Crisis in Kenya:

'People are losing the hope to live'

By Drew Menard

Political unrest and violence has plagued Kenya over the past month following the controversial presidential elections of Dec. 27. According to MINREC, residents Moshi Kibaki claimed victory after a contested turn of events in the closest election in Kenya's history.

Kibaki's opponent, Raila Odinga, held an established lead in the early stages of the election on Dec. 27. Most of the country's key voters had cast their ballots. Polls were delayed significantly afterwards in some areas.

After discrepancies from these areas were uncovered, including an alleged 100 percent voter turnout in some places, incumbent Kibaki surprisingly shot past the opposition and gained a narrow lead. After this unprecedented turn of events, Ella Odinga quickly claimed victory and banned live TV broadcasts.

Odinga and his supporters refused to accept this decision and accused the president of rigging the election. Please see KENYA, A3

Honoring God while saving money: Liberty starts recycling

By Jennifer Schmidt

Students may have recently noticed small "chips" or纳税 patches of campus or cardboard boxes in houses and dorms that say "white paper." All of these tangibles are the outgrowth of two years of planning and dreaming to create an established recycling program at Liberty University.

Almost 14 tons of waste are produced daily at Liberty based on statistics from the United States Environmental Protection Agency that estimates the average person produces five to seven pounds of trash per day. Project Coordinator Sheri Pruitt has registered Liberty for the RecycleMania competition that officially begins on Jan. 27.

Please see RECYCLE, A3

We camped pastures and saw Liberty students experienced the Holy Land.

By Daniel Martinez

Liberty students experience the Holy Land

The Bible came alive for 93 people associated with Liberty as they toured various biblical sites during a weeklong tour of Israel just prior to the start of the spring semester.

Trina Gourley, president of the Liberty Theological Seminary, led a group that "included residential and Distance Learning Program students from 33 states and two Trine Jars," according to the Liberty University Web site's press release on the trip.

Please see ISRAEL, A6

Walking in Christ's footsteps

By Star Barrington

Liberty students experience the Holy Land

"We went with the intention of serving"..."...we went with the intention of serving"..."...we went with the intention of serving"..."...we went with the intention of serving"

Students from 21 states and two from Japan, according to the Liberty University Web site's press release on the trip.

Please see ISRAEL, A6

Ministering to India

By Star Barrington

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DeMoss fountain construction moves full steam ahead

By Charles S. Goss

Construction of the new fountain area in front of the Arthur S. DeMoss Learning Center is moving well, according to Director of Facilities, Planning and Construction Charles Spence.

"We really don't need to be done until the fountain arrives in April, Spence said. "The sooner we get ahead of that schedule, the better." The fountain is being constructed, as promised by the late Chancellor Jerry Falwell, in honor of those who donated money to see the second through fourth floors of DeMoss completed, according to Spence.

To date, the third and fourth floors of DeMoss are not yet complete.

"When finished in April, the fountain will not only contain seating areas for students and visitors, but there will also be a new bus stop installed for the Liberty transit system, according to Spence.

Bus routes traveling westbound will stop at a specially marked shoulder, allowing students direct access to the front of DeMoss. The new transit area was completed over winter break.

"The construction of the fountain has removed a portion of the DeMoss parking lot," Spence said.

According to a previous Liberty Champion feature, the fountain will feature three columns with water spraying out of the top and down the sides. "Liberty University" will be carved in brass lettering along the outside edge of the fountain.

Spence said the fountain's name, which has been displayed within the fountain area. The names of the various donors will be engraved on the fountain.

Food for thought: New diner to serve up Falwell nostalgia

By Matthew Brooks

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Food for thought: New diner to serve up Falwell nostalgia

By Matthew Brooks

Record amount of students join LU for spring

By Dominique McKay

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Two hundred and sixty-five incoming freshmen and 210 transfers, striking a healthy balance between those familiar with college life and those new to the environment. One hundred and sixty-five transfers returned to Liberty after being readmitted.

As with any year, the new students and the transfers have begun to settle into new routines found at Liberty, such doing so in their own separate ways. One student has found where at a popular Liberty sophistication to deal with the business of classes and studying.

"I really enjoy being at the student center," freshman Calvin Simons said of Washington D.C. said, and it's a great place where I can relax, hang out and meet people — it's just stuff.

Liberty's first snow day of 2009 but Thursday also provided an unexpected plow, much appreciated, day off for the new students.

"It was great," a plus break. I expected the day sledding on trays from the roof," returning junior Chris Kester said, who also noted that it was his "best memorable experiences so far" at Liberty.

Other students have looked at their relatively short university experience as a good chance to grow and appreciate the environment.

"It wanted to be situated in a Christian environment. The professors here are very strong in their faith, and it's been a new experience for me to grow in education and faith. I'm very happy to be here," freshman Kyle King, an incoming student from Myrtle, said.

The dorm life has also been a challenge amongst the students, with friends being made as well as disagreements over whose stuff belongs where.

"Yeah, it's been full of variety," freshman Amanda Jaramillo said about getting situated in his new dorm. "Friends have been made, but it's hard to break in handyman work for every individual at Liberty through the school year."

Another student shared the same sentiments.

"We have hand-getting and serving spaces with others," Bunting said. "I have made friends, and it seems to be going well."

Oliver has found the new year to be almost central. "Yeah, I like my roommates," another freshman said. "I'm always learning from people that are older in terms of diversity and differences in cleanliness so I'm learning a lot from them."

With a good start to the spring semester at Liberty, and with much to look forward to for every individual at Liberty, students are looking forward to the future.

Contact Dominique McKay at dominique.mckay@liberty.edu.

Enrollstein Statistics

This semester 625 undergraduate and 150 graduate students joined the Liberty University family, including new students on campus this spring.

Undergraduate Students

- 250, or 40 percent, are freshmen
- 110, or 35 percent, are transfer students
- 165, or 25 percent, are returning adult part-time students (returning to Liberty)

Doc's Diner Menu

The diner's menu items are currently being named by students.

Locate on facebook.com and visit the group 'Doc's Diner Coming to East Campus' to submit your ideas for menu items.

"The ideas for the menu will be based on the idea of the "Most Magnificent Burger and Flaming Fish Stick.""

Doc's Diner Menu

By Dominique McKay

In two months Liberty University will be opening its newest eatery — Doc's Diner, named in honor of the late Dr. Jerry Falwell. Construction on Campus Kirk is underway on the diner and, according to Liberty Dining Services, the theme of Doc's Diner will be "a true Liberty lifestyle achievement at Liberty University and Richard Boyd Baptist Church."

Elizabeth Vazquezgundez, resid­ent marketing manager for Liberty Dining Services, said the names of the menu or the menu will be modeled after what the terms "Libertines" — names particular to life at Liberty. Vazquezgundez said the students who have good suggestions and creative suites of menu items can go to Facebook.com and join the group entitled "Doc's Diner Coming to East Campus" to make their suggestions known.

Although no royalties will be given for the selected suggestions, they will be featured on the new diner's menu once completed.

Sophomore Maggie Insley said she thought a "Jerry Jr. Burger" would be a good name for a burger. A "Black Milk Shake" was another suggestion from sophomore Amanda Stewart.

According to Vazquezgundez, Liberty Dining Services is planning a soft opening for the diner in March right after spring break so that liberty students will be the first to enjoy the food and environment. Vazquezgundez added that they are also planning an opening realNormals and new menu specials in payment to Liberty students with meal plans.

Freshman Josh Davis, a resident of Campus Kirk, said, "I think the better the food service, the more honorable it will be of Dr. Falwell and the better it will be for students who are trying to get grub with top quality service."

Milburn made a few suggestions for the menu including "Jason's Biscuit and Fish" and "Flaming Elksteaks."

"Liberty Dining Services is plan­ning on a great opening in the general public in the fall semester of this year after students return to campus this fall," Milburn said, although he is subject to change.

Contact Dominique McKay at dominique.mckay@liberty.edu.

Liberty Champion

2008 Anniversary

Liberty University, Lynchburg, VA

FOOTNOTES

Contact Dominique McKay at dominique.mckay@liberty.edu.
INDIA: "It's always an adventure"

Continued from A1

Moore and his team traveled along the Ganges International (GI) founder M.A. Thomas, who addressed Liberty's convocation on April 8, and their son and GI president Samuel Thomas.

"It is unfortunate to see that the country will have to start all over again," said Moore, who has grown up with the child of missionaries in Kenya. "The fear remains in the country.

"Christians are being killed, people are being shot in the face, neighbors are killing neighbors and children are learning to believe more wisely," said Moore.

KENYA: Tribal conflict continues

Continued from A1

The country's two largest tribes - the Luo, who support Odinga, and the Kikuyu, who support Kibaki - have been rivals since the country's independence from Britain was gained in 1963.

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Learning to swim: The dangers of evangelical subcultures

By Jen Siehauer

I do not know how to swim. When I was a child, I would kick, scream and cry to keep my mother from sending me to swimming lessons at the town beach. By the time I was in fourth grade and still a beginner myself, I wish somehow to learn how to swim is to get from any water. Evangelical Christians often make the same mistake that I did. In stead of putting themselves in difficult situations and having to learn how to live, they allow themselves to remain in a comfortable place. Christians do not force themselves into the water, and often they are not considerate enough to form other Christian brothers and sisters in, either. The effect has been disastrous. America is now host to a massive evangelical subculture, a packet of Christians who can live, eat, breathe, learn and work without the pressures of a secular world. They train their workers for two purposes: one, to remain and strengthen the body or two, to go out into the secular world and lead it to Christ. Often, the result is that those within the body never get a grasp on real life and those outside the body find a world that is difficult for them to understand. Some call it the "bubble effect," and many refute Christians for their subculture. The idea is not all bad, however. Christian institu tions provide safe havens for nurturing Christians until they are ready for the world. The problem comes when those Christians linger inside for too long, or when they do not receive any training within the body that will help them when they finally step into the world. In his book "People of Faith: Religious Conviction in American Journalism and Higher Educa tion," John Schmalzbauer explains that the evangelical subculture in America began after the Requa trial, when evangelical beliefs were launched by the mockery of an evolutionist trial that declared the creationism intellectually inferior. As a result, evangelicals turned inward, distancing themselves from the professional world. Instead, they used schools, radio shows and independent publications to reach their own type. Although this attitude began to relax in the 1970s, remnants can be seen everywhere in America today.

The evangelical subculture has two major flaws. First, by focusing inward and not outward, Christians are less equipped to reach the un saved world. "...The isolation of the evangelical subculture prevented its members from fully engaging the academic and cultural mainstream," Schmalzbauer said. "Although the evangelical empire of Christian colleges and universities, campus ministries, publishers and broadcasters was truly vast, it reached an overwhelming academic indifference. This problem appears to Christians already. Martin Sheehan, the editor of WORLD magazine (which serves a largely Christian audience) agreed that many evangelicals are "preaching to the choir" by bringing up the same issues and not reaching outside the Christian audience. "But that's okay," he said, "because the choir needs to hear it, too." Nevertheless, the choir has a different destiny than the unsaved world, and Christians would do well to remember the mandate of Christ to spread his name and glory to everyone. While not reaching the unsaved is one of the biggest problems in the evangelical subculture, the other key problem is that Christians themselves are often given a partial experience of life in which they rarely experience the whole world and spectrum of humanity that their own God created.

By focusing inward, it becomes easier for Christians to focus on themselves or their distinct body of Christ rather than the entire world in which they live.

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By Caleb McAllister

The idea of a FairTax plan has recently come under scrutiny. For the most part, interest has been from supporters of leading Republican presidential candidate Mike Huckabee. Many voters, however, remain unsure of what exactly the plan entails.

Huckabee writes on his official campaign Web site that the FairTax plan "will replace the Internal Revenue Code with a consumption tax. We'll be taxed on what we buy, not what we earn, and with one simple, visible, federal retail sales tax administered primarily by existing state sales authorities. That federal and sales federal sales tax would amount to 43 percent of the present income tax, or 12 percent of the post-tax prices. In other words, an hour tax on what you originally paid for $1,30 tax was applied. The plan is possible, it is the side effects of implementing the FairTax plan may be beneficial. According to Leo Linbeck’s article "FairTax Facts" in the Dec. 20, 2007 News Horn Journal, the plan "will remove significant price disadvantages suffered by American products competing with tax-free items. Eliminating corporate income taxes and capital gains taxes, which the FairTax would do, would likely make the American economy the most desirable place in the world to do business. Also, Linbeck explains that the international competition bonus, exemptions and deductions from the federal tax system. Under the FairTax, Congress would no longer have to worry about the hidden or manifest manipulation behavior to the voters to decide whether the candidate who now champions an ambitious tax reform plan - and who do not pay taxes - such as drug dealers, and others who do not reinvest their income to the government - would at best pay taxes when they make purchases. It appears that much of the debate regarding the FairTax plan will eventually degenerate into little more than a "tax it will go to the states" type argument. It will be up to the voters to decide whether the ambitious tax reform plan - and the candidates who now champion it - is visionary or naive.

Contact Caleb McAllister at cjmcallister@liberty.edu.

UNRAVELING THE FAIRTAX: An explanation of what it is and what it can do for tax payers

ABOLISHES ALL FEDERAL PERSONAL AND CORPORATE INCOME TAXES, GIFT, ESTATE, CAPITAL GAINS, ALTERNATIVE MINIMUM, SOCIAL SECURITY, MEDICARE AND SELF-EMPLOYMENT TAXES AND REPLACES THEM WITH ONE SIMPLE, VISIBLE, FEDERAL RETAIL SALES TAX ADMINISTERED PRIMARILY BY EXISTING STATE SALES AUTHORIES. THE FAIRTAX PLAN WILL REMOVE SIGNIFICANT PRICE DISADVANTAGES SUFFERED BY AMERICAN PRODUCTS COMPETING WITH TAX-FREE ITEMS. ELIMINATING CORPORATE INCOME TAXES AND CAPITAL GAINS TAXES, WHICH THE FAIRTAX WOULD DO, WOULD LIKELY MAKE THE AMERICAN ECONOMY THE MOST DESIRABLE PLACE IN THE WORLD TO DO BUSINESS.

By Will Mayer

In a couple of weeks the Super Bowl will be played. Viewers will be able to see the biggest game of the year and what was once the longest pre-game show is something changed this year and what was once the longest pre-game show is something different. Viewers will believe that the most important issue is the economic success. It is not the idea of a FairTax plan that the FairTax plan is successful. Everything is shared between businesses. However, in the business world, socialism is not the same thing.

The only thing one can think is "Great. Food. Build Human food!" Socialer economies are not as successful with people because, as people, we begroide those who choose to put in as much effort and obtain the same reward. Many people choose to put in the effort of themselves.

We become a fellow people in the Garden of Eden. Satan tricked Eve into eating a fruit she was not supposed to eat. I am sure the thought about it for awhile. She reasoned, "No, I shouldn't eat it, God told me not to eat it," and the light. You see, if Satan tried to convince the ants to eat the fruit, he would come down a beetle. He would tell the ants about the wonderful things they could gain by eating the fruit but they would forget what he was saying, and then they would not eat it. People are not as forgetting as ants. There will be less qualified doctors working in a country where the government regulates the expenditures of their income. So if our country moves forward toward socialism, there will be more business owners abandoning the United States for a country with a more favorable tax code. The plan that the Democratic front runners have for our economy is dangerous for the future strength of America. Unless, of course, socialized doctors start performing brain surgery. Then perhaps, Americans will not have any memories left at all.

Contact Will Mayer at wtmayer@liberty.edu.

OPINION WRITER

UNRAVELING THE FAIRTAX: An explanation of what it is and what it can do for tax payers

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Contact Caleb McAllister at cjmcallister@liberty.edu.
Israel
93 people embark on week-long tour of the Holy Land

Continued from A1

The trip, which lasted from Jan. 7-14, was labeled by the press release as “unique, in that it allows DLP students to meet one-on-one with a professor and tour the land where Jesus walked.” Caner also lectured each night to the students.

“The trip was through DuCar tours,” sophomore Sarah Amoss said, who heard about the trip in her Theology 202 class. “It’s a husband-wife business: Duke and Carlene Westover.”

While in Israel, the group visited many sites familiar to readers of Scripture, including the Sea of Galilee, Capernaum, Jerusalem, Golgotha and the Valley of Jezreel.

“We saw a lot of different sites. The two most powerful sites were Antonio’s fortress, where Christ received his cross, and the garden tomb, which is next to Golgotha,” senior Nick Poole said.

“I loved how I was able to connect with the Holy Land and the Scriptures. The Bible became three-dimensional to me,” Amoss said.

“I have already encouraged a lot of students to go next year,” Amoss said. “Israel is beautiful, the people are welcoming and friendly, and it is perfectly safe to go to the areas where the tour takes you. It is a life-changing adventure and a lot of fun.”

“I would encourage every Christian to go if they are able.”

“It was fun to meet other students on the trip who were sharing the same passion,” Amoss said when asked about her favorite part of the trip. “It was also really fun to get to hang out, joke around and chat with Dr. Caner. We acted like a big family and enjoyed great fellowship with each other.”

On his favorite part of the trip, Kyle said, “It has to be the procession where Jesus was given the cross to carry up to Golgotha. It was very moving to touch the stone floor that was once covered with Jesus’ own blood.”

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“Overall, the thing that impacted me most about the trip was coming back and allowing the trip to marinate—especially with reading my Bible from a more objective perspective from having seen what I’m reading,” Poole said.

Contact Daniel Martinez at
dpmartinez@liberty.edu.

Student Value Menu
$7.99

#1
One Large Cheese or 1-Topping Pizza
code 9981

#2
One Medium 2-Topping
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Lady Flames improve to 15-2, extend winning streak to four

By Miranda Fielder
SPORTS REPORTER

With their non-conference schedule winding down, the Lady Flames are becoming well-prepared for the remaining 13 conference games to come.

Jan. 19 brought joy to the court for Head Coach Cacy Green and Lady Flames with a 94-75 win over the George Mason University (GMU) Patriots.

By the end of the first half, junior guard Megan Frazee scored 13 total points while senior guard Courtney Watkins contributed five. With 7:05 seconds left on the clock, the Lady Flames successfully completed a play in which Frazee knocked down a three, making the score at halftime 53-35 over GMU.

"That last-second play was like a painting," said Green. "It was as if Frazee was out there. The girls had prepared for the Lady Flames while on the road at Charleston Southern University.

Junior guard Rachel Hammond was determined to bring home the win. "Everyone was wired for this game, as this is the start of the second half of our season," said Hammond. "Every one came out ready to execute. We are all very diverse and have been maintaining our intensity all the way through practices."

On Saturday, Liberty dominated the Lady Buccaneers by a score of 86-53, outpacing their lead after the first half. Junior Megan Frazee scored 26 of her game-high 34 points in the first half, while Watkins tallied eight points of her game-high 16.

The win, which marked Green's 200th career victory as head coach of the Lady Flames, was highlighted by a second half that saw Megan and Molly Franza score 15 of the final 14 points, giving the Lady Flames a 68-54 lead, which they would not relinquish.

"It's always great to start conference play off with a win, especially when we are able to win a victory on the road," said Green. "It was played with how we played. We played approximately 33 minutes of Lady Flames basketball. In the second half, we came out and set the tempo by attacking the basket."

Megan Frazee led all Lady Flames in scoring with 24 points, while Molly Frazee and Watkins each recorded 12. Hammond contributed 12 points off the bench in the victory.

The Lady Flames will put their 15-game win streak over Coastal Carolina on the line on Monday night as they travel to Conway, S.C. for a match up with the Chanticleers. Tipoff is set for 7 p.m.
What I have not been able to grasp though my Cowboys are not playing in the Super Bowl match up between the Miami and proceeded to celebrate in the league. That one did not surprise me; however, another fine Owens signature. Eventually the league fined Owens cover the cost of the pop treatment of psoriasis. Psoriasis is characterized by thick, scaly patches known as plaques.

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NEXT GAME
Saturday, 9 p.m.
Vines Center vs. High Point
Flames dealt pair of losses from Davenport

By Will Luper
SPORTS REPORTER

While the students of Liberty University have been on spring break, the Lady Flames hockey team has been on the road and playing some great hockey. While Liberty fell 3-1 on Friday night, the Lady Flames showed some heart out on the ice against the Rhode Island Rams. While Liberty fell 3-1 on Friday night, the Lady Flames showed some heart out on the ice against the Rhode Island Rams.

On Saturday, the Lady Flames went out and played with heart out on the ice, but they would not make it through the entire game.

"We really worked hard during overtime," Smith said. "I was talking to some of the guys at the end of the game, and we definitely want to come back from that, Handy said, "Well, we would not have won 3-0 and then got ourselves in a bit of trouble pretty-quickly. We had problems scoring goals tonight. It's hard for us to pull ourselves out when we dig a hole that deep."

During the second intermission, Assistant Head Coach Jeff Boettger challenged his team to get some goals on the board and to keep the opponent from getting any more. Freshman Kyle Tidwell and junior Pete Masterton answered the call, both scoring a goal in the third period.

"I was talking to some of the guys today, and in all honesty, in all of my years playing hockey, I don't know if I've ever been so excited to get back to our home arena. We lost a few guys and all the support they have been giving us, but now they're giving us a great support because we're growing as a hockey club together. We can't wait to get them back on the ice because that is who we are," Handy said.

For the Flames, that chance to come back and face the Friars this weekend at the LaHaye Ice Center, where they have not played since Nov. 30.

No. 2 Rhode Island too much for Lady Flames

By David Hunt
SPORTS REPORTER

With a smaller squad but a bigger heart, the Lady Flames' women's hockey team put up a weekend battle with the Rhode Island Rams. While Liberty fell 3-1 on Friday night, the 36-member Liberty squad rallied back to the game on Saturday, matching the Rams 1-1.

"We know what we are coming into tonight," assistant coach Scott Bloomfield said. "They are a tough team, but we also had to battle the stiff legs that come from a Christmas break of no little hockey.

The Flames had to go out against a Rhode Island squad that was nearly three times its size, and the size difference certainly played a role in the Lady Flames' loss.

"They kept moving lines when we switched," Bloomfield said. "It was a tough situation to be in, and of course, it took a lot of our players down, but they played with heart out there.

While Friday night's competition saw the Flames lead slip away in the second period, the team got a strong performance against Rhode Island on Saturday night.

"We had our opportunities," said coach Kim Handy. "We hit two crossbars, we had a few missed breakaways. We just put ourselves on the wrong end of things.

The Panthers, known for a devastatingly efficient powerplay, scored three goals with the man advantage. The Flames, however, were unusually quiet at the scoreboard when the other team was penalized, scoring only one powerplay goal in their eight chances.

"Special teams is what killed us," said Handy. "Less than three minutes into the game, the Panthers went up by a goal, and they would not relinquish throughout the evening.

"After the first ten minutes, I thought it was a pretty evenly matched game," said Handy. "They got the bounce, though. Delphi had a great opportunity on a breakaway, but their goalie made a great save. Immediately after that play, they brought it down the ice and scored.

It was not a goalkeeping issue, though.

"Binnie played great for us tonight. It couldn't have been a bit worse. He kept us in the game," said Handy.

Saturday night, the Flames were penalized in the first period down 1-0. After 40 minutes of play, the Flames were down 2-0, but the Flames penalty killers shut them down.

"We really worked hard during overtime," Smith said. "I was talking to some of the guys at the end of the game, and we definitely want to come back from that, Handy said, "Well, we would not have won 3-0 and then got ourselves in a bit of trouble pretty-quickly. We had problems scoring goals tonight. It's hard for us to pull ourselves out when we dig a hole that deep."

During the second intermission, Assistant Head Coach Jeff Boettger challenged his team to get some goals on the board and to keep the opponent from getting any more. Freshman Kyle Tidwell and junior Pete Masterton answered the call, both scoring a goal in the third period.

"The Flames penalty killers were too passive and too laid back. We really worked hard during overtime, but our fans just didn't have the fans cheering them on in the LaHaye Ice Center.

Senior goalie Dalton Stoltz elaborated, "I was talking to some of the guys today, and in all honesty, in all of my years playing hockey, I don't know if I've ever been so excited to get back to our home arena. We lost a few guys and all the support they have been giving us, but now they're giving us a great support because we're growing as a hockey club together. We can't wait to get them back on the ice because that is who we are," Handy said.

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Contact Will Luper
at wluper@liberty.edu.

Contact David Hunt
at dhunt@liberty.edu.
Patriots seek perfection, Blake battles down under

By Jen Slothower

FOOTBALL

On Dec. 29, 2007, the New York Giants could not stop the New England Patriots. The Patriots stopped the Giants at home 38-35 and completed their perfect regular season, 16-0. In two weeks, the two teams will meet again in Super Bowl XLII, where New England's Tom Manning will look to continue his team's tradition of being the best in the NFL and medieval history. Manning will look to continue his team's tradition of being the best in the NFL and medieval history.

Manning, the Patriots' veteran linebacker, complimented the team, saying, "These Patriots are the best team in the NFL and medieval history."

In the second half of the game, Manning's key play came when he forced a fumble, resulting in a touchdown, and Faulk caught one key pass for the Patriots.

DEFENDING CHAMPIONS

The Giants toppled crowd favorite Green Bay and its veteran quarterback legend Brett Favre in the cold confines of Lambeau Field, winning 23-20 in overtime. Their victory marked the first time this season the Giants were defeated.

The Giants' running game recorded 374 yards. The Giants' running game recorded 374 yards.

The Patriots won their AFC Championship game against the Tennessee Titans, 34-14, after another first down to first downs and 82 yards of receiving on eight catches.

After the game, New England's veteran linebacker Junior Seau complimented the team, saying, "These Patriots are the best team in the NFL and medieval history.

They are not familiar with Blake, he is currently No. 23 in the world.

Blake took the third set 6-0, his highest ever for those routs.

Federer and Blake were in their quarterfinals with neither dropping a set so far, something equally rare.

Things did not get much better for the Liberty as it faced off against No. 15 Illinois and the Illini toppled Liberty, splitting the first period of regulation.

Defending champion and No. 1 player Roger Federer is chasing his 12th Grand Slam title at the Australian Open, but he almost missed the tournament embarrassing early. In the second round he faced Janko Tipsarevic, and it was four and a half hours later before Federer ended the slugfest, 6-7, 7-6, 6-3, 6-8.

Andy Roddick lost early for those routing for Americans (2-1, second two lines to Philipp Kohlschreiber), but rising star James Blake still remains. For those who are not familiar with Blake, he is currently No. 16 in the world. In what he called his "biggest comeback," he came from two sets down in third round action to Frenchie Nicolas Kiefer before blasting back. Blake took the third set 6-4, fought back from a 3-9 deficit to take a hard fourth set 7-6, then broke Grosjean twice in the final set to win 6-0. Grosjean was no match for Blake, the American hero who in the past lost the grand slam title at the Australian Open, but he also lost it to Fabio Fognini. Blake advanced to the quarterfinals with neither dropping a set so far, something equally rare.

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Selah clinches prestigious title, ranks in top 10 yearbooks

By Aubrey Blankenship

Selah clinches prestigious title, ranks in top 10 yearbooks

The Crown Award is recognized by all media outlets as an official recognition of student publications for overall excellence. Selah entered the competition for the first time in 2007. Since then, the Selah staff has been named a finalist every year. Each year, the Selah staff has carefully considered the critiques sent back with the yearbook to improve and implement changes that factored into the award. This year, the Crown Award is due to the dedication of the Selah staff, led by Editor-in-Chief4 Carter Carter.

Over the course of the year, the Selah staff worked collectively among each other to produce an award-winning yearbook marked by class and maturity. "We have shown that Liberty is not just a university, but an amazing school with incredible people," said Carter.

Adding to the content of the 2007 Selah were 14 pages of writing by Liberty student Emily Dorner. "My New Year's resolution is to be patient and learn to trust God's plan. He knows what's best for me and that makes me happy." Emily Dorner.

Selah now ranks among state universities such as Texas A&M University, the University of Miami, North Carolina State University and Kansas State University. Liberty stands at the only current finalist never to have previously won a Crown. Much credit is due to Mrs. Edith Carter. "We are satisfied with the purpose of the student body, with the ultimate goal of glorifying God and showing my love here at Liberty," Carter said.

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NEW YEAR, NEW YOU?

By Claire Melsi

"Each new day is a blank page in the diary of your life. The secret of success is in turning that diary into the best story you possibly can." —Dr. Wayne D. Dyer

"New Year, New You?" is evaluated based on style, content, rate of representation of the university and the New Year Countdown Book. Each year, CSPA, based out of Columbia, SC, awards Selah as the only current finalist never to have previously won a Crown. Much credit is due to Mrs. Edith Carter. "We are satisfied with the purpose of the student body, with the ultimate goal of glorifying God and showing my love here at Liberty," Carter said.

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Opera ‘Die Fledermaus’ returns to university’s stage

By Anna Blevins
LIFE REPORTER

The opening of the new opera, “Die Fledermaus,” otherwise known as “The Bat,” is a whirlwind of comedy and entertainment to Liberty University’s stage. The opera takes place in Vienna, Italy in the 1800s. “Die Fledermaus” consists of three acts and is the last of the operetta genre. The first act opens in the Eisen­

tein’s house, where the audience is introduced to a wide array of char­

acters. Eisenstein, played by Dr. Kahlilah Reynolds, is the ground­

work for a unique practi­

cal joke that will keep the audience laughing. Dr. Kahlilah Reynolds, the direc­

tor of “Die Fledermaus,” began direc­

ting the opera in 1989. She said that most of the cast were vocal per­

formance majors. “I do not want their singing to be compromised while acting,” she said.

Over 800 Lynchburg area residents gathered at E.C. Glass High School to kick off the community dialogue on race and racism on Jan. 18. The project hosted discussion groups made of community members with diverse ethnic and social backgrounds.

According to Community Dialogue Co­

ordinator Margaret Schmitt, “The city of Lynchburg is experiencing a rapid increase in cultural diversity.”

She said the community dialogue is a re­

sponse to an increase in racial tensions within the city of Lynchburg.

According to Schmitt, the fast-changing cultural environment and expanding popula­

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sions within the city.

The kick-off event increased the registra­

tion for the community dialogue groups to over 600 people. Each group will be made of about 10 to 15 people from different cultural and ethnic backgrounds. The group members will share personal experiences with racism, expressing concerns to the other group members.

The hope of the dialogue coordinators and Lynchburg Mayor Joan Foster is that the dis­

cussion will promote understanding about community members of different races.

“It’s very proactive, I hope it can help the community dialogue is an excellent opportunity for people to participate as well as for the citizens to sort their feelings,” she said. That each member has worked extremely hard, putting in effort last semester as well as the beginning of this semester.

Most students do not know where to expect when they are in an opera. Dr. Komplein says that the students received their very own oper­

a book. “Opera is not a dirty word, but a rich art form. It will draw you in and captivate you,” he said. Dr. Komplein went on to say that he hopes that students will broaden their horizons, become culturally aware and enrich their lives by seeing an opera, symphony or similar production. The opera runs Thursday through Sunday, Jan. 23–26.

Dr. Steve Robbins of S.L. Robbins & As­

sociates, was the keynote speaker. Robbins presented a different approach to stereotyping and biases by incorporating Louis Festinger’s Cognitive Dissonance Theory of Communication. He immigrated to the United States at the age of five from Vietnam along with his mother. Robbins grew up in Los Angeles and draws from a lifetime of racial tensions experiences when sharing his experiences and values with people across the country.

By the end of the study circle, people find that they have much more commonalities than differences, and so the Associate Director for the Center for Multicultural Enrichment at Liberty, Davetta Saunders.

According to Saunders, the discussion ultimately lead to the brainstorming of action steps for improving community race relations.

For more information about the study cir­

cles, visit ManyVoicesOneCommunity.com or contact Melody Poo on Liberty’s Center for ME. Pearl is the Director of the Center for ME, and a Board Member of the MLKLCC. Located on Fort Ave. next to CVS

IHOP is open 24/7

By Jennifer Maxfield
LIFE REPORTER

Many voices, one community: Lynchburg hosts Community Dialogue on Race and Racism

By Jennifer Maxfield
LIFE REPORTER

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