The transformation of Liberty Transit

Changes made to improve system

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Thousands of Liberty University students were welcomed back to campus with a newly designed bus system formatted specifically to better accommodate their needs.

Liberty Transit made an effort to educate students on the new system by sending e-mails, posting an announcement and handing out information packets of information distributed to every dorm room on campus, e-mails sent to students at their workplace and new numerical identification.

The change alleviated some of the congestion, which has been occurring at the campus entrance.

Commuters were also taken into consideration in the creation of this new system. Route changes were determined based on population, citizens look to their local governments to keep their communities secure and economically strong.

Lynchburg placed for 7th year in a row

Lynchburg took number one for mid-sized citi es in the seventh annual Most Secure U.S. Places to Live study.

The Farmers Insurance Group conducted the study in 379 U.S. municipalities, according to a news release. The cities are divided into three categories based on population. Large metropolitan areas with more than 500,000 people, medium-sized cities with between 100,000 to 500,000 residents and small towns with a population of 10,000 or fewer.

Farmers congratulated all of the communities recognized in the study. Farmers Most Secure Places to Live Survey. Farmers Insurance Group CEO Rob Gregoire said in a news release, "In today's challenging economy, it is more important than ever to look for local governments to keep their communities secure and economically strong."

Photo Provided

THE BUS FOR US—Liberty Transit made an effort to educate students on the new system by sending e-mails, posting an announcement and handing out information packets of information distributed to every dorm room on campus. e-mails sent to students at their workplace and new numerical identification.

Some of the major changes for the buses included added or removed stops, different routes and new numerical identification. Formerly known as the LX1, 70 (Liberty Loop) travels from Campus North to DeMoss parking lot in a bi-directional system known as the Liberty Loop.

The Hill bus stop was reinstated because of students' input as well as visibility issues where students were experiencing near the Williams Stadium stop, which has been eliminated.

Spencer stated that what students do not realize is that these changes were made not only to improve the system, but also to prepare the way for Liberty Future Transit enhancement. Liberty will be installing Route Match, a satellite tracking system. This will enable students to know exactly what time the bus will arrive.
Redefining the art of chivalry

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Chivalry is not graceful, but rather a practice that people think. All of the students noted that the definition of chivalry that they knew is a concept that is important to their personal lives. The students who were interviewed noted that the term is a reminder of the importance of being respectful to others.

The university is working to improve the way it communicates with students. The university has implemented a new system that allows students to communicate with their professors more easily. The system is designed to make it easier for students to ask questions and get help with their coursework.

As the studies on campus are being questioned, the notion of chivalry is being re-examined. Many students have expressed that they feel that the idea of chivalry is outdated and should no longer be considered as important.

That is not to say that the concept of chivalry is being completely abandoned. However, the notion that chivalry is a way of life that should be followed is being questioned.

The students who were interviewed noted that the notion of chivalry is important to their personal lives. They noted that the concept of chivalry is important to their personal growth and development.

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Liberty receives award

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Liberty University received the County Redfield Award for Excellence in Student Missionary Deployment for sending out student interns over the summer of 2010. This is the fourth year in a row Liberty has been honored with this distinction.

The award is annually presented in honor of Courto Redfield who served the Southern Baptist Convention’s Home Mission Board for 31 years, encouraging students to evangelize around the nation. It honors organizations that share in student missionary deployment.

Seven Liberty students ministered in Virginia by helping church groups sponsor community outreach events. The team helped three block party trailers and two evangelism trailers. These trailers are used to reach teens with the gospel, and the trailers contain music, drama, testimonials and fun.

The team of five young men is known at the Lynchburg Convention and is known for their passion to reach teens with the message of the gospel. Their team, called the Parachute Project, conducted several events this summer in Virginia by helping churches to sponsor community outreach events.

The Parachute Project is a summer missions’ internship. This would make Liberty largest in sending agency for NAMB, with the help of two recruiting trailers. The student ministry team reaches out to teens around the nation by traveling to churches, schools and community events.

The students invited Dodson, star of the YouTube sensation, but it was also featured on numerous television news channels. It was also call-in guests to a Los Angeles talk show.

We were on the phone, and Antoine Dodson responded to our questions. "We were shocked, and we were surprised," he said. "We would have liked to have top it, but knowing the people now, wondering what (we) are going to come up with." Gregoire said. "I don't know how or when it will happen, but now holds a tighter bond with memories after her passing because of a year of illness. According to Spear's obituary, a communi­cation of life was conducted December 28 at the Heritage Funeral Service in Lynchburg. As the founder and director of the graduate nursing program, Spear had a passion for mentoring students and taught in Liberty's Nursing Department for 21 years. Her pro­fessional areas of practice included commu­nity and obstetric nursing. She also had many articles published related to maternal care issues and pregnancy. Spear received her bachelor of science in nursing from Liberty and was one of the first students in the program. In 1986, she attended the University of Virginia to receive her master of science in nursing along with close friends and colleagues, Dr. Lynne Sanders, who is currently an associate professor of nursing. "She always wanted to teach at Liberty," Sanders said. "That's my goal." Spear was young and was a cher­ished mother of four children and five grand­children.

The team known that expectations are much higher now, especially because the video has received so much attention. "I think everyone has that expectation now, wondering what (we) are going to come up with," Gregoire said. "I don't think we can top it but knowing the people that are on the team there's always something we can come up with." Brandenburg said that at the end of the day vision is a lot more than being on stage.

The ministry team reaches out to teen­agers through music and drama by traveling to different churches and leading discipleship. Now conferences and retreats with "Most of the time we spend with these kids are spent just being mentors to them," Brandenburg said. "We're creative people, but we're in a heart ministry. We're not stars."
The War on Health Care Reform

KATIE BELL
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The GOP-led House of Representatives has made good on a campaign promise. This past week they voted to repeal President Obama's signature pieces of legislation, Health Care Reform.

"House Republicans moved quickly after their own election victory to dismantle the nation's health care system," Seth McLaughlin of the Washington Times noted.

Congress voted to repeal Health Care Act 249-199 with a compromise. All members of the GOP voted in favor of repealing the law, while 217 Democrats and two independents voted against it.

The problem with President Obama's Health Care legislation is that it is unconstitutional at its very core. "The United States government cannot force a citizen to purchase health insurance," House Speaker John Boehner (R-OH) said.

For the first time in its history, the American people have a voice in Washington, DC. All members of the House Republican Conference voted in favor of repealing "ObamaCare." Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid (D-NV) has made it clear that he will not bring the vote of a repeal to the Senate floor, according to the Washington Post.

I have a problem with the assumption here that somehow the Senate can be a place for legislation to go into a cul-de-sac or a dead end.

Eric Cantor

The next time someone stereotypes you or makes fun of you for being a business major, you should know that you are not alone. All women in mainstream movies, music, and other forms of entertainment strongly stereotype women. For example, the article "Media and Women" says that "girls and women are motivated by love and emotion, appeal to the superficial status," think twice.

It is not always easy to learn. Advertising and TV shows portray what women should be like. They show women as weak, timid, and fearful of failure. Remember, everyone fails, but it is up to you to overcome your failures.

A young novelist wrote the article, based on her personal experiences of people telling her what she was and was not capable of achieving. She told her son in high school that her grades were not good enough to get into a great college, and her writing was not "good enough" to become an author. Then, the young woman was published one day. Then, the young woman was published one day.

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SGA bill produces smoking gun

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You could use your gun when brought to Liberty to a senior in high school. I interviewed for a prestigious scholarship at a North Carolina school. The interview went well, and I was confident that I'd been accepted. I knew that I didn't have to answer the questions like I was in the face of some one thing I wasn't expecting. I would probably react this way. A gunnan wasn't the way I was thinking. I was raised in the south, therefore it is a requirement that I love guns. I even own my very own, 22 caliber rifle, but I wouldn't bring it to class.

On Dec. 6, 2010, the Liberty University Student Government Association passed legislation that would change current university policy to allow students who are licensed to carry a concealed weapon to carry on campus.

"We use Virginia Tech as our example," someone who went to a gunnam where (with the intent to use it), no law is going to stop them from using it. SGA executive secretary Tiffani Orne said. "It happened. It's going to bring a gun on campus with intent to shoot, they would be more inclined to do it if they knew others were carrying."
TWO GENERATIONS OF MARINES — Jared Delello sits with his grandfather who taught in Officer Candidates School and was also a machine gunner.

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In the daily bustle of campus life, many students may not realize that they are sharing their classrooms with heroes.

Cpl Jared Delello is one of those students.

Upon finishing high school, the California native followed his grandfather’s example and joined the Marine Corps. Delello trained as a mortarman with the 2nd Battalion, 7th Marines, Weapons Company and became a machine gunner when the unit shipped to Al Anbar Province, Iraq during the troop surge in 2007.

“Deployment is an adventure,” Delello said. “A lot of horrible things can happen, but you see God’s hand through it.”

Delello said the Iraqis were very hospitable; families would often invite his squad over to meet them and would cook breakfast or tea for everyone. A “foreign exchange” type of system was set up where the squad would go to a village and stay in someone’s house for three days.

“The Marines would pay rent, fortify the house and patrol the neighborhood while getting to know the family.”

“Misconceptions can go around, but if you’re living right there next to them and talking to them daily, they see just another person,” he said. “It’s kind of cool.”

Returning home after seven months overseas felt like waking up from a long dream, he said. Delello described the time like parole: with only a limited amount of freedom, the Marines would try to cram as much as they could into their short time off. He said that all the impulses are kind of extreme; war is extreme, and it makes people extreme.

After a brief time back in the U.S., the 7th Marines shipped out again, this time to Afghanistan. The battalion was hit hard, but Delello said God helped him through it.

“When I got back from Afghanistan, everything started to feel more real,” he said. “After my second deployment, all my life more easily blended together.”

Now at Liberty, Delello is studying government and politics with the intention of running for office in South Carolina where his relatives live. He is involved on campus as a prayer leader and the president of the Student Veterans Group.

“T get to see God’s goodness in a war zone, and I can strengthen some sanity into everyday life,” he said. “I’m really thankful that I have these experiences — it helps me keep everything in perspective.”

Speaking of other veterans, Delello asked that people just walk up and say thank you or shake their hand.

“He said that no one knows how many friends they had to leave behind or what hardships they went through, and asking about their experiences validates what they did.

“When you go ask (a veteran) about his experiences, he’s thinking more about his friends that either went through harder times or are not there anymore,” he said. “That probably means a lot to a lot of guys.”

ADAMS is the copy editor.

HERO AMONG US — Cpl. Jared Delello, a second-generation Marine, served as a machine gunner in both Iraq and Afghanistan.
January 25, 2011
Liberty Champion / A

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**TAKING THE PLUNGE** — (Above) Students in swimsuits and various costumes show up to brave the cold and take the plunge at Camp Houdaaway. (Below) Last year, 50 plungers pledged to raise more than $8,000 in support for the Special Olympics of Virginia.

**Polar Plunge: Who will take the dare?**

Students brave freezing waters to raise money for Special Olympics

ASHLEY ELIA

Lynchburg residents will plunge into icy water in support of the Special Olympics Virginia (SOVA) on Feb. 26, at the Hill City Polar Plunge Festival. The event has been a great success, according to Josh Walker, director of Special Olympics Piedmont region.

‘‘Last year, the event more than doubled in profit and attendance compared to the previous year in 2009, which was the first Polar Plunge Festival in Lynchburg,’’ Walker said.

The annual festival, held at Camp Houdaaway, will include a battle of the bands, food, community fellowship and daring individuals who will jump into freezing cold water.

‘‘Last year’s plungers overcame the cold temperatures ranging in the 20s in order to bring awareness and support for a cause that touches the lives of more than 10,000 children and adults with intellectual disabilities in Virginia,’’ Walker said.

The university’s Public Relations Student Association (PRSA) offers a way for the community to meet their fellow citizens and realize that although the athletes have their challenges, they also have much joy to bring and talents to offer.

‘‘We are excited to see that we have people in our area willing to jump into a lake in the middle of the winter in support of the Special Olympics athletes,’’ Benjamin Kelly, a Liberty student and brother of a child with Down Syndrome, said. ‘‘I want to be part of the community and bring me great joy.”

‘‘We will be giving to the top fundraisers on resident halls and sports teams. There will also be something called ‘Plunge Your Pet’ in which the students can group together to raise $1,000 and choose their own pet plunger. This year, our goal is to raise $13,000,’’ Walker said.

Festivities begin at 10 a.m., and the plunge will take place at 2 p.m. Last year’s plungers did not simply dress in a swimsuit. Many plunged in various costumes. One man came dressed as Superman and another dressed as a banjo. Spectators are welcome to watch and pay spectators in either event at the festival. The funds raised at the event directly support the opportunity for SOVA athletes to train and compete in more than 2,000 events annually free of charge. Fifty percent of the money raised at the event will be given to Area 24 Special Olympics, and 50 percent will go to Special Olympics Virginia in which ‘‘we have no mission other than to ensure that God doesn’t make mistakes when he creates a person,’’ Walker said. ‘‘Our purpose is to give those who otherwise would never have the opportunity the chance to compete in the athletics of their choice.’’

While the festival is free, $100 must be raised in order to plunge, and many participants have raised the money through support from family and friends. Those attending will eat at the Liberty’s LifeStyle Center and take shuttle buses to Camp Houdaaway.

The university’s Public Relations Student Association (PRSA) chapter is planning and hosting the festival of the funds portion of the event. Last year, the band winners earned free recording time at a local Lynchburg studio and a complimentary photo session provided by another local vendor.

The event is held through the SOVA way according to season. Written events include speed skating, snowboarding, alpine skiing and tennis. In the spring, events include basketball games and skills competitions. In the summer, athletes enjoy tennis, track and field, swimming, softball, bowling and power lifting. In the fall, SOVA offers both bowling, volleyball, frisbee and kickball. ‘‘Special Olympics gives me joy in knowing that my baby brother is going to have something that’s unique to him and give him something to look forward to,’’ Kelly said. ‘‘It is something to push him to do his best effec­tively and personally and something that is going to help him be special.’’

Walker said that children and athletes with intellectual disabilities are those that are able to participate in SOVA. According to the American Association on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (AAIDD), an intellectual disability is ‘‘a disability characterized by significant limitations both in intellectual functioning (measured by formal test) and adaptive behavior, which covers a range of everyday social and practical skills.’’

The Polar Plunge Festival at Hill City provides a way for the community to meet their fellow citizens and realize that although the athletes have an intellectual disability, they have much joy to give and talents to offer.

**ELIA is a news reporter.**

**Low-income citizens to benefit from Law School**

Program to offer free tax assistance

KATIE BELL

For the third year in a row, Liberty University Law students will offer the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) Program. The program is a pro bono service which assists taxpayers who make $49,000 or less annually in preparing their income tax returns.

Volunteers are composed of Liberty law students, and each volunteer has been certified by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) to prepare income tax returns.

The VITA program will be held in the Mountain View Recreation of the law school. Sessions will be held from 4 p.m. to 9 p.m. on Jan. 31, Feb. 14 and Feb. 27, as well as from noon to 6 p.m. on Saturday, Feb. 5.

Appointments are not necessary during scheduled hours.

There are a limited number of appointments available during the scheduled hours upon request.

In 2010, Liberty Law Students prepared more than 100 income tax returns and collectively spent close to 200 hours preparing the returns.

‘‘Our faculty and students are committed to providing free legal services to those who need assistance with preparing their tax returns,’’ Dean Matthew Bennett said in a statement. ‘‘The program has been very successful because of the commitment of our students. I am very proud of them for using their legal skills to help these individuals.’’

There are 200 law schools approved by the American Bar Association (ABA). Liberty University is one of only 24 law schools featured on the American Bar Association’s (ABA) 2010-11 VITA Participating, Law Schools Veteran Sites list.

For more information regarding the VITA program, visit the IRS website at www.irs.gov or call the law school at 434-592-3100.

**BELL is the opinion editor.**
Triple-digit affair in the Vines

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T he Virginia Military Institute's operational order for Thursday's game was simple: outshoot Liberty Win. What they didn't expect was a battery of long-range missiles tagged David Minaya, Gordon Evan and Jeremy Anderson and a hand-grenade point guard classified Jesse Sanders.

In Liberty's first home game back in front of a fiftyishly returned, raucous student body, Liberty stunned the nation's leading offense (92.7 ppg) with efficient, clean defense and lethal 3-point shooting, all en route to a 106-82 victory.

"I don't think we could have played much better offensively," head coach Dale Layer said, citing Liberty's low turnover ratio, high shooting percentage and barrage of three-pointers.

Give 'Em the D

Liberty entered the contest boasting statistically the best defense in the Big South, holding opponents under 64 points per game. Sanders attributed the Flames defense to simple tenacity.

"We're trying to lock down on the defensive end," Sanders said. "We're trying to be the toughest team every time we step out on the court, no matter (who we are playing). We may not always be the biggest or the most talented, but we always want to be the toughest team.

In Thursday night's contest, that defense wobbled early as guard Austin Kenon ripped off VMI's first 8 points, but tightened down the stretch into halftime. Gordon was given the responsibility of pestering arguably the Big South's Player of the Year in Kenon — a daunting task, given that Kenon was the 23rd leading scorer in the country as of Thursday.

The Flames defense held VMI to its par 6-14 3-point shooting in the first half, but allowed nothing significantly more than that firing out a respectable Keydet field goal percentage. The Flames trotted into the locker room at halftime up 42-33, thanks to dominating paint-work by John Brown and Minaya's smooth jumper.
Intramural sports open for new season

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The beginning of a new semester means many things to a college student. Books must be bought, supplies purchased and class schedules set. With all the schoolwork and stress of academics, activities are needed to allow students to have an enjoyable college experience.

At Liberty, one of these activities is participation in intramural sports.

Dodgeball, rec, pool, basketball, softball and new winter intramurals are all available as well as other competitive activities in the spring semester’s intramural season.

“We have over 3,000 students that participate in intramural sports,” intramural officer Penelope Shroyer said. “It was appealing because there were several sports I could play, and I was able to team up with friends who were also appealing to students.”

In order to be eligible for participation, one must simply be a full time student or faculty member and pay the necessary fees at Liberty.

Others who these sports are voluntary and intended for the participants enjoyment. “These intramural sports are for students who always enjoyed playing sports and wanted to continue to play them competitively as well as have fun,” Grigg said.

Intramural sports allow students with busy schedules to still participate in athletics. “Intramural sports are perfect for students with busy schedules because the commitment level is low,” Liberty student Sean Rose said. “I was also really surprised by the intensity involved in these sports which is something I thrive off of.”

Registration for intramural sports opened Jan. 1, but each sport has its own deadline for involvement.

Deadlines that are coming up this week include table tennis and billiards on Jan. 16, and basketball on Jan. 27. These deadlines can be found at leisure@liberty.edu.

FAST BREAK —Chene Phillips churns down the court leaving VMI defenders in his wake. The Flames solid defense and 3-point shooting lifted them over the nation’s leading offense in VMI.

MEN’S BASKETBALL

Men’s basketball

The men’s basketball team won out of its seven games over Christmas break. Their 6-1 record secured them second in the Big South Conference each game. Liberty freshman guard John Cadle Sanders scored a career-high 16 points against Coastal Carolina in a 54-53 win over the Chanticleers Jan. 8 that resulted in a 70-67 victory over Coastal Carolina in a slugfest with the Flames up by nine. The 4,488 in attendance peaked to a solid 21 points courtesy of the Flames’ lethal “5 percent 3-point shooting and back-to-back crowd-riling Anderson 3-pointers by Sanders, three fouls by Turner, and make shots; it’s just great to see him receive such recognition,” Liberty freshman Kurtis Becker said. "For David to make some shots is a direct result of his hard work," Laye said. "You don’t just show up here and expect to score. You have to practice and train to make shots, and make shots you’re great to see him rewarded for his hard work.”

NUMBERS GAME

Minosa had a career night against the Keydets, scoring on nine of 16 shots, including 11 of 15 three-point attempts, which lifted his .75 percent three-point shooting and .93 percent overall field goal shooting. His current percentage ranks him fourth in the nation to date and 19th on Liberty’s all-time list. The Flames lost 100-54 the game was in January of 2009 against VMI’s Cameron Hall.

“David made some shots there is a direct result of his hard work,” Laye said. "You can’t emphasize that. You don’t just show up here and make shots, you’re great to see him rewarded for his hard work.”

The win over the Flames to a program best 8-1 in Big South play and 14-14 overall.

Liberty continues conference play against UNC Asheville Jan. 17 at the Vines Center.
Super Bowl XLV: A discussion of cheese and steel

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Back to the beginning. It’s gotta be the hair. A new Steel Curtain led by a healthy Troy Polamalu boom-waiting for Aaron Rodgers and company.

Polamalu raked up some 63 tackles in the regular season and his ability to read the run and create turn-arounds has highlighted him as one of the most dangerous strong safeties in the game.

On the other defensive unit taking the field are the two elite quarterbacks to be featured in Dallas mirror every bit of their nemeses. Standing like the 360-foot clock tower at a pocket collapses around him, Ben Roethlisberger is known for his ability to make big plays. With Hawk daring backs to run down the middle and Matthews blowing by blocks on the edge, quarterbacks have to think quickly and often throw quicker. Gift swap for Charles Woodson.

Big Ben and Mr. Rodgers

Troy Polamalu looms waiting for Aaron Rodgers to throw an interception in the 2010 week 13? He has 50+ years of a passer rating of 101.2 (regular season). In addition to his aerial acrobatics Rodgers was the second leading rushing quarterback in the league, racking up 586 yards on the ground for four touchdowns. Rodgers deadliness with alcohol is quietly round. A good match for his cadillac and offer pre-war.

QUARTERBACK

Aaron Rodgers has the poised and the weapons to control this game. Smart throws and smarter scrapping give him the edge.

RUNNING BACK

Rashard Mendenhall has all of the tangibles and intangibles that make up an elite NFL back. Speed, vision, power, balance and patience give him the edge.

WIDE RECEIVER

Green Bay has the edge in the receiving corps. Donald Driver and Greg Jennings provide the instability savvy and the ability to control for long enough for Rodgers and Young to hook up.

DEFENSE

Who has the edge? New Orleans has the edge when it comes to health. "It is a heavy equilibrium," said Coach Tomlin. "What’s your edge?"

WOMEN’S BASKETBALL

Charleston Southern 63-46 in the Vines Center to open the spring semester.

WOMEN’S BASKETBALL

Charleston Southern 63-46 in the Vines Center to open the spring semester.

CARROLL, Capt.

"The reality... is that when you’re on the bench," Carroll said, "you can’t control anything. If you come on when we start clicking, it will be Monday at 7 p.m. at home against Coastal Carolina."
Civil War Chaplains: The Untold Stories

Museum honors 150th Civil War anniversary

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With the 150th anniversary of the American Civil War approaching, Lynchburg's National Civil War Chaplains Museum is planning to commemorate the bloodiest war the nation has ever seen in a series of events within the next four years.

According to Professor Kenny Rowlette, Director of The National Civil War Research Center and Museum Foundation, there are plans of an opening ceremony to commence the museum's events. The museum will be starting with the 10th Annual Liberty University Civil War Seminar: "First Blood," on March 25 to 27 to begin covering the four years of the war. The seminar will entail a number of speakers and online gaming tournaments for teenagers including monetary prizes.

The museum will also sponsor its first Civil War Gun and Relic Show on May 20 to 21 in the Schilling Center, featuring weapons, relics, artifacts, memorabilia, and more.

The museum opened last January and pays special homage to a group who are rarely mentioned in tales of the civil war—the chaplains. "The one untold story of the Civil War is about the chaplains," Rowlette said. "They were nurses, they were mothers, they were fathers, they were counselors, they were preachers, men who spread the word." These men, who ministered to soldiers, kept them out of trouble. These guys counseled them and kept them spiritually focused. There will be an exhibit and presentation about Reverend John Jasper in celebration of Black History Month, on Feb. 17.

Rowlette said there are also future plans on expanding the museum's size and making it more hi-tech, with holograms and exhibits featuring audio stories for the viewers to listen.

SPIRITUALLY FOCUSED—Civil War chaplains had many duties during wartime, including nurses to the physically wounded and counselors to the emotionally wounded. The one untold story of the Civil War is about the chaplains. They were nurses, they were mothers, they were fathers, they were preachers, men who spread the word," he said. "These men, who ministered to soldiers, kept them out of trouble. Those guys counseled them and kept them spiritually focused."

There will be an exhibit and presentation about Reverend John Jasper in celebration of Black History Month, on Feb. 17. There are plans to celebrate the chaplains in the fall, Rowlette said.

Rowlette said there are also future plans on expanding the museum's size and making it more hi-tech, with holograms and exhibits featuring audio stories for the viewers to listen.

The mission of the National Civil War Chaplains Research Center and Museum Foundation is to educate the public and promote the study of the role of chaplains, priests and rabbis and religious organizations in the Civil War and to preserve religious artifacts, according to the museum's website.

There are not only exhibits in the museum, but the foundation is also trying to provide a research library for those interested in the Civil War and the chaplains who served in it. Lynchburg is home to a Civil War hospital center, rail center, and center of battle in 1864.

About 2,000 soldiers from Lynchburg died and a handful of chaplains came from this city. For more information regarding the museum or gun show, contact Rowlette at 434-592-4366 or visit chaplainsmuseum.org.
WORSHIP WITHOUT BARRIERS — The Liberty Guitar Ensemble and worship with German youth using popular worship songs.

International spends most of the season raising support since the weather is so cold, and we started to move in that direction, Neto said. In the winter and every Christmas, Bible Missions churches and try to raise support for their projects in Germany.

Since the guitar ensemble performs with a more classic style, it was fit well in the more traditional, Masonic churches when they are not accustomed to contemporary music.

"We started to select new students and Christmas repertoire, and we started to move in that direction," Neto said.

The guitar ensemble visited, there were youth groups that had more college-age members, so it was easier for the performers to connect with them.

"My favorite part of the trip were the times after our performances that we had the opportunities to sing worship songs with some of the German youth’s senior Mateen. Many of the popular songs then an American, so we know many of the same songs, and it was just wonderful to have something of a language barrier yet be able to worship together."

The guitar ensemble made a CD, Acoustic Greetings, which they brought and distributed in the churches in Germany. They accepted donations for the CD.

"The churches were great, and they embraced us with love and fellowship," Neto said. "After every performance, we went to a fellowship hall, we ate cold bread and coffee and had wonderful German food. German chocolates are the best in the world."

I loved seeing the love of Christ show them many of the German Christians that we met, as they were so welcoming toward us," Groenewegen said.

There is talk of the guitar ensemble taking more similar trips in the future to work with the Bible Missions international.

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While liberty faculty and students were preparing for exams at the end of the fall semester, the guitar ensemble traveled to perform in churches all over the country of Germany.

Ten students and four faculty members from the Center for Worship led a trip to Massachusetts on Dec. 5 and returned on Dec. 20. In 12 days the guitar ensemble performed 14 concerts in order to raise funds for the Bible Missions International, an organization that works with orphanages and plants churches in various countries including Moldova and Kazakhstan.

"They wanted us to take a group and visit some churches and try to raise some funds and get more support for their projects in Germany, assistant professor of Voice and Guitar Leon Neto said.

Dr. Vernon Whaley who has traveled to work with the Bible Missions International several times in the past approached Neto last year about the idea to go to Germany.

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more contemporary music.

"We started to select new students and Christmas repertoire, and we started to move in that direction," Neto said.

In the winter and every Christmas, Bible Missions churches and try to raise support for their projects in Germany.
GIVING BLOOD TO SAVE LIVES

Lynchburg Red Cross encourages students to donate

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Two young men sat patiently waiting in the chair that faced the back hallway in DeMoss. Each of them pressed at fellow students who hurried off to class, and nodded thousand of the nurse who would call them to her station. "It's for a good cause," junior Terrence Sauter said. He looked over the paperwork given to him before returning it to the desk. "I've given about eight to ten times," he said. "I've given to him before returning it to the desk."

Students to donate

"I've donated multiple times over the past three years. It feels good to be a blessing to those who need blood," said senior Terence Sauter.

The need for blood does not stop, Mitchell said. "We can always say, 'my neighbor's going to give,' or will just drive by and think that someone else will do it, but there is no guarantee in that. The only person who it is people actually come out and give."

Mitchell said the winter months pose a challenge to the Red Cross giving poor weather for storing their collection. "The winter months are always tough, so unfortunately the donations do go down," Mitchell said. "We are now about 500 units of blood behind where we need to be, so we are trying to avoid a shortage."

The blood collected is provided to 42 hospitals in over 20 counties in the Appalachian area, Deyerle said. "It always says one thing that really seems to stick," Mitchell said. "And that is, it is our civic responsibility to maintain the community's blood supply."

Deyerle recommends that those preparing to give blood make healthy food decisions and increase fluid intake for two to three days before giving.

A complete list of requirements and instructions for donation can be found on the American Red Cross website.

For further information about the Lynchburg and Campbell County Red Cross blood drives, contact Mitchell at 540-580-7196.

JENNINGS is a feature reporter.
High-strung humor: 'The Mikado'

Liberty's Opera Workshop performs classic operetta

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Liberty's Opera Workshop will perform a classic operetta, 'The Mikado."

The play, which was written by Gilbert and Sullivan, was first performed in 1885. It has since been performed around the world and is considered a classic of its genre.

The play will be performed on Jan. 27, 28, and 29, with tickets available at the Liberty Theater box office. Performances are at 7:30 p.m. each night.

The cast includes seniors Jason Irizarry, Poobah; juniors Andrew Struhar and Jeremy Redden, Ko-Ko; freshmen Sophia Currie, Yum-Yum; and senior Tina Kompelien, the elderly antagonist Katisha.

While the play is about a young wandering sage, it also highlights works of the late 19th century. This opera is set in Japan, which was considered a distant and exotic locale during the 19th century.

The addition of these teams has expanded the opportunities for ministry, providing a greater variety of ways to use talent, according to vocalist and electric guitarist Ben Bruce.

"The unity that we have as one team is hard to put into words," Bruce said. "It’s a little bit of a work in progress, but it’s the character that keeps you there."