The university is opening a new observatory center in the spring. Ashley McAlpin, associate professor of Osteopathic Medicine, has been working with officials from Virginia College of Osteopathic Medicine for several years to plan and prepare for the center's approval and establishment. The university has wanted to replicate Martin came to Liberty from Edward Via College of Osteopathic Medicine. "Dr. Ronnie Martin is a committed Christian, having served most recently at another Christian medical school," Falwell said. His prior experience includes founding an osteopathic school of medicine in Oklahoma and serving in a leadership role with the body that accredits schools of osteopathic medicine. His qualifications make him uniquely qualified to take this next step toward establishing the new School of Osteopathic Medicine by hiring Dr. Ronnie Martin.

The university took its first step toward establishing its School of Osteopathic Medicine by hiring Dr. Ronnie Martin. According to his sister, Kim Yeatts, "Dr. Martin is an asset. We've been thinking about it for a number of years, trying different things, starting different programs," Moore said. According to Moore, Liberty University has wanted to replicate the community experience provided to those on campus to the entire side of the university. "We've been thinking about it for a number of years, trying different things, starting different programs," Moore said.

See INTERACTIVE, A8

Babcock injured in crash

Melanie Oelrich melanieo@liberty.edu

A Liberty University professor is in critical condition after he was involved in a motorcycle crash Friday morning.

John Babcock, an adjunct professor in the College of General Studies, was traveling on his motorcycle around 8 a.m., when he hit a Chevy sedan on Old Forest Road. According to a News and Advance press release, after crashing into Babcock's motorcycle, the sedan slid into the path of a truck, which also collided with Babcock's motorcycle. According to Moore, Liberty University has wanted to replicate the community experience provided to those on campus to the entire side of the university. "We've been thinking about it for a number of years, trying different things, starting different programs," Moore said.

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See INTERACTIVE, A8
Dunkin’ Donuts will be joining the growing list of dining options on Liberty’s campus when it replaces the Keyhole Convenience Store later this semester.

A specific date for the addition of the popular doughnut shop has not been released, but the university did assure that it is coming this semester. According to Dining Director Manager Lori McCall, the constriction of the new pedestrian-based provider students with easier access to attain more convenience items, lowering student interest in the options offered by the Keyhole.

This will be the first Dunkin’ Donuts location of its kind in the Lynchburg area, according to retail manager Keith Wilson, who will manage the location. Wilson assured that the venue will be up to Liberty’s standards and will offer the full array of menu items such as hot or cold coffee, breaking substitutions and fresh pastries.

The Dunkin’ Donuts will give students an alternative place to grab something during lunch, providing greater convenience to students.

In Season:

Dellacay—The popular coffee and donut shop will make its way to campus by mid-October.

“Culinary innovation, student input, health and wellness, customer service and sustainability program.”

Niceline: Dunkin’ Donuts pose admission to their students on a campus.

“We are passionate about offering our guests delicious products they will enjoy, giving them plenty of new options...”

**A2/Liberty Champion**

Nicole Storvendahl

Nicole Storvendahl/For the Liberty Champion

For 22 consecutive years, the makers of Tea

Champion encourages community members to submit letters to the editor on any subject. Letters will be judged on their clarity of thought and accuracy. Letters may be edited for length and clarity. Please provide your name and phone number.

Student demand helped build this particular Dunkin’ Donuts, which can be taken as an indicator of the university’s future success. “I’m so excited, I was from the north,” Liberty student Keira Millet said.

“I don’t really like doughnuts, but I love the Dunkin’-Donuts,” Mili

With Dunkin’s widespread branch appeal coupled with the fact that it’s the first of its kind in the Lynchburg area, we hope that the location will be well serviced by the student body and create a lasting level of excitement for years to come,” Wilson said.

According to Middles, Liberty Dining’s goal is to cater mainly to the student body, but the scarcity of Dunkin’ Donuts in the Lynchburg area may give it major appeal in the Lynchburg community.

“Dunkin’ Donuts does make, So-

deser employment Kristen Brenner said, ‘I grew up with Dunkin’ Donuts, I’m excited to have it on campus.’

**ANGIUS is a new reporter.**

**Tyleenor honors LU nursing student**

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Nicole Storvendahl/For the Liberty Champion

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For 22 consecutive years, the makers of Tea.
I won't pretend the path I'm offering is quick or easy. If you haven't asked me to tell you what you wanted to hear. You elected me to tell you the truth...

And the truth is, it will take more than a few years for us to solve challenges that have built up over decades.

For me: met workers in Detroit and Toledo who feared they were one of the last manufacturing jobs; the average American car. And today, they can't build them fast enough, because we're reviving a dying auto industry that's back on top of the world...

And now you have a chance. We can get education, or we can continue to allow the United States of America, no child should have her dreams deferred because of a crowded classroom or a crumbling school. No family should have to see a college acceptance letter because they don't have the money. No company should have to look for workers overseas because they can't find any with the right skills here at home. That's not our future. That is not our future...

I promised to reduce on the termites that actually attacked us on 9/11. And we have. We've blunted the Taliban's momentum in Afghanistan, and in 2014, our longest war will be over.

A new tower rises above the New York skyline, al-Qaida is on the path to defeat and Osama Bin Laden is dead.

America, I never said the journey would be easy, and it won't promise that soon. Yes. Our path is hard, but it leads to a better place. Yes, our road is longer, but we traveled it together. We don't walk back. We leave no one behind. We have to push each other. The strength from our victories, and the lessons we've learned from our mistakes, but we're kept us connected on that high harmonic. Learning that Providence will be true, and that we are supplied to be citizens of the greatest nation on Earth.

To watch the entire speech, visit gopconvention.com/photos.

A transcript version is available at libertyhamp.com.

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Voter registration draws to a close

Tableta Cassidy<br>tuoherty@libertyhamp.com

With only 34 days left to register to vote in Virginia, Liberty University students, faculty and staff have been given ample opportunities to guarantee that their voice is heard during the 2012 General Election, Nov. 6.

The Dean of Students office has partnered with the Student Government Association (SGA) to help staff voter registration tables around campus, according to Senior Gunital, Officer Mark Hyde. While students can register to vote at the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) or online at brickhouse.org, the tables set up in DeMoss Hall, the Tidley Center and the Bob Thomas Dining Center make it "easy" for students to register, Hyde said. Students can also visit the Dean of Students office, located in Green Hall 1810.

"That is always a good spot for students to stop by during business hours and register to vote," Hyde said.

One year, as seen by the 2000 presidential elections, can make all the difference. According to the Federal Election Commission’s 2011 report,abebege, George W. Bush defeated Al Gore when the race was left in the hands of Florida voters. Bush won by 271 votes in Florida.

While Gore received 481,577 votes, according to the state’s popular vote for the presidency, Bush won because the Florida ballots had to be counted in those districts with the closest margin of the vote. The final total was Bush 271, Gore 266.

"That’s part of being an educated voter — knowing what your vote means, wherever you cast it," Hyde said.

The deadline for registering to vote through Liberty’s services is Oct. 15, according to Hyde. Because Liberty needs time to confirm that the registrations are completed correctly, students must turn in their registration form by Oct. 15.

However, eligible voters have until Oct. 15 to register in the commonwealth of Virginia at the DMV, along with the Registrar’s office, according to the Division of Elections.

Students living on campus can write their address down at 1971 University Blvd. and vote in the Voter Center on Nov. 6, according to Hyde. However, students living at the residential ANNEX will not be eligible to vote in the Voter Center, as their address will be different, Hyde said.

Their polling place will be the SGA tailgate and Commuter tailgate.

According to Chancellor Peter K. Grbic, students are provided for ANNEX students wishing to vote.

"Students will not be car-

Tableta Cassidy<br>tuoherty@libertyhamp.com
A call for patriotism 11 years later

Kevin Thompson kthompson@isis.org

Controversial

It's the op in ion editor.

Jenifer Williams | Feature

Making the case for adoption

Controversial concerns concerning adoption have left adoptive families flabbergasted and upset

Andrew Woodell | A call for patriotism 11 years later

Woolfolk is the opinion editor.

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In their annual 2009 report, the National Council on the Study of Social Policy recommended that teachers in high-poverty schools be given higher salaries. The council did not base its recommendation on research, but rather on the belief that it would be more effective in improving student performance.

When Christie was elected in 2009, he proposed a controversial policy that would allow students who are not college-bound to attend vocational schools. The policy was rejected by the legislature.

Christie did not call on at least one design for his TV grab with problem-solving is also a carryover. Federal-looking looking at New Jersey's Board of Education has not yet ruled on whether to grant a charter school or to approve a new school. The charter school proposal has been denied by the Department of Education, but Christie has expressed support for it.

The charter school proposal has been criticized by some education experts, who argue that it is too ambitious and that it will not have a significant impact on student achievement.
The anniversary of a catastrophe

Memorial and museum opened at the location of the Twin Towers, encouraging reflection and contribution

Melanie Oelrich

Sept. 11, 2012 marks the 11th anniversary of the day that New York City placed itself into one of the greatest tragedies in U.S. history. Most undergraduate students were in elementary school at the time that this catastrophe struck our nation.

In fact, I can remember what it was like for me; a fourth grader; we watched the news that morning and attempt to piece what was happening on our television screen. I had just turned up to get ready for school, and the moment on screen told me what was happening. I thought it was just a terrible dream. At that moment, our world and our lives changed forever.

In New York City, it was a perfect Monday morning. By 9:00 a.m., the first of a series of four 110-story buildings hit the first target—the North Tower of the World Trade Center Complex in Lower Manhattan. Little did the nation know that 19 hijackers targeted four passenger jets and slammed them toward four U.S. landmarks. All the next morning, two planes had hit both the North and South Towers of the World Trade Center Complex, one flew into the Pentagon, and the last plane, designated to hit the U.S. Capital, crashed into a field in Shanksville, Pa.

Lucky, United Airlines Flight 93 was headed to San Francisco with seven crew members, 53 passengers and the last four hijackers when it crashed into a field in Shanksville. Lucky, passengers were successful in the take down of the terrorists aboard the plane and kept them from reaching their target—umably the Capital Building in Washington, D.C.

Since that fateful day, monuments and memorials now stand in place of the Twin Towers. The National September 11 Memorial and Museum in New York City offers valuable information and resources to those wanting to contribute. “On our website this year, there will be a page specifically devoted to how individuals can commemorate the day.” Joe Daniels, President of the National September 11 Memorial and Museum, said, “There will be resources that will be provided for teachers, principals and parents to help engage the younger generation and help explain and educate about such an important part of American history. There are several ways for people to get involved, such as contributing money to make sure the preservation of the artifacts continues. I just want to encourage people to do something in recognition of Sept. 11.”

Along with the option of monetary contribution, visitors and bystanders are able to sponsor a candlebore, either individually or as a gift, to help finance the memorial’s annual upkeep cost of $360 million. Sponsored candlebores serve in the embers forefront the memorial.

The 9/11 Memorial has also set up a volunteer program where community members can offer compassion, patience, integrity and communication skills as part of the Visitor Services staff. These staff members are responsible for maintaining a safe and meaningful experience at the memorial.

On Sept. 11, we saw firsthand how terrorists wanted to shake our freedom and our liberty. However, the Lord tells us in Leviticus 19:8 “to seek revenge, or bear a grudge against anyone among your people, but love your neighbor as yourself.”

Because of this, we resolved to move on, but never forget that moment.

OELRICH is an assst. news editor.

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• Facebook: www.facebook.com/AFPVA
Taekwondo now a club sport

Elizabeth Smith
ejs@liberty.edu

The world of martial arts will take a bigger step at Liberty University as Taekwondo officially becomes a club sport. It is the 30th club sport to be added to the list of athletic options and is also one of 15 sports available to both men and women.

Five-degree black belt Jon Wilson has been given the position of head coach for the Taekwondo team this year. He has studied Taekwondo since he was 12 years old and has competed in hundreds of competitions, including regional, national and world-wide tournaments.

Besides his experience in the sport of Taekwondo, Wilson has been featured in Karate Illustrated for being ranked as one of the top five martial artists in the southeast region of the US. This is Wilson’s first time teaching at a private college.

As a collegiate sport, Taekwondo actively competes as a team instead of individually at tournaments.

“It’s a team effort, but it’s a win-win combination,” Wilson said.

Liberty will be competing in the Eastern Collegiate Taekwondo Conference, which consists of over 25 schools including Harvard, Yale, Penn State and MIT. Wilson said that he has no idea what to expect or how his team will perform, but said that members are returning students and some are beginners.

“This year, as far as the team is concerned, I want to make a learning experience and at the same time build the co-op up,” Wilson said. “In the past years, Taekwondo has been a student-led event — just a group of students getting together on their own time, working out and doing it for fun. Now that Liberty has taken an interest in making it a club sport, I’m trying to recruit new students from within the school.

Because Taekwondo is a sport that primarily focuses on hand and foot techniques, the competitions are more serious.

Senior Christian Booth has been involved with the Taekwondo club since he was a freshman. Booth said that he is looking forward to getting to know his teammates, improving his skills and competing on a collegiate level.

Another new member of the team, freshman Brian Pre­ lutz, has been practicing Taekwondo since he was 7 years old.

“Taekwondo is a sport that is very competitive, and I think it is going to be a long way and good things can happen,” Prelutz said. “I think the fact that we are to be part of the first team, along with the new members, is really exciting. I’m really ex­ cited to see what the Lord has in store for me and what coach Wilson has in store.”

Taekwondo practices are held Mondays and Thursdays from 8:00 PM to 10:00 PM in the LaHaye Ice Center. Wilson welcomes students to join the new Taekwondo team, whether they have previous experience or not. He is taking new members all year long.

STEWART is a news reporter.

MCALPIN is the graduate assistant.

HEALTH continued from A1

qualified to serve as the founding dean of the Liberty University School of Os­ teopathic Medicine. We are blessed to have associated with Dr. Martin.”

Along with a new dean, Liberty is looking to house the school in a new loca­ tion.

According to a proposal from Liberty’s administration last fall, the School of Os­ teopathic Medicine will be housed in a new 100,000-square-foot facility across from the Lynchburg Airport.

“Our Poison, Dr. Ron Godwin, and his team were assisted by the adminis­ tration and faculty of the Eastern Via School of Osteopathic Medicine as they conducted extensive research and feasibility studies,” Falwell said. “Funding was approved by the Tobacco Commit­ tee and experts like Dr. Ronnie Martin were hired. When it all seemed to fall into place so quickly, we knew it was God’s will.

The new school is expected to add 175 annual spending of $9.15 million in to­ bacco facilities, 215 direct new faculty and staff jobs and $1.2 million of new state and local tax revenues, according to a Liberty-sponsored economic impact assessment, as stated in the Lib­ erty Champion Fall 2011.

“Some of the highest unemployment rates in the country can be found in Virginia communities south of Lynch­ burg. These economies were devastated when the furniture and turtles industries moved operations overseas and tobacco companies were besieged by litigation,” Falwell said. “Many communities in Southwest Virginia are underserved by medical professionals. We really have a mission field in our backyard and Liberty’s new medical school will help meet the physical and spiritual needs of hurting people. The medical school will even include a major clinic.”

According to Falwell, students en­ rolled in the program will be able to ful­ fill their Christian and Community Ser­ vice hours meeting Lynchburg residents.

MURPHY is the graduate assistant.

M. SMITH is the graduate assistant.

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PARK PLACE

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Students interested in what lies above and beyond the earth's atmosphere will be able to get a closer look this spring when Liberty opens a new observatory.

According to Vice President of Auxiliary Services (and future 400 observatory) Patrick Seaman, the observatory will be located on the second floor of the new building.

"This is a very exciting time for the observatory," Seaman said. "We've been working on this for a long time and are now finally ready to open it.

The observatory will be used for educational purposes, research, and public outreach. The facility is equipped with state-of-the-art technology and will allow students to observe celestial objects from Earth and beyond.

Liberty University will also be home to the new observatory, which will be located in the center of campus. The observatory will be open to the public for educational events and lectures.

The observatory will feature a large telescope, which will allow students to view objects in deep space. The observatory will also be home to a number of other research projects, including the study of dark matter and dark energy.

According to Seaman, the observatory will be a great asset to the university and the community. It will provide an opportunity for students to engage in hands-on research and to gain valuable experience in the field of astronomy.

"We are very excited about the new observatory," Seaman said. "We believe it will be a great asset to the university and the community. It will provide an opportunity for students to engage in hands-on research and to gain valuable experience in the field of astronomy.

The observatory will be open to the public for educational events and lectures. We are currently working on plans for a grand opening event, which will be held in the fall.

Overall, the observatory will be a great addition to the university and will provide students with a unique opportunity to engage in hands-on research and to gain valuable experience in the field of astronomy.
A 1983 graduate of Liberty, Gillespie said that he loves it here. He lived in real estate when he went to school at Liberty and never complained about the slow pace, which included wearing ties for men, or the food from the cafeteria. Even after Gillespie graduated and moved on to a successful career, he was always cheering up Liberty and hoping they would have a great football team.

Gillespie said that he trains insanely hard, about three to five times more a week than most of his competitors, and tries to best a great work ethic in his players.

According to Gillespie, it's the football team to learn that a man needs that you have in you. He said that the most frustrating thing is trying to make athletes see what they're capable of.

"I feel fulfilled when I am able to help other people. I want to build them larger and stronger," Gillespie said. "You see it is God to give all you have, and if you're going to call yourself a man, then you better know how to work. And if you don't work, then don't call yourself a man, and that's really I try to teach those kids.

You have a responsibility to your

COMMITTED — Prior to joining Flames, Gillespie trained in the weight room, on the track, in the gym, and on the field. He trains insanely hard, about three to five times more a week than most of his competitors, and tries to best a great work ethic in his players.

"I feel fulfilled when I am able to help other people. I want to build them larger and stronger," Gillespie said. "You see it is God to give all you have, and if you're going to call yourself a man, then you better know how to work. And if you don't work, then don't call yourself a man, and that's really what I try to teach those kids.

You have a responsibility to your
Panthers, 80-45. The Panthers scored 51 points in the second half, outscoring the Colonials by 20 points.

The Panthers, led by junior guard Malcolm Bost, scored 24 points in the second half. Bost made five three-pointers and scored 21 points in total.

On the other hand, the Colonials struggled to keep up with the Panthers’ fast-paced offense. They made only 11 of 37 shots from the field and were outrebounded 39-25. The Panthers dominated the game with their speed and athleticism, easily winning the turnover battle 16-9.

For the Panthers, senior guard Kyrie Irving led all scorers with 26 points, including four three-pointers. Junior forward James Southerland added 17 points and 14 rebounds.

The Colonials were led by sophomore guard Steve Masiello, who scored 16 points on 4-of-10 shooting. Freshman forward Khem Birch also contributed with 15 points and 10 rebounds.

The Panthers improved to 9-0 in conference play and 16-4 overall. They remain one of the top teams in the country and are a prime candidate for an at-large bid to the NCAA Tournament.

The Colonials fell to 4-14 overall and 0-9 in conference play. They have struggled all season, but they remain a tough team to beat and will continue to fight for a potential conference tournament berth.

Next up for the Panthers is a road game against the University of Virginia, while the Colonials host the University of Massachusetts.

**Filed by Jay Sirk, Sports Editor**
The NFL regular season kicked off Tuesday, Sept. 1, when the Dallas Cowboys defeated the defending Super Bowl champions, the New England Patriots. This year, they tried six quarterbacks before the field and coaches praised the sidelines, but unlike previous years, the regular NFL referees were not anywhere near Meadowlands Stadium.

In the middle of a bitter labor dispute, the referees could not reach an agreement with the NFL on salary and benefits before the start of the season, which means that for the time being, they will be watching games from their couches as opposed to showing the flag on the field after an illegal formation.

Another big news was the NFL's decision to use a 16-game schedule — roughly one percent of the NFL's total games per year, never has it been part of ESPN. As at stake for the referees is the current benefits package, which the commissioner and the league want to replace.

In lieu of the regular references, replacements have been hired. The replacements are a group consisting of college referees, high school referees and even a few former league referees. Replacement head referees are currently making $3,500 per game. All other replacement referees — making $2,000 per game. These replacements have been the subject of much controversy in the press, with barbecues called, referring to the irregular team and struggling through.

The NFL spent a lot of time and effort trying to get the fans to figure out how to be in the stands for the league. Said one fan: “I can’t remember in my 21 years more than a few weeks ago when I actually knew which teams were playing. It’s got to be a,’’ unspiring for coaches for players this year, and a fan to think that you’re just going to see garbage out there in the regular season that have never been in that situation.”

According to John Clayton on SportsCenter, there have been no further advancements made to work out a deal as of Sept. 3.

COMING NEXT WEEK


“Coach Bill has been a father figure to me for me from distances,” Aper said. “We haven’t gone flying together or gone out to eat, but just to come in here every day, he’s always been about what he saw and does. He’s taught me that real men work and real men know Jesus, and it is a very special thing to do, a very meaningful thing.”

THOMAS is a sports reporter.

##GILLESPIE continued from B1

FOOTBALL continued from B1

STAFF: “We believe in you,” Aper said. “We were still able to do the things we wanted to do, having Greg Kry in the game,” Gill said.

The return game was among the successes claimed by the patch-up-of- line starter, with Allen paying the bills. “It was an overall team effort,” Gill said.

SACK ATTACK -- The Flames from seven men made it a pretty easy effort for Keith Johnson to take the lead. The senior defensive tackle finished leading the team in tackles with 77. He also wanted to return his lead for Liberty in 2004.

“Bagg is a big time playmaker for us in every phase of the game and special teams when he gets a chance to touch the ball,” Gill said. “He made a couple of plays for us on the defensive side of the ball and obviously a great punt return that was a big thing that lifted us off the ground for us.”

Buggs' efforts were spoiled by special teams missteps. Twice in the fourth quarter the Flames' defense forced a punt situation, but the special teams offense was able to stop the field goal. A successful fake punt resulted in a two-yard touchdown run, and Buggs, and taking the kick on an opening kick boosted a gory field goal and allowed the Flames to run additional time off the clock.

##WITHERIE is a sports reporter.

RICK BIER | LARRY CARROLL

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Hudson's journey to field general

The Stafford, Va. native will continue into new leadership role

Jonathan Pearson
Sports reporter

OCTOBER 12, 2021

The Liberty Flames football team kicked off their home schedule Saturday, September 11. The Flames opened the season with a 24-10 victory over the Hampton Pirates.

Hudson has already impressed many people during the season, including assistant head coach Tom Hall.

"(Hudson) is a third-gear kind of player," Hall said. "He's a third gear in a market in a hostile environment that he showed great command and great leadership ability," Tisdau said. "He made very few fast decisions. Overall, I thought that he did an outstanding job for his first time at a starting league job at Liberty."

Senior wide receiver Pat Kelly is also impressed with Hudson, but more so in his interactions with the team off the field.

"My relationship with Brian has come a long way," Kelly said. "It's not that we weren't friendly, we were other a whole lot even though we are the same team. He was kind of off himself and kind of a quiet guy. He definitely have a come a long way with the new leadership role as the starting quarterback. He has branched out. He's had us. He's stepped up in his leadership and interacting with the other guys a lot too. It's cool to see him develop in that aspect.""The locker room, he knows who is who, he knows when we are quiet, he also knows how to relax and have a good time. His key to his lot his head down, you could see. He likes to take around and hang out with the guys.""The real question is that playing the starting QB, I think he's the man behind the helmet wearing the number 18.""Hudson, a junior, says that he is already maturing changes in this position.

"It's a lot different than being with a third-string player," Henderson said. "It's his benefit, and also a lot more responsibilities. I'm trying to understand my role in this team. So far, I had a great time last weekend, even though we lost. I had a lot away from it, and so did my teammates.""Academic achievement is just as important as anything in a school to him; he has a certificate that he handles that aspect well.""I think this message is being student and athletic priority well. I think I use my time wisely. I should be graduating early in December. I should have most of my harder classes out of the way. So I can hopefully use that time to focus on football a little bit more," Hudson said.

"When I'm not playing football, I really like to hang out and lay low, play some video games and watch some movies on the most typical college student.""Like many student athletes, Hudson hopes to someday play at a professional level, but he does have other goals outside of football.

"After graduation, I'll see how football goes, but if it doesn't work out, I'll think about going to chiropractic school or physical therapy school," Hudson said. "Every athlete has someone who influences him or her, and Hudson is no different.

"My parents are my biggest influence on and off the field. They have always provided encouragement and support in everything I do, even when I didn't believe in myself or my football career," Hudson said. "I didn't play for a while because I red shaved my freshman year, and then I was third string again the next year. They have always been there for me and encouraging me. They are my support system.""V-BALL continued from B1

Mitchell in the final round of the tournament.

Marshall, on the other hand, was determined to not let the Flames reach the mine. The Thundering Herd swept the match, making three straight sets (25-21, 25-19, 25-22).

Marshall had a hitting average of .306, compared to Liberty's .181. Doubles played the Flames with nine kills for the afternoon. Seniors Lauren Thomas collected seven kills and nine blocks. Overall, they had 25 assists, six blocks and seven aces.

"Marshall did a nice job in that match and outplayed us. There is no doubt about that, but they were just better than us in that moment," Pinder said.

The Lady Flames may have fallen short against Marshall, but were able to finish the tournament with a 2-1 record. Doubles and Thomas were named to the all-tournament team.

"I think this group will show great resolve and get ready to play University of Virginia and Virginia Tech next weekend," Pinder said.

Liberty will head to Charlottesville, Va. on Saturday, Sept. 15, where they will take on Virginia Tech at 3 p.m. and UCLA at 7 p.m. in the Virginia Tournament.

TYREE is a sports reporter.

DATE: September 22, 2021

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Plasma:
Intramural sports constantly improving

Chase Smith
consultant@liberty.edu

From basketball to bowling, athletic-minded students are always looking for a sport to get involved in, and the Liberty University Intramural Sports Program works to accommodate demand.

Given the growing number of students who participate, Lib­erty has added more intramural sports options and a number of new facilities to host those sports.

“The large number of student participation has influenced the growth of the new intramural sports facilities,” Ed Barhousie, Liberty’s Director of Intramural Sports, said. “When I came to Liberty in 1994, there were five sports: basketball, volleyball, flag football, soccer, and tennis, and there were only two facilities that we used. We’ve added more than a dozen facilities and we can offer more than 20 sports for the students to choose from.”

Barhousie also said that Liberty’s construction over the sum­mer included the Liberty Moun­tain Intramural Complex, which will host four additional fields that include fields for basketball, ultimate frisbee or softball.

“Then there’s a natural grass softball field that will be located at this complex, and two addi­tional volleyball courts will be added,” Barhousie said. “All of these new facilities that were being built over the summer are complete, minus the completion of the new Liberty Mountain Complex, which will be finished later this month.”

Liberty CUB provides the best college experience possible to its students, and these intramural sports programs are just one way we do that,” Barhousie said.

“From what I understand from my friends or other college sports, Lib­erty’s intramural facilities are some of the best,” Liberty junior Robert Ingraham said. “I would recommend to others to play because it gives you an opportuni­ty to relax from the stress of school and have some fun spend­ing time with your brothers and sisters in Christian­.”

According to the intramural sports website, playing on a team allows the students to grow indi­vidually and as a unit as they gain new friends. It is an outlet for people to take a break from their studies as they improve their own physical health.

“Liberty’s new facilities are amazing, and I love the constant construction near completion on new intramural facilities—located under the change they are moving to im­prove and promote the experi­ence,” Liberty junior Brande Hall said. “I’ve played intramural sports a few years now, and I have played indoor volleyball, soccer, indoor basketball, and softball.”

Barhousie also participated in intramural sports as a college student, and that decision con­tinues to benefit him.

“Intramural sports give the

Greg Leasure
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The co-creator of the Chris­tian children’s show “VeggieTales” and the familiar voice behind characters such as Bob the Tomato, Mr. Lunt, and Pogo Spug enters at Liberty University on Sep­tember 12 for the second time Monday, Sept. 3.

Many Liberty students grow up watching stories from the Bible acted out on television by talking vegetables, and Phil Vischer was one of the stars of the program.

“I thought it was really cool,” Liberty senior Justin Lidy said. “There aren’t too many Chris­tian stories in the movies and TV industry, so it was really unique. It’s a way to be a big success for students.”

Vischer spoke to students about his personal struggles after his company, Big Idea Produc­tions, went bankrupt and how God used those trials to teach him something.

According to his website, phil­vischer.co.uk, all of the company’s assets, including characters, film and songs, were sold through a public auction. Although he no longer owns the rights, he still voices numerous characters for the company that now owns “Veggie Tales,” in addition to writing one episode per year and consulting on others.

“It’s hard to create characters and then lose connection with them,” Vischer said. “It’s kind of like raising children and having the state take them away. It has allowed me to go much deeper with my newer work, whereas Veggie Tales became complete­ly absorbing. I didn’t have time to think about anything else. So, it’s not fun, but it’s good for me.”

According to Vischer, learn­ing to abide God and trust Him with what he should do next was the hardest part of the ordeal.

“It must be that God wants me to worry,” Vischer said. “He just wants me to trust. It kind of feels like He’s leading me across a stream, raising stepping stones.”

“Veggie Tales” was distributor, solid ground financially, and now I’m going into the future to find what’s next,” Vischer said that being com­fortable with the unknown has been something that he has had to learn to adjust to, and much of his two appearances at Lib­erty’s convocation was devoted to that subject.

In spite of his struggles, the self-proclaimed animator and puppeteer has landed on his feet with a few new projects. The “Phil Vischer Podcast” is a weekly all show that can be found on Itunes, and it takes a look at current events and news from a Christian perspective.

According to Vischer, his other proj­ects include “What’s in the Bible?,” a box set of DVDs that take children on a deeper into the Bible, and jehovah.org, a website with videos and games struc­ted to a Christian “Nichelodeon.”

For many Liberty students, in­cluding Lidy, Vischer will always be remembered for his Biblical­ly living vegetables.

“I actually own a couple epis­odes of “VeggieTales,” Lidy said. “I watched them at va­cation bible school and at my house.”

Now that he has more time, Vischer has started to make more speaking appearances, and to his surprise, he enjoyed it.

“Speaking is more fun than I thought it would be because I’m shy,” Vischer said. “I’m an intro­vert, which is why I was an ani­mator and a puppeteer, not an actor. Speaking is actually fun.”

Speaking to large amounts of people is not the only unfamiliar thing God has put on Vischer to do in nine years since Big Idea’s bankruptcy, and he still does not know what God has in store for him in the future. But just look­ what he said Liberty students in convocation, that is a burden for God to carry. All Vischer has to do is take things one stepping stone at a time.

‘Veggie Tales’ co-creator visits Liberty

Animateur and voice artist Phil Vischer speaks about his experience with the show at convocation.

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Animateur and voice artist Phil Vischer speaks about his experience with the show at convocation.
The city of Lynchburg took to the streets Friday night, Sept. 7, as people flocked downtown for the fourth annual GetDowntown street fair.

The event began at 6 p.m., with hundreds of people in from all around the city. Within moments, the streets filled with sights and sounds. Various vendors, including local businesses and boutiques, lined the street to host fun, simple and become a fun for their businesses.

Even though the event was initially designed for college students, it now appeals to all different types of Lynchburg residents.

"GetDowntown was originally started with college students in mind," Stephanie Kerner, the communications and events coordinator at Liberty, explained. "It is a new way to reach other students from all the other schools in the area."

Although this may have been the intended purpose, GetDowntown has become much more than an event for local college students. It has become a family-friendly event, Kerner said.

Some local artists even came just to see what the event was all about and others were there for a specific purpose, such as getting a free pedicure or having the opportunity to see local artists. For Liberty University student Josh Warlick, this was a way for him to see some of the local businesses and support the community.

Although it is far from an official event, Kerner and the students present organized about 5,000 to 10,000 people to show up.

"This is a great chance for everyone to come together. Where else can you see book-dances, bake-shops and all these other things in the same place?" Kerner said.

The entertainment was not limited to dancing and food hopping, though. There were face painters, people on stilts, live music and more. "It feels just like I'm leaving a fair," Liberty student Emily Becker said.

The White Hart, a coffee shop being right in the middle of the event, was surfeiting with customers. Not only were they open for business, but they also had a table outside promoting new products. Employee Whitney Chavis said that the season they participated in the event was for their own business and for the sake of other local businesses.

"Liberty student broda Hines, the event gave her a new appreciation of the city. "I didn't know Lynchburg was this cool," Hines said.

Next year, GetDowntown will be celebrating its fifth anniversary, and Kerner said that plans are already in the works.

TRIVETT is a feature reporter.
Video leads to Instagram adventure

Sara Wrander
swander@liberty.edu

This summer, two Liberty University students set off on a voyage directed toward capturing photos and their 9,000 Instagram followers throughout the United States. Known as the Pilgrims, Josh Johnson and Ryan Carl embarked on what would become a three-week road trip. The Pilgrims visited 137 cities in 24 days after posting a funny video on YouTube entitled “Stuff Instagrammers Say.”

The fast-paced video includes multiple clips of Johnson and Carl acting out humorous ways that people sometimes use the photo-sharing application Instagram. A few short days after the video was created, their video was posted on Instagram’s official blog and was invited to the application’s massive network of followers. “We decided to take Josh’s character, the funny character in the video, and bring him around the country,” Carl said.

Because of this idea, the two set a goal to spread community values by showing love wherever they went. They used Instagram to travel the country, capturing God’s beauty through creative pictures.

For small towns marked the beginning of a worldwide adventure for these guys.

“Hey, you wanna go camping?”

Flourishing their bags in the back of their white Toyota Corolla, the pair were directed by their 10,000 followers through pictures posted with a hashtag that served as a location guide.

“Our goal was to go into a city, post on our Instagram account that we would be meeting in a certain location and Instagram would pick us up and challenge us to take pictures in a day together with the community,” said Carl.

With the help of Thomas Fischer, who joins Wrander in the video, the guys photographed their experiences in many different corners of the country.

The meetings, referred to as “hoists,” ranged from 60 to 50 people to the largest meeting of 120 people on the Santa Monica pier in Los Angeles, Calif.

“Almost like email control the whole time. Everyone was busy getting to know each other and getting to know us,” Johnson said.

ROAD TRIP — Liberty students Josh Johnson and Ryan Carl traveled the country this summer taking creative Instagram pictures.

Designing new ideas for their followers and collecting them through Instagram hash tag, the Pilgrims created the perspective project, edification, underwate

er gram and a project involved in raising $1,000.00 after the recent police shooting. These ideas came to life during the journey to and reconvened throughout the Instagram community after their departure.

Before this trip began on July 4, Johnson and Carl agreed that they would not miss the anticipated premier of The Dark Knight Rises. They planned to watch the premiere with the Denver community and enjoy one night of relaxation.

“We would have been in Denver the day before, we had been given four free tickets to From-Here, so we went there and drove through the night. The showings happened as we were driving.” Carl said.

The Pilgrims visited Denver the day after the shooting, following their original plan. Hectical streets and crowded downtowns threw the Liberty travelers as they pulled their car in to a stop in the heart of the community.

“We were able to talk, hug and talk with family members, friends, who had just gone through that horrific tragedy,” Johnson said.

“Raise Up Among Us” was a host tag proj ect created to rally up all of Instagram to stand up against violence. Johnson and Carl’s original intention of spreading community values was soon heightened in an area that was completely shocked and shaken in gratuitous tragic.

Close to 1,000 photos were submitted by their followers of the first few days following the shooting. Many of the individuals that Johnson and Carl visited would frequently ask them what made them different. These questions often gave the Pilgrims a chance to tell people about God and, on occasion, have spontaneous dinner meetings or mini retreats in the cities they visited.

“Until we all glad that God could use our little trip in such a map to build relations with people,” Johnson said.

After traveling to many cities marked by deeps nights of driving, the summer adventure was completed. They in Nashville, Tenn. Johnson, and Carl plan to tour again, possibly creating their vision overseas and bringing community to more people as they can reach.

WRANDER is a feature reporter.

Liberty Champion/87

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Production schedule evokes excitement

Liberty Department of Theatre Arts kicks off its fall season of shows with ‘Into the Woods,’ opening Sept. 21

Greg Leonard, Professor of Theatre and Dance

Every new semester means another chance for the Liberty University Department of Theatre Arts to excite audiences and take them on a different world through their performances on stage.

This semester, they have the chance to do that with four different shows, each presenting their own type of flair. The theatre season will begin Sept. 21 with ‘Into the Woods,’” followed by ‘The Glass Menagerie,’ ‘Leaving Iowa’ and ‘She Loves Me.’

“I am looking forward to some shows that I am not even involved in,” Liberty winter theatre major Rachel Day said. “I think it really gives a chance for the actors in our department to try their hand at plays that are more diverse and delve into different aspects of what we might be able to study when we graduate. I think that the people in this department have strength to excel in their craft in those different roles.”

The premiere show of the semester, Professor Linda Nelson Cooper’s ‘Into the Woods,’ has been performed at Liberty before, but Cooper plans to do things a little differently for its debut performance in Liberty’s Tower Theatre. “Into the Woods” is a truly wacky concept, a little different than most people are going to be thinking,” Assistant Professor Claire Nelson said. “I think people are really going to enjoy the direction that the production has taken. We’re actually doing this show in a couple scenes in the past, but it will be a new twist on it. I think people will really enjoy it.”

According to Nelson, ‘Into the Woods’ will include classic characters such as Little Red Riding Hood and Cinderella, and it features challenging music, songs, and scenes for the actors to perform. “I’m pretty excited to be a part of the show and I think the actors will be too,” Nelson said. “It’s a mensural comedy, and it really runs around Christmas time.”

Assistant Professor Paul Bradstreet will direct Tremere Williams’ play ‘The Glass Menagerie,’ and Assistant Professor Andrew Gelffick will direct this semester’s workshop show entitled ‘Leaving Iowa.’

Alorton Stage Company is another part of Liberty’s Department of Theatre Arts that has people looking toward the future. “It’s a professional wing of the department which allows us to treat it as a professional show,” Nelson said. “The actors and those that work on the show in any capacity gain a revelation of what they’re doing. It’s only going to get better.”

The winning show for Alorton is a professional competition, ‘Into the Woods,’ and Nelson said it will also be a part of Liberty’s spring show scheduled for this year. “It’s a professional wing of the department which allows us to treat it as a professional show,” Nelson said. “The actors and those that work on the show in any capacity gain a revelation of what they’re doing. It’s only going to get better.”

Nelson has made the decision to make ‘Into the Woods’ a part of the department’s spring production, and he said Liberty is being left in the hands of the Alorton Stage Company. “It’s a voluntary thing. They’re the ones who set up the Alorton Stage Company, and they’re the ones who are going to run it,” Nelson said. “They’re the ones who are going to decide what they’re going to put on for the spring show.”

For more information about the Liberty University Department of Theatre Arts, visit the Theatre Arts page at liberty.edu. LEASURE is the feature edition.

Liberty to select ‘Parent of the Year’

The Liberty Family and Parent Connections office will choose one parent to honor for the third annual award

Daniel Bartlett, Assistant Editor

Whether it is waking up early by the morning to change a soiled diaper or fetching out a small fortune to make sure our children have the best of the best, the world sacrifice handsomely the love and companionship that parents best for their child. For Liberty University, it has become a great honor to welcome parents and family to Family Weekend each year. For the past three years, Liberty has also had the tradition of honoring a student’s parents for the sacrifices they have realized to send their child to school.

Director of the Family and Parent Connections office, Teresa Dunbar, announced that they will be hosting the Parent of the Year Award contest again this year. Over 200 families have registered to attend this year, with an expected attendance of over 2,000 family members.

"The purpose is for families to come and reconnect with their student," Dunbar said. "We want Liberty to be a family school." The idea for the Parent of the Year Award, according to Dunbar, actually originated from studying parent weekends at other colleges, specifically Virginia Tech.

Senior Vice President for Student Affairs Mark Hix observed what Virginia Tech did for their parent weekend and, after seeing their parent award, he suggested ideas that help formed Liberty’s Parent of the Year contest. Dunbar refers to the parent contest as a "fun for students" that educators get the opportunity to honor their parents. With over 70 entries already submitted, students observe everyone churning up their parents’ own stories for the contest. The winner of the current year only not only wins a variety of perks, including meals points and gift cards, but also shows their parents a meaningful day at the Virginia for Family Weekend.

Parents and student will also be honored and awarded prizes during the Family Weekend banquet. "Liberty believes that all the parents are special, that they all have worked and sacrificed to bring their students here," Dunbar said. The Parent of the Year essay contest will continue to accept applicants until midnight on Sunday, Sept. 16.

For more information, including the form for submitting the essay, go to the Parent and Family Connections page at liberty.edu, or contact Teresa Dunbar at dunbar@liberty.edu R Bartlett is a feature reporter.