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2008 – 2009

Liberty University School Newspaper

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Fall 11-11-2008

## 11-11-08 (The Liberty Champion, Volume 26, Issue 9)

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# LIBERTY CHAMPION

Tuesday, November 11, 2008 • Vol. 26 No. 9

*My Fair Lady* returns to Liberty's stage after 30 years  
Full story and photos on B8.



Check us out online at  
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## NEWS BRIEFS Together

### » MARINES TO THE RESCUE

Six off-duty Marines saved guests at a California motel from a fire that swept through the building on Sunday at 8 a.m., according to FoxNews.com. Marine Pvt. Colton Oliver and two of his colleagues saw flames and smoke, grabbed the rest of the Marines and pounded on the doors and windows of the other motel guests. "Everybody was out by the time the firefighters got here," Oliver said. Orange County Fire Authority Capt. Steve Pardi hailed the Marines as "absolute heroes."

### » MONK BRAWL

An Armenian and Greek Orthodox monk duked it out in the Church of the Holy Sepulcher, located next to the site of Jesus' tomb, according to FoxNews.com. The Armenian clergyman was marching in a yearly procession remembering the fourth-century discovery of the cross on which Jesus was believed to have been crucified, when a fight broke out, and riot police were required to separate the sides. The Armenian and Greek Orthodox monk were arrested. Riots among religious sects are not uncommon.

### » OBAMA PREPARES

According to an article on Sunday's *NyTimes*com, President-elect Obama is already planning which of President George Bush's policies he will overturn when inaugurated, a tradition among presidents. At the top of the list are decisions regarding offshore drilling and stem cell research, said advisers. In addition, Obama has already selected his future White House Chief of Staff, Illinois Representative Rahm Emanuel.

### » OKLAHOMA'S (QUIET) THUNDER

Basketball season is underway once again, with a new team in a state that has never had bragging rights in any national sport. The Oklahoma City Thunder, formerly the Seattle Sonic, played its first game on Wednesday Oct. 29, losing to the Milwaukee Bucks in front of a sold-out stadium, according to ESPN.com. Since its inauguration, the Thunder has only defeated the Minnesota Timberwolves but has kept its losses to a margin of less than 10 points.

### » JUST ANOTHER DAY IN SPACE

In an effort to make space exploration more eco-friendly, NASA astronauts will blast off on Friday and head to the International space station. Extra toilets, more sleeping compartments and laptop hookups are among the upgrades scheduled for the space station. Perhaps the most intriguing addition, though, is a water recovery system that will turn urine into drinkable water. Astronaut Donald Pettit told CNN, "It's going to take yesterday's coffee and turn it into today's coffee."

## LU students register record voting turnout

### AN IN-DEPTH LOOK AT LIBERTY'S LOCAL INFLUENCE IN THE PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION

By Jennifer Schmidt  
EDITOR IN CHIEF



Liberty University became a formidable presence in the presidential election process with the registration of over 4,000 voters - many of them residential students who changed their original registrations from out of state to local listings.

Previous to Liberty's voter registration drive, Ward III had less than 2,000 registered voters, a total that jumped to 4,731 before the registration deadline.

Without knowing how individuals voted, it is impossible to draw decisive conclusions. But with Liberty's traditionally conservative values, and a majority of students that tend to hold those same beliefs, commentators are safely assuming that Liberty students swung Lynchburg for Sen. John McCain.

Final results indicated that Liberty did indeed make a big difference. Heritage Elementary School, the site where Liberty students voted, saw the highest voter turnout rate for a single polling location in Lynchburg with 78 percent of registered voters coming to vote. Such a high rate contributed to Ward III's 70 per-

cent turnout rate overall, giving it the lead for Lynchburg precincts.

This final statistic emphasizes the presence of Liberty students more than any other - the number of voters at the Heritage polls more than doubled from past elections, and the total of recorded votes speaks volumes. Obama: 659. McCain: 3,000.

"That's why the city didn't go for Obama," local Democratic Party Chairman John Lawrence said in the *News & Advance*. "There's really no way around it."

The Democratic Party gained votes in every other Lynchburg precinct, a fact that further bolsters Lawrence's claims. Reviews of precinct results show that Heritage recorded over 30 percent more voters than any other precinct in Lynchburg, and a total of 3,659 votes were recorded at that site, the second highest number of voters for Lynchburg being 1,934 who voted at St. Paul's in Ward II.

Further evidence of Liberty's presence at the polls is the 62 percent increase in Ward III's voter totals compared to a 21 percent increase in Ward II and even lower increases for Wards I and IV.

"The turnout was good, and we're proud of the students for not just using the day as a vacation day. No matter what happens, we'll know we did all we could do as a school," Chancellor Jerry Falwell Jr. told the *News & Advance* before the election. After he learned that Liberty students swung the city's

See ELECTION on A4

See A4 for coverage and photos from LU's Election Day.  
See A6 for an analysis of campus response to voting.  
See A7 for a look at Obama's policies for college students.

## Military appreciation week shifts into gear

By Josh Swanson  
NEWS REPORTER

The students in the Liberty campus group Students Behind our Soldiers (SBS), led by Amanda Forth, will be conducting several events during Military Appreciation Week. The highlight of the events will be a Sikorsky UH-60 Blackhawk helicopter landing at the intramural field between David's Place and North Campus. The helicopter will land at 12 p.m. and will stay until 4 p.m. on Thursday, courtesy of the Virginia Army National Guard.

Military Appreciation Week began on Monday, Nov. 10. SBS had a booth set up in front of the bookstore in DeMoss from 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., and former Marine and Vietnam War veteran Tim Lee addressed students in convocation. He suffered a land mine injury during the war that caused him to become a double-leg amputee.

On Veterans Day, Nov. 11, the Virginia National Guard is showcasing

a gun truck and a weapons display outside of DeMoss near the fountain.

Originally, Veterans Day was known as Armistice Day. Armistice Day celebrated the end of World War I that ended on Nov. 11, 1918. On June 1, 1954, Armistice Day was changed to Veterans Day, according to Military.com. The 83 U.S. Congress changed the name at the urging of veterans' organizations. Veterans Day honors all veterans from all conflicts.

Forth credited Sergeant Pederson with helping her out with SBS.

"Sergeant Pedersen, our National Guard recruiter, has been one of the biggest helps. He supported me in what I was trying to do... he has been a great help and has been the one who got the Blackhawk, the gun truck, the rock wall and other things for Military Appreciation Week," she said.

SBS sends care packages overseas to troops. The main goal of

the group is to raise awareness and support for soldiers. There are currently over 30 students who meet monthly to help with SBS for Christian service hours. Forth would like to see the group grow to at least 75 people.

"Since most of my family was in the military I developed such a deep respect and passion for those serving that I wanted to make sure that people showed their support for them," Forth said. "Most people

don't realize what it's like to have to hug someone that you love and not know if they're going to come home, and what kind of effects that has on the family."

More information on the events for Military Appreciation Week can be found on the Liberty splash page.

Contact Josh Swanson at  
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## Aviation students capture fourth championship

By Daniel Martinez  
NEWS REPORTER

Liberty University's School of Aeronautics, which was officially christened just five months ago, was initiated into the realm of flight competition last week as 15 aviation students took to the skies on Thursday, Oct. 29 and returned from the competition three days later with a regional championship trophy.

As the department of aviation, Liberty won three consecutive titles in the Region X flight competition of the National Intercollegiate Flying Association's (NIFA) annual contest. Now serving as an official School of Aeronautics, Liberty's representatives refused to drop the ball, soaring to victory to the tune of a 142-point margin between the first-place victors and their nearest competitor, Caldwell

### Community College.

Liberty's 311 points led the four schools' teams that competed from Oct. 29 to Nov. 1 last week at the Lynchburg Regional Airport, with Caldwell in second place, Hampton University in third, and Averett University in fourth place.

"Winning was a great moment in my life, and for the team," Coach Jonathan Washburn said. "But I was most excited when I got back to work on Monday and looked at the numbers."

Those numbers showed that all 15 of Liberty's pilots achieved at least one top-three score somewhere among the nine ground and aerial events they participated in.

"Each individual member contributed to scoring points for the team," Co-Captain Josh "Too Tall" Stadlander.

Stadlander's co-captain, Eric "IHOP" Carter, cited Liberty's training strategy as part of the reason for the uniform victory.

"We limited each team member to about two ground events and two flying events," Carter said. This helped people "find their talents and skills and just full throttle ahead with some events," Beth "Animal" Partie said.

This focus translated into big points for Liberty's pilots and team, as six of the top-twelve contestants for the Top Pilot Award of the competition were Liberty.

Liberty's 15 pilots were divided up amongst the five ground multiple-choice tests (Computer Accuracy, Aircraft Recognition, Ground Trainer, Simulated Comprehensive Aircraft Navigation (SCAN), and Aircraft Preflight Inspection) and the four aerial events (Navigation, Power Off-Landing, Short Field Approach and Landing, and Message Drop).

"Eric (Carter) and I came in first place in navigation," Stadlander said, calling it his most exciting aerial experience in the competition.

"The whole time we closely monitored our groundspeed, fuel burn and time over checkpoints so we could be as accurate as possible."

In the navigation event, as Carter explained it, teams are given five checkpoints in the area to locate on a chart. They then chart a course to each point, estimating how much gas they will burn en route. After the planning stage, they fly the course, and the team with the math that most closely matches its results, wins.



# Moot court aids in preparation for U.S. Supreme Court case

By Drew Menard  
NEWS REPORTER

Nine members of Liberty Law School's faculty, acting as Supreme Court Justices, barraged Jay Sekulow with a series of critical questions to help hone his argument for an upcoming Supreme Court case.

Sekulow came to Liberty to moot, or practice, his argument for Pleasant Grove City v. Summum, a case which will be brought before the Supreme Court on Nov. 13. He is the advocate for Pleasant Grove City.

Sekulow, who has been meticulously preparing his argument, made his way to Liberty University on Wednesday, Oct. 29 for a moot court as part of a long series of such events to fine tune his oral argument before he has to make it before the U.S. Supreme Court.

"When this case was accepted before the U.S. Supreme Court in the spring of 2008, I invited (Sekulow) to come to Liberty and he was happy to do so," Law School Dean Mathew Staver said.

For the moot Supreme Court case Mathew

Staver played the role of Chief Justice and was accompanied by Liberty Law faculty members Judge Bob Ulrich, Judge Paul Spinden, Professor Philip Manns, Professor Shwan Akers, Professor Grant Rost and Professor Michael Sandez and Constitutional Law Attorneys Erik Stanley and Kelly Shackelford, who acted as the other eight justices.

Within nine seconds of presenting his oral argument for the case, Sekulow was interrupted with a critical question from Staver, in character. This opened the floodgates for an hour long exchange of questions and arguments between Sekulow and the pseudo justices.

"Anyone that was sitting on the panel looked at the case straightforward and then tried to ask questions where things were either vague, or there was a mix of law, in terms of circuits having different rulings, or there was ambiguities," Sandez said.

Sekulow did not expect to get very far in presenting his opening argument. It is quite common for a Supreme Court justice to begin inquiry without allowing the lawyer to finish speaking. Sekulow had to anticipate what

points will draw questioning from the justices.

"You've got to practice your answers," Sekulow said. "While Dean Staver is asking a question, I can finish his question and answer it. That is a good problem to have."

Liberty's faculty did not take its roles as Supreme Court justices lightly. Hours of research and preparation went into assuming the roles. Sandez said that, in addition to reading the briefs, he looked up relaying cases and similar issues.

"It was quite extensive," Sandez said.

Liberty's purpose was to prepare Sekulow by making him "sharper on the things that were not clear," according to Sandez.

"This was a good moot court," Sekulow said. "Much tougher than it will be at the Supreme Court."

"It was enlightening ... to see the rapid interchange the justices do have in cases like these. The attorneys really have to be ready to take on all angles," Theology Professor Dr. Gaylen Leverett said, after witnessing the event.

Sekulow will be presenting his 13th oral

argument before the Supreme Court and his position in this particular case is supported by the United States, according to Sekulow.

Liberty's Supreme Courtroom, which is modeled after the U.S. Supreme Courtroom, is often used to host moot courts. Staver's vision for the courtroom was to "prepare some of the most important cases before the U.S. Supreme Court" at Liberty.

Staver and Sekulow have been friends for a long time. The duo "pioneered the current model of constitutional litigation in the early 1990s," according to Staver.

As Sekulow continues preparing and reviewing his argument, he will moot at various venues such as Regent University. The final moot will take place Monday, Nov. 10.

"On Tuesday (Nov. 11) I will play golf," Sekulow said. "If you don't know by the day before, it's your funeral."

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# Left Behind author hosts workshop

By Dominique McKay  
NEWS REPORTER

Jerry Jenkins, co-author with Tim LaHaye of the Left Behind series, opened Liberty University's eighth biannual Writers Conference on Friday night encouraging young authors to write with emotions.

"Regardless of where you are," Jenkins said. "You're going to need to be a feeling writer. You're going to need to be in touch with your emotions."

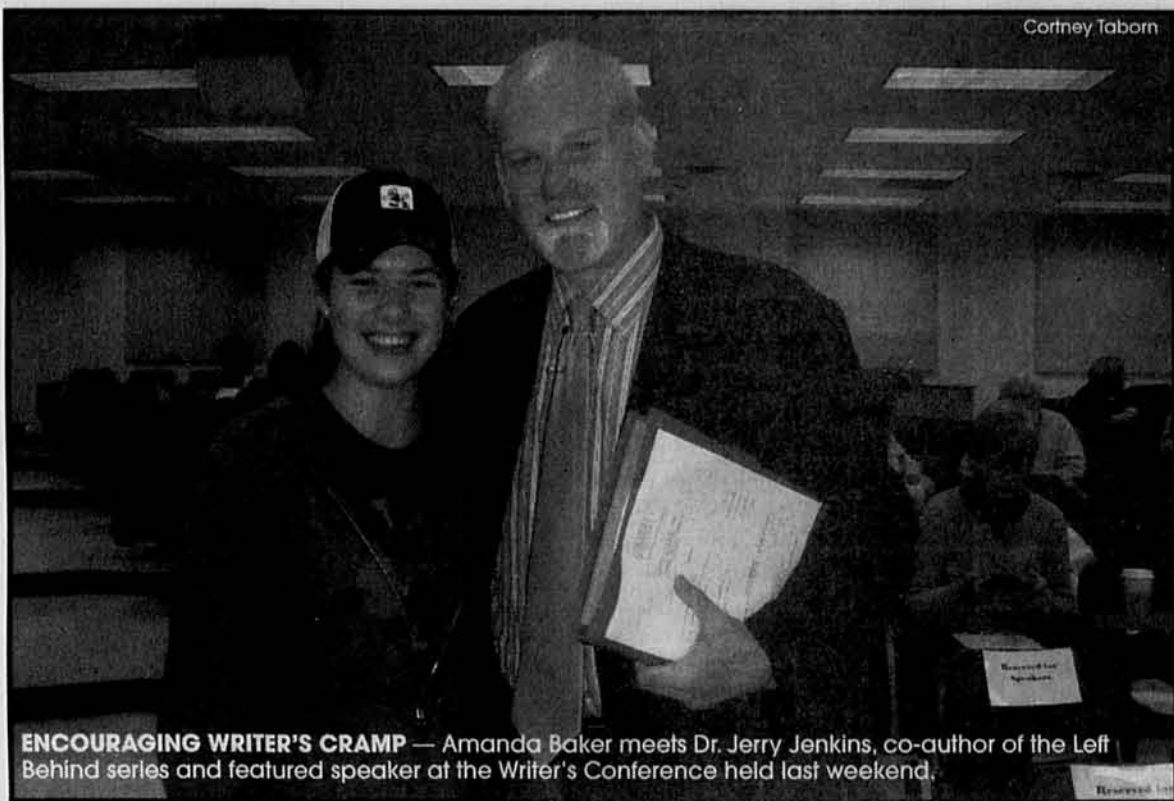
The night began with an open reception held in DeMoss Hall. The conference was attended by a range of inquiring minds from the local community including seasoned authors and young hopefuls. Liberty faculty and students also attended the conference.

"For those interested in writing their own books or articles, having people like Jerry Jenkins (available to) critique their work is something that many would-be authors never would get to do without this conference," Professor of Communications Robert Lyster said.

Jenkins began his address to the crowd by expressing that his motivation for writing was his strong desire to reach the lost, saying there was nothing more thrilling than hearing from people that his writing brought them to Christ.

Jenkins used examples including how Winston Churchill wrote speeches that moved people and how the words of Truman Capote allowed him to forget he was reading, as he became caught up in the content rather than the technique to express his hope that writers be moved by literature.

Jenkins closed out the night with a story of his time with evangelist Billy Graham, telling the crowd of when Graham had broken his pelvis and



ENCOURAGING WRITER'S CRAMP — Amanda Baker meets Dr. Jerry Jenkins, co-author of the Left Behind series and featured speaker at the Writer's Conference held last weekend.

he needed an injection, the doctor told him to think of somewhere else he'd rather be to get his mind of the pain.

Fighting back tears, Jenkins told the crowd, "Graham said to the doctor, 'There is no other place I'd rather be than right here right now ... because I am living in the center of God's will and if this is where he wants me, this is where I want to be.'"

Jenkins encouraged the crowd to be in the center of God's will as writers.

"Hearing Jerry Jenkins talk Friday was a rare treat," Lyster said. "I have read much of his work and now when I read Jerry, I will remember the joy of hearing him (in person) and appreciate his

writing even more."

The conference, which continued on Saturday, included other notable writers, such as Carole Gift Page and Bill Meyers, who conducted workshops on topics ranging from creating great characters and overcoming writer's block to creating great plots and poetry.

"I think the writer's conference (was) a great way for us to be able to hear from some of our favorite authors in person," Lyster said.

The conference concluded Saturday night with book signings from Jenkins, Page and Meyers.

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## AVIATION Continued from A1

"It was nice just to get up there and fly again," Carter said. "Our route took us over my hometown of Altavista and over Smith Mountain Lake."

Due to months of heavy practice schedules and what first-year coach Washburn called a determination to be successful, Liberty's pilots were ready for the intense competition schedule. At 7:15 a.m., the team was at the airport and ready to go, with a briefing at 7:30 a.m.. The idle day hours were spent busily preparing for the events, which lasted as late as 7 p.m. in the air and on the ground.

With all 15 pilots receiving at least one medal each for a third-place finish or better, Liberty's team got to experience much excitement after all the practice.

"By no means is it easy," Partie said. "Sometimes you almost wonder if you're kind of loopy when you've spent the past half hour studying the same picture of an airplane for aircraft recognition."

While they have another step to take in May's national championship competition in St. Louis, IHOP, Too Tall, Animal and the rest of the hard-working team can enjoy a host of satisfying memories.

"By far the most exciting and rewarding part of the whole competition was going up to the front of the room at the awards banquet to accept the first-place trophy as a team," Stadlander said.

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### Editor's Correction

In the last issue of the Champion, the article "Recent upgrades spice up academic facilities," by Drew Menard, incorrectly stated that the enrollment cap was 10,500 students. The correct cap for 2008-2009 enrollment was 11,500.

## LIBERTYCHAMPION

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# D.C. internship program a monumental success



By Brent Reif  
COPY EDITOR

An institution with the size and reputation of Liberty garners the attention of prospective students who seek a well-rounded education to prepare them for their futures. Liberty provides opportunities for students to accomplish this purpose through the Washington semester that helps prepare students for their professional careers.

Although Liberty's career center has recently assumed the leadership of the D.C. semes-

ter, the Strategic Policies Institute originally introduced the idea and worked with Liberty to provide this opportunity to students.

"The chancellor's initiative to bring the Washington semester program in-house under the direct supervision of the career center is critical to expanding its impact in our nation's Capital," Director of Development Roy Jones said.

"America needs Liberty University student leaders to be 'Salt and Light' in Washington."

The Washington semester offers not only the necessary means for a student to get into a resume-building internship, but also the leadership training and job preparation skills to help aid job searching and networking.

"Our goal is to see students learn and grow through experiential education opportunities provided in D.C.," Career Center Director and Coordinator of the Washington Semester Carrie Barnhouse said. "Our chancellor has often referred to these students as 'being on the front

lines' — they are fighting the cultural war by conquering the capital."

With placement opportunities at their disposal, students can get connected with several options for internships without the hassle of attempted networking and job searching in an unfamiliar location.

"Liberty's own career center is proud to offer this unique opportunity to students," Barnhouse said. "We have nearly 5,000 alumni living and working within a 60-mile radius of D.C. It is important to ensure our students are mentored, trained and equipped to help make a difference."

The career center is also working with professionals who have long histories and even deeper contacts to help secure placements for students.

"Our goal is to identify students' career goals," Barnhouse said. "It's important to know what you want to do with your major and how you plan to use your skills. We want to find internships that are relative to securing a student's future."

These internships have a lasting impact on students. Brandon Smith is participating in the D.C. semester and has an internship with the Pentagon.

"By learning my strengths and weaknesses, I can better myself mentally, physically, emotionally and most importantly in the area of discipline," Smith said. "Possessing determination and desire to be successful is imperative.

Through the internship, students can gain both and then some."

Meghan Kirkpatrick is a former D.C. semester participant who interned with Congressman Robin Hayes (8th District — N.C.) and completed many tasks including, but not limited to writing, editing, capitol tours, executive meetings and committee hearings.

"Not only have I received many job offers through this experience, but I have learned how to be a witness for Christ in a secular, real-world job setting," Kirkpatrick said. "I am confident with my skills learned, professionalism and executive communication."

On average, internships result in a job offer more than 50 percent of the time. The same has proven true with the Washington semester.

"More than 100 students have participated in the opportunity to spend a semester learning and working in Washington over the past three years and nearly half of them have been offered jobs," Barnhouse said. "When they get to D.C. they make contacts and develop relationships with networks that help secure employment later in life. Nearly 50 percent of students said their internships provided networking contacts and skills that would be beneficial for their careers."

For more information on the Washington Semester and to apply for the spring semester, contact Carrie Barnhouse at careers@liberty.edu or 592-4109.

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## Horton history — Professor perseveres through 50k

By Anthony Barone  
NEWS REPORTER

"Health is more valuable than learning; without the former, the latter couldn't exist," Thomas Jefferson said. Such a sentiment is especially true for Liberty students and faculty who recently competed in a 31-mile race.

On Nov. 1 at 6:30 a.m., several runners from the United States, Canada and Spain, including Liberty University students and Liberty professor Dr. David Horton, competed in the 50k (31.1 mile) Mountain Masochist Trail Run ultra-marathon.

An ultra-marathon is a race in which runners travel more than 42.1 kilometers, or 26.2 miles, according to ultrarun.com.

"The course itself is a challenging combination of roads, jeep trails and single track that can cause even the most experienced runner to breathe a sigh of relief at the finish line,"

Clark Zealand posted at [www.ecosports.com](http://www.ecosports.com).

The race started in Lynchburg and ended in Montebello, Va.

Horton started the event in 1985, when a student approached him and asked him to start one.

Horton, 58, directed the race for

the first 23 years and has now "turned the reigns over to Dr. Zealand."

This year he participated in the event for the first time since its inaugural year.

"I thought it was the perfect time to run," Horton said.

First place went to Eric Grossman with a winning time of seven hours and eight minutes, according to [ecosports.com](http://ecosports.com).

The last time Horton competed, he placed first with a time of around seven and a half hours, this year completing the run in less than 10 hours.

Horton is motivated to run because

the Lord has given him a talent to run, he wants to lead by example and it increases quality of life.

Students said they were amazed by the event, but only one said he would even consider such a feat.

"I would be there cheering on the runners," alumni Sean Langille said.

Horton's running career includes 30 marathons, at least 160 ultra-marathons and more than 130,000 miles.

He participated in a national race that began in Los Angeles, Calif. and ended in New York City and also ran the entire Appalachian Trail.

When asked about what training

is needed to participate in such an event, he explained how he normally tries to run 10 miles a day and before the big race about 100 miles a week.

"I'm addicted to running," he said.

He also noted how one should probably run 20 or more mile practice runs a few times before the actual race.

Horton will direct the upcoming ultra-marathons including the Hellgate 100k in December and the Holiday Lake 50k in February.

"I hope the day I die, I had a good run," Horton said.

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acbarone@liberty.edu.

# 2008

**530 Colleges and Universities** around the country are partnering to break a Guinness World Record for most canned food collected in a day.

## HERE'S HOW YOU CAN HELP:

Bring a canned good or monetary donation to the campus communion service Wednesday, 11/12. Our goal at LU is to collect 1,971 pounds of non-perishable food. All proceeds will go to the Lynchburg Daily Bread in downtown Lynchburg.

For more information on how you can help to stop hunger visit [helpstophunger.org](http://helpstophunger.org). Visit [www.forstudentsbystudents.com](http://www.forstudentsbystudents.com) for complete details.

# Saturday November 15th

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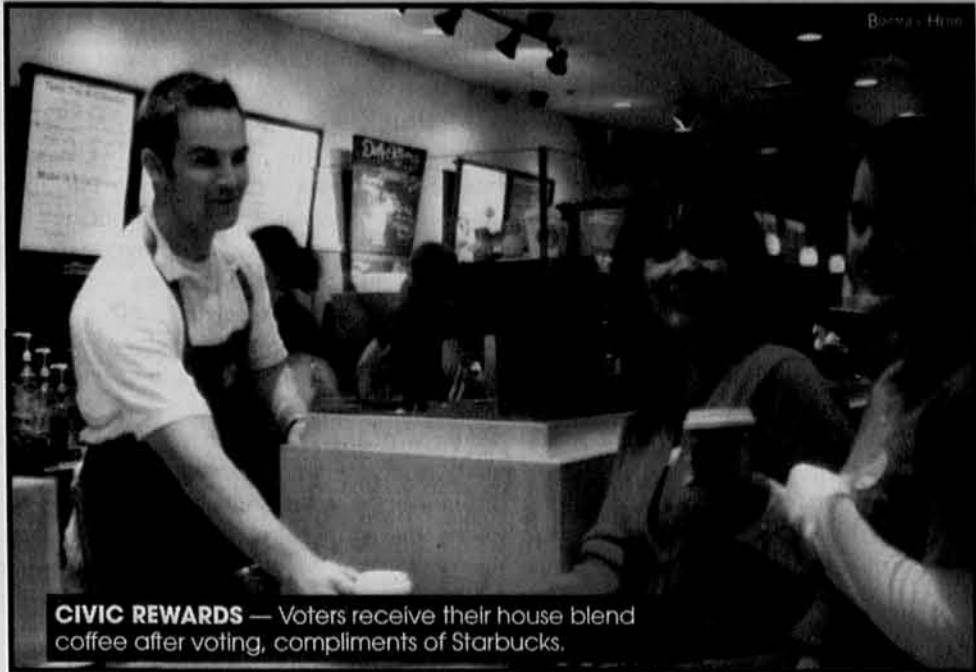
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admission | \$12 at the door  
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# Election Day: Not just voting anymore



**CIVIC REWARDS** — Voters receive their house blend coffee after voting, compliments of Starbucks.

By Betsy Abraham  
NEWS REPORTER

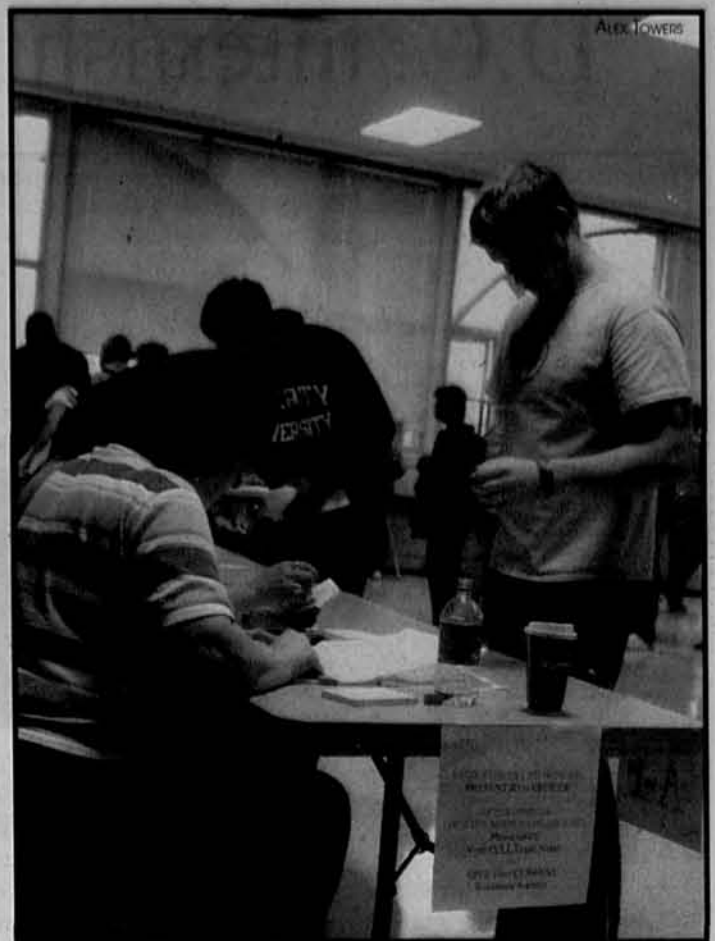
Election day was full of choices. Not only were students able to choose whom they wanted to vote for, but they also had to decide what to do with the day off. For many students, the day's main event was voting. Buses shuttled students from various locations around campus to the voting booths at Heritage Elementary School all day. Jeremy Cox, a freshmen and first-time voter, thought the buses were a tremendous help. "They need to

do that every (election)," Cox said. Many students tried to get out as early as possible to avoid long lines, especially since the polls in Virginia closed at 7 p.m. Freshman Melanie Fowler said she was happy classes were cancelled because "it gave everyone an opportunity to go out and vote so they wouldn't have to worry about conflicting class schedules." Besides voting, different events occurred all around campus to make sure that the day was unforgettable. Students showed off their muscles at the bench press competition held in the LaHaye Student Center. The seven

winners received gift certificates, bragging rights and had their names featured on the "Wall of Champions." LaHaye also hosted a video game tournament where students played Madden '09. The three winners acquired gift certificates of varying amounts to Gamestop. The first and second place winners also won a copy of the game. Students Antwaun Stuart and Jeff Chism played against each other, both hoping to win the grand prize. "Practice makes perfect," Stuart said as he picked his team, the Cowboys. Double-feature movies were featured in the Tilley Center and East Clubhouse. Students relaxed in the Tilley with "The Bourne Identity" and "Bourne Supremacy," while those at the East Clubhouse watched "Cinderella Man" and "Field Of Dreams."

Another event many students participated in was open dorms. From 2-5 p.m., students were able to go into the dorms of friends of the opposite gender. Students visited friends all over campus and enjoyed being able to spend time with friends in their own rooms. The Reber-Thomas Dining Hall was full of Election Day festivities. Students sang karaoke during lunch and were able to view live election results during dinner on a big-screen TV projection. The day ended with an election party hosted by Student Activities in the Vines Center at 8:30 p.m.. Students played a wide assortment of games, ranging from Pacman to Rock Band. Sounds of Liberty sang the national anthem and students also enjoyed a performance by Humble TIP. Throughout the night, extravagant prizes such as XBOX 360s, PS3s, and iPods were given out to students. Student Activities worker Julie Smith said the event was meant to bring students from different sides together. "Having the news available (on the big screens) lets students be informed, and we just want them to have fun," Smith said.

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**SEE YOU AT THE POLLS** — Liberty students check in at the registration tables after waiting in long lines at Heritage.

## AT THE LOCAL POLLS

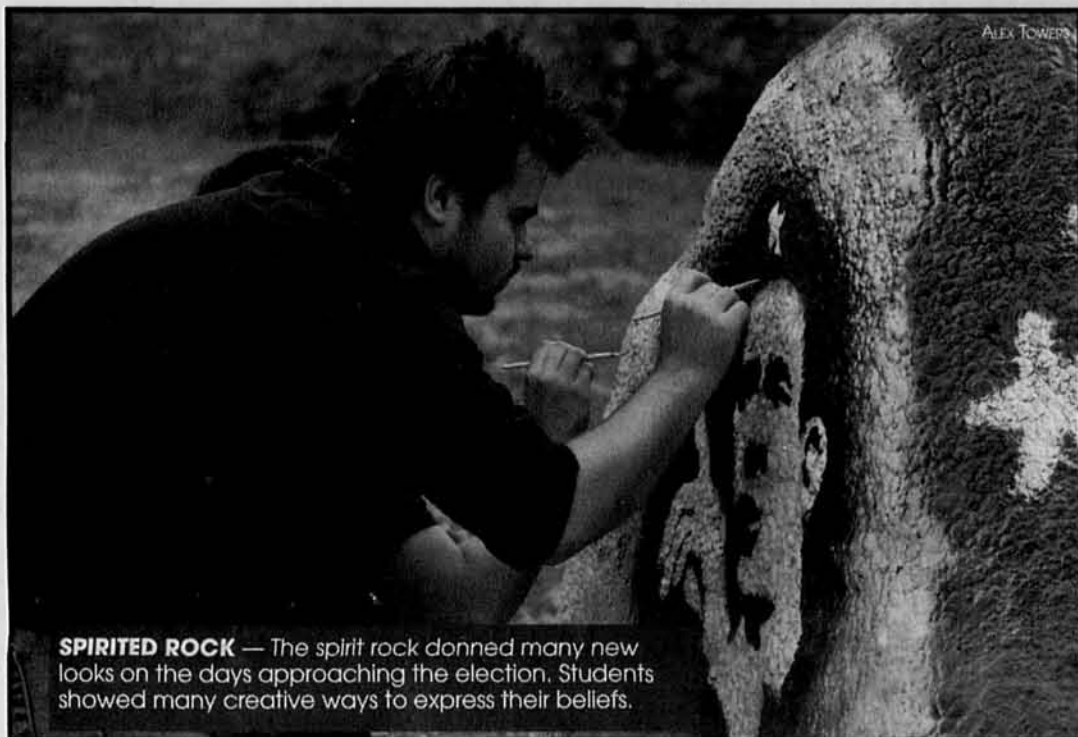
**4,200** registered LU voters

**82%** McCain's win in LU's precinct

**3%** margin of McCain's win in Lynchburg

**73%** Lynchburg's voter turnout

**78%** voter turnout in Ward III



**SPIRITED ROCK** — The spirit rock donned many new looks on the days approaching the election. Students showed many creative ways to express their beliefs.

## IPTV use increases, students affect choices

By Matthew Coleman  
NEWS REPORTER

Some students chose not to attend the Election Party last Tuesday, instead watching the results from the comfort of their dorm using the newly revamped IPTV.

Before the upgrade, Liberty residents could not have logged a combined total of 5,030 hours watching Fox News, according to Media Systems Manager Charles Johnson.

Initially, Liberty's IPTV network worked fairly well, as long as the number of people watching remained relatively low. The more people who started logging on to watch at once, the worse the IPTV connection got for everyone, which proved to be very frustrating, especially when the screen started skipping or went blank entirely. The new system has worked out all of the little bugs that have caused the problems and slowdowns.

"(IPTV is) now fully functional and

should be a good, standard definition signal in every dorm or any place on campus where you can plug into Ethernet," said Chancellor Jerry Falwell Jr.

Now every Liberty student has unlimited and free access to 11 different channels via a computer with a land line connection. No longer confined to an actual television screen, students will have access to this service anywhere on campus as well as the Lynchburg Inn and the Conference Center via their computers.

For the cash-strapped and frugal students who do not want to dole out \$20 for an Ethernet cable, Liberty's technicians are working on making IPTV accessible via a wireless connection.

"We are in the process of upgrading our wireless service," Charles Spence, director of planning and construction said. "The new wireless provider will at some time in the near future be able to support the wireless IPTV. We are thinking that it may be as early as this time next year."

As the technology for IPTV is

progressing, the possibilities for the future are truly endless. While the students of Liberty are currently limited to the preapproved 11 channels, the network can be hooked up to as many as 50 different TV stations.

The Liberty hierarchy relies on student polls to determine which stations to put on and which ones to forgo, according to Spence. Suggestions can also be made by e-mailing [iptv@liberty.edu](mailto:iptv@liberty.edu).

"We can have as many channels as we want," Spence said. "There are other schools out there with 50 or more channels."

Not only can the IPTV system monitor how many students are watching at any given time and what they are watching, the information can be also be saved for up to four months to see what students are watching the most.

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## ELECTION

Continued from A1

vote from one candidate to another, he stated, "Liberty University can never be treated like a second-class citizen in local politics again. Our students have earned their right to be heard."

While Sen. Obama won the state of Virginia, a first for the red state in over four decades, he fell short by 1,300 votes in Lynchburg. Obama garnered 16,256 votes in Lynchburg, but McCain edged him out with a total of 17,622 to give him a 51 percent majority to Obama's 47 percent.

Overall, Lynchburg counted 8,000 more votes than in any previous election, a total that Liberty students and a revitalized effort in Ward II contributed to.

Though McCain did not succeed in taking Virginia, the race was so close that every effort truly counted. Even two days before the election, the News & Advance reported Obama had a mere three-percent lead over McCain, and that nine percent of Virginia voters were still undecided.

Regardless of political affiliations, a clear winner in last Tuesday's election was the

democratic process with voter turnout across the nation a bit higher than in past elections. About 122 million voters were recorded in 2004, while experts estimated between 126-133 million voters showed up for this year's election, according to the News & Advance.

"The fact that people turned out in record numbers to vote in this election suggests that our democracy is engaged, that people are taking their civic responsibility seriously," wrote Time magazine's managing editor Richard Stengel. "It's a reminder, as Justice Louis Brandeis suggested, that the highest office in a democracy is not that of president but that of citizen."

Students of Liberty University are just one piece of evidence to support Stengel's comments, but they played a role that garnered local, state and national attention. The public will be watching to see what presence Liberty will make in future elections on every level, but no doubts remain that it was a mobilized force in last Tuesday's election.

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<b>#5</b> One Medium 1-Topping Pizza & Order of Breadsticks code 9605	<b>#6</b> One Oven Baked Sandwich & A Small Cheese Pizza code 9606	<b>#7</b> Two Small 2-Topping Pizzas code 9607	

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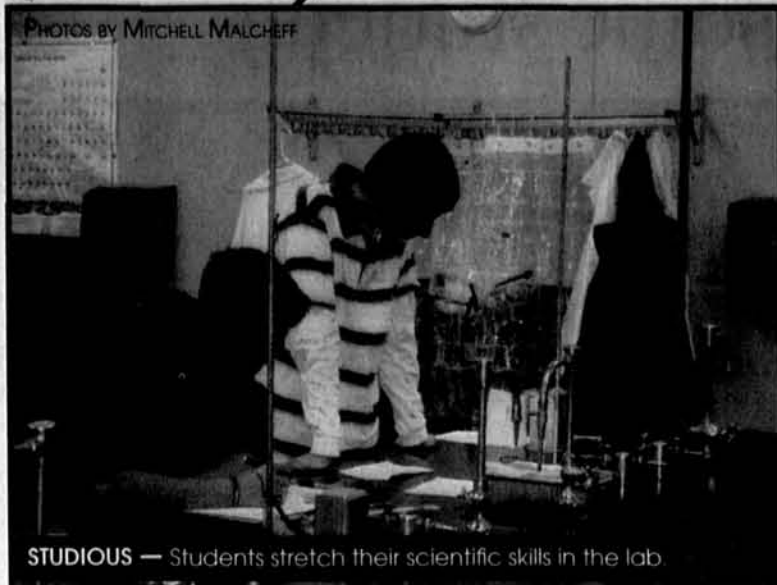
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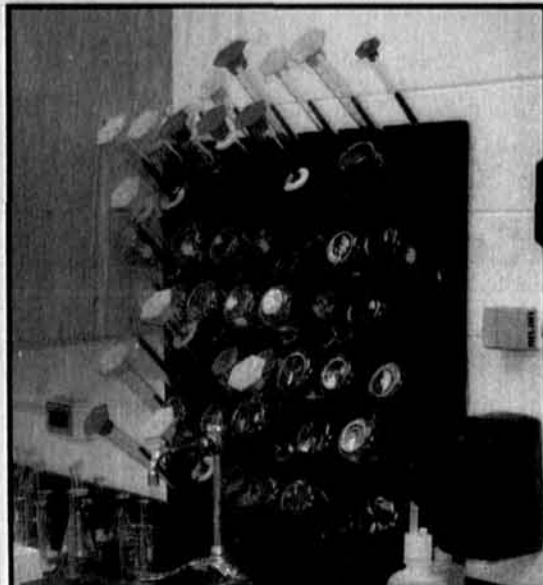


# MAJOR FOCUS: BIO/PRE MED

PHOTOS BY MITCHELL MALCHEFF



STUDIOUS — Students stretch their scientific skills in the lab.



By Daniel Martinez  
and Amanda Baker  
NEWS REPORTER AND  
ASST. NEWS EDITOR

Liberty has sent students to medical schools since its inception, but just five years ago, a pre-med concentration actually came about at the school, giving students of several different majors the opportunity to pursue a career in medicine. However, as students push through this "academically rigorous program," according to Biology Department Chairman Dr. Paul Sattler, they must be thinking about the next steps.

Sophomore Matthew Henry is a biology major who hopes to be an obstetrician.

"(I chose pre-med because) that's the main way to get into medical school," he said.

Medical school is the next step for many, and it is a practice Sattler has seen Liberty students with health, psychology and even business majors take.

"Technically, there is no such thing as one and only one major that prepares you for medical school," Sattler said.

Sophomore Matthew Schreiner's dad was a doctor, and that, plus his "love for all sciences, especially biology," prompted him to become one of the 220-plus pre-med students.

"I chose pre-med because I think it is absolutely amazing how God has created the body. I also want to help bring relief to people in pain and who are suffering," junior

Courtney Paul, who plans on having a career in chiropractic, said. "When you help bring healing, it presents a huge opportunity to share Christ."

Whatever the major, all students need in order to apply to medical school is a good score on the Medical College Admission Test (MCAT) and at least one course in both physics and biology, plus two courses in chemistry.

The MCAT is a test students need to take the calendar year before they wish to attend medical school. Students looking to enter medical school next fall need to take the exam before Christmas. The test — a composite of physics, chemistry and biology — is held at different sites around the state every year.

The MCAT is a timed test that requires a fee in order to gain entrance.

"It tests your knowledge and ability to think — you'll often be presented with a problem and certain data, and you're asked to give a solution. It may be multiple choice, but you'll have to be able to calculate and do certain things," Biology Professor Dr. Terry Spohn said.

Once students take the test, the results will be mailed to designated schools of interest.

Looking for medical schools to attend is a priority, and both Sattler and Spohn said there is something pre-med students need to be doing besides just completing schoolwork.

Medical schools, Spohn said, want to make sure students are more interested than just learning the basics. Students looking to enter medical school must have some sort of on-the-

job experience before applying, according to Spohn.

"We had a young man here who had a 4.0," Spohn said. "But he didn't get into medical school because he didn't have work experience."

Spohn suggested working in a clinic, volunteering in a hospital or going on a medical missions trip. He also pointed out that there are doctors at both major hospitals in the Lynchburg area who will allow interested students to shadow them.

"Students simply have to initiate contact and set up a time-frame," he said.

Liberty students have been accepted to dozens of different medical schools over the years, including Penn State, West Virginia School of Medicine, Ross University School of Medicine, George Washington University and The Virginia College of Osteopathic Medicine (VCOM).

VCOM is a private medical school on the campus of Virginia Tech. Liberty students who "have a 3.5 general GPA and a 3.5 in the sciences" are virtually guaranteed a position, according to Sattler. The school, which handles regular medical training and muscle-bone manipulations similar to chiropractors, is only in its fifth year of operation.

Sattler said the school has a conservative nature similar to Liberty, and he estimated that about 80 percent of the faculty is Christian.

"They love Liberty students," Sattler said. "Because they're doing well, they can handle

the academic program."

He said feedback from Liberty students about VCOM has been similarly positive.

Pre-med students also have the option to prepare for medical missions as a post-graduate career.

"I want to use medicine to get into counties that are desperate for medical care and desperate for a Savior," junior Katrina Kurtz said. "I want to emulate Christ with my life in the way that he first met the physical needs of people and then met the spiritual needs of people."

As students continue working through the pre-med concentration — and Sattler advised they remember almost all medical schools are more likely to take students who are in-state — a number of freshman arrive at Liberty, each year, with the intention of taking the pre-med route.

"Study hard; don't waste your time," was Schreiner's advice to such freshman. "Work piles up fast if you let it."

"If you don't understand something," Henry said, adding to the notion of developing good study habits, "ask someone about it. You're definitely going to need to understand it later."

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## The thread runs scarlet

By Danielle Jacobs  
NEWS REPORTER

Liberty's annual fall communion service — an interactive, walk-through experience centered on the sacrifice of Jesus Christ — will occur on Wednesday, Nov. 12, from 2:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. in the Shilling Center.

The service, entitled "The Scarlet Thread," will guide participants through the Old Testament predictions of Christ's sacrifice, ultimately focusing on the cross. Prayer stations and interactive elements will display examples from the Old Testament as well as provide an opportunity for self-evaluation and reflection. Examples of displays include blood on the door posts at Passover and the animal-skin sacrifice in the Garden of Eden.

The Office of Student Leadership (OSL) encourages students, faculty and staff to take part in this service and experience a time of learning, reflection, worship and thanksgiving. Participants

should allow for a minimum of 30 minutes to experience the service. The set-up allows for groups or individuals to walk through at their own paces.

"We want them to gain an understanding of the significance of the centrality of Christ throughout the Bible in terms of the ultimate sacrifice," Campus Pastor Michael Miller said.

Two separate rooms make up the communion service. In the first room, displays tell the story of the scarlet thread through 30 Scripture references and related hymns. After the walk through, participants will partake in communion around a cross-shaped table. In the second room, decorated with a fall theme, participants will be invited for a time of worship, prayer and reflection on thanksgiving. The displays throughout the rooms invite students to meet with God and focus on Christ's significance in the Bible.

"The spirit and presence of God is always evident and powerful," Spiritual Life

Director Nick Perry said. "It is felt by all who have the pleasure of attending the unique night of worship."

Members of OSL and the Ignite team designed the displays to be pictures of Christ from Genesis to Revelation.

"Instead of images or objects moving people to worship and communion, this year's focus is completely Scripture-led," Kim Carr, Ignite team coordinator, said.

Having communion services in the fall and spring are traditions at Liberty. It is a different kind of service unique in its focus on confession, adoration and thanksgiving. The service allows for students to take a break from school, examine their own lives and thank God for all he has done.

"It is a break from (the routine) that offers students an opportunity to participate in a worship-based service at its truest form," Perry said.

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# Presidential race elicits high-strung emotions and spirited reactions from some students

## Points on Good Communication

By Melany Pearl  
CENTER FOR MULTICULTURAL  
ENRICHMENT DIRECTOR

### Recommendation to students with opposing views:

The way to talk about opposing views is to implement good communication skills. The problem does not lie with people having a difference of opinion/convictions, but altercations can arise when we do not engage in good communication in our conversations.

If you are having a conversation one-on-one, some things to consider are:

1. Stay out of a someone's personal space — in many cultures this is seen as intrusive and disrespectful.
2. Listen if you really want to be heard.
3. Provide constructive feedback that is done in a peaceful and respectful manner.

For those who find themselves involved in a group dialogue; why not ask one person to stay out of the discussion to act as a non-biased moderator; so that the conversation can be constructive and not just back-and-forth comments that often prove to lead to nowhere.

If you are a particularly passionate person, you must constantly self-monitor to ensure that you are being understood and not seen as someone who has "gone off the handle."

### How we should handle the 2008 election results:

- Do a self-examination by asking:
1. Why do I feel the way I do about this president?
  2. How can I be intentional about handling myself in a way so my opinions will truly be heard?
  3. Whether you are celebrating or disappointed in Barack Obama's victory — you must do it in a Christ-like manner.

### Advice on dealing with post-election tension:

"Do not seek revenge or bear a grudge against one of your people, but love your neighbor as yourself. I am the LORD," says Leviticus 19:18. Ultimately God is still on the throne and nothing will change that.



By Mandi Sullivan  
LIFE! EDITOR

The American people witnessed history in the making on Nov. 4 as Barack Obama was elected the 44th president of the United States. The historical aspect was not that another president was elected, but the fact that Obama is America's first black president.

Some students found it difficult to acknowledge this historical milestone because of their strong opposition to President-elect Obama's position on issues like abortion and marriage.

The election party in the Vines Center gave evidence to the issue of conflict among students.

"It was extremely segregated ... Obama versus McCain supporters — there were people of various races with both sections," junior Grace Scott said. "People were slamming chairs, walking around and proudly holding signs — it was pretty heated."

Some students' reactions to President-elect Obama's win were less than admirable. Almost immediately after Obama was named the winner, some students' Facebook statuses entertained ideas of moving to other countries — my status included. Unfortunately, I did not realize the wrong doing of my choices until after I had a fight with my best friend, an Obama supporter.

After arguing with my friend, I decided it was a good time for me to sit down and spend some time with God, doing my devotional. The passage that I was scheduled to read was Hebrews 13:17-25. The verses speak about obeying and

submitting to leaders, convicting me loudly and clearly of my unkind and disrespectful actions.

However, with that lesson learned or relearned, I was not prepared for the hostility that I felt in my classes the next day. The demeanor of almost everyone on campus was stiff and rigid. I encountered some sort of conflict related to the election in all of my classes that day, including the most memorable when an Obama supporter walked out of class in response to a request to pray for our nation that came from another student.

Nor is the hostility on campus one-sided. I have heard McCain supporters voice their opinions in a not-so-nice way to Obama supporters. Some have wrongly equated support or non-support for Obama as a racial issue.

"Based on many conversations of this week I think that one should not draw the conclusion that just because one is African American that they voted for Sen. Obama and just because a person is white that they voted for Sen. McCain," Vice President of Spiritual Affairs and the Director of the Office of Student Leadership Dwayne Carson said. "We should not be calling a person a racist because they did not vote for the person you liked."

The conflict was even reported to the administration.

"It has come to my attention that some students on campus who either are democrats or persons who simply are excited about the election of President-elect Obama were being malignantly harassed for their views," Director of Student Conduct Keith Anderson said. "In addition, to threatening language

being hurled face-to-face another student reported insensitive dialogue being exchanged through internet social groups."

Melany Pearl, director of the Center for Multicultural Enrichment said, "I have heard reports of flagrant, verbal disrespect and also one report of comments made by a professor in class."

Fortunately, the rumors of physical fights were dispelled by LUPD Chief Howard Gregory. Unfortunately, the issues of tension reached all the way to Chancellor Jerry Falwell Jr. The situation continued to develop to the point where Falwell felt the need to issue an e-mail to students, asking that students be conscientious of the fact that we represent God and the school with our actions.

"As students and staff members of a Christian university, we all need to pray for President-elect Obama and we need to congratulate him for making history by being elected the first African-American president of the United States," Falwell said in his e-mail to students. "Whether we support him on the issues or not, he will be our president and the Bible requires that we submit to the authorities that God places over us unless and until man's laws conflict with God's laws."

I feel as students of a Christian university we should be held to a higher standard of conduct. I understand arguments tend to get heated when politics are discussed, but harsh words only create more tension and disunity.

"(Students should) seek to understand before seeking to be understood," Carson said. "It is said of Abraham Lincoln that he spent

more time trying to understand another person's views seeking to promote his views."

The recent tension between students offers nothing more than disrespect for our country, president and school. America has always been referred to as a "melting pot" — a country accepting of all individuals. It is my understanding that based on America's constitution, citizens are expected to rally behind the new president regardless of race, religion or political beliefs.

"People are aware of racial tension, but very few people venture outside of their circle to find out about people of other races, learn about their experiences and the cultural differences," Scott said. "We're still all human beings and our differences make us unique ... there should be an exchange of ideas."

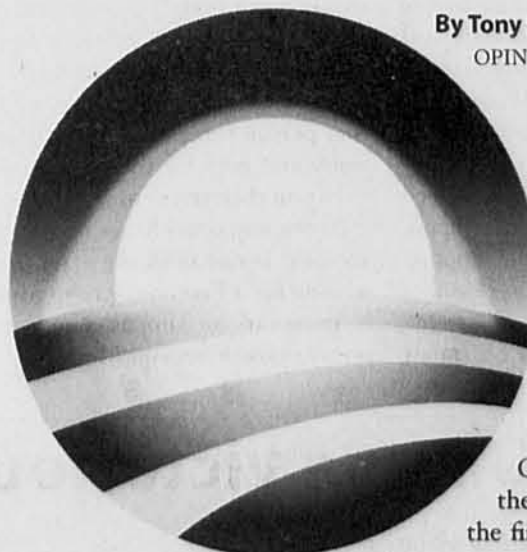
The best way for Liberty to ensure Christian principles are not lost in America would be for students to show respect for one another. We should trust God has a plan, and know that President-elect Obama is a part of the plan.

"Our campus, regardless of who you supported, must give the office and Barack Obama the respect of the office of president of the United States of America, literally the commander and chief of this great nation," Pearl said.

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# One nation under God, transitioning

By Tony Stimson  
OPINION REPORTER



Cayman Islands, anyone? After last week's election, thoughts of escape may have crossed a few minds. This is not Obama country, and yet... it is — welcome to the future.

America is staring down the barrel of a four-year democratic term and guess what, we have been here before. The Oval Office has witnessed multiple democratic presidents, such as Bill Clinton, Jimmy Carter, Lyndon B. Johnson, as well as the revered John F. Kennedy. This is not the first time America has seen a departure

from the republican political stance, and it may not be the last.

Yet this is not a time for conservative mourning. America is not under siege, we are not under attack, we are safe and God is still in control.

With the election over, we need to focus on what matters most: Our testimonies as believers. Not as American republicans or American democrats, not even as citizens of America because though we all may be, we are first citizens of heaven. Is Obama who God had for this country's president? Absolutely. Do conservatives need to flee the states? Absolutely not.

Regardless of political persuasion, there is something that matters more — love. We are

called to love our neighbors as ourselves and not condemn other members of the kingdom of heaven for their political choices.

When people, most especially unbelievers, hear about Liberty, they should also hear about our institution's love, grace, compassion and kindness: the fruits of the spirit. Instead, all the Lynchburg community heard about was anger and conflict over the recent election results.

A radical change needs to be made here. This city, and this country, should see Liberty as a place of grace and mercy. We need to pray for our leader and not undermine God's ability to use Barack Obama for his glory in our country's future.

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## FROM THE DESK

By Jennifer Schmidt  
EDITOR IN CHIEF

With only a few columns left, I thought it appropriate to make yet another public confession. Not only do I lack basic football knowledge, but I also have trouble keeping track of my money. Just the other day, I complained that I didn't have a receipt from buying gas because the printer had run out of paper. My friend suggested simply recording the purchase in my checkbook, which of course hasn't been cracked open since... let me check... Aug. 22. At least I tried with the start of the school year to change my financial ways, but checkbooks rank with sunburn and final exams on the "Things I Love to Do" scale. Adding \$4.52 from Wal-Mart to the \$2.68 I spent at Sonic is tedious to say the least.

While I don't record every deposit and payment, I do hold onto receipts and with the advent of online banking in the last few years, checking up on my account balance is relatively easy. My parents raised me well, telling me never to spend money before I had it in my pocket. It's the best financial advice I've ever received, and with the acquisition of a credit card, my rewards points are growing rather than my debt to Chase. While college debt is an unfortunate, and unavoidable, shackle for many college students, credit card and retail debt is unnecessary. It's also irresponsible and could potentially hinder future career options. I've heard too many stories of students who wanted to work in overseas ministry and weren't

accepted because of crippling loans. Most of that was from college debt, but any additional retail debt is only more of a hindrance.

My parents' financial advice had a corollary, in the form of one of my dad's infamous poems: "Use it up, wear it out, make it last, do without." In a world sick from consumerism, the idea of doing without is as passé as denim-collared shirts. But it is an oft-overlooked alternative many students could benefit from. Olive Garden? Kroger sells pasta for \$1. That's the idea.

And when a purchase is necessary, be careful to shop around to find the best offer available. A safe way to gauge a purchase is to be patient and avoid an impulse buy. A general rule of thumb is to wait three months for a new purchase, and if the bank account is stable at the end of that time, go ahead.

For the record, while my checkbook suffers from neglect, I regularly track my monthly bills. After working a long shift at Red Lobster, the last thing I want greeting my eyes is a late fee or an extra charge for not paying correctly or not paying on time. Electronic payment plans are great, just make sure that they are timed to deposit well before due dates.

Ultimately, money should never supersede the importance of loving God and serving others. It's a tool God allows us to use — each of us in different amounts and capacities.





## Four Ninety-Two

Exhibit Four Ninety-Two debuted in the downtown Riverview Artspace building Friday night. The exhibit is an art show of the accomplishments of Liberty students from VCAR 492, a portfolio class and serves as a chance for senior VCAR majors to showcase their work in a public setting. Students and faculty all came to appreciate hard work and take part in the free, monthly event called First Friday. Photography, graphic art, sculptures, sketches and paintings hung around the room as people mingled and walked around to view each piece. The exhibit is open for the remainder of November. For more information, contact the VCAR department at 582-2285.

## Operation Christmas Child

Operation Christmas Child (OCC) is again underway across the United States as the holidays approach. OCC is an annual outreach effort of Franklin Graham's Samaritan's Purse organization. Since 1993, more than 61 million shoeboxes have winged their ways across the globe and into the hands of children that desperately need help.

If you would like to fill a shoebox, they are available by the Champion newsstand next to the bookstore in DeMoss. Visit the Samaritan's Purse Web site to find out what items are appropriate to include in the shoebox. The Champion will be collecting shoeboxes in the newspaper office until Nov. 21. Please include a check to Samaritan's Purse for \$7 to cover postage and handling.

## Embroider Me

It's almost that time of year again — the leaves are falling, the cold is coming, and store shelves are already being stocked with Christmas items. But this year, why don't you let the Society for Human Resource Management (SHRM) help you beat the hectic holiday crowds? SHRM is selling the following personalized, embroidered holiday items: Scarves (\$10), Santa hats (\$10), Stockings (\$10-\$15), and Blankets (\$15-\$20). Each item that you purchase will be custom-made for that special someone on your shopping list. To place your order, please come to the SHRM table that will be located in the back hallway of DeMoss on Tuesday and Thursday, Nov. 11, 12, 18 and 19. Information provided by Timothy Kleiser.



GRAPHICS BY TIAGO SOUZA

## PRO — CONCEALED CARRY ON CAMPUS

By Clint Armstrong  
GUEST OPINION REPORTER

It is time for Liberty to adopt the proven safety model of licensed concealed carry for the purpose of self-defense. While Liberty's campus is generally a very safe place to live, study and work, dangers exist everywhere unfortunately.

In 2006, there were four instances of forcible sex offenses on campus, according to the official Liberty University Police Department (LUPD) 2007 Campus Crime Report. Also, it is no secret that many in the world have an irrational hatred for the principles that this university stands for. It is simply impossible for LUPD to be everywhere and defend everyone should someone decide to express his hatred through the type of senseless violence that has plagued several campuses in America.

Campus policies prohibiting firearms did nothing to prevent the recent tragedies on the campuses of Virginia Tech and Northern Illinois University. It is logical to assume that an individual who is prone to committing murder will not be swayed by laws or rules preventing the possession of a tool to commit his crime.

In contrast to easily-ignored rules, there are several universities that allow licensed concealed carry and are safer because of it. One of them is less than 100 miles north of Liberty. Blue Ridge

Community College, a campus with 9,612 registered students, has a weapons policy that provides an exemption for Virginia concealed handgun permit holders. A look at its crime incident report reveals that no violent crimes occurred on the campus at all, according to the college's official Web site. Its incident reports consist nearly entirely of accidents.

Utah state law does not allow universities to prohibit the licensed carrying of a concealed firearm. Brigham Young University (BYU) has over 30,000 students attending full or three-quarters time, and even more students at half time or less. BYU's official crime report shows only two instances of violence (aggravated assault) and no sex offenses.

There are many concerns when firearms are available to the public. Some have suggested that people with access to weapons will use those weapons, in poor judgment, to accelerate a disagreement into a deadly altercation. In fact, numerous studies show that concealed permit holders are five times less likely to commit a crime than the general public, according to a Journal of Legal Studies report entitled, "Crime, Deterrence and Right-to-Carry Concealed Handguns."

Another concern is police officers would not be easily able to identify a criminal by the presence of a gun. This, however, is not true. Licensed concealed carry

has consistently led to lower crime rates, according to a county crime study by the Journal of Legal Studies. There is no evidence to suggest police in other cities, where concealed carry is permitted, have had any trouble identifying criminals because of licensed concealed carry.

Perhaps the most comforting thought for those who are concerned about having concealed firearms on campus is the knowledge that these licensed students, faculty and staff members who would be affected by a potential change in policy are already carrying their concealed weapons all over Lynchburg. They are sitting in movie theaters with you, eating in restaurants with you, enjoying the local parks with you and shopping for their groceries with you, all while carrying a handgun.

There have been no negative effects in Lynchburg as a result, and chances are you do not even know who is carrying because they are just normal people. There is no reason to force them to change a peaceful and safe daily routine for an arbitrary and ineffective prohibition of weapons on campus. Allowing licensed concealed carry has been proven elsewhere to be an effective safety model and it is time for Liberty to take a step towards ensuring that safety as well.



By Jan Michael Dervish  
GUEST OPINION REPORTER

Recently, a group on campus began lobbying Liberty's administration to allow students to carry weapons on campus. This group also used Facebook to rally support for its cause. While it is important to respect and uphold the Second Amendment, we also must be mindful of the fact that common-sense gun control can and does save lives.

Consider this: From 2001 to 2005, there were 75 weapons-related deaths on college campuses, according to the U.S. Census. Also, there are 4,084 colleges in the United States with over 15.9 million college students in 2004. Putting this in perspective, there is one gun related death for every 848,000 college students, per year, on campuses here in the US.

Additionally, Liberty University's Police Department protects the campus community, as evidenced by the low crime statistics on our campus that are available for all to view in accordance with the Clery Disclosure Act. Liberty, in

its own recruitment materials, states that Lynchburg is one of the seven safest cities in the country according to the FBI.

As I previously mentioned, the right to bear arms is one that our country cherishes, as evidenced by powerful interest groups such as the NRA, which work to protect that right. However, private property owners have every right to regulate what they allow on their properties, and Liberty is a private University.

Also, common sense dictates the vast majority of college students, including many of the ones at Liberty, do not possess the maturity necessary to own and store a handgun, and the logistical challenge of where to store the gun for students over 21 living on campus would be immense.

In addition, students storing their weapons either on campus in a dormitory, or in a shared, off-campus apartment would allow potentially-disturbed students easier access to a lethal weapon. Over two-thirds of school shooters acquired their weapons from their family's homes or that of a friend, according to the Secret Service and the U.S. Department of Education.

An example would be the Columbine massacre; both shooters acquired weapons from their friends, bypassing any kind of background check and proceeded to commit the fourth deadliest school-shooting in U.S. history. Imagine the carnage that could result if students forget to lock their safes, or if a disturbed roommate or friend is able to discover the combination.

To the many of you who have told me you know friends that already have weapons in the dorms anyway: You need to go to that person and tell them to obey the campus policies (Hebrews 13:17) and to store and keep their guns off campus. If they refuse, you have an obligation to speak to someone in authority here at Liberty. Imagine how you would feel if that person turns out to be disturbed or angry and goes for their weapons to use either on themselves or on others.

By the way, your chance of dying in a car accident is one in 18,585. Yet, I am still waiting for a Facebook group to petition banning cars on campus. There are some pretty crazy drivers out there.

# Ahoy, America — Election veers hard to port, Obama victorious

By Tim Mattingly  
OPINION EDITOR

A din of hope and promises crashed like waves upon the rocks of election 2008. As the electoral tides shifted in Barack Obama's favor, the conservative campaign of Sen. John McCain was washed out to sea. Thus, America chose its new captain, hoisted anchor and set sail in choppy waters for the next chapter in this nation's politics.

With a cool autumn breeze in his sails, Obama has charted a course dotted with the multiple promises he has made to the American people. Ahead of the president-elect rise many waves which he must crest and overcome, or risk dashing upon the reefs.

Yet, amidst the storm of political trials comes some hope for the American people, for no seafaring journey is complete without some buried treasure, and for college students, the president-elect has promised just that. Among the sandy political shores sought by Obama is the American Opportunity Tax Credit, a plan to make college more affordable for all students.

This plan is increasingly important, since the cost of attending college has risen by nearly 40 percent in the past five years alone, according to Obama's official Web site. With the average college bills surging, it is becoming easier for graduating students to be swept off their feet by an undertow of debt.

To combat the swelling costs of college, Obama's

proposed plan "will ensure that the first \$4,000 of a college education is completely free for most Americans," according to his official Web site. In order to receive this aid, students will be expected to commit to 100 hours of community service.

"We have to make sure every young person can afford to go to a public college or university, if they've got the will, if they've got the grace," said Obama in a speech outlining his blueprint for change in education.

If all goes as Obama has planned, not only will students be able to receive a college education, but they will also enjoy a better economy as they graduate.

As of late, the economy's compass has pointed due south, with little sign of deviating. Over the last 12 months alone, 2.8 million American jobs were lost bringing the nation's total unemployment count up to 10.1 million, according to the U.S. Bureau of Labor statistics. Such hardships, coupled with a drowning stock market, promise a rough economic sea that would test the most seasoned of men.

In order to keep America afloat and patch its economic leaks, Obama promised to steer our country into greener waters, spotted with eco-friendly islands where the country can dock and repair the job market. In order to do so, Obama hopes to create 5 million new "green" jobs, reports his official Web site. In addition to new job creation, the president-elect promises to invest \$150 billion in "clean energy."

While such spending may raise mutinous murmurs within some ranks of American society, such programs will help ensure more jobs for graduating students and a better environment for future generations. At the same time, Obama's green endeavors help steer America away from money consuming habits, such as its dependency on foreign oil.

It is now more than ever, that this nation, numbering over 305 million souls, is precariously perched on a crow's nest of uncertainty, looking with hope to the future. The journey will not be easy and the horizon, rife with thundering clouds of recession, layoffs and banking woes looms ahead. Yet with hope, faith and leadership, perhaps we can ride out the storms and enjoy a brighter future.

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GRAPHICS BY ALEX TOWERS



# MercyMe: The story the band never imagined

By Amanda Baker  
ASST. NEWS EDITOR

"Mercy me! Why don't you get a real job?" Burr Millard's grandmother didn't know it at the time, but her playful admonition would soon serve as inspiration for the name of a multi-platinum band that created well-known hits such as "I Can Only Imagine" and its latest single, "You Reign," which was on the latest album release, "All That Is Within Me."

"MercyMe has been around since 1994, which is like 84 years in band years," Nathan Cochran, the bass player for the band, said in a phone interview.

MercyMe performed for Liberty and the surrounding community at Thomas Road Baptist Church on Halloween night. Bebo Norman opened for the band, accompanied by his "one-man band," who played backup guitar, piano and hammered dulcimer.

Between acts, Norman and Millard shared an opportunity with the audience to participate in Compassion International, a child sponsorship program.

MercyMe took the stage after a 10-minute intermission, and created a unique experience by constantly interacting with the crowd. Midway through the performance, the band recreated a laid-back "unplugged" jam session with acoustic guitar, bass guitar, banjo and accordion. They also held a question and answer session with the audience, allowing Norman to run with a microphone so people could ask questions. Audience members got a deeper look into the lives of MercyMe members with the variety of inquiries.

"Nathan (Cochran)'s favorite restaurant is Starbucks," Millard said. "And my favorite song of all time would probably be Bebo's 'Nothing without You.'"

"There's a song on our album 'Spoken For' called 'There's a Reason.' That ... is one of the most special songs to me because we were all going through interesting season of our lives losing loved ones, and that was a song that we wrote that reached out to ourselves," Cochran said.

A highlight of the question and answer session included Ethan, a little boy clad in a Spiderman T-shirt, asking keyboardist Jim Bryson so what his favorite instrument was. When Jim answered that his favorite instrument was the accordion, Ethan said, "My favorite instrument is the triangle," eliciting chuckles from Norman, the audience and the band.

MercyMe also took the opportunity to sing "Happy Birthday" to a 50-year-old man, who was experiencing his first Christian concert.

In terms of the band's spiritual life, Millard emphasized the importance of constantly being in the Word of God.

"Concerts are an overflow of our spiritual life," Millard said. "We hired a road pastor to keep us accountable, and we also keep each other accountable."

Cochran also commented on MercyMe's spiritual side.

"Seeing the way people react to our songs, it's not all about us. We haven't gotten to the places that we are at by anything we have done. It's pretty obvious that God's doing something with us," he said.

MercyMe acknowledged that many of their songs have come out of painful seasons in their lives, but that God has used those experiences to minister to others.

"We've had a lot of tragedy and loss within the band, and that's played a part in the songs we've written, such as 'I Can Only Imagine.' Because of that, we've had a lot of people that have found comfort and hope in the songs that we're writing, so it's been really fulfilling," Cochran said.

The band's latest album, "All That Is Within Me," was recorded with Cider Mountain Records in the back woods of Idaho. It was an interesting experience, according to Cochran, because they were "on a bit of a time crunch."

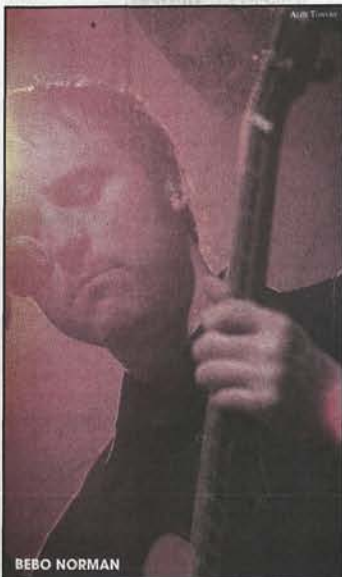
"We came into this last record not at all prepared. It was great for us to get away and focus on what we were doing," Cochran said. "It's one of those things where we had to throw our hands up and say, 'God, you're going to have to do something because we ain't got nothing.'"

The All That Is Within Me Tour continued to Maryland and will come to a close June 2009.

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## Record number of students baptized

By Amanda Thomason  
NEWS REPORTER

In comparison to previous semesters, Liberty has had three baptismal services this semester, presenting many new public declarations of faith.

All students baptized at Liberty have chosen Jesus Christ as Savior and professed their faith in him. The first two services included about 50 people each, while the final service, held on Nov. 5, had a smaller number. A total of 125 people were baptized this semester, according to Campus Pastors Michael Miller and Chris Deitsch.

An increase of students who desired to be baptized has occurred this fall. Deitsch said this is happening because of the growing number of students who were saved at the beginning of the semester during Spiritual Emphasis Week.

and because students are learning the importance of baptism.

Sophomore Rita Wieland, Spiritual Life Director on Dorm 27-2, has been a Christian since her freshman year in high school, but had never been baptized. Last

year she started thinking about it but was nervous to be in front of a large audience. Wieland knew this year was the right timing and wanted to have the opportunity to be baptized at Thomas Road Baptist Church.



SPIRITUAL STATEMENT—A student makes a public demonstration of her faith in Christ.

"It meant a lot to me to be able to declare my faith and salvation in public," Wieland said. "I do not like going up in front of people, but through it I was able to show God that I was doing this for him and I wanted everyone to know I love him."

After the baptisms concluded, the congregation had a time to worship the Lord. Pastor David McKinney Jr. said he enjoyed looking out at the crowd to see them cheer and rejoice over the joy of those baptized, even during a tiring time in the semester.

Students have expressed how they enjoy services as a time to praise God and remember all he is doing.

"They are one of my favorite church services to go to because I like how Liberty makes it more of a celebration for the body of Christ instead of trying to quickly get it over with," sophomore Laura Johnston said. "I think ... there is definitely a sense of joy and true celebration."

The process of baptisms begins with students expressing their interest, and then the group is divided among the campus pastors. Some students request to be baptized by a certain pastor, but all of the pastors get a chance to meet those who they are baptizing before the night of the ceremony.

"I love watching them come out of the water and seeing their faces fill with the joy of Christ, understanding the public declaration they just made to their peers," Deitsch said.

Baptism services are open to anyone and are not confined to the students who express interest. At least one person from the local community has been baptized during this semester's Wednesday night services.

With the increase in the number of baptisms this semester, plans for next semester have already begun. More opportunities will be available during the spring semester on Feb. 18 and March 25.

For more information, e-mail campuschurch@liberty.edu.

Contact Amanda Thomason at  
athomason@liberty.edu.



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Please call Sue Matthews at 582.2128 with any questions regarding this worthwhile project.



Lady Flames ready to play • B2 Brittany Watson previews the '08-'09 Lady Flames basketball team.

El Niño lifts Flames to win • B3 Giselle Colbert recaps this week in Flames soccer.

LU Wrestling set for dual • B4 Liberty wrestling heads back to the mats. Adam Palmer reports.

## RED HOT REMINDER

11/14	WOMEN'S BASKETBALL VS. VCU	7 PM
11/14	MEN'S BASKETBALL VS. MONTREAT	9:15 PM
11/15	FOOTBALL VS. GARDNER-WEBB	7 PM

# CHAMPIONSPORTS



## Way leads the way as Liberty takes two from West Chester

By William Armstrong  
SPORTS REPORTER

When talking to the coaching staff and players for either team, Liberty of West Chester University, defense was the constant surrounding this weekend's two-game hockey series at the LaHaye Ice Center.

"We're trying to play stronger defense, playing smart in our end and in neutral ice," junior Dave Semenyina said.

Freshman goalie Colin Way and the Liberty defense shined as the team defeated the Golden Rams 2:1 in both games.

Semenyina also played a vital role, providing staunch defense and scoring three of the four Flames goals over the course of the series.

"You don't get many chances, so you have to put them away when you get them," Semenyina said.

Semenyina's last goal marked Liberty's 30th power play goal on the season.

Going into the weekend, the Golden Rams were 6-1 when they scored first and undefeated at 3-0 when allowing the first goal. The Flames put a halt to those statistics, doing both and winning in each game.

Liberty came into Friday's game with 29 power play goals to West Chester's 27, which was a cause for concern on both sides.

Coach Kirk Handy decided to change up the lines, opting to put sophomore Eric Reynolds, junior Kyle Dodgson and freshman Luke Airken together on the top line.

Right off the bat, Reynolds and Dodgson produced early scoring chances and picked up the physical play, which progressed through the entire game.

Although Liberty controlled the early portions of the game, the Golden Bears received a power play and deflected in a shot from the point to take the early lead.

Reynolds tried to sway the momentum, throwing two crushing hits on the same shift,

and the rest of the Flames team followed his lead.

Sophomore Johnny Chung found a loose puck, sent it to the top of the right circle to Semenyina and Semenyina blasted a slap shot through a screen of Golden Rams past goaltender Corey Hackney. The goal was Semenyina's 10th of the season.

The tying score ended the first period, and the Flames slowly started to build up momentum.

As a power play ended in the second period, Dodgson sent a pass from the left circle onto the stick of senior Kevin Hendrix and Hendrix fired a wrist shot off the glove of Hackney and went top shelf to take the lead which the Flames would not relinquish.

When Chris Campli of the Golden Bears came over the blue line with his head down, he met sophomore Mike Morrison, who slammed him down to the ice, receiving the biggest roar of approval from the crowd.

West Chester's offense went on the attack

after this hit, but Liberty's defense came up big. When Robert Bushman got a breakaway opportunity midway through the second, he nearly beat Way with a backhand, but it was Way who managed to stop the shot with his glove and hold the lead for the Flames.

For the remainder of the game, Way and Hackney traded save after save, vying not to be outdone by the other.

"It was tough, but it's good to go through these types of games because it builds character," Way said.

Steven Muller and Eric Reynolds rang shots off the post, which were the best chances for either team in the remainder of the game. Reynolds and Morrison threw big hits in the third that brought the crowd to its feet.

Way finished the game by stopping 35 of 36 shots for a .972 save percentage.

See MEN'S HOCKEY on B3

## Flames capture second-straight BSC crown

By Chris Wong  
SPORTS REPORTER

The Flames clinched their second consecutive Big South Conference Title with a 38-26 victory over VMI Saturday, improving to 8-2 on the season.

The Flames defense started out strong, forcing a three-and-out on the Keydets' opening possession. However, senior Big South rushing leader Rashad Jennings coughed up the ball on the Flames first play from scrimmage, and it was recovered at the Liberty 38 by VMI. Undaunted, the Flames defense stepped up again in the opening minutes, forcing the Keydets to turn it over on downs after a fumble on 4th-and-1.

After trading possessions for most of the first period, the Flames found the end zone first when senior quarterback Brock Smith rocketed a 53-yard pass to Michael Brown putting seven on the board with 5:16 on the clock.

"They play a lot softer coverage, a lot of height with their corners and with their safeties.

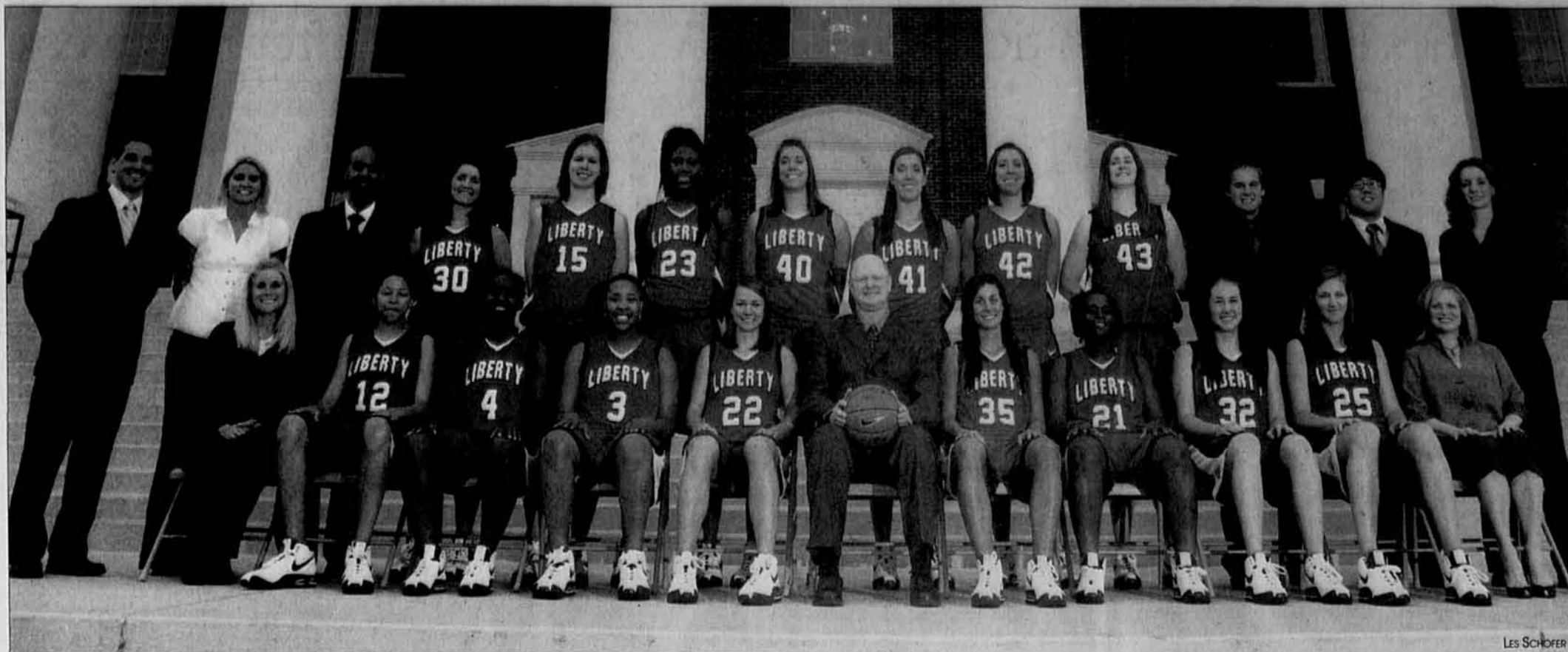
"We needed a lot of distribution plays going on," Rocco said.

After a completed 38-yard field goal attempt by VMI, Dominic Bolden ran a kick return 31 yards to the Keydet 38-yard line. Later in the drive, Smith bootlegged a handoff to Jennings and threw to an open Corey Rasberry for a 19-yard touchdown pass to end the quarter with a 14-3 Liberty lead.



See FOOTBALL on B4 REPEAT CHAMPIONS — Liberty's 38-26 victory on Saturday over VMI marked the Flames second Big South title under Danny Rocco.





**MEET THE TEAM — Front Row (L-R):** Athletic Trainer Madeline Bosek, Danika Dale, DeAnna Fuqua, Devon Brown, Rachel Hammond, Head Coach Carey Green, Alexandria Bream, Amber Mays, Rachel McLeod, Rebecca Lightfoot, Assistant Coach Andy Bloodworth. **Back Row (L-R):** Director of Operations Adam Deyo, Assistant Director of Operations Courtney Watkins, Assistant Coach Alexis Sherard, Brittany Campbell, Kylee Beecher, Avery Warley, Megan Frazee, Molly Frazee, Moriah Frazee, Kittery Maine, Student Manager Caleb Shultz, Student Manager Sam Choi, Asst. Coach Heather Stephens

## Lady Flames ready for Friday showdown with VCU

By **Brittany Watson**  
SPORTS REPORTER

Liberty's women's basketball team is preparing for another successful season with its opening game on Friday, Nov. 14 at 7 p.m. in the Vines Center against in-state rival Virginia Commonwealth University (VCU).

The Lady Flames finished 28-4 last season, tying both the Big South Conference and Liberty's record for victories in a single season. The Lady Flames also took home their 11th Big South Championship title in the last 12 seasons and went on to play in the NCAA Tournament, losing to Old Dominion in the first round.

In addition, head coach Carey Green won his 200th career game and was named Big South Conference Coach of the Year for the fourth time in his seven years at Liberty.

Liberty has a strong roster this season with six seniors, (Alexandria Bream, Megan Frazee, Molly Frazee, Moriah Frazee, Rachel Hammond and Rebecca Lightfoot), two sophomores (Kittery Maine and Rachel McLeod) and six freshmen (Kylee Beecher, Devon Brown, Brittany Campbell, Danika Dale, DeAnna Fuqua and Avery Warley).

Despite several injured players, Coach Carey Green and the team is confident they will still

have an excellent season.

"They all are winners; they all played on great high school programs or in the NCAA. With the talent we've got we can compete and be successful," Coach Green said. "They are all accepting the roles. They may be injured but they may be the best cheerleader on the sideline, they may be the best encourager."

"I still think it will be a good season. It will just be good to get this first one under the belt and see how we all react," 2007-2008 first team All-Big South Player Moriah Frazee said.

Senior Rachel Hammond is expecting this to be a successful year.

"It's my senior year, so that is the only way to look at it," Hammond said. "We have a bond that will be carried over to the floor this year."

"We have six seniors with great leadership and experience. Our long range goals are to win another championship and get into the NCAA and advance," Green added. "We feel like this is going to be a good year, and we are looking forward to getting things started."

When asked about the team's strongest strength for this season, Green said, "I am hoping for great execution and communication and support and encouragement to one another."

Green's desire is not only to coach basketball,

but also to "coach the heart, to help the team grow in Christ. And when they do that, they are going to be the best ball players they can be."

"We are going to work hard on our rebounding, and we are going to work hard on our defensive execution and we want to take care of the ball and not turn it over. We have been able to be pretty successful on a national level just in certain categories and those things should never change," Coach Green said.

When asked about the one thing they will carry from last season, both Hammond and Moriah Frazee spoke of not taking anything for granted.

"Last year we had Moriah Frazee and Rebecca Lightfoot go down with ACL tears, so nothing is a given. It's really just learning to not have expectations and learning to not take anything for granted," Hammond said.

"You can't take being able to play for granted, so enjoy the time you have and make the most of it," Moriah Frazee said.

"We have a theme this year, 'Earn It.' I don't care what conference you are in or who you are playing, if you come unprepared and not

respecting your opponent, you can easily lose. So just realizing that every game and practice is important," Hammond said.

Hammond is really looking forward to "playing with all my teammates and the road trips and honestly just being able to enjoy the game of basketball and embracing it all because I know this is the last year I will get to play."

"It's my senior year, so I'm going out there and having some fun and enjoying the time I have and just giving the season to God and seeing how things work out," Moriah Frazee said.

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# Flames look to punch ticket to NCAA Tournament after 1-0-1 week

By **Giselle Colbert**  
SPORTS REPORTER

The Liberty Flames men's soccer team took out the VMI Keydets, 3-2, last Tuesday afternoon in two overtimes, largely due to the late-game heroics of freshman Juan Niño.

Niño fired a shot into the back of the net with 20 seconds left in the second overtime, sending the Flames to victory. Freshman Karol Chorak made a quick pass to Juan Guzman, who delivered it to Niño. Niño sent the ball soaring over VMI goalkeeper Brad Sowell for the win.

"There was good build up, and I just dove in at the right time and scored," Niño said following his game-winning goal.

Liberty is currently in the midst of a five-game unbeaten streak, going 4-0-1, and the win pushed the Flames record to 4-3 in the Big South Conference and 9-5-1 overall.

Despite the poor weather conditions during the start of the game, the Flames did not hesitate to take the early advantage in the seventh minute. Senior Joshua Boateng tipped a pass into the 18-yard box, and redshirt freshman Chris Phillips was there to receive the pass, which he sent to defender Mike Gelatt. Gelatt's bicycle kick sent the ball sailing into the upper corner of the net and gave Liberty a 1-0 lead at 6:04, marking the redshirt senior's first goal of the year.

VMI fought back with a goal of its own at the 16:15 mark. After Flames goalkeeper Andrew Madero received a call for using his hands outside of the 18-yard box, Keydet Jose Andue-

za took full advantage of the penalty kick, tying the game at 1-1.

However in the 42nd minute, Liberty took charge of the game. With a free kick outside the penalty area, Boateng launched a shot, which was blocked by the Keydets goalkeeper. Phillips was there to handle the rebound, which he fired into the open right side of the net putting the Flames back on top with a 2-1 lead at 41:34.

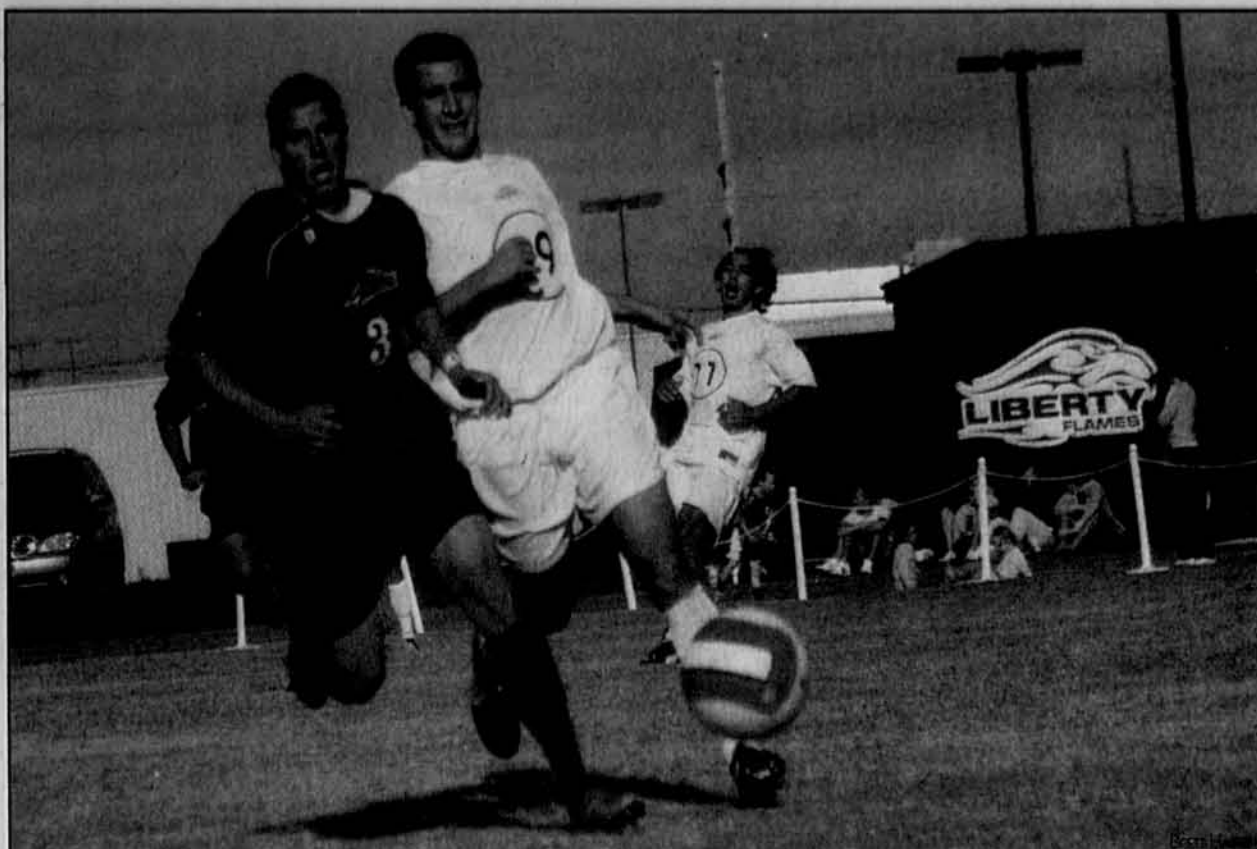
Trailing 2-1, the Keydets challenged the Flames by tying the game once again at 2-2 to end the opening half. VMI's Jose Andueza delivered a kick into the center of the 18-yard box, and teammate Bryan Harding sent the ball high into the top of the net for his third goal of the year.

Liberty came back in the second half, working the ball into a free space for Boateng, who launched a shot high less than four minutes in the second half. However, both teams battled to a 2-2 tie at the end of regulation, sending the game to overtime.

Neither team was able to get anything going in the overtime periods, but it was Niño's goal with 20 seconds remaining, which dealt the Keydets a heartbreaking 3-2 loss.

On Saturday afternoon, the Flames once again battled into a second overtime period, this time with UNC-Asheville. In a game which saw both team's defensive units put to the test, neither the Flames nor the Bulldogs managed to put a goal up on the scoreboard, as the game ended in a 0-0 tie.

Flames goalie Andrew Madero made a save in the 43rd minute from



**FANTASTIC FLAMES** — Liberty has not lost a game since Oct. 7, when No. 18 UVa dealt the Flames a 3-0 loss.

Bulldog Colton Paschall to keep the game scoreless. Not even a minute later, UNC goalkeeper Lassi Hurskainen made a stop on Juan Niño's shot, sending both teams into half-time with no score.

Boateng talked about what the Flames needed to do in the second half.

"We need to concentrate more because today our concentration was just low. We also need to complete opportunities that are given to us. We don't always get good opportunities; we need to continue to strengthen our defense."

Entering the second half, the Bull-

dogs attempted two shots in the 52nd minute, but once again, Madero came up big and blocked the attempts.

During the first overtime, only a single shot was recorded by either team, as the Flames were able to set Boateng up with an open shot in the 93rd minute. However, his shot sailed wide, setting the stage for a second overtime.

The Flames nearly broke through in the second overtime when midfielder Juan Guzman shot attempt was blocked by a Bulldog defender. The ball caromed to freshman Alex Verville, who fired a shot that Hurskainen barely managed to tip over

the net and out of bounds.

Liberty remains undefeated in its last six games (4-0-2), and conclude regular season play with a 4-3-1 record in league play and 9-5-2 record overall. The Flames will begin preparation for the upcoming Big South Championship, which starts Thursday, Nov. 13 in Conway, S.C., looking to repeat as tournament champions and earn a return ticket to the NCAA Tournament as an automatic bid for the second consecutive year.

Contact Giselle Colbert at [gmcobert@liberty.edu](mailto:gmcobert@liberty.edu).

## Men's Hockey

Continued from B1

In almost an identical game, the Flames won another 2-1 nail biter on Saturday night. Way and Hackney proved to be huge for their respective teams again and both finished with good numbers.

Semenyina looked to continue his scoring early on going on two end-to-end rushes and nearly scored on both, but Hackney stopped both shots. Hackney followed those up with a big kick save on Stephen Moller.

"He had a really quick glove and made every chance difficult for us," Chung said of the im-

pact of Hackney on the game. "We hounded, crashed and banged, but in the end he proved to be the backbone of his team."

After missing the first two chances, Semenyina took advantage of a power play opportunity by skating in on Hackney and firing a wrist shot past him to take the lead.

West Chester tied things up on Shane McGarry's wrist shot from the top of the circle in the first period. The score ended the opening period's scoring, tied like the first night 1-1.

Semenyina put the Flames ahead for good during the second period, as he skated in on the Golden Ram defense and sent his game-winning slapshot past Hackney.

West Chester nearly answered in the second

as Pat Johnson, West Chester's second leading scorer, carried the puck over the blue line and fired a scorching slap shot, but came up empty handed as Way snagged the shot out of the air.

Hackney made three sparkling saves to respond to Way's huge stop, keeping the Flames lead at one at the end of the second period.

In the third, Liberty continued to pick up its physical game and started a "trap" style of play, which involves making it harder for the opposition to cross the blue line.

Way saved the game twice in the last minute of play, including one to seal the game with five seconds left.

Hackney had a spectacular game, using his glove early and often throughout the entire

game. He finished stopping 47 of 49 for a .959 save percentage.

"Normally we put the puck in the net more, but its tough when the other goalie is making big saves," Way said.

Way had another big game, matching his previous night's performance by stopping 35 of 36 shots for a .972 save percentage.

"You have to keep the puck out of the net and not deflate your team," Way said.

No. 4 Liberty welcomes the No. 5 University of Delaware Blue Hens on Friday at 7:30 p.m. and Saturday at 4 p.m.

Contact William Armstrong at [wsarmstrong@liberty.edu](mailto:wsarmstrong@liberty.edu).

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# Lady Flames hockey still undefeated, takes two from Montgomery

## 10 REASONS TO ATTEND Women's Hockey Games

**10.** Tickets are cheaper than men's hockey. We're in college, so why pay more when you don't have to? (See No. 9)

**9.** "Some girls on our team are just as good as the boys," according to freshman Caitlin Adams, whose attitude is credited by the team's 11-0 record.

**8.** The small team is highly concentrated in quality. Women's hockey has only 13 players (excluding goalies), "when most teams have around 15 or 16, which means we dominate physically because we are in top shape," sophomore Brooke Harris said.

**7.** "Most of them are single," Asst. Coach Scott Bloomfield joked. "But no dating until after hockey season is over."

**6.** As more students support the team, hockey has a better likelihood of becoming an NCAA sport. According to Head Coach Paul Bloomfield, filled stands will help the team reach NCAA status. More fans would lead to a better pool for recruitment and thus better games.

**5.** "We are the hottest Flames on ice," Brooke Harris acknowledged. "We even had our team picture taken on a fire truck."

**4.** As of now, the Lady Flames are No. 4 in the National Division 1 Women's League, according to the ACHA's published rankings released Nov. 9. Last year, the team was ranked No. 4 at the end of the season but could not afford the trip to the National Tournament in Chicago.

**3.** When you buy a ticket, you increase the chances of the team going to the National tournament. Not only are you helping in an obvious financial sense, but you are also boosting the team's morale.

**2.** It's only going to get better. With eight freshmen and five sophomores, the quality of the team is steadily increasing as the girls continue to play (and win) together.

**1.** "It is hard-hitting, very physical. They do get into fights," Scott Bloomfield said. While the girls don't aim for violence, sometimes the sticks do fly. "We work hard and stick up for our team, so if that means fighting, we stick up for them, just like the boys would," Adams said.

—N.L.



**LADY FLAMES ON FIRE** — No. 4 Liberty will put its undefeated record on the line in two weeks against Lindenwood University.

**By Natalie Lozano**  
NEWS EDITOR

Liberty women's hockey (11-0) faced the non-conference Montgomery Blue Devils (4-5-1) this weekend, winning 8-2 on Saturday and 5-0 on Sunday. The victories came after defeating Ohio State (1-9-1) on Nov. 2 and 3.

Montgomery took the lead Saturday, as Julie Benjamin recorded the first goal of the evening as she put her shot past freshman goalie Tierney Murphy within the first minute of play. While the final score of 8-2 reflected Liberty's decisive win, the Lady Flames struggled to find their groove and went the first period without scoring. Although the team has had similar periods, they have been the first team on the board for each of the previous nine games.

"Sometimes when you play a team like this, the girls get it in their heads that they've got it wrapped up, so they come not prepared ... that's something we need to work on as a team," Head Coach Paul Bloomfield said.

The Lady Flames came back with five goals in the second period, with goals by freshman Katrina Breedveld, sophomore Brooke Harris, freshman Megan Nunn, sophomore

Kristin Frescura and junior Sara Nemi. Montgomery's Amy Lipton also scored in the second, bringing the score to 5-2 at the end of the second period. In the third period, Harris, Frescura and freshman Naomi Taylor each added a point to the board, and the final score showed 8-2 in favor of the Lady Flames.

"I think when we played against them we knew that they were a U19 (Under-19 team) so we weren't as prepared as we could have been mentally or physically," freshman Kaitlin Adams said. "We realized that we weren't playing very well so we picked it up in the second and third periods."

Sunday morning, the Lady Flames shutout the Blue Devils 5-0 with goals by Breedveld, Frescura, Harris and sophomore Sarah Wilson.

"The girls played really well today... much more organized. I don't know what the difference was, but they came to play hockey," Bloomfield said of Sunday's game. "Everybody stepped up and worked hard."

The Blue Devils are an Under-19 youth league team with most of the players still in high school. Montgomery is one of the few non-American Collegiate Hockey Association (ACHA) teams that the Liberty women will play this season.

"They're obviously not in our di-

vision but these games are good because it gives us an opportunity to see maybe girls we could recruit and (also) it fills in our schedule," Bloomfield said.

Freshman Melissa Fletcher played for the Blue Devils last year, although that was not how Liberty recruited her to play. She said it was "pretty fun" to play against her former teammates and her experience only provided a slight advantage.

"They get sloshy so you can get in their heads easily," Fletcher said.

The ACHA ranks teams every month of the season and as of the Nov. 9 ranking, Liberty is ranked No. 4 nationally. In the East Region division, Liberty is second behind the University of Rhode Island.

Two Liberty players, Nunn and Frescura, are also ranked nationally in the top three for goals and points, a combination of a player's goals and assists.

The women's hockey team has two weeks off until it faces Lindenwood University (7-1-2) at home Nov. 22-23.

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## FOOTBALL

Continued from B1

Liberty needed just three plays to add to its lead in the first drive of the second quarter. Smith first completed a 34-yard pass to Rasberry and then an eight-yard pass to Bolden out of bounds, followed by a 32-yard touchdown run by Jennings as the Flames increased their lead to 21-3.

"We certainly had a way to play these guys throwing the ball and had a plan in place to be able to change the tempo of the game if need be," Rocco said.

VMI fought back into the game with 12 unanswered points to end the first half. After the defense forced a safety, the Keydets marched 46 yards in eight plays before punching it in for the touchdown and closing the gap to 21-12.

VMI picked up where it left off in the first half, marching 90 yards in eight plays before capping the drive with a touchdown to bring the score to 21-19. The Flames answered in their next possession with a 10-play drive that culminated in a Brock Smith one-yard touchdown scamper.

"We had the momentum, and we used it to get ahead," Smith said.

With the fourth quarter underway neither team was going to give up. In Liberty's second drive of the fourth quarter Smith completed a 27-yard pass to Bolden out of bounds to the VMI 33 yard line. Both Jennings and Smith brought the Flames within goal range with two-yard rushes, but they could not capitalize in the red zone. Ben Shipp's 24-yard field goal increased the score to 31-19. VMI answered back with a four-yard rush by Jones making the scoring 31-26. Jones ended the game with 98 yards and two touchdowns, while Jennings rushed for 147 yards and two touchdowns. Jennings scored his final touchdown of the night after VMI went offside and the ball was placed on VMI's 36 yard line. Jennings took the ball 36 yards for a touchdown leaving the final score of the game at a 38-26.

"We're going to do what we've done best all year long, and that was the ability to run Rashad," Rocco said.

The Flames will play the two remaining games at home, facing Gardner-Webb on Nov. 15 at 7:00 p.m. before hosting Elon the following weekend.

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## Flames wrestlers set for another grueling season on mats

**By Adam Palmer**  
SPORTS REPORTER

The Liberty wrestling team finished the 2007-2008 season with its second straight NCAA regional title and is now hungry for a three-peat in this upcoming season.

Coach Castro used a red versus blue scrimmage to see who would win the top spots for the upcoming season. Some of the top wins included a win by the freshman Joe Pantaleo in a four-point major decision and win by Christian Smith, who is a two-time NCAA national qualifier.

With its first match set for today versus Gardner-Webb, three of the Liberty Flames wrestlers have already gained preseason national attention. The National Wrestling Coaches Association and USA Today released the individual preseason rankings and placed Tim Harner, Chad Porter and Chris Daggett as Top 20 wrestlers in their respective weight classes.

Harner, a senior from Norristown, Pa., ranked the highest among the three at No. 17 in his 141-pound weight class. Harner's rank reflects in his performance in the 2007-2008 season, he led the Flames with 11 wins by fall and 32 victories total. Harner was also one of two Flame wrestlers who made it into the "Sweet 16" in last year's NCAA National Championship.

Porter, a senior from Parkersburg, W. Va. comes into this season ranked No. 18 at the national level. Porter will be red-shirting to focus on academics. Last year, Porter joined Harner in the "Sweet 16" of the NCAA National Championship. Porter's birth into the "Sweet 16" led to Liberty's first-ever tournament win upsetting No. 16 Kurt Swartz from Boise State.

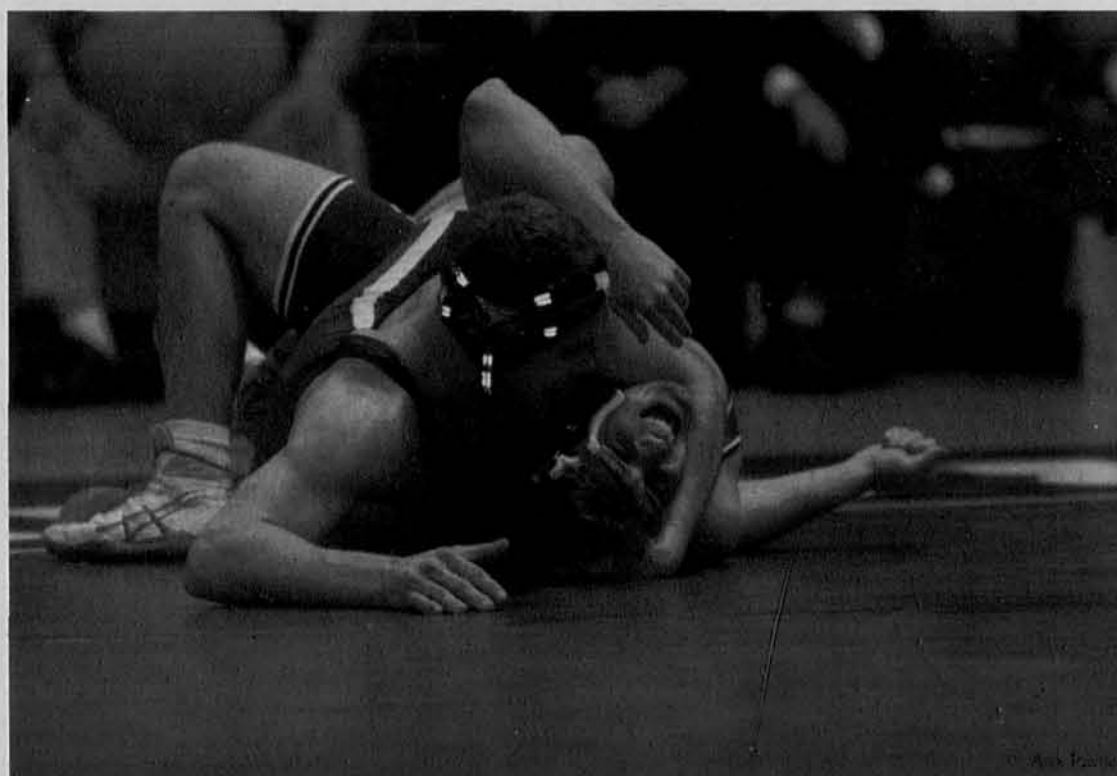
Daggett, a senior also from Parkersburg, W. Va., enters the season listed as the No. 19 in the country for his weight class. Some of Daggett's accomplishments include a trip to the NCAA National Championship and an NCAA East Regional title.

The 2008-2009 schedule is highlighted by the Body Bar Invitational tournament hosted by No. 3 Cornell University. This will be a very competitive tournament and host some of the country's elite wrestlers.

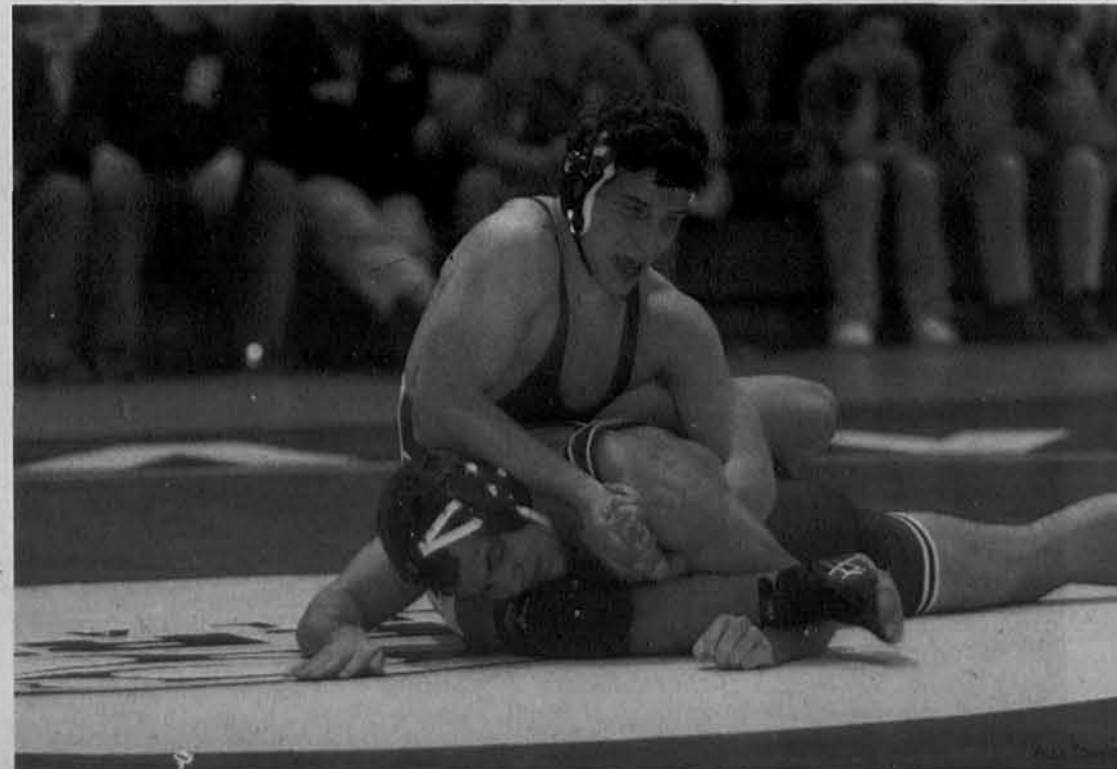
"I'm very optimistic about this tournament. There are going to be 16 teams there, and our goal is to be in the top eight," Head Coach Jesse Castro said.

The Flames will kick off the season against the Gardner-Webb Bulldogs on Tuesday Nov. 11. The last time the Flames faced Gardner-Webb they toppled the Bulldogs 34-6 at the East Regional Duals.

"Gardner-Webb is our greatest opposition," Castro said. They've upgraded their schedule and they have some very good recruits this year. They will be gunning for us."



**EYING THE BULLDOGS** — The Flames will open their season tonight with a 7 p.m. match up against the Bulldogs of Gardner-Webb in the Vines Center.



**ALL WRAPPED UP** — Liberty's schedule is highlighted by the Body Bar Invitational (Cornell), the Hoosier Duals (Indiana), the Nittany Lion Open (Penn State) and the Southern Scuffle (UNC-Greensboro).

The Liberty Flames wrestling program was dormant until 2005 season when Castro was hired in an effort to resurrect the program. Three years later, they now have an obtainable goal of a third straight NCAA Regional title.

"Unless Lord built this house it is built in vain, it is the Lord building this house and if it wasn't for him this wouldn't happen so I just want to give him

the honor and glory for it," Castro said.

Today's match is scheduled for 7 p.m. at the Vines Center. On Saturday, the Flames will travel to Charleston, S.C. for a tri-match with Limestone College and the Citadel hosted on the Citadel's campus.

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# Pastors smash lawyers for Turkey Bowl win

By Matthew Coleman  
NEWS REPORTER

Williams Stadium held the first Law School vs. Seminary Turkey Bowl flag football game on Saturday Nov. 1. Dr. Ergun Caner and Dean Mathew Staver led their teams in a proverbial "clash of the titans" to prove who was the best on the field. The seminary conquered that challenge.

The law school started the first half off on a bad foot as Dean Barber slipped on the turf early on in the first drive and bruised his shoulder badly. The injury prevented him from playing the rest of the game.

To make matters worse, the law school offense was unable to gain any real yardage against the rock-solid seminary defense, throwing interceptions on its first two drives. The seminary

was quick to capitalize on the mistakes and took a 20-0 lead going into the half.

Each team had a different offensive strategy. The law school focused more on a traditional style of running and passing the ball in the first half, while the seminary focused more on trick plays and lateral passes to confuse the opposing defense. The score at halftime showed clearly which style was working.

The second half continued much like the first half as the seminary team launched a 30-yard pass into the end zone for a quick touchdown making it 26-0.

From that point on, the game played and looked much less one-sided. The law school's offense responded with a touchdown of its own, and its defense followed suit

by scoring off an interception, making the score 26-13.

The law school defense held strong on the next drive and stopped the seminary in its tracks, allowing its offense to score yet again to push the score up to 26-19. However, this is where the potential Cinderella comeback story halted for the law school.

The seminary broke through the law school's defense for one last time to seal the deal making the final score 32-19. The seminary took it in the end, but the law school went down fighting.

"The score board did not show how it really was in the game," Caner said after the game. "We're just fat, out-of-shape preachers."

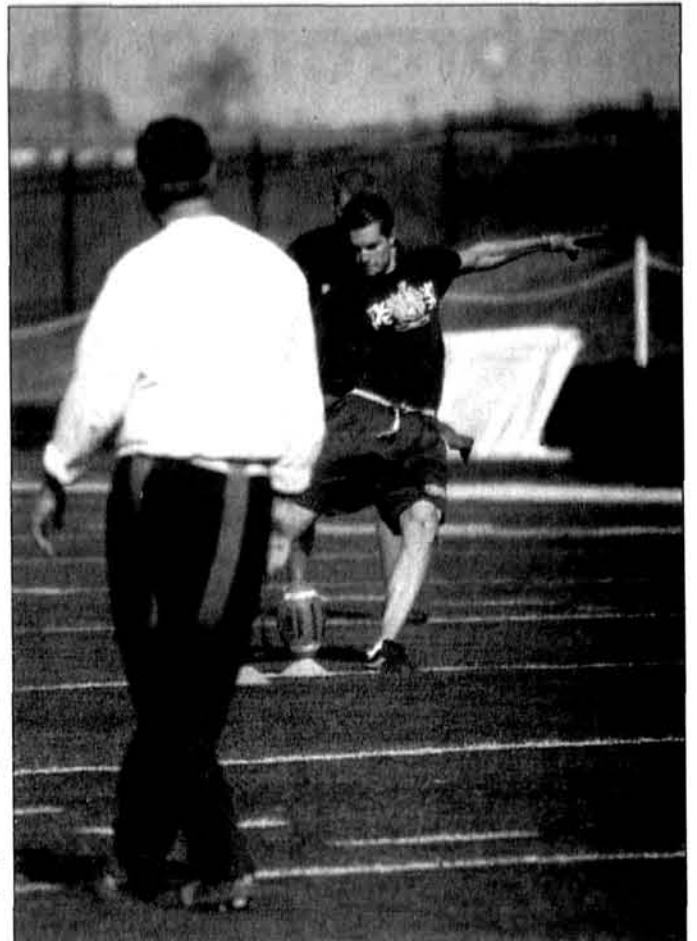
"It was an absolute blast," Staver said. "(It) was good competition and bonding.

Everyone had a superb time."

The game also hosted a colorful commentary provided by senior Justin Kintzel and Campus Pastor David McKinney. The duo kept the crowd and the players laughing throughout the duration of the game with random jokes and jabs at the expense of both teams and the occasional crowd spectator.

Competition aside, the game's driving purpose was charity. Each crowd member donated at least a dollar or more, and over \$700 was collected at the end of the game for the Liberty Godparent Home. As this is going to be an annual event, the goal for next year is \$1,000, according to Staver.

Contact Matthew Coleman at  
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PHOTOS BY ALEX TOWERS

**BIBLICAL BEATDOWN** — Liberty's Seminary took control of the game from the opening snap and held on for a 32-19 victory over the School of Law in the first Turkey Bowl game.

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# Embracing the healthful side of college life

"Life expectancy would grow by leaps and bounds if green vegetables smelled as good as bacon." — Doug Larson

By Amanda Sullivan  
LIFE! EDITOR

Maintaining a healthy lifestyle while attending college may be a difficult task. College students are inundated with a wide array of food options that may not be the healthiest choice, despite the Reber-Thomas Dining Hall's best efforts.

A student's desire for greasy, salty french-fries and soft-serve ice cream combined with academic responsibilities and a demanding social life rarely provides time for consistent exercise. The high intake of calories plus the lack of exercise and sleep make it easy for students to pack on the pounds, allowing healthy habits to disintegrate.

"Exercising regularly, washing (your) hands often and brushing (your) teeth, organization, nutritious eating and good sleeping habits are extremely important preventive measures for college students to maintain good health," Professor of Health and Sciences Joseph Mix said.

Learning to select healthy food options — regardless of location — is an essential component for maintaining a healthy life. According to CampusLife.suite101.com, students should consume foods such as fresh fruit, whole grains or low-fat yogurt or frozen yogurt. The salad bar has potential to provide a healthful meal, however students should be conscientious of fatty toppings such as cheese, croutons and non-fat free dressings.

Creating good eating habits make preserving a healthy diet while frequenting the college cafeteria a real possibility. The commitment requires students to make the choice to eat healthier food options on a daily basis. CampusLife.suite101.com recommends students refrain from consuming juices, sodas, full-fat salad dressings, fatty breakfasts, french fries, mayonnaise and butter. Some foods that plague the college campus population may still be consumed, but in moderation.

"My typical diet consists of meats, pastas, sweets, veggies, fruits — the whole works," junior Heidi Sayre said, adding she eats "a lot of carbs and breads."

The foods many college students choose to eat tend to be high in fat and calories, but maintaining a balanced diet requires individuals to select food from all major food groups. A balanced diet includes five daily servings of

fruits and vegetables, six daily servings of grain products (including whole grain), fat-free and low-fat dairy products, poultry and lean meats and two servings of fish each week, according to the American Heart Association (AHA).

"The average American requires 2,000 — 2,400 calories per day," Mix said. "The average American consumes 3,400 calories per day."

Choosing to eat the right foods is important but so is making the time to eat breakfast every morning. The saying "breakfast is the most important meal of the day" is not a farce. The meal not only has healthy ramifications, but it also helps students become more alert for their early morning classes.

"Breakfast is your early morning refueling stop. After eight to 12 hours without food, the body needs to replenish its glucose or blood sugar," Centra Health Nutritionist Ida Proco said. "The brain needs a fresh supply of glucose, its main energy source, because it has no stored reserves. Sustained mental work requires a large turnover of glucose in the brain."

Eating well is not the only concern for college students attempting to live a healthy lifestyle. Students should make a conscious effort to establish a consistent workout schedule — one that outlasts swimsuit season. In reality, whether a student works out to a Pilates video in the dorm room or heads to the gym, the most important aspect is that he or she exercises regularly.

An adequate exercise regime consists of aerobic exercise three to five times a week for 30 minutes, strength training two to three times a week and daily stretching.

"Work out large muscle groups (biceps, triceps, deltoids, pectorals, quadriceps and hamstrings)," Mix said. "For strength training in the dorm, (perform) push-ups, pull-ups, sit-

ups and use free weights. For aerobic exercise in the dorm, climb stairs, (do) jumping jacks, run in place or skip rope."

Healthy eating and consistent exercise are important factors of a balanced life, but learning to make time for good sleeping habits is also essential. A good night's sleep leads to a more focused attention in classes and makes homework and studying easier to complete.

As college students, sleep does not rank very high on the to-do list, but rest helps set the tone for the remainder of the day. Students should make a point to get at least eight hours of sleep each night, not the three or four hours of sleep per night that help further the college-students-never-sleep stereotype.

"Not getting enough sleep lowers one's resistance to illness and increases the likelihood of stress, fatigue, common cold and poor performance on exams," Mix said.

The lack of sleep that plagues many college students' lives leads to the consumption of caffeine to compensate for tiredness. Caffeine comes in many forms such as coffee, soda and energy drinks — all of which may be found in many students' hands on any given day. Caffeine intake has not been scientifically linked health risks such as cancer, fibrocystic breast disease, blood cholesterol levels, ulcers, inflammatory bowel disease or osteoporosis, according to Proco. However caffeine still affects the body, so the key is moderation.

"Too much caffeine — more than the equivalent of one to two cups of coffee per day — can lead to the following problems of elevated heart rate, high blood pressure and dehydration," Mix said.

Students who drink caffeinated beverages should be mindful of their water intake. On average, a person should drink eight to 12 glasses of water a day to remain fully hydrated. When caffeine is added into the mix, a person's water

intake should increase by 25 to 50 percent. Even though the each person's need for water varies with the amount of salt and caffeine consumed by the individual, hydration is important.

Whereas healthy eating, good sleeping habits and exercise all lend a hand in maintaining a healthful lifestyle, going back to the basics of hand washing may be the most beneficial endeavor, as the common cold is the most prevalent illness on college campuses, according to Mix.

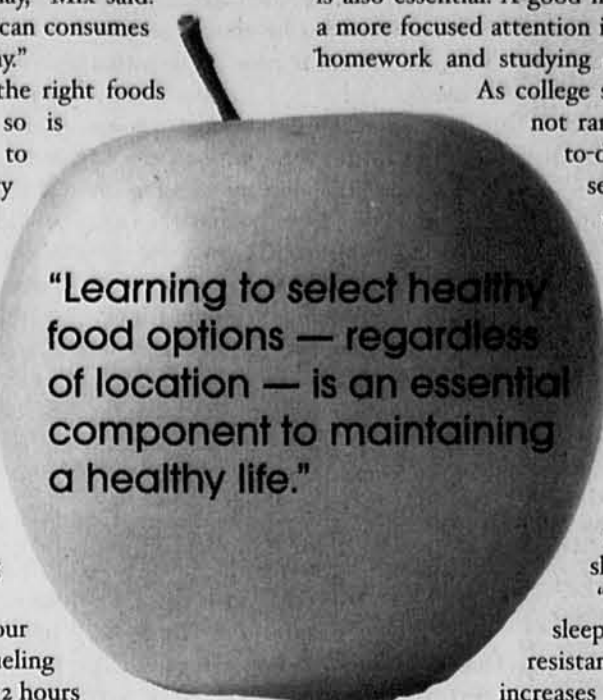
"The most common way (of spreading germs is by) lack of proper hand washing and doing it frequently," Proco said.

In addition to maintaining good physical health, good mental health is important. Students should find time every day to relax and separate themselves from the life around them. The downtime provides the mind time to slow down, allowing students to more sufficiently evaluate life choices such as deciding to finish the 15-page paper that is due in four hours.

"Have a quiet time for a few minutes each day to clear your mind; pray and read (God's) word," Mix said. "Quiet means turning cell phones off, turning iPods off and turning laptops off."

Incorporating good mental habits and physical habits such as healthy eating, getting enough sleep, exercising and hand washing make maintaining a healthy lifestyle less difficult to achieve while in college. For more information on how to maintain a healthy life consisting of healthy eating, sleeping, exercise and basic care, visit Web sites such as AmericanHeart.org, EatRight.org, CentraHealth.com and MyPyramid.org.

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## Coffeehouse rings in the Christmas season



By Jennifer Bowman  
LIFE! REPORTER

Twice a year students gather in the Vines Center at Liberty University for coffeehouse. Christmas coffeehouse is the first themed event of the year and takes place at the end of the fall semester. This year's coffeehouse will take place Dec. 5.

The biannual event planned by Student Activities will feature anywhere from 15 to 18 acts or mini-shows according to Associate Director of Student Activities Alese Chandler. There are many aspects that go into planning a coffeehouse event including theme, lighting, music, organization of the show and more.

"The process starts in the summer for coffeehouse, and then we start bouncing ideas off of each other in October," Chandler said. "The student staff panel will decide on theme, extra decorations, the backdrop and even the technical production aspect of the event during this time."

The theme of the Christmas coffeehouse always revolves around the main holiday. More essential and time consuming than deciding on

the theme is the process of choosing talent. The tryouts for coffeehouse have already started and there have been a few groups who tried out, Chandler stated. Any student can try out for the Christmas coffeehouse. However, the Student Activities panel looks for several things.

"Music is big for coffeehouse programs, and we also look for a certain pizzazz to be added," Chandler said. "Everyone loves a Christmas song, spoken word, theater, dance or comedy acts, but we like for each act to be unique and never bland."

Within every coffeehouse event, there is always an act or two that students remember better than all the others. Such acts are the ones that student activities staff is looking for.

"One act that stood out to me from a past coffeehouse was an act where Brazilian students brought all types of different instruments and played a song with them," Chandler said. "It was really unique and diverse so we like to look for a good mix of talents."

Since there are only 15 to 18 acts allowed, the panel of students must narrow down the number of acts that were

originally accepted.

"The students have to try out once, but they only have one shot to make it. Furthermore, their words must be memorized and the act must be performed as close to the act they would do on stage," Chandler said.

Students may also tell jokes, but they are required to be selective in their humor.

"We must limit our jokes because we don't want to demean or degrade people, so

we have always been careful about not saying too many things," Chandler said.

Students interested in trying out for coffeehouse should go to the Tilly Student Center Monday - Thursday from 5-10 p.m. Tryouts are closed for church. Applicants are expected to have all props, including instruments

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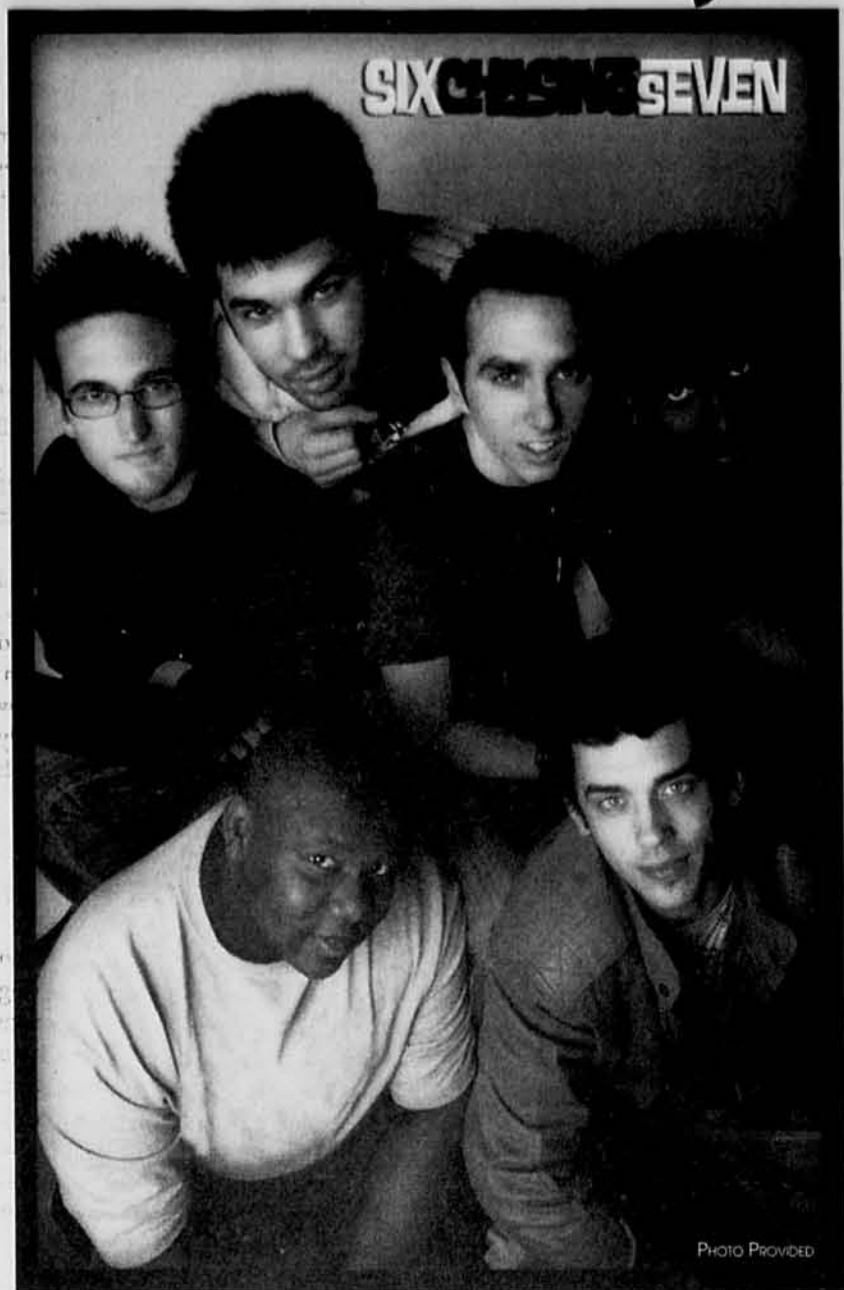


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# Former Liberty musicians still going strong



**STUDENT SUCCESS** — Six Chasing Seven recently released its first studio album. The band's CD release party was held in the Schilling Center.

**Kerah Kemmerer**  
LIFE! REPORTER

Missing friends, the dorm life on the circle and crazy snowball fights are some of the first things that come to mind for alumni and signed musicians the members of Six Chasing Seven and Meredith Andrews.

## Six Chasing Seven

Made up of Daniel Keeton, James Walz, CJ Hagwood, Byron Cage and Ryan Thomas all met at Liberty except for lead singer Dick "Dickie" Redding. Guitarist Keeton reflected on his decision to attend Liberty, and how it influenced his life and inspired the creation of the band.

"I decided to come because the people that I met here while in high school were genuinely good people," Keeton said. "The atmosphere cultivates positive Christian growth for those who seek it."

Keeton said Liberty is great for networking in many areas, especially when in pursuit of Christian ministry. "The band wouldn't exist if it were not for Liberty," Keeton said. "We developed some of the greatest friendships one could ask for, all while being challenged academically and spiritually. Plus, I met my wife

here."

The music of Six Chasing Seven, described as "soul-crunching, rock-infused pop funk" on its MySpace page, is the primary focus in the lives of the band members.

Although all the members currently hold "real" jobs to pay the bills, the work they do allows flexibility to travel and perform as a band. Weekends are the primary time devoted to shows with several nights a week set aside for practice.

According to Keeton, Six Chasing Seven was not part of any of the band member's future dreams.

"I used to mock people who tried to make it in bands," Keeton said. "It was unrealistic to me. We were all pursuing degrees in other areas besides 'rockstar.' Our drummer has a master's in psychology and our sax player wanted to be a biologist."

The "band thing" happened almost by accident when, during a Jazz night at Liberty in October of 2004, several of the guys began playing together and like the resulting sounds. They began playing in public more often and the size of their shows began to grow steadily.

After the original singer left the band, current lead singer Redding was picked up to temporarily cover

until a permanent member could be found. One of the most unexpected rewards was that Redding came to Christ while singing in the band.

"He was selling drugs quite heavily at the time and living very much in the world," Keeton said. "However, through a series of amazing circumstances and the Lord working on his life, he accepted Christ about five months after he started singing with us. Dickie is now our spiritual leader."

God continued to open many doors after this salvation occurrence a few years ago, and his blessing on the group has been undeniable ever since, according to Keeton.

One personal blessing that Keeton experienced was the opportunity to witness to his favorite groups, the Dave Matthews Band (DMB). Through what Keeton describes as "some crazy circumstances" about two years ago, the DMB violinist, Boyd Tinsley heard about Six Chasing Seven's music, and they recorded an album with Tinsley.

"It was a two-year process that I'll never forget," Keeton said. "We got to pray with Boyd and minister in ways that I never could have imagined. We also met countless other great artists, including other members of the band."

Keeton believes that because of that experience, their band was put under a spotlight and is still reaping the benefits of the opportunity.

"Join or form a good band," Keeton said for students interested in musical careers. "Just because you're great friends does not mean that you will make great music together. As with anything you do for God, do it with excellence."

Keeton wished to remind students that true ministry comes from relationships. He said personal relationships affect people more than music ever could and music is often only a tool.

## Meredith Andrews

Life for Meredith Andrews is quite busy as she currently serves part time on staff as a worship leader at Harvest Bible Chapel located outside of Chicago. She also travels to other churches and venues for her music. Andrew's first album, "The Invitation," was released in April of this year, and her wedding was in May.

"To describe my daily life would be a feat in itself because it looks different every day," Andrews said. "But it is lots of fun and keeps me on my toes."

The memories of life at Liberty are still quite vivid for the 2005 graduate who holds a degree in Family and Child Development and minored in Worship and Music Ministry.

"From football games and mission trips to worship services, and family classes to on-campus dining and off-

campus activities, and everything else in between, there was never a dull moment during my time at Liberty," Andrews said.

Andrews spent much of her time with the Campus Praise band and has fond memories of dorm life claiming that dorm 19-1 was the best. She said she really enjoyed the experience of living and fellowshiping with so many different girls.

"My fondest memories of Liberty revolve largely around my time on Campus Praise Band," Andrews said. "To be able to come together as a student body week after week and lift up the name of Jesus in the Vines Center was such an incredible privilege."

Andrews also believes that the opportunities she had while serving on a Light Ministries team and Campus Praise Band was what the Lord used to cultivate in her a "passion for His presence and a desire to sing truth over His people and point them to Jesus."

She and her husband Jacob have partnered with Hopegivers International to raise awareness about how God is using his orphan army in India. She credits this partnering to the impact of overseas travel with Light Ministries in her life.

Blown away is how Andrews describes the experience to be able to travel and see how God is using her music to encourage others and how God is working in the lives of his children.

"When I wrote 'You're Not Alone,' for instance, God used it to speak directly to my life at that point in time," Andrews said. "I never thought it would go beyond my parents' living

room to touch so many hearts that also needed to be reminded of the promises of God.

Being a signed Christian musician has its perks as Andrews has discovered. She met Christian recording artist Nichole Nordeman earlier this year at a show outside of Chicago. Andrews said it was difficult to put together intelligible sentences as she talked to Nordeman, whose music Andrews said God used greatly in her life.

One experience from the father of Contemporary Christian Music was greatly encouraging to her. Andrews recalls the particular phone call like this:

"Hey Meredith, this is Michael W."

"As in SMITH??"

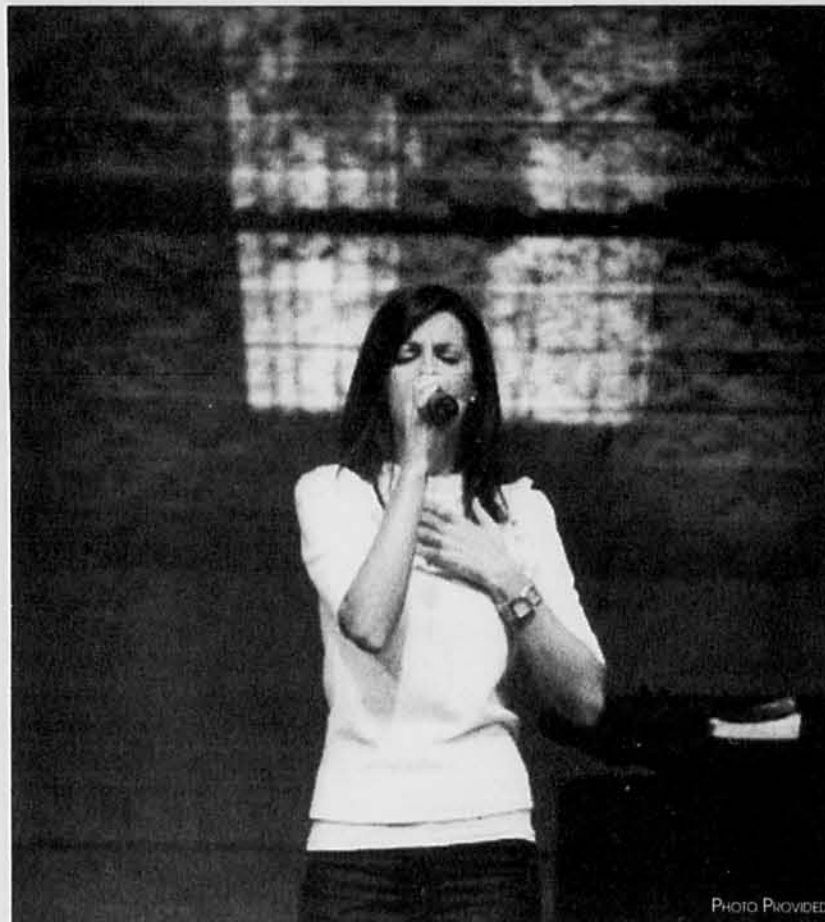
(Laughs) "Yes. I just wanted to let you know that your album has been in my car all week, and I'm really loving it."

Andrews said students should be faithful where God has placed them, and to trust that he will bring all the right people into their lives in his right timing.

She said we need to trust that he is using every moment and experience to shape us.

"Surround yourself with people who love to worship God through music. Polish your gift. And wait on the Lord," Andrews said. "Ultimately, he is the one in control, and you can rest assured he will open the doors he wants you to walk through for the glory of his name and the edification of his people."

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**INVITATION ONLY** — Meredith Andrews' song "You Invite Me In" is currently ranked 27th on the Billboard Charts Hot Christian Songs list.

# Saunders examines "Shades of Identity"

**By Abby Armbruster**  
CONTRIBUTING REPORTER

Daveta Saunders, associate director of the Center4ME, recently had a book published based on her masters degree she received from Liberty in 2007.

Saunders had no intention of publishing her thesis, "Shades of Identity: The Effects of African American Children Skin Complexions in Television Commercials on the Self-Perception of African American Children," as a book until a German publishing company, VDM Verlag Publishing, approached her about turning her thesis into a book.

According to Saunders, her thesis focused on children's television commercials and the children's skin tone in the commercials. Saunders wanted to see how many African-American children appeared in the front of commercials or even in commercials at all.

"This is a topic that could be very controversial, but Daveta handled it most appropriately within the academic guidelines of her master's thesis," Doctor Terri Cornwell said. Cornwell, along with professors Cecil Kramer Jr. and Yaw Adu-Gyamfi, worked on Saunders' thesis committee as advisors.

To conduct her research, Saunders watched 347 Saturday morning commercials on major networks, and then made focus groups of African-American children to see which character they would want to portray in each commercial. The children ranged from 6 to 10 years old and had three different levels of African-American skin complexion.

"I love the African-American culture," Saunders said. "It's important to know your own culture."

As a Liberty student since 2000, Saunders said she would always pick an African-American topic or person for any report during school. Saunders said she did not mind going against the norm and researching more into the African-American culture.

"Daveta was a terrific student to work with," Cornwell said.

Saunders said there was research from 50 years ago in the Lynchburg area, and she wanted to add onto that research with television, Internet and other modern media devices.

Saunders' research was inspired by previous research such as the so-called "Baby Doll Test," where children were given a Caucasian baby doll and an African-American baby doll, and each child had to decide which was prettier. Although these children were attempting to define beauty indirectly, Saunders still was not able to find a definition for beauty.

According to Saunders, her masters thesis took her two and a half months to write before it was posted on Liberty's masters Web site, which she says is where the German publication company took notice. Saunders said she searched her name on Google and found that her thesis was posted on a blog as well.

Now with her Masters from Liberty in tow, Saunders is considering a doctorate degree in either teaching or communications. While deciding between those two focuses, Saunders is keeping

busy with Center4ME and being a disc jockey on 90.9 The Light, under the persona "Little Preacher." She has been a disc jockey since 2002, and hosts "The Takeover" Friday nights from 10 p.m. to 1 a.m.

Saunders admits that Liberty University was not her first choice in colleges, before enrolling in 2000.

"Liberty was the last school I applied to," she said.

The biggest factor that drew her to Liberty was financial aid. According to Saunders, her parents knew Liberty was a Christian school, and tricked her into applying for Liberty because of its spirituality factor. Saunders was unaware of the harsh rules of Liberty, particularly the dress code.

"I only had one skirt [when I arrived], and yes, I did have to go shopping," she said.

Saunders also hopes to add research to "Shades of Identity," and is currently evaluating college brochures for equal representations of different races.

Also, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) offered Saunders a shot at the annual Image Awards, and she is applying at the moment for the Award, in which she will know by January whether she received an award.

Shades of Identity is only available online, but according to the Liberty bookstore, if enough people show interest in the book, the bookstore will order copies to be sold on sight.

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**WORKING HARD** — Daveta Saunders' spent 347 hours watching television commercials for research included in her thesis, which was recently converted into a book.



Photo by Julie Saxon



FEELING FRUSTRATED — Character Eliza Doolittle struggles to learn the proper English language, leaving her old lifestyle behind.



ROLLING ALONG — Actor Josh DeVries branches out from his normal characters to play a more sensitive role.



DANCING ALL NIGHT — Eliza interacts with London's finest through song, dance and romance in the play "My Fair Lady."

## "Wouldn't it be lovely" to be a fair lady?

By Emily DeFosse  
LIFE! REPORTER

Performances of the classic musical "My Fair Lady" began Friday night at the Lloyd Auditorium. The musical is based on the play "Pygmalion" by George Bernard Shaw, which is derived from an ancient Greek myth of the same title.

The story, set in 1912 England, follows a poor flower girl, Eliza Doolittle and phonetics professor, Henry Higgins. Henry spends six months teaching Eliza to talk proper English and leave her cockney lifestyle behind. However, they both end up teaching each other life lessons that change their worldviews.

The play features many famous musical numbers including: "I Could Have Danced All Night," "Wouldn't it Be Lovely" and "Get Me to the Church On Time." The Cast of 25 Liberty students sings and dances each number with great enthusiasm, bringing life to a story that has not been told on the Liberty stage for 30 years, according to Director Linda Nell Cooper.

Junior Kayla Powell plays the female lead, Eliza Doolittle. Powell, as well as many of the other cast members, leaned to speak with a cockney accent. This was just one of the challenges she faced taking on what she believes to be the most challenging role she has ever played.

"The most challenging thing for me was learning how to throw away the original concept of Eliza as played by Audrey Hepburn," Powell said. "She is an icon as far as this role is concerned. It is hard when someone plays the role so well before you to play it truthfully. You don't want to just copy their performance, but you still want to respect it."

Cooper found the growth of Powell and her male counterpart, Josh DeVries, who plays male lead Henry Higgins, one of the most rewarding aspects of the show.

"It has been very rewarding to see the actor who plays Henry Higgins play a romantic role in an intellectual way because it is very subtle," Cooper said. "It has also been rewarding to see that with actress Kayla Powell. I've directed her in every show she has done here so it has been very rewarding to direct an actress I've directed many times and see her transform in a different type of role."

Cooper believes that the musical is more than just a typical love story. The show is about how two people learn to find truth and beauty in each other. Eliza, who represents beauty, learns to find truth in life from Higgins. He, in turn, learns to find the beauty in life from her.

Cooper expects the play will captivate the male members of the audience, which is not always the case with musicals.

"Higgins represents this masculine way of thinking that is completely logical so I think the male population will understand the musical and really enjoy it," Cooper said.

Prior to opening night four shows were already sold out. The play will be running for the next two weekends. For more information about performance times and tickets call (414) 582-2085 or visit the box office located in the Theater Arts Department.

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## Time to choose: G1 or iPhone?

By Tina Clark  
LIFE! REPORTER

For those who have a hard time understanding the pros and cons of both the G1 and the iPhone, here are some specifics.

The G1's Web site, Google-phone.com reports the phone comes equipped with a touch screen, a flip-out keyboard, WiFi, GPS and Bluetooth. Google-phone.com also says the G1 comes with several preloaded programs such as Google Search, YouTube and Gmail.

"Out of the box it has access to Amazon's MP3 download store, but you'll need to download a video player from the Android Market," according to Google-phone.com.

Senior and store manager for Simply Wireless Travis Smith explains that the G1 carries an open source feature that allows "unlimited data capabilities." He said the open-source feature makes it possible to download applications to the phone free of charge, which is not limited to the applications on your phone.

"I can manage my bank account, watch TV and search for movies directly from the main menu on my phone," Smith said.

In contrast to its competitor, Apple's iPhone, the design of the G1 is not as thin. Google-phone.com explains the "HTC Corporation was

aiming for a better functionality and a much better feel in your hand." However, PCWorld.com said both phones have a five-hour talk time. PCWorld also said even though the battery is the same, the G1 only has 130 hours of standby against the iPhone's 300.

PCWorld.com explains the phones also differ in how music is downloaded. The site says the iPhone's music comes from iTunes, and the G1 receives its music through Amazon MP3. While the G1 operates through the Android system, the iPhone works through its own operating system built by Apple, according to PCWorld.com said.

"Since the iPhone was launched 15 months ago it has defined, for many, what a smart phone experience should be...T-Mobile gives the iPhone a run for its money..." PCWorld.com said.

"I've had the blackberry curve and the iPhone. The G1 outperforms both in numerous areas," Smith said.

However, a few things give the iPhone an upper hand over the G1. Smith has one major complaint about his new G1. His dissatisfaction is that he is not able to receive e-mail notifications.

"You actually have to check your e-mail," Smith said.

The T-Mobile G1, produced by HTC, is available for \$799 with a two-year contract. The G1 is still being sold at a lower price than the

iPhone, which is available for between \$200 and \$300.

"From the details that have emerged today regarding the G1, Apple now has a reason to be looking over its shoulder," stated PCWorld.com.

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Apple's iPhone ▲

◀ Google's G1