

Libyan government faces overhaul after fall of Qaddafi

BY MOLLY BRUCE

Over the past year, there have been constant reports of civil unrest and public uprisings in northern Africa, especially in Libya.

Feb. 16, 2011 marked the beginning of the protests against Libyan dictator Muammar al-Qaddafi. Originally concentrated in Benghazi, within days, anti-Qaddafi demonstrations spread across the country. Nearly every major city was in upheaval and the death toll numbered in the hundreds.

Libyan opposition member Ibrahim Jibreel commented, "Libyan people have been oppressed for more than 41 years and they see to the west and to the east of them, people have been able to rise and to change their fate."

Still, the opposition forces in Libya would not overthrow Qaddafi as easily because of the dictator's firm grip on the oil economy.

With the support of the military, the Libyan government was able to dispel rebel forces from many of the cities surrounding the capital of Tripoli. Despite costly ground and air attacks by the Libyan military and a rising death count, opposition groups maintained weak control of Benghazi.

The national community was catapulted into the situation on March 17, 2011 when the UN Security Council authorized military action in Libya, leading to British,

French, and U.S. intervention.

As Minister of Justice Mustafa Abdul Jalil said, "The entire world has reached the consensus that Qaddafi and his regime have not only lost their legitimacy but also their credibility."

The international community helped the rebels make headway in their fight against the Qaddafi government. However, neither party could agree on a mutually pleasing course of action.

The fighting continued and the International Criminal Court pressed charges against Qaddafi, intelligence chief

minister Mustafa Abdul Jalil was appointed the new leader of Libya. On his plans for the new Libyan state, Jalil said "We are the same as people in other countries, and are looking for the same things... We want a democratic government, a fair constitution, and we don't want to be isolated from the world anymore."

The international community has a warrant for Qaddafi's arrest, once he is found. He ordered attacks on peaceful civilians when the Libyan uprising began.

It is likely that, if captured, Qaddafi will stand trial and



Qaddafi attempts to rally support.

Courtesy of Newsweek.com

Abdulla al-Sensussi, and Saif al-Islam for war crimes against humanity.

Although the Libyan rebel Transitional National Council was internationally recognized as the new Libyan government in July 2011, the true end to Qaddafi's regime did not come until nearly a month later.

On Aug. 21, 2011, rebel fighters and citizens of Tripoli captured Qaddafi's compound, forcing his family and him to flee the country.

In his place, former justice

be convicted for war crimes against humanity. If found guilty, Qaddafi could face life in prison.

Still, the new Libyan leader, Mustafa Abdul Jalil, is not delaying construction of a new Libyan government, but rather pushing forward.

Abdul Jalil commented, "We strive for a state of the law, for a state of prosperity, for a state that will have Islamic sharia law as the basis of legislation."

The theatre program: NCSSM's best-kept secret

BY NOAH LIEBERMAN

NCSSM hosts many nationally acclaimed programs. Besides the school's Science and Math Departments, which are counted among the best in the country, the school has an outstanding Humanities Department, an abundance of foreign languages, several engineering and computer sciences courses, and mentorship and research opportunities that are second to none. However, when one is listing the accolades of NCSSM, very rarely do you hear he or she mention the theatre program.

Adam Sampieri has been head of the theatre program for five years and describes his program as "the best kept secret in the school." However, Sampieri says the theatre program does not want to stay a secret any longer.

In order to understand the theatre program, one has to understand the passion that drives its participants.

He says that he views his role here not only as instructor and supervisor, but as artistic director.

"I get bored just directing what's written in the stage directions," Sampieri says, "We need diversity and creativity in creating work." It is this motto that has driven Sampieri to make innovative decisions, from last year's show *Radio X*, which was compiled exclusively from old radio transcripts, to his decision to include a chorus of mimes in the school's production of *Love's Labour's Lost*. It is this willingness to experiment that sets the

school's theatre program apart from all the others in the state.

Still, Sampieri says that he could not accomplish all he does without the dedicated theatre community at the school, which he describes as "the heart and soul of the program."

Among the members of this community are Zack Fowler, who has starred in every production, and Coraline Badgett, who has been part of the dedicated tech crew. Both are members of the Drama Board and are quick to point out the great sense of community in the program.

For Fowler, his shining moment came in the opening night of 2011 winter musical, *Footloose*. "There's just such high energy and high interest from everyone. It's when I

realized theatre can pull the school together."

Likewise, Badgett's greatest moments are during the shows when she and her team are keeping the show running. "We're

always making sure things run smoothly behind the scenes. We're ninjas."

All these members of the theatre community agree on one thing: the need for others to get involved.

"Don't be afraid," says Fowler, "We're a tight community and everyone can help to grow the department."

Sampieri echoed those sentiments. "Anyone who gets on stage will have my highest respect win lose or draw. The three words we always say before a show are you, me, and us because it takes the work of all of us."

"We need diversity and creativity."

NCSSM hosts its first cross country meet

BY AHMED ZAEEM

NCSSM held a cross country meet on campus on Tuesday, Sept. 13. This was the first time that NCSSM had hosted a race on its own turf.

Many students came out to the race to show their support for the runners. Having student support meant a lot to many runners on the team.

It also gave the NCSSM students an opportunity to witness a meet for the first time. The residential aspect of NCSSM makes it difficult to go to other meets as spectators.

Senior Debanjali Kundu says, "It was really cool to see everyone running around the track on NCSSM's campus. It was fun that we were able to cheer on our runners on their home track."

Coach Nick Lehman was debating whether or not to hold the meet on campus or at

a local park.

Lehman continues, "We decided to hold the meet at NCSSM because we thought that runners from other schools would enjoy visiting our campus, even from a competitive perspective. Not to mention, the students of NCSSM would be able to watch all the action."

The course was a total of 5 kilometers (or 3.1 miles), standard for a high school race. From what the campus offered as far as topography, the course seemed to defy expectations.

The course had three loops. The women's team ran before the men's team. Runners began on the corner



NCSSM students competing in cross country meet.

Courtesy of Samantha Hartsoe

of the soccer field. They ran around the softball field and exited through the gates near Hunt East.

They then proceeded to Watts Circle, up to the Bryan Parking lot, and then down to the corner of Sprunt Street and Broad Street, running back down in the opposite direction along the dirt path that surrounds campus. The runners then followed Sprunt Street up to the gates that led into the IM fields.

The next part of the course required the runners to change terrain and run up the sidewalk that led up to the PEC along Maryland Avenue. Once the runners went around the PEC and back down into the soccer field, they repeated the loop.

At the end of the third lap, the runners finished their lap around the soccer field. They sprinted to the finish, rather

than exiting the gate again.

Senior Stephen Mulherin finished among the top contenders in the race. He says that both NCSSM teams exhibited "great performance and determination".

Cedar Ridge, DSA, and Franklin Academy displayed great enthusiasm for being on our campus. The success of the meet was the result of the organization and collaboration of Lehman and other members of the NCSSM Athletic Department.

Based on the success of this meet, Mulherin claims, "There will be more to come".

Both the NCSSM men's and women's teams finished in first place. Prior to the race on campus, the men's team was ranked eleventh in all classifications of high school cross country teams in North Carolina.