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HAMPIO

NEWS

>> U.S. TO CLOSE GITMO

President Barack Obama is currently working on closing down Guantanamo Bay, which has resulted in his decision to suspend all thals against the prisoners being held there. Once Obama was sworn into office one of his first actions as president was to shut down the prison where many prisoners of war and terrorists have been held and tried. Some terrorists take to the Sept. 11 attacks were being held at Guantanamo causing family members of the Sept. 11 victums to speak out against Obama's decision to close the prison and suspend all trials, according to Fox News.

)) BABIES TIE RECORD

ABBIESTIE RECORD

Fox News reported that the mother of the woman who gave birth to eight newborns on Jan. 26 has released statements admitting outrage at her daughter's actions. The woman (whose name has not yet been reported) already has its other children that she had naturally before seeking fertility treatments which resulted in the octuplets. The woman is reported to be living with her parents after she left her house two years ago after financial difficulties. CBS News has reported that the woman is unmarried.

)) DEMOCRACY TRANSPLANTED

The Iraqi elections were a smooth success, according to Fox News. Millions of voters showed according to Fox News. Millions of voters showed up to cast their vote on very important regional councils this past Saturday. The polls were extended for an extra hour to accommodate the extra balloting. With only minor attacks in Tikrit and Baghdad the amount of violence was extremely limited. Extra security was enforced by both Iraqi and US forces with checkpoints et up, sometimes even as close as 200 yards. Preliminary results will be released as early as Tuesday, Ballot counting began the day after the votes were cast.

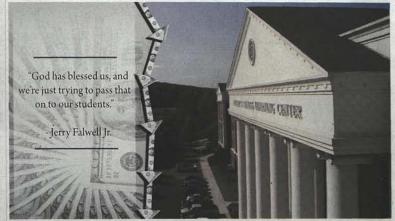
)) THE STRENGHTH OF STEEL

The STRENGHTH OF STEEL

The-Pittsburgh Steelers won Super Bowl XLIII
with a 27-23 victory over the Anzona Cardinals.
The Cardinals made a surprising comeback in
the fourth quater and took the lead with three
minutes remaining. The Steelers scored with
just over 30 seconds left, which gave them the
lead and soon after, the win. Santonio Holmes
caught the winning touchdown and was named
the games MVP. The Steelers are now the only
team in the NEL with six Super Bowl rings, one
more than both the Dallas Cowboys and the SanFrancisco 49ers.

>> SHELLS OVER GAZA CONTINUE

LIBERTY GIVES BACK



FIRST TUITION CUT MADE POSSIBLE BY GENEROUS DONORS

NATALIE LOZANO · NEWS EDITOR

In an historic moment last Wednesday, Liberty students celebrated a tuition decrease of more than \$500 for the 2009-2010 school year, totaling nearly \$6 million in savings to students. Chancellor Jerry Falwell Jr made the announcement in convocation and to his knowledge, this is the first time that tuition has been cut

will just take a little bit of the edge off of everything that's going on."

The announcement comes in the midst of a national recession, but because of conding to December statistics from bls.gov generous donors. Liberty seems to be taking the economic hits in stride

"Laberty has actually never been in better financial condition," Falwell said. "God has blessed us and we're just trying to pass that on to our students"

and the record-breaking support from financial donors.

However, the school has not always been so fortunate. Upperclassmen may students are often eligible for federal grants and low interest loans remember Dr. Jerry Falwell's sermons on faith that recalled God's provision in harder financial days

'It's because of the tough times that we have been especially careful to manage uted previously. our money and to be good stewards," Falwell Jr. said. "It's just a way we thought we could help make school a little more affordable."

Not surprisingly, the reaction to the announcement has been positive, including gratitude from students and parents, according to Falwell

"I definitely texted my dad right after and he was pretty happy about it," fresh man Tricia Porificato said

In addition to the tuition cut armouncement Wednesday, the financial aid office It's a welcome sign, Executive Director of Financial Aid Robert Ritz said. It is working to assist those whose finances have been affected by a parental job loss The help comes at a time when the national unemployment is at 7.2 percent, ac

> "If (a student's parent) has been unemployed for 10 weeks or more, then we can look to see if recalculating their aid eligibility will help them or not. Ritz said.

Aid eligibility is always calculated in the spring when students complete the Recent history of the school includes the establishment of an endowment fund. Federal Application for Student Aid (FAFSA) and is reflected in the estimated family contribution (EFC). If a student's EFC is lower than the cost of tuntion,

> Recalculating the EFC mid-year could make a significant difference in a student's aid, depending on how much the unemployed parent or guardian contrib

> > see TUITION on A6

EARNING POSITION OF RA

STUDENT LEADERS VIE FOR CHANCE AT NEXT STEP



Daniel Martinez NEWS REPORTER

There is only one weekend a year at Liberty Univerty when a student will be asked to look into the face of the person sitting next to them and explain to an assembled group why that person would not adequately fill a leadership position. As difficult as that may be, students cannot step down, because, during Liberty's annual Resident Assistant (RA) Qualifying Weekend, they are asked to give everything they have.

"It's like a baseball tryout," Vice President for Spiri-tual Development Dwayne Carson said of the week-end and its varied tests. "You have to put people in the various positions they're going to have to play, and see what they can do."

On Friday, when 240 students met in the Towns Alumni Center for 25 hours of unique experiences, the positions in question were the remaining Resident Asistant positions for the 2009-2010 school year. The number of vacancies currently available to those 240 applicants is 120. As Carson said, "Competition is althy.

See TRAINING on A3

GAZA FORUM OPEN TO PUBLIC

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TILL TO

Liberty's Stand with Israel Club will host an Arab-Is raeli Conflict Forum at 6:30 p.m. in the Towns Alumni

Ministry Training Center on Feb. 3. The forum will answer controversial question rounding the Arab-Israeli conflict, including, "Does this Jewish state have a right to exist?" and "Is the strong rela-tionship that the United States and Israel share beneficial or harmful to our nation's best interests," according to a press release. It will last from 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. and will be open to the public

Expert speakers from varying political and religious backgrounds will be featured to provide a framework through which to view the Arab-Israeli conflict, as well as political and theological reasons to support Israel, according to Sean Langille, vice chairman of the Stand with Israel Club and campus advocacy coordinator. Dr. Randal Price, president of World Bible Ministries

d executive director and professor of Judaic studies at Liberty, will be speaking alongside Andrew Summey and Amy Berelowitz.

Berelowitz is a campus outreach coordina-tor for "the nation's leading pro-Israel lobby," the American Israeli Public Affairs Committee (APAC).

See FORUM on A2

Work set to begin on Wards Road tunnels

Building a tunnel under a live railroad track is no easy task. The crews will work 12-hour days.

-Lee Beaumont

Josh Swanson **NEWS REPORTER**

After waiting more than two-and-a-half years to gain approval, Liberty is preparing to start digging two separate tunnels for vehicles and another for pedestrians, according to Director of Auxiliary Services Lee Beaumont. The vehicular tunnels (one inbound and one outbound) will start next to the communications station between North Campus and DeMoss. They will exit out onto Harvard Street, which is near Buffalo Wild Wings. For the pedestrian tunnel, it will start behind the Vines Center and it will exit near The Vitamin Shoppe store, according to Beaumont.

A three-foot wide pedestrian walkway will also be built in both of the vehicular tunnels as well.

Liberty should get the final go for the project in March and digging is being planned to commence sometime in April, with the process requiring about six months, according to Beaumont.

"Building a tunnel under a live railroad track is no easy task. The crews will work 12-hour days," Beaumont said. "The pedestrian tunnel will be built first, then we will move over to the vehicular tunnels."

The tunnels will only be going under the railroad track and not any buildings. "You need to have the same amount of 'fill' between the tunnel and the rail as the diameter of the tunnel," Beaumont said. "The vehicular tunnels are limited to 20-feet in diameter, because there is only 20 feet of fill. The pedestrian tunnel is 12 feet."

Students will be able to benefit from the tunnels in several ways with safety being a key factor. The tunnels, "will eliminate many dangerous U-turns on Wards Road allowing for a smoother traffic flow," Beaumont said.



TRAFFIC CONTROL -The tunnels will help to alleviate the congested area of Wards Road and also cut down on dangerous U-turns.

Traffic backups on the railroad tracks will also be prevented when trains are on the tracks. This will make the area safer for students and the railroad. Currently, if there were an emergency on campus and a train was blocking the way to Wards Road, there could be a problem for first responders, according to Beaumont.

Having students use the tunnels will reduce the chance of having a student or vehicle get hit by a train. Senior Eddie Verlander said, "It will help safety

issues in crossing Wards Road to get to Wal-Mart, and it will also cut down on traffic when leaving campus

"The at-grade crossing will be removed when all the tunnels are completed and that area will be protected with a buffer of plants to prevent people from walking on the railroad tracks," Beaumont said.

Briana Drinkwater, a freshmen who has walked to Target, Petsmart, Wal-Mart and other stores said, "I think the tunnel would be helpful, so that students would not have to walk to the railroad crossing to cross the railroad tracks."

Liberty had to obtain an erosion and sediment bond from the city and prove that it will not impact the flood plain. Liberty also had to get a Department of Environmental Quality permit, since there is a small area of wetlands in the area where digging will occur.

Masters Engineering, Pérkins and Orrison, Danville Drilling and TGS Engineering representing the railroad were at the meeting Wednesday where the tunnel project was discussed, according to Beaumont.

> Contact Joshua Swanson at jwswanson@liberty.edu.

FORUM

Continued from A1

Berelowitz will speak on the issues from the perspective of the Jewish community and one who has had inside experience in Washington, D.C.

Summey is the director of campus initiatives for Christians United for Israel (CUFI), according to the

The forum is not intended to change people's minds about Israel, according to Langille. The goal is to present the facts and allow the audience to draw their own conclusions.

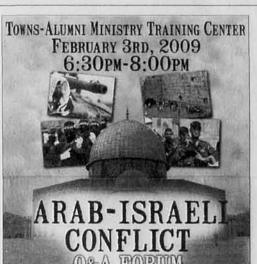
"It is so important that we as Americans understand the issues and are aware of our surroundings because, as we saw in the past election, knowledge of the issues is so important," Chairman of the Stand with Israel Club (SWI) James Kimmey said.

SWI has hosted several lectures with credible professors and experts discussing Israel and its role in the world in the past. However, this is the first large-scale event that SWI has put on, according to Kimmey.

"I'd like everyone to come with an open mind, a heart for truth and hope for the future," Vice President of the Student Government Association Matthew McCain said.

SWI was started on Liberty's campus four years ago with the purpose of educating students about the importance of supporting Israel.

SWI currently has around 20 active members. The emphasis within the club is not on numbers, but the amount of impact it has.



Members have the opportunity to join forces with CUFI and APAC and lobby in Washington, D.C. Students also have the opportunity to work with members of congress and other statesmen.

As a North Carolina resident, McCain has had the opportunity to do pro-Israel lobbying for Senators Elizabeth Dole and Richard Burr.

"It is these types of experiences with our country's leaders that really distinguish (SWI)," Kimmey said.

Membership is open to all students. There are no requirements except for "a heart for others," according to Kimmey. For more information email Brian Colas at bcolas@liberty.edu.

> Contact Caroline Harrison at ctharrison@liberty.edu.

River Ridge Mall feels the economic pinch, yet expands

Anthony Barone NEWS REPORTER

Regardless of the current economy or the uncertainty of the future, one principle still applies in our society: "Out with the old and in with the new."

With underway, 2009 Lynchburg's River Ridge Mall is feeling the effects of the recession, but in every hurdle management has found opportunity.

Last week, the Gap, a globally recognizable clothing company, closed its doors in the mall.

With the Gap gone, Forever 21 is headed to River Ridge.

"Gap was more like a business type store, Forever 21 is more of a teen store," junior Joanna Jensen said.

Currently, a Forever 21 fan needs to travel to Roanoke for the brand, although the store technically has a presence in the mall with its sister store, Gadzooks.

Despite low prices and rumors from students, the clothing retailer Pacific Sunwear is not going out of business. The retailer is a discounted store with less selection than other stores but has better prices, according to a Pac Sun employee.

However, in addition to the Gap, several smaller stores are closing or already gone, including Whitehall Jewelers, B. Moss and Value City.

In their place, Regal Cinemas plans to open their new theater this October.

I think the Regal will be a big draw, and help us with our leases

... we're excited for 2009," said General Manager of the mall Louise Dudley in an interview with the Lynchburg News & Advance.

The new theater will display films in 14 surround sound, stadiumseating atriums.

The business will be the fourth and the largest movie theater in Lynchburg, topping the current Carmike 8 Cinema downtown.

addition for the community and com. for the mall," Jensen said. A new restaurant will also appear

in the mall this spring.

Charmein's, the newest eatery, advertises "fresh home cooked soul food."

The menu will include a variety of foods such as fried chicken, pork chops, fish, shrimp, green beans, corn bread and other southern style cuisine. The facility will join

the several already existing restaurants and will fill location the previously held by McDonalds. "The Mall pizza has

(and) Chinese, sophomore Dominique Smalls said. "It'd be good to get some country."

With the recession and loss of jobs, projects including the -new Crossroads Colonnade Shopping Mall, planned to be

The River Ridge Mall is located between North Campus and Wards Road with access from Candlers Mountain and Wards Road.

next to Liberty, have been put on

hold until 2010, at the earliest.

Bus routes to the mall can be found under transit services on the Liberty Web site.

Foradditionalinformationabout "I think it would (be) a good the mall, go to shopriverridgemall

> Contact Anthony Barone at acbarone@liberty.edu.



LIBERTYCHAMPION

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Send letters to:

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Law students ease the pain of filing, assist tax filers with simple income returns

Matthew Coleman **NEWS REPORTER**

Paying taxes can be a daunting experience, even for those who have made it their respective careers. In an attempt to help alleviate the stresses associated with the season, the Internal Revenue Service's (IRS) Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) clinic has made its debut on Liberty's campus. It began last Wednesday in the law school at North Campus and will continue through Feb. 10.

The IRS created VITA to help those who lack the proper know-how to successfully complete their taxes. It gives certified volunteers the authority to offer their assistance to those who earn \$42,000 a year or less.

"We actually do the tax return for them," third-year law school student Tim Todd said. "They come in with all of their documents and all of their tax information. and we complete their tax return."

The law school currently has 26 certified graduate students, about 10 percent of the school, who have passed the mandatory test given by the IRS, according to Todd. Arranged in a hierarchal structure that starts at basic and ends at advanced, there are different tests that must be taken by the volunteers to prove their knowledge about the tax system. This helps create a wealth of knowledge within the VITA clinic that prevents the volunteers from being

stumped by a question, according to firstyear law student Nate Hibben.

"There is a test for different scenarios that could arise within the course of the clinic," Hibben said. "So when one person may not know the answer, there is a chain of experience to work up until the answer is finally found."

In addition to the testing process, Hibben gave a three-hour training presentation that helped to further the knowledge of the volunteers, according to second-year law student Doug Wilson.

The participating students receive no compensation, money or credit hours for their time. It is done solely as an act of goodwill and a method of community outreach, according to Todd.

The free clinic runs from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. on weekdays and from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday. There will be three to five certified graduate students offering their aid to both walk-ins and those who call in and make an appointment. The process of filling out the online paperwork and sending it in takes about an hour, according to second-year law student Adam Birr.

While the program is designed around offering tax support to those who need it, VITA is not for everyone. It was created to help those with more simplistic means of income and uncomplicated investments, according to Hibben. Those who are in the best position to make use of VITA are the elderly, students and lower income



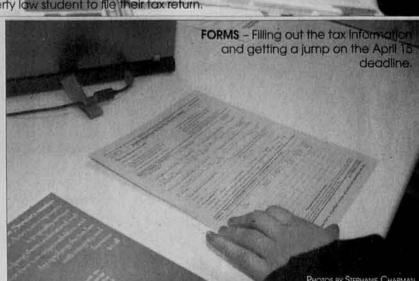
workers who cannot afford professional

"Generally, students are eligible for tax breaks, especially students with a family,"

Students of Liberty are both welcome and encouraged to utilize this program. The volunteers working for VITA provide the professional help and assurance granted by other tax firms without charge.

For those interested in doing their taxes through VITA call 592-5300 or log on to law.liberty.edu for more information.

> Contact Matthew Coleman at mcoleman@liberty.edu.



TRAINING **CONTINUED FROM A1**

To anyone who spends time around the Liberty campus, the term RA is a common one. Most dorms on campus have two of them. But when it comes down to it - particularly to those who are hoping to become one - what is an RA?

According to Carson, RAs are student leaders entrusted with the responsibility of assisting students as well as assisting the university by overseeing dorms, assisting faculty and staff in the event of disaster and educating students concerning discipline. The latter includes enforcing the Liberty Way.

"We place them on floors to disciple and develop each student," Carson said. "We also ask RAs to plan (dorm) events, while also promoting Liberty events."

With such a load of responsibilities, RAs are chosen carefully. The "qualifying" process contains a rotation of exercises that test their abilities in six different areas, people skills, speaking/teaching skills, event planning, confrontation, counseling and problem-solving abilities. They had also been given a week to prepare a five-minute lesson to deliver to a small group to show what they are passionate about. These lessons were presented to groups of nine or 10 people, led by a Resident Director (RD), who spent the entire time together, including eating meals and spending Friday

night sleeping in randomly designated places around the campus.

For many applicants, simply spending time with their group members was sufficient for good experience.

"I love bonding with the girls in my group," sophomore Pam Pecoskie said. "We're all in the same situation (so it's easy to relate to them)."

"My favorite part of the whole thing was just staying with the guys last night," junior Chris Deaton said after spending the night in RD Dustin Rife's apartment on East 27.

Others enjoyed pouring

themselves into preparing and giving lessons to their

Junior James Ritter's five-minute message centered around the idea that love never fails. Using I Corinthians 13:8, he discussed this ideal, reminding the group that "love is more important than our

Using Philippians 4:6 and Romans 12:10-13, junior Patrick Sims spoke on the importance of prayer and being real with God."

All the applicants had the opportunity to tackle various issues in pretend scenarios.

Junior Tiffany Talley greatly enjoyed her practice with the idea of confrontation, knowing "it was practical... I'll use it." She had to confront a girl concerning dress code issues and practice taking her ID. "She put up a little fight but it wasn't too bad."

Ritter had to counsel an RA acting as a student

whose father had just died. "I just allowed him to talk, to get it off his chest, to recommend going to the Student Care Office," he said.

I thought it went well. Despite many interesting experiences, the applicants were put through the mill, particularly in delivering information in mock hall meetings and on-the-spot

acting with little or no preparation. Sophomore Bethany Geel called the process "stretching" and "nerve wracking," especially having to deal with circumstances and processes before being given any directions or advice. This approach is crucial, Carson said, "because RAs have to know, day one, how

to respond to crises." "I think (the qualifying process) will definitely help us (as RAs)," freshman Josh Kellogg said. "People will have issues in their lives, and it is our job to

help them."

Pecoskie spoke of having more responsibilities to handle and more rules to enforce than her current position as a Spiritual Life Director, while Deaton learned that he had to grow more accustomed to presenting hall meetings. Freshman Ana Kempner realized she had to gain practice in confronting individuals and Geel expressed the importance of learning to balance different things in life, such as schoolwork and RA ministry.

Sophomore Seth Grutz and Senior Joe Dekreon had to learn teamwork skills early in the weekend when they found a giant spider web of yarn stretched throughout a room. The whole team needing to help each other navigate through the web without touching the strings or taking the same path one after another.

Talley, who confessed to not having much experience with counseling, had to practice talking with a girl concerned that her roommate was having homosexual desires, and ended up teaching her the importance of communicating in order to discover the truth.

My favorite part was being able to interact in the scenarios," Sims said. "I got to see how my personality could benefit being an RA, and feeling a sense of calling to it."

"I'm a women's ministry major, and this is a great opportunity to dive right in (to what I hope to be doing)," Geel said.

For the next week, from eight p.m., RA applicants will be RAs-in-training on different dorms around the campus, learning to administer convocation checks, room checks, curfew checks and conduct hall meetings. Their host RAs and RDs, as well as Carson and his associate directors at the Office of Student Leadership will sit down and finalize their decisions after evaluating each of them.

Carson, who spoke specifically of looking for knowledge and ability, hopes to have the results announced on Feb. 23, two weeks after the RAs-intraining have had their last chance to impress.

"We have high expectations of them," Carson said. "We have to get the right person."

With an intense 25 hours behind them, but an important week ahead, the applicants can hardly sit and rest. They have gained a little experience, and a greater appreciation for those who are already RAs, according to Sim.

"It definitely gave me a fuller view of the random things RAs have to deal with," Sims said. "Sometimes, in the scenarios, I didn't know (what) to do because I didn't know (the students') personalities. But you still have to counsel them."

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ON THE SPOT- RAs must apply what they have learned in "real-life" exams.







Natalie Lozano NEWS EDITOR

I'm convinced that the cell phone addon known as "texting" is now as necessary to the American populace as French fries. And like French fries, text messaging is deliciously addictive, versatile and satisfying. Consider the world we live in. We are

entrapped in a fast-paced, ever-changing environment where businesses and college students alike require an efficient means of communication to get by. For many people this comes via the Internet on "smart" phones that additionally offer built-in cameras, Bluetooth and the occasional small Jacuzzi.

But for the rest of us, the next best thing to e-mail in the palm of our hand is a querty keyboard and a plan with unlimited texting.

The average phone call lasts more than three minutes, according to a New York Times article. The number sounds small, but that may be too long for some people, especially those who have only 25 "anytime" minutes available in a single month for their mouth's use.

A more efficient way to spend three minutes is to carry on simultaneous conversations with your colleagues.

I'm not encouraging you to blindly create conversations out of thin air. Instead, I'm saying we should take advantage of the spare moments wasted while waiting for an incoming text. The wait in between "message sent" and "message received" is less than eternity, but can feel drudgingly long, depending on the vulnerability you squeezed into 160 characters.

There you are, anxiously awaiting an answer, while your friend is taking his or her time in determining the nicest way to say "no."

Yet by opting for a text message, we can avoid many potentially uncomfortable conversations. Instead of waiting in awkward semi-silence on the phone for a friend's reply, we can keep our fidgety minds busy with other text messages

Other conversations to avoid are those with people you don't know well. When you are unsure of a proper time to call, a text message does the trick perfectly. By texting, you lower the risk of interrupting them while they are at work, in class or just busy. Text messaging in uncertain waters is a great alternative to what will most likely turn into an odd vocal exchange with someone you hardly know.

Thankfully, a simple text message can spare your dwindling calling minutes and save you from uncomfortable conversations. Behold the simplicity of texting:

Hey Gene, it's Leon. I forgot when where we are meeting? Thanks!" (64 characters). While you are waiting for Gene's reply, you can also confirm that your significant other is free on Friday, and three texts later, can discern if she or he wants to go to the game.

Yes, there are times texting can be complicated. But outside the Internet, there is no other way to converse with several, or even masses, of people simultaneously.

There is also a beautiful simplicity to text messaging. Perhaps the best benefit is an 11-character text that communicates affection without the hassle of a formal conversation: I

This is one of my mom's favorite text messages, which I know because I see it often, usually at 7:30 a.m. Of course, it's the thought and not the ring tone that counts. I will confess that she does not always receive a reply. Not because I don't love her, but because I don't want to let her know that a means of communication, which is supposed to work without intruding into another's life did.

in fact, wake me. Not everyone values the convenience that a text message offers to the enlightened. And there: in 11 characters is the best argument in favor of texting: convenience,

> Contact Natalie Lozano at nalozano@liberty.edu.

Often referred to as "cellular pigeoning," the act of text messaging globally grips the thumbs of mankind in a figurative Chinese finger death trap of communication. However, it is not my intent to dissuade society from such an act. The fact is, I would have more luck convincing a blind kitten to swim across the English Channel.

Instead, this article is a caveat, a grim cautioning of sorts against the dangers of text messaging. Diabolical digits pressed against plastic symbols can become like scissors severing the marionette strings of our lives. There are dangers to text messaging that everyone should be aware of,

The ever-present temptation to text behind the wheel can turn from distraction to destruction in an instant. Every year, there is an average of 300,000 cell-phone related car accidents and 2,600 deaths, according to AAA statistics.

Furthermore, text messaging was proven to inhibit driving more than drinking or smoking marijuana, according to a Motor Authority article. The publication cites UKs Transport Research Laboratory, which claims texting reduces driver reaction time by 35 percents This dwarfs alcohol's 12 percent and cannabis' 21. percent.

Still, it is useless to deny the communicating benefits offered by text messaging. This cellular sensation is perfect for short and direct communication. But trouble is born when text messages breech the boundaries of simple and enter into the realm of complex meaning.

Surprisingly, your words carry only seven percent of the meaning of a communication," Dr. Daneen Skube said in a Seattle Times article. "Your tone of voice is 38 percent and your body language carries a shocking 55 percent of your content:

In text message communication, individuals are not only limited by this seven percent statistic, but also by the fact they must convey a message with a mere 160 characters, the text message maximum, at their disposal.

Tim Mattingly OPINION EDITOR To darken this statistical storm cloud hovering overhead, around the calendar bend waits the official day of meaningful and complex text

messages. Valentine's Day draws nigh and with

it, a mountain of misunderstood text messages.

A friendly, "Will you be my valentine," text message can easily be taken many different ways. A misconstrued message can drop like mortar shells, crippling a relationship.

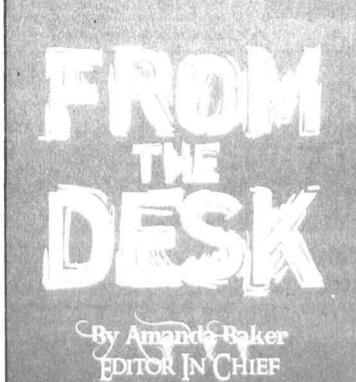
Without body language or tone of voice to go on, a message's meaning is left to the imagination. Yet there is a way to ward off unwanted translations - the smiley face. This small symbol can be created with two simple characters but it possesses the power to manipulate meaning. For example, a mean and hurtful, "I hate you," message instantly becomes jovial and friendly by simply adding a smile at the end of it. Still, the smiley face has its limits.

"Sometimes people use cute symbols or abbreviations to represent emotion ... but this doesn't substitute for tone of voice or body language," Skube warns.

However, the worst text message is the one you do not send. A mischievous message sent by a roommate, friend or family member, at the best, causes confusion and at worst, causes pain. The trouble with texting is the ease of which an intrusive third party can pick up a stray cell phone and cause complete pandemonium.

Ultimately, a blind kitten will never swim the English Channel without assistance. Just as society will never break its addiction to text messaging without receiving serious help and quite possibly electroshock therapy. Until that day comes, exercise caution and smiley faces.

> Contact Tim Mattingly at tmattingly@liberty.edu.



Trecently read one of those chain letter thingam abobbers that had a list of what a girl wants in a guy I got to thinking ... yeah, that's great but are we as women willing to sacrifice, just as we want our future hus bands to sacrifice for us? So, in light of the impending Valentine's Day, made up a list of what I want to be for my future husband.

I want to be the kind of woman who points him to Jesus in every cir

I want to be the kind of woman who doesn't criticize him, even if his interests and tastes differ from mine.

I want to be a safe haven for my husband, if he ever has a bad day at work or is just feeling down.

I want to continuously lift him up in prayer, because I know only the

I want to always respect him, regardless of whatever I'm feeling at the moment, because I know that he will value it immensely.

I want to always value the things he does for me, big and small, because I know they come from his heart.

I want to be the kind of woman he feels comfortable watching sports

or playing computer games with, knowing that I want to spend my time I want to be the kind of woman who doesn't drag him out to the mall

d stake him carry all my shopping bags (part of the verhappen is because I don't like shopping, either)

int to be a trustworthy secret keeper for him—anything he tells

want to allow my husband to be the head of our household, and fulfill his role of provider and protector of our family.

I want to serve him without selfish thought as to how it will benefit

Twant to back my husband up and always support him, even if every-one else is long gone.

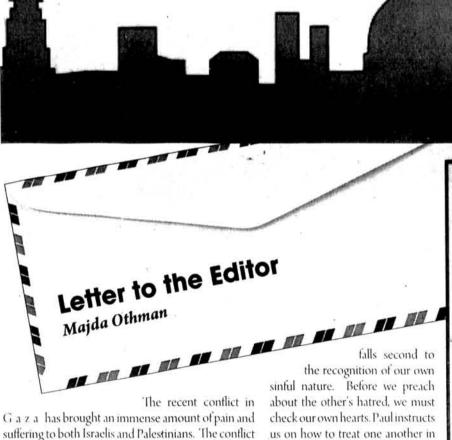
I want to strive to become a Proverbs 31 woman.

I want to unconditionally respect and love my husband until "death

do us part."

I'm not advocating the "ring by spring" mentality at all ... I want to encourage all the ladies reading this to be thinking about how you will let God mold you to be the best you can be for the next phase of your series of a lifetime volunteer at life, whether it be marriage, a long-term career or a lifetime volunteer at the shelter of your choice downtown. Do your best for the Lord, and you will be surprised how things fall into place.





suffering to both Israelis and Palestinians. The conflict has also perpetuated hostility among some Christians as they choose to declare sole loyalty to a particular people group. Some even express an unashamed loathing of the other side through forums, e-mails and content on Facebook

While political ideology and theological disparity causes division, Christians are obligated to address these issues and question how to be a model of Jesus, as well as their role as Christians in times like this.

I am a born Muslim, raised in an Israeli society by a Christian foster mother who taught me about God's promises to the Jewish people. Having lived on both sides of the fence, it has been a challenge for me to witness how engulfed Christians have become in their own community. It appears the church is too busy challenging the moral and ethical position of the other side that it has forgotten what the gospel of Christ admonishes us to do. They only hear the news broadcasted from one particular viewpoint, so their ability to relate to another has become increasingly difficult.

The perception that people have on the current Israeli-Palestinian conflict has become simplified into a "Jewish people and God versus the enemy" paradigm. Many evangelicals have avoided the gray area by convincing themselves they know exactly who the enemy is and what must be done to them. This attitude has allowed for many Christians to demonize and dehumanize the person on the other side.

In many conflicts, Christians find themselves on opposite sides of the fence. We should be mindful that the blame and bitterness we consign to others Romans 12: 9-21, "Bless those who persecute you, bless and do not curse ... Do not repay anyone evil for evil ... Do not take revenge, my friends, but leave room for God's wrath... Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good."

In my own experience, to love those who hurt and persecuted my family was and still remains difficult. I have had family members and friends killed or wounded on both sides. I personally witnessed the humiliation Palestinians feel while crossing checkpoints to reach their homes, school or job. The beatings, killing of innocents, destruction of homes, collateral damage and racist policies of the Israeli government are facts that cannot be overlooked.

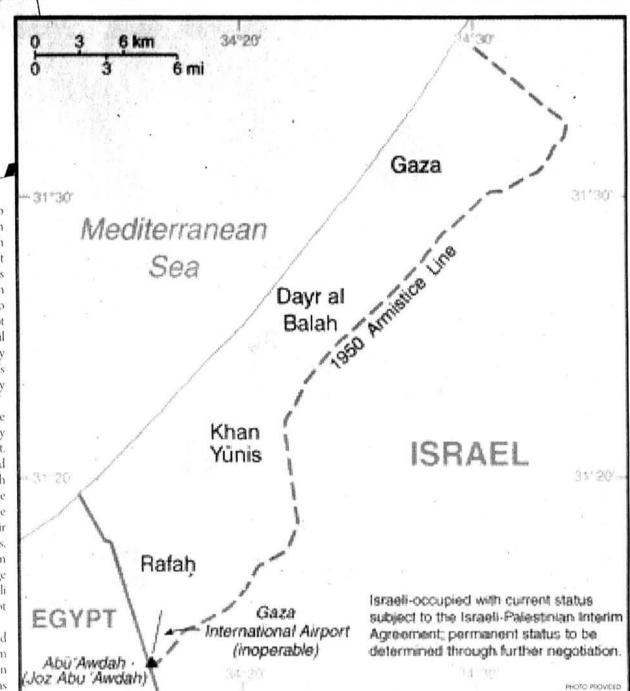
However, I have also witnessed firsthand the violence of terrorism inflicted on innocent men, women and children. At times it was extremely difficult to resist the anger, bitterness and hatred as it

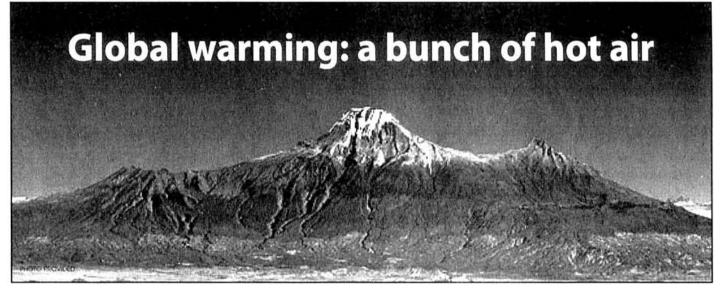
quickly sprung up due to injustices occurring on both sides. Nevertheless, I had to remember that in a world that preaches revenge, it was my duty as a Christian to stand in radical opposition to the sin of hatred that separates mankind from God and from each other.

As an Arab Christian, I urge you to remember that as Christians we of all people should not be permitted to dehumanize or demonize each other, as all are formed in the image of God. God loves and has a plan for both Jews and Arabs. As we seek to understand the redemptive purpose of both lews and Arabs, we must

continue to live according to the biblical mandate that destroys the dividing wall of hostilities between people

> Contact Majda Othman at miothman@liberty.edu.





Christopher Scott

OPINION REPORTER

Former Vice President Al Gore's long-since muffled message of global warming was met with some enthusiasm during a senate gathering in January. As a leading figure in the global warming awareness movement, 60-year-old Gore has remained quite active since his 2000 presidential race against George W. Bush.

If you happened to have visited a movie theater sometime between the year 2004 and 2005, you

probably saw the unnerving trailer of Al Gore's film "An Inconvenient Truth." In the trailer, you will find an abundance of misused statistics and emotional appeals such as the statement, "if you love your children ... you have to see this film."

As a primary source of scientific evidence, Gore claims that the snows of Kilimanjaro are melting because of climate change, and displays pictures of the mountaintop compared to previous years.

Fortunately, the cries of Kilimanjaro have been quieted by two researchers who attributed the disappearance of snow atop Kilimanjaro and many other African mountains to solar radiation. Philip Mote and Georg Kaser published their well-documented reproach to Gore's doomsday documentary in an issue of American Scientist Magazine in 2004.

Gore inconveniently refrains from sharing the fact that the summit of Kilimanjaro remains below freezing all year long, despite whatever variation there is in global

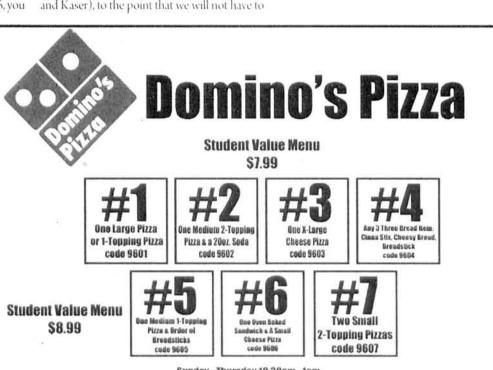
There is no evidence to support

that assertion," Mote said. "It's not that it is impossible, but rather the decline is most. likely associated with processes dominated by sublimation and with an energy balance dominated by solar radiation, rather than by a warmer troposphere."

Whether or not you believe Gore, you can expect the issue to receive a good deal of publicity and concern in the present media. Hopefully the scare has been demoralized enough by real scientific data (like that of Mote and Kaser), to the point that we will not have to sit through another nauseating trailer or bear witness to Gore grabbing another undeserved Emmy, that was achieved essentially by the combination of good fear tactics and extremely well-documented baloney.

> Contact Christopher Scott at cmscott@liberty.edu.





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Local businesses offer discounts to help Liberty students

Camille Smith

Lately, counting quarters and dames has not made much of a dent in the cost of dimere and a move. When Firday night rolls around and pockets are empted onto the coffee tables around Latery's campus, Ramen moodles and video games acent own almost every time. While a first date at Reber Thomas Dining Hall may be your dream, sometimes stepping, out of the norm is just what a college student needs and those quarters and dames may be first the time of the norm is just what a college student needs and those quarters and dames may be further than realized.

With the fall in the economy taking a list out of everyones budget, the Student Advocate Office (SAO) has partnered with businesses around I Junchburg in order to effer students a discount when they present their Liberty student selentification (ID) card. Students can log into the Liberty portal and click on the SAO home page to find at up you date last of restaurants, clothing stores, attractions and other businesses thus participate.

The students can e mad them at studentadvocate/fallberty-edu with any specific business that one would like to see participate.

The Students can e mad them at studentadvocate/fallberty-edu with any specific business that one would like to see participate.

participate.

The Bakery on Timberlake and Leesville The Bakeryon Tumberlake and Leesville as a local business or twor that is son the list. Owner: Jyl VanDusen is well acquainted with Liberty students who come in for their 10 percent discount. The first. We have a lot of regulars now from Liberty. VanDusent said. "What some of them don't realize as that we offer 50 percent off of donate one hour before were force as well."

we close as well.

The discount is offered because mom must be made for the fresh donuts to be put out in the morning. Closing times are 9 pm, on Menday and Tuesday, 10 pm Wednesday through Saturday and 7 pm.

Wednesday through Saturday and "pun-on Sunday.

HOP, we around the corner from campus on Fort Avenue, offers, a student discount as well but stresses the importance of hiving your nuclear ID.

If you show your ID, I'll work it," manager Mary Circus said.

The deal ist offered on Thesday's and Thursday, and student can secore a 50 percent discount off their meal of they purchase at least one sort drink. Garcus added that because they are open 24 hours, students are coming in all the time for their discount.



DISCOUNT – IHOP offers Uberty students a 50 percent discount on Tuesdays provided the students show their ID and purchase a drink

Another participant is the J. Crew clearance store. While they have offered students a 10 percent this count in the past, the clearance store has recently decided to

students a 10 percent discount in the past, the clearance store has recently decided to be a lintle more gracious.

The 10 percent has been thumped up to 15 percent, employee Arthib Lara said.

J. Crew is open 10 am to 6 pm, daily and offers 15 percent off at their monthly Saturday sales, as well. Other businesses, while they offer student discounts, also stress the need to present a Liberty student. If a chief the time of purchase.

As long as you have your 10, a discount will be offered to you. Joe Aboid, who

represented the Punt-Putt Fun Center on Timberlake, said. The center has batting tages, go carts, two miniature golf courses and bumper boars. Students who present their Liberty ID receive a gain of miniature golf for \$4\$ instead of the regular \$6\$. Spure quarters can be put to good use in the areade gaine from for video games and food.

cjsmith3@liberty.edu



Lenses and late nights

Students are one of the greatest offenders of sleeping with contact lenses still nestled around the cornea. Infection

still nestled around the cornea. Infection from this sort of activity presents a substantial risk to the pupils, and for convenience's sale, it is a mix that too many are willing to take.

The use of contact lenses can put one at risk of several serious eye infections and corneal ulcers. These conditions can develop very guidely and in some cases, cause blindness, according to the Food and Drisk Admissiration.

develop very queddy and in some cases, cause bindness, according to the Food and Drug Administration.

Westers who snoone with Jenses still an place are at a greater risk of keratins. This condition, where the eye's cornea becomes inflamed after contact with a foreign object, allows bacters to enter the cornea. The condition involves moderate to intense pain, impaired eyespist and can lead to comeal erosion, according to the University of Michagan Kellog Eye Center. Four types of Jenses were studied, night hydrogel daily duposable hydrogel and silicone bydrogel, and patents eye problems on the cornea were scored and silicone bythorogel, and patents eve problems on the cornea were scored scoording to their seventy. To Philip Morgan, an optometruit in Manchester University's Faculty of Lie Sciences said in the British Journal of Ophishandology.

He recommends for those who decide to sleep with their lenses into wear salsoon bydrogel lenses, which decreases the risk for infection by five times compared to regular hydrogel lenses.

The silicone hydrogel Jenses are designed to allow better oxygen flow to the eye, decreasing the risk of inflammation, according to those who elected oxygen flow to the eye, decreasing the risk of inflammation, according to this convolved goods.

my eyes breathe enough without contacts." senior Alison Young said. "I don't sleep in them because when I do they stick to my

season to a pain the control of the process of the

sleep with them, but they must be replaced every few weeks.

They are convenient because they can be worn over night, Ashe said. "However, Loten find myself having to take them out at night because they sometimes become dry, urntaing or foggy during the day. For the most part, though, they are most convenient than my old brand that did not allow for all night study sessions."

Sensor Amanda McCainn and jurator Brandon Lason claim they do not risken when it comes their eyes.

Thost sleep in them because I theard it dries your eyes out when you do, and I have dry eyes as its. "McCainn said.

The change them whenever they bother me, but I arm not sure when I am supposed to change them," I ston, said. "I don't sleep urthern cause the does and not to?

Students should discuss with his or her optometrist what type of lenses they currently use, which are more conductive a student's lifestyle and schoolde and the steps which should be taken to protect their eyesight.

Contact Kerah Kemmerer at kkemmerer aliberty edu



TUITION

Continued from A1

Continued from A1

Inanothermeans ofhelping students, the financial aid office is encouraging potential graduate students to contact their state typescentrative as the Vingnia potential graduate students for contact their state typescentrative as the Vingnia Tution Assistance Grant (VT/AG) is up for removal from the state budget. If the VTAG is set, only future grad students would be affected, not those who have already begun receiving grants from the state, according to Rtz. An easy way for students to contact their local representatives is available at www.capveir.co/cicx.

Although the tuttion cut does not take effect until Fall 2009, Liberty Drining recently lowered the cost of eating on campus. Sodewis help takes the form of a five percent discount actenties like the Keyhole, the Corne Pocket and Jazimans, which is taken extense like the Keyhole, the Corne Pocket and Jazimans, which is taken off the foral cost of students and staff who purchase food with meal points.

Times are tough economically and the most hast students and staff who purchase food with meal points.

Times are tough economically and times? Resident Marketing Manager for Sodeos Elrabeth VanWingerden.

Men years in coming freshmen also not received.

Next years incoming freshmen also.

Flowers we can nep, were going to try?

Next years incoming firshmen also have the benefit of a special financial program held at Liberry, called Within Reach And Petsonal (WRAP): The sessions cust: for promote and educate students on the affordability of private colleges in the state of Virginia, according to Student Advocate Jeanne Noorus.

WRAP is just one example of how the Student Advocate Office (SAO) assists students. For details on SAO's other functions, see the sidebar to the right To complete the 2009-2010 FAFSA, go to www.fafsa.ed.gov.

Advocates "meet students where they are"

Lee Sandy

Last semester, in an effort to encourage students during finals week, the Student Advocate Office (SAO) set up a snack station in front of the bookstore in DeMass Steaming hor checolate and cookers were distributed, along with retiniders for students to complete financial checking. The really embodied what this university should be about freshman kyle Rodgers said. 'Cookers and hot chocolate should be given out every day.'

This semester student advocates are now rading the campus bus lines as pair of an aggressive campain. SAO Rudes the Bus The goal is to meet students where they are.

This reassuring to know that if ever 1 am inneed of services for any purpose related to my education there is one place I can go the senior. Dan Wrape said. Tenow they well not give me a timi-around."

The SAO provides students with all the information they need to get the most out of their education. Liberty helps thousands of students very day, yet many suchest know very lattle of what the campus has to offer. A student advocates poli is to hep students take advantage of these services.

affect or what the campan has booked and advocates job is to help students take advantage of these services.

These folks really case for you as a student, sensor and former SAO student worked james on Beckner said. They always, know where to direct you and go above and beyond ut helping students get things accomplished.

The SAO helps students avoid confinsing students get things accomplished.

The SAO helps students avoid confinsing students where students could otherwise get lost in the web of services.

Our purpose and drive is to make sure that all students have the opportunity to succeed by unliving the ... departments and services provided by the university? Noonan said.

The SAO also plays a vital role in helping students continue to pay for their education by hosting scholarship search symposiums that assets students in their search for funding. The syring 2008 symposium were atmoded by 238 students, who were able to collect nearly \$90.000 toward their next senseer. The next



Junior Gary Ashby can speak from experience. He carned nearly \$1,000 in scholarships from working with his student advocates

working with his student advocates.

"They were genume and sook all necessary measures from faith fem dad. In needed," Ashby said. "The student advocate who assisted me was very realistic and understanding of my position.

With registration for treat semester beginning on March 16, the SAO also encourages students to start planning ahead. The Free Application for Federal Student Aid. (FAFSA) should be completed by March. 1 The earlier it is completed, the better chance a student has to receive more federal and the student has to receive more federal and comparing the FAFSA.

For more information regarding the FAFSA.

receive more festeral and . For more information regarding the FAFSA and registration deadlines, or to find our more about what the SAO cart do for you, connect them by phone at S82-7200, in person at North Campus Room 2668 or on their Web site at www.liberty.edu/sao.

HAMMOND LIGHTS UP VINES • B2 Senior Rachel Hammond drops career high 25 points in win over High Point.

LADY FLAMES HIT THE FIELD • B3 Sports Reporter Jonathan Thompson pre-

TENNIS TRIUMPS OVER JMU • B4 Lady Flames grab first victory of year with

HOT REMINDER

CHAMPIONSPORTS

MENS..... 78 - 66 BASKETBA

Flames Winning Week Puts Them Back On Track

| AXEL CERNY, SPORTS REPORTER |

The Liberty Flames men's basketball team bounced back this week following last Saturday's double overtime loss to Radford, picking up two decisive conference wins against High Point on Tuesday night and UNC-Asheville on Sat-

Coming into Tuesday night's game against High Point (\$15, 1-9 Big South Conference), the Flames (16-7, 7-4 Big South Conference) found themselves right in the thick of conference play and in need of a win after the Radford

The night was cold and ky night outside the Vines Center, but inside the Flames came out on fire, shooting 4-of 5 from three-point had to start out the game, capitalizing on a zone defense from High Point. However, on the other and, Liberty began by giving up some open three-point looks that the High Point Panthers gladly took advantage 6, as guard Eugene Harins came off the bench to promptly go 3-for-3 from beyond the arc.

The back and forth shootton found itself at 29-27 in favor of the Flames soft 7-29 to go in the first ball, when junior Kyle Olman sparked an impressive 16-2 run, with seven points, two assists, two rebounds and a block to close out the half 45-29 in favor of the Flames.

Though the first half saw seven early lead changes; there would be no more after halftime, as Liberty continued to knock down shots and closed out the game with a 78-63 advantage. The night was cold and icy night outside the Vines Cen

knock down shots and closed out the game with a 78-63 advantage.

The entire Flames benich got into the action as Liberty stretched its lead out to 24 at one point in the second half Ofmain matched a cateer high with 26 points, while freshman point guard Jesse Sanders tailied nine assists and nine reboinsds, all of those assists coming in a first half in which Sanders did not turn the ball over once.

Senior Authory Smith, who finished with 21 points, said after the game flut Sanders first half was, probably the best first half we seen from a point guard in a long tiffue.

Coach McKay ambuted tearing apart the High Point zone to astrong team effort.

When you make baskets that takes a whole lot of pressure of the defense_and were a shooting team. McKay said.

urday evening saw the UNC-Asheville Bulldogs

(9-13, 5-6 Big South Conference) step foot in a packed Vines Center, as thousands of fans looked for re-

seep toot in a packed wrise Center, as thousands of fins looked for revenge against an Asheville ream that a game that was televised on ESPN.

The Flames opened up the game with in a half court trap that helped them maintain a small lead for most of the first 10 minutes. With 11-47 left to play, the game stood at 11-8 in favor of Liberty, but Bulldage point guard JP Primm knocked down a three pointer to tie the game up.

Liberty guard Johnny Stephenethen took over the game off the bench, scoring eight points in the next three munituse gwing Liberty a shot in the arm that would lead them to a 143-27 cushion by the end of the first half.

of the first half.

The Flames never lost the lead in the second half, but things did get awfully right in the second half.

Coach McKay said he had told his team at halftime that, "This is a good Asheville team and they are going to come back." And come back they did.

Innues enand Sens Smith, who

back they did.

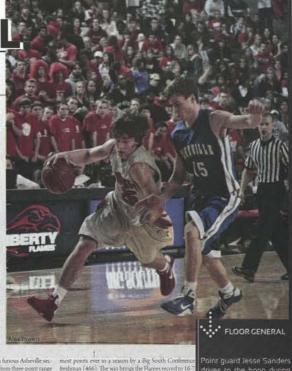
Junes guard Sean Smith, who
halis from Stockholm, Sweden, led a furious Asheville second half comeback by going 5-06 firom three-point range
in the half and 8-6f-12 from long distance for the game, hoishing with a game high 28 points.

The Billdogs broughs it all the way back within two (6361) with 3-38 to play, but that was as close as they would get
as the Flames hit from the free throw line down the stretch
and pulled out the win, 78-66.

"We didn't thy our best game but we played well enough

and puned out the win, 7-8-06.
"We didn't play our best game, but we played well enough
to win," said Sanders, who finished with 10 points, seven re-bounds and six assists.

In the win, freshman Seth Curry eclipsed the mark for



most points ever in a season by a Big South Conference freshman (466). The win brings the Flames record to 16-overall, and 7-4 in the Big South, and moves the team into sele possession of third place in the conference with seve games remaining in the regular season. Liberty will travel to Gardner-Webb on Wedinesday night for a 7 pm. showdown with the Bulldoge before returning home on Saturday night for a game against Wanthrop.

drives to the hoop during Saturday right's 78-66 win over UNC-Asheville. The freshman stuffed the star sheet, collecting 10 points, seven rebounds and six assists as the Flames won

ÖCKEY



6 - 3 sat

Recently tabbed as the No. 7 team in the ACHA, the Liberty Flames hosted the No. 3 ranked Penn State squad, whom they defeated last season in the quarterfinals of the ACHA Division I tournament.

IBJ. WILLIAMS, SPORTS REPORTER

The Liberty Flames lockey returned home to the La-Haye Ico Center this weekend following a split against the No. 4 ranked University of Delaware last week-However, their schedule dain of get any caster this weekend as they were met by the No. 2 ranked Penn State Nottiny Lions.

Head Coach Kirk Handy's Flames were hoping to get office a fast start against the No. 2 team in the ACHA. In front of a packed house on Frody might inside the La-Haye Ico Center that is exactly what they dd.

In the first period, pinior Dave Semenyua took a re-bound and stuffed it past the Penn State goale and put the Flames up 10. However, Liberty was not door in the first period. After a Penn State penalty, freshman Kyle Dodgen slammed home a rebound to put the Plames op 2-0.

The offensive pressure continued into the second period as sensor Kevuri-Fendirx lit up the scoreboard one more time this time on a power plux group the Fairner 3,30 feat. Sophomote Adam Dockstrader put Libert 4,30 feat. Sophomote Adam Dockstrader put Libert 4,30 feat. Sophomote Adam Dockstrader put Libert 4 and sent it past the Nintary Long goaltender's glove. Penn State healige under the Fairnes scoring run with a power play goal from Lides DeLocenzo, while Marke Polidor also added a goal to cut the delicit to 4.2 in the second period. Liberty increased its fead to three again on Hendrax's second power play goal of the evening Tim O Bone pulsel from State to within two, but Jorathan Chung cod the gaine for Liberty as the sophomore scored the Flanises third power play goal of the right.

see HOCKEY on B2



14 of its 58 rebounds.

with a 10-0 run against Liberty's bench, but

it was too little, too late as the Lady Flames

The win improves Liberty's record

to 13-7 overall and 7-0 in the Big South

giving the team a two-game lead over High

Point in the conference standings. High

Point dropped to 10-11 overall and 6-2 in

Earlier in the week, the Lady Flames beat

conference rival Coastal Carolina 65-40 in

won 65-42.

Big South play.

the Vines Center

battle

neither

the game.

The

then

Dave Poore

High Point ended the game



LADYFLAMES EXTEND WIN STREAK TO 10

| JORDAN LOSASSO, SPORTS REPORTER |

"It's a lack of concentration," Coach

however, maintained a

The Lady Flames held High Point to 16 percent shooting in the first half and 25 percent for the game. Both are season lows for the Panthers.

Green said.

half the same way they finished the first half. Liberty accumulated a run of six turnovers while the Panthers were able to put together a 6-0 spurt during the threeminute run.

Flames went on an 11-0 surge led by Hammond scoring seven points with 13:26 left in the second half. Hammond was outscoring the entire Panther team 25-23 until High Point made two free throws with 11:26 to go in the game.

Liberty gained its largest advantage of the night with After a Chanticleer three-pointer gave

a three-pointer by senior them the lead, the Lady Flames went on a Frazee 15-0 run to reclaim a 26-12 advantage. The finished the game with 14 burst lasted for over five minutes, ending points and led the team with on a Rebecca Lightfoot layup with 6:52 remaining in the half.

Coastal Carolina smothered the Lady Flames for the next five minutes, holding Liberty scoreless during a 7-0 run that cut the deficit in half, 26-19.

The teams went to halftime with the same seven-point difference and Liberty ahead, 28-21.

"I felt like we needed to take care of the ball and we did that in the second half." Coach Green said.

The Lady Flames took Green's advice to take care of the ball and came out of the half with energy. Liberty led the second half with its defense and only turned the ball over four times.

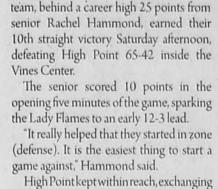
Liberty had less than 20 turnovers in five out of its last six games, which was an improvement for a team that has averaged almost 21 per game.

Moriah Frazee led Liberty in the second half, scoring 13 of her team high 19 points. She sparked a 10-4 run with six points to start the half.

The Chanticleers responded, trimming the deficit to nine with 10:02 remaining in the contest.

A steal by sophomore Rachel McLeod began another Liberty surge with 9:40 to play. Moriah Frazee scored another six points in the 8-0 run.

> Contact Jordan LoSasso at jlosasso@liberty.edu.



The Lady Flames women's basketball

field goals with the Lady Flames for five .. minutes until Liberty went on an eight point run to extend the lead to 19, 31-12, with 6:17 left in the half. The run was aided by two Hammond free throws after a technical foul was called

on High Point coach Tooey Loy for arguing

at half court for the lack of fouls called by the referees. The strong performance in the first half for the Lady Flames was negated by a burst of turnovers. Liberty turned the ball over seven times in the final four minutes of the

half. The Lady Flames were held to only

one field goal in that span, which came with 21 seconds left in the half.

Carey Green said. "It could have gotten really ugly."

comfortable 19-point lead going into the half, 33-14, because of strong defensive

"We just played with a lot of intensity,"

The Lady Flames opened the second

With the lead down to 13, the Lady



HOCKEY Continued from B1

The two teams traded shots the remainder of the game but none found their way into the back of the net as the Flames picked up the 6-3 win. Dodgson finished the game tied with Zac Bauman for the team high with four points (one goal and three assists) while Bauman notched four assists.

"It was huge to get a win over a quality team like Penn State," Dodgson said. "We wanted to show that we aren't a No. 7 team, but a team that could be in the top five."

Docksteader agreed with his teammate, adding, "We need to play with the same intensity tomorrow night if we want to get another win."

"When you beat a No. 3 team like Penn State, they're not going to be happy," Associate Head Coach Jeff Boettger said. The Nittany Lions came out as hot Saturday night as the Flames had on Friday night.

Penn State jumped on top of the Flames in a very physical game and kept the pressure up. The Flames got within two at 5-3 thanks to a pair of goals from freshman Joe Smith and one from senior Josh Ahier, but Penn State added three power play goals late and picked up an 8-3 win.

"We kept fighting and kept battling but eventually we lost sight of what we are supposed to be doing and why we are here, and that is to prepare for Nationals," Boettger said.

Polidor led the Penn State attack with a pair of goals on the night.

Liberty returns to the LaHaye Ice Center Feb. 6 and 7 to host the Duquesne Dukes for a pair of games. Both games are slated

to begin at 7:30 p.m.

Contact BJ Williams at bjwilliams@liberty.edu.







LIBERTY SOFTBALL SET TO 2009 SEASON

There's just a fresh

excitement to the

game that these

younger girls have

brought.

Jonathan Thompson SPORTS REPORTER

After a less than impressive 2008 campaign, the Liberty Lady Flames softball team will look to impress fans with a more experienced roster, a deep and talented bench and a belief in teamwork that they hope will carry them far this season.

Liberty posted a 20-40-1 record last year, but ended the season winning seven out of their last 10 games, which included a run into the Big South Championship game

This year the Lady Flames squad possesses two seniors, two juniors, five sophomores and seven freshmen. And still, Head Coach Paul Wetmore has set the bar high for his young team.

"The schedule never gets any easier," Wetmore said referring to an opening tournament that includes No. 12 Fresno State, No. 14 California and No. 20 Long Beach State. Liberty also takes on Tennessee, who was the NCAA runner up two years ago and, who Wetmore referred to as "a perennial power house."

The remainder of Liberty's schedule is no cakewalk either. They have two games against Florida Atlantic plus contests against Florida State, Purdue and last year's national runner up Texas A&M.

Games against Troy, Virginia and Virginia Tech as well as a tough conference schedule should present Wetmore and his team with plenty of challenges and chances to improve.

The Big South Conference pre-season poll predicted a third place finish for Liberty but, as Wetmore believes, you can't put much faith in pre-

season polls.

"They are based on last year, and people don't know who you've brought in," Wetmore said. "We've brought in the best shortstop in South Carolina (Kelly Strickland) with 23 home runs. People don't know that. Last year they picked us to finish fifth and look where we ended up."

And even coming off a disappointing season, the Lady Flames have a great outlook on the upcoming season. Pitcher Sarah Ellis and infielder Beth Bennett, the two seniors on the young Liberty team, see great potential in their younger teammates.

There's just a fresh excitement to the game that

these younger girls have brought," said Ellis, who led the team with nine wins and 110 strikeouts last year. "I'm really excited to see how this year plays out."

Bennett, who led the team last year in batting average, on-base percentage and fielding percentage, relishes the chance to impart her wisdom to the incoming players.

"Being one of the older ones, I have had to step up and do the right thing because there are younger girls watching me and learning," Bennett said.

Many of the returning sophomores played key roles in the Lady Flames' line up last year as freshmen. Included in that mix is utility player Amber DePasquale, leading base stealer Cassie Hendrix, and catcher Keely McMillon, who started all 61 games behind the plate last season.

"Coming in as a freshman last year and being inexperienced throughout the season, it helped to just keep playing and getting experience," Hendrix said, "Both the losses and the wins were a great learning experience."

Likewise, DePasquale sees benefits in the playing

time acquired by all three last semester.

"Team chemistry is very important," DePasquale said. "We know each other's styles, strengths and weaknesses. We molded into a family, and if we play together we can win."

The play of Bennett and Ellis, as well as juniors J'nae Jefferson and Jen Pittman, has not been overlooked by their teammates and their coaches. Wetmore sees a great benefit in, "having people that are mature in their roles."

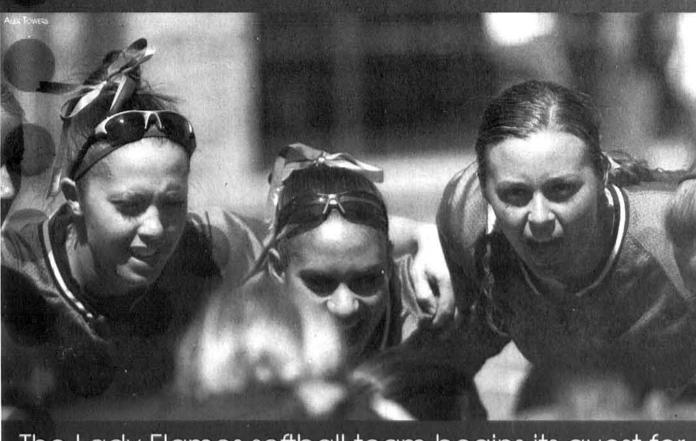
Likewise, freshman Brittany Kenney has acquired a great appreciation for the leaders on her team.

"I tell myself that I want to be like them, because they are so encouraging and are always there for me," Kenney said. "It's really good to know that you have people behind you like that all the time."

So with role models in place, experience on the rise and intensity waiting in the wings, Liberty softball will look to find itself back on top of the Big South Conference.

Contact Jonathan Thompson at jmthompson@liberty.edu.





The Lady Flames softball team begins its quest for the Big South title this weekend with five games in Palm Springs, Calif.

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WOMEN'S: TENNIS

GRINDS OUT WIN OVER JMU

Daniel Heffner SPORTS REPORTER

The women's tennis team faced off against James Madison University on Saturday at Greenbrier Resort in White Sulphur Springs, W.Va., marking its first contest of the 2009

After being picked to finish lost 7-5, 6-4. second in the pre-season Big South coaches poll, the bar is set high for this Lady Flames squad.

The collective goal for the team this year is to win the Big South, and in order to do that we have to be in optimal shape," sophomore Jordan Jenkins said. "The girls are playing well, and it's impressive."

Jenkins, who serves as the team captain, won both her doubles match and singles match this weekend. In the rest of the doubles action, however, the team did not fare as well. The team of Jenkins and Hannah Fick won 8-6, but Lais Souza and Stephanie Brown and Natalie Solomon and Fabiana Gouveia both lost very close matches of 9-8 and 8-6, respectively.

The singles play was a different story, however, with the team winning four out of six matches to wrap up the victory. In addition to Jenkins'

win (6-2, 7-5), Brown won in three sets (6-4, 2-6, 6-4) and freshman Souza took home a victory (6-2, 6-2).

Sophomore Nadia Solomon captured another singles win for the Lady Flames (6-3, 6-2), while Hannah Fick lost in three sets 3-6, 6-2, 6-4 and freshman Katie Ladderer also

We continue to improve and we are working very hard to bring home a championship this year.

The final score of this tough match was 4-3 in favor of Liberty, marking its first win of the young season.

"We played close at all six positions after losing a close doubles point. With the amount of effort given by the entire team, it was no surprise to me that we won four of six singles matches to close it out for the win," Head Coach Chris Johnson said. "I am happy to see both of our teams play well this weekend. We continue to improve and we are working very hard to bring home a

championship this year."

The men's team, which Johnson also coaches, posted a solid win against George Mason University, 6-1, on Saturday. Junior Clay Cypert and freshman Giancarlo Lemmi started things off by winning their doubles match over Brian Fitzgerald and Dan Schneider,

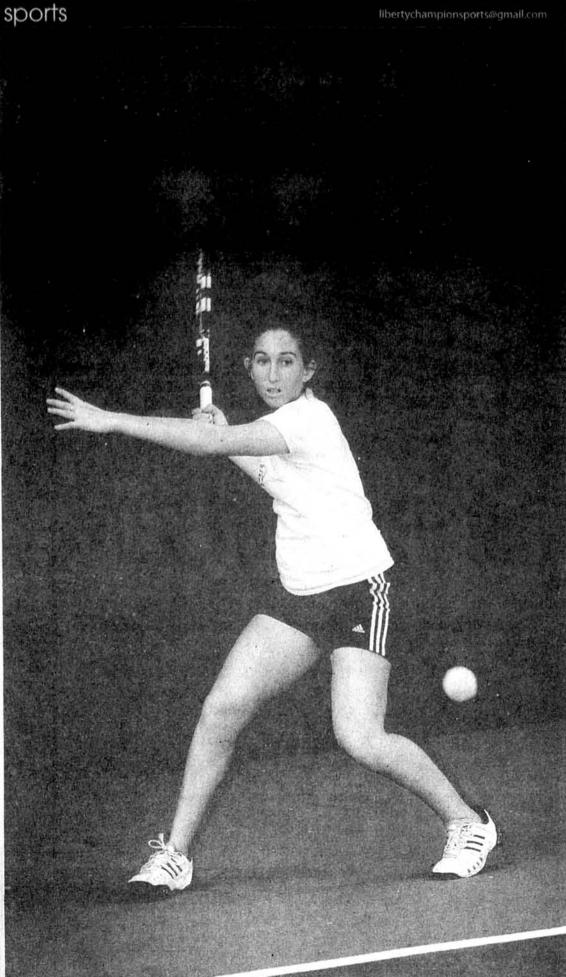
Junior Chad Simpson and Gregorio Machado took home doubles win. Simpson posted a singles victory, defeating Jordan Lipstock 6-0, 6-2. Cypert and Captain Louis Steyn picked up singles victories in the win.

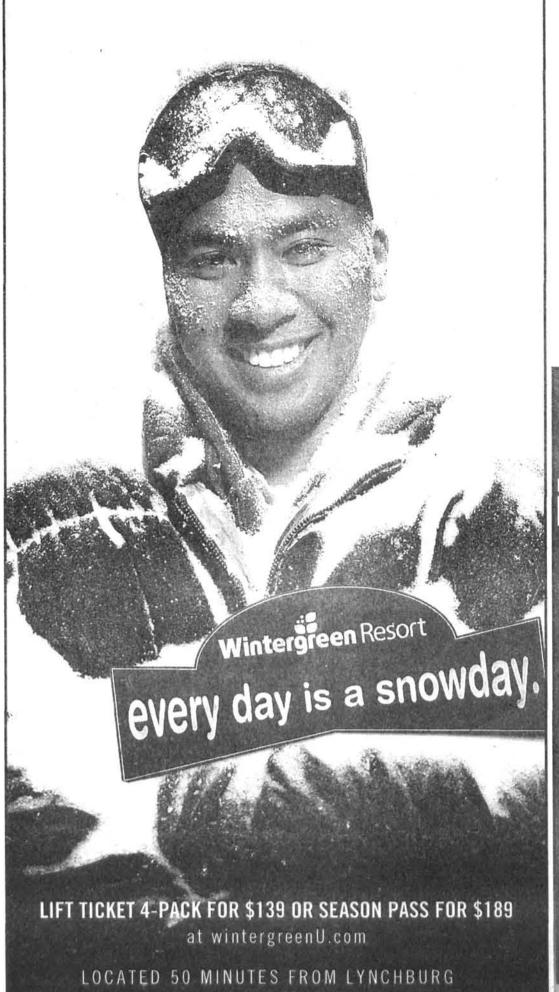
The Lady Flames face Davidson College on Feb. 7, while the men take on Lynchburg College on the same day.

> Contact Daniel Heffner at dpheffner@liberty.edu.

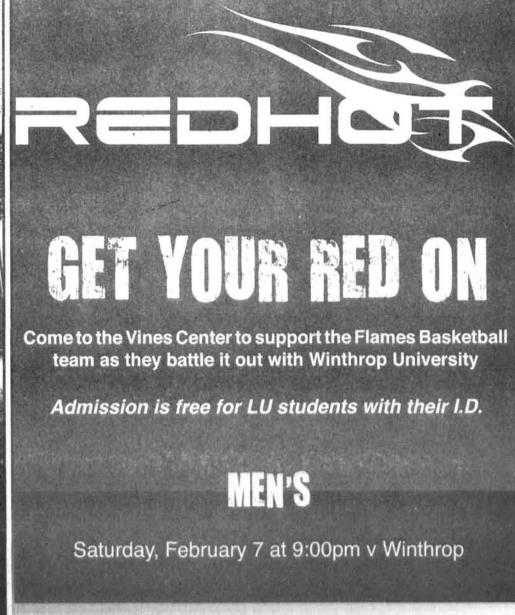
TOUGH STRETCH - The Lady Flames are now 1-2 through three matches and play four straight on the road before returning to Lynchburg to face Big South foe Coastal

Carolina.









1:1

Alin the Mix professor profile on Mix

Danielle Talbert LIFE! REPORTER

Dr. Joseph A. Mix not only has an outstanding résumé in his teaching career at Liberty, but also in his work outside of the university. Mix received his D.M.D. in Dental Medicine from the University of Pittsburgh and his B.S. in Biology from Dickinson College in Carlisle, Pa. And it doesn't stop there. His list of certifications includes being a licensed dentist, certified nutrition specialist, National Safety Council certified first Aid/CPR instructor and a group leader with the Center for Disease Control's Distance Learning Program. He has also been a professor here at Liberty since 1995 and is currently teaching in the Department of Health Sciences & Kinesiology.

A member of the American College of Nutrition, the American Dental Association and the Christian Medical and Dental Society, Mix has written several nutrition articles which have been published in various scientific journals. He also just finished writing anutrition book which is awaiting publication.

Before Mix began teaching at Liberty, he taught nutrition and received a grant to conduct research on the effects on the memory of ginkgo versus placebo. He also worked as a dentist in New York and in the Air Force in Italy.

Mix said he came from a family of teachers and his true passion is teaching nutrition. He also stressed the importance of reading and how he feels today's generation is moving away from written word.

"The Bible says in the beginning was the written word," Mix said. "It's sad to see that we are moving away from that."

Mix's proudest moment as a professor was when one of his students who was struggling in class ended up achieving a management position in a pharmaceutical company.

"It's a good feeling when I have a hand in helping average students rise to their full potential," Mix said. "It's very rewarding."

Not only is Mix enthusiastic about the classroom, but he also enjoys outdoor activities with his family. The Mixes have three children. Ryan graduated from Liberty in 2006 with a degree in video broadcasting and now is an actor in Hollywood. Becky also graduated from Liberty (in 2008) with a degree in math and teaches in Beaufort, S.C. Katie is a sophomore at Brookville High School. She hopes to come to Liberty to study education. He and his wife, Lynne, enjoy walking, gardening, skiing and kayaking. Mix lived in upstate New York, which is his favorite place to ski. His family also owns a weekend house on Leesville Lake where they go kayaking.

Contact Danielle Talbert at detalbert@liberty.edu.



Life in LYNCHBURG

HOT AND COLD CAFE

After you have exhausted your favorite restaurants on Wards Road, try a new location such as the Hot and Cold Cafe. The cafe offers Indian-Mediterranean food for fair prices. This little place is found in downtown Lynchburg at 205 Ninth Street. The café is open from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Friday and 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday.

GOOD CHERRY

Tired of going to Starbucks and the Drowsy Poet for coffee? Venture out a few miles further and find yourself at the Good Cherry. In less than 15 minutes, you could be situated at 14805 Forest Road, Suite 234 in Forest, Va. The coffee shop offers espresso drinks, smoothies and several food options. The coffeehouse is a great place to come and unwind. The shop is open from 7 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday through Thursday, and from 7 a.m. to 11 p.m. on Fridays and Saturdays. Call (434) 525-1333 to inquire about events and live music.

— Compiled by Allison Bedwell

Not taken for granted: History relived through Civil War Seminar

Elizabeth Monroe

Liberty University will relive a historically rich era for the 13th annual Civil War Seminar — "The Reel Civil War: The Civil War in the Cinema." To kick off the seminar, a film festival has been set in motion by the Liberty Victorian Society.

The festival will show a Civil War period movie every Sunday this semester— with the exception of spring break —from 2 to 4 p.m. in the Towns Auditorium, except for the last two Sundays which will be held in DeMoss Hall 1113.

The festival will be showing "Shenandoah" on Feb. 8, "Glory" on Feb. 15, "The Little Shepherd of Kingdom Come "on Feb. 22,

"The Colt" on March 15, "Birth of a Nation" on March 15 and "Gods and Generals" on March 22. Admission is free to the film festival and concessions will be sold by the Victorian Society to fund guest speakers.

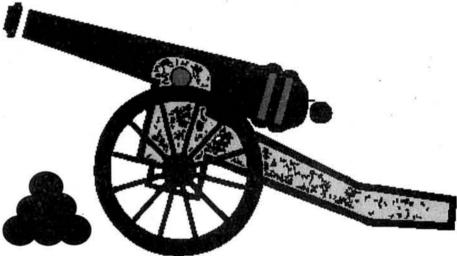
"The seminar this year promises to be the biggest, broadest and most prestigious thus far because of some of the big name speakers," Advisor to the Victorian Society Dr. Brenda Ayres said.

Some of the "big name" speakers include Ron Maxwell (the producer, director, and writer of "Gettysburg" and "Gods and Generals") and Kevin Hershberger, (founder and president of LionHeart FilmWorks).

The actual seminar begins Friday, March 27 at 6:30 p.m. The evening includes a seminar and a banquet. The weekend will continue Saturday at 8 a.m. with a period breakfast a seminar and a period lunch and concludes at 3:50 p.m.

For more information, type "history" into the search bar on the Liberty splash page.

Contact Elizabeth Monroe at ehitchin@llberty.edu.





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Peacemake ng ministry to the streets

Many people wonder how dancing terms such as 'toprocks,' 'drops' and 'power moves' pertain to ministry. For a group known as 'The Peacentakers, the terms define its ministry Peacentakers is currently the only ministry at Liberty that ministers through break dancing, or 'b-boying' — a dynamic and acrobitic style of hip-hop diancing.

Liberty's Peacentakers is a branch of a larger break dance crew based in California, also known as Peacentakers. The local crew was originally started in August of 2007, when members Isaac Lucero (known as B-boy Oath), and Benjamin Rushing (B-boy Armony) met at an Urban Affairs event, sponsored by the Center4ME.

Both of us b-boyed and started dancing together

met at an Urban Affairs event, sponsored by the Center4ME.

Both of us b-boyed and started dancing together. I guess you could say that we were the founders of Peacemakers, but we did not have the name, Lucero said. "Maybe a month later, we were introduced to Joe Johnson (B-boy Ruzen) in the Schilling, Center-He came from Peacemakers (California) and offered to start Peacemakers (California) and offered to start Peacemakers (Peacemakers).

Break funcing is actually an umbrella term, referring three specific styles of danage known as b boying, popping and locking. Developed in 1976 in The Brotx, three years after the 'borth of Jup hop', break dancing became popular in the 1980s as evidenced by its excessive use in advertising. After fading out of the spolight in the mid 1980s, break dancing social ally gree into a structured form of dance and a leey element in hip-hop culture. The term 'b-boy' is short for 'break hop'. The term was coined because b-boys and b girk generally dance to the 'breaks' in the muste that D'S create.

The members of Peacemakers were interested in

to and giving the group a means to witness to a variety of individuals.

The amazing how much of a difference it can make itself to our to competitions and have people seeing you lill a set and then, as you're talking with people, just to mention. God bless, you as you're leaving, them, Rushing said: One reason why we don't look

try, Peacemakers meets each challenge it faces head on. The mission of the group is to grow in fellowship with Christ and each other.

"(We want) to use hip-hop to reach a culture who may not find Christ in any other way. We directly focus on the bi-boy culture and urban communities." Luceso

said. The Peacemakers is a diverse dance crew The team currently has 12 members and has been gaining more since the beginning of the spring sensester Peacemakers generally attract other b-boys, b-guls and anyone in the hap-hop culture, including "energetic students with a heart for ministry and self-development," Rushmans of the part for ministry and self-development, Rushmans of the part for ministry and self-development.

with a heart for ministry and self-development," Rushing said.

Peacemakers performed at the Liberty Flames half-time show on Jan. 27, along with DOA, Jfath like and Taboo, which are fellow dance ministries sponsored by CentersME. Currently, the team is working on choreography for the upcoming Spring Coffeel-House The Peacemakers also travel to other competitions and expositions across Virginia and as far north-39 Washington, DC. The group is currently planning 2 try to Florida over spring break to Jam' with other dance crews and also establish some ministry work. Additionally the crew mends to rause money for a trip to New York, where break dancing is more populiar among urban youth.

Contact Tiffany Edwards at



for a lot of church performances is because in the church still views b-boying and break dance negative light. Unfortunately, (it is the) same for

LU RADIANCE LIGHTS UP THE ICE



NCHRONIZED SKATING — New synchronized skating team LU Radiance practices hard both on and off the ice in an effort to further its skills

LIEFERFORTER
The new synchronized skating team LU
Radiance competed in its first competition
on Saturday, Jun. 31. The team competed
at the open collegate level against wellknown schools like Princeton, University
of Maryland and Boston University.
The team came in eighth place out of
ten, beating Bryn Mawr College and Vassat College.

ten, besting BYN many and a star College Last year cosch Tattana Gomez and team captain Kristen Riordan made team captain Kristen Riordan made preparations to start a synchronized skaring team This weekend they competed in the U.S. Figure Skaling Eastern Regional Champsonships in Morristown, N.I. Tattana and I were partners in getting

(synchronized skating) to be considered a club sport last spring. Riordan said. Riordan said she has had five years of experience in synchronized skating, and Gomez has been a figure skater for most

The team is currently made up of 10 students including Team Captain Rior-dan, Amy Beck, Stacy Detweiler, Elizabeth

dan Amy Beck, Stacy Detweller, Elizabeth Francisco Amanda Grimes, Sesca Kwaak, Sarih LaRoche, Linday Phelps, Jennifer Presson and Kaillyn Schoota. (Synchronized slating) is basscally a team of 16 to 20 skaters making for-mations on the see like circle, wheel and intersections, 'Ricedan said.' It is like syn-thronized swimming but it so no: el falso incorporates artistry and athletics like fig-

ure skating."

Any Laberty student, male or female, with basic skating knowledge is encouraged to join the team.

"Basic skating, forward and backward skating, crossovers and three-turns are really the foundational things we need." Riordian said.

The team presences there may a seed

Riordan said.

The team practices three times a week. They have on-see practices two mornings a week from 6-45 to 7-45 and one off-see practice on Thursday nights from 7 to 10. Presson has been a member of the team since October when her friend Francisco.

Thave loved figure skating state. I was little, and I really enjoy being part of a team, so being on the synchronized skating team

has really been an amazing experience for me." Presson said. "It is one of the few things I would even think about waking up

things I would even think about waking up at six in the morning to do.

Grimes is new to synchronized skating, although she has been singles figure skating for nine year.

It is so much different skating with a group of girl all at the same time. Grimes said. "Normally in singles you only have to worry about your own moves and focus on keeping those cornect. You not only have to do that in the synchronized team, but you have to make sure that each movement matches all the other people on the

enough people interested to hold tryouts next year. Gomez can be contacted at Imgomez@

libertyedu and Riordan can be contacted at kanordan@libertyedu

Kickboxing spices up gerobics

New classes will give students the chance to punch, kick and grapple their way to a healthier filestyle as Liberty's LaHupe Student Center is mov offering a new kickboning and aerobes, classes are selected as a first program started last semester and has already acquired a following of 150 students each week. The classes are offered almost every night of the week, starting at 7 pm. on Menday. Thuesday, Thursday and Friday, Classes are held in the new multipurpose room that just opened up in the LaHuye Student Center. The new multipurpose rooms 1,000 square feet with higher cellings that prevent the room from becoming too hot during the exercise sessions. The room opened up after the ice cream store that used to be located in that spee shull down. The new room is located next to the post office at North Campus. "The Pitness Department aims to offer everyone who walks through the doors are legs fitness experience, and the new multipurpose room has helped out with that. Manager of Fitness at the LaHaye Student Center Enulee Elisabeth said

classes since it can hold more classes during the same time slot with the new

during the same time slot with the new expansion.

The instructor of the kickboxing class, Paja Burgess 21, is a senior at Liberty and majoring in interior design. Burges in the been involved in kickboxing since she was in high school. She decided to take it a step further when an instructor told her it would be a great way to make some extra cash while in college. Burges has been teaching kickboxing for a year.

Burgess main goal for the class is to keep a spiritual emphasis even during a physical workout. Burgess seeks to both encourage and challenge her students both physically and spiritually. She offers a short devotion and prayer at the end of the class.

the class .

Ministering to my clients really blesses me. Burgers said.

The class offices students a way to have a shorter but more intense workout, which enables them to burn more calories in a shorter pend of time. The class is high paced and is set to music with a fast bear. The class also incorporates free weights that Burgers uses from time to time as

Contact Mandi Forth at