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Mitt Romney to address graduates

GOP presidential candidate, former Mass. gov. announced as commencement speaker

Ashley Bollinger
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Liberty University announced April 19 that Mitt Romney will be addressing Liberty graduates at the 2012 Commencement, May 12.

For 40 years Liberty has been training "Champions for Christ." This commencement will mark the 39th send-off of graduates from the private school.

Romney is currently the frontrunning Republican candidate for the 2012 Presidential elections.

"We are delighted that Governor Romney will join us to celebrate Commencement with Liberty's graduates," Liberty University Chancellor Jerry Falwell Jr. said in an official press statement.

"This will be a historic event for Liberty University reminiscent of the visits of Generals, and their presidential candidate, Ronald Reagan to Liberty's 1980 and of Presidential George H.W. Bush who spoke at Liberty's 1990 Commencement ceremony."

According to his website, Romney was born in Detroit on March 12, 1947.

Although Romney is now classified as a politician, he spent most of his life working in the private sector before he was elected Governor of Massachusetts in 2002, according to his website.

Romney, like many, has encountered hardship in his life, according to his website. He and Ann were diagnosed with multiple sclerosis in 1998. She also "fought a battle with breast cancer," according to his website.

However, Romney has maintained strength through his hardships, according to his website. He is advancing towards the 2012 Presidential election, according to his website.

Religion has played a role in Romney's life, and political career, according to his speech on Dec. 6, 2007, given at the George Bush Presidential Library.

"Almost 50 years ago another candidate from Massachusetts explained that he was running for president, not a Catholic running for president. I take that. I am an American running for president...A person should not be elected because of his faith, nor should he be rejected because of his faith...I believe in my Mormon faith and I endeavor to live by it."

He continued, "My church's continued support for Israel may not just be the same as those of other faiths. Each religion has its own unique doctrines and history."

Romney has yet to comment as to what it is he will be speaking about May 12, but Commencement will be Romney's first appearance at Liberty.

BOLLINGER is the editor in chief.

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Akichinson
wins SGA

Atchinson wins SGA

Defeats many others

Lindsey Robertfield
lrobertfield@liberty.edu

Liberty University's Student Government Association (SGA) announced April 19 as the new student body president and Joshua Warner as the new student body vice president. Atchinson as the new student body president and Joshua Warner as the new student body vice president.

Candidates campaigned in the back hall of DeMoss in the days prior to the election. Students were able to meet the candidates, hear their platforms and vote their opinions.

"I feel relieved that election week is over, but determined to fulfill this great responsibility entrusted to me by the students," said Andrea Elizabeth Worsen who participated, supported and campaigned for me and the other candidates. We can all be proud of our accomplishments," Atchinson said.

Atchinson said he plans for the SGA to have an impact in the student body academically, socially and spiritually. Academically, Atchinson seeks to find out what each individual department needs in order to maximize their students better.

"I personally would love to have

See SGA, A9

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Liberty Belles' chili cook-off supports air race

Omar Adams
omaradams@liberty.edu

The Liberty Belles, Liberty University's School of Aeronautics' two Air Race Classic teams, held a chili cook-off April 20 to raise money for the upcoming transcontinental race.

A $5 donation earned each attendee access to all-you-can-eat chili from 13 different entries. Attendees also had the opportunity to vote for the favorite entry.

"The Piper Cub is our true team," Associate Dean Capt. Ernie Rogers said. "Pilots who have completed the flight before help teams prepare for this year's contest. The Air Race Classic assigns 'Mother Baby Bird' teams race each year to measure new records."

"This year, the race has moved in the past with a team for whom this is their first race," coach and 2011 Air Race Classic winner Seth Myers said. The Mother Baby Bird team is available to help the Bird Band team with the passengers questions they have, as well as to mentor them below and throughout the race as needed. It is also a great networking tool for the Bird Band teams - to help them get to know other pilots competing in the Air Race.

Ladies and team manager Stacey Satterfield and team and the School of Aeronautics has been a huge help, particularly by helping to find sponsors and providing two free flight -- one as a training flight.

See RACE, A2
The university's School of Law traveled to Chicago to compete in national finals, emerged with 4-1 record

Corrections Faculty in 1985. An Angel Tree representative — part of Prison Fellowship in which volunteers buy and deliver Christmas presents to inmates' children during the holidays — said the prisoners about the organization.

"I said, 'What? You're gonna do what?'" Croce said. "I was shocked. I was almost ready to cry, and my eyes were watering up — I couldn't believe somebody would do this." Following his release from jail in 1989, Croce (not Colson) started in Holdrege, Miss, where he was applying for the Charles Colson Scholarship in attend Whata- sue College. Croce received his scholarship and graduated from Wheaton in 1995. Colson later used Croce's testimony in his book "How Now Shall We Live?"

"If he asked me to come speak at a banquet in Virginia or California or Arizona or Florida, the answer would be yes. If he asked, I was there. It was a privilege to be around him," Croce said. Colson was brilliant, Croce said. With his quiet demeanor, Colson could say "in two sentences what people would write two pages on."

"He recognized a smart guy in my life — myself," Croce said. "Three things are remembered about him. He was like a little more theological with the ladies, but he did it. He was just the best."

"I don't think I'll realize until I get to that last airport after flying twice across the country. As for the cook-off, it helped to raise funds for the trip and increase awareness at Liberty of the Liberty Belles and the Air Race Classic itself. The winners of the cook-off were, from first to third place, Brian Dollarte, Luke and Tracy Hames and Joe Leonard.

The fund-raiser went really well," Morris said. "We raised $28,000, which pays for nearly 60 miles of the race. We still have a long way to go with fundraising, but we are confident we will meet our goal of $28,000.

Anyone interested in donating to the Liberty Belles or sponsoring part of the race can email them at libertybelles@narxys.com.

ADAMS in the web editor.

Colson, 83, a Christ-centered evangelist and lawyer who founded Prison Fellowship, a Christian ministry that sought to help inmates and was later disbanded, has died. He was 83. He died Saturday, his daughter said. The Rev. Herbert L. Colson Jr., pastor of Plymouth Church in New York City, said Colson had died Saturday. He was a good guy." Croce applied for the Charles Colson Scholarship in attend Wheat- sue College. Croce received his scholarship and graduated from Wheaton in 1995. Colson later used Croce's testimony in his book "How Now Shall We Live?"

"I'm glad he's with the Lord, but broken and glad when he heard that Colson had died Saturday," Croce said.

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"One loss in the elimination rounds at nationals was one of the best rounds that I have ever watched. We knew that it would be very close and it was." Thompson mentioned how the team did not lose sight of the Lord at all throughout the competition. "Throughout the week, we prayed that each of us would yield God through our moods, attitude and demeanor. They did exactly that," Thompson said.

"Colson is recognized as a school that competes at the national level and is well-respected by our peers and the other national court teams. He's White and Marbury have been preparing for the ABA's competition since end-Decem- ber. Their hard work helped them in the most intense once again. Thompson conceives his de- light with the team for their hard work. "I could not be more pleased or satisfied with all that they have done with what they accomplished," Thompson said.

OELRICH is a news reporter.

Oscar Adams is a writer for The Champion.

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City Council elections held May 1

Students can voice their opinions on important issues affecting Lynchburg

Tabitha Cassidy

City Council elections are next week — Tuesday, May 1. Many students who are already proud of their decisions of which final exams to study for and how they are getting ready for summer plans may find themselves asking why they should vote in a local Lynchburg election.

"Voting locally will employ a dynamic role in changing the makeup of your city," Liberty senior and Political Science student Tabitha Cassidy said. "When you're voting in local elections, you're voting for things such as media issues, water usage, property rates — things of that nature," Cassidy said.

The current city council has already voted down the proposed City Budget meals tax increase. This current council will vote on every aspect of the proposed budget for following years.

In the past, city council has also imposed bills to add a Ward III polling place from Heritage High School to Liberty University. The council has also imposed Conditional Use Permits (CUP) on Liberty to require the college to build an estimated $6 million worth of roads, ramps and tunnels in previous years. This increase in building requirements caused tuition to raise $667 for the 2011 academic year, according to a previous Liberty Champion article.

According to the 2009 City of Lynchburg Financial Services' comprehensive financial report, the second largest employer in Lynchburg is Jerry Falwell Ministries JFM, Inc., which includes Thomas Road Baptist Church, Liberty University and Liberty Christian Academy. Employing 3,422 people, JFM is believed by some experts to be the largest employer in the nation within the educational sector.

Liberty students can play a dynamic role in the election because of the voting block they make up," Cassidy said.

These students that are already registered to vote for city council members will be able to have their voice heard through the ballot box May 1.

"Liberty students can leave a mark and a legacy in Lynchburg by voting conservatively and wisely," Cassidy said.

On-campus students will be voting in the Ward III district. Off campus students should use the precinct where they are registered.

CASSIDY is the news editor.

Editor's Note

City Council elections will be held May 1, and the Liberty Champion news staff has decided to give each candidate a platform to discuss his opinions about issues relevant to Liberty University students.

Each candidate was given the same amount of time to respond to the Champion's questions, and the only criterion was keeping the answers to roughly 700 words. Their responses can be found in this edition on A4-A5. A link to the article can be found on LibertyChampion.com.

The order in which the candidates appear was decided by putting the Ward titles in order, determining who was running against whom. We then placed the candidates that responded first on the top of the page, and the one that responded second on the bottom. Two candidates are running unopposed for their Wards.

With this information, we hope that our readers will be able to make an informed decision and get out and vote on May 1 for city council members.

To determine which Ward you are eligible to vote in, please refer to our graphic to the left.

For complete details, visit Lynchburg.gov.
Michael Gillette, Ward I

Gillette

Michael Gillette graduated from Brantley University at the top of his class as a magna cum laude with degrees in Philosophy and Class.

He continued his education at Liberty University, where Gillette obtained his Master's in 2009. He is currently a lawyer, getting his Bar License in 2011. He is practicing law in Lynchburg, Virginia. He is married for 20 years and have raised two children, Rachel and Rebecca, since his time in Lynchburg has created a “vested interest” in the community, according to the website.

Question One: What do you see as an important aspect of the relationship between the city and the local colleges?

The college and universities are extremely important part of our local character. Not only do they contribute to our economic base, but they bring a vibrant and intellectual spirit to our community that we should all cherish.

Question Two: What key city projects do you plan to focus on if elected?

I do not believe that it will be necessary to enact the full array of tax increases contained in the proposed budget, but I do see a need to maintain some city services without generating some new revenues. The answer to this question, therefore, is a simple yes or no. I disagree that we should raise the meals tax by one percent and the real estate tax by 10 cents. I do agree, however, that new revenues must be found, and I look forward to finding the fairest way to make the minimum necessary increases. In doing so, I have already opposed any increase in the meals tax, and I believe that we will be able to find sufficient savings to help fund a real estate tax increase to something less than 10 cents.

Question Four: Tell a college student why they should or should not vote in Lynchburg.

While here, college students are a part of the Lynchburg community and are impacted by local government and should exercise their right to vote.

John Richards Jr., Ward I

Richards

Richard John Richards is a living legend who attended the University of Virginia and his father, Dr. John C. Glass High School.

Richards joined the Air Force in 1983 as a logistics officer. He served for 21 years and retired at the rank of Lt. Col. in 2009. He was during his time in the Air Force that he first met his wife, Nancy. Nancy and Nancy have been married for 17 years. He and his wife have three children, Jessica, Morgan and Rebecca. Richards feels his acquired skills have equipped him to effectively serve his community, he said.

“John has acquired the financial and leadership skills necessary to be an effective leader in his community,” according to his campaign website. “He loves the people of the community and uses his opportunities to make their lives more fulfilling. His dedication to the city of Lynchburg and the county is such that he will serve with honesty and integrity.

Question One: What do you see as an important aspect of the relationship between the city and the local colleges?

An important aspect of the relationship between the city and the local colleges is a mutual respect for, and the willingness to work towards, each other. In order to work together, there must be an appreciation of one another, a willingness to listen and a common goal to work towards. I believe that our local colleges and universities make a valuable contribution to our city and working with them is vital for the success of Lynchburg.

Question Two: What key city projects do you plan to focus on if elected?

Key projects I would focus on if elected would be identifying underserviced customers. I would pursue new potential savings within the current budget that need to be explored, with a tax increase can be justified, such as consolidating disparate support services between the city and the local colleges and looking at potential outsourcing opportunities within our current service processes.

Question Five: Tell a college student why they should or should not vote in Lynchburg.

Regardless of whether or not college students decide to vote in their hometown of Lynchburg, they should exercise their right to vote. While many students may be visionaries, the duties of high quality services require a willingness to pay for what we get. I will not avoid every unnecessary tax increase, but some tax increase is likely to be necessary if we want to protect our high quality services.
Taylor

Taylor

A

throughout a career of Charlottesville, Va. Larry Taylor has lived in Lynchburg for more than two decades. He came to Lynchburg on a construction job and met his wife Ruth. Taylor said. The couple have three children together. Taylor also has three kids from a previous marriage. His children range in age from 17 to 37.

Taylor started his own business in 1994 called Larry Taylor Restorations. He has performed work throughout the city, according to his Facebook page.

Taylor decided to run for Lynchburg City Council when several people asked him to represent Ward II, he said.

"The idea that votes weren't being heard downtown," Taylor said. "Their concern downtown wasn't the politics of downtown. They wanted a representative they can talk to." Taylor has mentioned that he intends on spending time getting to know the community.

"I will go out and meet with the people at least once every two months," Taylor said. "I will go out and meet with the people so they can voice their concerns to me."

Taylor

Question One: What do you see as an important aspect of the relationship between the city and the local colleges?

The colleges are separate entities, but they act in cooperation with the city. The students use the resources of the city, but they also add value to it. Many are employed by local businesses, while utilizing their goods and services. Students are a great resource for businesses seeking educated or technically-trained interns or employees through traditional schools like Liberty, Lynchburg College and Randolph. A more vocational school like CVEC. They also are a wonderful fount of volunteers for community programs through churches and other non-profits. The success of the local colleges contributes to the success of the city.

Question Two: What key city projects do you plan to focus on if elected?

I am in favor of the comprehensive city plan. This plan is, in part, investing in the way to truly make it happen. I am not a candidate for Ward II where residents have been left behind and have made increasing calls for it. I am one of the few wards that have population projections. I am very concerned about our tax base and make 2010 and the other wards increased. The 13.73% Ward I, 13.62% Ward IV, and 13.72% Ward III.

Because of this, I want to cooperate with the Virginia Economic Development to recruit businesses into the city and support the expansion of existing businesses as a whole.

This will help jump start our economy from its current state of job growth.

Question Three: Would you agree to City Manager Kimball Payton's recommended tax hikes? Why or why not?

I do not agree with the tax hikes. The proposed plan includes options for the citizens of Ward II. A real estate tax hike will be more costly for owners and renters. I am glad to see that the meals tax has been rejected by City Council. The result of such an increase will probably still be debated, but I am sure that it would not have brought more restaurants or customers into the city. Cutting back on budget is the way to go as this time. It is painful, but necessary.

Question Four: Tell a college student why they should or should not vote in Lynchburg?

I believe Heritage High School should be restored, but we still need to discuss why we have a tax increase that will bring in a better idea of cost. It is important for students to realize why it is necessary and the necessary information. The students should be making their own decision. The votes will be made for those who will not "reason out" for the city. This is an issue that needs to be answered by the community and the people of the city.

Question Five: What is your position on the closing of the Food Lion on Bedford Street? Why or why not?

I believe the closing of the Food Lion on Bedford Street is a bad idea. The stores are separate entities, but the city should be working with the companies to prevent this to happen. If the Food Lion is closed, it is a bad thing for the community.

QuestionOne: What do you see as an important aspect of the relationship between the city and the local colleges?

One of the greatest aspects of the relationship between the city and the local colleges is that all of our colleges in the city are new to our city and have contributed to our community. The businesses, the educational system, the health-care system and a myriad of other business functions all benefit from the products of our local colleges.

I am surrounded by the city and college professors should help bridge the relationship even further between the city and the local colleges.

Question Two: What key city projects do you plan to focus on if elected?

As the representative of Ward II, I will continue to encourage and support downtown revitalization and good, sound business development on my Ward. I will continue to support the development along Martin Luther King Boulevard and other areas of Rogers and Ingram. I will also work to encourage another super market to be located in the inner city. Finally, I will continue to support our public education system and support a responsible tax base.

For those who desire a better community should exercise their vote to help make the community better for all citizens. - CEASOR JOHNSON

CEASOR JOHNSON, Ward II

Cesar Johnson, current representative of Ward II in Lynchburg, graduated from Atum State University in Lebanon, Mo. He graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Agriculture Economics in 1989, according to Lynchburgs.gov. Johnson excelled "in his way as a Senior City Council Member, a president of the Parade of People and a Speaker of the Delta Kappa Epsilon Chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc."

Johnson married his wife Rose in 1988 and moved to Virginia shortly after. During his time in the state, Johnson worked with the U.S.A. Soil Conservation Service, where he has served in Warren, Stanwood and Hanover.

In 1996, Johnson became a licensed pastor. He attended the former Virginia Seminary and College, holding a Master of Religious Education and a Master of Divinity from the institution.

In 2008, he was elected to Lynchburg City Council, representing Ward II.

He is currently a partner of Spring Hill Baptist Church in Brookneal.

"Those who desire a better community should exercise their vote to help make the community better for all citizens." - CEASOR JOHNSON

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"Those who desire a better community should exercise their vote to help make the community better for all citizens." - CEASOR JOHNSON

"As long as students are legally registered, they should participate in the local political process in every way available." - LARRY TAYLOR

Larry Taylor, Ward II

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Jeff Helgeson, Ward III

Question One: What do you see as an important aspect of the relationship between the city and the local colleges?

Local government should recognize colleges and the students who bring resources to them with a view to adding more in the way of tax revenue. I want to live in Lynchburg in 1985 to attend Liberty University. Twenty years later, I am still here, graduating students as a business owner, a member of City Council and as a taxpayer. It is great to have an open dialogue and work to build a positive relationship between the city, the local colleges and their students and faculty.

Question Two: What key city projects do you plan to focus on if elected?

City Hall has lost its way over the years. Elegant improvements are often spent on pet projects that benefit just a few people while wasting millions of dollars in building superfluous new school buildings that are only half full. As a member of City Council, I have tried to get council to focus on the necessary aspects of government. I have pushed for a focused effort on infrastructure, responsive public and maintaining our infrastructure and roads. These are important to all citizens in the city, not just a fewelite.

Question Three: Would you agree with City Manager Ken Hall's Payne's recommended tax hike?

Absolutely not! The manager's proposal is "balancing" the city's budget by adding new administrative jobs on the backs of the taxpayers at a time when tax revenues are declining. I supported the City's original budget and have voted against the manager's proposed tax increases. It is simple, practical and fiscally responsible. There are many leaders in all levels of government who would benefit from such wise instruction today.

Turner Perrow, Ward IV

Question One: What do you see as an important aspect of the relationship between the city and the local colleges?

The most important aspect of the relationship between the city and its local colleges is the partnership between the two. The city needs to work with the colleges to make sure they grow and develop to serve their customers better. Our city's colleges are a crucial part of our local economy. They are tremendous employers, and their students are a vital part of our community, and our business owners are dependent on the availability of qualified students in the city.

Question Two: What two key city projects do you plan to focus on if elected?

We need to assess the city's most pressing needs in order to prioritize projects and see them through to completion. One crucial need is the intersection of Timberville Road and Ward's Ferry Road. This intersection functions very poorly and creates traffic congestion on both roads. I intend to favor projects addressing the city's immediate infrastructure needs. Clean, safe water is a fundamental service, and it is our duty to protect it. Replacing old, broken and neglected lines improves the health of our city through our water and sewer systems.

Question Three: Would you agree with City Manager

"Your vote will certainly impact your time at liberty university, but it may have an impact on your future in Lynchburg, too."

Jeff Helgeson, Ward III

"College students are vital to our community, and we want all members of our community to express themselves during local elections."

PERROW

Shinnell Payne's recommended tax hikes? Why or why not?

No. I do not support the City Manager's proposed tax increases. As a serving council member, I was able to guide the city council on a tax freeze and a balanced budget. The city's budget is balanced, and the funds are already set aside to meet the necessary needs.

Question Four: Tell a college student why they should or should not vote in Lynchburg.

There are a few key points that I would like to stress about political participation. It is important to all citizens in the city, not just a few elite.

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America’s oil turmoil

Troy Daukus
	Institute for Energy Efficiency

From wood to coal and coal to gas and gas to electric, supply and demand has always been an issue throughout the various civilizations around the world first began to forums. It is for that reason that the excuse for overcoming past passes goes to supply and demand. Ironically, President Obama and his administration are not the sole contributors to the imminent economic reality. All that to say the perhaps America, who consumes more than 30 percent of the oil supply worldwide, should consider coming up on the amount of wasted energy. —in this case, fuel consumption. While Obama blames high costs of gasoline on market manipulation, hard-working individuals are paying around 54 cents per gallon on gas. I guess it’s time to invest in a Chevrolet Volt assuming I had close to $30,000 to spend on it.

"Oil would have to approach $5 per gallon before many fuel-efficient cars could be expected to be paid off in the six years that an average person owns a car," Josey Tafek, vice president of market intelligence at TrueCar, told the NY Times.

Analysts are saying that added cost of the new technologies is limiting the acceptance. Hybrid sales only account of the new technologies is limiting the acceptance. While Obama blames high costs of gasoline on market manipulation, hard-working individuals are paying around 54 cents per gallon on gas. I guess it’s time to invest in a Chevrolet Volt—assuming I had close to $30,000 to spend on it.

Mexico has already left many of the Liberty community encouraging in its past commencement speakers have not held the same convictions of the Christian faith. This seems to be a cause for concern.

Liberty University has spent 40 years maintaining its motto of "Trainin muscles that matter," and some of its past commencement speakers have not held the same convictions of the Christian faith. This seems to be a cause for concern.

Matt Driscoll was announced as Liberty’s 39th commencement speaker, great — he is a Mormon.

The liberal line many students are facing, according to Romney, is a world where Liberty is an institution and the apparent lack of commitment to one generation of students with a farewell from a different faith.

Yes, Romney is the foremost Republican Presidential candidate, but does that mean he is the main voice during the "largest Christian university’s" commencement ceremony?

Commencement is, theoretically supposed to be the last words from the institution encouraging its graduates to go forth into the world, mainlining the values that the institution has developed within them.

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Editor’s Note: Unlike most universities, Liberty has two commencement ceremonies to recognize the baccalaureate and the master or final ceremony on Saturday. Most universities no longer have one large commencement ceremony, but Liberty has continued to honor the past so that all of its students can participate. Each speaker or guest each year is always a strongly committed Christian. Over the past 25 years, many of Liberty’s speakers for the final ceremony on Saturday have been the future or present leader of the next generation of students and industry, business and politics. Most of them did not share Liberal spiritual affiliations or beliefs.

Romney’s first thought may be challenging some of the students, but I hope he is only ever a guest on the day he needed to be said a completion that did not include a long gospel message from a Christian leader at the baccalaureate service.

Pro: Commencement speakers chosen to encourage graduates, not preach

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"Who better to challenge students to aspire to greatness than a potential president?"

Extraordinary leaders are not the sole contributors to the imminent economic reality. All that to say the perhaps America, who consumes more than 30 percent of the oil supply worldwide, should consider coming up on the amount of wasted energy. —in this case, fuel consumption. While Obama blames high costs of gasoline on market manipulation, hard-working individuals are paying around 54 cents per gallon on gas. I guess it’s time to invest in a Chevrolet Volt—assuming I had close to $30,000 to spend on it.

"Oil would have to approach $5 per gallon before many fuel-efficient cars could be expected to be paid off in the six years that an average person owns a car," Josey Tafek, vice president of market intelligence at TrueCar, told the NY Times.

Analysts are saying that added cost of the new technologies is limiting the acceptance. Hybrid sales only account of the new technologies is limiting the acceptance. While Obama blames high costs of gasoline on market manipulation, hard-working individuals are paying around 54 cents per gallon on gas. I guess it’s time to invest in a Chevrolet Volt—assuming I had close to $30,000 to spend on it.

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With Santorum out of the running, the Romney money machine all but clinches GOP primary spot

Rick Santorum never really stood a chance. Approximately two weeks ago, by the time of press run, Santorum dropped out of the GOP primary race, clearing the way for Romney's victory. The final straw came when Santorum had reached the point where he was forced to close his campaign.

Of course, Santorum insisted that money wasn't the main issue that led to the suspension of his campaign. According to NBC's Andrea Mitchell, Santorum supported a conference call that "I know there've been a lot of articles written that somehow we dropped out because we ran out of money. That just is a little, very, very small piece of the story. The bottom line is we wanted to take this race as far as we could to the point where we felt that we could be successful."

While there were surely other strategic and personal considerations that went into the decision, it is clear that Romney spent a large portion of the rail-lining dollars to write the money he did to finance his campaign. Romney has no such financial problems. Ignoring entirely the personal wealth, he banked, according to the NY Times, raised $76.4 million in campaign contributions. While that's more than 100 times standing to be in the GOP primary race, but off it a January debate.

Ron Paul's campaign has a small, but extremely vocal, group of supporters still clinging to his campaign. Paul's campaign is more a symbolic gesture than a serious contender. As of this writing, he hasn't dropped out yet, but that can easily be attributed to two things. The first is the greens- men feud he is still reviving through his Super-PAC from bill.

Santorum radio cousin Sheldon Adelson, Adelson has apparently all but given up hope, stating according to the Huffington Post, that "It appears as though Gingrich is at the end of his line. Because mathematically he can't get anywhere near the number of delegates required to gain the nomination, and there's unlikely to be a brokered convention."

Adelson's point is astute and one of the only downs keeping Gingrich in the race. The plain fact is that election are expensive, and getting more so. According to the Center for Responsive Politics, in the context of other major presidential election crossed the billion dollar mark for the first time in history. Santorum and the others just couldn't keep up, and the Romney money power on.

EDER is an opinion writer.

Strange case raises odd question: What is a woman?

Transgender Miss Universe pageant contestant sparks controversy about the definition of womandom

Clint Hayes
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In a much-publicized move, the Miss Universe pageant has removed its policies that kept transgender women from competing. The decision has been welcomed by civil rights advocates, especially by the Miss Universe Canada pageant. "The idea that you can be a beautiful woman and not be passable is an absurdity," said Miss Universe Canada's executive director, David Beattie. Miss Universe Canada's director, according to an article on National Public Radio, "In the context of other major presidential election crossed the billion dollar mark for the first time in business. Santorum and the others just couldn't keep up, and the Romney money power on."

Beauties pageants have been criticized in the past for objectifying women, judging them purely on their external appearance while factors such as personality and talent fall by the wayside. But the Miss Universe pageant, staging its 2012 event in Atlantic City, New Jersey, from all over the country, and "transgender" women from all over the country, are used to being "instruments of torture to women" high heels, fashion magazines, according to "A History of Feminism, Activism at Miami University, Oxford Campus," on falmouth.edu.

The inclusion of a transgender contestant in the national beauty pageant may represent a step backward rather than a step forward. Talackova's Miss Universe Canada pageant, according to an article by the NY Daily News, "in veganism itself, there is no single "transgender" woman that has represented the interests of transgender and transgender-identified women."

"Talackova's showcasing...Absolutely it's good news, it's another step in the right direction to accepting transgender people," said Herndon Graddick, according to the article in the Transgender Model Will Change the World. "To see another woman on the stage, it opens up a lot of possibilities for transgender people across the world."

"I'm happy to see this happen," said Herndon Graddick, according to an article in the Transgender Model Will Change the World. "To see another woman on the stage, it opens up a lot of possibilities for transgender people across the world."
Sgt. Larry Provost: Finally home

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Liberty University's former Director of Community Affairs Sgt. Larry Provost recently returned from Afghanistan—his second time in the country and fifth deployment overall. Provost left Liberty in June to head overseas and returned from Afghanistan Christmas Eve, which his wife Lori called the "best Christmas gift ever." "It's definitely good to be home," Provost said.

After spending the holidays at home, he finished his active duty term at a base in Missouri through the end of February. Returning to the U.S., Provost met with family.

"When you're over there, you think about home a lot. But at the same time, it's different being overseas because while you're here, you go on without you," he said. "In a lot of ways, it's like going back home in some ways you feel like the country doesn't realize we're at war—that's difficult."

The differences between Provost's Afghanistan deployments—from 2002 to 2003 and again in 2011—were stark, he said. The biggest difference was the perception of people back in the United States.

"The one thing that was different was the willingness of our elected officials to see the job through—that has changed," Provost said. "In the early days of the war, you were very hand-promised to find someone who wasn't in favor of us being in Afghanistan, and now it's very hard to find someone who is in favor of us being in Afghanistan.

As part of the 15th Infantry Brigade Combat Team, Provost worked closely with local Afghan officials, including the provincial governor, to rebuild infrastructure destroyed by decades of conflict. The American soldiers even provided supplies for the Afghan people to repair their mosques, something Provost was cautious about, but he said it meant a lot to them.

"I think a lot of the people over there don't want us to leave," he said. "I think they've seen war for 30 years, and they see America as a force for good." Provost said that, "absolutely without question," many of the insurgents and problems the troops were dealing with came from outside Afghanistan and the local population is particular.

"I think in many ways our enemies are just waiting out, knowing that we're leaving," he said. "We've given them a real backbone because now they know we're leaving, and that is justphin on them." After recently deciding to leave Liberty, Provost started working with the American Legion in Washington, D.C., where he helps veterans recover their benefits. Constant contact with veterans at his job keeps his mind.

"To be honest, it's on my mind because now it's a part of my job every day... but for me personally, I don't think about my time over there. I think about the people I served with," he said. "I think that's just because it's very hard for me to see that I initially made a commitment to these people, and now we might not see it through." Provost will return to Liberty for commencement. He earned his master's degree in 2011 right before he deployed and will be eager to see his students in uniform when he receives his diploma May 22.

ProVost's views are not necessarily those of the U.S. Government or Military.
A tragedy at sea stole a nation’s heart 100 years ago and for decades to come, curiosity filled conversations on the topic. When the 1997 film was introduced, even more people became captivated by the mystery of the “unsinkable” ship.

Liberty University has its own connection to the tale with Executive Director of New Media Communications Bruce Braun. Braun was part of an excavation trip in 1996 to take a look at the Titanic’s sunken grave.

“You are often surprised with what you will get sent on and how it will end up influencing you. At the time, I saw it as a look at the Titanic’s sunken grave,” Braun said. “I was in a 250-foot vessel. The weather during the trip was incredibly hard to work with, we actually ended up getting caught in the end of a hurricane with huge 25-foot waves.”

On the voyage, Braun worked solely with the computers and technology on the ship. Braun got the job opportunity while he was working with Classic World Productions. He was sent to do the video content for the expedition. What Braun observed and worked on was featured in several documentaries that became broadcasted to cruise ships. Their footage showed the whole process of Titanic’s accident and what specifically went wrong.

“In Cameron’s film, there is a huge dramatic scene of the ship completely breaking in half at a 120-degree angle. We learned that the ship actually broke in half, at least three or four cabins flooded, which was to tell us that Braun ended up doing a study on the metal of the ship and discovered that when metal is in cool temperatures like the Atlantic was, it becomes incredibly brittle. It’s found that the alloys become more like a sponge material and make the metal more brittle. We did map under the ocean to see the floor and found that there were massive gashes throughout the hull of the ship,” Braun said.

In the 70s, Braun worked in Hollywood for several years as a producer and then moved to Florida. Later, Jerry Falwell Sr. called to offer Braun a position for TV operations, but he declined and went back to Florida. It was not until 1978 that Braun finally accepted Falwell’s second job offer and stayed with the organization until 1984.

TITANIC — Braun and his colleagues rejoice after a day of work on a 1996 excavation trip.

For the Baccalaureate Service, students may wear their Commencement regalia or military uniform, but it is not a requirement. More information on the Baccalaureate Service or Commencement can be found on Liberty University’s Registrar web page. According to Palau’s secretary Jose Mendez, he is currently in Argentina and will not be back in the States until May 1 but is very excited to be speaking at the Baccalaureate Service. Palau came to the university several years ago and is looking forward to returning to speak.

POWLEY is a news reporter.
Golf wins Big South

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Through bad weather and major adversity, the Liberty University golf team finished first for the second year in a row in this week's Big South Championship Tournament at The Patriot Golf Club at Grand Harbor in Ninety Six, S.C. The nationally-ranked team set a few records, had golf fans on their feet throughout the entire tournament, which ended with an exciting win from behind.

Liberty was able to bring home the second straight league title and finished a record 20-under par. The competition between first and second was separated by a mere 10 strokes. Liberty's Robert Karlsson claimed his second career Big South medalist honor. During his last day of the tournament, the senior was behind Gardner-Webb's Daniel Kim by four strokes to start the day but ended up overtaking the runner-up for the win by two strokes. Karlsson had the second lowest individual score in Big South Conference history and is the third repeat medalist in the league championship history, after Ninety Six in 1998 and Coastal Carolina's Zack Byrd (2001 and 2009).

Also finishing inside the top-six, Chase McDonald and Niklas Lindstrom captured Big South All-Conference honors. Karlsson earned all-conference honors for his regular season accomplishments. McDonald finished in fifth place and four-under par; and Lindstrom tied for sixth place at three-under par.

Ian McColl put his second consecutive even par round to finish the event for 12th place, finishing one over par.

The Flames competed against eight teams, 40 men and Mother Nature throughout the last day of the tournament. Rain delayed the event for two-and-half hours during the morning.

The scores suffered because of the inclement weather. Only three groups broke par. Liberty, however, had nine players inside the top 25 and a half point margin.

For any of the 2100 fans that turned out Saturday for the 2012 spring football game expecting offense, they were sorely disappointed. The two offensive units combined for a meager 215 yards in the short contest, which was won by the Blue team 7-3.

The defense, however, put on a clinic, shutting down an offense that is still struggling to find an identity. Senior Dey BMW, considered by many to be the front-runner in the three way quarterback race, threw two interceptions, one of which was returned 35 yards by Ryan Ayers for the only touchdown of the game.

Redshirt freshman Josh Woodrum and redshirt junior Brian Hunter, the other players competing for the starting quarterback job, did not fair considerably better. All three quarterbacks took snaps for both Red and Blue offenses. Hudson did provide the lone offensive spark of the afternoon, converting on a 30-yard pass to redshirt sophomore Gabe Henderson, to put the Red team in the red zone.

“It was just a great play by Gabe. He made a move on the safety, it was pretty much one-on-one when it got to that position so he made a great play and I had time, and just hit him in the strike,” Hudson said.

The drive stalled, however; when a third down pass intended for the end zone was batted down at the line of scrimmage. Redshirt sophomore kicker Alex Kacere's subsequent 24-yard field goal put three points on the board for the Red team.

Hudson finished the day completing 60 percent of his throws for 97 yards, earning every yard

DEFENSE “lights out” spring game

Hanson, Lewellyn and Robinson take home annual awards

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The Liberty University men’s and women’s track team took their talents to Myrtle Beach, S.C. to compete in the Big South Championships.

The men’s team came into the weekend as the heavy favorites, seeking their sixth consecutive Outdoor Title and 17th title in 18 years. They allowed just that by running away with the competition, winning by 78 total team points.

“We came out and performed well,” head coach Reant Tolsma said. “We expressed to win and we performed well in almost every event we wanted to.”

Last year, the women were able to defend their Coastal Carolina in the Indoor Championships but could not complete the sweep, losing to the Chanticleers in the Outdoor Championships. They were looking to avoid that same fate this year after winning the Indoor Championship last fall.

The two teams battled down to the very end, but after the dust settled, the Flames didn’t have enough, losing to Coastal Carolina in a very slim nineteen and a half point margin.

“We’re very disappointed we didn’t win. Winning the Big South is how we measure our program,” Tolsma said. “Though he was disappointed they were not able to pull out the victory, Tolsma made it clear he is not disappointed with the season overall.

“Coastal Carolina is a very deserving champion,” Tolsma said. “We competed very well and I want to make it clear we beat us. They were a better team in that event. We performed well and even over performed in a lot of events. We’re not disappointed in our performance.”

Men’s track attains sixth consecutive BSC title

See GOLF B2

See FOOTBALL B4

Hanson, Lewellyn and Robinson take home annual awards

See TRACK B2
Men’s tennis completes season

Mark Meyers

The Liberty Flames men’s tennis team’s season ended Thursday when they fell to Coastal Carolina in the first round of the Big South Conference tournament.

“We lost a heartbreaker,” said Senior Tim Tass. “We need to be a good team, very close to our level, and one of us had to walk off the court with the loss and unfortunately that was us.”

The Flames rallied out to a lead by winning the doubles point. All-conference doubles partners Tass and Gian Lemmi defeated the Carolina duo of Travis Stant and Stuy Thomas during the doubles portion.

“Earning all conference honors means that all the work that Tim and Gian put in the past four and a half years paid off,” Lemmi said.

Seniors Lemmi and Mandopap Yadav each won their respective singles matches, but that was not enough to carry the Flames through to the next round.

“This time it was us,” Thomas said. “All conference singles team for the third straight year was won down by Coastal Carolina senior Danny Heffeker 6-1, 7-5 in their No. 1 singles.

“It is definitely an honor to earn all conference singles honors three years in a row, and yes we are making the right choices and doing the right things,” Tass said.

Lemmi became the first Liberty tennis player to earn both singles and doubles all-conference honors since 2003. Tass finished the regular season with a 144-singles record and partnered with Lemmi to earn an 11-4 record.

“Tass will be our lone senior next year,” head coach Chris Johnson said. “He had an outstanding record this year and will no doubt have a great senior year as well.”

Coastal sophomore Leo Christofides upset Sophomore Stuy Thomas 6-4, 7-64 in the No. 2 singles match.

In the No. 4 singles match, freshman Dillon Seipel took the first set 7-5, but could not hold the lead as he was defeated in the second and third sets 6-2, 6-1.

Freshman Wayne Harrell and Axum finished their first season with singles records of 10-3 and 9-5, respectively.

The Flames will work hard over the off-season to improve and fill spots left by seniors Lemmi, Stant and Vardar Johnson who will be hard at work recruiting talent for next season.

Tass will be focusing on his fitness over the off-season and will continue to work on his overall game.

“We are very proud to be graduating three seniors, and they will be hard to replace,” Johnson said. “This past year’s recruiting class was ranked No. 17 in the nation, and they are developing nicely. We will add in that with this year’s recruiting class and continue to build our program.”

There has been a glowing to part of the Liberty community and serve God through athletics,” Lemmi said.

Thomas scored up with Stant to finish the regular season with a stellar doubles record of 11-2.

The Flames finished the season with a record of 15-7, the best record for any Liberty tennis team since moving to NCAA Division I in 1993.

Freshman Jorge Arriero was the conference No. 1 singles flight winner, while senior Mandopap Yadav was the No. 4 singles flight champion.

Meyers is a sports reporter.

Paintball finishes third

Tyler Easo

spacdachi.liberty.edu

The Liberty University paintball team spent the weekend of March 31-35 competing in the National Collegiate Paintball Association championships in Lakeland, Fla.

Having finished fourth at the national championships for the past two years, the team was eager for victory after completing their season with an 8-9 record and a No. 1 national ranking.

Coastal coach Todd Hodgson, Liberty’s head coach, believes that his team had a solid chance to win it all in Florida.

“This is our year, this is our chance,” Hodgson said. “One of our team leaders is leaving, but I want the team to play the hard-nosed paintball that we know how to play.”

Liberty is the only college in the NPCA with its own on-campus paintball fields, giving this the chance both at home and abroad and providing the opportunity to host events at the university throughout the season.

On March 31, the team opened in a preliminary match against Florida Atlantic University FAU. Despite some paint issues and a slow start, they were able to defeat FAU 5-3.

Later that day, the team played in its second preliminary where they matched up against the West Point Black Knights. Having scored up in the previous match, the team was able to play some of its best paintball thus far, defeating the Black Knights 9-3.

That second preliminary game was a good demonstration of just how well Liberty can play paintball,” Hodgson said. “It helped us get our head up and ready for the match the next day with our conference foe, the University of Tennessee.”

Coming off of an impressive day in preliminaries, Liberty continued its solid play.

The team placed aggressively out of the gate and crushed Tennessee 9-3.

With the win, Liberty advanced to the semifinals, where they were matched up with Cal State Long Beach. The 49ers, who have two professional players on their team, had finished second in the NPCA championships for the past two years. They were seen to provide a challenge for the Flames.

The game swung back and forth for the entire first half and ended up tied at halftime.

In the second half, a tired Liberty team continued to play strong but was unable to maintain the momentum and ended up losing.

“Through the loss we are not the place finishers. I am more proud of the team’s character after losing that game,” Head coach Mike Wham said.

“They truly demonstrated what it means to be Champions for Christ.”

EACHO is a sports reporter.

Paintball

James Tosh

Liberty University

GOLF continued from B1

Gardner-Webb finished in sixth-place with an 885, ahead of Radford’s 892. High Point ended up in eight-place with its 896. Presbyterian College finished at 900 for the 54-hole event, but was not eligible for the Conference championships until next season, and its team and individual results did not officially count in the standings this because of the transition process to Division I.

Cavalier’s Vaida Gullane was voted Golfer of the Year and is the fifth Cavalier player to earn this honor. Jen Wheler was voted Freshman of the Year, making him the school’s first boys

HISTORY — Liberty is the first team to finish 20 under par, as they won their second straight Big South Championship.

All-conference honors in both singles and doubles all-conference honors.

The Flames are now awaiting their NCAA Regional assignment at one of the six locations in the nation. The Regionals will be held May 17-19.

Pearson is a sports reporter.

Paintball

Heather Frazier

NAIA Sports Information

Paintball

STEVE FRAZIER is a sports reporter.
April 353, 2012

SPORTS

Liberty Champion/B3

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Surpassing 100,000 total miles is not uncommon for automobiles. But what about humans?

MITCHELL KEENEY

FEATURE

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FEATURE

April 24, 2012

David Horton inspires student runners

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Bringing good health to Hill City

Allison Cundiff  
acundif/lyingtyniversity.edu

In February, mayor Joan Boles challenged citizens of Lynchburg to "lighten up" and lose weight. Since then, 351 people have lost 363 pounds and logged 1,129 exercise miles collectively with the Live Healthy Lynchburg initiative.

Liberty’s Health Promotion department has been actively involved in this Live Healthy Lynchburg initiative. Its Program Planning and Evaluation in Health Education (Health 433) class has been participating in the program by collaborating with the Lynchburg Action Communities for Health, Innovation and Environmental Change (ACHIEVE).

ACHIEVE is sponsored by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and “identifies promising programs and shares evidence and practice-based strategies and provides technical assistance related to chronic disease prevention and health promotion” through its Healthy Communities Program, according to the evaluative organization’s website.

The class helped brainstorm program plans and interventions that could be implemented in the community by college students, health educators and medical professionals. The class was divided into two groups for the project. The first group is working to raise awareness about Live Healthy Lynchburg to the Liberty community and to get faculty, staff and students to sign up for the website.

The second group is putting some of its intervention ideas into practice within the Lynchburg community. One of their goals is to increase awareness about the importance of physical activity; by encouraging students to walk around campus rather than drive or take the bus. The group will help students keep track of locations between教室 and then make that information available to students, faculty, staff and visitors (for example, they have color-coded maps of steps from DeMoss Hall to Green Hall and several staircases).

The program was designed to educate the community about healthy lifestyles and encourage participants to make live-saving changes in their habits.

The initiative is being supported by local medical assistants related to chronic disease prevention and health promotion through its Healthy Communities Program, according to the evaluative organization’s website.

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CSER acknowledges exceptional students

Christian/Community service supervisors nominate volunteers for quality work

Desiree Wheeler
desiree@liberty.edu

Ronald Allen
ralph@liberty.edu

Courtney Wiest
courtney@liberty.edu

Julie Gonzalez

Each semester Liberty University students volunteer their free time between exams, homework and living life in the ‘Burgh to give back to the community and benefit those who are in need.

Sophomore Julie Gonzalez was nominated for the Christian Community Service award for her outstanding commitment to volunteerism for the Lafayette Dolphins Swim from this past summer. Gonzalez is a Communications major who is actively involved in the National Broadcast Society (NBS) on campus and a prayer leader on East I.

Donating to the local community is one of Gonzalez’s hobbies. She spent her time volunteering for organizations such as the International Justice Mission (IJM), the Boys and Girls Club of America and helping those in need at the Daily Bread in downtown Lynchburg. “I think CSER is important because it forces us to focus on somebody other than ourselves.”

Gonzalez said.

“CSER is important because it forces us to focus on somebody other than ourselves.”

— JU LiE GONZALEZ

Yuchen Hu

Yuchen Hu was nominated for the Christian Service Volunteer of the Year award because of his service in the International Office. He also acted as an ambassador for incoming international students.

“My duties were to help international students move in here and help them adapt,” Hu said.

“When I came here as an international student, I was eager for others to help me. So I am happy when I can help other students in trouble,” Hu said.

Along with his work, Hu has great experiences while volunteering and met several new people. His supervisor, Kristina Vin- able, and several friends made his time in the International Office an unforgettable one.

“I met new friends, many who came from the same city as me in China. My supervisor always smiles. She is a great supervisor,” Hu said.

Volunteer hours for Hu were long and tiring, many times starting at 7 am and ending at 5pm. This schedule made sure that he put in much more than 20 hours, however, he enjoyed his time volunteering and learned a lot.

“It seems like a tired and hard job, but it is not like that. It is a job that makes people happy and excited. I was super tired, but I enjoyed it,” Hu said.

Hu has volunteered with the International Office for two semesters and hopes to do it again next semester.

See CSER, B9

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General Requirements for Donating Plasma:

- 18-64 Years of Age
- Valid Picture ID
- Be in Good Health
- Proof of Social Security Number
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*Programs and fees to be awarded: one (1) B&N gift card

**Other prizes to be awarded: one (1) Sony digital camera, five (5) $10 gift cards

www.octapharmaplasma.com

Learn more and take the survey at www.liberty.edu/libqual

1) B&N gift cards
2) B&N gift cards
CSER continued from B8
Anders Bengston
Senior Anders Bengston has also been nominated for this award. He is in the interdisci- 
plinary Studies program and is able to design his own degree with the classes he wants. 
His areas of study are business, religion and Greek. Bengston has been an admin-
istrative assistant.
According to Barbara Sherman, the Director, Associate Professor of Individualized Studies and Center for Profes-
ional and Continuing Education, Bengston has shown outstanding qualities including 
always being on time, being flexible with time, being atten-
tive, having a cheerful spirit and being confidential with informa-
tion. "I am honored to have been
ominated," Bengston said. "I have grown not only spiritually but as an individual by working with Mrs. Sherman. She has 
guided me in making decisions for the past two years. I am so grateful to be able to work with her throughout the work.
Bengston said that CSER is an opportunity for one to grow as an individual. "Never dis-
credit that opportunity, but use it to motivate you to achieve your highest goals," Bengston said. "We also have the opportu-
ity to help, minister and ad-
vance the Church through our work ethic."
Bengston started a business called Anders Ink when he was in sixth grade. His goal is to 
make it into a sustainable business. "My goal is to be able to provide for my family first, then be able to give to organi-
zations and develop ministry," Bengston said.
Justine Middleton
Through her experience in doing community service, sophomore Justine Middleton 
has had the opportunity to be 
involved in a plethora of things. The Individualized Studies major has been nominated for 
CSER Volunteer of the Year award. She is involved in Calvia-
ry Chapel in children's ministry, and attends prayer group and an off-campus girls' Bible study. 
According to Middleton, God has blessed her with the opportunity to be in many of 
Sherman's life experiences with family, friends and strangers and how God has worked in her life and relationships.
Barbara Sherman, the direc-
tor and Associate Professor of Individualized studies and Cen-
ter for Professional and Con-
tinuing Education, nominated Middle-
ton after being amazed by her care and positive attitude: 
"She is a woman who gives so much love. She has been gra-
cious to me, always giving me 
love through kind words of encouragement, appreciation, quality conversa-
tion and gifts throughout the year."
Middleton said, "I feel it is a gracious honor to be nomi-
nated by such a strong, smart, 
godly woman."
Middleton encourages stu-
dents to get involved in serving Christ on their halls, on campus, in class, at church and of cam-
pus through all of their relation-
ships and tasks. "The hours do not need to be documented, but just be a 
part of living your neighborhood.
Middleton said. "This gives God glory.
Middleton's goal in life in-
clude completing college having 
to provide for my family first, 
learned how to handle stress a little better.
"I want to guard my heart and not let the stresses of life pull me down."

WHEELER is a feature 
reporter.
ALLEYNE is a feature 
reporter.
WISD is a feature 
reporter.

Meet the rest of the 
nominees.
Each year, the Center for 
Christian/Community Ser-
vice (CSER) recognizes stu-
dents for their outstanding community service efforts.
Through these student's nominations, students are considered for their commit-
ment and character in work-
ning with the community. One student each year is awarded Liberty University's Chris-
tian/Community Service Vol-
tune of the Year Award and 
given the title of Volunteer of the Year.
This year's nominees are:
Mark Osborne
Justice Middleton
Lisa Burton
Kevin Tobias
Lucas Wilson
Maeghan Law
Anders Bengston
Gabriella Peguero
Juli Gonzales
Katherine Moore
Rebekah Mender
Rob Reeves
Yuchen Hu
Steven Signam
Abby Ratliff
Rob Reeves
Salentina Hardy
Rob Nicaragua
Courtney Loewy
Erik Sreid
Kenny Beall
Heather Thomas
Nina Sanders
For information about the 
2011-12 CSER Volunteer of the Year award, and other outstanding students, 
look in next week's issue of the Liberty Champion.
Geralds fulfills dream in Wyndhurst

Daniel Garcia
dgarcia@liberty.edu

FOOD AND FUN - After working in the food industry for 15 years, Michelle Hamrick opened her own restaurant, offering the Wyndhurst community a warm atmosphere to dine in.

"We have a very diverse menu," Hamrick said. "Someone could come in here and order an entree for $8, or they could order an entree for $50. We have all different types of food in different sizes, too," according to Hamrick. Dishes come in small, medium and large sizes. The restaurant's online menu features an extensive list of dishes ranging from Grilled Eggplant Caprese and Shrimp and Grits to a best seller, Grilled Eggplant Caprese and mozzarella cheese.

"We have a very gourmet part of the menu and then we have a very casual end too," Hamrick said. "We sort of label it gourmet comfort food. A lot of it is just your traditional items with a special twist on it."

Another huge pull here is the salad bar and salad bar at lunchtime; and that is huge," she said. "Probably half of our business is our lunch business."

Hamrick said the salad bar is chef-inspired and changes daily, featuring chicken and egg salads, pasta, homemade soups and desserts. The salad bar is available weekdays from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., she said.

In addition, Hamrick said that the restaurant also features additional non-menu items on a "feature board" that change daily. A menu featuring a wide array of items, combined with an inviting atmosphere, makes Geralds a dining option that appeals to everyone.

"It's really nice," said. "We have a very diverse food menu."

Geralds is located at 112 Wyndhurst Road, and they have a website, eatatgeralds.com. Geralds can be found on Facebook at facebook.com/eatatgeralds."

GARCIA is a feature reporter.

VIVien Alleyne
valleyne@liberty.edu

STIRRING HIS FUTURE - Student entrepreneur CJreg Buscher turned his hobby into a business, offering car care to students and residents around the Lynchburg area.

"We actually have taken on a lot of the Liberty staff and professors, as well as students. We deal with the college students, and we're a lot more approachable and recognizable," Buscher said. "Professors don't have time to drive their cars to a shop and leave them overnight, so it helps them to have their cars done that same day, often while they're at work." Buscher said.

Buscher and his staff are able to obtain parts within 24 hours and can perform any service from changing a brake light to a tune-up.

"We have commercial accounts with all major parts suppliers, and we also offer the opportunity to use parts from salvage yards, which are all less expensive," Buscher said. "In the future, Buscher plans to gather investors and draft a business plan to be presented to a national board.

"Make all of your decisions on your knees and stick to a straight path. Know your last move when you make your first, and when you make a decision know that God led you to it," Buscher said.

To find out more information about "Buscher Auto," or to make an appointment, visit their Facebook page at Buscher Auto LLC, email buscher at cjsbuscher@gmail.com or dial 434-375-1118.

ALLEYNE is a feature reporter.

Greg Buscher never thought that as a junior in college he would own a successful auto repair service that caters to hundreds of Liberty University students and Lynchburg residents.

Buscher, a Broadcast Communications student at Liberty University, came up with the idea for "Buscher's Auto," a mobile auto repair service that fixes cars where they sit, as a way to make some extra money.

"I didn't have a job, and I was living on my friend's couch and eventually in the back of my car while I was looking for a job," Buscher said.

Having worked at a auto repair shop, Buscher began to fix his friend's cars as a hobby. Some of those friends told other friends, and soon, Buscher had a queue of vehicles to repair. As months passed, his client list was too large for him to fix his own vehicles, so he hired another guy to fix all the cars that were coming in," Buscher said.

"Our hope is to go toe to toe with Meineke and those types of shops, and we have now grown to be the ones that our original size. We have done well," Buscher said.

Buscher had some words of advice for students who may want to open their own businesses.

"Make all of your decisions on your knees and stick to a straight path. Know your last move when you make your first, and when you make a decision know that God led you to it," Buscher said.