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CHANGES IN VTAG
KITCHEL'S KITCHEN
ALMOST SLIPPERY SLOPE

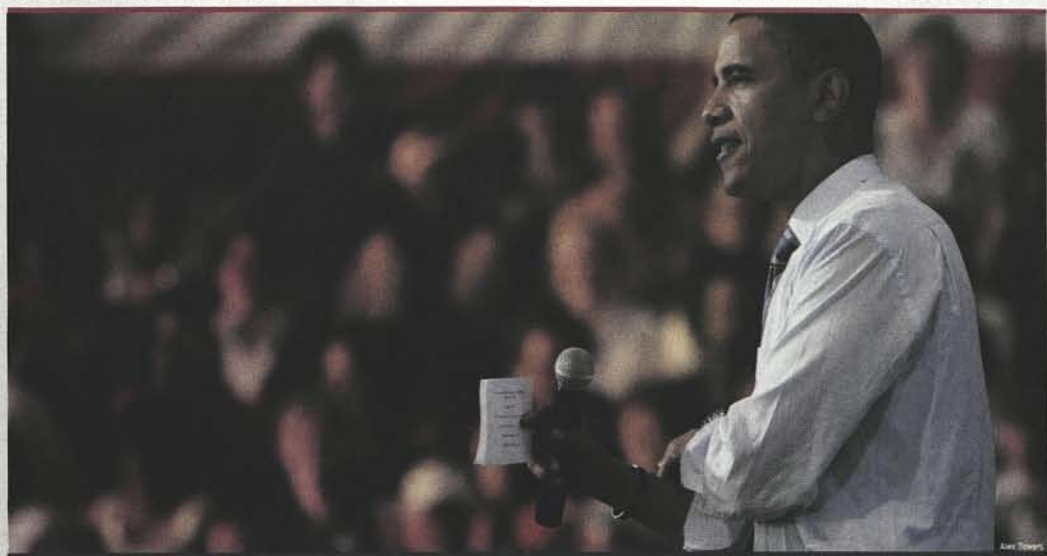
- **A2** Virginia makes budget cuts that affect the VTAG program across the board.
- **A5** Linda Kitchel gives students a little kitchen aid for their everyday lives.
- **A5** Work on SnowFlex continues towards completion high atop Liberty Mountain.

BRIDE WARS
 Life! sits down with the stars of *Bride Wars*, Anne Hathaway and Kate Hudson for a behind the scenes look at the movie.

LIBERTY CHAMPION

LIBERTY.EDU/CHAMPION • TUESDAY, JANUARY 20, 2009 • VOL. 26 ISSUE 12

HISTORY STARTS NOW



"I do solemnly swear that I will faithfully execute the office of President of the United States, and will to the best of my ability, preserve, protect and defend the Constitution of the United States."

OBAMA ROLLS UP SLEEVES. RECEIVES ROLE OF PRESIDENT MITCHELL MALCHEFF • NEWS REPORTER

Somewhere between 1.5 and three million people are expected to converge on Washington, D.C. to attend the inauguration of President-elect Barack Obama. With his oath upon the same Bible used during President Abraham Lincoln's inauguration, Obama will be sworn in as the 44th President of the United States.

Associate Government Professor and College Republican Advisor Steven Witham said that he has never seen an inauguration or election comparable to this one in terms of its historical importance and national attention.

"I don't know if I can give you anything original," Witham said. "Every inauguration is a special event ... beyond that, there's a heightened level of interest in this campaign."

Witham went on to say that the only inauguration he believed shares any similarities is the 1961 election of John F. Kennedy. The difference between Kennedy and Obama, according to Witham, lies in what their respective presidencies signify.

Obama's election is occurring during what many economists believe is the nation's worst market downturn since the Great Depression. Joel Krautter, co-founder and vice-president of Liberty's College Democrats, believes that the economy should be issue number one in the "politically blue" White House.

See **INAUGURATION** on A2

INAUGURAL FAST FACTS

- MORE THAN 1,500,000 ARE EXPECTED TO ATTEND
- INAUGURATIONS USED TO BE HELD IN MARCH TO GIVE ELECTORS FOUR MONTHS TO CAST THEIR BALLOTS. BUT THE TWENTIETH AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION CHANGED THE DATE TO JAN. 20
- THE 2009 PLATFORM WILL BE MORE THAN 10,000 SQUARE FEET
- THE \$40 MILLION TO \$45 MILLION ESTIMATED COST OF THE 2009 INAUGURATION WILL BE PAID FOR BY THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, VIRGINIA AND MARYLAND.
- A NEW LIMOUSINE, NICKNAMED "THE BEAST," MAKES ITS DEBUT ON INAUGURATION DAY AND IS REPORTEDLY TOUGH ENOUGH TO WITHSTAND A ROCKET-PROPELLED GRENADE.
- OVER 5,000 PORT-A-POTTIES WILL BE AVAILABLE.
- BARACK OBAMA WILL TAKE THE OATH OF OFFICE USING THE SAME BIBLE UPON WHICH PRESIDENT LINCOLN WAS SWORN IN AT HIS FIRST INAUGURATION.

FACTS GATHERED FROM FOXNEWS.COM AND YAHOO! NEWS

LIBERTY ACQUIRES IVY LAKE

Josh Swanson
 NEWS REPORTER

Daniel Heffner
 SPORTS REPORTER

Every year, Liberty grows, whether it is by property purchased by the school itself or by a donation. In the most recent expansion, Liberty has been given a 121-acre lake. Students more familiar with the area may recognize it as Ivy Lake, the upscale residential area located in Forest about 15 minutes from Liberty.

Lynchburg area residents Tom DeWitt, Terry Dobyns and Richard Chaffin donated the lake in December 2008. DeWitt was the only Liberty alumnus in the group that donated the lake. He earned a degree in Christian ministries before he decided to work in the areas of real estate and development, according to the Liberty Journal.

In addition to the lake itself, Liberty also owns the dam, the spillway, the road over the dam and an additional five acres with a public boat ramp and a 40-foot dock.

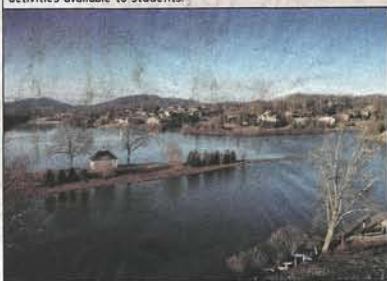
Lee Beaumont, director of auxiliary services, said the lake is immediately ready for use and that it will be used for canoeing, kayaking, swimming, small boat sailing, fishing and possibly for scuba diving. A new Liberty club team, called the LU Crew Team, is already in possession of a 55-foot crew boat and trailer as the sport prepares to kick off this fall.

Use of the lake will be free for students. The current list of leisure activities includes boating, fish-

ing and swimming, as well as non-water activities such as picnics. Some rules that students must adhere to include checking in and out for lake use at the student center, swimming in pairs and wearing life jackets when using a boat.

See **IVY LAKE** on A3

- The donation of Ivy Lake will expand Liberty's recreational activities available to students.



Lee Schuler

IN MEMORY DR. ERNEST V. LIDDLE



JUNE 10, 1923 - JANUARY 18, 2009

Dr. Ernest V. Liddle, dean emeritus of library services, died early Sunday morning from complications directly related to Parkinson's disease. He was 85. Liddle and his wife, Grace Edith, were both active at Liberty. Liddle served as dean of library services from 1979-1992, while Grace Edith was an English professor. Liddle also pastored a church in Forest, Va. The couple later retired to Port St. Lucie, Fla.

Liddle is survived by his wife, his two sons, Phillip and David, their wives, Ivy and Monica and his two granddaughters, Jennifer and Vanessa.

"It was my privilege to know and work with Dr. Ernest Liddle during his years as Dean of Library Services. The lib in his Irish accent left a lasting impression, whether he was making a serious academic point or simply employing his dry wit to put matters in their proper perspective. He was truly a man of God. He should be remembered as a tireless advocate for the building of a distinguished core library collection, since he recognized well before many of us that this was a vital factor in demonstrating the excellence of any institution of higher learning," Dr. Boyd C. Rust, provost, said.

THE LIBERTY

Conflict in the Holy Land

After weeks of bloodshed, the Israeli-Hamas conflict in Gaza has reached its conclusion. Israel, the self-proclaimed victor, plans a swift withdrawal of its troops in the region, according to the Associated Press. Over 1,200 Palestinians have died, according to the Associated Press. For more details, see A5.

Salmonella Peanut Butter

The discovery of salmonella in the Georgia-based peanut butter plant, owned by Peanut Corp., continues to create concern for consumers and food distributors around the nation. Several companies have recalled their products. For a complete list of recalled products, go to <http://www.webmd.com/food-recipes/food-poisoning> and <http://kelloggs.mediaroom.com>.



HANDS ON – FACS students get real life application in the classroom.

Live from Kitchel's kitchen — Culinary creativity sparked

Danielle Talbert
LIFE! REPORTER

Family and Consumer Sciences (FACS) professor Linda Kitchel believes in the necessity of training students in the skills necessary to uphold the family.

Before arriving at Liberty in 2004, Kitchel spent over 20 years teaching everything from pre-school to college. She received her B.S. in FACS from Radford University and her Masters in Education from North Carolina State University.

At Liberty, Kitchel teaches food science, gourmet foods, quantity foods, program planning/evaluation and curriculum/practicum. She also supervises the FACS student teachers. Her favorite class to teach is FACS 480, Teaching FACS, because she gets to share her experiences as a teacher with her students in order to prepare them for their career.

"It is rewarding to know I may have had a small part in the success of their teaching

careers," Kitchel said.

Her favorite food to cook is French fried eggplant, a South Carolina recipe which she learned from her mother-in-law. She said she enjoys sharing this rare dish with her classes because few people have experienced it.

American southern cuisine is one of her preferred things to prepare. Her favorite place to visit is Food Network star Paula Dean's restaurant in Charleston, S.C. because of its southern flair.

One thing that adds to Kitchel's passion for culinary education is the fact that she grew up on a peanut farm. The farm in Windsor, Va. that her father owned has been in the family for 80 years and is now run by her brother. While Kitchel admits to not doing a lot of cooking with peanuts, she did share that the closeness of a family farm has shaped her career in a unique way. She said family is very important and that is why God placed her in the FACS department. She counts it a blessing to be

able to teach about the family.

"Family is the core of life and is ordained by God," Kitchel said.

She readily shares about her family to whomever will listen and wishes to do her part to pass on godly family skills through her classroom. Both her daughters are married and her daughter, Dr. Angela Olmsted, teaches nursing here at Liberty. Angela and her husband have two daughters who Kitchel said consume most of her time. Kitchel's other daughter, Lorrie currently teaches fifth grade in Amherst.

Kitchel's vision for the FACS department is to graduate more FACS students to go out and teach what she refers to as a "critical area." She explained that the teachers are in very high demand, especially those coming from Liberty. The commonwealth of Virginia is even giving scholarships to FACS students that will teach in-state after graduation because of this high demand.

Kitchel is proud of the students Liberty sends out from the FACS program. She

recalls one occasion when the principal of a Colorado school called Liberty's department to say what an excellent job the graduate was doing at the school. The principal then asked for "more Liberty graduates. Another illustration she gave was of a student taken by a local high school to teach on a provisional license, before even graduating.

"These are examples of how the Lord can lead you," Kitchel said. She is proud that Liberty has no trouble placing its FACS graduates.

Kitchel hopes to teach FACS classes for many years to come and is excited about an upcoming addition to the curriculum. She said in 2010 Liberty will add a culinary food service management degree.

"I am honored to teach at Liberty and to have the opportunity to share what [God] has done in my life and help mold lives for his service," Kitchel said.

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Network upgrades with Aruba

Matthew Coleman
NEWS REPORTER

Liberty is currently switching its campus-wide wireless Internet and security system from Cisco Clean Access Agent to Aruba ECS. An ongoing process, the new Aruba system is an advancement from the old Cisco system employed by Liberty in previous years.

The choice came down to whether to upgrade the Cisco system used before, or to change to Aruba. The two systems are similar, though not identical, and many factors went into the final decision.

"We evaluated the two systems and decided that Aruba would provide a better experience for the students," Jimmy Graham, manager of Network Services, said.

Thus far, Cisco has served as Liberty's Internet watchdog, protecting it from users who log onto the network from any threats, such as viruses. To accomplish this task requires that all users keep their computers updated with the latest Internet protection systems available before they can log onto the network. If the individual computer is not updated, then it is denied access to Liberty's network and Internet access, effectively protecting others from any potentially debilitating viruses that computer may have.

To provide wireless Internet throughout campus, the Cisco system relies on hundreds of Internet access points scattered around the campus, according to Graham. Each access point provides wireless Internet coverage over a specific area.

While this is an effective system that has served to keep Liberty's network running smoothly, it does have some drawbacks that Aruba will refine or eliminate.

One of the most significant advancements Aruba has over Cisco is the use of smart Internet access points, according to Jason Rawlings, director of IT Customer Support. In the previous system, if an access point broke down, it would leave a blacked-out spot in that area, effectively creating a wireless Internet dead zone. This hole would persist until the access point could be fixed.

The new Aruba system will remove all of the old Cisco access points and replace them with a smarter, upgraded version. If any Internet access point goes down, nearby access points will register that there is a problem and try to compensate by increasing their area of service to cover the hole created by the downed access point. The Internet connection in the downed area may not be quite as effective or fast, but the Internet will still be available in that area while the technical support team fixes the problem.

Also, many students complained about having to log onto the Cisco system every time they turned on their computer. Aruba will require each student to log onto the system only once in a semester, erasing the hassle of having to log in multiple times throughout the semester. However, students will still be required to upload the necessary safety requirements designated by Aruba.

While Cisco could not run on Macs, Aruba works on both PCs and Macs, adding to the umbrella of protection provided for Liberty's network.

As of now, the switch from Cisco to Aruba is an ongoing process that is going to take some time to finish. Not all of the wireless access points have been switched from Cisco yet, and Cisco is still responsible for all wired Internet connections, but this will change as the semester progresses. There will undoubtedly be some bumps along the way, but the technical support team is smoothing them out as quickly as possible.

"It is like road construction," Scott Hara, the Help Desk manager, said. "You expect that there will be some difficulties along the way, but the end result will be better than what you had."

New security systems aside, Aruba will be providing upgrades to the quality of Internet received for users with the technology to support it, such as the new 802.11N wireless card. Computers equipped with this card will be able to use the Internet at speeds previously unobtainable by wireless Internet connections on campus, according to Graham.

In the near future, students with the 802.11N wireless card will be able to watch IPTV with the clarity and fluidness of a wired connection without the hassle of plugging into a land line, Graham said. Also, the new card will drastically increase the wireless download speeds.

There will be many other advantages available to those with the 802.11N card as the spring semester unfolds, but the Technical Support team is refraining from giving information before the means to incorporate the system's advancements is in place.

"We want to be further deployed before we start saying what will be available," Graham said.

For more information about Aruba system, the 802.11N wireless card and their respective capabilities, visit www.liberty.edu/customersupport.

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INAUGURATION

Continued from A1

"The economic crisis is the number one thing," Krautter said. "We (students) are going to be coming out of college in a few years and we're going to need jobs and that's all dependent on the economy."

Witham warns, however, that any action taken now could have far-reaching effects.

"In our haste to do something, we need to ask, will this work and what are the consequences," Witham said.

Witham also added that "there's going to be a tremendous push for rapid passage of an incredibly large economic package. There's probably a general feeling in the country to see if the government can stimulate the economy."

With another large stimulus package on the horizon and a largely Democratic Congress behind Obama ready to grease the political wheels, Krautter believes the role of Republicans in a democratic administration is to play devils advocate.

"When they (Republicans) see a policy that Obama's administration presents, they shouldn't hesitate to support it out of partisanship, but they should move to do what is best for the country... they should con-

tinue to hold onto their beliefs, but in a time like this we should put partisanship behind us," he said.

Despite the flagging economy, costs for the inauguration are expected to rise as high as \$150 million, nearly three times that of President Bush's inauguration. The inauguration will air live in the Vines Center beginning at 11 a.m. Local celebrations are also taking place at 14 area locations from 11 a.m. until 2 p.m. Volunteers with the Community Dialogue on Race and Racism organized the free inauguration-watching events.

"Hopefully, everyone can come together to see this historic event and enjoy and celebrate," volunteer Frank Elbertson told the Lynchburg News and Advance. "This is a first (for our action group) and it's a small step toward what we're trying to achieve, but it's a great beginning."

Campbell County EMS and the Lynchburg Police Department are among many rescue and police units that will aid Washington during the inauguration. According to the News and Advance, Campbell County EMS will back up the city of Alexandria's fire and rescue units, according to the News & Advance.

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Virginia Tuition Assistance Grant

Changes made to reflect current economy

Daniel Martinez
NEWS REPORTER

The future plans and financial aid of thousands of Liberty students could be affected by the result of the current session of the Virginia General Assembly.

On Jan. 15, Governor Tim Kaine put his newest amendment before the General Assembly, proposing large state budget cutbacks brought about by the struggles of the economy. Kaine requested a cutback of \$3.6 billion from the overall budget of nearly \$76 billion for the 2009-2010 fiscal year, with a special emphasis on cutting the amount of financial aid available to students via the Virginia Tuition Assistance Grant (VTAG).

"The TAG is a program of the Commonwealth of Virginia which provides annual grants to Virginia residents who are full-time students at eligible private colleges and universities in Virginia," according to the TAG page at www.civ.org.

Of the 9,700 students that live on the Liberty University campus 1,843 are Virginia residents and are therefore eligible to receive assistance from the VTAG, which has a link available on the Financial Aid Web page at liberty.edu.

The grants, which are offered to both graduate and undergraduate students, can exceed \$1,900 a year, are handed out on a first-come, first-serve basis and are not heavy on requirements for application. The online TAG page explains

that applicants do not have to "file a financial statement, demonstrate financial need or pay it back," so long as applicants apply annually by July 31. For the 2007-2008 fiscal year, the total amount of assistance available to students was \$60 million.

Kaine's proposal for the VTAG for the upcoming fiscal year is to cut \$2.1 million from the tuition assistance grant, including all grants offered to graduate students.

"It doesn't bother me personally, because, right now, I'm focused on undergrad," junior Ben Taylor, who lives in Gainesville, Va., said. "But it will make it difficult for people to pursue higher education."

Those people include the 362 graduate students who received the grant in the fall of 2008 while attending Liberty, which has the largest amount of student recipients of any school in the state, according to Ray Reed's coverage of the General Assembly in the News & Advance. If Kaine's amendment is passed, not one of them will be able to receive assistance.

"Graduate students are just as important as undergrad students and need the money just as much," freshman Lauren Proffitt, who lives in Virginia Beach, said. "I will be a graduate student one day and (will) wish to receive VTAG support."

The budget amendments, including the cutbacks proposed by Kaine, hit the clerk's office Friday, where the details of the

amendments could be debated at length before a decision is set, according to Mark Creasy, a representative from the office of Virginia Senator Steve Newman.

"It could be six weeks — as long as it takes for the legislators to do battle with the governor," Creasy said of the pending decision.

According to Reed's article, there are members of the assembly "drafting a budget amendment that would protect the grants to graduate students," including Newman and Lynchburg delegate Shannon Valentine.

"The senator is fighting to eliminate the amendment in order to keep financial support for grads and undergrads," Creasy said of Newman's position.

"It's going to resonate in the job market if people can't get higher education," Taylor said of the matter pending before the assembly. "I was highly considering it (graduate school) to better equip me to run an advertising or consulting agency."

While Taylor and Proffitt, who supported Newman's position, are still undergraduates, there are thousands in the state, including those who attend Liberty, who do not have that time. The current amendment at the General Assembly will decide whether any graduate students in Virginia will receive any money from the VTAG for their next school year.

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LIBERTYCHAMPION

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Gaming with a Biblical worldview — RPGs, LAN and God

Amanda Baker
EDITOR IN CHIEF

Sophomore Jerod Jarvis sat back and reveled in his victory, watching the caveman on the computer screen in front of him. He had completed the level of "Titan's Quest" that had been eluding him for the past couple days, and, after 10 hours of perseverance, success had never tasted so sweet. He glanced at the clock in the lower right-hand corner of his computer screen, then grabbed his wallet and jacket before rushing out the door to meet his roommates for dinner at the HUB, the on-campus cafeteria at Whitworth University.

The current view of a modern gamer is a sun-starved teenage male sitting in his parents' basement playing World of Warcraft for the better part of the day. However, people like Jarvis, who has a life outside the computer screen, are breaking this stereotype.

A gamer is defined as "a person who regularly plays computer or video games," according to merriam-webster.com. Sixty-five percent of college students report playing games with some regularity, according to Pew Internet & American Life Project. However, gamers are much more complicated than simple definitions and statistics.

"Gaming is a hobby, it can even be a profession, if you get good enough at it," Jarvis said. "There is definitely a balance that has to be reached when gaming, though. Forsaking other parts of your life shouldn't be an option."

Jarvis pointed out that computer and video games have accrued a bad reputation as time-wasters and

brain-fryers. He argues that games can actually challenge a player's mind as much as watching an inspirational film or reading a book.

"Because of player involvement, the potential to truly affect people on a deep level is astounding. You're not just passively watching things happen on a screen or reading about somebody else having issues. It's actually you," Jarvis said. "The best games take full advantage of that difference and craft stories that are really moving and engaging because you are emotionally involved in the story."

There are three main types of gaming: PC, console and handheld. Console games, more commonly known as video games, require a television screen and some sort of console, such as a Wii, Playstation or Xbox. PC games are usually played on a Windows machine powerful enough to handle the graphics and game mechanics. Handheld games include Gameboy Advance and Nintendo DS.

"There are hardly any games made for Mac (intosh) s," Jarvis said.

Handheld games are convenient for a gamer on the move who doesn't want to spend a fortune on a video game console or a PC video card.

"I play a Nintendo DS. My favorite game is 'Brain Games,' because it holds my attention and it challenges my knowledge," Miranda Fielder, a senior at Liberty, said.

The different types of games that are offered — both for console and computer gaming — have been filed into nine categories: action, adventure, strategy, role-playing games (RPG), casual, indie, racing, sports, and

simulation.

"(My favorite genre is) RPG. It's fun to create a character, do quests and help people. It's a very immersive game world," Jarvis said.

The most popular game genre is action, according to gamedaily.com. "Far Cry 2," which was released on Oct. 22, epitomizes this category. The plot puts the player in the center of a war-torn African state as a gun for hire, "forced to make deals with corrupt warlords on both sides of the conflict in order to make this country your home," according to steampowered.com, a gaming community Web site.

The second most popular genre is music games, such as "Rock Band" and "Guitar Hero." These games implement the use of plastic guitars, drums and microphones to bring out the rock star within. According to thegamereviews.com, "In (a) survey of 1,500 gamers, 58 percent of them stated, that they play music/rhythm games, easily putting them ahead of the 50 percent of gamers who engage in digital sports."

Music games have also served to expand the gaming demographic. Once thought to be a primarily male hobby, the female population has gravitated toward the likes of "Rock Band" and "Guitar Hero." More than 38 percent of U.S. gamers are female, according to IBIS World.

"Software makers have churned out a throng of non-violent, easy-to-play games in a bid to capture so-called casual gamers — those who don't spend a lot of time on games — and women make up a big part of that target audience," according to an article on scwist.ca.

"I'm so addicted to Guitar Hero, but I'm not able to afford it. Thanks to Best Buy, I can play it for free whenever I want. I'm so good, I can now play medium!" Sarah Baker, a senior at Valley Christian High School in Spokane, Wa., said.

The gaming community is very tightly knit. Web sites, such as gamespot.com and steampowered.com, offer free memberships to gamers who want to interact with other gamers via forums and multiple-player games.

"I play with a clan online called 'Xeno.' We get together and play together; it's a lot more fun," Jarvis said.

Local area network (LAN) parties are another way that gamers connect. This brings gamers from the same area together at a central location, where they can connect their computers to each other and play against — or with — each other.

"I've hosted LAN parties before, and my friends and I have a blast playing games together. While gaming alone has its benefits, playing the same game with other people who share the same interests as me brings it to a whole new level," Jarvis said.

The gaming community has spawned a new dialect that separates the casual gamer from the dedicated. This online language, called Leet (short for Elite) Speak, replaces regular letters of the alphabet with

numbers and symbols. This gaming shorthand includes words such as "n00b" (newbie; someone who is new to gaming), "pwn" (to own, or beat, someone) and "h4xx" (to cheat); the number "4" is used to represent the letter "A," "3" equals "E" and zero stands in for the letter "O." A simple sentence in Leet Speak would look like this:

6am3r5 4r3 4w35om3.

Translation: Gamers are awesome.

In light of many recent school shootings, many of which have been linked to violent game participation by the shooters, gaming has been widely generalized as a hobby for future criminals. However, for Christians who participate in gaming, it is translated very differently.

"I am very selective in the games that I play. If they contain violence, for example, I gauge what kind of violence it is and how relevant it is to the plot line," Jarvis said. "A lot of people see games as detrimental. But if (the games) are age-appropriate, then they can be really good. If we are so concerned about (gaming) being detrimental, then we should be encouraging Christians to get into the field to make good games."

From the initial game idea to putting the completed game in a player's CD-ROM, Christians have the opportunity to get involved.

"It's an open door for Christians to get into, on the journalism side, the development side, on the critic side and on the player side," Jarvis said. "Since games are the next big thing, that's where Christians need to be: influencing that industry while it's still new, so that when it does have that defining moment, Christians won't be trying to play catch-up, or at least not quite as much."

Jarvis is passionate about encouraging Christians to get involved in the gaming industry. He believes that games are the phenomenon of the current generation, much like television and rock 'n' roll were for past generations.

"As followers of Christ, we are commanded to be the salt and light in the world — to add Christ's love to an otherwise dark place. With games fast becoming a major player in our culture, for Christian students to ignore or shun them is a mistake," Jarvis said. "Games, if used correctly, could become the powerful tool that the up and coming generation uses to change the world."

After dinner, Jerod heads back to his dorm to get in some quality "Fallout 3" playing time before starting on homework. A gamer to the core, he has found the balance of being an avid gamer, interacting with the world around him and integrating and his faith to impact the gaming generation.

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IVY LAKE

Continued from A1

A boathouse and boat rack for student use are to be placed on the property, and canoes and kayaks will be made available later this semester for rental. Currently, there are no motorboats allowed on the lake.

"The Lake will be a great escape after a long week of classes," freshman David Morris said.

"I like canoeing and fishing and I would not mind driving the distance to be able to enjoy those activities," senior Julie Hill said.

Senior Jonathan Edds said that kayaking would make him go to the lake. "Kayaking interests me, I'm always up for an adventure," he said.

Edds, an Army ROTC cadet, believes the lake could also be used by seniors in ROTC to train

underclassmen.

"Even if we could do some combat water survival training there, that would be helpful. In the real world you aren't going to be in a pool if something goes wrong," Edds said.

Edds said that zodiac boat training would be a good activity because it would make people more comfortable in the water. Zodiac boats are small and hold nine to 12 people. Cadets are usually taught how to properly flip them over in case the boat capsizes and account for everyone that was on board.

Jarrod Lathrop occasionally comes to the Lynchburg area to visit friends and his girlfriend that go to Liberty. He said that he would like to go to the lake to swim and that having a swimming competition would be nice. Lathrop said, "The only time I'm anywhere near a lake, river or ocean is if jet skis are

a possibility and swimming."

Local residents will be allowed to continue their use of the lake.

The lake donation is estimated to be valued at \$2.5 million, according to the Lynchburg News & Advance. With the donation of the lake, total land donations given to Liberty have now amounted to more than \$5 million, according to the Liberty Journal.

Students who wish to view the lake for themselves should take Route 221 to Perrowville Road, continue past Jefferson Forest High School and then turn on Ivy Lake Drive. Students will need to drive their own cars because there are currently no plans to provide transportation.

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PRESIDENT GEORGE W. BUSH DELIVERED HIS FINAL SPEECH AS THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA'S COMMANDER IN CHIEF. THE FOLLOWING ARE EXCERPTS.

As the years passed, most Americans were able to return to life much as it had been before 9/11. But I never did. Every morning, I received a briefing on the threats to our nation. And I vowed to do everything in my power to keep us safe.



There is legitimate debate about many of these decisions. But there can be little debate about the results. America has gone more than seven years without another terrorist attack on our soil.



When people live in freedom, they do not willingly choose leaders who pursue campaigns of terror. When people have hope in the future, they will not cede their lives to violence and extremism. So around the world, America is promoting human liberty, human rights, and human dignity.



Like all who have held this office before me, I have experienced setbacks. There are things I would do differently if given the chance. Yet I have always acted with the best interests of our country in mind. I have followed my conscience and done what I thought was right.



America must maintain our moral clarity. I have often spoken to you about good and evil. This has made some uncomfortable. But good and evil are present in this world, and between the two there can be no compromise.



It has been the privilege of a lifetime to serve as your president. There have been good days and tough days. But every day I have been inspired by the greatness of our country and uplifted by the goodness of our people. I have been blessed to represent this nation we love. And I will always be honored to carry a title that means more to me than any other: citizen of the United States of America.

Goodbye, Mr. President

By Mattison Brooks
OPINION REPORTER

President George W. Bush gave his final press conference on January 12. The usual lighthearted joking, question-and-answer sessions and trademark mispronunciation were still there. Questions about his hand-off to his successor, his time in the Oval Office and his upcoming retirement were the standard fare questions that any president would be asked.

However, the press seemed adamant when it came to questions about Bush's critics. And the craziest part was that Bush answered them in full. In previous interviews he would argue that he "sticks to his guns" or, more famously, "acts on his gut." He still argued that he did what he believed was right. But he sounded like he believed it this time.

The usually calm and collected "press-savvy" president had an edgier tone in his voice when he spoke, with what sounded like a touch of anger. And even still, he seemed more humbled, tired and more human than ever before. It is about time — what a shame it came this late.

Bush has been a wounded animal in the crosshairs of the media consistently throughout his presidency. Every mispronunciation, mishap and odd clumsy maneuver has been scrutinized by the media, but like a strong-willed leader should, Bush ignored it.

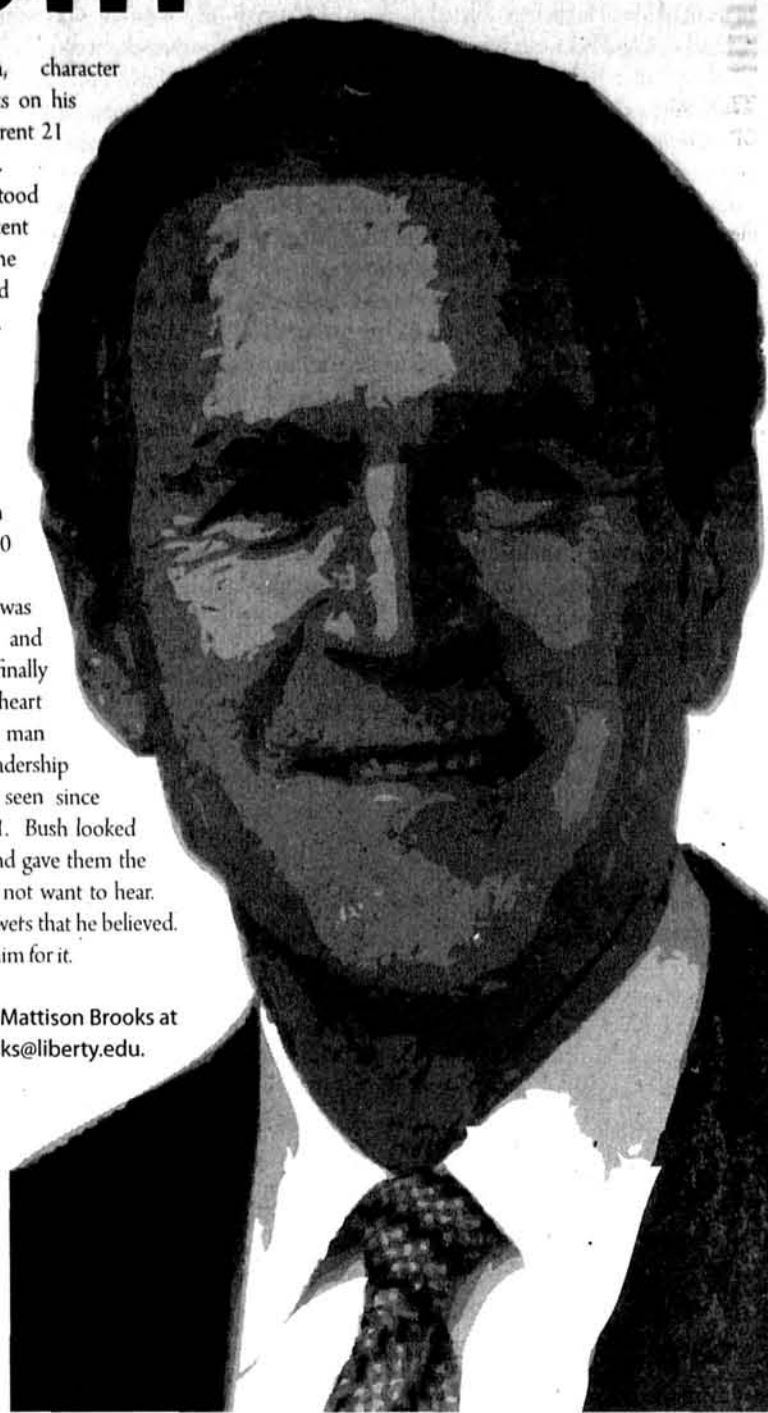
Criticisms about character, integrity and decision-making process is something that no leader should let slip quietly. Reuters reported that in April of 2003, Bush's approval rating was near 90 percent, right on the eve of the Iraq war. Five years of

unsupportive media, character defamation and attacks on his integrity led to his current 21 percent approval rating.

When Bush finally stood up to his critics at a recent press conference, his tone and rhetoric were praised in the American media. They used words like "determined" and "gutsy" to describe his answers and how he handled himself in what could have been a very blistering 30 minutes.

But it wasn't. He was passionate, deliberate and most of all, he was finally saying what was on his heart and on his mind. The man demonstrated a real leadership that many have not seen since the days after Sept. 11. Bush looked the press in the eye and gave them the answers that they did not want to hear. He gave them the answers that he believed. And the media loved him for it.

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Looking Back on Bush

Chris Scott
OPINION REPORTER

President George W. Bush has come a long way since being sworn in on Jan. 20, 2001. After spending eight years in office, much of what he has accomplished has been heavily scrutinized.

According to a poll run by CNN, Bush's approval rating fell by a whopping 40 percent over the five-year course since the War on Terror began. Although this number might be considered extremely damaging to the Bush administration, a few factors should be considered before making any conclusions.

War, in and of itself, is a terribly unpopular thing. Simple human nature provokes war, yet ironically, simple human nature also seeks to be rid of its implications. We elect individuals and set people in positions of power so that we do not have to make these decisions concerning war ourselves.

The low approval rate of the Bush administration is logically and historically predictable. After the conclusion of WWII, the hysteria brought on by the Cold War and the complications in Korea, President Harry S. Truman also left office with a 30 percent approval rating, according to Gallup polls. These kinds of numbers were also reflected in President Lyndon Johnson's approval rating during the war in Vietnam.

Ironically, Gallup polls also indicated a peak approval rating of 87 percent during the Truman years. The highest job approval rating a president had ever received until President George Bush Sr. topped that number in 1991 with an 89 percent approval rating. Surprisingly, Bush Sr.'s number was surpassed by his son's 90 percent in Sept. 2001. According to these polls, war-time presidents achieved higher peak approval ratings than did peace-time presidents. Consequently, they also received the lowest peak ratings during their time in office.

When all is said and done, whether or not the War in Iraq was justified, like many wars, is somewhat a matter of opinion. Led by Secretary of State Colin Powell, the Bush administration did in fact have verifiable reason to believe there were "weapons

of mass destruction," and they acted accordingly. Keep in mind that Bush did not stand alone in his decision for war. Trained military professionals, such as Powell, Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld and National Security Advisor Condoleezza Rice had a great deal of influence on the decision.

Aside from the war effort, there are three cut-and-dry accomplishments of the Bush era that may have been forgotten by the American people.

One seemingly forgotten feat involved a sticky situation with China. Back in April 2001, a U.S. spy plane collided with a Chinese fighter jet southeast of the island of Hainan. With Chinese diplomatic relations already uneasy, Bush managed to negotiate the freedom of the crew and keep relations with China stable.

Another notable act is Bush's response to Sept. 11, 2001. When terrorists crashed two airliners into the World Trade Center, the Bush administration was quick to respond. He employed the use of the Military Force Bill and created the Bush Doctrine to thwart anyone committing, involved with or planning acts of terrorism. He also authorized billions of dollars to be spent on the reparation and re-construction of the metropolitan area that was affected by the attack.

When Bush was not combating the effects of terrorism, he also dealt with Mother Nature. After Hurricane Katrina ravaged the gulf coast in 2005, Bush did everything in his power to help those stranded by the storm. Yet, the media heavily scrutinized his response to Katrina. Thus, by default, it was also heavily scrutinized by the American people.

"Don't tell me the federal response was slow when there was 30,000 people pulled off roofs right after the storm passed," Bush said defiantly in a recent press conference. "Could things have been done better? Absolutely."

Yes, things could have gone better during the Bush presidency. They also could have gone worse. Never before has this country faced more hardship than under the presidency of Bush, but under his watch, the United States of America has weathered the storm.

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FROM THE DESK

By Amanda Baker
EDITOR IN CHIEF

Cleaning dishes hasn't always come naturally to me. The only reason I am responsible enough to do them now is because that was one of my chores at home. Growing up in a family of five kids meant that many clean dishes would render themselves filthy at the end of every meal, and it was my job to return them to their original state before stacking them in the cupboard, with nary a speck to be found. I have found this skill to be very useful, and decided to pack it away with my other belongings when I came to college.

However, after moving to the quads last semester, I realized that this driving desire to make dirty dishes clean was not shared by all. Our quad, while one of the liveliest, is also one of the most laid back, and things like dishes are usually an afterthought, resulting in a full sink and frustrated quadmates. This problem leaves only one question in my mind: Why isn't everyone the same type-A dishwashing perfectionist that I am?

The answer to the real question of how to solve the problem lies in humility, a skill that far outweighs dish-

washing expertise. As Christians, we are called to take care of each other, whether it is shoveling driveways, jumping a car in cold weather or working an extra shift when a fellow employee can't make it to work. If we are willing to help each other out without only thinking about how it affects ourselves, a lot more would get done.

Another useful skill is unity. For things to run smoothly, people who work together must be unified, or else frustration rises and nothing is accomplished, like when the sink is full of dishes and type-A people like myself start getting random cleaning urges at 1 a.m. However, this skill can be employed on a much larger scale, too. In light of the inauguration that is taking place today, the country must come together and remember that it is only when we are united under God that we can stand firm.

So, as a new year and a new semester get started, think about ways to serve outside the box. I'm going to start by washing dishes.

Tim Mattingly
OPINION EDITOR

A timeless tango of hatred and violence dances across the face of God's red earth. At this rate of self-destruction, blood-soaked soil will be all that remains to sorrowfully sing of humanity's inhumanities. But until that time comes, the Irish have beautiful singing voices.

"Centuries of hatred have ears that do not hear," claims Tommy Sands' Irish folk song, "There Were Roses."

Perhaps there is no place where this rings truer than the Middle East — a recent example being Gaza. On Saturday, 22 days after the conflict began, Israel declared victory in the Gaza strip over Hamas, a Palestinian Sunni Muslim extremist organization (terrorists), according to the Washington Post.

However, it is clear that Hamas has "ears that do not hear," as they did not get the memo informing them of their defeat

nor of the cease-fire. Instead, Hamas spokesman Fawzi Barhoum issued a statement, saying, "... we will not accept any Zionist soldier on our land, regardless of the price," the Los Angeles Times reported.

While neither side is willing to budge an inch, tensions have temporarily calmed (slightly). Yet the dispute between Israel and Hamas has deep, gripping roots. It will take more than a call for "cease-fire" to disarm such a conflict.

"With their tanks and their bombs, and their bombs and their guns... they are dying," sing the Cranberries. In Gaza, all of the above are in healthy supply.

Since 2005, Palestinian combatants have launched over 7,000 missiles into Israel, according to the Washington Post article. Since June of 2007, those missiles have been coming from Gaza.

Hence, Israel rolls into Gaza with their tanks and wrathful guns ablaze, Old Testament style. The retaliatory

strike against Hamas left over 1,140 Palestinians dead, 500 of which were women and children, according to the Washington Post.

By "normal" reasoning and these statistics, 43 percent of the Palestinian killed were "innocent." Under "normal" conditions, the facts are appalling. However, there is nothing "normal" about the conflict in the Middle East. The sad truth is that both sides are born and bred to kill the other. The sad truth is that in the dark corners of the world, women and children often bear arms and stand alongside combatants.

Hamas is calling for Israel to stop blockading the region's supply routes and "depriving" its people from receiving proper aid, the Los Angeles Times reported. Israel is calling for Hamas to stop launching missiles into its cities. Hamas says its firing missiles because of the blockade. Israel says its presence in Gaza is because of the missiles being fired. In short, the region is locked in a circle of violence.

Basically, it comes down to the age-old question of what came first — the chicken or the egg. And if ultimately, the chicken and egg are the same things — in this case, both flesh and blood human beings — then why are they seemingly unable to pry their hands from each other's throats?

"An eye for an eye, it was all that filled their minds, and another eye for another eye 'til everyone is blind," according to Sands' Irish ballad.

In the end, two things are certain. First, it does not matter who started the conflict in Gaza, all that matters is that it ends. Second, if Sands is right, it is a good time to be an optometrist in the Middle East.

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PRO-BAMA, NO-BAMA:

T H E R E I S S O M E T H I N G F O R E V E R Y O N E

Drew Menard
COPY EDITOR

There is no doubt in my mind that America has come a long way in the last 50 years. Obviously technology has improved vastly, as has the American standard of living. However, I have seen a positive drift in America's capacity for true racial harmony. Barack Hussein Obama II became the first non-white president elect on Nov. 4, 2008, and will be inaugurated today.

Though 47 percent of voters disagreed with Obama's political stances, according to the CNN Election Center, there is much the president-to-be can offer everyone.

Martin Luther King Jr. dreamed of a day when his "four little children (could) one day live in a nation where they will not be judged by the color of

their skin, but by the content of their character." Obama's race may bring great hope to the black community, but that is not what Obama used to drive his campaign.

In the midst of the greatest economic recession since the 1930s, according to economist.com, Obama rallied his supporters to "prevent future crises of this kind and restore some measure of public trust in the market."

Just like any other president, if things go well under his administration, Obama can take the credit, and if things go sour, the opposing party can clean up in the next round.

Not only does Obama provide a hero/villain for the respective political parties, but he could possibly end a war that has already cost the government over \$500 billion and 4,000 American lives.

"Immediately upon taking office, Obama will give his Secretary of Defense and military commanders a new mission in Iraq: successfully ending the war. The removal of our troops will be responsible and phased," Obama's Web site said.

Love him, hate him, support him or simply acknowledge his existence, everyone has something to learn, admire or dislike about the incoming president. Even the entertainment industry has much to look forward to in the next four to eight years.

NBC's Saturday Night Live (SNL) saw its biggest quarterly audience in eight years, according to tvbythenumbers.com, and their severe lack of hysterical Obama satire was quite evident (Fred Armisen? Are you serious?). Surely we will have many laughs (or cries) in the near future as we anticipate how

Obama will be spoofed. In the line of SNL's George Bush Sr. (Dana Carvey), Bill Clinton (Phil Hartman), George W. Bush (Will Ferrell) and recently Sarah Palin (Tina Fey), I surely hope that someone will step up and find something laughable about the new president.

"Truly, the greatness of a man can only be determined by the level of which he is comedically impersonated," according to me.

The next term (or two) is sure to be filled with many highs and lows of its own. Let us latch on to what we hold in common and look to our new president as a symbol of the positive changes we have seen and support him as he seeks to bring about "a new beginning."

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The power to recycle is yours

Rachel Barker
OPINION REPORTER

Aside from the daily weather forecast, thoughts of Planet Earth probably do not cross American minds too often. With so many things going on in our lives, it seems as though we cannot afford to spend time on conserving the earth. Perhaps the truth is that we cannot afford not to.

In America, we are incredibly blessed. We have the option to dispose of almost everything we use on a daily basis. We can use paper plates, plastic cups and even disposable napkins. Although this approach appears to be convenient and hassle-free, it has the ability to cause tremendous damage to the

environment.

Trees have become a casualty of America's addiction to convenience. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency says nearly 900 million trees are cut down every year to provide raw materials for American paper and pulp mills. Many of these trees could be spared if we simply recycled, but instead the paper ends up in landfills.

Recycling also helps stimulate the economy. The National Recycling Coalition says that recycling in the U.S. is a \$236-billion-a-year industry. They say that more than 56,000 recycling and reuse enterprises employ 1.1 million workers nationwide. This helps to decrease waste as well as benefit our economy.

Recycling not only helps to preserve the earth for us, but also for generations to come. We may not see the direct effects of taking our natural resources for granted, however, if we stand by and do nothing, future generations will suffer.

We do not have to sit idly by and let the consequences of wastefulness damage the earth. We have been blessed with many natural resources and we should not take them for granted. Many people question if one person can really make a difference, but what risk do we run in trying? Maybe Captain Planet had it right all along. Maybe the power is ours.

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Life lessons with Sampson

Tim Mattingly
OPINION EDITOR

With muscles bulging like the beard of Paul Bunyan, he slaughtered men by the thousands with his bare hands. His long curly locks whipped round wildly in the air as his voice proclaimed to the heavens, "I am Sampson" (Thank you Beowulf).

Sampson was all that is man, so strong and yet so weak. But through his trials, follies and death can be taken great lessons, which apply to modern day living.

First, consider the donkey's jawbone. Sampson was outnumbered and surrounded,

but through resourcefulness and a little elbow grease, he got the job done.

Today, there are many "donkey jawbones" in our lives just waiting to be picked up. For academic example, if trying to find the right word to say but nothing comes to mind, resort to the thesaurus. With such a literary donkey jawbone, one can really slaughter a sentence and quite possibly, an entire college paper.

Another important lesson to be drawn from the Sampson epic is to not let your roommate cut your hair. While it should be self-explanatory, many have yet to realize the dire consequences of allowing such things to happen.

By allowing such hair-ey to take place, individuals are literally gambling with the allure of their luscious locks, and gambling is strictly forbidden at Liberty. Women are hair people, so if a man's hairdo is not "doing it" for her, she will find someone else to say "I do" with.

For women, the repercussions of hair-icide can be far darker. If a woman "Sampsons" her hair, men instantly group her in with Britney Spears — good luck trying to get a date after that.

A final lesson to be learned from Sampson is to never give up. Sure, he was bald, blind and belittled, yet he rose above the pain and humiliation and sent the pillars crumbling.

Everyone has "pillars" in their life, chaining them down. Yet Sampson teaches us to never give up. With fierce determination and heads held high, we can reduce the thickest of life's obstacles to rubble.

Unfortunately for Sampson, his pillars were very literal. He died under the weight of his decisions so that we could learn from them and live.

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Riding the eco-friendly route



SHUTTLE Students opt for "green" ride from North Campus

Photo by Alex Towens

Alex Towens



PERSEVERANCE - SnowFlex construction continues through the frigid weather.

Recreation lifted by donations

Lee Sandy
NEWS REPORTER

With a donated indoor soccer building under construction, a two-story Barnes & Noble nearing completion and a state-of-the-art SnowFlex Center taking shape where a bald spot once dominated the landscape, the entertainment opportunities for current and prospective students at Liberty are expanding.

Director of Planning and Construction Charles Spence said that drywall is currently being hung inside the Barnes & Noble bookstore. There is still much work to be done, including completing the ceiling, finishing the restrooms, installing an elevator and pouring concrete for the cafe's outdoor deck.

All this must be done before Liberty turns the store over to Barnes & Noble, who will complete the interior work, like cabinets and the wireless system. The very last thing that will be completed are the bookshelves, books and managerial offices. The two-story Barnes & Noble bookstore is slated to open in late April.

"The new store will have a very nice cafe with Starbucks coffee and snacks, a nice reading area, over 10,000 trade book titles, a larger selection of books and gifts as well as faster service,"

Spence said. "Our cafe will also have space for open mic nights and for bands to perform."

Freshman Mike Johansen is looking forward to the amenities. "It's definitely going to be a more convenient coffee shop on campus where students can enjoy a 'Drowsy Post' kind of atmosphere without having to trek off campus," Johansen said.

Even further from completion is the Liberty Mountain SnowFlex Center. Unfortunately, the extremely cold weather has slowed some of the construction workers' efforts to more quickly complete the massive project, according to Spence.

The skiing surface still needs to be installed, but the ground must first be rough graded, which has only been partially finished. The rental building, which will be used to operate the facilities and conduct business with customers, is still being designed.

Spence and others in Liberty's planning and construction department hope ground will be broken for the rental building in February.

"There is still much to do up there, and the working conditions are slow and rough," Spence said. "We really hope to have the place open in the late spring, but at this time that goal

definitely seems a bit too aggressive."

Because cold weather is not necessary for the SnowFlex, opening the facility when traditional ski slopes are closed will have its benefits.

Junior Frederick Cloos is already looking forward to the unusual availability of the SnowFlex. "It's all year round, so why come in the winter?" Cloos said.

Sophomore Toni Berube said she would definitely take advantage of the beginner slope. "I've never personally been skiing or snowboarding or anything like that, but it sounds great and I think it's a great opportunity to balance fun and school," Berube said. "I would totally do it."

SnowFlex prices, which were released on Thursday, will allow students to use the facility at \$24 per hour, depending on the time of day. The low costs were made possible by donors, according to the Liberty Journal.

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Amanda Thomason
NEWS REPORTER

A new semester has begun at Liberty with new classes, faces and activities but those are not the only new additions to campus. Transportation on campus is also different with the new transit buses available to students.

These buses have new features to better accommodate students. The total amount of people who can board has not changed, but the design of these buses make entering and exiting quicker, making the process of taking a transit bus across campus easier.

Some of these new features include lower floors and wider doors. Students no longer have to climb the steps in order to enter or exit the buses, minimizing the risk of tripping or falling.

The buses are better for the environment because of their fuel efficiency. They are 40 percent more fuel efficient than Liberty's previous buses, and they are in accordance with the 2007 Clean Air Act, according to Richard Martin, director of financial research and analysis. Some students have noticed how the smell of the buses has improved.

"The buses are obviously new and much cleaner. They have a much smoother ride, but it seems like they hold less students than the previous buses," sophomore Lauren Keating said.

Another major factor with these new buses is the adjustments for those in wheelchairs and on crutches. The steps can now be lowered in order to assist those who need it. Wheelchair ramps are available instead of the previous lifts, making bus riding more efficient for the physically handicapped.

Automated passenger counting is now available to calculate how many passengers use the buses. This process will help Liberty determine what kind of modifications they will need in the future. The new technology that these buses now have will also help Liberty to move toward additional software allowing students to be more aware of where the buses are at on their route, according to Martin.

The new buses cost a total of \$2 million, the majority of which is being paid by federal and state grants, according to Martin. Liberty's tuition covers the 10 percent remaining costs.

"The decision to purchase new buses was made the same day we started transit services on campus. We knew as the service grew that the old equipment could not sustain the demand," Martin said. "Liberty's transit system is among the most used campus transit systems in operation and requires up-to-date equipment to maintain quality of service."

More changes to these new buses are still to come in February. Liberty is currently working on new route names and has posted some possibilities on www.liberty.edu/transit. Martin said the site is available for student feedback in the naming process.

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FLAMES TIE N.C. STATE
GOOD GUYS FINISH LAST
HATHAWAY VS. HUDSON

• B2 Sports reporter Jordan LoSasso reports on Liberty wrestling's recent match.
• B3 Running back Warrick Dunn's recent off the field story didn't make much noise.
• B6 An in-depth interview with the movie stars regarding their new film, "Bride Wars."

WEEKEND BASKETBALL VICTORIES
Flames vs. VMI - 91-80
Lady Flames vs. Presbyterian - 59-49

CHAMPIONSPORTS

FLAMES DROP VMI, COASTAL



CURRY'S 35 POINTS LEAD FLAMES TO 2-0 WEEK

Chris McNair and Jake Petersen
SPORTS REPORTER AND SPORTS EDITOR

A jam-packed crowd was on hand Monday Night at the Vines Center as the Liberty Flames took on the Chanticleers of Coastal Carolina University. The Flames secured a 68-55 victory in a game in which they trailed for most of the first half.

The Flames trailed until 1:26 left in the first half as a result of a jumper by freshman Robin Floyd, which gave the Flames a lead they would not relinquish.

The last two minutes of the first half brought about a shift of momentum for the Flames as they capped it off with a Kyle Ohman steal leading to an electrifying dunk by Floyd at the buzzer going into halftime.

The Chanticleers were paltry from beyond the arc in the first half as they attempted 11 field goals but sank just three for 27 percent. Liberty was not much better, connecting on just 4-of-12, but connected on 52 percent from the field in overcoming a slow start to lead 35-29.

Liberty came into the second half with two goals in mind: cause turnovers and limit leading scorer Joseph Harris. Although Harris scored 19 points in the game, Head Coach Ritchie McKay felt his team did a good job stopping Harris in the second half after he torched the defense for 12 points in the first half.

"We have lots of athletes on the perimeter and they were able to deny [Joseph] Harris the ball with their long arms," said McKay.

The Flames' defensive pressure provided a big boost for them, as Harris managed just seven points on 3-of-8 shooting in the second half. Defensive stops were key in the victory and proved to be just the medicine Liberty needed to

turn its 12th win of the year. The Flames caused 14 turnovers throughout the second half, not allowing the Chanticleers to establish any offensive momentum.

"Defensive stops are something that's haunted us all year, so me and my teammates were able to make stops when we needed them the most," Curry said following the game.

Floyd along with freshman Seth Curry scored a team-high with 15 points followed by Anthony Smith, who contributed 14 points, including eight in the second half. Jesse Sanders and Johnny Stephane rounded out a balanced Flames attack with nine and eight points, respectively.

On Saturday afternoon, the Flames used a 20-3 first-half run and a career-high 35 points from Curry to earn a 91-80 road victory over Virginia Military Institute (VMI) in front of a Cameron Hall record crowd of 5,029, including several hundred Liberty fans.

Liberty held the high-flying VMI offense, which entered the contest tops in the nation in scoring, in check throughout the contest. A pesky Flames defense forced 16 turnovers

and limited the Keydets to just 40 percent shooting, including 9-of-30 from beyond the three-point line, while the offense was led by a tremendous tandem of Curry and Smith, both of whom rank in the top 20 in the nation in scoring.

However, the Flames were careless with the ball in the opening minutes, as they committed three turnovers, which led to an early 7-2 VMI lead capped by a Keith Gabriel trey at the 17:34 mark.

Curry matched Gabriel's three with a three of his own, bringing the Flames to within two at 7-5 with just over 15 minutes left in the opening stanza. Liberty's 20-3 run was highlighted by a barrage of Curry jumpers, including three three-pointers over a seven-minute span, and an emphatic Anthony Smith jam at the 2:13 mark.

Curry's jumpers carried the Flames in the first half on the offensive end, as the nation's No. 8 scorer (20.8 ppg) shot 7-of-10 from the field (4-of-5 from behind the arc) en route to 20 first-half points as the Flames raced out to a 39-30 lead.

Smith made his presence known on both ends of the floor, as the senior corralled eight of his 11 first-half rebounds and limited the Keydets to just 40 percent shooting, including 9-of-30 from beyond the three-point line, while the offense was led by a tremendous tandem of Curry and Smith, both of whom rank in the top 20 in the nation in scoring.

Curry was unconscious from the field, missing just five of his 13 shots, and drilled all 11 of his free throw attempts during his career afternoon. Smith followed with 21 points and 17 rebounds while Ohman chipped in 16 points. Sanders, who played 37 minutes, collected 12 points and dished out eight assists.

Austin Kenon paced the Keydets with 21 points, while Chavis Holmes contributed 17 in the losing effort. Despite forcing 25 Liberty turnovers, including 15 steals, VMI was outworked on the boards as the Flames out rebounded the Keydets 48-30.

Liberty hits the road again tonight for a matchup against the last place Panthers of High Point tonight at 7 p.m.

bounds on the defensive end and tallied 11 points on 5-of-7 shooting. Despite not having one starter over 6'6", Liberty dominated the glass in the first half 26-15, which including eight offensive rebounds that helped the Flames build a nine-point cushion after the first 20 minutes of action.

An Ohman three and two more buckets from Smith to start the second half brought the Liberty advantage to 46-33. On the next possession, Robin Floyd took a Jesse Sanders feed and slammed home two of his seven points to put the Flames up 48-36.

Liberty hit its largest lead of the game, 75-55, at the 6:04 mark following a pair of Ohman free throws, putting the game out of reach. VMI tried to come back, getting to within 42 with 2:13 left, but Ohman nailed a three and put home a layup to send the Flames to an 11-point victory.

Curry was unconscious from the field, missing just five of his 13 shots, and drilled all 11 of his free throw attempts during his career afternoon. Smith followed with 21 points and 17 rebounds while Ohman chipped in 16 points. Sanders, who played 37 minutes, collected 12 points and dished out eight assists.

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Liberty hits the road again tonight for a matchup against the last place Panthers of High Point tonight at 7 p.m.

Contact Chris McNair at cmcnair@liberty.edu.
Contact Jake Petersen at jpetersen@liberty.edu.



POSTER WORTHY - Robin Floyd tries to dunk over Chavis Holmes.



SMITH SATIONAL - Anthony Smith jams home two of his 21 points.

WINNING STREAK REACHES SIX

Jonathan Thompson
SPORTS REPORTER

The Lady Flames claimed a pair of victories over the week as they defeated the Lady Bucs of East Tennessee State and then overpowered the Presbyterian Blue Hose.

Liberty's sixth straight victory came on Tuesday night at the Vines Center against East Tennessee State.

Freshman Avery Warley jump-started Liberty, sinking a jumper with less than one minute off the clock. TaRonda Wiles knotted the game with a layup early in the contest.

Turnovers, blocked shots and missed layups led to a 5-2 advantage for East Tennessee State at 15:40 on a three-point jumper by Gwen Washington.

Larisha Belcher stretched the lead to seven points with two quick layups towards the halfway point of the opening half as the Lady Bucs held their largest lead of the game. The rest of the half went back and forth with six lead changes over the next 10 minutes, leaving the score tied at 24 after a sophomore Rachel McClood three-point field goal.

With 3:30 left in the half Liberty began to pull away. Five different players contributed to an 11-0 run putting the Lady Flames up at the half 35-24.

Senior Megan Frazier led the Lady Flames with eight points at the half, while East Tennessee State's TaRonda Wiles paced all players with 11 first-half points.

The Lady Bucs came out firing in the second half, getting three pointers from Wiles and Washington, but baskets by Warley and Megan Frazier were able to keep the Flames on top by eight. Baskets by Belcher and Wiles pulled the Lady Bucs within six, but that was as close as they would get to the Lady Flames.

The winning basket came via another Mays steal that was taken coast-to-coast with 8:21 left in the game.

See LADY FLAMES ON B2



LEADING THE CHARGE - With Megan Frazier back in the lineup, coming off an injury, the Lady Flames have won their last six games and have improved to 9-7. Frazier has averaged 18.6 ppg over the last six games.

RED HOT REMINDER

Men's Basketball Tuesday 7 p.m. at High Point
Saturday 7 p.m. vs. Radford Vines Center

Women's Basketball Saturday 2 p.m. vs.
Charleston Southern Vines Center

Wrestling at Bucknell Saturday 1 p.m.

Men's Tennis vs. Bluefield at Sports Racket
Lynchburg, Va. 6 p.m.

Track and Field at Liberty Open Friday 3 p.m.
Saturday 8:30 p.m. Tolsma Indoor Track Center

REDHOT

LADY FLAMES

Continued from B1

From then on Liberty went into cruise control to pick up their fifth victory in a row, 64-54.

Wiles led all players with 18 points, while Megan Frazee paced the Lady Flames with 16 points and 13 rebounds while Mays had eight steals in a game that was marred by 52 turnovers, 29 for the Lady Flames and 23 for the Lady Bucs.

Liberty dominated the glass with 45 rebounds to East Tennessee's 31. Moriah Frazee added 10 points for Liberty and moved within nineteen of being the 12th player in Lady Flames' history to eclipse 1,000 points.

Liberty began conference play with a road contest against Big South newcomer Presbyterian on Saturday.

Liberty got off to a quick start with a Mays three-pointer and a Megan Frazee jumper.

The Blue Hose fought back to within one after four straight free throws, compliments of early fouls by Mays and senior Rachel Hammond before Liberty then claimed a seven-point lead after consecutive baskets by Moriah and Megan Frazee and Mays.

Presbyterian's first field goal would come at 11:41 compliments of Katlin Moore moving the score to 11-6 as Presbyterian kept the game close through the entire first half, thanks to three three-pointers and entered half-time trailing 20-19.

Moore led all players at the half with 10 points, while Moriah Frazee led Liberty with seven points. Megan Frazee pulled down five rebounds for the Lady Flames, who dominated the glass in the first half with a 20-6 advantage.

A 15-2 run by Liberty opened up the second half, capped by two Hammond treys and points from Megan Frazee, Warley and Mays.

Presbyterian pulled within six on seven points by Amanda Mills, as well as shots from Brittany Brown and Moore.

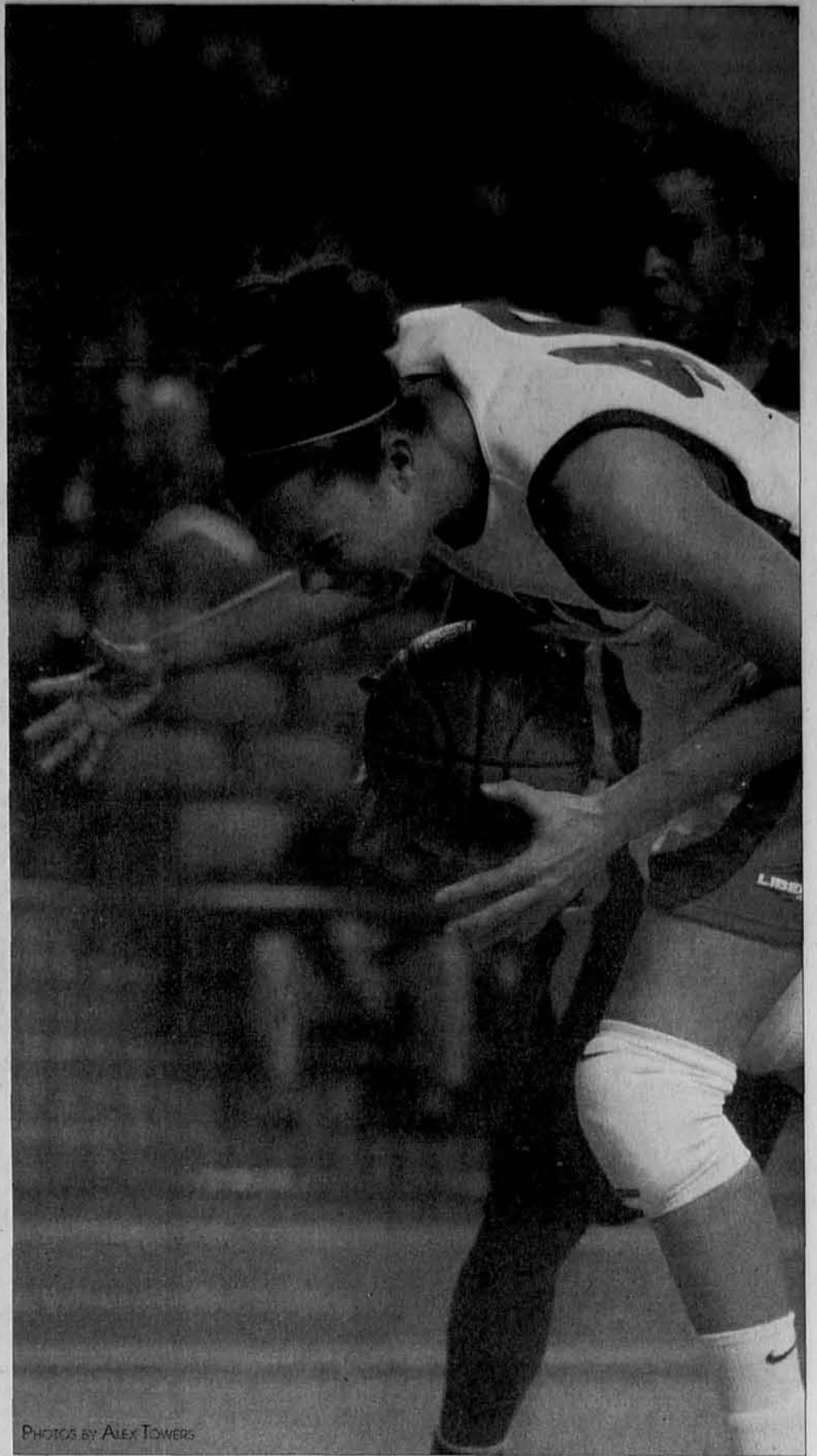
Frazee and Co. made sure that six was as close as the Blue Hose would get, as Megan added another three and Moriah tallied four more points.

Warley and freshman Kylee Beecher added points for Liberty, and McCleod finished off the scoring by sinking four straight free throws.

Mills would add six more points to end with a game high 21 points. But her superb effort could not overpower Liberty, which went on to a 59-49 victory, claiming their seventh win in a row.

Megan Frazee led Liberty with 14 points and Moriah Frazee added 11 points leaving her eight shy of 1,000 career points.

Contact Jonathon Thompson at jmthompson@liberty.edu.



PHOTOS BY ALEX TOWERS

TOTAL TEAM EFFORT – Megan Frazee (above) led the Flames with 14 points while Amber Mays (left) totaled nine points and four assists in Saturday's key victory against Presbyterian. The Lady Flames have won their last six games and currently sit at 9-7 on the season.

Flames tie Wolfpack for second time

Jordan LoSasso
SPORTS REPORTER

The Liberty Flames wrestling team suffered a loss to Wyoming and tied N.C. State for the second consecutive year in a dual match Saturday on N.C. State's home floor in Raleigh, N.C.

The Flames faced Wyoming in their first match of the afternoon. The Cowboys rode a wave of early momentum and easily defeated the Flames 44-3 in a dominating performance.

"We were not ready to wrestle," Coach Jesse Castro said.

An injury sustained at the Virginia Duals last weekend meant Liberty wrestler Joe Pantaleo was unable to compete in the 125-pound weight class. The injury forfeit gave the Cowboys an early 6-0 lead, and they never looked back.

Wyoming's Cory Vombauer extended

the lead with a 5-2 decision over Christian Smith at 133 pounds. Smith has dropped four straight with the loss.

The Flames lone victory came at 141 pounds with a 7-2 decision by senior Tim Harner, who captured his fourth straight victory. The win cut the Cowboy's lead to 9-3, but they quickly regained the momentum with an 8-0 major decision by Chase Smith over Frankie Gayeski at 149 pounds.

The 157-pound bout between Shaun Smith of Liberty and Wyoming's Eric Cox-bill resulted in a close 8-5 decision win for the Cowboys. The win extended the lead 16-3 in favor of the Cowboys, and it would be the last close contest in the match for Liberty.

Wyoming closed out the match with four pins and a major decision to finish off the Flames 44-3.

Alex Reider pinned Josh Duren at 165

pounds to start the Cowboy's run. Aaron Kelley was then pinned by the No. 17 ranked grappler Shane Onufer at 174 pounds. Eli Sanchez suffered the same fate against Joe LeBlanc when the No. 9 ranked wrestler at 184 pounds pinned him in the second period.

Andrew Wilson was the only one of Liberty's last five wrestlers not to get pinned. The match concluded with Wyoming's heavyweight Jacob Scharbrough pinning No. 30 Patrick Walker.

"The day was bitter sweet, but mostly bitter," Castro said.

For Liberty, the sweet part came when Walker atoned for his loss earlier in the day by winning the final bout in a decision that secured a tie with perennial ACC power N.C. State for the second straight year.

The Flames were forced to forfeit at 125 pounds and start the match again because of injury, but it did not hurt as the Wolf-

pack forfeited at 197 pounds.

Christian Smith put an end to his four-match losing streak with a decision over Darrius Little in the 133-pound bout. Harner was able to extend his winning streak at 141 pounds to five matches by upsetting Joe Caramancia in a 10-2 major decision. It gave the No. 11 ranked wrestler his first loss of the season and the Flames an early 7-6 lead.

The Wolfpack began a run at 149 pounds with No. 3 Darrion Caldwell pinning Zack McCray at the end of the first period. The pin was followed by a 6-1 win at 157 pounds and 6-3 decision at 165 pounds for N.C. State. The victories gave the Wolfpack the 18-7 lead.

The streak continued for N.C. State with the 174-pound bout when Jake Burge earned a 12-3 major decision over Aaron Kelley.

Down 22-7 with three bouts left, Chris

Daggett sparked the Flames by beating Mark Jahad for a six point major decision. The win was followed with a forfeit at 197 pounds by N.C. State bringing Liberty within three points heading into the final contest.

That set the stage for Walker's heroics. The heavyweight needed a decision to cap off an improbable Flames comeback in the final match of the dual. Walker was able to gain an 8-2 advantage over Bobby Isola to complete Liberty's late rally.

The Flames record dropped to 5-6-1 overall after Saturday's tri-match. The Flames will return to action Saturday with a match at Bucknell University.

Contact Jordan LoSasso at jlosasso@liberty.edu.



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sports editorial

Some stories are better than others

By **Mitch Malcheff**
GRADUATE ASSISTANT

Plaxico Burress' December stupidity hit front pages and the top of newscasts like a whirlwind. Everyone, not just sports fans, had heard the story within a day or two. For those living under a rock for the past month, Burress managed to shoot himself in the leg with an unlicensed handgun. Big mistake, especially in New York, where a guilty conviction could land Burress in jail for a minimum of three and a half years.

Meanwhile, as rumors and controversy continued to swirl over Burress' fate, Warrick Dunn was quietly doing his thing. By "thing," I don't mean posting Hall of Fame-caliber numbers on the field. By "thing," I don't mean nearly leading the Tampa Bay Bucs into the playoffs. And by "thing," I don't mean winning a Super Bowl ring with those same Bucs in 2002.

By "thing," I mean that shortly after a December game against the Panthers, Dunn flew back to Tampa in the early morning and gave two single mothers keys to their new homes. Giving is what Dunn does. In fact, Dunn has given out 83 of those keys since 1997 through his Homes for the Holidays Foundation, which partners with Habitat for Humanity.

Burress and other knuckleheads like Pacman Jones have their supporters, to be sure. "They grew up with no guidance, no support," they say. "They never had role models," they will squawk. "Warrick Dunn probably was born with a silver football in his mouth," they will proclaim.

In 1993, Dunn's mother Betty, a police officer, was ambushed and

killed by five armed robbers. The 18-year-old Dunn had no father, and the young, scared teenager did what he had to do. He raised his brothers and sisters alone, graduated from Florida State with a bachelor's degree in information studies, and was selected 12th overall by the Tampa Bay Bucs.

Dunn grew up and became a man. A man who understands what single moms go through. A man who knows how painful it is to lose a parent. A man who knows not to waste the incredible gift he has been given.

But that 83rd key and the key-chain of hope it came attached to never led the news on SportsCenter or found its way onto the front page of USA Today. Instead, we learned that Pacman Jones is still a bad guy and T.O. is still whining in Dallas.

And that is how it will remain, as long as the national sports media are content to continue to report on thugs like Pacman and Burress. Never mind that there are hundreds of other professionals using the platform that their talent has afforded them to change lives. As long as Pacman keeps inhabiting strip clubs and T.O. gives good sound bites, then ESPN and the rest will keep reporting on them.

If you're looking for a good story, look up Dunn and his teammate Derrick Brooks. Heck, even read about Tony Romo changing tires for old women on the side of the road. The good stories are still out there. The tragedy is that no one is telling them.

Contact Mitchell Malcheff at mjmalcheff@liberty.edu.

1. Kyle Ohman goes up for two of his 16 points in Saturday's win over VMI.

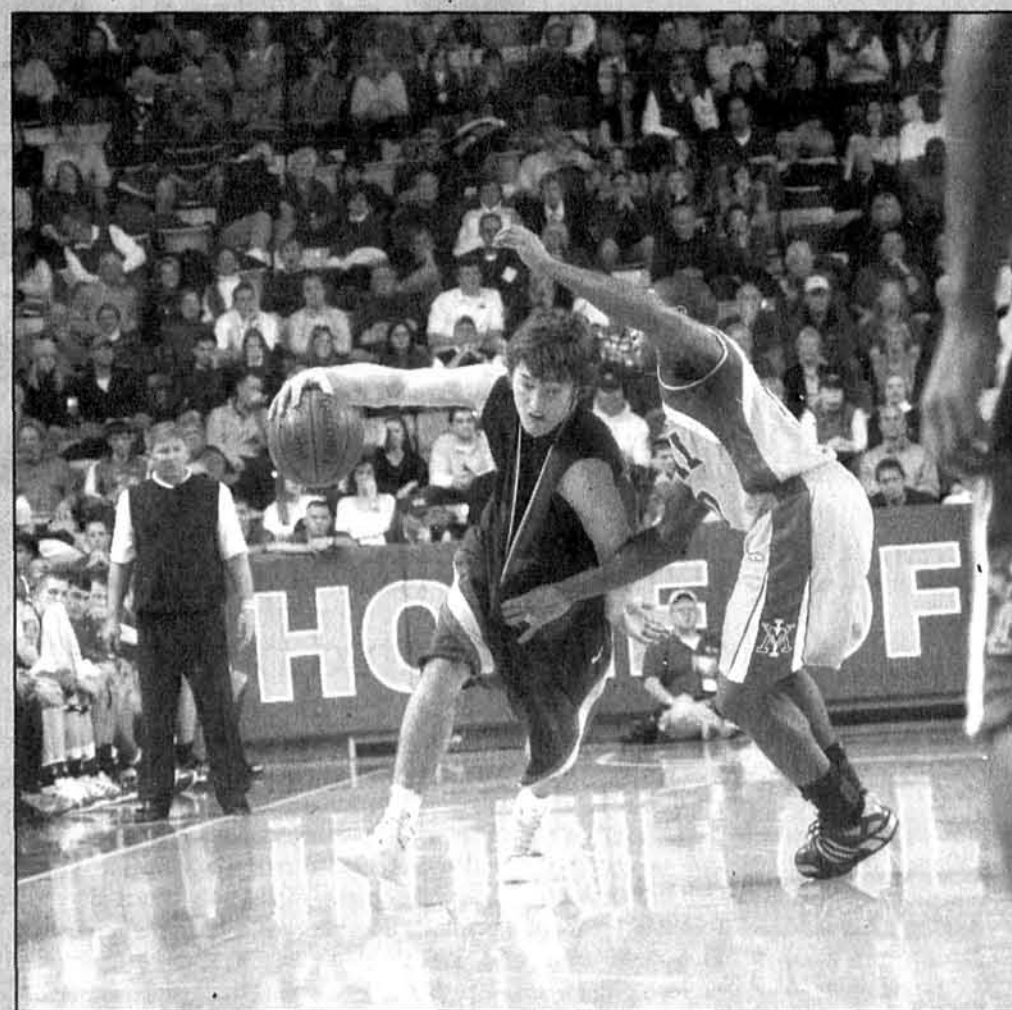
2. Seth Curry steps in front of VMI's Austin Kenon.

3. Ohman and Anthony Smith battle with VMI players for a rebound.

4. Jesse Sanders attempts to shake loose a VMI defender during Saturday's contest. Liberty won 91-80.

Photos by Alex Towers

VMI PHOTO RECAP



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JOHNNIE MOORE ENGAGED

After enduring countless jokes, Liberty's most famous bachelor is finally settling down

It turns out that Johnnie Moore was not as single as everyone thought he was. The campus pastor and vice president of media relations asked his girlfriend, Liberty alumnus Andrea Marcilio, to be his wife on Dec. 27. Many Liberty students had no idea Moore had a girlfriend, much less that he was on a fast track towards marriage.

Moore spent a month and a half planning the proposal and sought advice from his family, friends and Marcilio's family in Brazil. He even sent his sister on a mission to obtain from Marcilio the style of ring she dreamed of. After choosing the ring, Moore sent pictures of his selection to Marcilio's parents, his parents, sister and Dr. and Mrs. Ron Godwin for approval.

"Any man who plans an engagement or selects a ring without the advice of at least five women is a fool," Moore said.

The fateful day began with an early morning drive to the Keswick Estate in historic Charlottesville, Va. to finish the final preparations. He had reserved the whole restaurant for the occasion, and Moore wanted to ensure everything was in place. While at the hotel, he delivered fresh flowers, a note and picked out the perfect table. He then returned to Lynchburg to pick up Andrea for their lunch date.

"When we walked into the restaurant, the center table was set up for us with a vase of roses and a card for me," Marcilio said. "That whole wall of the restaurant had floor to ceiling glass windows overlooking a golf

course and a breathtaking view of the mountains."

The couple sat down at the table and snacked on mini pastries and tea. After an hour, Moore allowed Marcilio to read the card he had written for her.

"The card said that I was the 'one' for him," Marcilio said. "With tears in my eyes, I looked at him and he said how much he loved me, and he wanted to spend the rest of his life with me. He then got down on one knee and asked me to marry him."

After accepting his proposal, Marcilio learned that this was actually the first of two surprises. Moore had secretly prepared a reception for the two of them at the Carter Glass Mansion on Liberty's campus. The guest list included family and friends from South Carolina, Georgia, Virginia and Brazil.

The couple's first encounter was in March 2007 at a dinner hosted by Dr. and Mrs. Godwin for the Brazilian students on campus. Moore was invited to host the dinner with the Godwins. Since Marcilio is Brazilian, she was there, but she was less than anxious to garner his attention.

"As all the Brazilian students sat around him in the living room teaching him all these Portuguese phrases and gestures, I decided that I just was not going to compete for his attention," Marcilio said. "So I stayed outside on the balcony with a few other people enjoying a warm March evening."

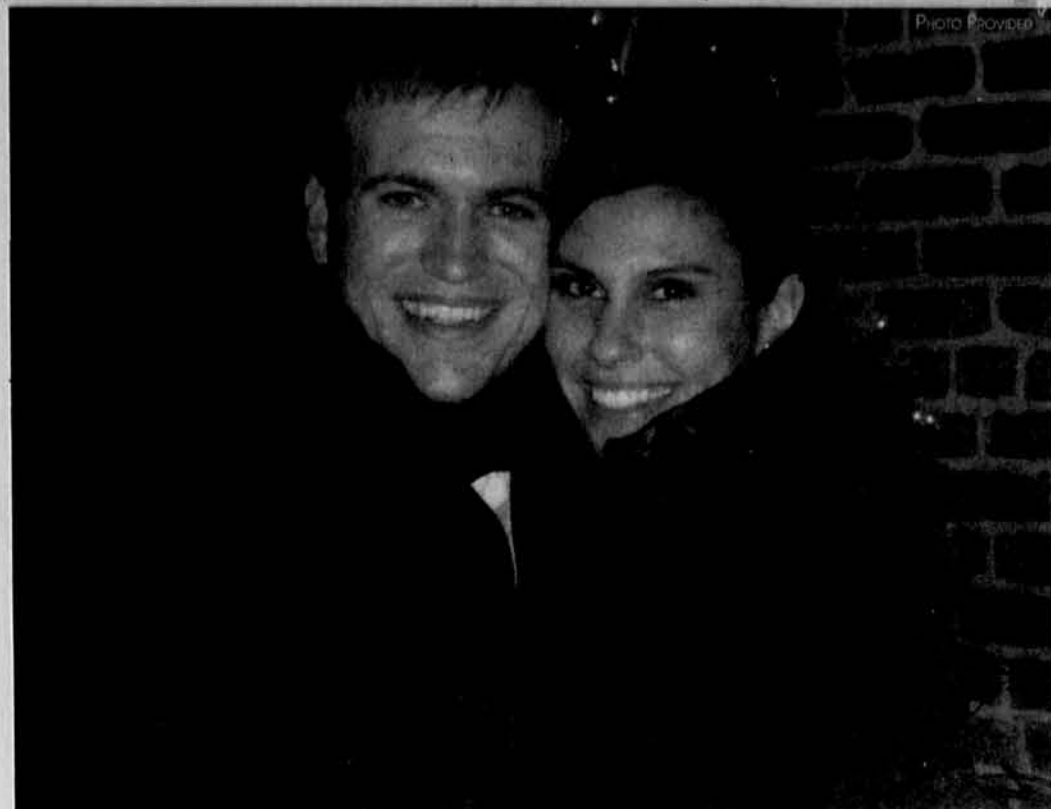
Despite the fact that Moore and Marcilio did not spend much time together that evening, she left a lasting impression.

"We only exchanged passing words that night, and I did not even know her name," Moore said. "So I called her 'the Brazilian' until I was lucky enough to figure out who she was."

The next time the couple met was during a luncheon late in the summer, which included Marcilio and her parents. Coincidentally, Moore arrived late and ended up taking the final seat at the table, right next to the mysterious Brazilian. They talked the entire hour.

"It was a crowded table, but it felt like it was just the two of us," Moore recalls.

Moore and Marcilio didn't talk again for a month.



MR. AND MRS. TO BE - Moore and fiancé Andrea Marcilio plan to have a summer wedding.

The couple's first date wasn't until Sept. 28, 2007. It was within the city limits of Lynchburg, which made for an interesting experience. A group of Liberty students decided to pull a prank and inaccurately inform the wait staff that it was Moore's birthday. The entire Olive Garden staff came out singing with a cake in hand, and a Liberty student filmed the whole ordeal and uploaded the video to Facebook. A few days later, Thomas Road Baptist Church Pastor Jonathan Falwell announced on live television that Moore had gone out on a date.

"I thought she would be mortified after all of this, but she had so much grace," Moore said. "We learned to go on dates outside of Lynchburg. We now know nearly

every good restaurant in Charlottesville and Roanoke. We would drive an hour away to eat and spend time together so that we might get to know one another with a little more privacy than Lynchburg allowed."

Moore says he wasn't searching for a spouse, and neither was Marcilio. They were patiently living their lives when they stumbled upon each other. People have to learn love from the One who made it, and understand that finding a spouse isn't something to be hurried. But it does require faith and courage, according to Moore.



STUDENT APPROVED - The Tilley Café will offer the full menu options of a Starbucks store.

Starbucks partners with Sodexo to bring students caffeinated beverages

Amanda Sullivan
LIFE! EDITOR

The addition of an on-campus Starbucks Café is Liberty's most recent improvement to student life. The café is located in the Tilley Student Center, for which the café is named. The Tilley Café is now open to students.

The café will offer all the menu options students would normally find at a Starbucks, which sets it apart from its kiosk counterparts on campus.

"We brew Starbucks coffee at several places around campus, but this one's different because it's an expanded version of the same concept," Resident Marketing Manager Elizabeth VanWingerden said. "Starbucks came in the week before classes to train our staff, so you can rest assured you're getting the real thing."

The café does differ in some ways from regular Starbucks stores. For example, students will be able to purchase both the espresso-based beverages and non-espresso beverages with their meal points, scholarship dollars, cash or credit. However, Starbucks gift cards may pose a problem for consumers of the Tilley Café.

"Gift cards can only be used at fully licensed stores," VanWingerden said. "However, Liberty dining gift cards will be sold and honored at this location."

The biggest difference between Starbucks stores and the Tilley Café will be the lack of merchandise,

and the café will not be selling the "Ready to Drink and Eat" options found in most Starbucks stores' pastry cases. However, the café will soon sell frozen beverages, known as frappuccinos.

Despite the lack of certain products, the Tilley Café has worked hard to maintain the principles for which Starbucks is known - the "third place environment."

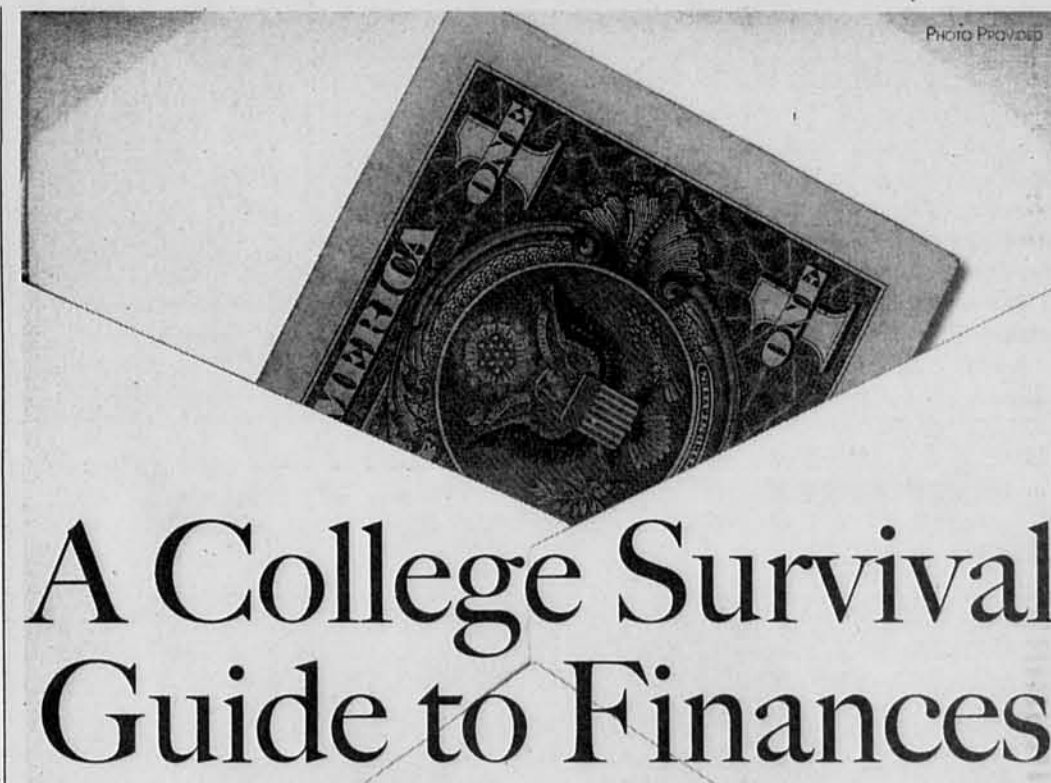
"We work closely with our Starbucks representative to replicate the experience that a customer would find at a licensed store," VanWingerden said. "This includes providing the tools and training that a free-standing store would receive."

Starbucks Coffee partnered with Sodexo USA in 2002 to form what is known as the Starbucks Campus division. The partnership works to combine the benefits of a fully licensed store with the universities.

"Most campuses opt for this type of store, as it is more suitable to a campus atmosphere," VanWingerden said. "The construction costs and infrastructure required for a fully licensed Starbucks can prove to be prohibitive. With the café we have the flexibility to add other offerings - like Domino's Pizza and Island Oasis Smoothies - that we would not otherwise be allowed to add."

For more information about the Tilley Café, visit the Tilley Student Center on North Campus.

Contact Amanda Sullivan at
amsullivan3@liberty.edu.



A College Survival Guide to Finances

Mandi Forth
LIFE! REPORTER

Ramen Noodles are one of the most commonly purchased and consumed food items incorporated into the daily diet of a college student. The culprit behind this noodle epidemic can be tracked to one of the most pressing issues in the world right now - finances. The country is having problems with the economy, and most students are feeling the rumble in their wallets.

Junior Stacy Bethel has felt this economic problem so close to home that she had to take this semester off to work.

"My dad has tried to help me get through school, but with the economy the way it is, his company is going under," Bethel said.

Many students have sought the help of student loans to take up where their parents or scholarships have left off.

"Student loans were too intimidating. I felt it would be better to work and make money, rather than borrow it," Bethel said.

The average loan taken out through all of the loan programs by a Liberty student is \$21,171, according to the Financial Aid office. This can be a daunting figure for students to pay back after graduation. For students who have

graduated and are having to pay back their loans, the average default on loans is 2.8 percent, which is below the national average of 5.2 percent.

Robert Ritz from the Financial Aid office advised students that taking out a college loan is a much better investment and has a much greater return rate than taking a loan out to buy a new car.

"Studies have shown that lifetime earnings are much higher for college graduates overall," Ritz said.

According to the Dean of Business Bruce Bell, staying in college and continuing to invest in your future is a great financial decision.

"I think the wisest thing a person could do, especially in a situation like this when we're in a somewhat ailing economy, is get as much of an education as you can now, to put you in better stead for the future," Bell said.

Despite having to take out loans, which Bell expressed was a genuine concern, students would still be better off since their loan would be an "investment in their future."

Vice President of Student Affairs Mike Hine suggested that students not be discouraged by the economic situation.

"They should be open to employment that may not be exactly what they expected," Hine said. "I have observed recent graduates who aggressively sought employment, found work, though it may not have been in the field they originally (wanted)."

While still in college, there are several mistakes that college students frequently make. For commuter students, one of the worst things to do (without a meal plan) is eat on campus instead of bringing a packed lunch or taking

that quick trip by Starbucks.

"If a student drinks two cups of Starbucks a day and possibly gets a muffin, that student spends around \$8 a day. Multiply that by a year, and that is a lot of money," Bell said.

In fact at \$8 a day, the expense turns into \$40 a week, \$600 a semester or \$1200 for a school year.

Bell recommended a few tips to help students learn to cut back on spending. Do not use credit cards unless the balance can be paid at the end of the month. Take a personal finance class (BUSI 223) and learn how to manage money while in school and how to invest after graduation. Bell said that the most important of any advice that he could give would be to not seek instant gratification.

Many students expect the standard of living that their parents enjoy, without realizing that their parents have spent years acquiring financial security. Instead of wanting something and going in debt to buy it, Bell suggests that students begin setting aside a little bit of money, or ask a relative (if reasonable) to get it for you for a birthday or holiday.

Liberty offers many resources to help students with their finances. Dean Bell recommended that students read the book "Millionaire Mind" by Dr. Thomas J. Stanley. The Career Center is also working on organizing some events that will invite outside speakers to help them better manage their finances. There are also Web sites on the Financial Aid office Web site where students can watch short TV clips about how to better manage their finances while still in school.

Contact Amanda Forth
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Maximize research through Interlibrary loans

Tiffany Edwards
LIFE! REPORTER

Liberty's Integrated Learning Resource Center (ILRC) consists of two floors of computer labs and an extensive book collection on its first floor, known as the Pierre A. Guillermin Library. Fewer people know, however, that if an item is not available in the book collection, it can be ordered through a system called Interlibrary Loan.

"If our library doesn't have an item we will search through other libraries in the nation, and if they have the item, they will loan it to us. Hence (the name) Interlibrary Loan," Interlibrary Loan student worker Doretha Goad said.

However, Goad added, if a student has not ordered an interlibrary loan before, they will have to create what is called an "ILLiad account" first.

Orders for Interlibrary Loans are placed online through the Guillermin ILRC web catalog. The catalog can be found on the Liberty splash page under "Quicklinks" on the toolbar. Select "Library" and it will bring up the main library directory. For specific information on the Interlibrary Loan Office policies or to create an ILLiad account, select the "Interlibrary Loan/ILLiad." To search for items from other libraries and academic institutions, select the link titled "Library Research Portal." Click on the tab

titled "Books," and various links for search engines will appear. Choose the link titled "WorldCat," and from there a patron can search for items from libraries around the world. Patrons can request books, articles, audio/visual materials, music scores and microfiche documents.

"I really like the idea of being able to order books from another library and having it come to you," junior Kimberly Grismore said. "I think it's definitely important because if I didn't know (about Interlibrary Loan), I'd probably be sitting at my desk worrying about how I'm going to

shared. Also, few libraries carry the latest editions required for each class.

"The Interlibrary Loan office recommends that students allow themselves ample time for their item to arrive, especially if they are expecting more than one item, or if that item is hard to find," Circulation Supervisor Kelly Day said. "It just depends on what school we get it from. If you're doing a research paper, you don't want to (order multiple items) the week before you need the research—so I would say three weeks."

An e-mail notification will be sent to the patron informing them their item has arrived and that it can be picked up at the Guillermin ILRC circulation desk.

In cases of books that are late or lost, the patron is allowed a grace period of one week to return it or to renew it.

After the grace period, the patron is charged \$1 a day, which is posted to their account. After 28 days the item is considered lost and the patron will be fined \$28 as well as the replacement fee the lending library has charged. If a patron does not pick up an item after it arrives, a charge of \$5 billed to the patron's account. Renewal requests can be sent by e-mail to illoan@liberty.edu.

For more detailed information on the Interlibrary Loan office's policies and procedures, visit the Guillermin ILRC Web page.

Contact Tiffany Edwards at tedwards@liberty.edu

"I really like the idea of being able to order books from another library and having it come to you. - junior Kimberly Grismore"

get the books that I need—nothing would get done."

One thing that cannot be obtained through Interlibrary Loan is textbooks. The Interlibrary Loan office recently stopped allowing the borrowing of textbooks through their office, much to the frustration of many students. The Interlibrary Loan policies page states their reasons for not continuing textbook orders, the main reasons being that the books can only be kept for three weeks and students are often tempted to keep them longer, thus creating a poor testimony for others in the community with whom the materials are

Liberty brings magic to Mozart's final opera

Emily DeFosse
LIFE! REPORTER

"The Magic Flute" immerses audiences into a fantasy world of unusual creatures, a captive princess, a benevolent king and a valiant youth in the Liberty Theatre Department's production of Mozart's final opera. The production opened Thursday night at the Lloyd Theatre under the direction of professor of music Dr. Wayne Kompelien.

According to Kompelien, Wolfgang Amadeus

Mozart wrote "The Magic Flute" in 1791, the final year of his life. Over 200 years later it is one of the top 10 most performed operas around the world.

Kompelien described the opera as a German Singspiel (pronounced Zing-spiel). Singspiels are the predecessor of modern day musical theater because unlike most operas, Singspiels include spoken dialogue.

"I love the music," Kompelien said. "Mozart's music is great. This opera is really good to see. It is very demanding but not asking too much."

"The Magic Flute" takes place in a fantasy world where nothing is as it seems. Kompelien describes it as a classic good vs. evil plot with its roots in German story telling like the Brother Grimm fairytales.

The cast began rehearsing last semester but, according to Kompelien, one of the most challenging things about putting this production together has been getting it ready to perform so early in the semester.

He said that the student performers have risen to the challenges, however, and are ready to show off their powerful voices to audiences. In fact, some roles

are so demanding they require two actors in order for the students to rest their voices.

Joel Taylor is one of two actors who plays the birdman, Papageno. He said getting the scenes to flow smoothly and combining the principle actors and chorus members proved to be another challenge.

Kompelien said one of the greatest rewards of doing this opera has been "seeing the growth in the students as they have learned the roles and as they have developed into performing singers."

Chad Somers plays Monostotos, a character he describes as "a monster-man who holds the princess captive."

"The opera is about Prince Tamino who is lost in the woods and is commissioned by three mysterious women and a mysterious goddess of the night to rescue her daughter from the clutches of an evil fiend who comes out to be a benevolent character, Sorastro," Somers said. "In the meantime she is being held captive by Monostotos."

John East plays the wise ruler, Sorastro.

"It's a classic good vs. evil storyline that is very light.

It is a great opera to start out with," East said.

The cast has worked to make the opera more enjoyable to students who may be less than eager to see opera.

"When people think opera, they think too high but this is a comedy," East said.

"One of the hardest things is to make this approachable for people who don't normally see operas," Somers said. "We've cut out some of the slow parts, so it's slightly abridged."

Kompelien says that he wants to encourage students to come out and experience the opera expose themselves to new experiences.

For more information about performance times and ticket information contact the Liberty Theatre Department at (434) 582-2085 or stop by the box office in the Performing Arts Hall.

Contact Emily DeFosse at ebdefosse@liberty.edu

Life in LYNCHBURG

The Silver Thistle

Students who enjoy shopping for ways to dress up a dorm room should consider the Silver Thistle. The store offers a variety of antiques, rugs, decorative accessories, fine gifts, china and lighting. The store is located at 4925 Boonsboro Shopping Center in Lynchburg. For more information, visit TheSilverThistle.com.

Sandusky Park

Sandusky park is 17-acres of wooded area, which includes a ball field. The park is the perfect venue for a brother/sister dorm activity. Bring a frisbee or a soccer for alternate games. Additionally, the park may provide an excellent photo opportunity. The park is located at College Drive and Breckenridge Street. For more information, call 434-455-5858.

The Corner Cafe

The Corner Cafe serves the restaurant's self-proclaimed "best hamburgers in Lynchburg." The Cafe serves appetizers, deli sandwiches, wraps and soups. The average price per person is under \$10. Additionally, the cafe utilizes two large flat screen TVs and hosts live music on Friday and Saturday nights. The cafe is open Monday - Thursday 11 a.m. to 9 p.m., Friday and Saturday 11 a.m. - 12 a.m. The cafe is closed Sunday. For more information, visit LynchburgCornerCafe.com or call 434-845-0808.

Liberty introduces Trail Race Series on Candler's Mountain next month

Kerah Kemmerer
CONTRIBUTING EDITOR

Dedicated runners will race through the maze of trails on Candler's Mountain Feb. 21, introducing Liberty's first Trail Race Series.

The series, instigated by Student Activities, is a collaborative effort of the current Director Chris Misiano and new Associate Director Joshua Yeoman.

"(Associate Director) is a brand new position for us, and it is a new focus for student activities as a whole," Misiano said. "Not only to provide entertainment, but to focus more specifically on outdoor recreation. We have heard from the student body that this is definitely what they are interested in."

The five-kilometer (5K) race will send runners in a 3.1-mile loop which will begin and end at Camp Hydayway Lake. The run will also include two miles of a single-track trail and one mile of forest road, according to Ultimate LU's Web site.

Prizes will be awarded in several categories divided by age groups and rewards will be given to the top three overall male and female runners. A master's category will include runners ages 40 and up. Door prizes will be handed out and every participant will receive a T-shirt in the first race.

The series will include a second race May 2, which will be a 10K. Other races will continue in the fall 2009 semester. A prize will be awarded to the individual who places top in the overall series, so participants are encouraged to register for each race.

For non-students, the cost is \$20 for pre-race registration and \$25 on site. For students, registration is \$10 pre-race and \$15 on the day of the event if they provide their student I.D. number.

Registration forms for students can be printed off the Student Activities website or picked up at the Lahaye Student Center. The forms can be either dropped off or mailed to Student Activities.

Yeoman, who originally hails from New York, is a Liberty alumnus. He and his wife moved to Lynchburg two years ago where Yeoman managed Riverside Runners in downtown Lynchburg before joining Student Activities.

"I always had a vision while I was at school here of leveraging the assets we had with the trail system even when the trail system wasn't quite what it is now," Yeoman said.

Yeoman credits Dr. Horton for getting him into running and wants to create other outdoor events for students to get involved in.

After Yeoman directed a successful half-marathon in October, Yeoman and Misiano decided to create an event for Liberty students.

Student Activities hopes to attract more exposure to Liberty and further interest of students who love being outdoors through the trail racing series. Past outdoor events have included hiking, kayaking and white-water rafting.

Contact Kerah Kemmerer at kkemmerer@liberty.edu

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BRIDE WARS

ON PRODUCING FILMS

Kate Hudson

I do not have a particular method for choosing which movies I produce. In terms of movies that I have in development now, they run the gamut of all different types of genres. I felt that this one was, because of the nature of people and how people like to make comedies, and this being such a really nice concept, this one was a nice one off the bat for me to be able to get going. It was a five-year development process, and now I think we're about six and a half years (into the production of this) movie.

Anne Hathaway

I think (producing) is something, theoretically, I find appealing, but I've never felt compelled to do it up until now. I think, like Kate was saying, it's a long process producing something, developing something, so I'd like to make sure that it's a story I want to tell. To be honest, if I produce, I most likely wouldn't act in it though.

FAVORITE UNDERHANDED TRICK IN THE MOVIE

Kate Hudson

I have to say the tanning salon was fun. And part of it was on that day, I wore what Liv's version of a disguise is, and I walked in, and what we would do is every time we did a take, I'd do a different character. As a kid, sketch comedy and improv was really what I liked to do. ... I really love to get down and dirty in that kind of stuff. And so for this particular scene, I literally was a Russian girl. I came down with some weird like version of an Eastern European girl. I did a southern belle. I did all sorts of different characters, which hopefully will be on the DVD, because we had a good time doing that. It was really fun.

Anne Hathaway

I think my favorite one she pulled, because it was the meanest, was the weight gain. That's low. That's something that girls don't do to each other. I know how hard I have to work to lose that last five pounds, so to kind of mess with that. I think is wrong. But it's kind of fun to think that Emma was driven to such a point of desperation that she could justify it to herself.

ON CHARACTER SIMILARITIES

Kate Hudson

For me, the similarities with her are just kind of understanding somebody who is driven to like - if she wants something, she's going to get it. The one thing I don't relate to about Liv is that

The new movie *Bride Wars* deals with two life long best friends, Liv, played by Kate Hudson and Emma, played Anne Hathaway, who share the same dream of being married at the Plaza Hotel in New York City in June. Both friends' boyfriends end up proposing around the same time, leaving both girls engaged. The girls schedule a meeting with renowned wedding planner Marion St. Claire, played by Candice Bergen. Claire informs the women that she has three dates for the Plaza available in June - two on June 6 and one on

AMANDA SULLIVAN • LIFE! EDITOR

she'll go to whatever lengths to get it, and I have a stopping point.

Anne Hathaway

I could relate to the fact that Emma is much happier keeping the peace than causing a ruckus. I could definitely relate to that, but just as Kate has a stopping point, I have my boundaries for what I will put up with, and where I'll hold my tongue is a lot earlier than Emma's. It kicks in earlier, so I think that I'm happier stepping back, but I also don't let people walk all over me.

ON WEDDING FANTASIES

Kate Hudson

My parents weren't married, and we were always like "why aren't you married?" And we had it so ingrained in us that you didn't need to sign a piece of paper to say that you're a family or that you love each other. So that was how we were programmed. Then, of course, I meet Chris, and I'm like, "I'm getting married!" And then all of a sudden I got really excited about it. So for me it was really more about who was going to be the guy that I would spend the rest of my life with, who would be my partner. And then when I met that partner, I was very excited about possibly calling up Vera Wang and seeing what she could do for me.

Anne Hathaway

I think that I, in my fantasy, was like, well, Leonardo DiCaprio and I will meet at some point, and he'll just see me walking down the street and fall in love with me, and that'll be that. It was kind of a vague notion, and I just assumed that Leo and I would find some kind of happy medium between our two aesthetics, and have a glorious wedding. It doesn't look like that's going to happen, however. So my fantasies have taken a left turn.

ON EACH OTHER

Kate Hudson

One thing I learned about Annie is that she is absolutely fearless. We're kind of similar in that way. ... we're very open and honest about the things that are going on in our lives. Anne is a tough cookie, and I think I learned professionalism that goes with living your life and going through things, and showing up. And Annie really shows up. That was a nice thing to watch.

Anne Hathaway

Thank you! I think that applies to you. I don't think that's something you have to learn. One of the things that I learned from Kate was she does something which is so incredibly rare in an actress, ... able to find the balance between being professional and having fun. And sometimes I can get lost and mired down in kind of the professional side things and Kate just - without sacrificing any of the work, without taking it any less seriously than anyone else - manages to just bring a sense of fun to absolutely everything.

June 27. The brides-to-be select opposing dates so that each girl may be the other's made-of-honor. Through a clerical error, Liv and Emma's wedding dates are scheduled on the same day. The altercation leaves the friends in a fight for the perfect wedding.

Anne Hathaway and Kate Hudson teamed up with Twentieth Century Fox for an interview with 40 colleges around the United States. Hathaway and Hudson share information on producing the film, and tap into their inner "bridezillas."

I think I kind of assumed that I needed to torture myself in order to produce good work, and I just learned from Kate that you can produce spectacular work, as she does in this film, without going through that process. So that was a key thing for me to learn. I've been trying to have more fun. I'm getting a hug from her right now! I just always knew that Kate would be like a great mom and everything, but I had no idea what a spectacular mom she is. And Kate is exemplary in just about everything she does, but I think the thing she is best at is being a mother. That's rare, and that's something that is really spectacular.

TAPPING INTO THEIR INNER "BRIDEZILLA"

Kate Hudson

I tapped into my inner bridezilla by acknowledging and watching some of my friends go through some stuff, and understanding the stress of it myself when I got married. I think the other thing is just as females ... We get really worked up. We're very emotional creatures. And sometimes you can get a little carried away. So for me, with this movie, it was so fun to be able to make fun of ourselves. I think girls get crazy, but we can also laugh at ourselves really well. We don't get the opportunity to do that very often in movies, so it was really fun to be able to do it with something as important as your wedding day to a lot of women. So for me, it just felt sort of like you can tap into all of those things from all of the things you've learned as a girl throughout the years.

Anne Hathaway

Imagination. We're human beings, so I think we understand what it's like to be jealous. What it's like to be competitive or catty. Maybe we don't indulge those feelings. Maybe we try not to live in that world, but I think those urges are understandable. So I think having experience with that kind of helps. But also, the script was so great in providing a logical emotional backstory for the characters to explain why they go off the deep end the way that they do, why this war was in some ways a long time coming. So there was a certain freedom that the script gave us because it was grounded in truth.

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