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# The Liberty Champion

DECEMBER 6, 2005 SERVING LIBERTY UNIVERSITY FOR 23 YEARS

VOL. 23, NO. 11



**Haiti's next election**  
Vote met with skepticism  
from country's citizens. **A4**

**'End of the Spear'**  
Life! gives you a look behind  
the scenes. **B6**



## PRSSA adds to career prep

By Holly Clements  
NEWS REPORTER

Liberty is one of only seven schools in Virginia that can claim an established PRSSA chapter. That's really exciting if you know what PRSSA is. If you don't know, keep reading and you will probably start to share this enthusiasm.

First, the facts: PRSSA stands for Public Relations Student Society of America. It was founded in 1968 by the Public Relations Society of America (PRSA.) There are currently 8,500 members in 270 chapters on college campuses across the nation. The primary goal of the society is "to serve our members by enhancing their knowledge of public relations and providing access to professional development opportunities."

Membership in a professional organization, such as PRSSA, is one of the things that sets college graduates apart from the competition. Any student who would like some hands-on experience in the business world, or just needs something to add a little boost to his or her resume, would greatly benefit from getting involved.

The opportunities to become more prepared for the work-world are numerous. First of all, PRSSA members get to attend a national conference every year. The conference is always hosted in a city that students would like to visit like Miami, New York City or Chicago.

Please see PRSSA, page A3

## Good times ahead for Liberty

By Matthew Warner  
NEWS REPORTER

Total enrollment at Liberty has jumped by nearly 8,000 students in the past five years. The 74 percent increase is one of many factors that finally put Liberty University on solid financial ground.

Jerry Falwell Jr. credits God's providence and leading in bringing Liberty to where it is today. "I have seen God intervene time after time to

provide for Liberty's needs," said Falwell Jr.

After years of reliance on unpredictable donations and borrowed money for day-to-day operation, Liberty now has surplus revenue in excess of \$10 million annually, according to a recent IRS 990 filing.

Within weeks of Thomas Road Baptist Church's first service, held in June of 1956, radio broadcasts of Rev. Jerry Falwell's sermons

were being heard over the air. Less than one year later the Old Time Gospel Hour was being shown on local TV stations.



Three decades after the first television broadcast the OTGH was bringing in donation revenue of about \$50 million annually.

"The Old Time Gospel Hour was the engine in the 1970s and most of the 1980s," the Rev. Jerry Falwell told the Lynchburg

New and Advance in an interview.

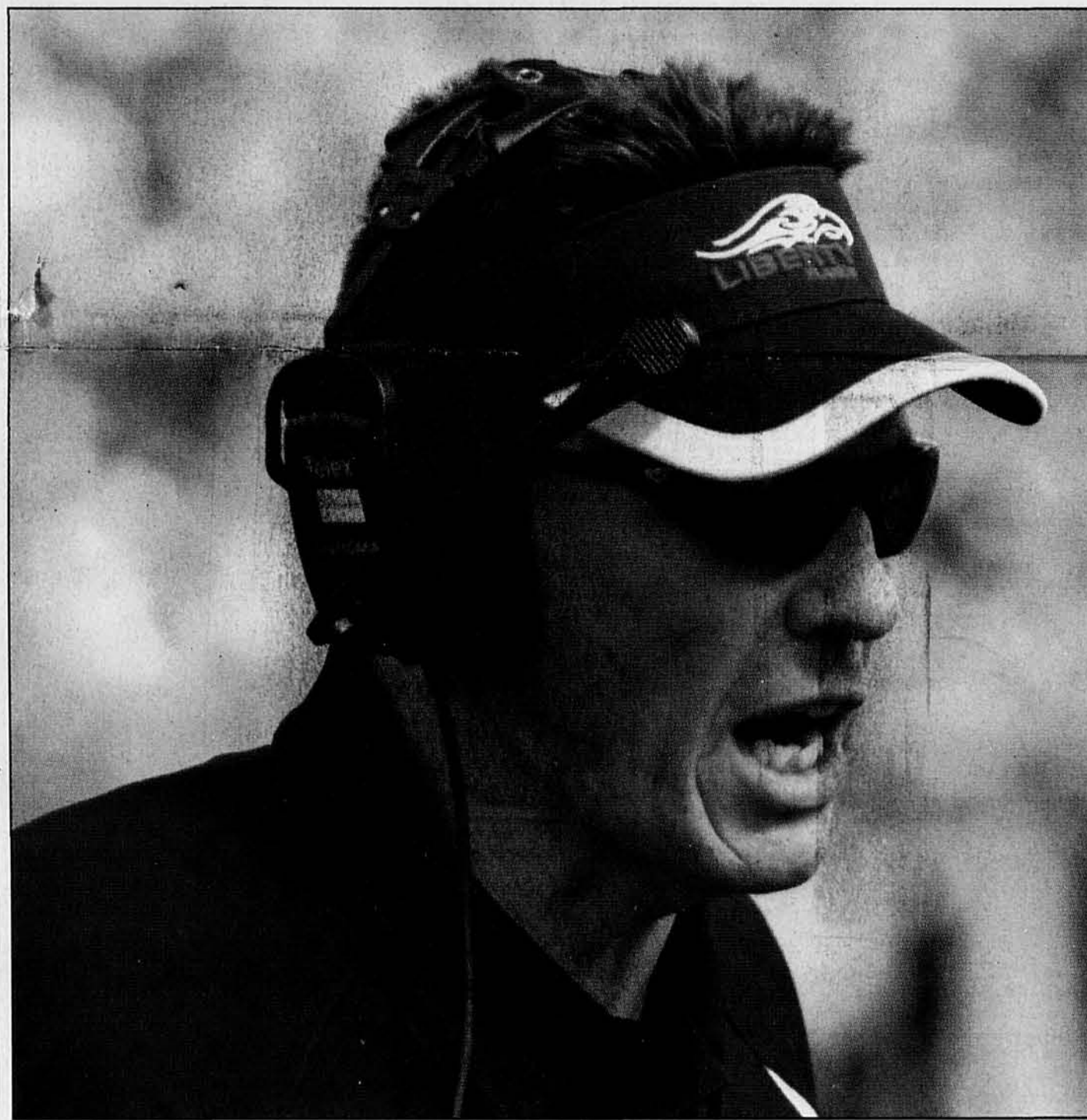
The significant revenue generated by Falwell's TV broadcasts was enough to subsidize Liberty students' tuition

"We didn't have to charge the student's a fraction of what we're charging today," said Falwell.

But back-to-back scandals in 1988 and 1989 quickly crushed Liberty's dependence on OTGH revenue.

Please see FINANCES, page A3

## Karcher bids farewell



LES SCHOFER

**CHANGES** — After the worst season in school history, Liberty football coach Ken Karcher was fired Nov. 17. On Dec. 2, Dr. Jerry Falwell announced the hiring of new head coach Danny Rocco, former associate head coach at the University of Virginia. For more information and an analysis of the "Shakeup at Williams Stadium," please see Sports.

## Law school visited by civil rights speaker

By Matthew Warner  
NEWS REPORTER

Presidential appointee to the United States Commission on Civil Rights Ashley Taylor addressed the Liberty University School of Law student body Wednesday afternoon, bringing to their attention a case that he says will end up in the Supreme Court.

Taylor spoke on his involvement with Charles Coleson's Virginia-based Prison Fellowship Ministries, specifically the branch known as the InnerChange Freedom Initiative. The IFI is working to reduce recidivism under a government contract at Newton Correctional Facility, a long-term medium security prison in Iowa.

Americans United for the Separation of Church and State has brought a lawsuit against the IFI concerning their Iowan contract.

A statement by the Rev. Barry W. Lynn, executive director of Americans United, states the grounds for their lawsuit, "The InnerChange program is essentially a government-funded conversion program. This setup clearly violates the separation of church and state."

Taylor is one of the attorneys who are defending their case.

The IFI acts in the context of a "values-based pre-release services program" in which the Bible and life of Jesus Christ are used for illustrative purposes.

Values such as love and reconciliation are taught, and then inmates are challenged to look to the scriptures for practical application.



TAYLOR

## Xbox 360 goes from shelves to living rooms



#1 CHRISTMAS PRESENT — A local child plays new Xbox at Target.

By Holly Clements and Joanne Tang

Hula Hoops, Rubik's cubes, Cabbage Patch Dolls, Beanie Babies, Furby and Tickle Me Elmo. What do these things have in common? Each one of these was the "it" toy for the Christmas season the year it was released. For Christmas 2005 it looks like the Xbox 360 might be added to the list.

Microsoft has been extremely tight-lipped regarding exact sales of the new gaming system since it hit store shelves on Nov. 22. However, a representative from Microsoft did state that they expect to sell as many as 3 million Xbox 360s in the first three months after its launch. An eBay spokeswoman told Reuters that by midday Wednesday, Nov. 23, nearly 7,700 Xbox

360s had sold at an average price of \$786. Obviously this system has really hit home with its target audience. Though the Lynchburg Best Buy was unable to comment, witnesses say that the store was sold out of Xbox 360s within the first half hour of sales on "Black Friday."

Junior Ben Jenkins waited in line for four hours at Wal-Mart over Thanksgiving break to get an Xbox 360. He did not anticipate the high demand for the system and went home empty handed. His friend, who had waited at Best Buy for 12 hours before the store opened, did get his hands on one. As a result, Jenkins "had some pleasure in playing at his (friends') house that night."

Please see XBOX, page A3

Please see TAYLOR, page A3

**CHRISTMAS SPIRIT** — ILRC and the Champion collected 174 shoeboxes during November and then delivered them to Rivemont Baptist Church, to be distributed to over 100 contries.



## Operation Christmas child '05

SUE MATTHEWS

# Get a head start this summer

By Matthew Robinson  
NEWS REPORTER

With spring semester rapidly approaching, it is not a bad idea to start thinking about summer school.

Taking classes in the summer has many distinct advantages. For starters, students can expect smaller class sizes, more one-on-one interaction with instructors, getting ahead in a program and having shorter class sessions.

Additional advantages include carrying a lighter semester load in an upcoming semester, satisfying the computer competency requirement, and an opportunity to take classes which may not be offered during the fall or spring.

At a reduced price of \$250 per undergraduate credit hour it is far less costly than paying for a class during the regular semester. However, class fees are still applied to certain courses.

"Most of the classes are set up for a four-week format in order to give a student the opportunity to take the maximum numbers of academic hours in a summer," said Director of LU Summer Programs Kenny Rowlette.

Summer intensives will also be offered in either one or two-week formats. Rowlette advocates taking

no more than nine credit hours in the summer and said students will most likely be interested in taking six to nine hours.

Course listings can be viewed by logging onto ASIST and changing the term to Summer I or II and then choosing the Course Search option according to the Summer Session 2006 Web site.

Open registration on ASIST for the 2006 summer session begins January 1 and ends April 1, 2006. After April 1, registration will need to be processed manually in the Registrar's Office and will require approval from Student Accounts.

Students need to be aware that an instructor's approval may be needed before April 1 because of strict enrollment or a filled course. Summer session I will last from May 15-June 9. Session II will last from June 12-July 7 2006.

According to Rowlette a third summer session, July 10-July 28 2006 will be primarily for incoming freshmen or transfer students who chose to get an early LU career start.

Classes will be offered on both main and north campuses.

"The majority of classes offered on Campus North will be Graduate and Seminary-level courses,"

Registration Coordinator Wende Parker.

Students needing housing for summer school can expect to stay at the East Campus Apartments while paying a fee to eat at the cafeteria.

"\$15 a day or \$75 a week for double capacity, \$30 a day or \$150 a week for single capacity," said Housing Information Manager Kimberly Freitas.

Students may petition for a summer class if not offered in the course listing on ASIST. As long as five or more students show interest in the same class, Rowlette will try to see that the course gets added.

Rowlette said recent studies depict a typical college student takes between four and five years to finish a college degree. Summer school helps the student to complete their degree in a quick manner.

"In short, taking summer classes at LU makes economic, academic and professional sense," said Rowlette.

Any questions regarding the 2006 summer school Web site should call 582-2087 or e-mail [kgrowlet@liberty.edu](mailto:kgrowlet@liberty.edu).

Contact Matthew Robinson at [mrobinson@liberty.edu](mailto:mrobinson@liberty.edu).

## Professor brings history to life

By Tanya Whelley  
NEWS REPORTER

A usually dull and ordinary history class can come to life when Dr. Roger Schultz is the professor. Schultz has been teaching at Liberty University for four years and anyone who has ever taken him for a class knows he is extremely passionate about what he teaches.

Schultz took the long journey from his native state of Minnesota to Virginia in order to teach at Virginia Intermont College. While there, he repeatedly wrote to the current Chairman of the history department at the time, Dr. Cline Hall, asking him for a teaching position at Liberty. Eventually a spot became available, and in 2002 Schultz was welcomed into Liberty's history department.

"I always loved history," said Schultz, who specializes in the way religion influences culture. While teaching, Schultz's love for history is apparent.

"I like teaching fun details and interesting facts about history that may not be normal," said Schultz.

Following this idea, Schultz regularly brings guest speakers into his classroom in order to give students first-hand accounts of things they read in their history books or are lectured about. One of Schultz's favorite people to bring into his class was Gene Bradley, a Secret Service agent indicted in the assassination of JFK. Bradley recently passed away, but gave one last memorable presentation to Schultz's students in 2004.

Two of the students in Schultz's class were so interested in Bradley's JFK assassination theory that they took it upon themselves to do a special project about him and even went over Bradley's personal documents with his widow.

Another interesting person Schultz brings into his classes is Jim Moon, whom he refers to as Dr. Jerry Falwell's oldest friend who helped in founding Thomas Road Baptist Church. One of Moon's classic stories is about the time he and Falwell "set Campbell Avenue on fire."

Besides being able to teach his favorite topic, one of the benefits in coming to Liberty for Schultz was the fact that his children would receive a solid Christian education. Currently, three of his nine children are enrolled at Liberty University and Liberty's School of Law.

Hannah, Schultz's oldest daughter, explained that even at an early age her father would share his enthusiasm for history with her and her siblings.



SCHULTZ

"Dad would suggest age-appropriate books for us to read, and we generally enjoyed that," said Hannah. "When Dad would think of something particularly interesting, he would give us special history lessons in the evenings, after he got home from work. These lessons were frequently interactive, and quite memorable."

Currently, Schultz is the Associate Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences at Liberty as well as Chair of the history department. He is presently working on the biographies of Harry Rimmer, a Christian apologist, and Dan Graham, who started 29 churches and a Bible College in Tennessee. Schultz has written articles for internationally-published periodicals on subjects such as creationism, and of course, history.

Schultz believes the way to get students involved in history is by being enjoying it himself.

Contact Tanya Whelley at [tmwhelley@liberty.edu](mailto:tmwhelley@liberty.edu).

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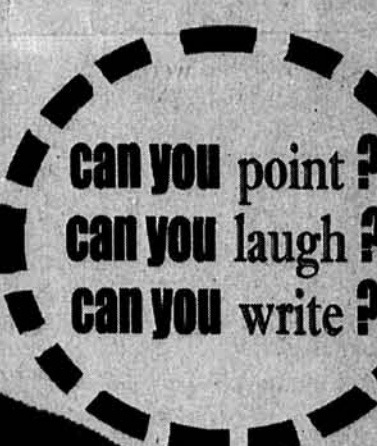
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All material submitted becomes property of the Champion. The Champion reserves the right to accept, reject or edit any letter received — according to the Champion stylebook, taste and the Liberty University mission statement.

Send letters to: Liberty Champion, Liberty University, Box 2000, Lynchburg, VA 24506 or drop off in DeMoss Hall 1035.

The Champion is available online at: [www.liberty.edu/info/champion](http://www.liberty.edu/info/champion).

# Xbox: The next frontier

Continued from page 1

The Lynchburg GameStop, like many other retailers, offered a waiting list for anyone who wanted to reserve an Xbox 360. GameStop stopped adding names to the list this past summer. Any new shipments the store gets in will be given to those who have made a reservation. Thus, it is doubtful that there will be any available on store shelves for quite some time.

So what's so special about this system? Well, in addition to running Xbox 360 games, it is backwards compatible to run original Xbox games. It also runs DVDs and CDs, can be connected to digital cam-

eras and mp3 players and also supports high-definition resolutions. Not only is it better than its predecessor, Larkins said "some of the things I thought were impressive besides the standard graphics overhaul were the amount of options and customizations."

Though it is HD ready, the user does not require HDTV to use the system. "HD ready" simply means if a TV has a high level of resolution (up to 1080 interlace) the system will be able to work with it, which provides the user a much more realistic gaming experience. If the user's TV is standard-definition (480 interlace), the Xbox 360 games look just like the old ones.

The Xbox 360 employs a new artificial intelligence system, allowing for characters in games to use the environment around them to make decisions and even gather forces to attack the player. This not only makes games more challenging, it provides for a more diverse gaming experience for the player, as the Xbox development team promises that games will "rarely play out the same way twice."

The Xbox 360 comes in two versions. The full \$399 version includes the console, a wire-

less controller, an HD cable, a headset and a hard drive. The Core System contains a console, a wired controller and an AV cable. Those who purchase a Core System can build up their system at their own pace.

Both come with Xbox Live Silver and gamers will need to buy a Gold membership to play online.

There are currently more than 25 games available for the Xbox 360 and over 200 in development. Larkins said he is looking forward to "Gears of War" and "Forza Motorsport 2."

Many are excited about games such as Quake 4 and Gun. Junior Megan Payette has her name on a waiting list and can't wait to play Perfect Dark Zero.

The advanced technology implemented in the design of this system has made it truly revolutionary in the world of gaming. Microsoft is not predicting any decrease in this system's popularity, which makes it "the toy to have" this holiday season.

Contact Joanne Tang at [jtang@liberty.edu](mailto:jtang@liberty.edu) and Holly Clements at [hclements@liberty.edu](mailto:hclements@liberty.edu).

## Xbox 360

• Three processors, running at 3.2 Ghz each, power the console.

• Xbox Live Gold allows you to play games online. Current Xbox Live subscribers will be able to transfer their account.

• Features a detachable 20 gigabyte hard drive for all your storage needs.

• Built-in wireless allows gamers to connect up to four wireless controllers, from a distance of up to 30 feet. A "cycling signal" prevents other wireless devices from interfering with the communication between controller and console.

• Three multi-purpose USB ports allow for cameras, mp3 players and other peripherals to be hooked up.

• The Xbox 360 will be fully compatible with other 360s, allowing LAN parties.



SOLD OUT — Many stores are sold out of the new system in hours. STEPHEN PINKEL

# Taylor: Taking the Bible to prison

Continued from page 1

"We now have prisoners who are, 24 hours a day, being taught Bible principles, but they are being taught bible principles in the context of universally accepted values," said Taylor.

Americans United argues that all evangelical Christians constantly operate with proselytization as their end goal. Thus, they are inherently disqualified from taking part in taxpayer-funded programs.

"The lawsuit is not about what we are doing in the program, the lawsuit is about who we are, and our motivation, and quite candidly, that is the best grounds for us to fight on," said Taylor.

Such an argument is beyond the scope of judicial providence.

Taylor also explained that every IFI employee is a missionary and prays that each inmate they interact with would be saved.

However, the question before the court is conduct in a certain context, not motivation.

Motivation, said Taylor,

is not grounds for barring a group from performing a public service.

Taylor went to great detail to explain to the law students the effectiveness of the program.

Recidivism rates for IFI are about 18 percent. In similar programs around the country the rates are around 55 percent. "Other states have noticed this after a two-year trend, and they said they would like an IFI program," said Taylor, citing that Minnesota, Kansas and Iowa would all like IFI programs.

"The environment in the IFI wing of a prison is the same environment you are experiencing right here. Peaceful, calm, quiet, civil and right across the yard it is G.P., general population. It is literally heaven an hell."

IFI is a voluntary program that inmates may select to take part in and is run in a campus-like setting. It is an intensive, around the clock program structured at a level comparable to the Virginia Military Institute, where Taylor completed his B.S.

Taylor stated that he is a

"tackler and blocker" for missionaries that have devoted their lives to the IFI program and the inmates whose lives are transformed through it.

"We just cannot be required to shut our beliefs at the door," said Taylor.

Taylor's address was the third installment in the 2005-2006 Speakers' Forum at Liberty University School of Law.

Taylor is an executive partner at Troutman Sanders law firm in Richmond and has close ties to Liberty.

He and his wife adopted their oldest son through the godparent home, a crisis pregnancy center that offers an alternative to abortion for unwed mothers.

"I am not unfamiliar with Liberty at all ... this (school) holds a special place in my heart," said Taylor.

Contact Matthew Warner at [mjwarner@liberty.edu](mailto:mjwarner@liberty.edu).

# PRSSA: What skills do you have?

Continued from page 1

There are also regional activities hosted periodically by individual chapters. In addition to this, PRSSA membership provides students the opportunities to increase leadership skills, become comfortable in a professional environment, build relationships with other career-oriented students and most importantly, network.

The LU PRSSA chapter was founded in 2002 by Don Egle. After much growth, the society has big plans for the next few years. For the first time since its inception, the LU chapter is planning on hosting a regional activity sometime this year. Next semester there will be a chapter social and monthly luncheons with the Blue Ridge Chapter of

PRSSA. Also, the society is looking into beginning a student-led firm to increase the credibility of the chapter. The firm will utilize the knowledge students have gained in classes such as COMS 367, 489, and 356.

Membership in PRSSA is open to all Liberty students. If you would like a chance to get involved with an elite professional society, build on your classroom training, meet fun people and make some important professional connections, PRSSA is for you. For more information, contact the chapter president Jessica Gilbert at [jgilbert@liberty.edu](mailto:jgilbert@liberty.edu).

Contact Holly Clements at [hmclements@liberty.edu](mailto:hmclements@liberty.edu).

# Finance: LU debt reduced

Continued from page 1

"All ministries were hurt. There was a credibility crunch. It ruined forever the ability to sustain the university," Falwell said.

As a result, Liberty's financial state declined drastically. By 1992, Liberty owed \$83 million.

"Especially in the most difficult years between 1990 and 1997, we watched financial miracles occur on almost a daily basis," said Falwell Jr.

Nothing short of a miracle helped the University escape bankruptcy. The combined efforts of Jimmy Thomas and Dan Reber, businessmen from Forest, Va., and insurance tycoon Art Williams helped eliminate \$50 million of Liberty's debt. Liberty's dining hall and football stadium are named after these philanthropists.

A number of other benefactors reduced the debt an additional 10 million dollars.

The remaining debt was whittled away

through the installment of a financial management team, the reduction of in-house scholarships and an increase in tuition. In the past five years residential student tuition has increased by \$5,000.

Liberty is now independent of outside contributions and has a steady, predictable income based largely off of tuition and student fees, as is the standard for most universities.

According to Liberty's IRS forms \$12 million of revenue was raised annually. That money, according to Falwell Jr., is being used toward capital investments and debt reduction.

Future tuition increases will be considered on an annual basis, "but will likely continue to be less than the national average," said Falwell Jr., "Liberty remains a bargain among private colleges and universities."

Contact Matthew Warner at [mjwarner@liberty.edu](mailto:mjwarner@liberty.edu)

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# OPINION

*"Under these circumstances, it is hard to believe that the Haitian people would ever accept the results of the elections."*

Congresswoman Maxine Waters  
AUG. 23, 2005

## Haiti's next election

### Another phase in the country's turbulent path



stephaniebrown

Haiti will tentatively hold its presidential election sometime in January. As of Oct. 18, there are a reported 3 million of the eligible 4.5 million Haitians registered to vote, and the election has already been delayed three times. While the UN has peacekeeping forces steadily losing ground and number, the interim government headed up by Gerard Latortue is daily acted out against by former president Jean Bertrand-Aristide supporters and other political parties trying to attain governmental influence.

Haiti is no stranger to corruption, whether it is political, social, spiritual or economical. The country is the first black-led republic in this hemisphere and is the first Caribbean state to achieve independence. However, its perpetual depressing condition does not indicate that being the first independent Caribbean state makes the nation better off than the rest. Haiti continues to decline, and is becoming increasingly more violent as the tension of the ensuing election grows.

Aristide is just one of the presidents from a long line of dictators that have led the nation in its 200 years of independence from France. A couple of the famed dictators before him are father and son, Francois "Papa Doc" Duvalier and Jean-Claude "Baby Doc." Senior Duvalier was a well-known voodoo physician, and along with his son's leadership, their administrations severely oppressed the Haitians and their economy. Aristide was the first president elected as a result from an official election in 1990. He is a part of the Lavalas political party that has won every election in the last 15 years by a landslide. Many of the continuing problems Haiti has had over the years have intensified since Aristide left in exile to South Africa in Feb. 2004. The Haitian majority voted him in, but his exile was forced, after a bloody coup.

Aristide is a former Roman Catholic priest, but was expelled from the religious order in 1988, and officially left the priesthood in 1994 because of the Church's disagreement with his political activities. Aristide's doctrinal beliefs are strongly marked by Liberation Theology, which focuses and purposes to help the poor and weak rise up economically. That most Aristide supporters are from the poor population proves his efforts were not in vain, as are so many humanitarian efforts in Haiti.

However, the vast array of gangs, rebel groups and dissenters led to both of Aristide's exiles. The Clinton administration, in 1994, reinstated Aristide from his first exile after the military rulers in Haiti stepped down as 20,000 troops moved in, mostly

American. Aristide's second exile occurred in 2004 after the fall of 2003 began the uprising of the masses. On June 1, 2004, U.S. peace-keeping forces arrived. It is debated whether Aristide voluntarily left or was forced to by outside influences. His supporters say the U.S. forced him from office. Either way, the violence between the coup enforcers and the Aristide supporters increased significantly after his exile, and the interim government was quickly put into place while plans for the presidential election commenced.

Because of all of the problems surrounding and affecting the progress and completion of the election, some Haitians and foreign nations only see the election as a farce. There have been 48 leaders in 200 years, and only 10 of them have served their full terms. The previous failures of the Haitian presidents have marred the validity of a fair election. Director of the Institute for Justice and Democracy Brain Concannon said that, "Haitian voters have seen enough electoral charades to recognize one, and they call the upcoming votes a 'selection.' They connect the dots from the arrests of political dissidents to the scarce and gerrymandered registration centers, and see a return to the days when a fraction of the citizenry chose the likes of "Papa Doc" Francois Duvalier from a list of approved candidates." Haiti's people notice too many political candidates and members in jail or missing for there to not be any suspicion of sabotage.

Without the necessary infrastructure and technological resources, the setup for voter registration and the voting process is a daunting undertaking. The government called on Patrick Fequiere to handle the task.

In an informative and intriguing documentary titled "Wide Angle: Unfinished Country," Fequiere describes himself as a forceful "pit bull," so the government's request for his help is understandable, since Haiti's political environment is out of control. Fequiere's official title is the Head of Operations of the Provisional Electoral Council (CEP); the council has nine members. In June of this year, Fequiere stated his goal of setting up 424 polling stations and registering the 4.5 million eligible Haitian voters.

Quickly, the CEP realized the goal was impossible. The registration process is very slow, and the necessary national ID card to vote is attained only if the prospective voter has a birth certificate or some other form of identification. Since 99 percent of the Haitian population is comprised of the poor, according to the documentary, then the majority of voters have a difficult time actually getting registered. There were 12,000 registration centers in the 1990 election compared to the very few set up for this year's election, and most of the centers are placed in Aristide-supported areas and near the CEP's office.

Even with fewer registration centers this time around, the number of participating parties is overwhelming. There are over

80 political parties with interest in representation in the upcoming election and around 3 dozen official candidates vying for the presidency. Of these, is one man named Guy Philippe who is comparatively young at 37, and is the leader of the National Front party. Philippe was a rebel leader that worked with gang member Butteur Mètayer to oust Aristide. Mètayer's brother, Cuban, was killed allegedly by command from Aristide, and the subsequent riots from the people are what initiated Aristide's removal from the country. The gun-influenced control succeeded, but Philippe says now he is focused only on moving the National Front into office, and hopefully peacefully.

The National Front's political agenda focuses on the younger transitional generation of Haiti. Philippe sees hopes for the future in the younger people, and his campaigning hones in on those that are interested in changing their country. In "Wide Angle," Philippe said, "I hope the international community finally understands that ... it's been trying to impose governments on Haiti, and it's failed. Today, please, let the Haitian people find a solution." Similarly, Philippe also said that, "Haitians must take responsibility. The National Front will take power and give it to the youth to save the country."

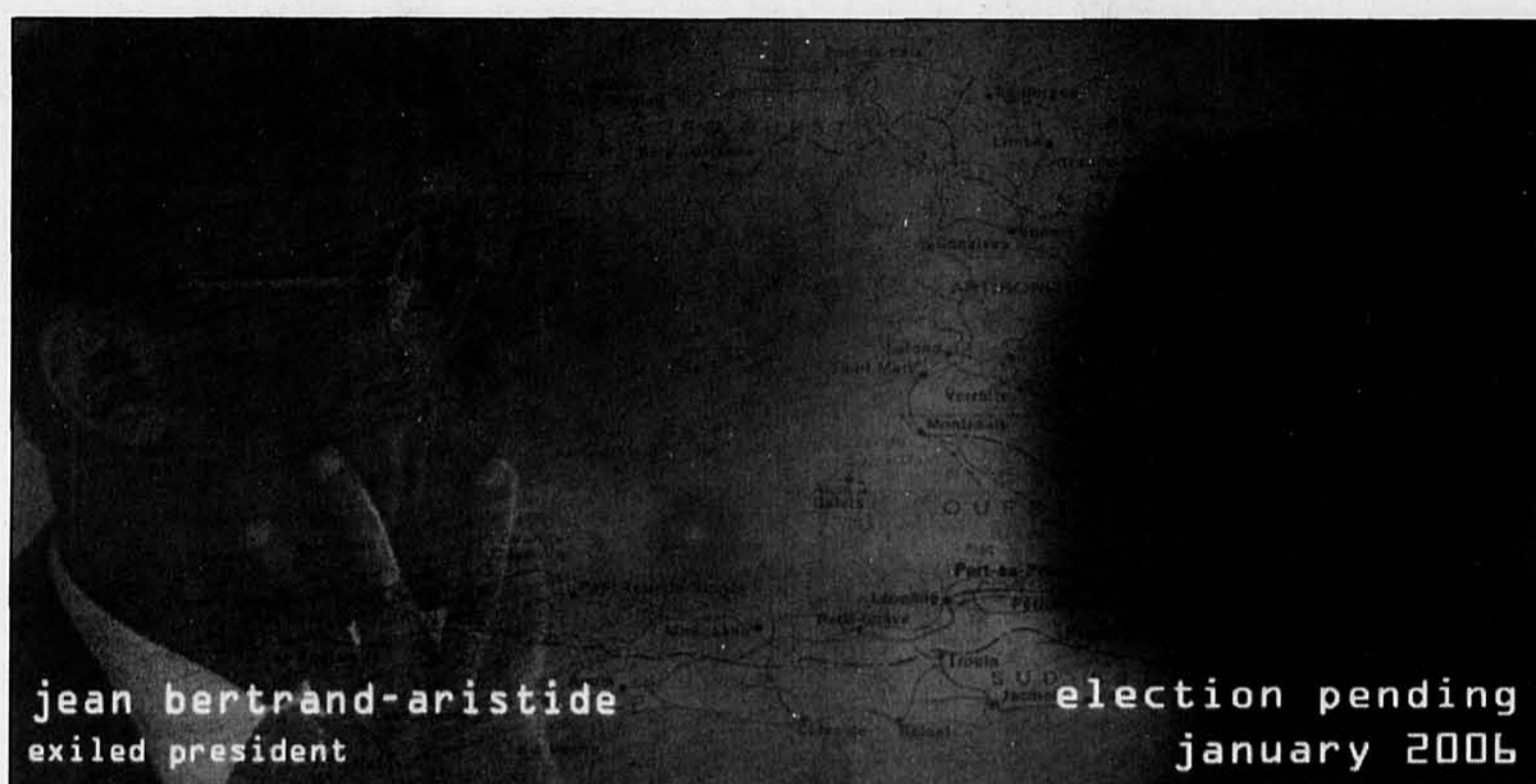
However, some people from the elite class, which owns half of the country's wealth, think that international involvement should increase. The perspective of the poor people is significantly different. These Haitians believe that the only way to abate the problems facing Haiti is for a closure in the polarized gap between the rich and poor. The tragedy, however, is that most of the poor who would vote, see the coming election as just another phase in the country's turbulent past: a selection.

North Carolina Director of the Hope for Haiti Foundation John Brown Jr., when asked about what he thinks needs to happen in order for Haiti to change for the better, said that it will ultimately be God who changes the hearts of the people and gets rid of the corruption. Brown also said that, "Having a democracy in Haiti is a farce...law is a farce." To Brown, it seems everything humanly possible has been tried and it is really only something God can change now.

The world must wait until after December to see if this presidential election will set in motion a period of improvement, or if it will just deepen the corruption and turmoil. Brown said, "But with the hindrances that have attacked the voting and elective process so far, a 'fair and complete' election may never happen."

For more information or to view "Wide Angle: Unfinished Country," go to [www.pbs.org](http://www.pbs.org). For additional information on the Hope for Haiti Foundation, visit [www.hope4haiti.com](http://www.hope4haiti.com).

Contact Stephanie Brown at [spbrown2@liberty.edu](mailto:spbrown2@liberty.edu).



GRAPHIC ILLUSTRATION BY LESLIE PARAMYTHING

## SpeakUp: What do you think of the athletic department changes?



"I was so happy when I heard...now we have a chance to do some winning!"

—Becky Martin, Jr.  
Sweet Valley, Pa.



"I don't know if we should fire our coach only a year after giving him a new contract."

—John Ross, Sr.  
Rockville, Ind.



"Personally, I think the changes were needed for the program to progress."

—Travis Smith, Fr.  
Baltimore, Md.



"Whoever replaces Ken Karcher should be a good spiritual role model as he was ... that comes first."

—Spencer Drake, Soph.  
Amherst, Va.



"I don't think we should have done it with only a game left in the football season ... it could have waited a week."

—Alex Mason, Sr.  
Lynchburg, Va.



"Oh wow ... I'm shocked! Well I hope we start winning now!"

—Roxy Maddah, Soph.  
McLean, Va.

# COMMENTARY

## Shopping: The Christmas nightmare

I hate Christmas shopping. A friend told me yesterday that she had bought all the gifts she was giving this year except for one. I honestly didn't even remember that I was supposed to give gifts until she mentioned it. The thing is, I like giving gifts. I like doing something nice for somebody else. And it's not because it's expensive that I hate Christmas shopping. It's that there's just too much to it.



aliciawotring

First, you have to go to the store — bo-ring. And God forbid you have to go to the mall anytime after Thanksgiving. For me, it inevitably happens that there's one store that's not located anywhere outside a mall in the tri-state area. So, in search of that one special gift, I break down and go to the mall. After getting frostbite on my toes after the two-mile trek to the entrance, everything is picked over and prices are marked up 400 percent. But, I've got the perfect gift, which is rare, because I almost never know what to get anyone.

Since I turned 14, I haven't received anything at Christmastime that wasn't from Bath and Bodyworks. I haven't had to buy lotion in the past six years, body wash in the past four and bubble bath in the past two. I refuse to do this to my friends. No, when I give them a gift, I want it to mean something between us. My endeavors here continually fall short. One

year, when I was 15, I gave my boyfriend a globe with a note on it that said, "There's nowhere else in the world I'd rather be than with you." This was the ultimate cheesy gift, but it was still better than what he got me: a pair of socks. Gifts for my family always fail, too. I buy my dad movies all the time that he doesn't like, I buy my mother clothes she doesn't wear and last Christmas I bought my brother a book that he had already read and hated. I've discovered the best way for me to do it is ask someone what they want from me, let them tell me and then tell them not to buy it in the meantime. This has a 100 percent success rate.

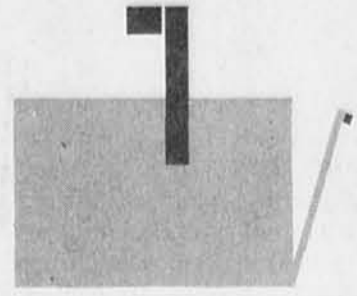
The last problem I have with Christmas shopping is that although I never know what to get for other people, I always know what to get for myself. When I'm out shopping, I see a billion things I want for me, and often end up buying them, which leaves me less time and money for the gifts I'm supposed to be giving. What if everyone stopped buying each other gifts and only bought gifts for themselves, think of how much nicer the holidays would be. You would never have to spend more money than you wanted, you would always get what you want and you would never disappoint someone else. It sounds to me like the perfect solution.

But in truth, I suppose I, like most others, get as much joy in giving a gift as in receiving one. And I just tell myself it doesn't matter if it's the perfect gift; it's the thought that counts. Happy holidays.

Contact Alicia Wotring at [aawotring@liberty.edu](mailto:aawotring@liberty.edu).

## Letter

to the Editor



I read your article about military families and just wanted to say "Thank You." I am a senior nursing student here at Liberty and my husband was deployed on Oct. 18, 2005, so this is all very fresh, new and a scary experience for me. He is still in the states right now in training and will be home at Christmas for two weeks, but after that he will be heading to Iraq for a tour that will last for at least a year. Anyways, I just wanted to say thank you, your article touched home for me and I will be mailing a copy of this weeks "The Liberty Champion" to him as well. I know that he and the guys in his unit will appreciate the articles written in it.

Sincerely,  
Sonya Green

I just finished reading your article in this week's Champion and am very grateful to you for letting everyone know what a sacrifice our military (families) are making, their joy in making the sacrifice and the sadness that sometimes accompanies this joy. My husband served 24 years in the Air Force, and we have a son who is presently serving in the Marines, with one tour in Fallujah this past year through Iraq's first election this past January (a very trying time for us, his family).

I know from experience that our university family has a heart for the military. When our son was in Fallujah, there were so many of our university family who prayed daily for him and his troops and for us, his family, as well. I received daily email encouragement from them and from friends, and friends of friends all over the world. This was such a blessing, especially during those days and weeks of not hearing from our son. During those times when we did speak with him, I would ask if he needed anything, and he always said that "our prayers and letters" were the things that kept them going, so "keep doing it."

Thanks, again, for your article!



### LISTEN UP!

IT'S YOUR TURN TO DECIDE

- Weather.com reports that a hurricane is churning its way across the Atlantic with wind speeds of 75 miles per hour. The hurricane, named Epsilon, is considered an anomaly as most tropical storms are unable to sustain themselves over such cool water this late in the year.
- According to Foxnews.com, the world's first face transplant was performed in France, and the patient is reportedly doing well. The woman who was the recipient of the surgery needed a transplant after her dog attacked her, causing severe facial damage and deformation.
- On Dec. 3, protesters took to the streets all around the world to urge the United States and other leading nations to take a hard stance on global warming, according to foxnews.com. Currently, delegates are reworking the Kyoto treaty, which aims to reduce carbon dioxide expulsion into the atmosphere.

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# Counseling team helps churches rebuild

By Joanne Tang  
ASST. NEWS EDITOR

"Churches that have been decimated are the ones rebuilding," said Dr. David Jenkins with the Center for Counseling.

One church that aims to rebuild is Grace Temple Baptist Church, whose congregants are for now, holding services and Bible studies in other buildings. Helping with the effort was Liberty University, who over Thanksgiving break sent 25 students to the Gulfport region to aid the church and the surrounding neighborhood.

The team consisted of several counseling students, undergraduate students and faculty members, including Jenkins and Dr. Ron Hawkins, dean of the College of Arts and Sciences.

Pastor Francis Rossi of Grace Temple Baptist said the church was using funds from the church budget, donations and insurance to start the long process of rebuilding their sanctuary, which lost one third of its roof.

The group's housing and food was provided by the North Carolina Baptist Men Disaster

Relief organization, which was there to aid Gulfport. Because of this, the team distributed the food they had brought with them to residents. The team slept on the floor of Bayou View Baptist Church, which had been flooded.

Driving to Gulfport, the team arrived to face millions of dollars in destruction, and prime opportunities for counseling.

"Before going down, the general picture in the media was because the French Quarter was open, everything was fine," said Jenkins, "—nothing is fine."

The residents needed help in finding belongings, clearing out their homes and counseling was often just lending an ear to residents to tell their stories and get their frustrations out into the open.

"(The residents) are marveling at the willingness people demonstrate to help them clean their houses and rebuild them," said Hawkins.

"You could start anywhere, everywhere. People were so overwhelmed they started nowhere," he said of why progress has been so slow. He said he saw a house that was still sitting in the middle of a street. "Some communities will never be rebuilt."

Hawkins and Jenkins took a side trip for three days to Baton Rouge and New Orleans. They visited historical St. Bernard Parish, which Jenkins describes as "devastated."

Hawkins spoke at Sunday service and the team of students separated to have fellowship in men and women's Bible studies.

Several churches in the area were not only sharing buildings, churches were opening their doors for other denominations to hold services.

This kind of unity was present also in education, where schools with available space were doubling up on students from other schools. For now, Grace Temple Baptist is not holding Sunday school classes.

"The consistent message from (the residents) was encouragement, providing what they said was the most needed," said Jenkins.

The Center for Counseling has partnered with the North Carolina Baptist Men to provide more relief aid to the region and plans are underway for another trip in December.

Contact Joanne Tang at [jtang@liberty.edu](mailto:jtang@liberty.edu)



CUTTING THROUGH — Students cleared debris from yards and helped residents clean.



ON TOP — (From left) Katelyn Fletcher, David Jenkins, Dr. Ron Hawkins, Chase Billings and Bethany Honaker aid in relief efforts.



WORDS OF ENCOURAGEMENT — A banner of thanks lets relief workers know they are appreciated.

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Happy Holidays

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# Sports

Danny Rocco The Playbook

Get to know  
Liberty's new head  
football coach,  
Danny Rocco.

Andrew Stevens  
says goodbye with  
life lessons from  
sports.

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lusports04@yahoo.com

The Liberty Champion

(434) 582-2124

## Shakeup at Williams Stadium

### Thomas Park, Ph.D.



Dr. Thom Park was hired as Athletic Director in March 2005. With a wealth

of experience in many sports-related fields, Park was hired to assist in fundraising efforts for Liberty's sports programs.

On top of coaching experience at The Citadel, UConn and West Chester University, Park served as Courtesy Associate Professor of Sports Administration at Florida State University, served with the football program at the University of Maryland in the mid-'70s and was the vice president and financial advisor for Morgan Stanley in Tallahassee, Fla. from 1982-2003.

### Kim Graham



After more than 26 years of service to Liberty University's athletic program, Kim

Graham finishes his first and last year at Liberty as Senior Associate Athletic Director of Internal Affairs, where he was responsible for matters in the athletic departments of budget, staff and daily internal operations.

Graham was a member of the football coaching staff for 11 years, was in the administration department for 14 years, and was Athletic Director from 1998 through 2005.

During his stint as Athletic Director, the Flames won five Big South Conference Sasser Cup championships, 49 conference titles and two Big South Men's All-Sports trophies. Graham was also the president of the NCAA Division I-AA Athletic Directors Association and the representative of the Big South Conference.

### Larry Hubbard



Larry Hubbard ends his Liberty career after being hired in 1999 as the head

coach of the men's varsity tennis team and an assistant professor of sports management.

Hubbard served as Associate Athletic Director for Athletic Academic Services and Compliance. His responsibilities included the oversight of all student athletes' academic progress in the areas of course scheduling, academic advisement and monitoring, tutoring, study hall and time management.

He was one of the driving forces in seeing women's tennis become the University's 17th varsity intercollegiate sports in 2000.

Contact Josh Velilla at [jvelilla@liberty.edu](mailto:jvelilla@liberty.edu).

## Rocco to replace Karcher



**NEW KID IN TOWN** — Former Associate Head Coach at the University of Virginia Danny Rocco was named Liberty's Head Football Coach last Friday Dec. 2. Rocco has held Assistant Coaching positions at several Division-I schools including Texas, Maryland, Boston College and Wake Forest. During his college career, Rocco was a two-year letter winner at Penn State, before playing for two seasons at Wake Forest, where he graduated in 1984.



**HOUSE CLEANING** — On Nov. 17 Former Liberty Head Football Coach Ken Karcher resigned, along with former Athletic Director Thom Park, and former Associate Athletic Directors Kim Graham and Larry Hubbard. In six seasons on the sidelines for the Flames, Karcher compiled a record of 21-46, including this season's 1-10 mark, the worst season in the program's history.

### Reflection on Karcher

By Andrew Stevens  
ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

#### Analysis

Whenever a relationship of any type is suddenly broken and it ceases to exist, what is often remembered about that relationship more than anything else are the things that have caused it to end. Unfortunately for coaches, the things they do right while they are with a particular school or organization are often lost in the shuffle when they are relieved from their positions. The same can be said about Ken Karcher, and although he did lose his job as Liberty's Head Football Coach, the six seasons he spent on the Liberty sideline produced plenty of positives and not as many negatives as one may think.

In college athletics of any level there are two sports that tend to be held under the proverbial magnifying glass more than any other — basketball and football. Basketball and football have the potential to generate more income than any other two sports. That being said, the pressure to win in these two areas year in and year out is immense. While Liberty's focus is glorifying Christ in all that we do and not just on winning and losing and Liberty has therefore historically been more patient with its coaches, one can still imagine the pressure Ken Karcher felt to win every game he coached.

Please see STEVENS, page B2

## Falwell sparks Flames football

By Adam Trent and Angela  
Franulovich

Two weeks ago, the Liberty University Athletics Department was shaken by the release of Head Football Coach Ken Karcher and the resignations of Athletic Director Dr. Thom Park and Associate Athletic Directors Kim Graham and Larry Hubbard. Hubbard was also the head men's and women's tennis coach. The decision to replace Karcher was one that people have been expecting since a scoreless streak early in the 2005 season in which Liberty was outscored 157-0 over three games. Despite the fact that he had received a five year contract extension after going 5-5 in 2003 and going 6-5 last year, the only seasons during his tenure that were not losing seasons, those related to Liberty athletics did not expect Karcher's tenure to last long.

"It had been thought about for the past year," said Dr. Falwell of the decision.

Karcher had been at Liberty for six seasons prior to the announcement. Under Karcher, the program moved to the Big

South Conference, which added football as a conference sport in 2002. Prior to that, Liberty competed as an independent school in football, with all other sports being played in the Big South.

The announcement of Karcher's release came on Thursday November 17, before the football team's final game against Norfolk State on Saturday. Liberty lost 34-17 to end the season at 1-10, the worst record in school history. "We were all a little disappointed in the decision, especially the freshmen who were recruited by him. It definitely distracted us. Everybody was really sad to see him leave," said senior punter Noah Crouch.

Though saddened by the news, the team was expecting it. "Everyone knew it was coming. You lose nine or 10 games and you know something is going to happen," said sophomore linebacker Brandon Duke.

With the departure, several questions have been raised about football. Liberty currently competes in Division I-AA, which is the second highest level of collegiate football. The highest level of football is

Division I-A, where Falwell wants the program to be in the next decade.

In order to turn this dream into a reality, Falwell announced on Friday that University of Virginia Assistant Coach Danny Rocco had been hired as Liberty's new head coach.

"He's the kind of guy, I believe, who can take us where we want to go," said Falwell.

"Dr. Falwell has a vision. He explained to me what that vision was and I saw it. There is a commitment from the top. I wanted to be a head football coach at the I-A or I-AA school with the resources and desire to compete and win. The recruiting budget is comparative to I-A programs, and I do not believe there is one like it in I-AA," said Rocco.

The process of finding a new coach was not easy, as Liberty has a set of standards that a person must meet before being employed.

"We are different than most colleges and universities. We are NCAA, that's not different. We are Division I, that's not different. What is different is we are distinctly Christian,

and not everyone is a fit," said Falwell. "We had 26 applicants indicate interest, and I called my football mentor Sam Rutigliano to come down here and help me figure out who would be a good fit."

Rutigliano was the head football coach at Liberty from 1988 until 1999. Falwell first believed Rocco was a candidate for the position after hearing him in a radio interview after Virginia lost 7-5 to North Carolina.

"What I was looking for was his LQ, or loyalty quotient. Is he going to be sticking by his coach? I listened, and he got an A-plus" said Falwell.

Rocco firmly believes he can turn Liberty's program into a winner. He also believes the athletes that are on the team right now have immense talent, despite the disappointment of a 1-10 season.

"You have got to spark some enthusiasm. There is a lot of young talent on this team. I want to get into rebuilding that winning spirit on campus. I love to teach and mentor. I have such a passion for the sport, for the game, and for the individuals," said Rocco.

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WISE MAN — Former University of Notre Dame Head Football Coach Lou Holtz speaks to Liberty students in convocation on Nov. 16

ADAM BISHOP

# Lou Holtz imparts wisdom

By Josh Velilla  
SPORTS REPORTER

Liberty received a treat on Nov. 16 as legendary retired football coach and current ESPN analyst Lou Holtz came to share his testimony during convocation.

After sharing his life story and his salvation experience, Holtz gave the student body advice on how to live life skillfully, with the wisdom that comes from the Lord alone.

Throughout the course of his message, Holtz outlined four main needs for every person's life: "Something to do, someone to love, something to hope for, and someone to believe in."

He motivated the students to seek out and hold onto those four things in life, and to "never give up."

After his message during convocation, Holtz joined members of the media and answered various questions regarding college football, his career at ESPN and his opinion on the BCS.

He was joined by his wife Beth on his visit and quelled rumors about his

presence at Liberty having anything to do the opened head football coaching position.

"I came up here to speak

about the student body at Liberty, Holtz garnered laughter by his response, "they were unarmed. They treated me very nicely and

*"I came up here to speak to the student body ... I want that to be understood. Dr. Falwell asked me to come here and share my testimony with the students, and that's why I'm here."*

Lou Holtz

FORMER UNIVERSITY OF NOTRE DAME HEAD FOOTBALL COACH

to the student body, which I do quite often. I want that to be understood. I do this type of thing quite often across the country. Dr. Falwell asked me to come here and share my testimony with the students, and that's why I'm here," Holtz said.

Holtz also gave advice regarding Liberty's football program, encouraging them to continue in their commitment to Christian values, and to never compromise to further themselves athletically, financially or culturally.

When asked how he felt

openly."

Holtz went on to say that he had tremendous respect for the accomplishments and stances of Liberty University, and for Dr. Jerry Falwell.

"I have tremendous respect for the Falwell family and everything that they have accomplished. I'm very impressed with this university, and the thing that impresses me most — all the students smile, and you don't see that very often. I even saw some professors smiling! Does that ever happen?" Holtz asked. Lou Holtz's coaching

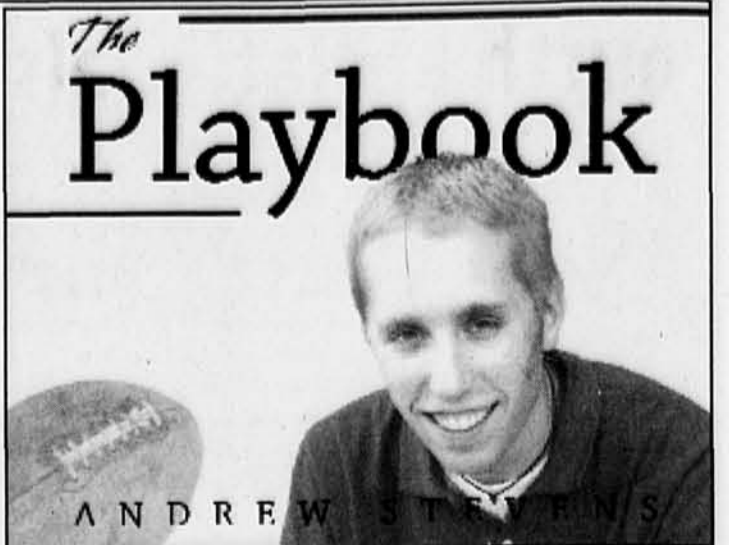
career brought him to six different schools, his longest tenure being at the University of Notre Dame, where he became the second most winning coach in school history over the course of 10 seasons, including a national championship in 1988.

Holtz is the only coach to take four different teams to final top 20 rankings, win five bowl games with different teams, and take six different teams to bowl games.

He is currently an analyst and announcer on ESPN but does not put a future coaching job outside the realm of possibility.

"You can't ever say never. I may live to 129, you never know. But right now, I'm committed to my wife and to ESPN. Right now, coaching is not in the game plan. I've played very little golf, which I enjoy. If I started coaching again, I'd be doing it to settle down. I thought I was retired, but it turned out that I'm actually retarded," Holtz said with a laugh.

Contact Josh Velilla at [jvvelilla@liberty.edu](mailto:jvvelilla@liberty.edu).



When I arrived on this campus in the fall of 2003, the possibility of writing a sports column every week seemed about as likely as finding all of my classes in a building the size of Noah's Ark. Now, with graduation and the reality of finding a job staring me in the face, I'll leave Liberty with not only a degree, but also with some life lessons that I've learned along the way through sports. If any athlete is going to become part of a team, they've got to get to know the coach. It is important for an athlete to establish a relationship with a coach and know exactly what he or she is looking for in order to make their squad. Each one of us has been created in the image of our "coach," God, and it is essential that we accept him into our hearts and become part of his team, or we've already lost the game.

Once an athlete has done what it takes to make the team the next important step is showing up for practice. I heard someone say once "how you practice is how you'll play in the game." Practice is a place and time designated by the coaches for working out the kinks and preparing to take on your next opponent. As believers, our Coach has designated Sunday mornings as a time to come to his house so that we can be spiritually refreshed and challenged to take on our next spiritual battle. Without regular encouragement from a body of believers, our performance in those spiritual battles won't be worthy of a game ball.

Another important aspect of being part of a team is knowing your playbook. Nobody wants to be the person who gets caught running the wrong way when the ole coach gets gutsy enough to run the halfback pass or the

hook n' ladder play. As followers of Christ it's important that we make time each day to spend in the word of God. If we truly want to know what play God is calling next for our lives, we've got to spend more time reading his word than we do reading Sports Illustrated or watching SportsCenter.

Once we've established that aforementioned relationship with our head coach, it's vital that we stay in contact with him every day. My pastor at home often says, "It's impossible to have a relationship with someone you don't talk to." Coaches can often serve as father figures and mentors in the lives of many athletes. As sons and daughters of God, our prayer lives can help us take giant steps in our attempts to grow closer to our creator. If we don't stay in touch with our Coach we won't have a clue what his game plan is.

Finally, every athlete must attain the ability to keep winning and losing in perspective. As a kid I hated hearing the phrase, "it's not whether you win or lose its how you play the game." I always thought if that was true they shouldn't have bothered keeping score at any YMCA basketball games. In life not every day is going to be one you can chalk up in the win column. Jesus never promised us that life would be easy, but fortunately we as believers play for a coach that has already won the ultimate spiritual ballgame. The next time life leaves you feeling like the Buffalo Bills after a Super Bowl, remember that our reward in Heaven will be much greater than any pain we can endure here on Earth.

Contact Andrew Stevens at [sastevens@liberty.edu](mailto:sastevens@liberty.edu).

# Stevens: Remembering Karcher

Continued from page B1

Unfortunately, sports as we know them today seem to be filled with just as many scandals as they do "feel good" stories, and college football is no exception. Mike Price and George O'Leary are recent examples of how one bad decision can cost a college football coach his job before he can even win his first game at his new school. At a school like Liberty where bringing honor to Jesus is our main focus, I'm thankful that Ken Karcher was never involved in anything that could have potentially brought embarrassment on the university and more importantly to Christ. The 46 games Liberty lost under Karcher may have been painful, but I can promise you a bad decision like Price or O'Leary made would have hurt

a lot more. Some of my fondest memories of Liberty have been made in Williams Stadium. I'll probably never forget Homecoming 2003 with Liberty trailing VMI 28-3 in the fourth quarter with just under 11 minutes to play, when Eugene Goodman and the Flames offense finally came to life. Goodman erupted for four fourth quarter touchdowns as the Flames rallied for a 31-28 victory. Last season's 17-9 homecoming victory over then defending Big South Champion Gardner-Webb was special as well. Win or lose, the thing that made coming to Williams Stadium special for me was being able to look out on the field after every game and seeing the Gospel with every player from both teams. Karcher may not have won as many games as Flames fans

would have liked, but he did all he could to win the souls of young men to Christ, and in Heaven winning a soul means an awful lot more than winning a football game.

Yes, I realize as much as the next guy that the time was right for a coaching change to be made and I fully support the decision made to bring in Danny Rocco. I am also aware that at times Karcher's play calling swayed towards the conservative side and that some his decision making during the course of a game was often questionable.

However, Karcher also was not recruiting to a 1-AA program rich in tradition like a Youngstown State or Montana, who seem to be in the 1-AA playoffs almost every year. Let's be honest, convincing a highly touted high school foot-

ball player that wasn't raised in a Christian home to come play at a school where he has to be in his dorm room by midnight is about as easy as convincing your parents that class you failed last semester is not that big of a deal.

Liberty can overcome this obstacle in the future by focusing its recruiting efforts on the millions of private Christian school and homeschool athletes.

As supporters of Liberty athletics hopefully we will not forget the positive contributions Karcher made to the program, and maybe learn from some of his mistakes. Wherever Karcher's future endeavors lead him, we all wish him God's blessings.

Contact Andrew Stevens at [sastevens@liberty.edu](mailto:sastevens@liberty.edu).



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# McDougal places fourth at Nationals

By Evan Falat  
SPORTS REPORTER

This year while most Liberty students were relaxing at home on the Monday of Thanksgiving break, Josh McDougal was again representing Liberty University at the NCAA Cross-Country Championships in Terra Haute, Ind. In 2004 McDougal finished 13th overall at the national championships, finishing as the top freshman in the country and as an All-American. At this year's national championships, McDougal entered as one of the pre-race favorites and ended up finishing in fourth place overall as the top sophomore this year and again earning another All-American accolade.

Racing at the LaVern Gibson Championship Cross-Country Course, where earlier this season McDougal set a new 8K course record, McDougal ran against the best collegiate competition in America and performed extremely well under immense pressure. While only in his second year as a collegiate runner, McDougal was billed by many as one of the favorites to capture the 10K individual title. Lining up at the starting line next to perennial cross-country powerhouse programs Wisconsin and Stanford, McDougal jumped out to a fast start and was among the leaders right from the beginning.

Along with Martin Fagan from Providence, Westley Keating from University of Texas Pan-America, and Richard Kiplagat from Iona, McDougal helped establish the early pace in the race. However, throughout the first two miles of the race no one runner dominated the pace and McDougal contently stayed at the front of a relatively large pack of runners.

By the half-way mark of the race, 5K, a large contingent of about 20 or so runners were still tightly packed and were only separated by one to two seconds. Josh McDougal remained at the front of this pack and he, along with the other leaders, passed through the 5K mark at around 14:55. Although he was closely surrounded by other runners, it was clear that McDougal and one or two other runners were the competitors handling much of the lead and setting the pace.

As the race progressed the once large group of runners in the lead pack began to dwindle down in numbers and

soon a new front pack of five runners emerged. This pack saw McDougal again as the leader while Iona's Kiplagat and Texas Pan-American's Keatley were joined by Simon Bairu of Wisconsin and Josphat Boit of Arkansas. Boit soon fell back and was shortly followed by Keatley as the race soon came down to McDougal, Bairu, and Kiplagat.

At around the 8K mark Bairu received word from his coach that the Wisconsin team had the team title in the bag and thus Bairu could then run for the individual title. Bairu reacted to this news by throwing down a large surge, of which McDougal could not respond to, leaving the individual title between Bairu and Kiplagat. Bairu soon drifted away from Kiplagat and for the second consecutive year he captured the NCAA individual cross-country title. Kiplagat placed second while Wisconsin's Chris Solinsky was third, having passed McDougal in the final kilometer of the race. McDougal finished hard and captured fourth place overall, just fifteen seconds behind Bairu and only five seconds behind Solinsky in third place.

After the race McDougal talked to many correspondents, including an interview with Mensracing.com where the following quotes are taken from.

When asked about the race in general Josh said, "It was a great race. I felt great and in control. I did a little more leading than I would have liked to, but I don't think anyone expected it to go out that slow. I didn't want to let it go any slower."

As far as his finish at the NCAA Championships, Josh said, "I left it all out there on the course. I gave it my best effort today. I think Bairu proved he was the favorite. He was the favorite in my book all year. I don't know why people didn't give him [more] respect. I wanted to win, but oh well. Two more years. I'll get it next year maybe."

With that remark Liberty Flames fans can only be even more encouraged about what the next two years hold for McDougal and the Liberty cross-country team. Having moved up nine spots from last year's finish at cross-country nationals, Josh McDougal again proved that he belongs with the top collegiate runners in America and only time will tell when he wins his first national title.

Contact Evan Falat at [emfallat@liberty.edu](mailto:emfallat@liberty.edu).



TO SPARK A FLAME — Dr. Falwell announced Danny Rocco, former UVa assistant coach, as the Flames new head football coach on Friday, Dec. 2.

## Changing of the guard: Falwell announces hiring of new football coach Danny Rocco

By Scott LaPeer  
SPORTS REPORTER

On the heels of a major Athletic Department housecleaning resulting in the dismissal of Head Football Coach Ken Karcher, Assistant Athletic Directors Kim Graham and Larry Hubbard and the subsequent resignation of first-year Athletic Director Dr. Thom Park, Liberty University moved quickly, naming a new head football coach for 2006 in an official announcement Friday, Dec. 2.

While there are still significant holes to fill, Liberty University Chancellor and President Jerry Falwell patched a large one in just two weeks' time, officially hiring Danny Rocco to lead the Flames football program in the 2006 season and, hopefully, well beyond. Though a long list of wishful applicants developed, Falwell was pleased to announce that Liberty landed the man it had hoped to hire from the get-go.

"We had 26 applicants, but I must say that from the beginning, our number-one choice was the guy who is here today. After speaking with Danny, and (University of Virginia Head Coach) Al Groh, it became obvious sometime Wednesday to Danny, and to (me), to the people of this

campus and to (football advisor) Sam Rutigliano, this was our man," Falwell announced at last Friday's press conference.

Rocco, who just completed his fifth year as the associate head coach and linebackers coach at the University of Virginia, brings to Liberty a reputable list of prior coaching experience, to say the least. Twenty years of coaching experience, 19 of which have been spent at the Division-I level (the highest level of American college football).

By no means has he toiled among the bottom-feeders, either. Since the early 1980s Rocco has been instrumental in the development of the following football programs, listed chronologically: Wake Forest, University of Colorado, Tulsa, Boston College, University of Texas, Maryland and Virginia.

Accounting for 19 of his 20 years in coaching football, Rocco's one year outside of college football is no step down on his resume. He spent 2000 as the linebackers coach for the NFL's New York Jets.

Following Coach Groh, who left the Jets for the Atlantic Coastal Conference's University of Virginia, Rocco coordinated UVa's recruiting efforts in 2002 as Virginia landed one

of the best recruiting classes in school history, ranked in the top 10 nationally by most recruiting services.

Before beginning his career in coaching, Rocco also played collegiately at the Division-I level, lettering two years at Penn State before finishing his last two seasons at Wake Forest, where he graduated in 1984.

He also hails from a strong football pedigree as his father Frank served as a coach and administrator on Joe Paterno's staff at Penn State for 15 years before eventually holding a short-term position as Director of Football Operations at Liberty in 2000-2001. His brother Frank, Jr., is head coach of the back-to-back state champion LCA Bulldogs, while his other brother Dave is head coach at nearby Staunton River High.

It is with great optimism that Rocco steps in to guide Liberty football and, after this past season's disappointing 1-10 record, there is room for improvement.

Upon making the announcement, Falwell pointed out Rocco's wealth of football background for his confidence in the selection.

"Danny Rocco is a perfect fit for Liberty University in every way. Liberty is fortunate to have him. I firmly believe Coach Rocco can

lead Liberty in reaching its goal of becoming a dominant Division I-AA program and then moving up to Division I-A, all within in the next decade," Falwell said.

Bringing in Rocco is now the first in a series of steps needed to revamp a program that has been starved for success on the gridiron. Under Karcher, the Flames posted a record of 21-46, losing more than twice as many games as they had won. Their best record came in the 2003 and 2004 seasons when the Flames broke .500 to go 6-5 in both years.

"The supreme function of any leader is to set the standard, demand compliance to the standard and select and hire the correct personnel to help carry out that standard," Rocco said.

With his family, faculty and various media members on hand, Rocco expressed his pleasure with his new coaching title.

"I am honored and humbled to be the new head coach at Liberty University," Rocco said.

Contact Scott LaPeer at [cslapeer@liberty.edu](mailto:cslapeer@liberty.edu).

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# Women fall at tourney Men's basketball splits week

By Corey Crane  
SPORTS REPORTER

The Lady Flames traveled to N.C. State for an exciting tournament this weekend. The Flames were able to make it to the championship game against host N.C. State on Sunday afternoon.

The Flames came out ready to play as they battled back and forth with the N.C. State Wolfpack. Liberty led by as much as 13 points at one time in the game but after the Wolfpack went on a 15-2 scoring drive, they had their first lead of the game.

Liberty was quick to recover and went in to the half in the lead.

Once the second half started, Liberty started bombing three pointers and shrapnel went flying as the Flames knocked down five three pointers in the first four minutes of the second half.

Megan Frazee shelled out three of the five bombs that landed for the Flames. Megan and her sister Moriah Frazee led the Flames with points scored. Megan had a career high 29 points.

Tiffany Stansbury led the way for the

Wolfpack with 21 points. N.C. State jumped ahead for good around the nine minute point of the second half. The Wolfpack put out the Flames 83-69 to win the tournament.

"This was a tough game," said NC State head coach Kay Yow. "Liberty has its own tradition, especially in the last six years. We didn't start out sharp and went from using a man to a zone defense." (gopack.collegesports.com)

The Flames played hard all weekend but just could not win the tournament. There will be more chances for the Flames to capitalize as they are still a very young team.

The Flames started the tournament with a win against Southern Miss on Saturday afternoon 71-60. The first half was a battle with changed leads many times. Moriah Frazee knocked down two early three pointers in the first half to launch the Flames forward. The Flames finally were able to win the battle when Courtney Watkins nailed a three point and started a run of 11-2 to boost their lead. The Flames took a 13 point lead as three three pointers were hit.

Southern Miss started the second half with a chance and a hope of regaining the lead. Southern Miss held the Flames without a point for the first five and a half minutes and tightened the score within four points.

Megan Frazee hit a jumper to end the scoreless streak. The Flames kept things going from that point on. Megan scored the game high of 24 points and eight rebounds. This ended Megan's streak of double-doubles at three. For the second game, Moriah Frazee had the second highest score with nine points.

The Flames have played several tough opponents and without their super power Katie Feenstra this has put the pressure on the Frazee sisters to get things going. The triplets have been playing well together this year.

The Flames will head to Virginia Tech to try to add another W to their record on Saturday. The Flames are 3-2 but still undefeated in conference play.

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FRESHMAN STAR — Megan Frazee was voted tournament MVP.

By C.J. Krasyk  
SPORTS REPORTER

An old rivalry was renewed on Wednesday night as Liberty and Longwood met for the 20th time. In the first meeting since 1988, the Lancers picked up right where they left off, defeating Liberty 88-75.

Through the first several minutes of play, the contest was a close one. Larry Blair, junior guard from Charlotte, N.C., had a steal at mid-court for a fast break dunk, giving the Flames an 8-6 score with 16:46 left in the half.

However, the Lancers would go on a 26-6 run over the next 10 minutes to open their lead to 32-14 with 5:12 left in the half. Liberty would trim the lead to 14 but that is as close as they would get in the half. The Flames went into halftime trailing 44-25.

The Lancers used the opening minutes of the second half to extend their lead to 20 points and led by 25 with 7:34 left in the game.

Blair left the game with about seven minutes remaining after his head hit the ground. He watched the rest of the contest from the sidelines. The Flames tried to rally around their fallen leader. A three-pointer by Texan sophomore Evan Richer would trim the lead to 13 with 2:33 left, but that is as close as the Lancers would allow it to get.

"I have to give a lot of credit to Longwood this evening and the effort that they gave in the first half. Obviously, the things that stand out in my mind are our turnovers and their rebounding," said Head Coach Randy Dunton.

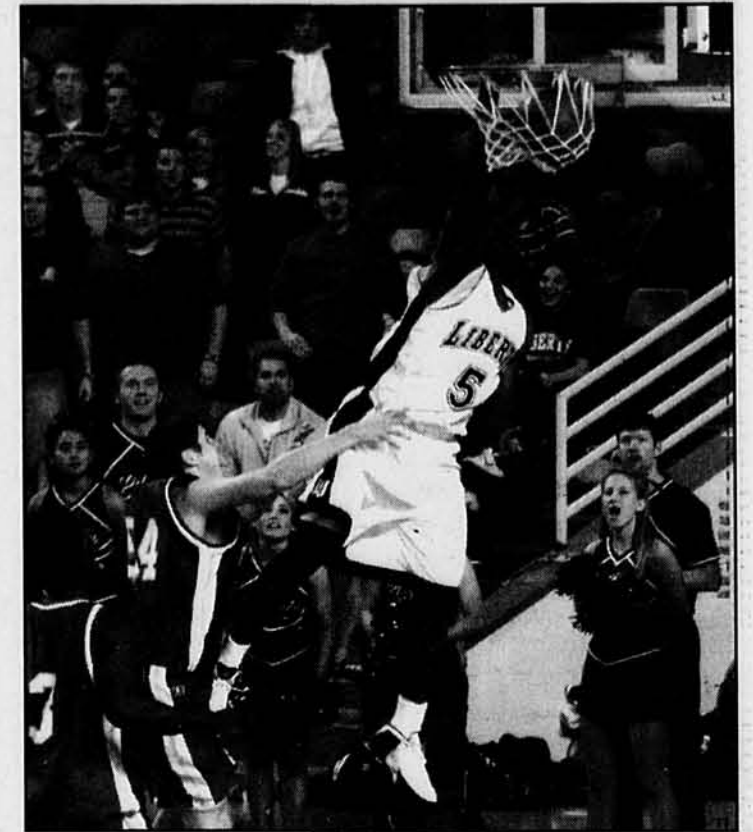
However, Dunton was happy with the effort from his guys.

"On a positive note, I thought there was some good effort by our younger players this evening in the second half. Tonight was a typical road game in Division I basketball

and it proved that it is difficult to win on the road," said Dunton.

The Flames came home to take on cross-town opponent and Division III member Lynchburg College on Friday night. Both teams struggled early in this one as they combined to shoot 2-of-15 in the opening five minutes. A jumper by Blair, playing with stitches in the back of his head, sparked a 14-5 run for the Flames, giving them a 17-7 lead with little over 10 minutes to go.

The Hornets would cut the lead to five at 26-21 with just over five minutes to go in the half. The Flames responded by scoring 17 of the next 21 points going into the locker room up 43-25.



HIGH FLYER — Anthony Smith slams one home against Lynchburg College last Friday night in the Flames 84-50 victory. Smith, a freshman finished with 18 points.

Liberty continued to extend their advantage over the opening minutes of the second half. A tip-in by sophomore Rell Porter gave Liberty a 49-25 advantage with 17 minutes left. Liberty's lead would hover

around 20 points for most of the night. The Flames would use a 24-3 run over the last seven minutes to seal the deal and earn their second straight home victory.

Dunton loved the idea of playing Lynchburg College.

"I really like what this series does for the community," said Dunton. "We had over 3,000 people in the Vines Center tonight and it was a great environment. Hopefully that will continue into the rest of the season."

Dunton was also pleased with the play of freshman Anthony Smith.

"I thought we had a great positive attitude tonight, and I was glad to see Anthony Smith have a good evening," said Dunton. "We really needed

him to get started shooting wise. So from that standpoint, I thought we made progress."

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# Hockey defeats Hoyas

By Scott LaPeer  
SPORTS REPORTER

Coming off a Thanksgiving break in which Liberty's men's hockey team traveled to tournaments in both Pennsylvania and Indiana, and left each with less than flattering results, sophomore goaltender and team captain Dalton Stoltz called an impromptu team meeting before Saturday night's match-up against Georgetown.

"We wanted everyone to have a chance to talk about this past semester — what the team has done both good and bad and what each individual has done well, and what they could do better. We want to try to build on something positive for next semester," Stoltz said.

With their record at 9-5 heading into Saturday night's contest against the Georgetown, the Flames looked to capitalize on an opportunity to build some mid-season momentum by piling some pucks into the net of the Hoyas, an opponent Liberty has handled with relative ease in past seasons.

Freshman forward Pete Masterton got the scoring started just 3:02 into the game on a goal assisted by forward Alexandre Gelinas and defenseman Jimmy Stewart.

Georgetown's Devon Falvey matched Liberty's goal with a little less than three minutes to go to tie the score at one heading into the first intermission.

Coming out for the second period, Liberty took command right away cycling the puck low in the corners of the

offensive zone to apply heavy pressure on the Hoyas, while creating some quality scoring opportunities as well. Unfortunately for the Flames, Georgetown goaltender Jason Gorey was equal to the task, shutting out Liberty the entire 20 minute period.

Head Coach Kirk Handy was pleased with his team's effort as they out-shot their opponent 13-to-3, but cited the team's youth and shot selection for their inability to convert on several good scoring chances.

"We ran into a hot goalie and our shot selection wasn't very good. We were trying to shoot high, glove-hand side and he stoned us probably twenty times up there, so we told the guys to shoot low, stick side and the opposite thing seemed to happen," Handy explained. "It's just a little bit of inexperience and something where we needed to get more guys heading to the net to create more traffic."

With the score one-to-one, the Flames felt the pressure of a tie a bit too close for comfort for the decisive third period.

After sophomore Kevin Dykstra and Stewart were whistled for consecutive holding penalties, forcing Liberty to stave off two Georgetown power-plays, sophomore forward Tristin Chambers and senior co-captain Jon Ziegler teamed up on an offensive zone face-off to rock the home crowd, breaking the tie with 8:29 to play.

"Chambers did a good job winning the draw and tying up his man and left the puck in his feet. I just came through from the left (of the circle) and picked it up and fired a wrist

shot right through the goalie's legs," Ziegler said.

Just a couple minutes after, Georgetown's Hugh Manahan got to a loose puck in traffic and stuffed it past a sprawling Stoltz to silence the crowd and knot things at two apiece.

But just as quickly as the Hoyas seized momentum, Liberty snatched it right back. Junior forward Jordan Wilson raced down ice after a loose puck, refusing to quit on the play and, as he was jammed into the corner boards, managed to fling the puck through a surprised Gorey's crease. A trailing Masterton found himself in the perfect position to one-time the puck and, within a split-second, buried it behind the Georgetown goalie.

"Pete plays hockey with a lot of passion and is a guy who can really take control of a game. He's a great teammate and is a guy I think is really on the verge of breaking out this year," Stoltz said.

If Masterton is on the verge of breaking out, breaking the tie score was a perfect way to

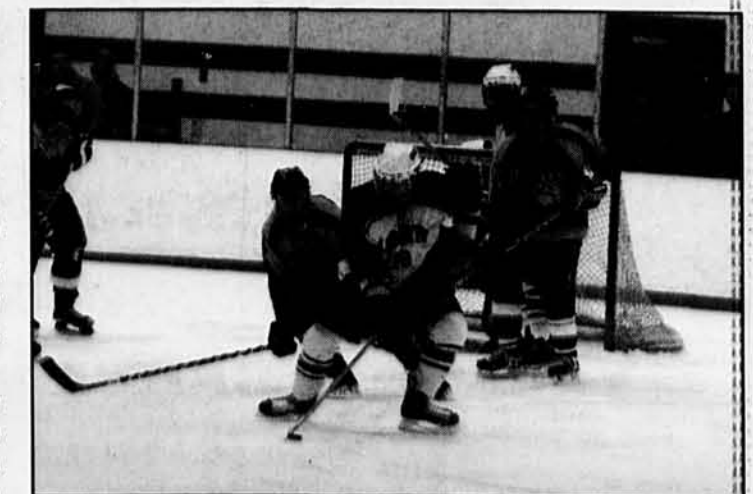
start.

With the score 3-2, Liberty, the Hoyas pulled their goalie for an extra attacker in a last-ditch effort to save the game, but Ziegler again stepped up in a timely manner, this time sealing the victory for the Flames. The senior winger beat a Georgetown defenseman to a loose puck just outside the blueline and used an impressive combination of strength and control to shoulder him away before shedding the defenseman to slide it into the empty net with 19.5 left.

The win improves their record to 10-5, sending the team off on a high note before games resume in a month.

"It's always good to get a win," commented Ziegler after the game. "It will help us all a little bit over the break to refocus before we start up again in January. We still believe we can make it to Nationals and win it all, so hopefully we can use the break to get us all back on the right track."

Contact Scott LaPeer at  
cslapeer@liberty.edu.



HOCKEY — Although hockey dropped two tournaments over Thanksgiving Break, they put forth a strong showing against the Hoyas Saturday night.

# HOPE missions behind bars

By Jennifer Maxfield  
LIFE REPORTER

“People make life-changing decisions in times of despair,” said Garry Sims of Hope Aglow Ministries Prison Outreach. For over 40 years, Hope Aglow Ministries has endeavored to reach out to inmates across the country. Through the efforts of Hope Aglow Ministries and also Liberty Prison Ministries, as many as 2,500 inmates come to

Christ each year. “We have about as much a success rate as the local church,” said Sims.

While Hope Aglow Ministries reaches inmates on a more national level, Liberty Ministries works with the correctional facilities in Central Virginia such as, the Bedford, the Blue Ridge Regional, the Camp 23, the Campbell County, the Halifax, the Lynchburg and the Moneta Jail Authorities.

Both Hope Aglow Ministries and Liberty Ministries hand out tracts and preach the message of salvation to the inmates. Hope

Aglow Ministries does about 10 individual Bible studies a year, and puts a lot of emphasis on discipleship. Trudy Goetz works with female inmates and Dave Stinnett works with the juvenile detention centers every Wednesday night with the help of Liberty student volunteers.

Though both ministries are hard at work sharing the gospel with Virginia's inmates, they go largely unrecognized. “We don't have as many students helping as we once did,” said Sims. “It's still in the planning stages, but we are hoping that eventually we

can set up courses at Liberty to train for prison ministry chaplaincies,” said Lance McClure, also of Hope Aglow Ministries. “We are hoping to increase the number of LU students in the ministry,” Sims said.

“Hope Aglow Ministries is a real grass roots organization,” Sims said. “We have very low administration costs. Most all funds go directly to the ministry.” However, the ministry still has some needs. “There is always a need for prayer,” said Sims. “Though it would take commitment of time and travel,

there are opportunities for students to lead worship music and play instruments, especially the piano. We also need soft cover Bibles,” said Sims.

Donations for Hope Aglow are taken at hopeaglow.com. If you would like to help Liberty Ministries, a list of needs can be found on the ministry Web site, www.libertyministries.us.

Contact Jennifer Maxfield at [jmaxfield@liberty.edu](mailto:jmaxfield@liberty.edu).



Stephanie Brown  
guest columnist

It's the “Hap-Happiest Time” of the year! Christmas is a wonderful season when warm fuzzy feelings well up in my chest randomly for two months straight. A week before Thanksgiving, I already had my tree up and decorated with a pine-scented candle burning so my “I'm in college, so I have a fake tree” can smell like the real thing.

But some people find this season the most depressing, and despite my exuberant giddiness during this time, I can

understand why one would get the Christmas blues. Besides family and relationship issues, the whole concept of gift-giving and receiving is nerve-racking. Giving gifts is the most rewarding, but of course it's nice to see what I will receive every year.

However, there are a multitude of questions one must answer before deciding what to give to a person. How old is he? What do they like, or should I ask, what do they need? Should I give a serious gift, or will that say too much? Do I need to give a gag gift? How much should I spend? Are they giving me a gift, and how much are they spending on me? It goes on...

Now, I don't do this often, but I am guilty of re-gifting once or twice in my life. For those of you who don't know, re-gifting is when you take a gift given to you that you have never used or don't want any-

more, and you rewrap it like new and give it to someone else. It sounds so horrible and cheap, I know. Here's my hand, so you can slap it.

Re-gifting is one of Oprah's biggest pet peeves, and she even had an “expert” on her show one time speaking about etiquette and how re-gifting is one of the tackiest things someone could ever do. In the spirit of justification, I will firmly state that re-gifting is utilizing a gift that keeps on giving. Out of good intentions and love, a person gives me a gift that I would absolutely never use. I appreciate the thought and let them know repeatedly. Then, I turn around and extend the love to someone else who would really appreciate the gift. It would be silly to have that Mickey Mouse sweatshirt balled up in your closet for years and never get worn.

Spread the gifting joy to

others ... just be careful not to let the original giver see the new receiver wearing the sweatshirt. Also, make sure you don't get your feelings hurt when you see some stranger with it on because the person you gave the sweatshirt to decided to re-gift, as well.

Another aspect I don't enjoy about the whole gift exchange during Christmas are those little sneakers that give me a wonderful, well-thought out gift and I didn't even think to get them anything! I sit there in shock because this person that just gave me a cute necklace and matching earrings is just an acquaintance, a hang-out-once-in-awhile kind of person. And then I feel the blood rise to my face, when I hand them a little gift bag with a candy cane and maybe three little sample bottles of brand name body lotion, thinking

that I was being nice giving brand name.

And isn't it so disgusting when couples sit there and debate over how much they're going to spend on each other? Come on girls, don't lie to your significant other when you say, “Don't you dare buy me those diamond earrings. I don't need such expensive gifts.” Ha ... you all make me laugh. And guys, don't think you need to spend more on her than she does on you ... the only holiday when that is how it's supposed to be is Valentine's Day.

After all of this gifting talk, what's even more disconcerting is how our culture has become so concerned with these questions, and so wrapped up in propriety. It's not all about the gifts we give each other, but really one specific gift given a long time ago.

So, I'm going to avoid all of the rule-abiding and wonder-

ing about what to give to others and give only to charities. I will let everyone know ahead of time, so they don't get offended when they don't receive anything from me, and I'll tell them not to worry about me, either. If you really want to give to me, I'd much rather you volunteer a couple hours of your time to the needy. That would be the best kind of gift.

Filling shoeboxes and sending them across the world is not nerve-racking in any way. Serving food and giving coats to the homeless on Thanksgiving and Christmas is not questionable. It's simple: I will share the love, first given to me, to those who have the least. At least then, I can be sure my Mickey Mouse sweatshirt will be appreciated.

Contact Stephanie Brown at [spbrown2@liberty.edu](mailto:spbrown2@liberty.edu).

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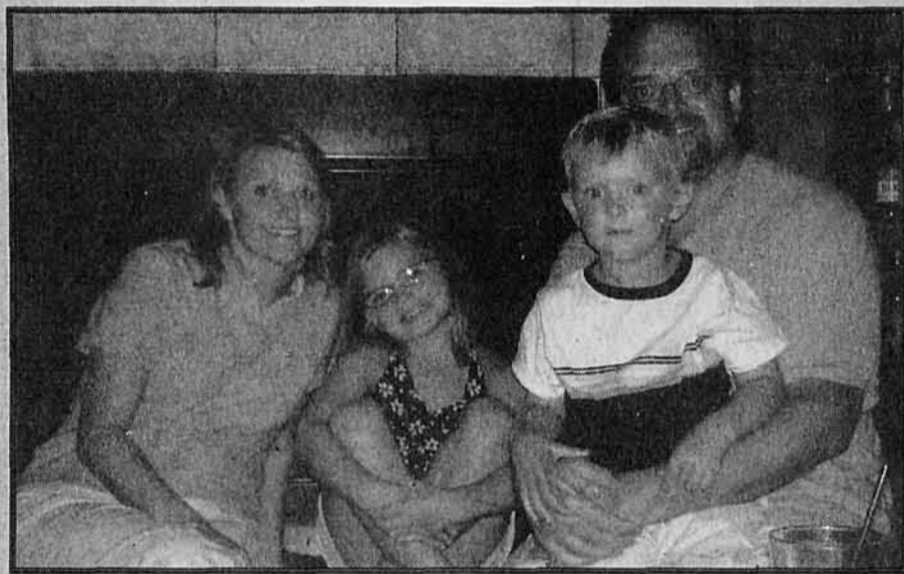
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R.T. and Denise Lyons attended Liberty in the late 80's and early 90's

We love it when we meet Liberty students who are looking at  
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in college and were engaged.

~Denise Lyons (class of 1995)

This year Denise and R.T. celebrated their 10th wedding anniversary and their eighth year in business together. R.T. focuses on the gemological side of the business while Denise handles the accounting and marketing.

R.T. just returned from Antwerp, Belgium buying diamonds. He was certified in Diamonds and Diamond grading in 1992 and offers a 20 minute personalized diamond education course which takes his 20 years of experience and 20 buying trips to Belgium and other locations and condenses it into 20 minutes.

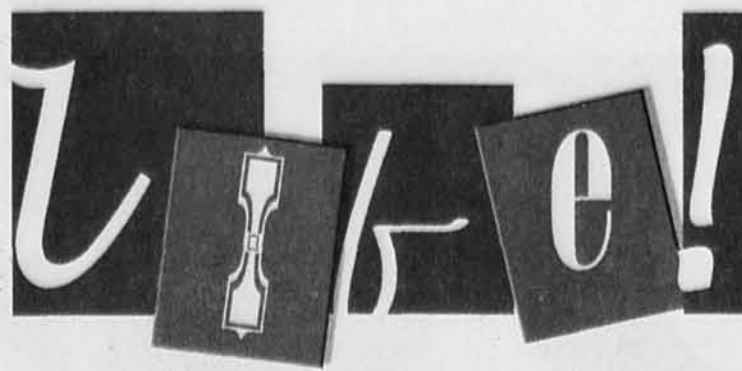
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**Did you know?** Yuletide-named towns in the United States include Santa Claus, located in Arizona and Indiana, Noel in Missouri, Christmas in both Arizona and Florida and Bethlehem, Pa.

—www.christmascarnivals.com



**Quote of the week:** "Behold, a virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call his name Emmanuel, which being interpreted is, God with us."

—Angel of the Lord to Joseph

# Behind THE SPEAR

The inside scoop on the making of the much anticipated major movie, "End of the Spear."

By MarLiesa Johnson  
LIFE EDITOR

One of the most beautiful stories of faith and forgiveness took place nearly 50 years ago at the end of a spear.

When people think of seeing Christian films, they might think of something that had a tight budget and somewhat unheard of actors. So many Christian films of the past have been deemed as "cheesy" or just cheap. Since the "Passion of Christ," though, the bar has been raised and Every Tribe productions is willing to take the challenge of producing Christian films that are as appealing as secular ones.

According to Randy Swanson, Every Tribe spokesman, Every Tribe started as a dream from Mart Green. Green grew up in a wealthy Christian home where movies were shunned. His father, David Green, co-founder and CEO of Hobby Lobby, is among one of the richest people in the United States.

Mart learned business by watching his father. He became CEO and founder of Mardel Christian and Education supply stores. While he enjoyed his work, he wanted more. He had a dream of spreading the truth and reality of God and his word to the world. He wanted to promote the Bible in a nationwide campaign, of God's word saying "God's word still transforms lives." "It was sort of like the 'Got milk,' campaigns," said Swanson, "But it was promoting the Bible."

Mart realized another level of his dream while Steve Saint, the son of Nate Saint who was one of the 1956 missionary martyrs in Ecuador, was speaking at a missions conference. At the conference, Mart was surprised when Mincaye, a Waodoni tribe member who was one of the members who murdered Saint's father, was with him.

Mincaye came from a place where there was a 60 percent homicide rate. Through the com-

passion of the martyrs' families and the testimonies of the five who were murdered, he told the audience, with Nate as his translator, that his people no longer want to kill. The Waodoni, after killing the missionaries, realized that the missionaries only came to bring them God's "carvings" and show them how to get to heaven.

Such forgiveness both touched Mart and inspired him. It was just a seedling of what was going to bloom.

Mart had an idea. He decided to promote the Bible in a campaign using the story of the martyrs from Ecuador. He got his team together and his idea grew. The story would be called, "End of the Spear."

"Instead of doing a 30-second commercial," Mart told Christianity Today, "We ended up doing a two-hour movie about the power of God's word." He then formed a production company called Every Tribe. He wanted to produce quality films, so he hired individuals who were well-known in the film industry. Bill Ewing, who worked in such big productions as "Air Force One" and "Men in Black," is the president of the company. Jim Hanon, who directed short films and various commercials, directed "End of the Spear," and co-wrote the story with Mart. The team adopted Mark 4:11, from The Message Bible to describe why they had such a passion for storytelling, "He told them, 'You've been given insight into God's kingdom—you know how it works. But to those who can't see it yet, everything comes in stories, creating readiness, nudging them toward receptive insight.'"

The team made it their mission "To create quality entertainment for a broad audience that inspires hope through truth."

"Mart's passion is God's word and for people to know that God's word, in every language, still transforms lives," said Swanson. Mart wanted to begin working on the movie, but he wanted the movie to have a different perspective. Remembering the impact that Mincaye's presence had on him at the missions conference, he knew that the story needed to be told in the view of the Waodoni. Saint does not believe that his father or the other four missionaries, Jim Elliot, Peter Fleming, Ed McCully and Roger Youderian, had their lives taken from them.

"My father did not have his life taken away from him. He gave his life," said Saint in the movie.

Mart flew to Ecuador with Saint to personally ask permission from the Waodoni to film their stories. When Mart asked, the Waodoni refused. They did not understand the impact

that their story could have on America. Saint then told the Waodoni about Columbine and they willingly agreed saying, "Oh, that's just like how we used to act, killing for no reason." They then gave permission and filming began.

"Filming started in the spring of 2004 and took about three months to complete," said Swanson.

Every Tribe began to resurrect the martyrs and the missionary trip that happened so long ago. They began a traditional casting call in major cities like LA and New York. "End of the Spear," stars Chad Allen, who was "Matthew" on "Dr. Quinn

Medicine Woman." Allen was cast as martyr Nate Saint, and Steve Saint. Louie Leonardo was Hanon's first choice to be cast as Mincaye. Leonardo is mainly known for his role in "One Life to Live," but this is his first time starring in a movie production.

"Making this film has been an incredible experience and a true labor of love for all involved. This public recognition is affirmation that we have created a powerful and moving film that will impact people, and we are excited about the momentum that's building toward the theatrical release in January," said Mart at the Heartland film festival where "End of the Spear" received a Crystal Heart Award.

"I play a very different character, two characters, actually—an evangelical Christian missionary in 1956 and his son who comes back a generation later to live with the tribe that they make contact with. It's a really fascinating, beautiful true story," Allen said to Gregg Shapiro in an interview for AfterElton magazine.

"When casting took place, Mart saw Allen and knew that this guy had to play Nate and Steve Saint. It was not until production was underway that we found out that he was a homosexual. We do not endorse his lifestyle in any way, but we do think that he has phenomenal talent," said Swanson. He continued to say that the entire message of the story is to love others and show them Christ.

With the cast selected, the filming of "End of the Spear" went under way.

"It is a major motion picture that tells a story of the Waodoni people who live in the Amazon Basin of Ecuador. The Amazon Basin was too remote to support a large crew, so we filmed 'End of the Spear' in the rainforests in Panama," said Hanon in a short documentary provided by endofthespear.com.

Mark Fennon, the casting director for the film, arrived at the rainforests where they were going to begin shooting and met with a chief of a tribe. He told him that he was there to shoot the movie, but that he needed some natives to represent the Waodoni people in the movie. The chief allowed him to use his tribe members.



"BYE, DADDY!" — A young Steve Saint, played by Chase Ellison, watches as his father, Nate, flies away one last time.

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TIRED OF KILLING — The Waodoni women were saddened by the deaths of the missionaries.

With the cast members set, the movie began and the story of the Waodoni and the five missionary men began to unfold. With the Panama natives playing the Waodoni in the film, communication was not always easy. There was a language barrier that had to be, and eventually was, overcome.

The filming was emotional for all of the cast and for Saint, who was very involved in the making of the movie. Mart wanted the film to be as accurate as it could get and he knew that his key for that was having Saint nearby.

"Probably the most emotionally impacting thing for me out of the whole thing was when they went up and were reenacting the killings at Palm Beach. It was going to be extremely sensitive for the five families and even more so for the Waodoni. For those three of four Waodoni who were a part of that ... think what this was going to be like for them," said Saint on the documentary.

The film has already been previewed in different churches and even at Liberty University. Dr. Jerry Falwell was given a private screening of it. "I believe 'End of the Spear' is a landmark in filmmaking. The team behind this film has constructed a thrilling adventure that is also an inspiring and meditative portrait of redemption and spiritual healing. This is the kind of movie that Christian audiences can — and should — wholeheartedly support. This film will be looked on by the Christian public as the sequel to 'The Passion of The Christ,'" said Falwell.

"End of the Spear" is becoming highly anticipated among believers and non-believers alike. A documentary of the Waodoni and more interesting facts and details of the martyrdom, which is called "Beyond the Gates of Splendor," is now available on video and DVD.

The movie will come to theaters in Jan. 20, 2006, which will be the 50-year anniversary of the killing.

"We hope that people can take their non-believing friends to see the movie and that the movie will open a door for them to share the gospel," said Swanson.

According to Swanson, the next project for Every Tribe is a film on the AIDS crisis in Africa, "But for now," he said, "we are all just excited about 'End of the Spear.'"

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LETTING GO — Wife and son find out that Nate Saint died.



IN HATRED AND FEAR — Mincaye played by Louie Leonardo, prepares to spear the five missionaries.