to the economy."

Well, I want this to really inform anyone who has a general understanding of America, but don't know the heart of this bill," fashion coordinator Kay Jones said. "The fashion show includes clothing representing countries such as Nigeria, Tanzania, among many others. Our 30 models participated, showcasing outfits provided by many of Liberty's clubs and students along with donations from Slew's Custom Clothing, according to Jones. The show was comprised of three different shows, showcasing different styles of African clothing. The shows included "Dress Africa," "Posh the Peace," and "Strike Your Stand."

MTVersen Marcella Brown addressed the group of students halfbway through the show, briefly explaining the impact that the bill has on the world. Brown shared parts of her own story of her struggle with being HIV-positive, giving the students a closer look at the difficulties that so many individuals face each day.

The evening closed with an opportunity for students to experience some of the different ways of African food. Jones is pleased with the turnout out this year and is already looking forward to next year's show. "It's bigger and better every year," Jones said. "I really want the audience to grasp the full understanding of what it means to be an African, from the struggles to the successes," Jones said. "This show embodies the heart of Africa," Jones said.

LAIRD is a news reporter.

**Fashion show raises HIV awareness**

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LAIRD is a news reporter.
Sanders takes game to PIT tournament
Tyler Echen
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For Jesse Sanders, the 6’3”, 200-pound point guard who just completed his senior season at Liberty University, the journey that competitive sports play at a high level can provide him just began.

Following the Flames’ last game of the regular season, Sanders took two weeks off to rest his body and mind. Then he got back to work, lifting weights and honing his game two days a week, playing one-on-one shooting around and participating in the gym two times a day, playing one-on-one, and not getting comfortable.

Sanders took two weeks off to rest his body and mind. Then he got back to work, lifting weights and honing his game two days a week, playing one-on-one, and not getting comfortable.

“Just went last moment,” Sanders said. “We had several chances to go up and we kept allowing them to hang around and we didn’t do that against Radford. We had a good team with some good players today.”

Radford defeated sophomore Nicholas Sayer 6-4, 6-4. Sayer was ranked No. 10 in the country heading into the match and is the ongoing Big South Freshman of the Year. Winning a match against a ranked opponent was a high point of confidence for Tua.

“It was a good win against a ranked player,” said Tua. “I needed to stay level, focused, and not get comfortable with my game. I need to keep improving.”

Throughout the match Tua could be heard telling himself to focus on doing each game. Tua finished the regular season with a singles record of 14-6, and is looking to make that success into the post season.

Men’s Tennis hits road block versus Radford
Mack Mayssey
mameyssey@liberty.edu

Liberty University’s men’s tennis team was defeated 4-3 Thursday by the nationally ranked Radford Highlanders. 

Junior Slim Tizu and sophomore Shira Thomas defeated the Flames twice their two points as they won the 1-0 and 2 matchs respectively.

Despite winning the top two singles points, Liberty failed to hand Radford its first conference loss of the season.

“Radford showed us what things we need to work on for the conference championships,” Tizu said.

The Flames had the lead in all three doubles matches but were unable to hold on in two of them, costing the Flames the all-important third point.

“We lost just momentum,” Johnson said. “We had several chances to go up and we kept allowing them to hang around and we didn’t do that against Radford. We had a good team with some good players today.”

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Thomas-defeated senior Igor Optikov in straight sets 6-4, 6-2.

The Flames were unable to put a finish on Radford’s conference record.  

Tri takes second
Brent Washburn
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Swimming 500 meters may seem like a good way to avoid the cold, but the 5-hour 16:53 miles may seem like a good way to beat the heat, but to this triathlete it is just another day, another race.

The triathlon team competed at the collegiate community-sprint triathlon at Red Lion, N.C., where the men’s and women’s team coming in second overall and David Elke coming in first overall.

First time was 1:08:4, with a swim time of 7 minutes, 30 seconds, bike time of 30 minutes, 45 seconds and a run time of 16 minutes, 4 seconds.

Women’s team member Blakely Harris played highest for Liberty, coming in fifth place. Harris’ time was 1:10:21, with a 9 minute, 25 second swim, 46 minute, 32 second bike and a 19 minute, 36 second run.

Head coach Beth Frackleton emphasized that this event was a “run-up” because most of the season is in the fall season, and after winter, everyone is a little stiff and needs time to prepare.

“We went very well,” Frackleton said. “I think it went very well. Obviously, finishing second shows we are in the top of our division and still looking very competitive.”

The team has qualified for nationals and will continue training over the next few weeks preparing for a race that is to be held in Tuscaloosa, Ala. in mid-April.

“We’re going to be a lot more competitive,” Frackleton said.

The triathlon team consists of 16 athletes that train in running, swimming, and biking to prepare for competitions. They are currently ranked second in men’s and third in women’s in the mid-Atlantic division.

WASHBURNH is a sports reporter.

BIG SHOW — At Snowflex's upcoming Dew Games, riders will lose huge tricks in the Big Air competition.

Dew Games biggest yet
Brent Washburn
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With $10,000 up for grabs, there is no doubt that the Dew Games at Liberty Mountain Snowflex Center is the competitive highlight for free-style skiers and snowboarders from all around the southeast. This year’s Dew Games is April 28 and is going to be better than ever with new features and more advanced riders.

The Games will consist of a big air event and a rail jam. The riders will be given a few runs to impress the judges and qualify for finals and then it’s at the primes risky.

“The Dew Games are the biggest course we host every year.” Ski School Director Brent Blakeney said. “It’s kind of our end of the school year contest, and it has our largest prize purse of $10,000.”

The unveiling of a new Snowflex feature will happen just in time for the Dew Games rail jam. The new feature is a called a stair-set, which consists of a down ladder, a flat-top drop, a hand-rail and instead of stairs, the middle will be a butter-box. The feature will also include one-of-a-kind L.E.D. lights underneath the plastic covering.

Many top-level athletes are expected to be in attendance for this event.

See GAMES, B2

Mountainous measures

SPORTS
APRIL 17, 2012
Freshman standout up 'Close'

Alex Close has provided a reliable bat in the No. 5 slot, as well as a solid glove at first base

Greg Leesner
gleesner@liberty.edu

The Liberty Flames baseball team has been playing well as of late, and one of the players to take on the role of one of the team's most important leaders is freshman third baseman, Alex Close. Close, who has been playing third base for the Flames since his freshman year, has been a solid presence in the lineup and a reliable fielder in the outfield.

"Close has been a real leader for us," said Head Coach Mike Glasscock. "He's been hitting at a high level and has been playing great defense. He's been a big part of our team's success this year."

Close has been hitting .325 with 4 home runs and 27 RBIs so far this season. He has also been making a solid impact in the field, with a .971 fielding percentage.

"I think he's one of the best third basemen in the conference," said Glasscock. "He's got a great arm and is really good at reading the ball off the bat. He's also a great commentator in the field and keeps everyone focused."

Close's strong performance both at the plate and in the field has helped the Flames to a strong start to the season. In their most recent game against the University of Kentucky, Close went 3-for-4 with a home run and two RBIs, helping the Flames to a 7-4 victory.

"It was a great game," said Close. "I was really pumped up to get a good game going and it was great to see the team come together and play well as a unit."

The Flames will look to continue their strong performance in their upcoming games, as they prepare to take on the University of Virginia in their next game. Close and the Flames will be looking to continue their strong play and secure another victory.

"We're really excited to face Virginia," said Glasscock. "They're a great team and we know we have our work cut out for us. But we're confident in our team and we'll be looking to come out strong."
OFF THE BLOCKS — The Liberty Flames took to showcase their abilities for the first time in public.

The first half will consist of two 12 minute periods, while the second half will be a single 25 minute running clock. Besides for game clock, the game will be run just like a regular game, the only exception being that there will be no kickoffs or punts. Should either team encounter a fourth down situation, the ball will simply be moved 10 yards down the field to initiate a punt. The first team offensive and defensive will wear red uniforms and the second team’s offense and defense will wear white. Half time will feature a tribute to last year’s senior class of players. All seniors present will receive a framed jersey. In addition to the usual coin flip for the senior class, the coaching staff will present two awards: the Samkon Treyton Award, also known as the Whole Person Development Award. "Our fans, we hope they all come out and get a chance to see their football team getting ready for the 2012 season," Gall said.

HARVEY is a sports reporter.

The Liberty Flames football team will be bringing a new look to next season’s team on Saturday, April 21. In addition to the many new players, Turner Gall will make his debut on the sideline as head coach of the Flames. The game will give Gall and his staff a chance to assess players in a different environment than the usual practice.

“We’ve all going to treat this as an evaluation for us. It’s a chance to see if it’s a game-like environment for us, so I’ve got a chance to see guys, how they play in front of fans, so that’s all going to be good for us to have that opportunity,” Gall said.

For the players and coaching staff in each conference that is becoming of 13 spring practices, including three scrimmage closed to the public.

“The more we get going together, they want to get better. They’re coming in, meeting with our coaches and wanting to learn and wanting to know what’s going on to get themselves better,” Gall said.

For fans looking to attend the game, gates will open at noon. Kickoff is at 12:30 p.m. and and a clock.

The game will follow Spring Game begins football season for fans looking to attend the game, gates will open at noon. Kickoff is at 12:30 p.m. and will feature a running clock.

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Smith Mountain Lake and Lake Kerr are one of many places to fish during the spring.

Outdoor report: hiking and fishing

Within two hours of Lynchburg, five locations are must-hike spots for the outdoor enthusiast.

McAfee’s Knob (1) is the most photographed location on the Appalachian Trail in Virginia, according to Hiking Upward.com. The 4.4 mile hike culminates in an outstanding view on its famous overhang.

Panther Falls (2) is a Liberty favorite. The falls are nestled in a secluded valley of the Blue Ridge mountains. Just an hour up I-64 after the drive, it’s just a short walk from a dirt road turn-off.

Old Rag (3) is a hike for more experienced adventurers, with a formidable rock scramble requiring the peak. Hiking Upward.com gives Old Rag four stars for difficulty, but four and a half stars for the view.

St. Mary’s Wilderness (4) can be a short hike or a weekend excursion. It is one of the most common choices for spring hiking. The falls here are nestled in a secluded valley of the Blue Ridge mountains. Just an hour up I-64 after the drive, it’s just a short walk from a dirt road turn-off.

Devil’s Marberry (5) tests physical endurance with its truck-sized boulders, but rewards the hiker with a gorgeous view of the Blue Ridge mountains and its valleys.

Photos by Chris Malhas and Tim Brown

Jonathan Pearson
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There are almost two million Virginia registered fishing permit holders and an average catch rate will spend $175 on bait and tackle a year. The fishing in central Virginia has been unusual due to the mixed weather conditions, and the rest of the fishing season looks to follow suit.

This year, the fishing season started three weeks earlier than usual. The strong bass fishing this year was noticed by bass fisherman David Plunkett who primarily fishes at Smith Mountain Lake and is on the water nearly every day.

"This winter, the fish were feeding more actively than in the past," Plunkett said. "The smallmouth bass right now on Smith Mountain Lake in full spawn. The largemouth bass are still feeding, but all the fish are more active than in past years."

In the surrounding lakes and rivers, it’s the same story. An indication of how far this year’s fishing season has been the early run of the shad. Most of the time, shad don’t go this far north before the beginning of May. This year however, they have been caught as early as March.

Area now being released by hatcheries are in the majority. Most of the hatcheries are releasing their fish this way and use these methods which Plunkett says is a good method for all rivers.

Most agree that summer fishing will come down to the weather and air temperature. "If we have an extremely dry and hot summer fishing is going to get really tough," Plunkett said. "But the water level will drop and the fish will pull down and off the banks. However, if we have a cool summer the fishing will be good once more."

The types of bait to throw have not changed and the fish are still pretty predictable on what they will hit on. Meathooks, big jigs going crank bait and jig hitting has been pulling in the lake bass best.

Smith Mountain Lake is the most common choice for fishing, but the Lynchburg area and small clubs affiliated with the lake host a multitude of small tournaments for the public to enter. Other places to go are Lake Kerr, James River, Otter Lake and Lake Fredrick. For those who like to search the big tournaments and get free stuff, there are a few tournaments coming to Smith Mountain Lake, one of which is the Older Big Bass Tournament this weekend.

Anyone with a pole over the age of sixteen must have a fishing license. For more information about places to fish, fishing regulations and in depth fishing reports, visit the Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries website.

PEARSON is a sports reporter.
New website connects runners in central VA

Emily Bass
embass@liberty.edu

While most children were learning how to ride a bike or read, Josh Isaacson was suffering through chemotherapy treatments. When he was six years old, Isaacson's life was turned upside down. While on vacation with his family, his mother noticed that his eye had started to protrude and took him to the hospital. On June 9, 1998, Isaacson was diagnosed with rhabdomyosarcoma, a type of muscle cancer. The cancer was located closely behind his right eye and nose, which made surgery not an option. Doctors told his family he had a 25-40 percent chance of surviving.

Isaacson underwent six weeks of radiation and 10 months of chemotherapy. He remembers going to the hospital every day and having to stay long weekends for chemotherapy treatments. There were also constant doctor visits.

"Doctors thought the damage from radiation would allow me to be a 'cancer survivor,'" Isaacson said. "It's only by God's grace that I'm still alive today, through high school and college."

Now, almost 14 years later, Isaacson is cancer free. On Friday, April 13, he was able to celebrate his victory by participating in Relay for Life, an all-night event designed to raise awareness and money for cancer research. Isaacson was one of 35 people who took turns walking around Liberty University's track for 13 hours, from 5 p.m. to 5 a.m.

This is the second year Isaacson has walked in the relay, and he said that one of the primary reasons he does it is to promote cancer research.

"Without cancer research, I wouldn't have made it this far," Isaacson said. "It's pretty amazing what God can do through doctors and nurses and the medications they have. I'm so thankful for the doctors and nurses and, I want to support them that the Relay for Life!"

With the help of family, friends, and professors, Isaacson has raised over $19,000, almost double his initial goal of $25,000.

The Relay for Life was able to raise more than $5,000 for the American Cancer Society in Lynchburg, Va.

Throughout the night, students gathered around the track, some selling candles and baked goods to raise additional money for the cause. Many played games and set up tents to prepare for the long night ahead.

According to Event Chair junior Perry Bobbitt, the overnight event gives people an idea of the fight those who are affected by cancer go through every day.

"Cancer never sleeps, and we’re walking all night because some- one who’s battling cancer doesn’t get to stop fighting at 9 a.m.,” Bobbitt said.

For three months, it was unknown what type of treatment Lamonte's father would undergo. In September 2011, he eventually chose not to do any surgery or radiation, but instead to change the way he ate, moving to a primarily vegan diet.

"I was really concerned for him and was really skeptical about it," Lamonte said. "It was really difficult, but as the months went on he started eating healthier foods. By Christmas 2011, Lamonte had raised money for the American Cancer Society, and "he’s beating it, he’s still battling with it," Lamonte said.

One of the major events of the night was the Luminaria Ceremony. During this, hundreds of candles in white paper bags were lit. Written on the bags were the names of loved ones who had died from or were currently battling cancer.

"Visual representation will recall the pain it helped us feel before," Gillson said. "People just have a great time celebrating life and remembering those that have passed and on celebrating those that may be fighting and survived. It gives people a sense of togetherness."

Sophomore Taylor Shoemaker came out to support her friends and walk in remembrance of her grandmother who died of leukemia.

"Tonight definitely makes a big difference. Being able to gather together and pour our money and prayers, and being people from the community coming together in great and teaching us to stop and remember that God has blessed us with life," Shoemaker said.

ABRAHAM is the assistant feature editor.

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New website connects runners in central VA

Emily Bass
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Looking to share his love of running, local resident Josh Isaacson offers encouragement through the World Wide Web.

Josh Austin, founder of Central Virginia's newest resource for local runners, has designed a website that connects runners with upcoming events.

This past March, while Austin and a few of his friends were walking on a Friday night, they concluded that there should be a website specifically for runners that would connect them to races, race results and information about running tailored to their location. By Monday morning, CVA Running was a functional part of the Internet.

"I wanted to create one place to find out what's going on with runners around the area," Austin said. "The website is just a way to promote healthy lifestyle and it makes us feel better when we see people out running.

For Austin, running has been a love affair ever since he decided to start.

"Why did I start run- ning? That's a good ques- tion," Josh Austin said. "I was severely overweight and I had to do something..."

Emily Bass
embass@liberty.edu

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ABRAHAM is the assistant feature editor.
Local blog popularizes modesty

Liberty senior Sarah Joyner advocates for the adoption of holy dressing through fashion website

Raphael Gauvreau
Impressions Editor

Who said girls can’t be fashionable and modest at the same time? According to the blog Fearlessly Chique, girls can keep up with the latest trends without giving into the media’s lure that modesty should shrivel and necklines should plunge.

Senior Sarah Joyner said she felt a passion to reach young girls for Christ by showcasing the importance of modesty after she gave her life to Christ. According to her, she talked with her professor, Ruth Gonzes, about the idea to start a modesty blog, and Gonzes agreed to help her with the project.

“I’m very much in college, God revealed to me during my quiet time that he wanted me to reach young girls for him,” Joyner said. “Before I knew Christ I lived immodestly, but now I know that how I dress is a reflection of my character, and I want other girls to take hold of that truth.”

Fearlessly Chique provides fresh ideas for making current styles work for girls who desire to be modest in their wardrobe, such as pairing a cropped top with a high-waisted skirt, turning a revealing midriff piece into a workable, modest outfit.

While fashion is important and fun, I feel I have what NOT TO WEAR
fashionably with modesty

totally missed the mark if I did not include the spiritual aspect of modesty on the blog as well,” Joyner said.

In addition to the blog’s fashion posts and videos, the site features daily devotionals that aim to encourage and grow young girls spiritually.

“Girls need a healthy balance of knowing who they are in Christ first, and living in fear of the Lord, yet fearlessly before men,” Joyner said. “That idea is actually where we got the idea for the name of the blog.”

Several Liberty University students have utilized the blog as a resource for fashion, and sophomore Lindsey Lewis is one of them. “Some girls say they can’t find anything modest to wear,” Lewis said. “This blog gives some simple and practical tips on dressing modestly and fashionably as well. I especially like the section on guys’ thoughts about the issue because so many girls are curious about how guys think.”

According to Joyner, a panel of guys was recently asked what modesty means to them, and their responses were posted on the blog. The guys each took turns discussing how modesty is much more than drafting choices and how it is a reflection of holiness.

“It is important as Christian women that we watch out for our brothers and do not wear anything that would cause them to stumble,” Joyner said. “I think for girls to hear from a guy that modesty really is a big deal, it helps them to understand they need to dress respectfully for God, and out of respect for themselves and their brothers in Christ.”

Joyner said she hopes that in the future the blog will become the main source that girls turn to in order to get fashion advice, as opposed to the magazines and movies that feed lies about how girls should dress.

“Modesty doesn’t happen overnight. It is a process of surrendering to God and knowing that the outside body will all eventually fade away, but a girl’s character and heart will last forever.”

Fearlessly Chique is hosting an event called “We are the Light” April 19 from 7:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m., where Shari Falwell will speak on Matthew 5 about how Christians are supposed to be the light of the world. The event will be followed by a time of live worship, a panel of guys discussing how they pray, and a chat about the latest trends for guys.

For more information, visit Fearlessly Chique’s blog at fearlesslychique.blogspot.com.

GURLEY is a feature reporter.
Art brightens up ILRC

Desiree Wheeler
Debrah B. Liberty

Creativity and freedom of expression reigns supreme at Liberty University’s 13th annual Juried Art Show which began on Friday, April 13. The exhibit was hosted by the Studio and Digital Arts Department and showcased 45 students’ work in the Integrated Learning Resource Center (ILRC).

The art pieces were chosen by a designated juror prior to their inclusion in the exhibit. This year’s juror was the President and Founder of B2B Studio, Brad Blackburn. B2B studio is a digital arts organization that has aided countless clients with design work for Thomas Road Baptist Church’s Charles Billingsley.

A total of 70 pieces of student work were submitted in categories including photography, drawing, painting, graphic design and mixed media. The art will remain available for viewing in the ILRC through the end of the semester.

“We had a lot of work entered this year. Our judge was really impressed with the breadth of work as well. I was really pleased with the quality of the work that was submitted to the show,” Chief of Staff for the Studio and Digital Arts and Associate Professor of Communication Studies Todd Smith said. “As a juried show, not every piece makes it in. This kind of competition encourages students to go to the next level so that the work they enter is better.”

“The Juried Art Show is an excellent opportunity for our Liberty student to put their work out there for the student body to enjoy. Our department really loves letting art be a point for the growth and influence of the visual arts at Liberty,” said Katelyn Groom, Director of the Studio and Digital Arts department.

Awards are given each year for the art submitted. Awards include Best of Show, First, Second, Third and Honorable Mention in each category. Students of all majors were able to submit their work.

“The growth and influence of the visual arts at Liberty University is pretty remarkable in my opinion,” said Smith. “The museum that helps propel this, in part, is the Studio and Digital Art department. The department helps provide a context for creativity and artistic expression through its curriculum, studio classes and competitions,” Smith said.

The Juried Art Show is out of several exhibits the Studio and Digital Art department partake in every year. Other events include Fall Guest Artist Exhibit, Senior Art Show, Larger-than-Life exhibit, Professor’s Choice, Photography exhibit and so on.

“Our students are continually encouraged to design for the glory of God and to reflect their creativity in all they do,” said. Given these incentives, students rise to the occasion. I constantly have students who see their art piece as an act of worship. Our ultimate goal is to prepare students to take the approach into the field of art as designers, art educators, art critics, curators, and so on,” Smith said.

For more information about future events, visit the Studio and Digital Arts Studio Department on Liberty University’s website.

WHEELER is a feature reporter.
soared with imaginative sets and which is based on the original performance. The musical Peter Pan, which is Alluvion Stage Company's premiere production, took flight Friday, April 13. The show, which is based on Sir James M. Barrie, opened for an encore performance.

The Alluvion cast will be performing Peter Pan in Liberty's Theatre stage to act alongside professional company that took its birth from where you went to school. It's such an amazing opportunity that they asked me to be in it. 2011 Liberty graduate Sarah Haley, who returned to perform, said, "It's so much fun up on the stage, it's great." Nelson said. "It's fun being up on the stage with the students, just seeing, I mean and enjoying the characters of the story."

According to Director Linda Nell Cooper, seeing the mix of graduates and current students interact on stage was an exciting experience. "It was fun working with the alumni again and seeing them mix and mingle with the underclassmen," Cooper said, "and realizing that they went before them and really got the underclassmen to whom they are now, and just seeing that heritage and that history mix together."

The Alluvion cast will be performing Peter Pan in Liberty's Theatre April 19 through 22 and 26 through 30 at 7:30 p.m., April 21 and 22 at 2 p.m., April 21 and 25 at 2:30 p.m., and April 24 for school groups at 10 a.m.

Alumnus Jennings is the feature editor.

THE GALA IS A Laid-back Experience..."People can just come, relax, socialize with each other, get to know other seniors, other juniors, make connections before they graduate, it's just a night of enjoyment." GARCIA is a feature reporter.